

Mike Daniel, Ed.D.  
Retired Professor and Dean Emeritus  
Texas A&M University-Kingsville  
[michael.daniel@retiree.tamuk.edu](mailto:michael.daniel@retiree.tamuk.edu)

I joined TAAHPERD in September 1986 when I moved to Texas to accept a faculty position at McMurry University. I am currently an emeritus member, and proud to say that I have missed only one TAAHPERD Convention in those 37 years. I joined the Arkansas association in 1967 as a student at Southern State College and was elected Student Section Secretary of SDAHPERD. I maintained membership in a state association and AAHPERD for all years prior to 1986 except for three years in the U.S. Army. Professional membership and engagement are important parts of our careers! In 1995 I worked part time for six months in the TAAHPERD office, on a sabbatical from McMurry, which only reinforced my belief in professionalism and professional development. I was fortunate to be elected President of TAAHPERD at the 1998 convention and served in that position in 2000. I have been involved in numerous committees in the organization, but am most proud of my involvement in two activities: (1) the transition of Executive Directors in 2001, and (2) the committee investigating the possibility and process of building the TAAHPERD offices. Much has changed in our professions in my years in TAAHPERD, some good and some not so good, but my conviction is solid – TAAHPERD plays an important role in sustaining our contribution to society and we need to continue to recruit members!