

Draft Minutes

**Agricultural Education Leadership Council Meeting
November 2, 2004
State Education Department, Albany, NY**

Attending

Cornell University

Bill Camp, Professor, Agricultural Education
Perry Dewey, Lecturer, Agricultural Education
Donna Moore, Director, Agricultural Education Outreach

SUNY Oswego

Susan Camp, Chair Vocational Teacher Education

SUNY Alfred

Melvin Chambliss, Chairperson, Department of Agriculture and Horticulture
Dorothea Fitzsimmons, Coordinator, Animal Science

SUNY Cobleskill

Anne Myers, Vice President of Academic Affairs
Douglas Goodale, Dean of Agriculture
Terry Hughes, Agriculture Tech Prep Director

SUNY Morrisville

Jim VanRiper, Interim Vice President of Academic Affairs

NY State Senate Agriculture Committee

NY State Assembly Agriculture Committee

NY Department of Agriculture & Markets

Nathan Rudgers, Commissioner
Ray Christensen, Special Assistant

NY Department of Education

Richard Mills, Commissioner
James Kadamus, Deputy Commissioner
Pat Hodgins, Supervisor, Career & Technical Education
Konrad Raup, Team Leader, Career & Technical Education
Chike Nnabugwu, Agricultural Education Representative

NY Farm Bureau

NY Association of Agriculture Educators

Jeff Perry, President

NY Association of FFA Board of Trustees

Melvin Phelps, Vice-Chairperson

NY FFA Leadership Training Foundation

William Stowell, Chairperson

Minutes

Chike Nnabugwu welcomed the group to the council meeting. Chike was pleased to introduce to the group Richard Mills, Commissioner of the State Education Department.

Commissioner Mills emphasized the importance of the integration of citizenship and work ethic within public education, two areas well established in the agricultural education curriculum. A challenge posed by the Commissioner to the agricultural education community was to seek out exceptional agricultural education models that may be replicated in school systems that are seeking ways of incorporating citizenship and work ethic into their student experiences. Another challenge posed to the group was the need to develop strategies for the agricultural education community to engage with the public as well as education leaders to build the case for agricultural education in local schools. Finally, agricultural education leaders need to be a part of the discussion to address the gap in student achievement from pre-K through postsecondary education. The Commissioner of Agriculture, Nathan Rudgers supplemented these comments as very important and referred to his recent trip to China.

In his remarks to the Council, SED Deputy Commissioner James Kadamus focused on the Department's recent emphasis on middle level education and again the Council was challenged to recommend models of outstanding rigorous and educationally relevant middle level agricultural education programs to the Department. Mr. Kadamus also shared with the Council that they should put forth models of agricultural education programs that work in high schools. These models need to include programs that have been approved under the Board of Regents Career and Technical Education Policy.

Donna Moore provided an update on the funding status of the Agricultural Education Outreach project. With the Governor's vetoes the project only has \$95,000 for operation this year. The Council began discussion of the development of an effort to create legislation to ground the Agricultural Education Outreach project in the funding necessary to carry out the program goals and objectives as they relate to secondary and postsecondary agricultural education programs state wide.

It was moved by Doug Goodale and seconded that the Council members support the development of legislation to fund the Agricultural Education Outreach Project. The motion passed.

A committee of Bill Camp, Doug Goodale, Susan Camp, and Donna Moore will develop a plan of action.

Bill Camp provided his report on the efforts to create an agricultural science education assessment that will meet the criteria of the Board of Regents Career and Technical Education Program Approval Policy. The assessment model has three components that reflect the three components of an agricultural science education program as well as the requirements for technical assessments within approved career and technical education programs.

Susan Camp moved to adopt the Council vision statement:

The New York State Agricultural Education Leadership Council is the premier organization for shaping and strengthening agricultural education in New York State.

And tag line:

Leadership for excellence in agricultural education.

The motion was seconded by Jeff Perry and passed.

Anne Myers offered to work on the Council Logo design and report at the April meeting.

Terry Hughes provided a brief status report on NY Ag Tech Prep. The Council members request that Terry provide a report on existing articulation agreements at the April meeting.

The next meeting of the NY Ag Ed Leadership Council will be in April at SUNY Cobleskill.

It was moved by Melvin Phelps and seconded to adjourn the meeting. Passed.