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Department: From Where I Sit



Celebrating Milestones

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One truly satisfying aspect of sentience is the very human ability to reflect on past events and accomplishments to gain insight into the future. As the school year winds down, NAGC staff are gearing up to explore and identify the very best ways to reflect on and celebrate the impressive milestone of 60: Sixty years of holding annual meetings, 60 years of serving members, 60 years of research and theories, 60 years of classroom practice, and most importantly, 60 years of advocating for services that support and challenge gifted learners.



The world is packed with change — especially within the education landscape. Recognizing milestone events and the people who have provided the foundations of a profession or field of study provides us essential comfort through change. NAGC and gifted education have not been immune from these significant changes, making the observance of the 60th anniversary even more welcome. During the [NAGC Annual Convention](#) this fall, we'll celebrate the field and your accomplishments in many ways. Ideally the observations and reflections expressed at the convention in Indianapolis will provide some perspective to help you understand where we've been and where we're going. Our plan is to convene a task force of NAGC leaders, long-time members, and repeat attendees who can help identify the important "milestones" we'll want to celebrate when

we're together. However, I just can't wait for that first formal meeting. This column today serves as your invitation to share your thoughts on how best to appreciate the milestones of the past. Feel free to [email me directly](#) with your answers to one or more of the following questions:

1. Over the past 60 years, which expert or theory do you believe has had the biggest impact on the field of gifted education?
2. What event or person has done the most to influence gifted education policy in the United States?
3. If you have attended multiple NAGC conventions over the years, what would you say has been the biggest change to your experience? How many conventions have you attended?
4. What is your idea for how to best commemorate 60 years as the profession researching and representing the needs of gifted and talented learners?

From a commemorative lapel pin to a panel of past presidents sharing their views of the field, no idea is too small or too big to share. We look forward to hearing from you, and to thanking you in person this fall in Indianapolis .

