

Facilitating Coordination in Agricultural Education
Luke Allen, District II Program Advisor
March 2010 Report

On-Site Assistance – (4) High Schools	(0) Community College	(0) AITC Coalition
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LaMoille HS
Prairie Central Jr. High

Ridgeview HS
Tri-Point HS

Workshops/In-services/Presentations – 5 Participants – 671

- JJC Ag Advisory Committee, WAEC-JJC, Joliet – 14
- IL Valley Hort Advisory Committee – IL Valley CC, Oglesby – 12
- Kishwaukee College 8th Grade Career Conference, Kishwaukee College, Malta – 180
- Dirksen Jr. High Ag Careers Presentation, Dirksen Jr. High, Joliet – 220
- Kane Co. Ag Expo, Mooseheart Gymnasium, Mooseheart – 245

Meetings/Conferences/Conventions – 4

- Harper College Program Restart, Harper College, Palatine
- TREES P&CC Meeting, Golden Corral Restaurant, Joliet
- FCAE Staff Meeting - Illinois FFA Center, Springfield
- District 2 Proficiency Judging, WAEC JJC, Joliet

Other Activities

- Summarized and analyzed Post-Secondary Data to report at Articulation Conference
- Maintained communication with new program startups & schools that will close.
- Updated the teacher candidate/vacancy pages on the agriculturaleducation.org website.
- Reviewed and made entries in the teacher and program database website.
- Developed and posted listserv messages.
- Email correspondence with various individuals in agricultural education.
- Completed monthly reports and weekly activity log sheets.

Miles Traveled - 1009

Commentary

Overall I am happy with the data collection for the Post Secondary report. It looks like the reliability of data is increasing each year and more colleges are submitting data. As of Articulation Conference three colleges have verbally committed to sending in data which will be included in the final report to the IACCAI at IAVAT Conference. I have been busy with presentations as well; In these tough economic times I think it's important to maintain visibility. Press releases of students in local schools learning about agriculture is a great way to keep Agriculture Education in the news, as well as helping to create career awareness for elementary students. Many districts are unsure as to how their budgets will look next year, but things are definitely getting tight in many districts. Most teachers are worried about FY12, and I hear that FY11 cuts to agriculture programs do not seem to be very drastic at this point. On a positive note, the four Agricultural Education Section Proficiency winners were all very impressive this year. As I visit with GAST interns I am reminded how a small effort can produce great results, and I am confident GAST is helping to increase the number of agriculture teachers.