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INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

L. T. Wallace, Chairman

National Agricultural Policy Committee

Welcome to the twentieth National Agricultural Policy Conference. It appears that we have survived Joe Ackerman's retirement, and the helm of the Farm Foundation is in the steady hands of Jim Hildreth and Neill Schaller.

As we begin this meeting, I want to draw your attention to the criteria the Program Committee used in developing this year's conference. One aim was to broaden our perspective so we can become better teachers, communicating more timely and relevant information. We also tried to select topics which will broaden our understanding and handling of the methodology of public affairs education. We hope to provide a forum for the discussion of case studies—not only in our formal meetings but also in the informal sessions which occur “after hours,” because we believe these informal sessions are perhaps more important than the formal program.

Indeed, we hope the program participants provide that essential catalytic function necessary to push us all past that point where we would normally stop. Here the Program Committee places the responsibility for learning and education directly on your shoulders. The responsibility for the success of this program and for responding to the professional challenge it presents is shared equally by all of us. Let us again rise to the occasion and make this conference “the best one yet.”

PART I

*The University's Role in
Public Policy Education*

