

Ideas for Providing Vitality, Viability, Vibrancy in Local SAF Units

2007 Oregon/Washington Leadership Conference

Hood River, Oregon

January 19-20, 2007

Group 1

1. Having tours
2. Interesting/relevant programs
3. Membership bulk discount offered
4. Host programs by non-members & sites
5. Pay first year dues for students & 50% dues for new members (1 year commitment)
6. Petition rate change for dues structure
7. Stress the networking opportunities
8. Make the meeting fun!!
9. Make spouses welcome at every meeting
10. Sponsor workshops/tours (make them relevant)
11. Education outreach (make them relevant)
12. Have a good/interesting newsletter
13. Invite non-members to meetings
14. Joint meetings with other societies/chapters
15. Invitation to other chapters to attend your chapter meeting
16. Send meeting announcement to local agency(ies)
17. Personally invite people to meetings (everyone recruit someone you know)
18. Ask members to offer quick tidbit of advice at each meeting (Involve membership in the meeting)
19. Introduce everyone at each meeting

Group 2

1. Strengthen relationships with private employers and state agencies.
2. Have a more “hands-on” approach to student support.
3. Introduce more professional visibility.
4. Requirement licensing/certification through SAF to promote professionalism
5. Create small, “relevant to the public and chapter” pro-active projects
6. Brainstorm with other professional groups or organizations to identify common interest.

Group 3

1. Incentives:
 - a. Food, beer, activities, jobs, prizes, locations, cheap prices, car pool
 - b. Fund raisers
 - c. Subsidize first year dues
 - d. Family events
2. Socials
 - a. “Wreath and Feast”

- b. Turkey shoot
 - c. Bowling
 - d. Fishing derby
 - e. Fire side chats
 - f. SAF social gatherings – picnics
 - g. Golf
- 3. Professional
 - a. Interactions of professionals to students
 - b. Frequent meetings
 - c. Mentoring night
 - d. Moving meeting locations according to organization
 - e. Educational tours
 - f. Leadership conference
 - g. Field trips
 - h. Technical; workshop[s]
 - i. Understanding the purpose of SAF
 - j. Recruitment – New and purged members

Group 4

- 1. Aggressively pursue instructors, professors and advisors – talk about current research
- 2. Conference on ecosystem services
- 3. Conducts chapter workshops - \$ and get folks working together (teamwork)
- 4. Serve as an example to mentor others
- 5. Use controversial topics to attract members to participate.
- 6. Challenge organizations to sponsor (host) chapter meetings
- 7. How do you maintain student members when they transition to their first job
_professionals need to take students/new hires under their wing
- 8. More interactive activities
- 9. Do something bigger than yourself – service activities
- 10. Finding your chapter once you are no longer a student
- 11. Track students on graduation to find out where they are going and contact that chapter to let them know

Group 5

- 1. Bring your children to meetings
- 2. Send multiple meeting notices
- 3. Sponsors to provide beer
- 4. Members make personal contact with recent grads
- 5. Scholarships/grants to help pay
- 6. Reduced or graduated dues scale (starting low)
- 7. How to welcome new foresters without experience
- 8. Chapters pay and provide - pizza, beer, potluck – to attract new members
- 9. Door prizes or raffles at meetings
- 10. Multiple working group sessions at meetings
- 11. Questionnaires to members to ask what would help them participate

Group 6

1. Recruiting good leaders with high energy
2. Identify where new foresters can be recruited
3. More public outreach and be visible
4. Identify speakers and topics that are of interest to members. ID what the members want.
5. Contact employers of foresters in order to make contact with prospective members. Incentives could be mentioned in newsletters, etc. Assign responsibility to specific members.
6. Activities (recreational) to reinvigorate members to chapter
7. Sponsor students by underwriting costs of dinner or ?
8. More and continuous contact with members to make them feel more involved
9. Stay engaged on local events – e.g. watershed plans, etc.

Group 7

1. Free food
2. Interesting and engaging speakers
3. Involvement of members
4. Outside activities – fund raisers, projects, tours
5. Change meeting times and places
6. Member recognition
7. Provide incentive to graduating members entering careers
8. Preparation/study support groups for certified foresters
9. Take a position on a local issue
10. Peer discussion group

Group 8

1. Create professional chapter events that attract/compel students
2. More public-friendly events (e.g. movie night)
3. More family friendly events
4. Keep meeting content timely
5. Offer technical field tours that are important to employers!
6. Help pay first year dues
7. Provide SAF bling to newbie's
8. SAF/CF members the “go to” professionals
9. Active members contact inactive members to personalize participation
10. Recruit through personal contacts (e-mail lists)
11. Teams of SAF members doing “interventions” at wayward member's homes
12. SAF recruitment DVD
13. SAF –sponsored road trip to OSU bowl game
14. SAF trade-marked beers, wines, and liquors