

AMERICAN



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for

AGRICULTURAL

EDUCATION

Newsletter

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American Association for Agricultural Education

AAAE Newsletter

Spring 2002

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News from the Profession

Welcome to the Spring 2002 edition of the AAAE Newsletter. No doubt this newsletter will be arriving at about the time the Spring Semester is being put to rest on campuses across the nation. It is our hope that you have had a great semester and that the future holds promise for achieving all of your personal and professional goals. I am sure you would agree that it has been an interesting and eventful year in all aspects of our lives. In reviewing the reports from all the institutions and states responding to our request for “news”, it is obvious everyone has had plenty of opportunity to contribute to the welfare of the profession. We live in interesting and challenging times. It is so great to see that so many members of AAAE are having a significant impact on the lives of students and other stakeholders important to our profession.

Thanks to all of the contributors to this issue of the newsletter. I hope everyone takes the time to read this newsletter. Obviously, our members are very busy but it is also clear that members of the American Association for Agricultural Education are moving to greater heights of achievement. Congratulations for all the major accomplishments reported in this issue of the newsletter. Please keep up the good work.

If your institution didn't report your “news” this time around, please do so for our Fall issue of the newsletter. Deadline for that issue will be **October 1, 2002**. It will be here before you know it, so plan now to share your “news”.

Thanks, again, for all your help. We look forward to seeing all of you in Las Vegas in December.

Have a great relaxing and enjoyable summer.

For the good of AAAE!!

Robert A. Martin
President-Elect &
Newsletter Editor

**AAAE SPRING 2002 NEWSLETTER
UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA**

PERSONNEL

Through the passage of Arizona House Bill 301, funds became available for increasing our numbers. James Perey, former agricultural education teacher at Antelope Union Schools in Wellton, Arizona joined the faculty in summer 2001. James has taken on the role of recruitment (primarily of potential agricultural education teachers) and coordinator for the professional development work in the department. In addition to James, the Department was also able to hire Corey Lorenzo as a half time computer technician (something we are all thankful for every day!).

As the new department head Jim Knight has stayed busy learning more about his expanded role. As Jim stepped up other changes took place within the department. Jack Elliot is now serving as graduate coordinator and working closely with the dissemination process of curriculum projects developed by graduate students. Billye Foster has taken the role of teacher preparation coordinator along with serving as web-master for the department. Ed Franklin now coordinates the new teacher program, that has expanded from a one to a two-year induction program.

In addition to our other new roles, we have enjoyed the addition of Dr. J. David McCracken as visiting professor, teaching Research Methodology & Design. His vast experience and fresh look at this area has been a wonderful asset for our graduate students. Another temporary addition to our faculty is Dr. Pirro Veizi. Dr. Veizi is from Tirana, Albania. In Albania, Dr. Veizi serves as Head of Agricultural Mechanization at the Agricultural University of Tirana, AUT. At the U of T, he is involved with undergraduate classes in agricultural mechanization and extension training in agriculture and forestry. He has spent this year working with Dr. Miller in our department and the Agricultural & Biosystems Engineering Department updating curriculum for use in Albania.

NEW COURSES

AED 607, Untold Stories: Understanding University Women in Agricultural Fields, was taught by Billye Foster this spring as an experimental graduate class and has met with wonderful success. Interaction among professional women, both in academia and industry, and the students has served as a springboard for many thought provoking discussions.

UNDERGRADUATE & GRADUATE NEWS

Development of several new student and teacher references by our graduate students has kept us all excited as to what will be published next. By July 1, 2002 the following new publications will be available. In **Student Reference Unit** format: Animal Health, Companion Animal, Equine Science and Livestock Selection. In **Teacher Reference Unit** format: Entomology, Equine Science and Equine Dentistry.

GRANTS & RESEARCH PROJECTS

The National FFA Organization and the Global Learning and Observation to Benefit the Environment (GLOBE) Group awarded Jack Elliot a grant to conduct a national teacher in-service to be held in Tucson.

Ed Franklin is working on a qualitative study involving individual interviews of new teachers. His work is already providing valuable insight for the faculty regarding our induction year program.

Billye Foster and Brenda Seevers (New Mexico State) completed a study of women in agricultural and extension education at the university level. Two papers from that study will be presented at the Western Region Research Conference in Washington.

The PHASE program is nearing its second year of completion. The program, sponsored through an Arizona Department of Transportation grant, provides training for adults re-entering the work force and is operated by Glen Miller.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Ed Franklin and Billye Foster, along with graduate student Melvina Adolph were heavily involved in the production of a College of Agriculture and Life Sciences conference for Native Americans and Academia. The conference enjoyed attendance from tribal members across the state and hosted the first female president of the Dineh College for the Navajo Nation and one of the original Navajo "Code Talkers" from World War II.

Jack Elliot attended the 5th European Farming Systems Symposium in Italy in early April. Jim Knight and Jack will present 3 papers and a poster at the International Agricultural & Extension Educators Conference in Africa in May. In addition, they will present two rounds of a 3 day course at the University of Guam and the University of Namibia entitled "Teaching College Level Agriculture."

INNOVATIONS

Ed Franklin organized a student committee to plan and run our statewide FFA Career Development Events Days. 2002 saw the first round of the expanded two-day format. Over twenty students served as event chairs and assisted faculty in planning and running the CDEs and a BBQ for 1200 high school students. Student chairs met weekly all semester both in pre-planning and now in planning for a better event next year!

University of Arkansas

Personnel

Dr. Jefferson D. Miller joined our faculty on July 1, 2001 as Assistant Professor to provide leadership for the agricultural communications program in the Department. Dr. Miller, a native of Mustang, Oklahoma, earned his Ph.D. in Agricultural Education from Oklahoma State University and served as a lecturer in the agricultural communications program at O.S.U. Prior to that, he served as a Communications Specialist with the Communication Services Unit. Dr. Melissa Lester has resigned her 50% position in the Department and 50% position in the Arkansas Alumni Association to work as a sales representative for a pharmaceutical company. Dr. Donna Graham has been appointed as Associate Dean for Academic Program in the Bumpers College of Agricultural, Food and Life Sciences.

Grants and Research Projects

Dr. Don Johnson and Dr. George Wardlow co-authored a proposal to the Abernathy Charitable Trust, "A Contextual Learning Center Serving At-Risk Students and Their Teachers," that was awarded at approximately \$720,000 for the construction of an AgriScience Education and Technology Center. They also continued to co-direct the USDA Challenge Grant (\$160,000), "A Faculty Teaching Support Center to Improve Undergraduate Instruction," that led to the establishment of the Bumpers College Teaching Resource Center. Donna Graham continued to direct the USDA Minority Scholarship Program for the College.

Awards and Recognition

Dr. Don Johnson received the Jack G. Justus Award for Teaching Excellence at the Bumpers College Honors Convocation in April and Dr. Nolan Arthur received the Alumni Society's Outstanding Advising Award for the College. Eloise Cole, Accounting Technician in the Department, received the Classified Staff Award from the Division of Agriculture.

Undergraduate Program

The Department experienced a 6.5% increase in enrollment from the Fall 2000 to the Fall 2001. Nolan Arthur serves as recruitment coordinator for the Department. Six new AEED REPS were selected to serve as representatives for the Department. They participate in a variety of activities including recruitment and assisting with career days and new student orientation. Alpha Tau Alpha, dormant for several years, has been reactivated. Twenty-three new initiates were inducted in February. Dr. Nolan Arthur and Dr. Freddie Scott serve as co-advisors.

Conferences and Workshops

Donna Graham, Don Herring, Don Johnson, Jeff Miller and George Wardlow represented the Department at NAERC and meetings of the AAEE and ACTE in New Orleans in December. Donna Graham, Don Herring, Jeff Miller, and George Wardlow participated in the Southern Agricultural Education Conference in conjunction with SAAS in Orlando in February.

Arkansas State University

International travel. Last summer Dr. David Agnew visited Panama and Costa Rica looking at possible educational experiences for students. This May four Agricultural Education majors along with Dr. Agnew will spend nine days in Costa Rica. They will visit agricultural programs in both secondary and post secondary schools, as well as tour selected industries. Agricultural Education is one of three areas of focus of this project that is conducted in conjunction with the College of Education and funded by the W.K Kellogg Foundation.

New option in Agricultural Communications. A new option in agricultural communications for undergraduate agricultural education majors was recently approved. The option will be available in fall of 2002.

New graduate degree program proposed. A new degree graduate program in "Career and Technical Education" has been proposed and is working it's way through the review process. If all goes as planned the degree program will be approved in February of 2003.

Food Land and People Curriculum Through a joint effort with the College of Education and with contributions from the agricultural industry in Arkansas, Drs. David Agnew and Mark McJunkin will be bringing the Food Land and People Curriculum into Arkansas in the 2002-2003 school year.

History of the College of Agriculture. Dr. Agnew is working with the History Department at ASU and graduate students from the History Department to develop a history of the College of Agriculture at ASU.

State Officer in ACOTA. Dr. Agnew just completed a term as the Vice President of the Arkansas Career Orientation Teachers Association and will become the Treasurer for the organization in August of 2002.

Farm Safety For Kids. Dr. Kevin Humphrey, will coordinate, with the assistance of Agricultural Education majors and with the cooperation with local industries the Annual Farm Safety for Kids this coming October.

Leadership Conference. Dr. Agnew chaired the committee that conducted the 10th Annual College of Agriculture Student Leadership Conference. Drs. Agnew and Greenwalt will present a paper at the NACTA Conference this summer in Lincoln on the lessons learned from 10 years of such conferences.

Graduate Assistantship Two graduate assistantships will be available for the 2002-03 school year, with summer optional. The assistantship are for 20 hours per week. For more information or to apply contact David Agnew Chair of the College of Agriculture Graduate Committee at dagnew@astate.edu or 870-972-2087.

University of Connecticut

Honors: Alfred J. Mannebach, professor in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction, Neag School of Education, was inducted as an AAAE Fellow in the American Association for Agricultural Education at the Annual meeting held in New Orleans, Louisiana, on December 13, 2001. As president of AAAE in 1989-1990, he supported the establishment of the award. He joins fourteen other individuals who have received the award since its implementation in 1992.

Conferences: Alfred J. Mannebach completed his second term as Chair of the American Educational Research Association Special Interest Group on Career Development in New Orleans, Louisiana, on April 3, 2002. Mannebach, who started the Career Development SIG in 1973-1974 with co-founder Dr. Donald L. Thompson, completed his second year as Chair. Drs. Mannebach and Thompson were recognized as Co-Founders of the SIG on the event of its twenty-fifth anniversary. The SIG was formed to provide a forum for the planning, discussing, and reporting of Career Development Research. AERA members can join the Career Development SIG when paying AERA dues.

Personnel: Alfred J. Mannebach has announced his intent to retire from The University of Connecticut effective June 1, 2002. Dr. Mannebach will have completed 30 years as teacher educator in agriculture at UConn. Prior to coming to Connecticut in 1972, Dr. Mannebach was Assistant Professor in the Kentucky Research Coordinating Unit, University of Kentucky, for three years. A native of Western Kansas, Mannebach earned his B.S. and M.S. Degrees in Agricultural Education at Kansas State University and his Doctorate in Vocational-Technical Education at the University of Illinois. During his tenure at UConn, the number of agriculture teachers in Connecticut increased from 47 to almost 90. Existing facilities have been renovated and many new regional agriculture centers have been built. Results of the Connecticut Agriculture Graduate Follow-up Survey five years after completing the Regional Agriculture Program continue to be extremely positive.

Dr. Mannebach has been granted a "phase out" semester during the spring, 2002. He has used the time to relinquish professional responsibilities, resign from positions on boards and in professional organizations, complete Doctoral students, travel, and accomplish many of the other goals established for the semester. He is grateful to members of the AAAE for all of the professional opportunities provided and the close associations developed over the years. The collegiality and friendships developed will not be forgotten. Thanks a million!!

Idaho

Personnel: John P. Mundt, Professor in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education for the past 17 years has announced his retirement effective June, 2002. His professional commitment to Agricultural Education began when he accepted a secondary teaching assignment at Meridian High School in 1967, serving in that position for 13 years. He was elected and served as president of the National Vocational Agriculture Teachers Association (NVATA) in 1979. In 1980 he accepted the position of State Supervisor of Agricultural Education and State FFA Advisor for the Idaho State Division of Vocational Education. In the fall of 1985 he began his career in teacher education where he served as a professor of Agricultural Education until his retirement. He has served as a national officer in all three of the major agricultural education organizations including: Regional Vice-President and President of the NVATA, Regional Vice-President of the American Association for Agricultural Education (AAAE), and Regional Vice-President of the National Association of Supervisors of Agricultural Education (NASAE). He received the Regional Outstanding Young Member Award from both NVATA and AAAE. He was a member of the Agricultural Education Division Policy Committee, served as a consultant to the National FFA Board of Directors, and served as a member of National FFA Foundation.

Facts and Figures of Secondary Agricultural Science and Technology in Idaho: Idaho has 85 secondary programs with 110 instructors. There are 8287 students enrolled in secondary agricultural science and technology courses and FFA membership stands at 3390.

New Courses: As part of the University of Idaho's commitment to improve the global preparedness of its students, the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education is offering a new course in Spring 2002 - Exploring International Agriculture. The course, led by Dr. Robert J. Haggerty, Director of International Programs in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, is being taught using distance education technology (compressed video, electronic mail, World Wide Web) and methods to 41 students at learning sites dispersed across Idaho in Moscow, Twin Falls and Idaho Falls.

Undergraduate News: Adam Ineck (Notus, Idaho) and Holly Brooks (Weiser, Idaho) are completing their student teaching this spring. The department will be graduating 18 students with degrees in Agricultural Education and Agricultural Science and Technology this May.

New Directions: Agricultural Education-Non-teaching Option - Since its inception in the fall of 1999, the enrollment in the Agricultural Education – Non-teaching option continues to increase. The non-teaching option in agricultural education is designed to prepare students to succeed in leadership, training, and development positions in agricultural businesses, non-government agricultural organizations or government agencies in the food, fiber and natural resources system. To date three students have completed ten credit internships, one with a beef feedlot, and two with the Cooperative Extension System.

Awards & Recognitions: The following individuals from the department have been nominated for University of Idaho, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences awards in their respective categories: Douglas A. Pals – Outstanding Advisor; Marilyn K. Crumley – Outstanding Staff, Management Support; Victoria A. Seever – Outstanding Staff – Office Support; Matthew Kitterman – Outstanding Staff, Technical/Lab Support.

Among the 100 people inducted into the National 4-H Hall of Fame on April 11, 2002, were Dr. A. Larry Branen, Vice President for University Outreach and Dean of College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, University of Idaho, and Dr. Maurice E. Johnson, Professor Emeritus, University of Idaho. Maurice E. Johnson's professional career began when he joined a newly-organized neighborhood 4-H club in 1941 at the age of eight. "What success I have experienced and enjoyed had its inception in 4-H." Dr. Johnson continues to serve as an academic advisor in the University of Idaho Department of Agricultural and Extension Education and as a volunteer to the University and the community.

Ag in the Classroom: The Ag in the Classroom program has 6 one-credit workshop sites scheduled across Idaho during the summer, 2002. The themes for these workshops will include "Demographics of Idaho Agriculture and Idaho as an Export State." Also, a two-credit, 4-day AITC Level II workshop is scheduled for July 15-18, 2002 in Twin Falls, Idaho.

Rush Agricultural Education Student Teaching Scholarship: Kirk and ImoGene Rush recently established *The Kirk and ImoGene Rush Agricultural Education Student Teaching Endowed Scholarship* at the University of Idaho. This scholarship is to assist agricultural education students during their student teaching experience. Kirk was a high school agriculture teaching in Idaho for over 40 years

Iowa State University

Dr. Greg Miller has been named a Teaching Fellow by the National Association for Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture. Dr. Cary Trexler was selected for two awards this academic year. He was named the ISU College of Agriculture Outstanding Young Teacher and he was named the AAAE Central Region Outstanding Young Member for 2002. Dr. Wade Miller was recently named the AAAE Central Region Outstanding Agricultural Educator. Dr. Nancy Grudens-Schuck recently received the President's Award for the Outstanding Paper of the American Evaluation Association. Kelli Cameron, a graduating senior in Agricultural Education, was ISU Student Employee of the year. Tasha Hargrove and Dr. Nancy Grudens-Schuck received the Best Paper Award at the ISU Education Research Exchange Program.

Dr. Greg Miller will be leading a Study Abroad Program to Scotland in May. Mr. Chuck Steiner and Ms. Paula Teig will be leading a Study Abroad Program to Australia in August. Drs. Wade Miller and Lynn Jones will be traveling to South Africa in May to participate in the annual conference of the Association for International Agricultural and Extension Education. Dr. Jones will be teaching a four-day workshop prior to the conference.

Carrie Fritz, Deanna Meischen, Ron Grider, Chuck Steiner and Awoke Dollisso have all completed the semester having had lots of teaching experience in the department because of the heavy demand for selected courses. Graduate students having significant research and grant activity this year include Lynette Davis, Paula Teig, Stacie Turnbull and Brett Kramer. All of these people have done excellent work and have had a significant impact in the department this year.

The ISU Farm Op Club and the ISU Ag Ed Club have both received recognition this past year for conducting outstanding programs. The ISU Chapter of the National Agri-Marketing Association was recently recognized as one of the top ten chapters in the nation. The NAMA Chapter also won an innovation award for its work in recruitment.

Dr. Lynn Jones was recently recognized for 30 years of continuous service to the Cooperative Extension Service. Dr. Gaylan Scofield was recently awarded the Regents Professional and Scientific Staff Excellence Award. Dr. Wade Miller recently started his three-year service as Business Manager of The Journal of Agricultural Education. Robert Martin has begun service as President-Elect of the American Association for Agricultural Education.

The past year has been a tremendous year for achievement of departmental goals and recognition of our faculty, staff and students. In student numbers, our department is one of the largest in the college. Additionally, the department has been having a significant impact on efforts to add communications skills across the curriculum, service learning activities in the university and Ames community and problem solving approached used at the Ag 450 farm, a student managed 1,000 acre farm. The Ag 450 farm remodeled a livestock shed into a confined sow breeding and gestation facility. Students designed, planned, and remodeled the building at a cost of \$21,000. The building was paid for from the cash flow of the farm. We continue to have significant support and encouragement from numerous agri-business firms that are interested in this problem solving, strategic issues, and hand-on course in farm and agri-business management.

Purdue University

UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE NEWS

Lori L. Kohlhagen, May 2002 agricultural education graduate, received 1 of 10 Purdue University Charles O. McGaughey Leadership Awards. After completing student teaching at Carroll High School at Ft. Wayne, Lori is headed for Disney World to be a plant science intern in the greenhouses at Epcot Center.

Eric Steiner, May 2002 agricultural education graduate, received the G.A. Ross Award for the Purdue University outstanding graduating man. He has studied in Poland, Honduras and South Africa. He also spent a summer in Washington, D.C., with the American Farm Bureau Federation. When on campus, Steiner worked with at least 12 different organizations. After completing student teaching at Owen Valley High School, Eric will serve for one year as a fellow with the Congressional Hunger Center based in Washington, D.C.

Seventeen student teachers are completing their 10-week experience this spring. This is in addition to the five who completed their experience during fall 2001.

Three graduate teaching assistants were added fall 2001 to the Purdue University Agricultural Education staff. Kevin Harris is a former teacher and extension educator from Georgia. Kevin has been named as the School of Education Holmes Scholar for 2001. DaBeth Manns is from Virginia and received her B.A. from Wake Forest and her M.S. from North Carolina A&T. DaBeth received a Purdue University Graduate School Special Initiatives Fellowship. Nichole Parker was an Indiana agricultural science and business teacher at Franklin Community High School and STAR Academy. Nichole is also a research assistant in the Agronomy Department.

Dexter Wakefield, May 2001 Ph.D. in Agricultural and Extension Education, is an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education at Southern Illinois University.

AWARDS/RECOGNITION

Dr. Mark Balschweid and Dr. Allen Talbert received their Honorary American Degree at the National FFA Convention on October 26, 2001.

Dr. Jerry Peters was appointed interim dean of the School of Education effective July 1, 2001. Peters served as department head of Curriculum and Instruction from 1996 to 2001.

CURRICULUM INFORMATION

Summer 2002 graduate courses include EDCI 642 "Seminar in Agricultural and Extension Education" better known as Seminar on Wheels. This summer Dr. Peters will travel to Zamorano University in Honduras for Seminar on Wings. Dr. Balschweid will offer EDCI 643, "Special Topics in Agricultural Education". The topic will be International Agriculture and Global Food Security. This course is a collaborative effort between Purdue University and Indiana University – Bloomington.

Purdue University Agricultural Education has formed an Advisory Committee. Representation on the committee is 3 agricultural science and business teachers, Indiana Department of Education, agribusiness, agricultural production, Purdue School of Agriculture, Purdue School of Science, and an Area Career Center. This effort was supported by a grant from USDE through Management Planning Research Associates, Inc. "Strengthening Career and Technical Teacher Education (CTTE) at Purdue University." Dr. Allen Talbert is co-principal investigator on the larger project in collaboration with faculty members in Technology Education and Consumer and Family Sciences Education.

GRANTS AND RESEARCH PROJECTS

Dr. Mark Balschweid completed the AgriScience Collaboration Institute project funded through a USDA Challenge Grant and supported with funding from Indiana Cooperative Extension Service for a graduate research assistant.

Dr. Jerry Peters is principal investigator for the "Revision of the Focusing on Agricultural Issues Instructional Materials" project funded by the National Council for Agricultural Education.

Murray State University

The Agriculture Education program at Murray State University is currently searching to fill an additional faculty position. This position is a joint position between the School of Agriculture, which conducts the teacher certification program in Agricultural Education, and the College of Education. The addition of this faculty line is due to a unique collaborative approach that Murray State has taken in the Career and Technical Education programs. All the remaining Career and Technical Education programs are housed in the College of Education and have joined together to create a combined program with a common core and specific programs in Business and Marketing Education, Family and Consumer Science and Technology Education. Agriculture Education students will participate in this program by having our students take the same common CTE Core but the Agriculture Education program and the majority of the coursework will remain in the School of Agriculture.

**NORTHWEST MISSOURI STATE UNIVERSITY
MARYVILLE, MO**

ENROLLMENT

The spring trimester is off to a great start with nearly 60 majors, 16 of which are now out student teaching. Our majors are not only from Northwest Missouri and the western half of Iowa, but we also have students from Connecticut and Nebraska.

GRADUATE STUDENTS

Last year's graduate, Dan Chalfant from Wellsville, is working with the aquaculture laboratory and is also helping Scott Walk, class of 1985, teach the agricultural mechanics class. Dan is also taking care of the shrimp as we start that alternative agriculture research project.

FACILITIES

We have installed four high-intensity lights in the aquaculture laboratory and purchased several new hydroponic units to allow us to grow more flowers and vegetables utilizing the fish water. We have purchased a new SmartBoard for the Agricultural Education classroom. We will be installing and wiring it prior to summer school.

ATA MEMBERSHIP

The ATA is very active. Forty-nine of our majors have chosen the package of professional dues which includes membership in ATA, a subscription to The Agricultural Education Magazine, and student membership in MVATA, IAAE and NAAE. They received recognition for 100% senior membership at the National ATA Convention and the certificate is proudly displayed on the wall with the previous 23 certificates.

AWARDS

The University Homecoming Committee decided to eliminate the independent division for House Decorations competition so, for the first time since 1987, we did not have a house decoration. However, we were still very busy in October. Thirty-eight members traveled by University bus to Louisville to attend the National FFA/ATA/Collegiate Ag Ed Conferences. Members competed in all contest areas and Rich Thomas's essay received second place in the National Competition. Also, junior Nathanael Schmitz of Rolla received one of the NAAE Agricultural Education scholarships.

MEETINGS

We have had an average attendance of about 30 members at bi-weekly ATA meetings with speakers such as recent Northwest graduate Eric Weuve of South Holt and less recent graduates, Marla Shifflett and Jack Cook of Murray and Mt. Ayr. Jim Cassity, DESE, Ellen Brand, University of Missouri Extension and Joan Schneider of our Career Services Office have also shared experiences and information with the group.

OFFICERS

ATA officers were recently elected for the 2002 year. Rich Thomas of Silex, Missouri was elected president; Kristen Rhodes of Purdin, Missouri, vice-president of Public Relations; Joel Miller of Aurora, Nebraska, vice-president of Chapter Programs; Jessica Basinger of Vandalia, Missouri, secretary; James Penn of Edina, Missouri, treasurer; Stephanie Schumer of Perryville, Missouri, reporter; Jason Vandivort of Mountain Grove, Missouri, social chair and Chrissy Cuminale of New Milford, Connecticut, parliamentarian.

MID-WAY CONFERENCE

Fifty-two members and guests attended the Mid-Way Conference on March 8 at the Cardinal Inn. The 16 student teachers shared their experiences thus far with their "fellow" student teachers and with the underclassmen and guests. Following the conference, sixteen new members were initiated into the ATA.

University of Missouri

Dr. Rob Terry will assume the role as Professor and Director of Graduate Studies in Agricultural Education at the University of Missouri on July 1, 2002. He joins MU's Department of Agricultural Education after leaving a position at Oklahoma State University where he has been on staff since 1996. Although the decision to leave his home state was a difficult one, Dr. Terry is looking forward to working with the faculty and students in the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources at MU. Dr. Terry will be providing leadership for the "new" Master of Science and Doctor of Philosophy degrees in Agricultural Education.

Dr. Robert Torres will also be joining the Agricultural Education faculty as an Associate Professor and Director of Undergraduate Studies on July 1, 2002. Dr. Torres is currently an Associate Professor of Agricultural Education at New Mexico State University and has been on the faculty in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education since 1993. Dr. Torres looks forward to joining the Ag Ed Team at MU where he perceives an opportunity for professional growth. "My attraction to MU's Ag Ed program was opportunity," Dr. Torres said. "The opportunity to work with faculty who have a vision and energy to make a difference in agricultural education in Missouri and nationally."

Undergraduate Program Achieves Top Billing

The University of Missouri this past fall released graduation figures for students who started college in the years 1995 and 1996. The Agricultural Education degree program was recognized as having achieved the highest graduation rate of all undergraduate degree programs offered by the University. Eighty-nine percent of the students who began their degree in Agricultural Education graduated within the six-year period. The six-year period was used in order to make comparisons with other universities across the country.

With a 60% graduation rate, the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (CAFNR) was recognized as the college with the highest graduation rate over the six-year period. Seven of the top 10 degree programs in the University were from the CAFNR. The University campus wide graduation rate of 55% exceeded the national average of slightly less than 50% of students graduating in six years.

Undergraduate Enrollments Continue to Increase

This year marked the eighth consecutive year that the undergraduate enrollment has increased. This past fall 124 students were enrolled in the Agricultural Education degree program for the 2001-02 academic year. Approximately 60% of the students plan to pursue teacher certification through the Teaching Option, and 40% were enrolled in the Leadership and Communication Option. Thirty-six new freshmen and transfer students began their degree programs this past fall. This marked the largest freshmen class in over 20 years.

Graduate Program

The Coordinating Board for Higher Education (CBHE) approved the **Master of Science (M.S.)** and **Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.)** degrees in Agricultural Education this past October. The M.S. degree program has three options for individuals to select from: Non-Thesis, Thesis, and Teacher Certification. The Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) focuses on developing teacher educators and requires a minimum of 72 semester credits beyond the baccalaureate degree. Additional information can be located at the

<http://www.ssu.missouri.edu/aged/grad.html>.

Five students will be receiving their Ph.D. in Agricultural Education at the May-August 2002 commencement ceremonies. **Anna Ball** will be continuing her professional career as Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education at the University of Illinois, **Brad Greiman** will be joining the faculty at Louisiana State University as an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education, **Penny Haase Wittler** has accepted an Assistant Professor position in Vocational Teacher Education at the State University of New York, **Weston Walker** has accepted an agriculture teaching position with one of the top secondary agriculture programs in the state, and **Shannon Washburn** will be joining the faculty at the University of Florida as an Assistant Professor of Agricultural Education.

Montana State University - Bozeman

New Graduate Students

Andi Shockley and Lisa Duffey have begun their graduate work this summer. Andi comes to us from working in industry, with BS in Biotechnology. Lisa Duffey has a Degree in Political Science and is the Project Manager for the Dean of the College of Agriculture.

State Coordinator for the Upper Midwest Aerospace Consortium

Dr. Van Shelhamer is a co-principal investigator on an USDA-IFAFS grant that is multi-state, multi-disciplinary. He will work directly with producers and teachers in the field and the classrooms to explore the use of 3D visualization and terrain modeling in the educational process. Satellite and unmanned aerial vehicle images will be obtained for wheat, corn, sugar beets and cotton in Georgia, Minnesota, South Dakota and Montana. As State Coordinator for the Upper Midwest Aerospace Consortium, Dr. Shelhamer has lead the way in training 150 public school teachers in the use of ArcView, a geographic information software.

Montana Agricultural Education Update Conference

The Annual Montana Agricultural Education Update Conference will be held June 9-15 in Miles City, Montana.

Croatian Project

Dr. Frick and Dr. Doug Bishop are working with the University of Zagreb to establish a formal Cooperative Business curriculum and outreach program. University of Zagreb Agriculture faculty will visit Montana State University – Bozeman on two occasions. Dr. Frick, Dr. Bishop and a Montana High School Agricultural Education Instructor will go to Croatia to help develop the curriculum, conduct seminars and consult with agriculture professionals in Croatia. The project is funded by the Association Liaison Office for University Development.

Electronically – Based Cooperative Business Materials Project

Dr. Marty Frick, Agricultural Education and Will Lanier, Entomology were awarded a USDA -RBS grant to develop electronically-based instructional materials for Cooperative Business Educators. The project involves developing content specific instructional materials as well as professional development materials targeted at members of the Association of Cooperative Educators.

NACTA Honorable Mention

Dr. Marty Frick and Darren Crawford, Montana Extension Agent received notice that the NACTA Journal Editorial Board will be awarded an “Honorable Mention” for their NACTA Journal article titled “Student Perceptions of Academic Work Ethic: A Preliminary Study of College of Agriculture Freshman” published in the June 2001 issue. They will receive a plaque for their accomplishment at the 2002 NACTA Conference on June 22 during the Awards Luncheon.

Frick Teaches Course in Moscow

Dr. Marty Frick taught an intensive Cooperative Business course to US and Russian students at Moscow State Agroengineering University (MSAU) during January, 2002. Dr. Frick delivered his course in English since all MSAU students in the course were fluent in English. US students in the course represented the University of Florida, Penn State University, and University of Nebraska, Texas A&M University, and Montana State University. Support for Dr. Frick’s travel was funded by ACADI/VOCA.

University of Nevada, Reno

Conferences

Dr. Vern Luft attended NAREC, the Association for Career and Technical Education Conference, and the American Association for Agricultural Education Conference in New Orleans in December. He was awarded the Russell Guin Outstanding Agricultural Educator Award by AAAE during the conference.

Luft attended the annual conference of the American Association for Colleges of Teacher Education held in New York City in late February. He will be attending the Western Region Agricultural Education Conference and Research Meeting to be held in Spokane, Washington in April.

Grant Activity

Dr. Vern Luft received a \$12,500 School to Careers Grant from the Nevada Department of Education. The grant is to provide integration of School to Careers by preservice and inservice teachers. This semester, nine preservice teacher education students are participating in business internships and integrating work place skills into their teaching while doing their internship.

Vern Luft also received a \$6,000 grant from the Career and Technical Education Team of the Nevada Department of Education for the purpose of supporting preservice teacher education. Funds are used for travel, development of a new program brochure, and travel for teacher education students to attend state conferences of Career and Technical Student Organizations.

FFA Convention Returns to Campus

For the second consecutive year, the Nevada State FFA Convention will return to the campus of the University of Nevada, Reno in early April. The Colleges of Education and Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources will be hosting the events. The College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources will be sponsoring a barbecue for the FFA members, advisor, and guests. The Office of Prospective Students will conduct "University Experience" seminars and campus tours.

Standards Development

The Career and Technical Education Team of the Nevada Department of Education took the initiative of joining the academic programs in the state in developing content and performance standards. Standards for Grades 9-12 Agriscience were developed and approved by the Nevada State Board of Education this past year. A special feature of the standards is a crosswalk of the Agricultural Education standards with academic standards. Writing teams are now working on Plant Sciences and Agricultural Mechanics Technologies.

New Hampshire

Dave Howell has been enjoying a great sabbatical this semester at The Penn State University. He has been on the road supervising three student teachers and a first year teacher plus heading up the evaluation of the "Ag in the Classroom" summer workshop. This has been a great way to see the changes in Pennsylvania since his last sabbatical 13 years ago also at Penn State. Unfortunately he did have to make several trips back to New Hampshire to help run the career development events at the University and with the Granite State convention but it was an opportunity to work with students trying to complete the program as well.

Dave Howell is working with Dennis Scanlon to put together what may be the last Eastern Region Research Conference scheduled for June 24 in Lake Placid, NY. In the future we will be combining with the Central Region which will be held in Columbus, OH next year.

Here in the Northeast we have the Eastern States Exposition in West Springfield, Ma. which provides our FFA members an opportunity to complete CDE's at the regional level. We need judges for Extemporaneous Public Speaking and Star Agribusiness and Production Agriculture this fall if anyone is interested. Please send Dave an email at dlh@cisunix.unh.edu and he will put you to work.

Though we have lost our undergraduate major in Agricultural Education the courses are still offered at both the undergraduate and graduate level and we are seeing interest by a number of students in wishing to become teachers of agriculture. It now means a one year internship at the graduate level but we hope to still find students willing to invest the time to join our profession. If anyone has ideas on how to make it work please contact Dave.

State University of New York at Oswego

New Faculty

Penny Haase-Wittler will be joining the department of Vocational Teacher Preparation in August 2002. She will teach undergraduate and graduate courses and serve as our recruitment specialist. She has already begun recruiting students from PAS into our teacher education program. Penny currently is completing her doctorate at Missouri and serves on the Board of Directors of The Council. Welcome Penny.

New Courses

Don Peasley is teaching a new graduate course on-line. The course focuses on instructional improvement based on quality assessment and the role standards play in this relationship.

VTP 508 (soon to be 548) *Instructional Improvement through Student Assessment* is offered twice a year as a graduate elective. Any one is welcome to register for this course. Call 315. 312.2480 for registration information.

New Programs

All undergraduate and graduate programs, in the department were revised by the department and reregistered by the NYS Education Department. We currently have registered programs in Agriculture, Business and Marketing, Family and Consumer Sciences, Health Careers, Technical and Trade Education at both the graduate and undergraduate level that lead to initial certification.

Elected offices

Susan Camp is currently serving as the Past-president of AVERA. This year she will be soliciting nominations for association awards and organizing the annual Presidents forum to be held in Las Vegas in December in conjunction with ACTE.

State-wide initiatives

SUNY Oswego is working with Cornell, SUNY Morrisville, SUNY Cobleskill, NYSFFA, NYAAE, state senators and other stakeholders to improve the system of agricultural teacher preparation in NYS. With the impending retirement of many teachers and the fairly stable number of pre-service agriculture teachers, there is a need for recruitment into a system that promises high quality, flexible teacher education.

North Carolina State University

New Initiatives:

The Licensure Education for Agricultural Professionals (LEAP), a distance education program for alternatively licensed teachers, launched by North Carolina State University is in full operation at this time. Four courses in this program are being currently offered on-line and we will have the first candidate to complete the program at the end of this semester. Courses offered in this program were developed in cooperation with a number of universities across the nation. **Dr. Gary Moore** provides leadership for that program.

The faculty at North Carolina State University and North Carolina A&T State University have submitted a proposal to the University Board of Governors to establish a joint master's degree program. Courses in the proposed program will be offered on-line with students selecting a "home" university, but taking courses at both universities.

Distance education has continued to be a major focus in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education at North Carolina State University. Currently, 12 graduate level courses are available on the world wide web, with additional courses being added in 2002. Selected undergraduate courses will also be added to the distance education inventory in 2002. This is all part of the effort of this department to address the agricultural education teacher shortage.

Faculty Awards and Recognition:

The Department wants to congratulate **Dr. Elizabeth Wilson**, who received the Alan Kahler Outstanding Doctoral Dissertation Award at the recent AAAE Awards Reception in New Orleans. Beth completed her dissertation under the direction of **Dr. Barbara Kirby**. We also wish to recognize **Dr. John Richardson**, who will be completing his term as President of the American Association for International Agricultural Education at their annual meeting that will be held this year in Durbin, South Africa. Dr. Richardson and **Dr. David Mustian** will attend that conference. Next year's conference will be held in Raleigh, North Carolina.

Personnel:

Last October, four members of the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education left the department to form a new unit within NC Cooperative Extension. The unit is called Personal and Organizational Development (POD) and is headed by **Dr. Richard Liles**. Other members of POD from the department are **Dr. David Jenkins, Dr. Bernadette Watts, and Dr. Judy Groff**. At the same time, **Dr. Jim Flowers** was named department head of Agricultural and Extension Education at North Carolina State University. Dr. Flowers had served as interim department head for one year.

New Graduate Assistants:

The Department would like to introduce its new graduate assistants to the profession. **Kelvin Edwards** is pursuing a doctoral degree program. Kelvin comes from Halifax County in North Carolina, where he was an agricultural education teacher. He completed his undergraduate and master's degrees at North Carolina A&T State University. Two graduate assistants are completing master's degree programs. **Bridget Robinson** is from Oregon and completed her undergraduate degree at Oregon State University and **Kristy Taylor** is from Tennessee and a graduate of Tennessee Tech University.

Grants and Research Projects:

Dr. Barry Croom has received a grant from the Office of the President of the University of North Carolina to develop undergraduate distance agricultural education courses targeted toward community college students interested in transferring to NC State University in agricultural education. **Dr. Beth Wilson** has received a grant to conduct a needs assessment for an on-line master's degree p

**The Ohio State University
2002**

Personnel: Dr. Bob Birkenholz assumed the role of Chair of the Department of Human and Community Resource Development (HCRD) on January 1, 2002.

Neil Knobloch will receive his doctoral degree from OSU in June and has accepted a position as an Assistant Professor at the University of Illinois this summer.

Susie Whittington received the E. B. Knight Outstanding Journal Article Award for 2001.

Harlan Ridenour, former Director of the OSU Curriculum Materials Service, passed away on October 21, 2001.

Professor Emeritus Richard Wilson passed away on January 3, 2002.

Awards: The HCRD department made a clean sweep of the OSU Gamma Sigma Delta awards this year:

International - Larry Miller
Teaching - Joe Donnermeyer

Research - Linda Lobao
Extension - Richard Moore

Jamie Cano received the HCRD Department Advising Award

Mark Tucker received the HCRD Department Teaching Award

Mac McCaslin was recognized for 30 years of service by OSU President Kirwin in December, 2001. Dr. McCaslin retired from OSU on June 30, 2001.

Central States Research Conference (seven research papers, two poster presentations)

C First Place Research Paper Presentation (Knobloch, Cano, Connors, and Whittington)

C Third Place Research Paper Presentation (Knobloch and Whittington)

C First Place Poster Presentation (Knobloch, Cano, Connors, and Whittington)

C Third Place Poster Presentation (Connors, Knobloch, Cano, Whittington)

Curriculum Materials Service (CMS) moved to an off-campus location at 1114 Chambers Road, Columbus, OH 43212.

Jamie Cano and Jim Connors completed eight days of Praxis III Entry-Year Teacher Assessment Training and two days of the Ohio Department of Education Pathwise Training for mentoring entry-year teachers. Both programs are being integrated into the undergraduate teacher education program. Cooperating teachers will be provided with Pathwise Training in Summer 2002 before receiving Student Teacher placements during the Autumn Quarter 2002.

Oklahoma State University

Dr. Penny Pennington Joins Faculty

Penny Pennington, a recent Ph.D. graduate from Texas A&M University, joined the department in December as Assistant Professor. Dr. Pennington is teaching leadership courses and advising students in the Leadership and Service option in the Agricultural Education major. This summer Dr. Pennington will supervise interns and work with a group of faculty to develop a new minor in leadership.

OSU ACT Chapter Host Regional Conference

The OSU Chapter of Agriculture Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT) hosted a regional conference for six states on the OSU Campus in March. Sixty ACT students from Missouri, Wisconsin – River Falls, Kansas, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Nebraska participated in the two day conference. Professional development sessions were conducted by industry professionals, the group toured the Food Center and Campus, and good food and fun was enjoyed by all.

Oklahoma Wheat Producers Survey

Kathleen Kelsey and Christian Mariger collaborated with faculty members of the Oklahoma Wheat Improvement Team in a project to determine the education needs of Oklahoma wheat producers by looking at best practices used. Results of this study will be used by Extension and others to target education programs.

New Courses

The University Instructional Council has approved four new courses in the department. In Agricultural Communications, new courses in Web design and digital photography were approved. In the Graduate Agricultural Education Program, new courses in advance qualitative research methods and grant seeking have been added. These courses are in response to emerging educational needs of students and feedback from employers and advisory committee input.

James White and Shelly Sitton Leave

James White has been on sick leave in spring semester undergoing treatment for cancer at M.D. Anderson Cancer Research Hospital in Houston, Texas. We are hopeful that Dr. White will be able to return to teaching by fall semester 2002. Shelly Sitton began maternity leave on April 15. She is expecting the birth of her second child and will return to work in early June.

Faculty Positions Available

The department is conducting a search for an open rank tenure-track faculty position in Agricultural Education and a non-tenure track faculty position. Both positions will focus their work in agriculture teacher education. The tenure-track position will provide leadership for student field experiences and enhance the scholarship of the agriculture teacher education program. The non-tenure track position will assist with field placement and supervision of student teachers, residency teachers and enhance the professional development of agriculture teachers in the field. Position announcements are posted on the department Web site <http://agweb.okstate.edu/agedcm4h>.

Graduate Teaching Assistantships Available

The department is searching for one teaching assistant in agricultural communications and two teaching assistants in agricultural education for 2002-2003. Half-time graduate assistants work 20 hours per week teaching laboratory sections, assisting with lectures and preparation of teaching materials, grading assignments and assisting with student organizations. Stipends range from \$800 to \$1500 per month, depending on academic preparation and experience. Health insurance is included and out-of-state tuition is waived. To be considered for an assistantship, admission into the Graduate Agricultural Education Program is required. For more information contact Dr. Bill Weeks or Dr. Jim Leising (405-744-8036).

NCA-24

James Leising was elected Chair of the North Central Administrative Committee Number 24 for research in Agricultural Education at their annual meeting held in March 2002, in Minneapolis, MN. Leising will work with the other officers to plan the agenda for the next meeting scheduled to be held January 22-24 in Washington, D.C.

State News – Pennsylvania

New Executive Manager for Pennsylvania FFA. In June 2001, Mike Brammer assumed the full time executive manager position for the Pennsylvania FFA Association. His office is located in the Department of Agriculture building in Harrisburg. Mike served as the Virginia State FFA Vice-President approximately 26 years ago and his daughter Sherisa currently serves as the 2001-02 South Central State FFA Vice President for Pennsylvania.

National Officer 2001-02 – It has been 28 years since Pennsylvania has had a National FFA Officer. We are proud of Elio Chiarelli, Jr. the 2001-2002 National FFA Eastern Region Vice President. He is a sophomore at the Pennsylvania State University and is majoring in agricultural and environmental education in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education.

Record Intern Class – During spring 2002, twenty-one students completed their student teaching internship in the state of Pennsylvania. Their student teaching experience will cumulate in a week long seminar series, consisting of technical based workshops and tours of exemplary agricultural education programs in the state. Following that week the interns will participate in a 5 state (West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Maryland) student teaching conference in Smyrna, Delaware, which will focus on professional and leadership development and environmental education. This 5 state conference is an outgrowth of the 5 Star Consortium whose goal is to promote agricultural and environmental education in the Mid-Atlantic Region through the professional development of teachers.

Fall Conference for Leadership and Professional Development - On October 11, 2001 fifty-one high school teachers brought more than 600 students to Penn State for the Fall Conference for Leadership and Professional Development. This conference featured multiple workshops for freshmen agricultural education members and special sessions for chapter officers. The preservice students in *AEE 412 – Instructional Methods in Ag and Environmental Education* were responsible for developing and teaching the workshops for the freshmen. The students in *AEE 311- Developing Youth Leadership* were responsible for planning and implementing the conference. The Pennsylvania State FFA officers coordinated the workshops for the chapter officers. Additionally, teachers participated in a professional development workshop that featured the Council's new Turfgrass Curriculum/CD-ROM.

Clemson University Agricultural Education

Effective July 1, 2002, the Agricultural Education program at Clemson University will become a program under the Department of Agricultural and Biological Engineering at Clemson University.

The Agricultural Education program had previously been a portion of the Biology Instruction and Agricultural Education Department created by a merger of the two programs in January of 1999.

Agricultural and Biological Engineering will now be comprised of three different programs, which include: Biological Engineering, Agricultural Mechanization and Business, and Agricultural Education.

Agricultural Education continues to expand at Clemson University and currently has undergraduate numbers totaling 67 and 23 graduate students. Spring semester 2002 produced 20 student teachers and 2 extension interns.

Faculty members in the Clemson Agricultural Education Program are: Tom Dobbins, P. M. Fravel, Donnie King and Curtis White.

Middle and secondary school program support is maintained by State Staff with Tommy Gladden, State Leader, and P. M. Fravel, Billy Keels, and Jim Scott serving as district coordinators throughout South Carolina.

TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY

Awards/Recognition

The two departments of agricultural education at Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University jointly received the 2002 ADEC Honorable Mention in Excellence in Distance Education from ADEC for the innovative degree program of a joint doctorate of education in agricultural education at a distance.

Dr. Kim Dooley received the University's 2002 faculty award for international excellence. She also received the 2002 Outstanding Young Member Award of AAAE (Southern Region).

Dr. Jimmy Lindner was one of four alumni to receive the 2002 Young Professional Achievement Award of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences at The Ohio State University.

Dr. Julie Harlin is the 2002 recipient of the Honor Professor Award in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences. She also received a \$1,000 check for her outstanding teaching, advising, and service.

Dr. Chris Townsend was reappointed for another five years as a holder of a Texas A&M University Professorship in Undergraduate Teaching Excellence. The award includes \$5,000 added to her salary and \$5,000 to be used for instructional purposes.

Elaine Fries (now Dr. Fries) received the 2001 Phi Beta Delta graduate student award for International Achievement in Montreal, Quebec in recognition of her work in Central America.

Dr. Andy Vestal, Associate Professor, is president-elect of the Texas Extension Specialists' Assn.

New Directions

The program in agricultural journalism, with approximately 115 undergraduates, originally in the College of Liberal Arts, is now part of the Department of Agricultural Education.

In conjunction with the joint [Doc@Distance](#) graduate degree program with Texas Tech, Drs. Briers, Boyd, Christiansen, Cummings, Dooley, Elbert, Lindner, Murphy, C. Townsend, Vestal, Wingenbach, and Shinn are full members of the graduate faculty of Texas Tech University and Drs. Akers, Baker, Cepica, Frazee, Lawver, Lockaby, and Smith have been appointed to the graduate faculty of Texas A&M.

Research and Development Projects and Grants

The Instructional Materials Service (IMS) carries 3,070 items in its current catalog. If you bought just one copy of every item stocked by IMS, you would write a check for more than \$50,000.

Personnel

Dr. Gary Wingenbach and Dr. Deb Lunsford have joined the faculty as Assistant Professor and Senior Lecturer respectively in Agricultural Journalism. Dr. Wingenbach also began a three-year term as editor for the Journal of International Agricultural and Extension Education on January 1, 2002.

Mr. Chris Boleman joined the faculty on March 1, 2002 as Extension Program Specialist for Planning and Program Development. He is also completing his doctorate in agricultural education.

Mr. James Hynes, continuing education lecturer, formerly from Illinois, joined IMS on February 1, 2002 as a curriculum specialist in Agribusiness Marketing and Management.

Mrs. Diann Dillingham joined the Department as Program Coordinator. She coordinates the graduate program functions and provides technical editorial assistance for the faculty.

International Activities

Dr. Gary Briers spent November teaching methods of technological change to Master's-level students at the Timiryazev Agricultural Academy in Moscow, Russia.

Dr. Manuel Piña, Dr. James Christiansen, and graduate students Bill Lazenby and Sergio Arispe have collaborative projects with three universities of the Technical Consortium of Northeast Mexico.

Drs. Barry Boyd, Kim Dooley, and Theresa Murphrey organized and conducted a workshop on leadership and entrepreneurship for Indonesian private sector and university personnel in Bali in March.

Dr. Theresa Murphrey is providing training in instructional design that involves distance education techniques to personnel at the International Potato Center (CIP) in Peru.

Texas Tech University

Personnel

Susie Bullock, Todd Brashears, and Chad Davis have recently joined the department. Mrs. Bullock is pursuing her Ed.D. in our joint degree delivered at a distance with Texas A&M. Her experience includes serving as the Executive Director of the Cooperative Communicators Association. She has been employed as an instructor to teach undergraduate courses in our agricultural communications program. Mr. Brashears and Mr. Davis are students in our on-campus doctoral program. Mr. Brashears is a former high school teacher in Nebraska and is teaching undergraduate courses in agricultural leadership. Mr. Davis is a former high school teacher in Texas and is teaching undergraduate courses in agricultural education and agricultural systems management. Mr. Kyle McGregor has advanced to candidacy in our doctoral program and has assumed a position as assistant professor of Agricultural Services and Development at Tarleton State University. Dr. Jon Hogg completed his doctoral degree program and is employed in our unit as a visiting assistant professor, where he is teaching courses in agricultural systems management and agricultural education. Dr. Hogg is also involved in his family's regional banking business. Dr. Lance Kieth, assistant professor, resigned from our faculty in January to accept a position in the Division of Agriculture at West Texas A&M University, where he will begin an agricultural education program.

Awards/Recognitions

Dr. Jacqui Lockaby received the Texas Tech Alumni Association's Outstanding New Faculty Award. She was also named as Texas Tech's Collegiate Student Organization Advisor of the Year for her advisement of our Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow (ACT) student organization. In 2001, she was named as the Southern Region AAAE's Outstanding Young Educator. Ms. Susie Bullock was recognized at the National Agricultural Communicators of Tomorrow Conference in Orlando with their Honored Professional Award. The American Distance Education Consortium recognized our joint doctoral degree program with Texas A&M as a National Finalist and as Honorable Mention in the Excellence in College and University Distance Education Award. At the College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resource's Agricultural Honors Banquet, Dr. Steve Frazee received the Outstanding Teacher of the Award, Mr. Chad Davis received the Outstanding Staff Member Award, and our Collegiate FFA student organization was recognized as Club of the Year. Collegiate FFA's advisors are Drs. Steve Frazee and James Smith. Four of the five members of the 2002-2003 officer team for Tech's Agricultural Council are undergraduates in our program. The National ACT student organization's president is an agricultural communications major at Tech. At the 2001 conference, Tech's ACT received the Social Chapter of the Year Award, the Educational Chapter of the Year Award, and the Best Overall Chapter of the Year Award. Our students also garnered the following first place awards in national competition: Short News Feature Article, Overall Writing Category, Opinion Piece, Public Relations Campaign, and Overall Public Relations Category.

Research Grants/Projects

Dr. Steve Frazee is conducting a study of career success and longevity of extension employees in Texas sponsored by the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo (HLS&R). Dr. Cindy Akers is a co-principal investigator on a USDA food safety grant examining interventions at very small meat processing plants. Dr. James Smith is a co-principal investigator on a USDA-sponsored web-based HACCP and food safety course. Dr. Smith also provides leadership to Texas' beginning agriscience teacher induction program sponsored by the Texas Education Association. Dr. Jacqui Lockaby continues to work on a Texas Department of Agriculture project on fire ant control. Dr. Matt Baker is involved in a USDA project on the establishment of beef forage systems in the Southern Great Plains region. Dr. David Lawver has co-authored a USDA Challenge Grant for the establishment of an Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources Honors Program, and Dr. Jacqui Lockaby is a participant on a Challenge Grant proposal on distance education training for faculty. Both proposals are currently under review.

Endowments

Alumnus Shirely Garrison, established a \$500,000 endowed professorship in rural youth leadership development. Texas Agricultural Workers' Insurance Company has established a \$60,000 scholarship endowment for student teachers in agriculture. The Center for Agricultural Technology Transfer is supported by a \$330,000 endowment from the HLS&R.

**Agricultural Systems Technology and Education
Utah State University
2002**

New ASTE Faculty Member?

We are still wondering. Dr. Jill Webster moved east to Southern Illinois University – Carbondale in July 2001. The ASTE Department initiated a national search process to replace Dr. Webster by January 2002. In the midst of the search and interview process, Dr. Weldon Sleight, a professor tenured in the ASTE Department for more than 20, decided to step down from his administrative position as Associate Vice President for Extension and return to the department. As of this writing, his May 1, 2002 return to the department is still uncertain. With a number of new administrative opportunities at USU, Dr. Sleight's expertise is being called into service in a number of different venues. Stay tuned.

Research and Development Projects

The department continues to achieve success in program development, curriculum projects, and research. Dr. Rhonda Miller continues on with an agricultural safety and health research initiative. She has funding from both USU Cooperative Extension Service and an AgriAbility grant funded by USDA. Dr. Dan Hubert is the principal investigator for a faculty grant designed to integrate technology into the agricultural education classroom. Dr. Gary Straquadine is coordinating the first year teachers / young professionals program with seven first year teachers and provisionally teachers enrolled for 2001-2002.

Distance Education

The department is cooperating with North Carolina State and Texas Tech in the deployment of a graduate-level adult education course via the internet. Seven graduate students from USU are 'in class' with about 30 other students from the other two universities. This has been a continuing adventure for our students and faculty. Similarly, Dr. Straquadine is in his third year of offering a general education course entitled Humanity in the Food Web for undergraduate students via the internet. This is a self contained, asynchronized, time enhanced learning course with a current enrollment of approximately 25 students.

The Utah legislature has provided approximately \$500K for the development of a distance education doctorate program. A design has been put into place that will connect the ASTE Department with other applied technology (vocational education) departments in the implementation of an off-campus, distance education based, inter-disciplinary Ed.D. Initial development has begun with implementation planned for September 2003.

Our Students

We have 10 student teachers teaching this spring throughout Utah, Nevada, and southeastern Idaho. Each student is equipped with a lap top computer, printer, and associated software as part of Dr. Dan Hubert's integrated technology research project. Stay tuned for the exciting results of these efforts.

Washington State University

WSU's undergraduate program is preparing 12 new teachers for this year. Currently the State of Washington has approximately 300 teachers in the classroom and it appears we are starting to see the beginning of the 1970's "Vietnam era" teachers beginning to retire. The State of Washington does not add dollars to individual retirements after the 30th year and the legislature has allowed a "retire, rehire" system which allows a teacher to retire and the district to rehire them while drawing retirement. The difficulty comes in the calculations of the rehire as it has a significant impact on reducing the extended days from a normal 40 to about 18 to 20. The picture is unclear as to how aggressively teachers will participate in the program or the impact on the individual local Agricultural Education programs if this many teachers participate.

The Agricultural Education program has continued to participate in the school reform with the completion of new teacher education guidelines that have been placed into legal code. The guidelines now have the force of law without the legislature having to act. All of vocational education will have similar teacher education guidelines and secondary program guidelines in place by this upcoming fall. The impact of the new guidelines in Agricultural Education are unclear as the extended contract time and exactly what is meant by "standards of the profession" are still not resolved.

The new Masters of Science in Agriculture program continues to grow with 56 currently admitted students. This program was developed to provide distance education opportunities for professional development in agriculture. Approximately 40% of the MS students are Agricultural Education professionals and the other 60% comes from a wide array of agricultural disciplines. The first three graduates were completed this past summer.

The State FFA leadership Convention will again be hosted on the Washington State University Campus this May 16 to 19. Approximately 2500 to 3000 students, teachers and adults will arrive on campus to participate in Career Development events in both the skill and leadership areas. This is an annual event and this year we will host the 75th year of this convention in Washington.

Yelm High School received a USDA Challenge grant in cooperation with Kettle Falls, and Prosser with the support of Washington State University to pilot an emerging technologies program in their schools. The focus on the grant is "GPS and GIS" education and integration of these new technologies into the classroom, student SAE programs and the inclusion of local mentors to support students and teachers in the development and integration of this information. Denny Wallace, Yelm, is the grant leader and the grant total was \$40,000.

Sequim High School, Mr. Derrell Sharp, received our second, this year, USDA Challenge grant in cooperation with WSU to develop a school "Back to the Farm" training facility in agriculture / horticulture. The project will take students to a farm where they will learn and practice agribusiness skills, raising trees and ornamentals, rearing animals, and managing the records as well as research on feeds and efficiencies. Dr. Swan will work with local community college personnel to develop an articulation MOU, using the Tech Prep model, between Sequim High School, Peninsula Community College, and Washington State University. These MOU's may include several different possible career pathways and / or technical career opportunities as well as enhancing the educational opportunities for participating students. Grant was awarded about \$25,000 for the project.

Dr. Swan continues his involvement with South Africa and the use of Distance Delivery technologies. Working as Distance Delivery project consultant through KELP and EDDI Dr. Swan spent time last summer on the campus of the University of Fort Hare and University of Pretoria. This summer he will travel to University of Botswana this to assist in designing and faculty training using video conferencing techniques. Both of these projects have resulted in collaborative classes that are being exchanged between the South African campuses and with Washington State University.