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Founders and Presidents of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences, 1880-1986

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FOUNDERS AND PRESIDENTS OF THE NEBRASKA

ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, 1880-1986

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INTRODUCTION

The Nebraska Academy of Sciences is the oldest interdisciplinary scientific organization in Nebraska and one of the oldest and most successful state academies in the United States. It was founded in Omaha on January 30, 1880, and there were seventy-five Charter Members from eighteen communities.

The Union Pacific Railroad officials and employees provided much of the impetus for the establishment of an Academy of Sciences in Nebraska by providing office space and meeting rooms near the Union Pacific headquarters. Railroad passes were issued to all science teachers, professional scientists, and interested citizens to attend monthly meetings. Five of the officers were from the Union Pacific staff.

The Academy was formed to encourage the exchange of scientific data and to improve the communication between the various disciplines of scientific research and teaching in the different educational institutions in Nebraska. The goals of 106 years ago are basically the same as those of today. Interest in the Academy has continued and now there are twelve sections; two divisions, GNATS (Greater Nebraska Association of Teachers of Science) and TER-QUA (Institute for Tertiary and Quaternary Studies); three Junior Academies; two Collegiate Sections; and nine associated societies.

CHARTER MEMBERS

The Charter Members of the Nebraska Academy of Sciences listed in the Academy's Constitution and By-laws (Anonymous, 1880), which were adopted on January 30, 1880 in Omaha, Nebraska, are listed below. Fifteen employees of the Union Pacific Railroad were Charter Members and their names are marked with an * in the list.

ALEXANDER, Hon. S.J., Lincoln; *ALLAN, J.T., Omaha; *ALLEN, W.C.B., Omaha; AUGHEY, Prof. Samuel, Lincoln; BARKER, L.D., Omaha; BARTON, Guy C., North Platte; BOND, J.H., Omaha; BOWEN, J.S., Blair; BOWEN, W.R., Omaha; BROATCH, W.J., Omaha; BROOKS, Mrs. H.S., Omaha; BRUNER, Lawrence, West Point; BUDD, Harry S., Omaha; BUDD, J., Omaha; *BURNHAM, Leavitt, Omaha;
*CLEBURNE, Wm., Omaha; COLLINS, S.J., Omaha;
DAVIS, O.F., Omaha; DENINNY, F.M., Omaha; DINSMOOR, Chas. M., Omaha; DINSMOOR, Mrs. O.C., Omaha; DODGE, G.M., Glencoe; DORSEY, G.W.E., Fremont; DUNHAM, M., Omaha;
EDHOLM, E.O.L., Omaha; EDHOLM, Madame Charlton, Omaha; EMERSON, Prof. Harrington, Lincoln;
FALCONER, N.B., Omaha; FERGUSON, A.N., Omaha; *FURNAS, R.W., Brownville;
GRAFF, Geo. B., Omaha; GRAY, Geneva;

HARSHA, Rev. Wm. J., Omaha; HITCHCOCK, Hon. P.W., Omaha; HOWE, Church, Brownville; HUNTINGTON, Chas. S., Omaha;
JEWETT, Geo. H., Sidney; JONES, Alf. D., Omaha;
KALEY, H.S., Red Cloud; KENNEDY, B.E.B., Omaha; *KENNEDY, H., Omaha; *KIMBALL, Thos. L., Omaha; KOUTZE, H., Omaha;
LARNED, N., Wilber; LEISENRING, P.S., Omaha; LIVINGSTON, R.R., Plattsmouth; *LONG, E.K., Omaha; LOVE, Prof. J.W., Plattsmouth; LUDINGTON, Horace, Omaha;
MCBRIDE, J.C., Lincoln; MCKOON, M.G., Omaha; MOORE, Richard C., Omaha;
NICHOLSON, Prof. H.H., Peru;
PALMER, C.H., Plattsmouth; PEABODY, J.H., Omaha; *PERINE, P.E., Omaha; POINTS, J.J., Omaha; *POPPLETON, A.J., Omaha;
REED, Byron, Omaha; ROE, J.P., Kearney;
SAUNDERS, Hon. S., Omaha; SAVAGE, Jas. W., Omaha; *SCOTT, W.H., Omaha; SESSIONS, Louis, Norfolk; SMALL, Jas. W., Fairfield; STANTON, Maj. F.H., U.S.A.; *STEBBINS, Chas., Omaha;
TUCKER, T.S., Omaha;
VALENTINE, Hon. E.K., West Point;
WALKER, C.H., Bloomington; *WEBSTER, J.L., Omaha; WHEELER, D.H., Plattsmouth; *WILBER, Prof. C.D., Wilber;
WILLIAMS, Rev. Jon, Omaha.

During the 1880s Omaha became an important industrial city and by the early 1890s Lincoln became known as the "educational center of the West." There were eight colleges and universities, as well as a business school and a conservatory of music (Schultz, 1982). The Nebraska Academy of Sciences was reorganized in Lincoln in 1890 and on January 1, 1891 a new Constitution and By-laws, similar to the original ones, were adopted and published (Anonymous, 1891). There were forty-nine Charter Members, and these are listed below.

ALLEN, Prof. Harold N., Mathematics & Physics, Lincoln; ARMSTRONG, J.T., M.D., Psychology, Beatrice;
BEATTIE, Prof. James A., Mathematics & Astronomy, Lincoln; BELL, A.T., Botany, Crete; BESSEY, Prof. Charles E., Botany, Lincoln; BIRSS, Miss M. Evelyn, Geology, Peru; BOUTON, Miss Rosa, Chemistry, Lincoln; BRUNER, Prof. Lawrence, Entomology, Lincoln; BURBANK, F.L., M.D., Anatomy, Lincoln; BURNET, Prof. Percy B., Zoology, Lincoln;
CLAPP, Prof. Charles R., M.D., Biology, Neligh; CLASON, Horace S., Archaeology, Lincoln; CONKLIN, Julius, Botany Lincoln;
DALES, J.S., Botany, Lincoln; DUNCANSON, Henry B., Botany, Lincoln;
FARNAM, George L., Psychology, Peru; FULMER, H. Elton, Chemistry, Lincoln;
HART, Alexis C., Psychology, Franklin; HARTLEY, E.T., Microscopy, Lincoln; HIBBARD, D.O., Physics, Blair; HICKS, Prof. Lewis E., Geology, Lincoln; HITCHCOCK, Prof. Henry E., Mathematics, Lincoln;
KINGSLEY, Prof. J. Sterling, Biology, Lincoln; KENYON, Frederick C., Zoology, Lincoln;
LLOYD, Prof. Rachel, Chemistry, Lincoln; LOWRY, H.B., M.D., Physiology, Lincoln;
MANNING, C.D., M.D., Physiology, Lincoln; MANSFELDE, A.S., M.D., Physiology, Ashland; MARSLAND, T.H., Zoology & Chemistry, Lincoln; MERRIAM, L.A., M.D., Psychology, Omaha;
NETTLETON, Mrs. Eliza G., Botany, McCook; NICHOLSON, Prof. Hudson H., Chemistry, Lincoln;
O'CONNOR, D.C., Chemistry & Botany, Arlington; OLIVER, T.J., M.D., Natural History, Lincoln;
POUND, Roscoe, Botany & Law, Lincoln;
RAY, Miss Harriet D., Botany, Omaha;
SALLEE, L.F., Biology, Mason City; SENTER, Herbert A., Chemistry, Lincoln; SKINNER, Wells H., Botany, Crete; STEPHENS, Andrew B., Botany, Fairbury; SWEZEY, Goodwin D., Natural Science, Crete;
TAYLOR, Prof. F.W., Botany, Lincoln; TAYLOR, W. Edgar, Zoology & Geology, Peru; TUCKER, Francis F., Chemistry, Lincoln;
VAN VLEET, Albert H., Chemistry & Physics, Peru;
WILLIAMS, Prof. Tom A., Botany, Brookings, South Dakota; WISE, W.J., Chemistry & Psychology, Pawnee City; WOODS Albert F., Botany, Lincoln.

HISTORY

The Nebraska Academy of Sciences has flourished largely through the efforts of dedicated members and volunteers, but the Nebraska State Legislature did provide funds for the printing of twelve small volumes of the *Publications* series from the 1890s through the early 1920s. The Academy was incorporated on September 20, 1950.

In 1960 the Academy received the first endowment from the estate of two of its Life Members, Rachael and Benjamin Maiben. The Maiben Memorial Endowment consists of invested funds and the Maiben Scientific Research Center (a quarter section of contoured land near Palmyra in Otoe County located about 20 miles [32.2 km] southeast of Lincoln). The interests and dividends from the funds and the sale of the crops from the farm provided money for the establishment of an Academy business office in Morrill Hall on the University of Nebraska downtown campus, and for secretarial help. The Maiben endowment was merged with the Lincoln Foundation in 1983 in order to insure the management of the income as long as the Academy remains active. The Academy continues to seek additional endowments.

The Nebraska State Legislature directly or through the Nebraska Department of Education has provided funds for the publication of the *TRANSACTIONS* since 1969. The University of Nebraska libraries became the depository for the Academy publications, the *TRANSACTIONS* and the *Proceedings*, in 1939; and those publications are exchanged with some 600 libraries throughout the world. Since 1972 ‘‘Friends of the Academy,’’ which includes numerous business organizations (including foundations) and individuals, have generously provided funds in order to keep the work of the Academy active in all of the colleges, universities, and high schools of the State. Recently, over thirty organizations and forty individuals have made substantial gifts and grants.

PRESIDENTS FROM 1880 TO 1986

*Samuel Aughey, Geology-Biology, UN-Lincoln	1880-1881
*Samuel Aughey,	1881-1882
*Samuel Aughey,	1882-1883
*Samuel Aughey,	1883-1884
*Samuel Aughey,	1884-1885
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 Science 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	1892-1893
*Charles E. Bessey,	1893-1894
*Charles E. Bessey,	1894-1895
*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. Ill.)	1898-1899
*Goodwin D. Swenzey, Biology/Astronomy, UN-Lincoln	1899-1900
*Harold Gifford, Medicine, Omaha Med. Coll.	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, Omaha-Brandeis Bldg.	1906-1907
*F. E. Clements, Botany, UN-Lincoln,	1907-1908
*Albert F. Tyler, Entomology, Creighton, Bellevue	1908-1909
*George E. Condra, Geology, UN-Lincoln	1909-1910
*George E. Condra,	1910-1911
*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 Coll.-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. Upton, Chemistry, UN-Lincoln	1932-1933
*E. Russel Wightman, Mathematics, Doane-Crete	1933-1934
*Nels A. Bengtson, 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 Coll.	1937-1938
*Alvin L. Lugn, Geology, UN-Lincoln	1938-1939
*V. Calvon McKim, Geography, Chadron State	1939-1940
*Morton P. Brunig, Engineering, UN-Lincoln	1940-1941
*L. N. Garlough, Biology, UN-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, UNO-Omaha	1955-1956
Robert G. Bowman, Geography, UN-Lincoln	1956-1957
Walter R. French, Jr., Physics, Wesleyan-Lincoln	1957-1958
*Harold F. Rhodes, Agronomy, UN-Lincoln	1958-1959
Carl T. Brandhorst, Biology, Concordia-Seward	1959-1960
James A. Rutledge, Science Education, UN-Lincoln	1960-1961
John G. McMillan, Physics, UNO-Omaha	1961-1962
Lloyd G. Tanner, Geology/Paleontology, UN-Lincoln	1962-1963
Walter G. Elwell, Physics, UNO-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	1969-1970
Paul H. Laursen, Chemistry, Wesleyan-Lincoln.....	1970-1971
*C. Robert Keppel, Chemistry, UNO-Omaha	1971-1972
Dwight D. Miller, Zoology, UN-Lincoln.....	1972-1973
Larrie E. Stone, Biology, Dana-Blair	1973-1974
Theodore J. Urban, Dentistry, Creighton-Omaha	1974-1975
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, Coll. St. Mary-Omaha	1978-1979
Robert C. Sutherland, Biology (Botany)-Wayne State.....	1979-1980
Rosalind Morris, Agronomy, UN-Lincoln.....	1980-1981
Carl Throckmorton, Physics, Hastings College.....	1981-1982
Thomas B. Bragg, Biology, UNO-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, UNO-Omaha	1986-1987
Dale D. Rathe,** Science, Lincoln Public Schools	1987-1988

* Deceased

**President-elect (1987-1988)

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