

2018 W1006 Multistate Ag Literacy Workgroup Meeting

Sept. 17, 2018

Boise, ID

Present: Brian Warnick, Gaea Hock, Carl Igo, Jonathan Velez

Introduction and review multi-state goals: Chair Hock reviewed the goals. Warnick shared these are the objectives for the project.

Institutional updates on agricultural literacy:

- Oregon continues the summer ag institute for 29 years. No recent research but possible graduate students interested in doing some evaluative research of the summer program. Summer institute and Oregon AITC are distinctly separate
- Hock – Campus youth water advocates. Training in summer 17 and spring 18, another training next spring. Trying to get high school students engaged in water quality and water quantity education. Private funding for conference. Interested in expanding to other Oglalla states.
- Warnick – Utah State – Rose Murray working with Deb S. currently working on PhD. Post K-12 survey ag instrument. 515 Freshmen at USU are currently taking the instrument to determine baseline for ag literacy. The National Center for Agricultural Literacy (NCAL) housed at USU and led by Debra Spielmaker, is now managing agclassroomstore.com. This e-store was previously the responsibility of Utah Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) at USU, but with the growth of the National Agriculture Curriculum Matrix (also managed by NCAL) the e-store grew beyond the scope of Utah AITC, Igo – new connection to AITC. Focus on literacy and advocacy through Teach Ag Day and FFA District Leadership Schools

Discussing the important and emerging issues in the field:

- Igo raised the issue of advocacy – need for increasing education of agriculture broadly - defined.
- Warnick reported on Gen Ed course at USU – Food Matters
- Velez – have several courses that approach ag literacy but no course focused on ag literacy
- Hock – secondary major at KSU, “global food leadership” Opportunities for more collaboration with Leadership studies.

Discussion of how multistate research group can expand in numbers and capacity

- Incorporating Ag Comm to help the message and teaching how to advocate.
- Have we considered Education Department faculty.

- Leverage the Experiment Station and the Extension appointments to assist with funding to travel to meetings
- Reach out to grad students and new faculty to increase exposure.

Discussion on both ongoing research projects and research ideas previous introduced

- Highlights of discussion from Charleston meeting
- No new research projects discussed
- Velez asked about a way to report on courses, course syllabi, etc. to add to database of ag literacy – similar to the citation database

Discussion of new research ideas.

- None generated.
- Suggestion to have research idea generating session at May meeting or some other time similar to the Ag Comm working group.
- Warnick noted the #1 priority is preparing to report out. Will have impact writing workshop at May meeting in Des Moines

Final report is due in 2019.

Follow up with Martin to ensure he is working with AAAE planning committee for a room and 4-hour block