

Agricultural Education Highlights

2004

University of Idaho

Washington State University

University of Kentucky

University of Arkansas

Pennsylvania State University

New Mexico State University

Cornell University

University of Nebraska

Texas A&M University

Purdue University

Ohio State University

University of Nevada, Reno

Virginia Tech

University of Georgia

University of Arizona

Oklahoma State University

Iowa State University

Texas Tech University

University of Florida

West Virginia University

University of Missouri

SUNY – Oswego

Utah State University

Morehead State University

Facts and Figures of Secondary Agricultural Science and Technology in Idaho

Idaho has 85 secondary programs with 107 instructors. There are 8287 students enrolled in secondary agricultural science and technology courses and FFA membership stands at 3367 in 79 chapters. Of the 107 Agricultural and Natural Resource instructors in Idaho, 67 also have a Natural Science endorsement on their teacher certificate and, 30 have a Consumer Economics endorsement

New Directions

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) and the University Curriculum Committee have approved the name change from the Agricultural Education-Non Teaching Option to Agricultural Education-Agricultural Industry Management and Communications. This option is designed to prepare students to succeed in leadership, training, and development positions in agriculture businesses, non-government agriculture organizations or government agencies in the food, fiber, and natural resources system.

AEE Enrollment

Undergraduate enrollment in the AEE remains stable with 82 students enrolled for the spring 2004 semester. This includes 39 in the teaching option, 13 in the AIMC option, and 30 in the Agricultural Science and Technology degree program. The total includes 13 students in the Agricultural Science Technology degree program off-campus in Twin Falls. The department will graduate 12 undergraduate students this May; 5 students will graduate with Agriculture Education-Teaching Option, 3 students with Agriculture Education-AIMC option, and 4 students with Agriculture Science and Technology.

Awards and Recognition

On February 11, Dr. John Mundt was awarded the 2004 Governor's Award for Excellence in Agriculture in the area of Education Advocacy. The award signifies the many accomplishments John has made in inspiring agricultural educators and making Idaho citizens aware of the importance of agriculture. Last fall, John received the VIP Citation from the National FFA Organization, one of the most prestigious FFA awards.

Awards and Recognition continued

The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) Outstanding student nominees from the Agriculture & Extension Education include the following: Capital Press Outstanding Freshman in Agriculture, Nick Usabel; CALS Outstanding Sophomore, Brandon Hoxie; Capital Press Outstanding Junior in Agriculture, Jason Sherman; and CALS Outstanding Senior, Kolten Kock. Also nominated in the CALS staff category of Management is Marilyn K. Crumley. Marilyn has been employed by the University of Idaho since 1973 and in the Agricultural and Extension Education department since January

Changes at Washington State

At Washington State University we have had a challenging year with budget reductions and changes at the college level. Our college was renamed to the College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural Resource Sciences (CAHNRS) after an eight year process. In July Dr. James Cook was named our college Interim Dean. In August it was announced that our total college would go through a reorganization process and the elimination of degree programs. In Agricultural Education we were identified as being placed into an Agricultural Systems area. This area is still being discussed and directions being identified. Both Dr. Swan and Dr. Kleene serve on this committee and should have some impact on its outcome. Budget reductions have hindered some of what we do has not really impacted our courses and program.

During the year we went through a outcome alignment process and have developed a new program and course alignment matrix. Along with that we developed our program goals and a plan for achieving those goals. The following represents a review of the work and accomplishments of the individual faculty members in the Department:

Michael K. Swan, Professor

Dr. Swan continues to be involved with three African countries and their Distance Delivery – Video Conferencing capabilities. He currently has a visiting scholar from Minia University in Egypt and they are working on a research project to design a training program for women in developing countries. Dr. Swan is also involved with the National Pork Board in designing and developing training materials for Pork Producers and consumers. He is currently serving on the executive committee for the National Pork Educators Board.

Marvin Kleene, Associate Professor

We have developed and completed program outcomes for Agricultural Education at WSU for certification by National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). The program is now certified for the next 7 years. We have also developed and completed program outcomes for program certification by Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the State Board of Education. The program is now certified for the next 5 years by these two state agencies.

Assessment & Evaluation Initiative

The College is in year two of a complete review of student assessment of instruction. It is called the Assessment & Evaluation Initiative. We are now in beta testing that includes; online data collection, course work & instruction evaluation and some aspects of the students' reflection of their role in the teaching learning process. Dr. Kleene serves on this committee.

Faculty Search

Currently, a faculty search is being conducted at open rank. This position will provide leadership for the Graduate Program as Director of Graduate Studies, as well as having teaching and research responsibilities. We hope to have the new faculty member in place by July 1, 2004.

Instructor Position Added

An instructor position has been recently announced and will be an addition to UK Ag Education Program for Fall 2004. The person in this position will assist at the undergraduate level and provide leadership in working with Kentucky agricultural educators.

National FFA Grant Awarded

UK faculty in collaboration with NAAE has recently been awarded a \$22,500 grant to investigate leadership participation of rural youth. FFA members across the nation will participate, and this study will provide valuable information prior to the implementation of the LifeKnowledge Curriculum.

Students Garner Awards at Honors Convocation

Three students in Agricultural & Extension Education received top awards at the Spring Honors Convocation in the College. Kim Cooper was selected as the recipient of the Bumpers College Alumni Society Scholarship; Matt Frier was selected for the Spitze Public Policy Legislative Internship Award; and Lindsay West was designated as a Bumpers College Ring Scholar. Eleven students in the department were recognized for making the Chancellor's List (4.0 GPA), and 12 students were recognized for making the Dean's List (3.75-3.99 GPA).

Collegiate Farm Bureau Discussion Meet

The University of Arkansas Collegiate Farm Bureau, advised by Dr. Jefferson Miller, conducted a Collegiate Discussion Meet at the University of Arkansas. Isaac Melin, winner of the competition at the U. of A., went on to become the state winner of the Arkansas Farm Bureau Collegiate Discussion Meet, earning a \$500 cash award.

Undergraduate Research Projects in Agricultural Technology Systems

A number of undergraduate research projects were created and facilitated by faculty in the Agricultural Systems Technology Management Program in the Department. This program allows students to posit hypotheses about problems of interest to them, to develop research projects to test these hypotheses, and to develop hands-on skills in both research and technology. For each project, students are led to pursue the related literature, and to write summaries of their research.

New Courses Developed and Approved

Four new undergraduate courses have been developed by departmental faculty and approved through the university's approval chain: AGED 4632, "Teaching Diverse Populations," AGED 3942, "Professional Development in Agricultural Communications," AGED 4243, "Publication Production in Agriculture," and AGME 3042, "Agricultural Construction."

Department Well Represented at Southern Agricultural Education Conference

Six faculty members and 9 graduate students represented the Department at the Southern Agricultural Education Conference in Tulsa, OK on February 15-17, 2004, presenting research papers, competing in the AAAE poster session, chairing concurrent sessions at the research conference, and presenting professional development seminars.

The Pennsylvania State University

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Fourth Annual 5 Star Consortium Student Teacher Retreat

During the first four days of May, 35 student teachers from Pennsylvania, New Jersey, West Virginia, Delaware, Maryland and New Hampshire will participate in a retreat at the Delaware Fish & Wildlife Aquatic Resources Education Center, Smyrna, DE. Future educators will participate in a variety of professional development activities including, a visit to an agricultural education program, sessions on interviewing for teaching positions, professional liability, teacher services offered by National FFA and a natural resources in-service training.

Study Abroad Program

Tom Bruening is coordinating a study abroad program wherein eight Penn State undergraduates are spending the semester in Moscow, Russia, or Lviv, Ukraine. This project is part of the National Security Education Program sponsored by the US Department of Defense. This is the sixth year of the Russian and first year of the Ukraine program. Students from Iowa State, University of Minnesota, Montana State University, and Penn State are participating. Professors from the University of Florida, University of Maryland, and Penn State teach one-month, three-credit classes in Moscow or Lviv.

4th Evans Family Lecture for Graduate Research

The 4th Evans Family Lecture for Graduate Research was held April 14-15 to allow students from across the college to present their research in four categories: Agricultural Research, International Agriculture Research, Research in Extension Education, and Research in Agricultural Education. David Williams, University Professor at Iowa State, delivered the keynote address. The lecture was created by Donald Evans, a former Penn State faculty member and Cooperative Extension assistant director, just prior to his death in 2000.

Seed Grants

Following a review of the 38 seed grant proposals that were submitted to the College, 22 were funded in full or in part and three were submitted by AEE faculty. Funded proposals submitted by AEE faculty members included Youth to Youth International Agriculture Initiative by Tom Bruening and Michelle Rodgers, An Impact Evaluation of the Reading Wizards Program by Rama Radhakrishna and Danny Perkins, and Focus Groups for Middle School Girls by Cathleen Love.

Advisory Committee

Connie Baggett and Rama Radhakrishna were appointed for three years to the Advisory Committee of the Great Lakes Center for Agricultural Safety and Health Fellows Program. This program is funded by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) and created online to build evaluation capacity of 25 fellows conducting agricultural safety and rural health programs.

New Mexico State University

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Funding

Legislation passed by the New Mexico State Legislature in 2003 provided \$300,000 a year in recurring funds to the Agricultural Education Department (AXED) at NMSU through the Agricultural Experiment Station state appropriation. The allocation funded positions and operations of a State Supervisor of Agricultural Education and FFA, Assistant State Supervisor of Agricultural Education, Assistant State Supervisor of FFA and an office secretary. On January 8, 2004, Mr. Les Purcella assumed the position of State Supervisor of Agricultural Education and FFA. Mr. Mark Runyan joins the team as the Assistant State Supervisor of Agricultural Education. Assistant State Supervisor for FFA, Lane Widner, was moved from the department's Perkins contract to the new state agricultural education budget. A departmental secretary will begin within the next month.

National Collegiate Agricultural Education Conference

NMSU Collegiate FFA hosted the National Collegiate Agricultural Education Conference and ATA Conclave held in conjunction with the National FFA Convention in Louisville, Kentucky in October, 2003. The chapter was responsible for registration, an opening session and taco dinner, an awards banquet and a professional development workshop using the theme, "It's Hot, Hot, Hot." Collegiate FFA Members from NMSU competed in the ATA Quiz Bowl, Debate, Program of Excellence and Essay writing competition. 300 Collegiate agricultural education students and faculty from 27 universities were in attendance.

Accomplishments

Seventeen students completed internships in teaching, extension and/or industry during Fall, 2003. Two graduating seniors from the AXED department, Andy Giron and July Bostick were recognized as the Outstanding Graduating seniors in the College of Agriculture and Home Economics. Dr. Randall Andreasen and senior student Andy Giron traveled to Turkmenistan in July to establish local FFA chapters. Dean Jerry Schickedanz, Dr. Thomas Dormody and Dr. Randall Andreasen traveled to Costa Rica in December to establish articulation agreements with two agricultural institutions. Dr. Andreasen's spring semester class, Keys for Rural Development concluded with a week long tour in Costa Rica during the recent spring break. Dr. Rosencrans spent 2 weeks in Yemen in December on a proposed grant project. Notable accomplishments during the year were Dr. Van Leeuwen's promotion to full professor and Dr. Rosencrans' receipt of the Donald C. Roush Award for Teaching Excellence.

The department's Perkins contract funded statewide FFA and TSA leadership development and agricultural/technology education teacher in-service activities in 2003-2004. The development of standards and benchmarks in both agricultural and technology education and the alignment of those benchmarks with FFA and TSA activities are nearly complete.

Cornell Agriscience Teacher Education Program

Cornell Agriscience Teacher Education is housed in a fully integrated program for the education of math, science, and agriscience teachers. Our student numbers are growing rapidly, partially as a result of alliances with the NY Association of Agricultural Educators and with undergraduate agriculture programs at Morrisville State College, SUNY Cobleskill, and Alfred State College. Our program offers teacher certification programs, BS and Master of Arts in Teaching; non-teaching professional degrees, BS and Master of Professional Studies; and research degrees, MS and PhD.

LEAD New York

LEAD NY is a statewide leadership development program for professionals in agriculture and is housed in Cornell's Dept. of Education. LEAD helped organize and identify speakers for the 2004 NYS Agricultural Society Annual Forum in Syracuse, the theme of which was "Excellence in NY Agriculture-Telling our Story". In February we organized our first multi-state institute, bringing programs from Pennsylvania, New Mexico, and New York. In March, we took the class to NYC and Long Island to study urban issues and their influence on the food industry, global finance and banking, and land use.

NYS Agriscience Teacher Professional Development Conference

The Agricultural Education Outreach Program, as part of the Department of Education at Cornell University, partners each year with NY Agri-Tech Prep and NYAAE to bring the ag educators of New York together for a dynamic professional development conference. This year's conference will be held June 27-30 at SUNY Cobleskill. Each teacher who attends will receive over 24 professional development hours and over \$200 in classroom resources. If you are interested in learning more about this conference visit: http://www.nyag-ed.org/2004_conference.htm.

Cornell Educational Resources Program

Cornell Educational Resources Program (CERP) introduced several new instructional resources this year including an award-winning "Veterinary Science" curriculum; an updated "Animal Handling and Restraint" manual; a guide for farmers offering school tours, "School Come to the Farm"; and a guide to youth development for camp and after school staff, "4-H Youth Development Camp Staff Training Manual." CERP is pilot-testing an interactive web-based financial literacy site for middle/high school students and young adults, www.addsup.org. CERP is housed in Cornell's Dept of Educ.

New York Agriculture in the Classroom

New York Agriculture in the Classroom (NYAIRC) is housed in Cornell's Dept. of Education and is a partnership of Cornell's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, NY Dept. of Agriculture and Markets, NY State Education Dept., and NY Farm Bureau. NYAIRC has introduced several new projects this year including an Orchard to Table classroom program, a county fair ag awareness program, and a "Little Red Barn of Resources" instructional materials loan program. NYAIRC will conduct regional summits next year to bring together everyone doing education "in or about" agriculture in the state.

Community Leadership Summit

Neighbors Working Together (NWT) recently participated in Community Conversations II, a collaborative effort including Community Learning Centers, and Lincoln Public Schools. The summit emphasized schools, parents, neighborhoods and Community Learning Centers discussing common issues and goals. This is the second summit held to establish networking opportunities with other School Neighborhood Action Committees and neighborhoods leaders. NWT is a grant project funded through HUD. Project manager is Agricultural Leadership, Education & Communication (AgLEC) faculty member, Dan Wheeler.

Gilbertsons in India

Ozzie Gilbertson, former AgLEC department Head and professor, along with his wife Kay and other Rotarians, recently traveled to Uttar Pradesh in India to participate in a campaign to immunize children against polio. This program, The Global Polio Eradication Initiative, is jointly sponsored by: the World Health Organization, Rotary International, the U.S. Centers of Disease Control and Prevention, and the United Nations Children's Fund. Ozzie emphasized that volunteers from throughout the world joined with them in this effort.

International Symposium of Self-Directed Learning

PhD candidate in Leadership Studies, Lillian Gomez, presented at the 18th International Symposium of Self-Directed Learning, held in Cocoa Beach, FL., Feb. 4-7, 2004. Her presentation was entitled, "The Interactive Dimension of Self-Directed Learning in a Discussion-Based On-Line Course." Lillian is a faculty member from Concepcion University in Concepcion, Chile studying and teaching in the AgLEC department.

Mid Winter Inservice for Secondary Teachers

Hosted by Northeast Community College-Norfolk, in January, 75 instructors selected two from three concurrent sessions including: small animal management, global positioning systems, or electrical monitors and grain bin storage shut-off systems. Also introduced was the new FFA curriculum, LifeKnowledge. The Mid Winter Inservice is a joint activity coordinated by the teacher education faculty of AgLEC, Lloyd Bell and Dann Husmann, and the Agricultural Education Division staff, Craig Frederick and Donelle Johnson, of the Nebraska Department of Education.

3000 Students Visit

AgLEC faculty member, Linda Moody, again successfully coordinated the completion of 17 College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources (CASNR) sponsored Career Development Events during the Nebraska State FFA Convention. AgLEC faculty, graduate and undergraduate students serve as event directors for: Ag Sales, Ag Mechanics, Ag Issues, Agriscience, and Ag Communications. Other CASNR units involved include: Animal Science, Agronomy & Horticulture, Agricultural Economics, Food Science and Technology, and the School of Natural Resources.

Professional Growth and Recognition

James Christensen received the 2004 Texas A&M University Bush Excellence Award for Faculty in International Teaching and the 2004 Phi Beta Delta Norman Borlaug International Award; at the 2004 AAAE Southern Region meeting Barry Boyd received the Outstanding New Member Award and Jimmy Lindner received the Distinguished Research Award; Linder also received the 2004 North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Award of Merit. Manuel Piña has been appointed as the Assistant Vice Chancellor for Special Programs.

Research and Development Projects

Working with the Partnership for Environmental Education and Rural Health, faculty in the Agricultural Education Department are providing leadership for a \$2.3 million National Science Foundation grant titled “GK-12: Fellows integrate math/science in rural middle schools.” The purpose of the grant is to improve the content of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) in rural grades 6-8. Departmental faculties serving as co-principal investigators include James Lindner, Gary Wingenbach, Julie Harlin, and Gary Briers.

Curriculum Development

Association for Instructional Materials awards presented to Instructional Materials Service at the 2003 ACTE Convention were the Award of Excellence for the Introduction to Criminal Justice - teacher and student materials and the Award of Merit for the Introduction to Agricultural Mechanics - Agriscience 221 curriculum. In 2005 IMS will introduce an Online Agricultural Academy Division for secondary agriscience curriculum.

Extension and Outreach

Texas Cooperative Extension (TCE) is hosting a Texas Community Futures Forum (TCFF) in all 254 counties in Texas. TCFF is designed to provide opportunity for county constituents to discuss and prioritize issues facing them. From this needs assessment, TCE will develop educational strategies to address these issues facing Texans. Providing solutions to these identified issues allows TCE to remain viable to constituents.

Departmental Growth and Recognition

The department is welcoming three new faculty members: Nicole Stedman, assistant professor contributing to leadership education and the agricultural development degree program; Grady Roberts, assistant professor in the agricultural science and agricultural development degree programs and the Children, Youth and Families Signature Program; and the transfer of Douglas Starr, professor from the Department of Journalism to the agricultural journalism degree program.

Balschweid Promoted

Dr. Mark Balschweid has received promotion and tenure to associate professor effective with the 2004-2005 academic year. Congratulations Dr. Balschweid!

Agricultural Education Student Receives Highest Undergraduate Award

Stephanie Warner received the annual Flora Roberts Award for the outstanding graduating woman. The Flora Roberts Award is given to a senior woman student for outstanding scholarship, leadership, character and service to the university community. The award was established by the will of Flora Roberts, a member of the Purdue Class of 1887. The award consists of the Flora Roberts medal, \$500 and a certificate. Warner's name will be inscribed on a marker on the Purdue Mall.

Field Trips

As part of the new block system at Ohio State, the student teachers are engaged in a variety of field trips which augment their classroom learning. The field trips to the National FFA Center and the Chicago High School for Agricultural Sciences is conducted jointly with student teachers from the University of Illinois. Other field trips are non-traditional agriculture programs, a state of the art career and technical center, and model agricultural science programs.

Agricultural Literacy

The pre-service students are heavily engaged in an agricultural literacy program which includes six urban elementary schools. The pre-service students are teaching 4th grade students agricultural science concepts. The students create several instructional lessons which are then taught in the urban classrooms. The culmination of the experience is a visit to the agricultural campus of The Ohio State University by the 4th graders to be further engaged in various stations which allow the students hands-on skill development.

Reorganization of Graduate Program

The graduate program at Ohio State is currently under revision. The Department is creating a Master's of Science Program, a Master's of Education Program, and the Doctor of Philosophy Program. The curriculum is being totally redesigned, and when completed, will have a clear set of courses for each Program. In addition, all course prefixes will be changed from Agricultural Education (AGR EDUC) to Agricultural and Extension Education (AEE).

Barrick Seminar

Plans are well underway for the first annual R. Kirby Barrick Seminar in Agricultural Teacher Education. The seminar will be conducted on May 26, 2004, at 7:00 PM. The seminar will be held at the Adam's Mark Hotel in St. Louis. The speaker for the seminar will be Dr. Robert Hite. Please contact Bob Birkenholz at 614-292-6909 for further information or to purchase tickets.

Field Placements Rise

In the past years, there has been an average of 65 Early Field Experience (EFE) placements. As a result of the continually increasing number of EFE students, students minoring in Agricultural Education will no longer be required to complete the EFE. Only students who are majoring in Agricultural Education will be required to complete in the EFE. The projected number of EFE students for 2004 is 60. In addition, the Department continues to see a growth in the number of student teacher placements. In 2002, there were 20 student teachers placed. In 2004, there are 37 student teachers placed.

Conferences Participation

Dr. Vern Luft attended the AAAE/NAER and ACTE Conferences in Orlando in December. He delivered the AAAE Distinguished Lecture during the conference. Luft also attended the annual conference of the American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education held in Chicago in early February.

FFA Convention

The Nevada State FFA Convention was held on the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno in mid-March. The Colleges of Education and Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources hosted the events. The College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources sponsored a barbecue for the FFA members, advisor, and guests.

Agriculture Standards Development

Teams of agriculture teachers and industry personnel working collaboratively with the Career and Technical Education Team of the Nevada Department of Education completed writing state standards for Agricultural Business and Animal Science/Veterinary Medicine. The State Board of Education approved these standards.

Nevada FFA is 75

In celebration of the 75th birthday of the Nevada FFA, a gala celebration was held in Elko, Nevada on January 24, 2004. The event, sponsored by the Nevada FFA Foundation, consisted of a dinner, silent auction, and live auction. Funds raised are being used to support FFA activities in the state.

Collegiate FFA Chapter Organized

A Collegiate FFA Chapter was organized on the University of Nevada, Reno campus this year. Students are soliciting membership prior to submitting the necessary papers for a charter. We have about 25 members at this time.

Broyles Appointed

Tom Broyles has been appointed an assistant professor in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education. He is currently in the Department as an Instructor. His new position will begin July 1st. Tom will receive his Ph.D. Summer 2004. Tom will be Director of the Virginia Governor's School of Agriculture, a summer residential program for gifted and talented high school juniors and seniors.

85th Anniversary Celebrated

The 85th anniversary of the establishment of the Department of Agricultural Education in 1918 was celebrated in the fall. Almost 100 alumni and friends attended the brunch. Former Departmental leaders shared information and stories about the evolution of Agricultural Education at Virginia Tech over the years. Speakers included Dale Oliver, Al Krebs, Jim Clouse, John Crunkilton, and John Hillison. Greetings were brought by Dean Sharron Quisenberry.

Distance-Delivered Master's Degree

The Department now offers a distance-delivered master's degree with a primary clientele of Extension agents and Agricultural Education teachers. There are seven courses available, a thesis or major research project, and a cognate course available for degree candidates. There are currently more than 60 degree candidates and 135 students who have enrolled in the distance-delivered courses during the current academic year.

Secondary Curriculum

The academic portion of the secondary curriculum in Virginia is in the process of being upgraded and having courses added. A course entitled Biological Applications in Agriculture which can count as either Agricultural Education or Biology credit is available. The newest course, which has been added for the next academic year is Veterinary Science. A prerequisite for Veterinary Science is a course entitled Small Animal Care. This upgrade is largely due to the efforts of the Department Curriculum Specialists - Shannon Allen and Tammy Halsey.

Scholarships Awarded

At the annual Agricultural Education Society/Alpha Tau Alpha spring banquet \$30,000 worth of scholarships were awarded to Agricultural and Extension Education majors for the 2004-2005 school year. The scholarship endowment has reached over half million dollars.

The University of Georgia

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Student Achievements

The number of certified agriculture teachers produced at The University of Georgia in 2004 is at an all time high of 30 (28 apprentice teachers – up from 25 in 2003 – and two provisional teachers). During 2003 there were 17 students named to the Dean's List (3.5+ GPA) and 23 named Presidential Scholars (4.0 GPA). Thirty students qualified for Alpha Tau Alpha membership, and two agricultural education students were finalists in the outstanding student competition in the College.

Retirement

Dr. Maynard Iverson will retire from UGA on June 30, and move to Arizona to join his extended family. He has spent 43 years in Agricultural Education - 8 years as a teacher of vocational agriculture in North Dakota, and 35 years in teacher education at UK, Auburn, NCSU, and UGA. Although retiring from active service, his influence will be felt for years to come, through the literally thousands of students and colleagues whose lives he has touched.

New Faculty

The department of Agricultural Leadership, Education, and Communication welcomes Dr. Jason Peake to the UGA family. Dr. Peake will serve as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education at our Tifton Campus. Dr. Peake is a native of Kentucky who taught in Florida and Texas. He has a BS from UK, Masters from the University of Central Florida, and PhD from Texas A&M University. Dr. Peake brings much expertise and enthusiasm to our department.

Expanding Our Reach

In Georgia there are currently 175 high school, 30 middle school, and 65 young farmer programs, entailing over 340 local, regional, and state personnel. Thus, there was a need to increase the number of Agricultural Education graduates in order to accommodate the growth in population to reach the thousands of students who do not have the opportunity to enroll in agricultural education programs. The development of the Agricultural Education major at the Tifton campus will address this need.

Classroom Renovation

The College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences committed substantial funding for the remodeling of the Agricultural Education Classroom at UGA. When the classroom is finished it will serve as a state-of-the art Agriscience teaching laboratory. The finished classroom will also be wireless and capable of hosting live videoconference instruction.

Elliot on Sabbatical

Dr. Jack Elliot is taking a six month sabbatical and doing research on High Stakes Testing around the country. During the sabbatical he will be visiting 15-20 states to study how they are meeting the NCLB mandate for assessment (High Stakes Tests)

Strategic Plan

The Department has been working on developing a new strategic plan and finalized that document with an accompanying plan of work to accomplish the mission and vision.

Research Program

During the year the faculty members have been working on a way to focus the individual and collective research efforts. To accomplish this, a research program which will be phased in over the next five years is being created.

Work with the National FFA

Dr. Jack Elliot concluded his term as a consultant to the FFA Board and Dr. Knight also finished his service with the National FFA Alumni Council.

New Staff Member

Mr. Frank Santiago is now working in the Department to recruit students for agricultural education. He is working especially close with the community colleges in Arizona in that process with a special emphasis on recruiting students from diverse backgrounds.

AGED/COM Students Awarded \$100,000 in Scholarships for 2004-2005

Students in the Department of Agricultural Education, Communications and 4-H have been awarded over \$100,000 in scholarships from university, college, department and AGED Scholarship, INC sources for the 2004-2005 academic year. The department continues to be blessed with outstanding undergraduate and graduate students who compete for scholarships and awards across the campus.

Dr. Cindy Blackwell to Join Faculty

Dr. Cindy Blackwell will join the faculty at the rank of Assistant Professor of Agricultural Communications and Leadership in fall 2004. Dr. Blackwell earned a BA degree in Journalism from the University of Texas, Austin, with an emphasis in magazine journalism; a MA degree in Urban Planning from Texas A&M University; and the PhD in Agricultural Education from Texas A&M University. Dr. Blackwell has experience teaching agricultural communications, has worked in the Eisenhower Leadership Development Program and student development.

Math-CTE Project Prepares for Year Two

OSU is preparing to collaborate with the National Center for Research in Career and Technology Education at the University of Minnesota in a second year of research to study how mathematics achievement of students can be increased using contextual learning. The Oklahoma experiment will involve 20 control and 20 treatment classrooms and teachers teaching the agricultural power and technology curriculum. Dr. Craig Edwards is the director of the Oklahoma project.

Undergraduate Programs Continue to be Strong

The department continues to enroll nearly 400 students with approximately 85 to 90 students expected to graduate in 2004. Two students majoring in agricultural communications were selected for top 20 student honors by OSU. Thirty-seven students will complete teacher certification in agriculture, nearly 30 leadership and service students will conduct senior internships, 15 senior students in agricultural communications are in final production of the spring issue of the Cowboy Journal and three students will complete undergraduate research projects through the Wentz Program.

Graduate Teaching Associate Position Available

The department is recruiting a half-time graduate teaching associate in agricultural education beginning fall 2004 and available for up to three years. Applicants must be doctoral students with at least three years of secondary teaching experience and demonstrated academic promise. Interested applicants should contact James Leising, Professor and Head, leising@okstate.edu or 405-744-8036, Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK 74078-6031.

New Hire

Dr. Levon Esters joined the faculty as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education and Curriculum and Instruction on January 1, 2004. Dr. Esters completed his Ph.D. program at The Pennsylvania State University in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education. He taught agricultural science at the Chicago High School of Agricultural Science for three years. Dr. Esters is currently teaching presentation strategies courses and following up student teachers. He is also the advisor of the Agricultural Education Club.

Dr. Richard Carter Retires

Dr. Richard Carter will retire from the department on June 30, 2004. Dr. Carter has well over 30 years of experience at Iowa State University. He served five years as department head and more than five years as the director of the Brenton Center for Instructional Technology. Dr. Carter has focused on leadership education for many years and plans to write a book and do some consulting during his retirement years.

Dr. Larry Trede Retires

Dr. Larry Trede will retire from the department on June 30, 2004. Dr. Trede has well over 30 years of experience at Iowa State University. He has served as the director of the university research farms, professor in-charge of the Ag450 Farm and director of graduate education in the department. His focus has been on adult and young farmer education and he plans to stay active in farm management activities.

Teaching Awards

Dr. Nancy Grudens-Schuck, Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education, has received the College of Agriculture Award for Outstanding Teaching and the University Award for Early Achievement in Teaching. She has reorganized two graduate level courses and developed a new course in evaluation systems. She has helped the department develop strong relationships with other departments in the college of agriculture.

Promotion

Dr. Greg Miller has been promoted to the rank of Professor of Agricultural Education and Curriculum and Instruction. Dr. Miller has 12 years of service at Iowa State University. He serves as the coordinator of the teacher education program and is currently the editor of the Journal of Agricultural Education. His focus has been on learning at a distance and supervision of instruction.

Personnel

Dr. Steve Frazee has been promoted to the rank of professor effective September 1. Mr. Todd Davis joined our faculty effective January 1 as an assistant professor of agricultural education. Mr. Brashears will complete his doctoral degree from Texas Tech University in December. Dr. Cindy Akers will receive the university-wide Hemphill Wells New Professor Excellence in Teaching Award on April 17. Dr. James Smith has been elected as President of the Southern Region AAAE.

Academic Programs

Drs. David Doerfert, Cindy Akers, and Chad Davis are preparing a proposal for a Master's of Science in Agricultural Communications. Dr. Mark Kistler is representing our department in developing a college-wide distance delivered Master's of Agriculture program.

Doc@Distance

Our doctoral program delivered at a distance which is jointly delivered through Texas A&M University has 17 students enrolled in the initial cohort of students (that are expected to graduate in 2004) and 13 students enrolled in the second cohort of students (that will graduate in 2007). This second class of students includes residents from Indiana, Montana, Nevada, and Arizona. Both cohorts participated in the Southern Agricultural Education Research Conference in Tulsa. We plan to go 'international' with our third class of students that will be admitted in August 2006.

Research and Development Projects

Susie Bullock has completed production on the benefits of broadband technology to rural communities. This video has been streamed on the following URL < <http://www.depts.ttu.edu/aged/faculty/bullock.htm> >. Bullock involved undergraduates in our Scientific Communications in Agriculture and Natural Resources in writing the script for the video. Dr. James Smith has been elected as President of the Southern Region AAAE. Dr. Smith has accepted the position of Business Manager for the Agricultural Education Magazine.

Distinguished Alumna

On February 16, Ms. Kathleen Phillips received the department's Distinguished Alumna Award at a college-wide luncheon at the Market Alumni Center on campus. Kathleen currently serves as the state news coordinator for the Texas A&M University Agricultural Communications Unit in College Station. She is a 1978 agricultural communications graduate.

Brian Myers Joins Faculty

Brian Myers has accepted a position as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education, effective July 1, 2004. Brian received his PhD degree in Agricultural Education and Communication at UF in April 2004 and holds BS and MS degrees from Southern Illinois University. He also taught agriculture in Illinois for four years. Marshall Breeze, Associate Professor of Agricultural Communication, will retire on May 31 after 28 years on the UF faculty. He taught courses in conflict resolution and public opinion formation and co-directed the Florida Natural Resources Leadership Institute.

Hannah Carter Directs Leadership Institute

Hannah Carter, PhD candidate in the AEC Department with a focus on Leadership, will begin her appointment as Director of the Wedgworth Leadership Institute for Agriculture and Natural Resources (WLI) and Lecturer in the AEC Department in August. Hannah was an extension agent in Maine prior to beginning her PhD program at UF and has been an assistant with the WLI program for the past four years. WLI develops the leadership capabilities of private sector agriculturalists who are 25-45 years of age and has 150 alumni, each having completed a 60-day leadership program over a two-year period.

UF Sponsors National Summit for Ag Leadership Educators

Approximately 20 faculty and graduate students from nine institutions participated in a two-day National Summit at the Florida FFA Leadership Training Center in March. The purpose of the meeting was to develop vision and mission statements for undergraduate agricultural leadership education programs across the nation and to identify priority goals for strengthening leadership curricula. A report highlighting the outcomes of the summit will be distributed in May. Rick Rudd coordinated this event, co-sponsored by the AEC Department and CALS.

Students Excel!

Emily DeVane, an undergraduate in the Ag Leadership Option, was named the Outstanding Junior in the College at the CALS Scholarship Convocation held in December. Marshall Baker, a senior in the Ag Ed Option, was selected as a University Four Year Scholar and will be the speaker at the CALS Commencement Exercises on April 30. Travis Park, PhD candidate and former agriculture teacher from Indiana, was one of only 14 graduate students at UF to receive a 2004 Graduate Student Teaching Award.

PhD Graduates Accept Faculty Positions

The Department admitted its first PhD students in August 2000, and nearly 25 students are currently enrolled. Those accepting faculty positions thus far include Lori Moore (Ag Ed – University of Idaho), John Ricketts (Ag Ed – University of Georgia), Susan Grantham (Public Relations – University of Hartford), Nicole Stedman (Ag Leadership – Texas A&M), Grady Roberts (Ag Ed – Texas A&M), Brian Myers (Ag Ed – University of Florida), and Lisa Lundy (Public Relations – Louisiana State University).

Recognition

Dr. Harry Boone has recently been selected as the Outstanding Teacher in the Division of Resource Management and the Davis College of Agriculture, Forestry and Consumer Sciences. **Dr. Boone** was also recognized by Gamma Sigma Delta with the Junior Faculty Certificate of Merit. **Dr. Stacy Gartin** was recognized as the Outstanding Service Provider for the Davis College and the Outstanding Advisor.

Program

Dr. Debby Boone has made a significant impact in the Extension Education component of the Program. Her two new on-line Extension courses, Program Development and Program Evaluation, have proved very successful. These courses are taught in collaboration with North Carolina State University.

The faculty also enjoyed the challenge of both an NCATE Review and a CSREES Review. The reviews came at a good time as the AgEE Program is evaluating its undergraduate option areas.

Personnel Update

Dr. Layle Lawrence retired last July after 30 years of service to WVU. His expertise and wisdom is still appreciated. **Dr. Kerry Odell** has had a challenging year serving as Interim President of Potomac State College of WVU. **Dr. Stacy Gartin** enjoys providing leadership for the Department.

Graduate Program

The faculty has put forth extensive effort laying the ground work for two new doctoral programs. One program will focus on Agricultural and Extension Education and the other on Human and Community Development. Ten graduate students have defended their theses this year and four more plan to finish during the summer.

Graduate Student Teaching Recognition

Scott Burris recently received the 2004 Donald K. Anderson Graduate Teaching Award. This teaching award is presented by the Graduate School and awarded to one individual from across the university. Tracy Kitchel, Jon Ulmer, Shane Robinson, and Scott Burris have been recognized as “High Fliers” for their excellence in teaching courses taught through the Teacher Development Program in the College of Education. The awards are based on high ratings on course and instructor evaluations.

Undergraduate Student Excellence

At the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources’ 2004 Celebration of Excellence Christy Forkner was present with the Outstanding Junior in the College and Jana Thies was recognized as the Outstanding Sophomore. Other students with significant accomplishments are Brett Ordnung and Gina Eckler. Brett recently completed his term as president of University of Missouri Student Association, and Gina, is currently serving as the Missouri FFA State President.

Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence

University of Missouri Chancellor Richard Wallace, and more than a dozen members of the media, friends and colleagues interrupted Bryan Garton’s teaching on April 13th to hear Wallace announce that Garton was a recipient of the 2004 Kemper Fellowship for Teaching Excellence. The award, a \$10,000 gift from the William T. Kemper Foundation, is presented each year to 10 outstanding educators on the Mizzou campus. The award is the highest award for teaching presented by the University of Missouri.

Faculty Leadership Development

Rob Terry participated in Class 13 of the ESCOP-ACOP Leadership Development Program. The goal of the program is to “provide cutting-edge leadership learning experiences that facilitate personal growth and better prepare participants to lead change situations and bring value to universities in and the land-grant concept.” Paul Vaughn served as Rob’s mentor through the program. Bobby Torres will participate in Class 14, which will begin this summer.

NCATE Accreditation

After a year of an extensive self-review process, a Board of Examiners (BOE) completed a comprehensive external review and has recommended that the agricultural education undergraduate teacher certification program be approved by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE). Among the program strengths cited was the high passage rate on the PRAXIS II certification test. The exit report also cited an external review by the USDA CSREES which commended the program as being one of the best in the country.

New PAS Chapter

SUNY Oswego was recognized nationally at the National PAS Conference held in Green Bay, Wisconsin March 10-13, 2004.

Sarah Blood, Anthony Cronk and Kristy Roads participated in several events at the national conference including Equestrian Science, Crops Specialist, Prepared Public Speaking and Improptu Speaking. Anthony Cronk was the national winner for the impromptu speaking event and both New York college bowl teams placed in the top eight teams. Dr. Penny Haase Wittler serves as the coach/advisor for the club.

Susan Camp Continues as Faculty Governance Leader

Susan Camp will serve a second year as Faculty Assembly Chair. She was elected April 2003 and will continue to serve during the 2004-2005 academic year. This half-time position includes chairing the assembly, co-chairing the Campus Concept Committee, chairing the FA Executive Board, sitting on the College council, and serving as an ex-officio member of several councils of faculty assembly. Susan continues to chair the department of Vocational Teacher Preparation and to teach 2-3 classes per year.

Quest Presentation

Penny Haase Wittler in collaboration with Dr. Margaret Martin will present research findings related to student perceptions of faculty-student rapport in online classes.

Quest is a symposia held each spring devoted to sharing faculty and student research across the campus.

Rare Program in Cuba

Penny Haase Wittler and Margaret Martin will spend a week with their colleague Eugenio Basualdo in Havana at Universidad de la Habana. Basualdo has accompanied 12 students to Cuba for a semester exchange.

Online opportunities

SUNY Oswego continues to add courses to its online offerings. The entire undergraduate teacher education program is offered on-line except for one week in residency to complete micro teaching and seminar related to Methods of Teaching Vocational Subjects.

Five of 8 core graduate courses are offered on line as well as 3 graduate electives. The goal is to make both initial teacher education programs available completely online (except for the methods component) by Fall of 2006.

Departmental Assessment

The Utah State University Agricultural Systems Technology and Education (ASTE) Department completed a comprehensive departmental assessment plan. The plan included a revised departmental mission statement, a comprehensive grid matching department and Utah State Office of Education objectives with courses, plans for exit interviews, and a plan for using assessment data for departmental decision making.

Utah State Office of Education Grants

Several grants were awarded to the ASTE department through the Utah State Office of Education. Projects through the state department included an animal science curriculum on CD project, revision of skills tests in Utah, young professionals in agricultural education, and an in-service program for certifying new applied technology teachers.

New Faculty Member Hired

The Agricultural Systems Technology and Education Department at Utah State University is pleased to announce the hiring of Brian Warnick as a new faculty member. Brian will be an assistant professor of agricultural education with major responsibilities in the teacher education program.

Straquadine on a Radical Sabbatical

The USU ASTE Department Chair, Dr. Gary Straquadine spent much of the 2003-04 school year on sabbatical. Dr. Straquadine's goal during the sabbatical was to visit about a dozen monastic communities that actively pursue a sustainable agriculture production focus. At the time of this writing, he had traveled to religious communities in Utah, Hawaii, Iowa, California, Illinois, and Kentucky. Dr. Straquadine has kept a current website of his travels which can be found at http://www.aste.usu.edu/straquadine/Sabbatical/Sabbatical_Leave_website.htm

Ag Ed and FCSE Together Again

Agricultural Education and Family Consumer Science Education are back in the same department at Utah State University. For many years, the two were in separate departments and colleges on campus. As a result of university reorganization, the departments are working in the same department again. Faculty members have found new ways to work collaboratively in the undergraduate and graduate programs.

Morehead State University

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Morehead State University Co-Host of the Southern Ag. Ed. Research Conference in Tulsa

Morehead State University was one of the Co-Hosts of the successful the Southern Agricultural Education Research Conference in Tulsa, OK with Western Kentucky University, Murray State University and the University of Kentucky.

Tablet PC a Requirement?

Morehead State University's Agricultural Education Program is considering the requirement of all students to have a Tablet PC. This is part of a University initiative of requiring all students to be equipped with mobile technology (a minimum of a Laptop) by Fall of 2005.

Ag. Ed. Faculty 1 of 3 writer to acquire \$750,000 Grant

Dr. Adam J. Kantrovich wrote the evaluation and assessment piece for a 3-year \$750,000 Teired Mentoring Grant that has been funded to the College of Science and Technology.