



BRIEFS TO AG EDUCATORS

September 2002, Volume XI, Issue I

NEW/BEGINNING TEACHER COLUMN

by: Tracy Hoover, PSU Associate Prof.



On behalf of the Center for Professional Personnel Development (CPPD) and the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education at

The Pennsylvania State University I would like to extend greetings and well wishes for a successful year of teaching. All 2002-03 new and beginning agricultural science teachers will receive a letter inviting them to be a participant in a new and beginning teacher program sponsored by the CPPD. Our department receives funds from the state department of education to provide professional development activities, programs and events for teachers of agricultural education, one of which is a program for new and beginning teachers. We have defined new and beginning teachers as individuals who are in their first to third year of teaching.

Beyond the professional development opportunities mentioned above, we are willing to come out to visit you and your program. In addition to our faculty we have several veteran agricultural education teachers working with the

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"No Child Left Behind in the Vocational Education Classroom"

by: Tamara Standford, PSU Graduate Student

On January 3rd, 2001, President George W. Bush signed an education act known as the "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001." In this law there were many changes put in place to reform previous education laws and make revisions in developing new ones. This important first step of President Bush's goal for the federal role in public education was achieved with the creation of this act and continues to be a guiding force in helping to strengthen the countries' education.

The law had the potential to damage the already dwindling vocational education programs in the United States by sighting that all teachers who teach classes in core areas must have a bachelor's degree

by the 2005 school year (The Education Report, 2002). This law would have been a great disaster to the workforce education classroom because a large portion of these teachers within the public school system do not have a bachelor's degree. Many teachers are hired to teach workforce education classes because of their strong experiences, background and training within their field of expertise. If this law would indeed be implemented, the effects may be disastrous, forcing many schools to drop workforce education classes and by the dismissal of entire workforce education curricula's.

The "No Child Left Behind Act of 2001" includes four key principles: a focus on achievement, particularly assisting in the area of achievement gaps that are

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Sites of Interest

Stewardship

Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship - The environmental stewardship practices of farmers and ranchers are coming under greater scrutiny. With an increase in local, state, and federal regulations, the ag educator's need for access to the latest science-based information on the environmental implications of manure management has also increased. To meet this need, a national team of 30 experts in manure management from land-grant universities, EPA, and USDA developed, peer reviewed, and pilot tested a new curriculum designed for livestock and poultry producers and their advisors. Called the Livestock and Poultry Environmental Stewardship, or LPES, curriculum, it consists of six modules containing 26 lessons that introduce the principles of good stewardship as they relate to managing manure, nutrients, odors, and other livestock issues. Each lesson forms the basis for a one- to two-hour educational program that can be tailored to local and state needs!

The materials are available in electronic format with Microsoft Power Point Presentations as well as printed versions www.lpes.org or can be ordered by calling Midwest Plan Service (800) 562-3618.

Soil Publication

Soil Biology Primer is a recent publication published by the Soil and Water Conservation Society. The Primer serves as an introduction to the living component of soil and how that component contributes to agricultural productivity and



to air and water quality. It includes information on the soil food web and how the web relates to soil health. Chapter topics include: bacteria, fungi, protozoa, nematodes, arthropods, and earthworms. For more information, call 1-800-THE-SOIL or e-mail <mailto:pubs@swcs.org>

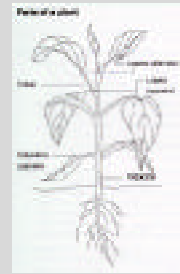
Practitioner's Circle

New Updates to NCES' K-12 Practitioners' Circle - NCES has developed this website to provide education practitioners with links and information tailored to their particular areas of interest. It is organized specifically for local education practitioners, including K-12 teachers and support staff, administrators, policymakers, librarians, community members and parents. To use this site please visit: <http://nces.ed.gov/practitioners>

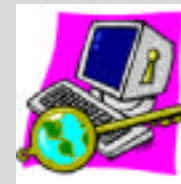
Agronomy Guide

The PSU Agronomy Guide is online and can be found at:

<http://agguide.agronomy.psu.edu>. You may also want to pass this along to your young farmers.



PSU Electronic Newsletter



The Department of Food Science is pleased to offer a new edition of the electronic newsletter, The Food Science Digest. Please find the July 2002 issue at: <http://www.cas.psu.edu/docs/CASDEPT/FOOD/July2002.pdf>

In this issue:

- * [Penn State Creamery: Part II](#)
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If you know of any interesting websites and would like to share them with other educators, please email the website to Tiffany Hoy at tmr175@psu.edu.

Introducing... Raylene Russell

Raylene Russell grew up on a dairy farm in Sullivan County, PA. There she was very active in the 4-H and also worked at Penn State as a summer assistant. After graduating from high school, Raylene pursued a degree in secondary education at Bloomsburg University to become a general science teacher. In December of 1998, she gained employment at Wrightco Technologies in Ebensburg, PA. Raylene spent two years-teaching fiber optics and phone and security systems. But there was some-

thing missing, Raylene wanted to reconnect with her grassroots and teach agricultural education.

Currently Raylene is pursuing her agricultural education certification while being gainfully employed by Southern Huntingdon County High School. "The curriculum is varied, I teach ag mechanics, animal science, natural resources and horticulture. I also offer introductory courses for all 8th grade students in the school district." Through her lessons, Raylene encourages her students to realize their full

potential; however, she finds it frustrating when students refuse to try new things for fear of failure. "One never know what they can accomplish until they try it," commented Raylene.

In her spare time, Raylene and her husband share in the responsibility of running a family farm in Alexandria, PA. Please help the Center in welcoming Raylene Russell to the Agricultural Education family.

Center for Professional Personnel Development 2002-2003 Workshops and Seminars

During the summer of 2001 the Center for Professional Personnel Development in the Department of Agricultural and Extension Education distributed a survey to Pennsylvania's Agricultural Education community to determine the professional development needs of it's teachers. The results of this survey will guide the professional development offering for teachers in the state for the next few years. Approximately two-thirds (60%) of the teachers returned the survey and the following seminar/workshop topics were selected as top choices. The percentages indicate the percentage of workshop requests.

Landscape Design – 36.2%
Practical Vet. Skills – 32.5%

Greenhouse Manag. – 30.9%
Fish and Wildlife- 22.1%
Creative SAE - 21.5%
Biotechnology in Plants and Basic Biotechnology – 21.5%
PA Record book – 20.8%
Pesticide Education – 20%
Food Science and Processing – 18.8%

The CPPD will host or assist with the planning, support and/or delivery of the following professional development seminars in 2002-03.

GLOBE- is a hands-on, school based science and education program - October 11, 2002.

Biotechnology for Plants, Animals & the Environment will feature the curriculum and program developed by the National Council for Agricultural

Education - Dates to be determined.

PA Record Book seminar will be February 6, 2003 prior to the state FFA Record Book Judging Event.

Dairy & Animal Science GET UP is a series of three animal science related workshops delivered at multiple locations in the state.

Food Science & Technology – Three regional workshops will be held in late winter across the state. At this point one is scheduled January 24th & 25th at Conrad Weiser HS with the University Park and Derry Area HS seminars to be scheduled.

For more information see flyer enclosed.

Teacher's Gathered for 4 - Days

2002 Governor's Institute of Agricultural Sciences and Advanced Manufacturing Careers was held in Altoona, PA from July 22 – 25. During the 4-day event participants traveled to Veeder Root, Hoss's Fresh Xpress, Appleton Papers, New Enterprise Stone Lime Pre-Stress Plant and DelGrosso's Food, Inc. to gain a better understanding of employers needs and the technology in which students may be exposed to in the processing industry.

Ester Bush, President and CEO of the Urban League of Pittsburgh kicked off the opening dinner by thanking the teachers for choosing to work within the educational system and also reminded them that they are the backbone to the success of our children in the employment world. The participants also enjoyed sessions on PA Academic Standards, Chapter 339, teaching math and reading effectively, and future initiatives. Bill Tindall of Gettysburg HS conducted an interactive session on the applications of Bio-Technology with plants, animals, and the environment. Teachers worked with tissue cultures and learned how with a cardboard box, clear plastic and aluminum foil, they could create a tissue culture lab.

Upon the completion of the

(Continued on Page 6)

Northern Tier Experience

On July 8 – 11, 2002 at Coudersport HS more than 80 PAAE members joined for the annual PAAE Summer Institute of Excellence. Attendees were exposed to a variety of events:

ing Postsecondary Adult Ag Ed Program – Ceder Crest SD; Teacher Mentor Award – Stephen Kline, West Snyder HS; Ideas Unlimited Award – Doug Brown & Curt Turner, Central



PAAE & PYFA listen to speaker as he tells the story of the lumber museum and surrounding area.

educational tours, hospitality social at the lumber museum, land survey and GPS workshop, educational sessions and business meetings. One of the evening activities was a train ride through the Crooked Creek Environmental Center in Tioga County where participants were served delicious desserts while viewing nature at its best.

Members were recognized during the PAAE Award Banquet held at the Potato City Country Inn. The following teachers/programs received awards and will have the opportunity to compete for the 2002 NAAE Region VI Awards to be presented in December in Las Vegas, NV: Outstanding Young Member Award – Krista Pontius, Greenwood HS; Outstanding AG Ed Teacher – Martin Heyler, Cowanesque Valley HS; Outstanding Ag Ed Program – Robert Leib, Cumberland Valley HS; Outstand-

Columbia; Outstanding Cooperation Award – Dorothy Thomas, Penn State; Outstanding Service Citation – Earl Brown, Coudersport Area HS; and Lifetime Achievement Award – Roland Duperron, Ulysses.

During the final business session, Wayne Irish passed the gavel to the newly elected PAAE President, Gerald J. Reichard. Gerald who introduced the 2002-2003 PAAE Executive Board: Past President - Wayne Irish; President Elect – Krista Pontius; Eastern Region VP – Dominic Centonze & John Ewing; North Central Region VP – Larry Way & Curt Turner; South Central Region VP – Dianna Dellinger & Brent Dahlhaus; Western Region VP – Brad Bittner & Tom Willey; Executive Sec. – Gerald W. Reichard; Treasurer – Stephen Kline; and Assist. Treasurer – Jason Reifsnnyder.

Congratulations!

(No Child Left Behind...cont'd from p. 1)

due to ethnicity and socio-economic status; second, a focus on the success of practices that work; third, providing more flexibility and less parameters in the delivery of education, and; fourth, providing more options for parents and students. Through implementation of these key principles, "No Child Left Behind" will stimulate change and improvement in our elementary and middle schools, and lay the foundation for transforming our high schools and improving transitions to the workplace (Department of Education, 2001).

In this year's request for financial support, the education department is asking for \$1.3 billion dollars towards assisting existing career and technical education programs, the vast majority of it that will be focused on state grants. The funds would be put toward curriculum development in career and technical education, which will help guide high school students in the direction of a chosen career goal. Many students who enter workforce education programs are not necessarily entering these education areas to receive guidance in a particular career area but more so to explore as many career options as possible. Evidence has shown that involvement in career oriented education programs at the high school level can give students the experience needed to help with career placement once

leaving the school setting. (Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation, 1999.) The national programs funds will help support research on how career and technical education contributes to helping improve high school academic achievement and will lead to a focus on the success of practices that work.

Incorporating a career component into any workforce education program can help the teacher evaluate students' interests and help them to pursue a career of their choosing. This component will also empower students in making decisions about a career path based on their future aspirations. Schools can aid in helping students make career choices by offering decision making structures as part of their guidance and mentoring practices. This will help students to make decisions related to evaluating risks, identifying problems, alternatives identified, and understand dilemmas that may be possible (Career Education Survival Manual, 1975).

On June 10th, 2002, the ACTE (Association for Career and Technical Education) sent out a news alert that the U.S. Department of Education to make a revision to the No Child Left Behind Act of 2001. This change stated that only career and technical education teachers who taught core requirements need to hold a bachelor's

degree. By making this amendment to the Act of 2001, students in our high schools would now have the opportunity to gain the knowledge base necessary for them to successfully enter the workforce.

References

The Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation (1999). Career Academies Evaluation Retrieved on March 12, 2002 from <http://www.mdrc.org/Education/CareerAcademiesPD.htm>

McClure, Larry (1975). Career Education Survival Manual: A Guidebook for Career Educators and Their Friends. Salt Lake City, Utah: Olympus Publishing Co.

The Education Report (2002). Issues in Education Retrieved on July 2, 2002 from <http://www.nyssba.org/adnews/issues/issues031102.htm>

New York State Department of Education (2002). Career and Technical Education Retrieved on July 2, 2002 from <http://www.emsc.nysed.gov/workforce/home.html>

The Department of Education (2001). Testimony and Remarks Retrieved on July 4, 2002 from <http://www.acteonline.org/govrel/testmony1.html>

Announcements:

Tabitha Jacobs (Conrad Weiser Middle School) married Josh Meredith on Nov. 17, 2001.

Michael Clark (Berlin Broth.) married Elisabeth June 15, 2002.

Carol (Gettysburg HS) & David Richwine welcomed their new son, Joseph Peter on Feb. 5, 2002.

Melissa (Wellsboro HS) & Andy Boyer (Cowanessque HS) welcomed their daughter, Sarah Catherine on Apr. 13, 2002.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS.....

- September 6 FFA Association Board Mtg., Bedford, 6:30 PM
- September 12-15. Eastern States Exposition, Springfield, MA
- September 26 Adams-Franklin-York Counties Leadership Conference, Gettysburg, 3:30 PM
- September 27 PAAE Board Meeting, PDA, Harrisburg, 6:00 PM
- September 22-26. All-American Dairy Show, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg
- October 1-7 K.I.L.E. Invitational Livestock Judging, Farm Show Complex, Harrisburg
- October 3 PAAE North Central Region Mtg., Williamsport Hoss's, 7:00 PM
- October 9 PAAE South Central Region Mtg., Northern HS, Dillsburg, 6:30 PM
- October 11 FCLPD, Blair County Convention Center, Altoona, 9:30 AM - 2:00 PM
- October 11 FFA Foundation Mtg., Blair County Convention Center, Altoona, 10:15 AM
- October 17 PAAE Western Region Mtg., Allison Park Hoss's, 7:00 PM
- Oct. 30 - Nov. 2 .. 75th National FFA Convention, Louisville, KY
- November 12 PAAE Eastern Region Mtg., Twin Valley HS, Elverson, 7:00 PM

TEACHER DEADLINES.....

- September 25 FCLPD Registration due (T. Hoy)
- September 30 National FFA CDE Student Waiver, Release of Liability and Consent to Medical Treatment form due to the National FFA CDE coordinator.

(New & Beginning...cont'd from p. 1)

CPPD to provide assistance and guidance to new and beginning teachers. These individuals are willing to visit your program, discuss ideas and/or provide assistance to help enhance your agricultural education program and FFA chapter. Additionally as a participant you will receive periodic information from me relative to teaching and learning, new and interesting curricula and instructional materials, workshop/seminar information and any other information that can help you with your program. The CPPD is also

working closely with PAAE to collaborate on activities and programs that support new and beginning teachers.

We look forward to working with you and hope you will consider being a participant in the program. Please contact me if you have any questions.

*Tracy S. Hoover
Coordinator CPPD
New & Beginning Teacher Program
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(Teachers Gathered...cont'd from p. 4)

conference, participants submitted unit plans, which incorporate PA Academic Standards and rubrics for scoring specific projects. To see the completed projects and pictures of the Institute, log onto <http://voc.ed.psu.edu/projects/Institute/institute.html>.

The Institute was sponsored by the PA Department of Education and the Center for Professional Personnel Development at Penn State.

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