

# From the Chair: Reaching Out and Growing

Susanne Caro

**W**hen I first started teaching, I was a young, idealistic, and somewhat naive person. I had just finished my undergraduate degree and was excited to start my first job. I had heard that teaching was a great career choice and that I would be able to make a difference in the lives of my students. I was right in many ways, but I was also wrong in many others. I had no idea how challenging teaching would be, how much time it would take, and how much I would have to learn. I was also naive to think that I would be able to make a difference in the lives of my students. I was wrong in that, too. It took me many years to realize that I could make a difference, and it was not always in the ways I had imagined. I was a young, idealistic, and somewhat naive person. I had just finished my undergraduate degree and was excited to start my first job. I had heard that teaching was a great career choice and that I would be able to make a difference in the lives of my students. I was right in many ways, but I was also wrong in many others. I had no idea how challenging teaching would be, how much time it would take, and how much I would have to learn. I was also naive to think that I would be able to make a difference in the lives of my students. I was wrong in that, too. It took me many years to realize that I could make a difference, and it was not always in the ways I had imagined.

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