

**May 20, 2015: SIG Meeting (Agricultural Literacy)
Embassy Suites: Majestic B**

Attendees:

Debra Spielmaker, Utah State University	debra.spielmaker@usu.edu
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Isabel Whitehead, Sul Ross State University	iwhi3694@sulross.edu
Theresa Murphrey, Texas A&M University	t-murphrey@tamu.edu

The Agricultural Literacy Special Interest Group (SIG) meeting was called to order at 8:40 a.m. by Kellie Enns, SIG chair.

Enns reported that she attended the Agricultural Education Research meeting (NCAC024) this morning. As a result of the conversations at that meeting, she strongly feels the need to establish a disciplinary base in our profession to facilitate collaboration amongst research groups. Additionally, she recommends that the Agricultural Literacy establish highly productive work groups to produce research which can be shared.

Enns distributed a questionnaire and asked participants asked to indicate their research interests. The group shared responses and Enns collected questionnaires. She will compile the results and include those in the meeting minutes.

Discussion ensued regarding the need for including “agricultural literacy” as key words for searches in research publications. Other words suggested were food literacy, food system, fiber, agriscience, ag STEM, agri-food system, agri-tourism, agro-tourism, natural resource literacy, garden-based education, agro-ecology, school gardens, environmental literacy, ag-vocacy, agri-justice, eco-justice, science literacy, literacy, agricultural advocate, agricultural ambassador.

The question was asked: How does this group convey “agricultural literacy” to the masses in terms the public uses and/or recognizes?

Spielmaker briefly reviewed the National Agricultural Literacy Outcomes (NALOs) and Agricultural Literacy Logic Model (<http://w2006.wikispaces.com/>).

The next W2006 multistate meeting is in Corvallis, September 2015, in conjunction with the Western Region meeting of the American Association of Agricultural Education (AAAE). The committee will look at ways to maximize work time during this meeting.

The goal of today's SIG meeting: Each participant is to choose at least one research objective (W2006)—related to a specific audience—on which to focus in the coming months. Participants will then meet within a group sometime during the AAAE meeting to get projects and plan of work outlined.

Participants' selected objectives and audiences:

Objective 1: Assess agricultural knowledge

Whitehead: secondary students

Forbes: K-12 students

Keshwani: K-12 students

Trexler: K-6 (5th graders), pre-service students

Objective 2 Assess attitudes and perceptions concerning agriculture

Newman: parents, public

Stofer: parents

Martin: public

Enns: adult, post-secondary

Objective 3: Evaluate existing agricultural literacy programs

Spielmaker: pre-service students

Spielmaker: pre-service students

Murphrey: pre-service students

Wieczoreli: K-12 students

Whitehead: K-12 students

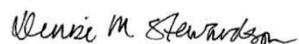
Gunderson: 7-12 students

Group recommending using the NALOs and choose a topic/thematic area (science, plants & animals, food, STEM) on which to focus the research.

Note: Stofer is grant-funded and is willing to cooperate with committee members on initiatives and funding.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise Stewardson