AAAE SIG - Extension Education and International Extension Systems

Minutes – May 28, 2004 St. Louis, MO

In attendance: Adam Kantrovich, Morehead State University; Mark Kistler, Texas Tech University; Robert Martin, Iowa State University; Rama Radhakrishna, Penn State University; Graduate Students - Justin Scott, Thomas Kipkurgat, Texas Tech University; Elizabeth Maeda, University of Arkansas

Introductions/Appointment of SIG Leader and Recorder

The meeting began at 10:05 AM. The group went around the room and introduced themselves and why they are interested in this SIG. There was a wide variety of interests in both US and international extension. Mark Kistler discussed the appointment of both the SIG leader and recorder. It was agreed that Mark would continue to serve as the recorder and also the interim leader until next year's meeting when there would be more members in attendance (due to a large number of potential members being at the AIAEE Conference in Dublin this week).

Review of SIG Purposes

The group reviewed the purposes of the AAAE Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Discussion followed about what this SIG should accomplish and how.

Brainstorming/Discussion

Robert Martin stated that the primary goal for this SIG should be SIG Purpose # 2 – "To encourage sustained dialogue among faculty groups about research models, approaches, priorities, outcomes, and implications." The consensus was that if this is the initial focus of this SIG, a research agenda would follow.

Several issues affecting Extension were discussed: more structured educational programs, distance education, move to multi-county programs, evaluation and assessment (including national standards, impact analysis, pre-service preparation – BS level course); methods of instruction for educational programs, and the variation (of Extension) among the states.

After much discussion and brainstorming, Robert Martin stated how can this SIG impact or have influence on NAERC? It was agreed that the group needs to push NAERC as an outlet for Extension-related research (including adult education). A focused effort needs to be made to invite and/or make faculty (with an Extension appointment in all disciplines) aware of NAERC (i.e., that it is broader than traditional agricultural education). All Extension-related work is appropriate for presentation at this conference (from traditional commodity-based agriculture to 4-H/youth development). The goal is to increase the number of papers and participation of faculty in Extension Education and International Extension Systems at NAERC. It was also discussed to provide a workshop sponsored by this SIG at the 2005 NAERC to encourage participation of Extension faculty. A recommendation was made to contact the AAAE Program Development Committee to schedule a room for the Extension Education and International Extension Systems SIG workshop at the 2005 NAERC. A tentative topic of the workshop was agreed upon - "Measuring Outcomes of Educational Outreach Programs." Rama Radhakrishna agreed to chair the workshop. This workshop could be either pre-conference or during the conference.

Next Steps

- Forward SIG minutes to members for input (primarily to those not in attendance)
- Develop a list of contacts to market NAERC to Extension-related faculty (e.g., list servs, organizations, publications, department heads in colleges of agriculture)
- Develop workshop for 2005 NAERC

The meeting adjourned around 11:25 AM.

Respectively submitted,

Mark Kistler SIG Recorder and Interim SIG Leader