



National Association for Research in Science Teaching

A New Affiliated Society of the American Association for the Advancement of Science

THE NARST was organized in Boston on 27 February 1928 during a convention of the Department of Superintendence of the National Education Association. The persons attending had been invited by W. L. Eikenberry and represented the key men who had fostered the program of educational experimentation in science teaching. The aim of the meeting was to organize a group of science educators into a society whose purpose was to foster experimentation in the field of science teaching, to report the results of investigations in *science education* at the annual meeting, and to publish the findings in the journal *General Science Quarterly*, later renamed *Science Education*.

From this early group of 16 members, the society has grown to a group of nearly 250. In order to join NARST, a person must be sponsored by a member of the society, approved unanimously by the executive committee, and voted as acceptable by the membership. The major criterion for membership is the publication of worthy research in the field of science teaching.

The progress of the society is attested by these facts: (i) more than 90 percent of all *published* research in science education bears the name of a member of the NARST; (ii) about 80 percent of all published research in science education is found in *Science Education*; (iii) more than two-thirds of the science education positions in colleges are filled by NARST members; (iv) year after year most of the key persons in the Central Association of Science and Mathematics Teachers, National Association of Biology Teachers, and National Science Teachers Association

have been NARST members; (v) nearly all the "milestones of research" in science education (principles, attitudes, problem-solving) have been reported at our annual meetings.

At the present time the major project of the NARST is the annual review of science education research, a project begun when the American Educational Research Association dropped its triennial publication in the teaching of science. The third annual review, now in preparation, reviews research in science teaching from the elementary through the college levels. The December issue of *Science Education* is devoted to the publication of the review.

The annual meetings of the NARST are held alternately on the Atlantic Coast and in the Midwest, in the spring. The next meeting will be held at Teachers College, Columbia University, 18-20 April 1955.

The NARST also has collaborated in sectional and regional meetings with the AAAS, AERA, NABT, and NSTA. It participated with Section Q at Berkeley in a meeting devoted to the implications and practical applications of research in science education.

The officers for 1954-55 are Kenneth E. Anderson, president; William C. VanDeventer, vice president; Clarence M. Pruitt, secretary-treasurer; George G. Mallinson, past president, member of the executive committee, and AAAS council representative; and Waldo W. E. Blanchet, executive committee. The NARST has been represented on the Cooperative Committee on the Teaching of Science and Mathematics of the AAAS by Mallinson.

GEORGE G. MALLINSON

Western Michigan College of Education, Kalamazoo

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