Gratitude from NCTA

By Ron Rosati, NCTA Dean

Happy Thanksgiving from the Nebraska College of Technical Agriculture!

Thanksgiving provides us with an opportunity to pause and reflect upon the many blessings we find around us. I am grateful to be part of NCTA and Nebraska higher education. Having lived in several states and internationally, I marvel at my surroundings each day here in southwestern Nebraska.

My gratitude is abundant for being able to live and work with the people who make up the NCTA community. I appreciate their values, integrity, work ethic and commitment to each other.

What fortune I share in working with you, the people in this state, who treasure the land, livestock and natural resources.

I am grateful to the many community residents, friends, families and alumni who sustain the college here at Curtis. Our students are successful due to your overwhelming support.

Nearly 200 students are on campus daily, learning the skills which will equip them to help agricultural producers of food, fiber and fuel. Another hundred commute in or take classes online, or through dual credits at the high school level.

We are grateful for a large enrollment increase this semester, and are on track to continue our growth.

Thank you for creating the atmosphere which has led to this growth!

While Nebraska agriculture revolves around stewardship of natural resources, plants, and animals, our greatest resource is the people around us.

NCTA students, faculty and staff are grateful for the support we receive from the citizens of the Medicine Valley area.

- Thank you to our students – for making NCTA your home and dedicating yourselves to learning and career preparation.

- Thank you to our faculty and staff – you are each valued professionals who contribute daily to our learning environment.

- Thank you to our alumni - for supporting us with input, contributions and a lifelong connection to your alma mater.

- Thank you to our advisors – from statewide advisory board and community advisory groups, to student internship mentors and academic division advisors.

- Thank you to FFA and 4-H – for instilling leadership and learning to youngsters who grow into vibrant, contributing college students and role models on campus.

- Thank you to our benefactors – for financing student scholarships, facilities and equipment, or for “behind-the-scenes” investments.

- Thank you to decision-makers, policy leaders and administrators – for guiding NCTA and believing in our mission.
• Thank you to agricultural groups, commodity boards, industry partners – for counsel and steadfast support.

• Thank you to our media and communication partners – for helping convey the great news about NCTA!

We are fortunate to be living in a time when agriculture is so strong, taking care of its practitioners and feeding the people of the world. We appreciate the biological technologies which have helped our agricultural producers be so productive. We appreciate the mechanical technologies, such as variable-rate technology and global positioning systems, which have helped us to increase agricultural productivity.

We appreciate the strong economic position of agriculture – the ability of our producers to make a good living and the fact that their work leads to safe and low-cost food for the consumers of the world.

All of these factors and more form the foundation for Nebraska agriculture and our educational mission at NCTA. Thank you for believing in us and our students. May you each live in gratitude daily and experience a bountiful autumn. Happy Thanksgiving!