

Workshop Papers and Authors

Presiding: Marlin N. Rogers

International Approach to Teaching Floriculture

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Horticultural Training in the Federal Republic of Germany

W.-U. von Hentig

U.S. Floricultural Education

Richard E. Widmer

International Approach to Teaching Floriculture

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One of the prerequisites for a thriving profession of floriculture and ornamental horticulture is a continuing supply of enthusiastic and well-trained young people, who will eventually move into leadership and management positions. We need young people who have comprehensive bases in the fundamental sciences that underlie our profession, but who also have hands-on and practical backgrounds in the applications of this science to the art and sciences of horticulture. We need people who will eventually staff and manage our greenhouses and nurseries in production- and marketing-oriented positions. We also need scientists holding advanced degrees who will fill the teaching, research, and extension positions in our colleges, universities, and research institutes in the years to come.

There has been widespread concern in the United States during

the past few years about the numbers of students studying in this area and preparing themselves to move into these leadership and management positions during the next 20 to 50 years.

We were fortunate to have with us representatives of two countries representing major world floriculture and ornamental horticulture production, the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States. Both R.E. Widmer and W.-U. von Hentig are highly respected research scientists, very interested and concerned about our need to prepare young people for continued leadership of our industry into the 21st century. Their papers were carefully researched, and have given us an excellent view of the current status of higher education for floriculture and ornamental horticulture in our respective countries.