

**Agricultural Education Leadership Council Meeting
April 10, 2006
Morrisville State University**

Attending

<p><u>Cornell University</u> Bill Camp, Agricultural Education Travis Park, Agricultural Education Perry Dewey, Ag Outreach & Education Donna Moore, Ag Outreach & Education <u>Oswego State University</u> Susan Camp, Vocational Teacher Preparation <u>Alfred State College</u> Melvin Chambliss, Dept. of Agriculture & Horticulture Dorothea Fitzsimmons, Animal Science Vicky Bolton, Chairperson <u>SUNY Cobleskill</u> Mike McCaskey, Interim Dean of Agriculture Terry Hughes, NY Ag Tech Prep <u>Morrisville State Collge</u> Jim VanRiper, Vice Pres. of Academic Affairs</p>	<p><u>NY Department of Agriculture & Market</u> Ray Christensen, Special Assistant <u>NY Department of Education</u> Chike Nnabugwu, Agricultural Education Representative <u>NY Farm Bureau</u> Sandi Prokop, NY Farm Bureau Foundation, Inc. <u>NY Association of Agriculture Educators</u> John Busikist, President Elect <u>NY Association of FFA Board of Trustees</u> Pat Ploetz, Chairperson <u>NY FFA Leadership Training Foundation</u> Todd Lighthall, Director <u>New York AgriDevelopment Corporation</u> Anna Jensen, Executive Director</p>
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Minutes

Dr. Bill Camp opened the meeting with brief remarks and introductions.

Considerations to the agenda

Report of the Executive Committee

Bill Camp introduced Perry Dewey, the new Director of the reorganized Agricultural Outreach and Education program at Cornell University. This new program encompasses both the Agriculture In the Classroom & Agricultural Education Outreach projects.

Bill Camp provided brief comments regarding the letters of support drafted by the Executive Committee for support of the Smart Farm at Alfred State University and reviewed the activities planned for the meeting.

2006-08 Council Strategic Plan: The Executive Committee proposed that the group engage in the development of draft components for the strategic plan at the conclusion of the meeting. The group agreed that such an activity would be helpful and all agreed to participate.

Task Force Reports

State Fair Agricultural Education Building

The task force report is Appendix A of the minutes.

Annual Report Document

The Council reviewed progress on the draft document and recommended changes to the format. Council members agreed to assist in providing data and photographs.

- Front – pathways to careers in agriculture (perhaps we will keep the Council info on the front for this edition and move to the back next year)
- Middle – work to reorganize middle section to include space for 4H, Ag Tech Prep, Coop. Ext. adult agriculture programs
- Back – Council info

Postsecondary Professional Development

The informal group that has been meeting/talking with the Agricultural Outreach & Education staff has suggested that the NY Ag Ed Leadership Council consider providing leadership in the development of a cohesive institution-wide plan to support and encourage faculty to pursue terminal degrees. We might also consider writing a USDA Challenge grant to support a terminal degree program. If it is a priority it is requested that it be included in the strategic plan.

Updates from Partner Programs & Institutions

Alfred State College – The Smart Farm project,
www.alfredstate.edu/centennial_farm.asp

Morrisville – The Dean position is open and interviews are being conducted this week. The Agriculture Division is finalizing several baccalaureate degrees, one in Ag Business Development (marketing and agritourism) and the other in Horticulture.

Cobleskill – The College has a new baccalaureate degree in Agribusiness and are working on another in Agriculture Bioscience. The faculty and administration is in the process of revising their BT programs. A search for the new Dean will begin in the fall.

Cornell - Faculty numbers are increasing in the Department of Education, there are currently 12 and another will be added in the fall. The Department Chairperson is pleased with the reorganization and collaboration within the agricultural outreach and education programs. There is also a new minor in education that is available university wide.

NY FFA Leadership Foundation – 2005 sponsorships exceeded \$22,000 for FFA Career Development Events and student award recognition.

NYAAE – The 2006 conference is scheduled at Oswegatchie Education Center.

NY FFA – There are four newly chartered FFA chapters this year and two additional schools are planning to request charters in the fall.

Ag Outreach & Education – Two recent activities were the Ag Literacy Day book reading project and the co-hosting of a state agricultural education meeting with SED.

State Education Department – SED hosted secondary agricultural education meeting on March 31st.

NY Farm Bureau – Reported on the very successful partnership effort to carry out the Ag Literacy day with Ag in the Classroom and other partners. Over 125 people participated in the Farm Bureau Spring Agricultural Literacy conference.

Next meeting will be located at NY Farm Bureau on Wolf Road in Albany Tuesday, November 7, 2006.

***The new Council Chairperson is Dr. Mel Chambliss, Alfred State University.
The new Vice Chairperson is Dr. Susan Camp, Oswego State University.***

The Council members divided into small groups to brainstorm suggested goals within each of the four areas of the Council mission. The brainstorming session results were collected and distributed to Council members after the meeting.

Since the April 10th meeting a request for input on the Council Strategic Plan was sent out to the Aged-I list serve and the Ag in the Classroom list serve. All feedback will be shared with Council members.

Appendix A

To: Agricultural Education Leadership Council
From: Susan Camp, Convener, Agricultural Education Building Committee
Date: April 10, 2006
Re: Status of work

Members of the Committee have met with State Fair staff on several occasions. On December 20, 2005 8 members (Pat Ploetz, Tara Berescik, Tom Dumas, Barbara Schirmer, Bill Ransom, Don Farrand, Perry Dewey and Susan Camp) of the committee met with Mel Chesbro, Bill Fredericks, Mike Ryan and Architect Gary Bell to begin discussions. Cursory drawings were shared at that meeting.

On January 11, 2006 Bill Ransom, Bill Camp, Travis Park and Perry Dewey met with Bebette Yunis, State Fair Director, and two staff to discuss sources of money for renovations to the building. It was agreed at that meeting that "...nobody is to contact legislators or the Governor's office regarding this project without involving Ms. Yunis directly in the discussions."

A third meeting was scheduled when more detailed plans and Ms. Yunis would be available. On March 3rd Susan Camp, Perry Dewey, Bill Ransom, Gary Bell, Mike Ryan, Bill Frederick and Mel Chesbro, Agricultural Superintendent met to decide on the request for money for the plans. (Ms. Yunis was called away and could not attend.)

Shortly after that meeting Ms. Yunis asked Bill Ransom (through Mel Chesbro) to draft a proposal for her to use during her quest for funding in Albany. Ms. Chesbro then e-mailed me to ask for my and Perry Dewey's addresses so that Ms. Yunis could copy us on her request.

Generally, we have requested \$118,000.00 to enclose and renovate the entire building. Plans include an open area for CDE and other events, space for displays, a meeting room, office toilet facilities, new wiring and lighting and new roofing.

According to Mel Chesbro the request has been submitted and we are waiting for any news from Albany.