

Changes in PPI/PPIC Staff Responsibilities

Incoming PPI President Dr. Terry Roberts has announced new responsibilities and titles for some staff members of the Institute, effective January 2006.

Dr. Paul Fixen of Brookings, South Dakota, now has oversight responsibilities for Latin America Programs, in addition to North America. His new title will be Senior Vice President, Americas Program Coordinator, and Director of Research. The Latin America Program includes offices in Brazil, Ecuador, and Argentina.

Dr. Adrian Johnston of Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, is Northern Great Plains

Region Director and President of the Potash & Phosphate Institute of Canada (PPIC). He will continue in those roles, with the added title of Asia Program Coordinator, having oversight duties for Institute programs in China, India, and Southeast Asia.

Steven J. Couch of Norcross, Georgia, is now Director, Information Technology and Member Programs/Conferences. He has served as Manager of Information Technology at PPI for several years and will now have added responsibilities related to meetings and other assignments. **BC**

Rob Mikkelsen Honored as Fellow of ASA



Dr. Robert L. Mikkelsen, PPI West Region Director, was recognized as a Fellow of the American Society of Agronomy (ASA) at the recent annual meetings in Salt Lake City. Fellow is the highest honor bestowed by the Society, and only 0.3% of the Active and Emeritus members may be elected to Fellowship.

Dr. Mikkelsen joined the staff of PPI in 2002 and is based at Davis, California. Previously, he was on the faculty of the Soil Science Department of North Carolina State University (NCSU), where he was very active in graduate education. He received the College Excellence in Teaching Award. His research at NCSU focused on managing fertilizers and manures in cropping systems to maximize nutrient efficiency and productivity.

After earning his B.S. degree at Brigham Young University in Utah, Dr. Mikkelsen went on to complete his Ph.D. at the University of California-Riverside in 1985. He later worked as a Research Scientist with the National Fertilizer Development Center of the Tennessee Valley Authority. Dr. Mikkelsen was responsible for nutrient management issues involving fertilizers and irrigation and received a patent for new fertilizer innovations.

Dr. Mikkelsen has been active in many national professional societies and served on editorial boards of numerous international journals. He was Associate Editor for *Agronomy Journal* and the *Journal of Environmental Quality*, and currently serves as Associate Editor of the *Soil Science Society of America Journal*. **BC**