

2010

Fall Newsletter

www.aaaeonline.org

Very recently it was brought to the attention of the AAAE Executive Board that our profession often has paper/poster presenters, journal authors, and award recipients who are not members of AAAE. Since these are benefits of membership, and since we are moving into a period of heavy submission processes, the board is asking each of us to be diligent in checking our membership status and paying our dues by the constitution's deadline of January 1 (see below).

In addition, as Tracy Kitchel, Michael Spiess, and Emily Rhoades work to clean records, streamline member services, and update the website, it is important to remind all of us that their efforts are a result of dues-paying members of AAAE.

If you have not visited the website lately, do so. Among the important items posted, you will find your current membership status, and the convenience of paying online.

Have a safe and wonderful holiday season with family and friends.

Thanks for all that you do to make agricultural education, communication, and leadership a strong and viable part of our American culture.

Susie

University of Arizona



The Department is now the academic home for the Military Science and Leadership Minor at the University of Arizona (U of A). The Army, Navy/Marine, and Air Force ROTC units are all offered at the U of A. In order for the units to have a minor, however, an academic home was needed. The Department agreed to act as the academic home because of our interest and association with leadership.

Agricultural Systems Management, a Yuma-based program, is officially an option under the Department's Bachelor of Science degree. **Tanya Hodges**, who just graduated over the summer with her Master's of Science in Agricultural Education, is the coordinator for the program.

The Department is the home to the Veteran's Center and S.E.R.V. (Supporting Education for Returning Veterans) courses. The courses are structured to assist veterans transitioning back into the classroom; however, they can also be taught towards other diverse groups of learners.

Ed Franklin is hosting his 1st Annual Invitational Agriculture Power & Machinery Skills Event (Pilot Event) on Saturday April

9, 2011. Students from Arizona high schools have been invited to participate, with registration limited to the first 16 teams.

Jim Knight will be on sabbatical starting in Spring 2011. He will travel to Colleges of Agriculture here in the west and around the world where he will look at their faculty development programs. In the course of the sabbatical, he will travel to Australia, New Zealand, Thailand, and to several countries in Europe and Africa. In addition, he will spend some time at the University of Namibia working with their University faculty development and with the Faculty of Agriculture and Natural Resources. He will conclude the sabbatical by participating in the annual conference for AIAEE, which will be held in Windhoek, Namibia in early July 2011.

New Faculty

The Department is pleased to announce the addition of three faculty members. **Robert Torres** is the new department head and is also the Neely Family Endowed Professor for Excellence in Agriculture and Life Sciences. He started with the University of Arizona in June 2010. Previously, he was the Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in the Department of Agricultural Education at the University of Missouri. He spent nine years as a teacher educator at New Mexico State University as well as time as a high school agricultural education teacher in Willcox,

Arizona. He has earned multiple awards for teaching such as the USDA Excellence in College and University Teaching, and the University of Missouri William T. Kemper Fellow in Teaching.

Ryan Foor also joined the Department during the summer. He received his Ph.D. in Agricultural Education from Ohio State University. He previously served as the Agricultural Education instructor and FFA advisor at Glenwood Community High School in Iowa before becoming a graduate teaching assistant at Ohio State University. Dr. Foor now joins the Department as an assistant professor and is the Director for Graduate Studies.

Phil Callahan is an associate professor who started with the Department in Spring 2010. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Arizona in Educational Psychology. He has held positions at the UA Arizona Health Sciences Center, UA South and at the University Teaching Center. Currently, Dr. Callahan teaches the S.E.R.V. (Supporting Education for Returning Veterans) courses, which are now housed in the Department. He plays a big role in the U of A's Veteran's Center, which is housed in the Student Union.

Awards & Recognitions

Ryan Foor received the NACTA (North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture) Graduate Student Teaching Award in May 2010. Dr. Foor was recognized at the national level for his commitment to and excellence in college teaching, and joined a select group of college faculty and NACTA members.

Jim Knight was named one of the six inaugural inductees into The Bart Cardon Academy for Teaching Excellence within the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. The Academy is a way for the College to recognize and honor the contribution of exceptional faculty members for their expertise and contribution to the teaching mission of the College.

Glen Miller will receive the 2010 Lifetime Achievement at the Annual ACTE Conference in Las Vegas, NV. A plaque will be presented at the NAAE Awards Luncheon and general session on Friday, December 3.

Retirement

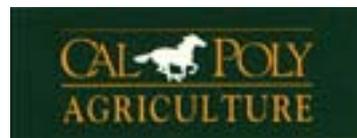
After a lengthy career at the University of Arizona, **Dave Cox**, The Bart Cardon Associate Dean at Academic Programs, will fully retire in Summer 2011. Dr. Cox is a former faculty member of the Department and one of the Department's greatest advocates. Also retiring this summer is **Eugene Sander**, Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and **Colin Kaltenbach**, Vice Dean, College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Director, Agricultural Experiment Station. All three have been instrumental in the College's mission, and they will be greatly missed when they retire.

Graduate Students

The Department is fortunate to have the assistance of four graduate students. They are **DeeDee Amber**, **Alicia Gutierrez**, **Kevin Hartfield**, and **Cash Veo**.

California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo

We are pleased to welcome **Dr. Ben Swan** back to the department. Dr. Swan taught at Ripon High School before completing his PhD at The



Ohio State University. He spent the past four years teaching agricultural education coursework and supervising student teachers at the University of Idaho. Dr. Swan is teaching the Laboratory Methods and Technology courses, supervising student teachers and advising the Alpha Tau Alpha.

Dr. Glen Casey has retreated back to the department for the balance of his faculty early retirement program. He is half-time in the department this year. Dr. Casey was the Associate Dean in the College of Education for the past four years.

Agriculture Science student, Kevy Souza, was selected as a National Collegiate Agricultural Ambassador and will spend the year speaking about a variety of agricultural topics at high schools and universities across the country. Congratulations!

The department faculty supervised 8 student teachers during the fall quarter. Thank you to the following high schools for their assistance with student teaching placements: Ann Sobrato, Exeter, Hilmar, Hughson, Linden, Pitman, Santa Maria and Wasco.

The department received an Oreggia Family Foundation Grant to add video-conferencing equipment to the classroom (10-100). The goal of the upgrade was to provide distance learning opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students. The project was finished in early September and is currently being integrated into courses and departmental operations.

Western Growers and ADFarm made a donation of 25 Kodak Playsport digital video cameras for use in the Agricultural Communications coursework. Students will use the cameras to capture video footage to edit and produce educational and promotional pieces featuring growers and businesses as part of the "Know Your California Farmer" campaign.

The department continues to make secondary agricultural teacher professional development a priority, even during tough economic times. Faculty and staff hosted the New Professionals Institute for all first, second and third year teachers in Fresno, the Student Teacher Conclave in Modesto, and the California Agricultural Teachers' Association summer conference on campus with one of the highest attendance rates in history. The department also provided a Teach Ag Day on campus where those interested in choosing a career in agricultural education were invited to learn more.

The Masters Degree Program continues to draw interest from teachers across the state and in some neighboring western states. The Master of Science degree with a specialization in Agriculture Education has been replaced with the new degree of Masters of Agricultural Education (MAE).

Our department has an extensive presence on Facebook. To keep up on the latest happenings around Ag Circle, friend us and encourage your students to do the same!!

- Cal Poly, SLO – Agricultural Education & Communication Dept.
- Cal Poly ACT
- Cal Poly Ag Ambassadors
- Cal Poly CFFA
- I Love Farmers... They Feed My Soul
- Latinos in Agriculture (LIA) – Cal Poly

The number of undergraduates in the program currently sits at 210 students representing teacher education and agricultural communications specializations equally. There are currently 20 full-time graduate students on campus in the credential program and 75 working within the 7-year completion window for the masters degree.

Cornell University



Cornell University

Enrollments in Agricultural Education continue to grow in both the undergraduate and graduate programs. Overall shortages of highly qualified teachers of agriculture in New York State and the Northeast have helped to spur interest in agricultural science education at Cornell. Our undergraduate program has experienced growth over each of the past five academic years. One benefit of the undergraduate major is that students often have the flexibility of dual-majoring in agricultural science education and another major, commonly animal science or natural resources. Thus, students are prepared for many careers in the agriculture industry. In conjunction with the admissions office in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, we are also seeing increased growth in total enrollments of students who were or are FFA members. As part of an international university, CALS attracts students from across the Nation in agricultural studies, which makes for a vibrant campus community.

Literacy Research in CTE. **Travis Park**, assistant professor in agricultural science education, has entered the fourth year of a National Research Center for Career and Technical Education grant. This year's activities focus on delivering literacy pedagogic frameworks to teachers through technical assistance and professional development. Travis and **Liz van der Mandele** are currently working with CTE teachers in the Detroit Public School system. Several other states and larger urban school districts are also interested in the work, as literacy challenges abound in CTE.

University of Georgia

The Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (ALEC) welcomes **Dr. Frank Flanders**

as an Assistant Professor. Originally from Emanuel County, Dr. Flanders has extensive experience in developing agriculture education teaching materials. He received his bachelor, master, and doctorate degrees from the University of Georgia and has served agriculture education for over 32 years. He has taught



high school agriculture education and was a Special Instructor in Agricultural Education at the University of Georgia for 15 years. He served as the Agriculture Education Curriculum Coordinator in Georgia for 11 years, where he developed and maintained the Georgia Agricultural Education website, produced instructional DVDs and CDs for teachers, managed curriculum projects, and taught numerous workshops for teachers. He is the ninth generation of his family to be actively involved in American agriculture. Dr. Flanders was inducted into the Georgia Agriculture Education Hall of Fame in 2003 and received the National Outstanding Faculty Advisor Award from the Professional Fraternity Association. He has also received the Outstanding Faculty Member in Agriculture Education Award and the Outstanding Service and Faculty Member Award from the University of Georgia Student Government Association.

Dr. Kathryn "Jill" Rucker of Stillwater, Oklahoma has also joined the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (ALEC) as an Assistant Professor. Before completing her doctorate in Agricultural Education with a focus on Agricultural Communications and Leadership in July of 2010, she received a Bachelor of Science in Business Marketing and a Master of Business Administration from the Spears School of Business at Oklahoma State University. After graduating with her MBA, Jill worked in the banking industry for three years and returned to Stillwater to work in higher education as the Assistant to the Vice President for Student Affairs. While working in Student Affairs, Jill found her passion—working with students in higher education. She served as a graduate teaching assistant for the College of Education and as a freshmen orientation instructor for the College of Arts and Sciences before becoming a full time Ph.D. student in Agricultural Education, Communications, and Leadership. Jill has taught a variety of classes in agricultural communications and leadership and worked to tailor the curriculum to teach basic communication and leadership skills as related to the agricultural industry.

Dr. Ray Herren has retired from his position as Department Head of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication. Dr. Herren has contributed to the success of agricultural education in every facet, from teaching students and future teachers to serving as an international agriculture educator to authoring textbooks and grants. Born in Walker County, Alabama, he earned his Bachelors of Science in Agricultural Education from Auburn University, then went on to receive his Master's in Agribusiness Education from Alabama A&M University. He received his Doctoral degree in Vocational Education/Agricultural Education from Virginia Tech. Dr. Herren began his career in Agriculture Education at Gaylesville High School in Alabama, where he taught from 1971-1980, after which he was an Instructor at Virginia Tech from 1980-1982. He was an Assistant Professor at Oregon State University from 1982-1987 before coming to the University of Georgia. His efforts have made him an invaluable asset to agriculture education in Georgia; congratulations on your retirement Dr. Herren.

The University Georgia College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences Agricultural Education, Leadership and Communication Program is experiencing numerous successes.

First and foremost is steady enrollment growth with a current enrollment of nearly 45 students. **Dr. Chris Morgan** and **Dr. Richard A. (Dick) Hudson** are working to re-structure the major, with more courses planned out of the ALEC department to complement those from the Grady College of Journalism.

Students in Agricultural Communication take courses in the prestigious Grady College of Journalism and Mass Communication as well as in the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, concentrating in any of four areas:

Journalism news editorial
Advertising
Public relations
Telecommunication

Plus, students may take additional courses as electives, often leading to a minor. This unique combination allows a student to shape the degree program to fit individual interests. The Agricultural Communication degree leads to a Bachelor of Science in Agriculture (BSA).

Dr. Richard A. (Dick) Hudson oversees the Agricultural Communication area for the ALEC department. One of his most recent contributions has been his coordination of a project to bring over \$1 million in sustainable shade trees to the UGA campus over the coming few years. This year, a total of 210 trees were planted (oak trees that will last 75 to 100 years or more), with similar numbers planned for each of the following years in order to form a canopy of shade on the campus for the future. Dr. Hudson is working with the Select Trees Company with this project.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln

On July 1, 2010 the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education and Communication (ALEC) took on a new look. As part of cost savings, CIT (Communication and Information Technology) joined with ALEC. Several individuals within CIT (now called Educational Media) will have opportunities to work with students and bring their professional expertise into the classroom. The enhanced academic program in Agricultural Journalism will build upon the strengths of these individuals and utilize many of the physical resources that are used in communicating the education and extension mission within Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources. **Dr. Jason Ellis** will continue to oversee the Agricultural Journalism academic program and **Dr. Roger Terry** will continue to serve as Director of Ed Media's services provided to faculty and departments related to their education and extension mission.

On May 27, 2010 **Dr. Lloyd Bell** completed his term as national president for the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE). Dr. Bell was instrumental in hosting the North Central AAAE regional research conference in Lincoln last September, and in May he organized the National AAAE Research Conference in Omaha that saw 200 agricultural education faculty and graduate students attend the conference. The conference was highlighted by workshops held at Gallup, Boystown and the Henry Dorley Zoo. In addition, the conference included research sessions involving agricultural education, leadership, international agriculture, extension education and agricultural communica-

tions. Congratulations Dr. Bell for representing UNL during this past year of service to AAAE!

Through joint funding between the Nebraska Department of Education and ALEC, **Matt Kreifels** has been hired to be the new Nebraska Agricultural Education Specialist and State FFA Advisor. Matt comes to UNL from nine years as an agricultural education teacher and a Delta Conference presenter. Matt has a two-thirds appointment in ALEC and the remainder of his time with the Department of Education. Matt's strengths will help as he coordinate the State FFA Convention on UNL's campus each spring, teach undergraduate courses, administer the beginning teacher program and help supervise student teachers. Welcome aboard Matt!!

The Ohio State University



The Department continues its transition as it searches for a new department chair, completes its plan for converting to semesters, and initiates name changes for the department and for the undergraduate majors.

Department Chair Search

The search for a new department chair began in August. Candidates are being interviewed on campus during late October through mid November, with a goal of having the new chair begin no later than July 1, 2011.

Department Name Change Proposed

The faculty has proposed a new name for the department - the **Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership**, subject to the approval of the university. The department name and the proposed new names for undergraduate majors (see below) have received the support of students and our alumni board and will now go through the university approval process.

Semester Conversion and Name Changes

Ohio State's conversion to semesters, planned for summer, 2012, has provided a unique opportunity for the faculty to carefully study our current majors and minors and rebuild them to better meet current and future trends. Changes in undergraduate programs include:

- A four-course undergraduate core has been adopted and will become a part of the new curriculum for all students in the department.
- The current Agricultural and Extension Education (AEE) major has three tracks/options: teacher education, Extension education, and leadership. We have reconfigured this major into two proposed new majors, and have re-designed and repackaged a number of courses as well as developed new courses. The proposed majors are:
 - The **Agriscience Education** major is designed for teacher education in public schools, and meets the requirements for teacher licensure in Ohio.

- The **Community Leadership** major was developed to meet the needs of students previously in the Extension Education and Leadership options of AEE. The two specializations in this major are *Community and Extension Education* and *Leadership*.
- Although the **Agricultural Communication** major did not reorganize or change its name, its curriculum has undergone some repackaging of courses and the creation of a new course in Visual Media in Agriculture and Natural Resources, to be taught by **Emily Rhoades**.
- Another new course, “Cultural Proficiency”, taught by **Susie Whittington**, focuses on diversity awareness and includes a service learning project. “Volunteer and Human Resource Management” is a new course in the Community Leadership major and will be taught by **Graham Cochran**.

Joe Gliem and **Larry Miller** retired on July 1, 2010. Both have returned on a contract basis to continue teaching the departmental research series.

Jon Simonsen, who received his Ph.D. in Spring 2010, is now Assistant Professor and Director for Undergraduate Studies in the Department of Agricultural Education at the University of Missouri. **Rebekah Epps** received her Ph.D. in Summer, 2010 and is now Assistant Professor in the Department of Community and Leadership Development at the University of Kentucky. **Jim Jordan** also received his Ph.D. in Summer 2010 and is continuing in his work as an Extension educator in Butler County, Ohio.

The Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow, advised by **Emily Rhoades**, won the ACT Chapter Activities Award at the NACTA national convention in August. The Agricultural Education Society won first place in the Program of Excellence Contest, Professional Development Division at the 2010 National FFA Convention.

Meredith Gilbert was named one of the Top 10 Seniors for Ohio State University in 2009-10.

Undergraduates **Meredith Gilbert**, **Whitney Smith**, and **Cal- lie Wells** received the 2010 Top 20 Senior Awards in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences. Gilbert and Wells subsequently won the Top 10 Senior Award.

Derek McCracken was named one of two Outstanding First Year Students in the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences.

Purdue University

Byron Ernest, Indiana Agricultural Science and Business teacher at Lebanon High School, is Indiana’s Teacher of the Year for 2010. “A teacher for 25 years, Ernest recently began the Agriculture Department at Lebanon High School. After starting the program from scratch, Ernest laid a solid foundation for its future. The program now has 504 students enrolled this school year; some also are taking rigorous Purdue University dual credit courses.



In 2007, Ernest received the Lilly Endowment Distinguished Fellow Teacher Creativity Grant. This grant allowed him to form a partnership/exchange program between Purdue University, the Lebanon Community School Corporation and his students. Ernest discovered this partnership enhanced dual credit courses.”

Steve Hickey is Indiana’s first Director of Leadership Programs with the position housed in the Indiana State Department of Agriculture. He will serve as Indiana’s Executive Director for both FFA and Indiana Young Farmers Association. Lisa Chaudion is the Agribusiness / Agriscience Education Specialist, which remains housed in the Indiana Department of Education.

Levon Esters is the co-chair for the 2010 CTE Research and Professional Development Conference.

Levon Esters received the AAAE North Central Region Outstanding Early Career Award at the 2010 regional conference in Manhattan, KS.

Janet Beagle, PhD graduate, received the 2010 Kahler Outstanding Dissertation Award at the AAAE Conference in Omaha, NE.

Neil Knobloch led a departmental-wide effort in planning and organizing the research program for the 2010 AAAE meeting in Omaha, NE. The effort was truly a comprehensive departmental effort involving faculty and graduate students.

Texas A&M University



We’re Moving!!

The Department will move into the new TAMU Agriculture and Life Sciences Building in early Spring of 2011. Located on the west campus (John Kimbrough Boulevard east of Reed Arena) it is a five story building which will enclose 168,000 square feet and house three academic departments that would move from the main campus: our Department, along with Ag Economics and Recreation, Park and Tourism Sciences. The top floor will include the administrative offices of the Vice Chancellor for Agriculture and Life Sciences, the Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, and the Directors of two state agencies (Texas AgriLife Research and Texas AgriLife Extension Service). A 13,000 square foot AgriLife Center will be built beside the new building and will showcase the broad impact of agriculture on people’s lives, and offer an educational inspirational look at a variety of agriculture and life sciences opportunities for youth today. The new building will be rated by the U.S. Green Building Council, achieving LEED Silver certification. The new buildings’ roofing will also capture rainwater which will flow into a 40,000-gallon underground tank, to be used for irrigation. Optimum energy performance will be achieved through window glazing to reduce light pollution, through an efficient heating and cooling system, and through high-performance lighting. The building site adjoins the Texas A&M University greenbelt, and a community garden will be maintained on the building grounds. The two buildings are the first of four buildings envisioned for the site.

New Hires

Dr. Robert Strong joined the faculty as an Assistant Professor in the area of distance education, effective July, 2010. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Florida this past spring and will be assisting in designing, delivering, and administering graduate programs offered at a distance, including the eLearning Development Certificate, joint Ed.D. Degree, and the Master of Agriculture degree.

April Place joined us in late summer replacing Katie Scott as Academic Advisor II with University Studies. April was employed in Electrical and Computer Engineering where she advised over 700 students. She received her masters degree in our department.

Jamie Norgaard has joined the support staff and will be part of the business team as well as working with the IMS transition and agricultural science program. Jamie received her B.S. in Ag Development.

New Position

Assistant Professor, 10-month, tenure-track with responsibilities in teaching, research, and service in the Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications at Texas A&M University. This is a collaborative position that includes teaching, research, and outreach in areas such as collegiate leadership education models, leadership ethics, management of change, change theory, organizational leadership, instructional design for leadership education, and managing outreach and service learning projects. This is a 75% teaching, 25% research appointment. This key person will 1) contribute leadership for the degree programs in Agricultural Leadership and Development and University Studies-Leadership Studies; 2) demonstrate potential for excellence in teaching, research, and scholarly writing; 3) advise students and teach courses in agricultural leadership and development; 4) conduct research relevant to agricultural leadership; 5) co-advise an undergraduate student organization or program; 6) seek and secure extramural funding; 7) conduct outreach with community-based organizations; 8) work with agriculture-related clientele; and 9) demonstrate competence in interpersonal relations and team building. The successful candidate must have an earned doctorate prior to start date in leadership education, agricultural education, extension education, or a closely related discipline. Successful candidate must show a sound knowledge of leadership theory. Preference will be given to candidates with professional experience in one or more of the following: leadership theory, organizational development and change theory, and social science research that complements the research of current faculty members. Candidates should have evidence of potential for scholarship in teaching, research, writing, and service activities. Applicants should complete a faculty application online at <https://greatjobs.tamu.edu>. Submit a cover letter, vision statement, transcripts, curriculum vitae, and a list of three references (research interest and educational philosophy) as attachments to the online application. Applicant screening will begin January 10, 2011, and continue until the position is filled. Direct inquiries to **Chanda D. Elbert**, Search Advisory Committee Chair; Department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communications; 2116 TAMU; College Station, TX 77843-2116; or celbert@tamu.edu, 979-458-2699.

Awards & Recognitions

Scott Cummings received the Excellence in Extension Evaluation Training Award from the Extension Education Evaluation Topical Interest Group of the American Evaluation Association for 2010.

Deb Dunsford received the Student-led Awards for Teaching Excellence (SLATE) for two spring semester courses, Ag. Media Writing I and Introduction to Agricultural Public Relations, Texas A&M University Student Government Association.

Jack Elliot received the 2010 Distinguished Service Award, American Association for Agricultural Education, Western Region

Debbie King received the John J. Koldus Faculty and Staff Achievement Award, Texas A&M University.

Jimmy Lindner received the 2010 Outstanding Agricultural Educator Award, American Association for Agricultural Education, Southern Region

Theresa Murphrey received the following awards: Outstanding International Agricultural Education Award, American Association for Agricultural Education, Western Region. Second Place Outstanding Innovative Idea Poster Presentation, "Enhancing Career Development Event Preparation Utilizing Jing™ Audio/Video Recordings." (Miller, K. & Murphrey, T. P.). American Association for Agricultural Education, national conference, Omaha, Nebraska. Third Place Outstanding Poster Presentation, "Enhancing Career Development Event Preparation Utilizing Jing™ Audio/Video Recordings." (Miller, K. & Murphrey, T. P.) American Association for Agricultural Education, Western Region, Great Falls, Montana. Gold Teaching Award, United States Distance Learning Association. Student-led Award for Teaching Excellence. Texas A&M University Student Government Association.

Theresa Murphrey, Julie Harlin, John Rayfield received the 2010 Outstanding Paper Presentation, "Factors Impacting Collaboration: Implications for Agricultural Extension and Education." (Murphrey, T. P., Harlin, J., & Rayfield, J.). Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education, Saskatoon, Canada.

Glen Shinn received the Texas A&M University Bush Excellence Award for Faculty in International Research.

Gary Wingenbach received the 2010 Distinguished Research Award, American Association for Agricultural Education, Western Region

In response to an expressed need by faculty and students, Virginia Tech has a new Graduate Certificate in Collaborative Community Leadership (<http://www.aee.vt.edu/core-areas/leadership/learning/grad-certificate.pdf>). The certificate program is designed to promote and prepare students for collaborative leadership and social responsibility in today's diverse and multicultural environment. The certificate requires completion of 13 credit hours, including a project that demonstrates application of concepts from the program. **Eric Kaufman** is the coordinator for this interdisciplinary program.

Don't miss out...all your friends will be there.

The 2011 AAAE Conference will be held on May 24-27, 2011 at the Coeur d'Alene Resort in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho (<http://www.coeurdalene.org/>). Start making plans now to attend this action-packed conference led by your AAAE officers, committee chairs, and members. The Coeur d'Alene Resort (<http://www.cdareort.com/>) is located on Lake Coeur d'Alene in beautiful northern Idaho. It is one of the largest and most picturesque lakes in the inland northwest. Time will be allotted in the conference schedule to tour the area, golf on the world famous Coeur d'Alene Golf Club (<http://www.cdareort.com/golf>) including the "floating green," mountain bike on the Trail of the Hiawatha (<http://www.skilookout.com/hiawatha/>) through railroad tunnels and over wooden trestles on the Idaho~Montana border, or shop in trendy Sandpoint, Idaho, home to Coldwater Creek (<http://www.sandpoint.com/>).

The professional development portion of the conference is titled, "Beyond Diversity, Toward Cultural Proficiency" and will be key-noted by Dr. James Banks from the University of Washington.

The Call for Papers for the 2011 AAAE Conference has already been distributed by **Dr. Brian Warnick** and **Dr. Becki Lawver** from Utah State University. The Call for Papers and other information about the conference will be posted on the Meetings Section of the AAAE website at <http://aaaeonline.org/>.

Upcoming Conferences

February 5-8, 2011	Southern Region Conference	Corpus Christi, TX
April 20-22, 2011	Western Region Conference	Fresno, CA
May 24-27, 2011	AAAE National Research Conference	Coeur d'Alene, ID
June 10-14, 2011	ACE/NETC Annual Meeting and Conference	Denver, CO
June 14-17, 2011	NACTA Conference	University of Alberta, Edmonton, Canada
July 3-7, 2011	AIAEE Annual Conference	Windhoek, Namibia
July 10-13, 2011	ALE Conference	Denver, CO