



# CDE Day, March 1, 2013



COLLEGE OF  
AGRICULTURE &  
LIFE SCIENCES



Department of Agricultural Education

## Greetings from Dr. Torres

In this newsletter we bring focus to the FFA Career Development Day, hosted annually by the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALs) on the first Friday of every March. This is an exciting day for FFA members from around state as they compete, as teams (in some events as individuals) in several hands-on/performance skill events. These state-level events are a culmination of the learning that first takes place in the classroom. Through the dedication and tireless efforts of high school agriculture teachers, students are inspired to explore, question, and discover new concepts and skills in the various aspects of the agricultural industry that will help them be successful in their future careers, as well as everyday life. The Department of Agricultural Education and CALs are very proud to be part of this invaluable, scholastic process.



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## Congratulations to Dr. Foor

Dr. Ryan Foor was awarded the 2012 O'Brien Endowment Award for his written proposal, "Developing Cultural Competency Among CALs Student Leaders." The award was fully funded at \$8,715. His plans include bringing Dr. Susie Whittington, Professor and students from The Ohio State University (OSU) to campus to conduct engaging workshops to enhance the cultural competency among students leaders.

As described in the proposal, the workshops will provide an opportunity for CALs undergraduate student leaders to gain diversity skills through peer facilitated workshops. Students and alumni from the Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership at OSU have worked with Dr. Susie Whittington to facilitate student-led workshops on the topic at that institution. The department's undergraduate student organization received recognition from the college and university for their efforts in this regard. Additionally, Dr. Whittington created a course titled, "Toward Cultural Proficiency" where students learn about learner effectiveness in multicultural and multiracial environments. Dr. Whittington and her

students bring experience and a knowledge base in facilitating workshops related to cultural competency.

Dr. Foor states, "This program will engage members of CALs student clubs and organizations, as well as undergraduate students from the college at-large in workshops that will grow students' knowledge of and awareness in cultural competence." Workshops are planned for CALs students on the University of Arizona campus.

"Diversity and the notion of cultural competency are important concepts for students to possess in their future careers," explains Dr. Foor. "Skills related to these areas will help students work with myriad groups of people."



For more information, please follow the link to the James P. & Shirley J. O'Brien Endowment Award Web Site at:

<http://extension.arizona.edu/state/james-p-shirley-j-obrien-endowment-award>

## Graduate Curriculum Options

The Agricultural Education Department is pleased to offer several curriculum options for graduate studies. Within the Master of Science, students can choose curriculum options for "Research" or "Professional Agriculture." Within the Master of Agricultural Education, students may choose the "Practitioner" or the "Career and Technical Education" (CTE) curriculum option. We also offer the CTE Accelerated Master's Program (AMP) for undergraduates within selected CALs academic programs who are interested to pursuing graduate studies in

Agricultural Education, with a focus on teaching.

In addition to our regular graduate programs, the Department now offers two academic certificate options. One is the CTE Administrator Graduate Certificate and the other is the Adult Teaching Graduate Certificate. Both certificates require 12-13 units with several courses available online. For more information, please contact Dr. Foor at [rfoor@arizona.edu](mailto:rfoor@arizona.edu), or view our web site at:

<http://cals.arizona.edu/aed/Graduate2.htm>





*U of A Welcomes*



COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE AND LIFE SCIENCES

ARIZONA FFA

*Best of luck!*

The University of Arizona and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences has had a long standing tradition of hosting the annual Arizona FFA Spring conference (formerly called U of A Field Day) on the U of A's beautiful main campus and the Campus Ag Center. Each year faculty, staff and students spend many hours preparing for what is called the Career and Development Event (CDE) Day. Hands-on learning activities for approximately 1400 high school students include: Aquaculture, Ag Business, Ag Mechanics, Equine Evaluation, Livestock, Meats Evaluation, Job Interview, Forestry, Range Management, Entomology, Nursery/Landscape, Agronomy, and Soils. Each CDE challenges students and presents a hands-on learning component as the students compete with one another. Winning teams will then go on to compete at the National level in October.

Dr. Ed Franklin, who is the faculty chair for Agricultural Mechanics CDE, has been part of the Field Day at the U of A since spring 2001. He states, "I hope to present to the high school contestants an engaging event that will challenge their knowledge about agricultural mechanics and their abilities to perform agriculture-related skills. Developing an activity centered around Rainwater Harvesting, "I hope to have high school agriculture students and instructors think about activities and skills related to renewable energies and conservation practices that apply to agriculture. I

see alternative energies such as photovoltaics included in our event in the very near future."

Carl Olson, who retired from the Department of Entomology, has been associated with Field/CDE Day for about 30 years. He states, "When I took over the Entomology phase, I had a couple of things I hoped these students would gain, a little understanding about the insect world and how important it is, not in a negative way, but how important these animals are to our lives. Yes, insects and other inverts have had bad reps because they compete with us for food, space, etc., but that is what life is about and tolerance can be gained by learning about them. I redesigned and created a CD to help broaden the scope of what the students need to become aware of, looking not just at names but also behaviors and impacts on our ecosystems. I hope it gets them away from thinking they can control nature and its entities, but can do sensible management practices to create a bit more balance in their world. As I step away from this activity now, I hope that is what I have conveyed both to the students and their teachers about this incredible microworld that will influence them their entire life." Unfortunately, this will be the last year that Carl Olson will be the faculty chair for Entomology. FFA and CALS have been extremely fortunate to have him lead this event.

CDEs encourage students to polish skills in other areas besides agriculture and science. For example, the Job

Interview is one that helps students with the interview process. Dr. Ryan Foor, faculty chair, believes that "the Job Interview Career Development Event equips FFA members with real-life career skills to prepare them to be successful in the job search process."

Joshua Padilla, President of Desert View Chapter, states, "I look forward to competing with more FFA members in our chapter and to see the excitement of our members being more involved and the thrill of competing on the U of A campus for FFA." He further mentions, "The U of A CDE Day means a way to explore the U of A campus and scouting ahead towards my future. To bring back certain knowledge from the U of A and bring it back to share with members interested in that particular university. CDE Day is a great way for an FFA chapter president, or any FFA member, to experience campus grounds and tours of college life." According to Joshua, he "hopes to bring back FFA traditions and activities he did not know about and to gain experience from competition, and try harder for next year." For Joshua's teacher Ms. Ashley Masters, she feels that "CDE day at the U of A is probably one of the most impactful competitive events for an FFA member. For first time competitors this is their first experience at a traditional agricultural skill competition. They get to compete then relax and meet other FFA members from around the state as scores are tabulated. Other contests don't really give them that interaction time with other FFA members." She



further states, “When the awards ceremony starts and the students hear the descriptions of the 15 or so events that are held at Spring CDE day, it’s an eye opener to things they did not really realize were possible.” Ms. Masters feels that sparking the interest of a student to learn more, succeed, better him or herself, and bring back knowledge and experience “is what preparing for and competing in the Spring CDE Day is all about.”

For teacher Miraj Wallace at Seligman High School, she feels that “Spring CDE Day offers a wealth of opportunities to students across Arizona. Not only does it give them a chance to practice their leadership and networking skills, it also allows them to see what life might be like if they choose to go on to higher learning. Coming from a small town where most of the graduates don’t even think about going to college or are intimidated by the prospect of living outside of where they grew up even if they aspire to go to college, being able to give them a campus tour, visit the dorms, and show them all the resources that the U of A provides gives them a finer understanding of what they are capable of achieving if they set their minds to it. I can’t count the number of times I have heard my students say ‘Well, the U of A wasn’t as big as I thought it was going to be. I’d like to go there after I graduate.’ It gives them a source to direct their high school energies to, even if they don’t end up at the U of A. That is my favorite part of CDE day: motivating young minds and dreams to take flight.”

Although rooted in farming, the FFA has evolved over time in sync with the changing agriculture industry, and the opportunities available to FFA members aim to develop leadership, personal growth, and career success through agricultural education. Specifically, FFA is one of the premier Career and Technical Student Organizations that provides crucial employability skills for our future workforce.

Through competing in Career Development Events, attending conferences such as this, or even by interacting with students from a neighboring FFA chapter, the FFA presents students with numerous chances to develop the skills necessary to be successful in the workplace and/or in college. A student’s involvement in FFA can help him or her to do well in high school, which will help the student go on to college and become more successful in professional careers. FFA and its numerous opportunities gives students the chance to become effective leaders within school, the community, and the future workplace.




### 2013 Arizona Association FFA, Spring Conference

Friday, March 1

Time	Events	Location
7:00 AM	Registration ..... Pictures of Agricultural Education Teachers	Campus Agricultural Center  4101 N. Campbell, Tucson, AZ 85719-1114
<b>Please note: All teachers must check in at the registration desk prior to the start of the competitions. Failure to do so will result in teams being disqualified.</b>		
<b>8:00 AM CDE Events begin at the Campus Ag Center (aka "The Farm")</b>		
	Agricultural Mechanics (Franklin)..... (Ag Mechanics Lab, Building 2008)	Campus Agricultural Center
	Agronomy (Ottman) ..... (Modular Classroom and Meat Science & Livestock Complex [11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.]; east side of CAC) <b>Students are to assemble in front of Modular Classroom.</b>	Campus Agricultural Center
	Entomology (Olson) ..... (Meat Science & Livestock Complex: 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.)	Campus Agricultural Center
	Soils (Wilson) ..... (Controlled Environment Ag Center, Room 117A, east of CAC)	Campus Agricultural Center
	Horse Evaluation (Arns)..... (West end of grandstand by Arena)	Campus Agricultural Center
	Livestock Judging (Kiesling) (West end of the CAC).....	Campus Agricultural Center
	Meats Evaluation (Marchello) ..... (Meat Science & Livestock Complex)	Campus Agricultural Center
	Nursery/Landscape (Schuch)..... (Head House east of CEAC)	Campus Agricultural Center
	Range Management (Howery) (East side near greenhouses).....	Campus Agricultural Center
<b>8:30 AM CDE Events Begin on Main Campus and at the Environmental Research Lab.</b> <b>Note: If unsure where to meet for CDEs on the Main Campus, please go to Saguaro Hall Room #205.</b>		
	Agricultural Business and Management (Teegerstrom)..... (Saguaro Hall 225 – 8:00 a.m. to 11:50 a.m.)	UofA Main Campus
	Forestry (DeGomez) (Marley 218)..... (Please meet in front of the Forbes Building.)	UofA Main Campus
	Job Interview (Foor) (Student Union Career Services)..... (Please meet at the Student Union Career Services, Room 411.)	UofA Main Campus
	Aquaculture (Fitzsimmons)..... 2601 East Airport Drive, Tucson	Environmental Research Lab
12:00 PM	Lunch (on your own)	
3:00 PM	Approx. CDE End Time (varies depending on CDE Event)	
4:00 PM	CDE Award Ceremony.....	Student Union Ballroom, U of A Main Campus
<b>Please note, it is required that all schools remain until the conclusion of the Awards Ceremony</b>		
5:30 PM	Schools Depart Tucson	



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## VISION

To be a leader in Agricultural Education by providing a better quality of life through agricultural technology management and formal and non-formal education for our students, the people of Arizona, and society.

## MISSION

To serve a diverse population through teaching, application, integration and discovery in agriculture, education and applied science and technology leading to successful careers in Agricultural Education, and related businesses and industries.



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