




National Council for Agricultural Education

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To: Agricultural Educators
From: Nancy J. Trivette, President 
Re: National Council for Agricultural Education Update
Date: August 17, 2009

In a continuing effort to provide communications and clarity around National Council for Agricultural Education (The Council) projects, I am providing the 5th in a series of communications to the profession. You can access the complete series of communications on The Council website under *Current Initiatives* tab.

The Council Website

Check out the **newly revised** council website with front page links to several initiatives of The Council, such as National AFNR Content Standards, National Program Standards, Team Ag Ed Learning Center, National Teach Ag Day Campaign, MMM and the CASE Initiative. The *Current Initiatives* tab reflects the recent Board meeting summary, previous updates for CASE and other ongoing projects.

<http://www.teamaged.org/council/>

2011 Agricultural Education Summit

Ed Osborne, Professor and Chair of the Department of Agricultural Education and Communications at the University of Florida, is the chair of the *2011 Agricultural Education Summit*. A proposal has been presented to The Council Board for consideration regarding dates and location for the next Summit in 2011. The Council will take action on the proposal later this month. The 2011 date was targeted for the next Summit to provide time to select and focus on one topic. The Council will not conduct a Summit in 2010.

National Teach Agriculture Campaign

The Council's Teacher Recruitment Task Force, with NAAE as the lead organization, has initiated the National Teach Ag (NTA) Campaign. Watch for details on the NAAE and council websites. The first annual National Teach Ag Day is February 25, 2010.

2010 Agricultural Education Information sessions

As we prepare to transform agricultural education for a changing world, The Council is planning informational sessions in 2010 via web based media that will encourage information delivery, sharing, and discussion. More information to follow.

Global Engagement for Agricultural Education

The Council is working with NFFA Foundation staff to develop and integrate strategies for global engagement in agricultural education. Discussions and dialogue will occur over the next several months with representatives from key stakeholder groups.



Curriculum for Agricultural Science Education (CASE)

A project of the National Council for Agricultural Education

"CASE is the most powerful tool available for the advancement of agricultural education and enhancement of student learning of agricultural science subject matter."

Progress to date....

CASE continues to gain attention and traction. What was several contacts per month, to my office, has become several contacts per week and sometimes per day from teachers, state staff, potential partners and interested parties. CASE has all the components necessary to prepare future agriculture scientists. It will meet the needs of the global industry of agriculture; increase the numbers of students enrolled in ag education; increase the diversity in our student base; provide a complete program of instruction to schools previously and not previously offering ag education; provide professional development to teachers, administrators, and guidance counselors; provide lesson, unit course and program assessments; provide certifications for students, teachers and schools and much more.

CASE does this with pedagogy focused on the student centered inquiry based learning; it does this using activity, project and problem based instructional strategies; it does this with a prescribed sequence of courses leading to a program of study that will articulate students into post secondary institutions; and it does this through a rigorous curriculum connected to national agriculture and academic standards.

CASE Oversight.....

CASE is a project of The Council and managed by the CASE Governance Committee, chaired by Jan-Marie Traynor. The CASE Governance Committee is made up of representatives, serving two year terms, from pilot states and schools, state staff, teacher educators, staff representing affiliate institutions, members of The Council Board and The Council President. The committee meets and reports to The Council monthly.

CASE Staffing....

The Council employs two full time staff including Project Director Dan Jansen and Curriculum Director Marlene Mensch. Both are trained in writing and developing CASE lessons, courses, and programming, all based on the Project Lead the Way model. They are responsible for all aspects including professional development, field testing and support, affiliate institution connections and future course development. Lead teachers and curriculum writers are also employed as needed throughout lesson and course development.

CASE Funding....

The original model for funding continues with requests to states. The model will be expanded to include business and industry requests, as well as grant applications as the result of recent approval by the National FFA Foundation Board of Trustees to seek funding for CASE.

Teacher Professional Development....

Thirty six teachers from 10 states completed a Summer Training Institute (STI) consisting of 80 hours of professional development over 10 days. Evaluations from teachers reflected high energy and enthusiasm for the foundational courses in Plant and Animal Science. Some comments from state staff and teachers include: 'my teacher is on fire about CASE'; 'best curriculum I have seen in years'; 'I can't wait to get this model into the classroom...'; and 'this is where Agricultural Education needs to be headed'.

Field Testing....

The 'Principles in Agricultural Science – Animal' and 'Principles in Agricultural Science – Plant' courses will be field tested by 36 teachers in 34 schools this year.

Future Course Development....

Proposed Course Development Timeline

Course Title	Curriculum Development Phase	Field Test School Year	First Availability to All Programs
Introduction to AFNR	2009-2010	2010-2011	2011-2012
Animal and Plant Biotechnology	2010-2011	2011-2012	2012-2013
Food Science and Safety	2011-2012	2012-2013	2013-2014
Agricultural Business, Research, and Development	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015
Phase II Courses			
Agricultural Technology and Systems	2013-2014	2014-2015	2015-2016
Natural Resources and Environmental Science	2014-2015	2015-2016	2016-2017

*Timeline subject to change based on funding and staffing levels

CASE Costs....

Although earlier indications reflected an annual price per course, the CASE Governance Committee and The Council are committed to providing a pricing structure that will make the curriculum affordable and available to schools, thus helping to supply the industry with well prepared graduates. It is anticipated that local costs will include professional development (approximately \$2500) and equipment and supply costs (both of which contribute to students, teachers and schools being certified).

New CASE Website....

Visit the **newly revised** CASE website for more information. www.case4learning.com