NAS History

The Academy was first organized in Omaha in 1880, with 75 charter members. The Union Pacific Railroad, which supported the programs to make Nebraska the educational and cultural center of the West, was instrumental in the establishment of the Academy; fifteen of the charter members were associated with the Railroad. Union Pacific provided office space and meeting rooms, and also issued rail passes to high-school and college science teachers and others interested in science, so that they could attend Academy meetings in Omaha. Samuel Aughey, first professor of science at the University of Nebraska and first Director of the University Museum, was the Academy's first president. Among other prominent charter members were Lawrence Bruner, Leavitt Burnham, H. S. Kaley, R.R. Livingston, H.H. Nicholson, and C.D. Wilber.

The Academy was reorganized in Lincoln in 1890-91. Some of the illustrious scholars who were Academy leaders during and following this reorganization were E. H. Barbour, C. E. Bessey, J. S. Kingsley, Roscoe Pound, and G. K. Swezey. In 1895, ecological and environmental studies were begun at the University of Nebraska, and various Academy members were pioneers in these studies, which were especially important during and after the droughts of the 1890s and 1930s. Ecology and environment continue to be emphasized in the Academy's programs.

The Academy was incorporated in 1950 as a non-profit educational organization [Internal Revenue Code, Section 501(c)(3)]. In 2005 the Academy was re-classified as a 501 (c) (3) Private Foundation. Donations are tax deductible. The Academy is not a state agency, and is not sponsored by a particular university, college, or other Nebraska educational organization.

NEBRASKA ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

PRESIDENTS FROM 1880 TO THE PRESENT

Samuel Aughey, Geology-Biology, UN–Lincoln 1880-1885

Charles E. Bessey (Lincoln), Lawrence Bruner (Lincoln) and Hudson H. Nicholson (Peru kept the Academy active from 1885 to 1891, with monthly meetings chaired by Bessey and Bruner. Bessey had organized the Iowa Academy of Sciences in 1875 and was president of that organization from 1875 until 1884 when he became a faculty member of the University of Nebraska.

J. Sterling Kingsley, Zoology, Lincoln 1891-1892
Charles E. Bessey, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1892-1895
Alvin W. Norton, Psychology, Peru 1895-1896
Erwin H. Barbour, Geology, UN–Lincoln 1896-1897
Alexander S. von Mansfelde, Medicine, Ashland, M.D. 1897-1898
H. B. Ward, Zoology, Lincoln (Univ. of Illinois) 1898-1899
Goodwin D. Swezey, Biology/Astronomy, UN–Lincoln 1899-1900
Harold Gifford, Medicine, Omaha Medical College 1900-1901
R. Ellery Davis, Mathematics, UN–Lincoln 1901-1902
Charles Fordyce, Biology, Lincoln 1902-1903
Lawrence Bruner, Entomology, UN–Lincoln 1903-1904
Henry B. Duncanson, Biology, Peru Normal 1904-1905
Robert H. Wolcott, Zoology, UN–Lincoln 1905-1906
S. R. Towne, Medicine, Brandeis Bldg., Omaha 1906-1907
F. E. Clements, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1907-1908
Albert F. Tyler, Entomology, Creighton–Bellevue 1908-1909
George E. Condra, Geology, UN–Lincoln 1909-1911
George A. Loveland, Meteorology, UN–Lincoln 1911-1912
Clarence J. Elmore, Biology, Grand Island 1912-1913
John C. Jensen, Physics, Wesleyan–Lincoln 1913-1914
Charles E. Bessey, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1914-1915
Lawrence Bruner, Entomology, UN–Lincoln 1915-1916
Raymond J. Pool, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1916-1917
F. C. Jean, Botany, Peru State Teachers 1917-1918
David D. Whitney, Zoology, UN–Lincoln 1918-1919
C. O. Carlson, Biology, Doane–Crete 1919-1920
Elda R. Walker, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1920-1921
John C. Jensen, Physics, Wesleyan–Lincoln 1921-1922
Harold G. Deming, Chemistry, UN–Lincoln 1922-1923
H. von W. Schulte, Medicine, Creighton–Omaha 1923-1924
Paul B. Sears, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1924-1925
Joseph A. Moss, Chemistry, Cotner College–Bethany 1925-1926
George L. Peltier, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1926-1927
D. W. Crouse, Mathematics, Fremont 1927-1928
William C. Brenke, Mathematics, UN–Lincoln 1928-1929
Arthur E. Holch, Biology, Peru Normal 1929-1930
Henry H. Marvin, Physics, UN–Lincoln 1930-1931
Victor E. Levine, Medicine, Creighton–Omaha 1931-1932
Fred W. Upson, Chemistry, UN–Lincoln 1932-1933
E. Russel Wightman, Mathematics, Doane–Crete 1933-1934
Nels A. Bengston, Geography, UN–Lincoln 1934-1935
Claude J. Shirk, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1935-1936
John E. Weaver, Botany/Biology, UN–Lincoln 1936-1937
Harry R. James, Zoology/Physics, Hastings College 1937-1938
Alvin L. Lugin, Geology, UN–Lincoln 1938-1939
V. Calvon McKim, Geography, Chadron State 1939-1940
Morton P. Brunig, Engineering, UN–Lincoln 1940-1941
L. N. Garlough, University of Omaha 1941-1942
Harold W. Manter, Zoology, UN–Lincoln 1942-1943
Gilbert C. Lueninghoener, Geology, Midland 1943-1944
Carl E. Georgi, Bacteriology, UN–Lincoln 1944-1945
John S. Latta, Anatomy, UNMC-–Omaha 1945-1946
Walter F. Wieland, Engineering, UN–Lincoln 1946-1947
Donald M. Pace, Physiology, UN–Lincoln 1947-1948
Victor E. Levine, Medicine, Creighton–Omaha 1948-1949
Frank L. Duley, Agronomy, UN–Lincoln 1949-1950
Otis Wade, Zoology, UN–Lincoln 1950-1951
Samuel B. Shively, Botany, Wesleyan–Lincoln 1951-1952
W. Winfield Ray, Botany, UN–Lincoln 1952-1953
I. L. Hathaway, Agriculture, UN–Lincoln 1953-1954
Henry M. Cox, Mathematics, UN–Lincoln 1954-1955
Paul J. Stageman, Chemistry, University of Omaha 1955-1956
Robert G. Bowman, Geography, UN–Lincoln 1956-1957
Walter R. French, Jr., Physics, Wesleyan–Lincoln 1957-1958
Harold F. Rhoades, Agronomy, UN–Lincoln 1958-1959
Carl T. Brandhorst, Biology, Concordia–Seward 1959-1960
John G. McMillan, Physics, University of Omaha 1961-1962
Lloyd G. Tanner, Geology/Paleontology, UN–Lincoln 1962-1963
Walter G. Elwell, Physics, University of Omaha 1963-1964
Walter E. Mientka, Mathematics, UN–Lincoln 1964-1965
John C. W. Bliese, Biology, Kearney State 1965-1966
C. Bertrand Schultz, Geology/Paleontology, UN–Lincoln 1966-1967
William M. Barrows, Physics, Doane–Crete 1967-1968
Robert B. Nelson, Geology, UN–Lincoln 1968-1969
Nicholas Dietz, Jr., Biochemistry, Creighton–Omaha 1969-1970
C. Robert Keppel, UN–Omaha 1971-1972
Dwight D. Miller, Zoology, UN–Lincoln 1972-1973
Larrie E. Stone, Biology, Dana–Blair 1973-1974
Clyde C. Sachtleben, Physics, Hastings College 1975-1976
T. Mylan Stout, Geology/Paleontology, UN–Lincoln 1976-1977
Laddie J. Bicak, Biology, Kearney State 1977-1978
Claire M. Oswald, Biology, College of St. Mary–Omaha 1978-1979
Robert C. Sutherland, Biology (Botany), Wayne State 1979-1980
Carl Throckmorton, Physics, Hastings College 1981-1982
Thomas B. Bragg, Biology, UN–Omaha 1982-1983
Ronald R. Weedon, Biology, Chadron State 1983-1984
Carroll L. Moore, Physics, Wesleyan–Lincoln 1984-1985
Marvin E. Glasser, Physics, Kearney State 1985-1986
Donald E. Shult, Physics, UN–Omaha 1986-1987
John F. Hertner, Biology, Kearney State 1988-1989
David M. Sutherland, Biology, UN–Omaha 1989-1990
Jack L. Swanson, Chemistry, Chadron State, Chadron 1990-1991
Francis A. Haskins, Agronomy, UNL, Lincoln 1991-1992
James E. Platz, Biology, Creighton–Omaha 1992-1993
Steve Rothenberger, Biology, UN at Kearney 1995-1996
Robert Curtright, Chemistry, Lincoln Public Schools 1996-1997
James McGahan, Chemistry, Grand Island Public Schools 1997-1998
David T. Lewis, Agronomy, UNL, Lincoln 1998-1999
Ed Brogie, Laurel School, Laurel 1999-2000
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Institution</th>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Reeder</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Concordia, Seward</td>
<td>2001-2002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mary Ettel</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>Wayne State, Wayne</td>
<td>2002-2003</td>
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<td>Aurietha Hoesing</td>
<td>Omaha Public Schools</td>
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<td>George Veomett</td>
<td>Biology</td>
<td>UNL, Lincoln</td>
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<td>Julia Polak</td>
<td>Exeter Public Schools</td>
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<td>Bruce Chase</td>
<td>Biology</td>
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<td>Jim Rynearson</td>
<td>Lincoln Public Schools</td>
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<td>Rod Diercks</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Doane College, Crete</td>
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<td>Jim Wood</td>
<td>Chemistry</td>
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<td>Chris Schaben</td>
<td>Omaha Public Schools</td>
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<td>Russ Souchek</td>
<td>Environmental Sciences</td>
<td>Doane College, Crete</td>
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<td>Ross Dinwiddie</td>
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<td>Karin van Dijk</td>
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<td>Todd Young</td>
<td>Wayne State College</td>
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<td>Doug Golick</td>
<td>UNL, Lincoln</td>
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