

**Faculty / Graduate Student Roundtables
Southern Region AAAE Conference
February 2, 2002
Orlando, FL ****

Special Interest Group	If your group could do two things to improve agricultural education at any level, what would you do?	What research problems are in most need of being pursued – landmark studies that have the potential to change and improve practice in a major, positive way?
Distance Education	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Change perceptions of Ag Ed. 2. Broaden the scope / definition of Ag Ed to reach more audiences via greater use of technology and additional course offerings at the secondary through undergraduate levels. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can teaching excellence be maintained while teaching at a distance? 2. What are the barriers to effective distance education and how can they be removed / eliminated? 3. How can distance education be more widely accepted / embraced and campus politics be eliminated?
Teaching and Learning	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Produce and retain enough qualified teachers to meet an annual turnover rate of 10%. 2. Conduct research to demonstrate that agricultural education programs make a difference in students' lives. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What is the impact of secondary agricultural education programs? 2. What are the most effective strategies for recruiting and retaining teachers? 3. What are the most effective ways to communicate the importance / impact of agricultural education?

** This table summarizes a portion of the discussion held by faculty and graduate students attending the first session of the 2002 Southern Region AAAE Conference in Orlando. No official action on these ideas was taken during the conference. This activity was intended to stimulate ideas and provide a beginning for further, more formal development of regional and national agendas for research in agricultural education.

<p>Adult Learning / Extension Education</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve collaboration among all interest areas related to rural development. 2. Conduct research that is more important and relevant to our stakeholders. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can a more global approach toward agricultural development and international education be initiated and sustained? 2. What are the relevant needs of today's Extension clientele, and how can we use alternative delivery methods and critical thinking strategies to best meet those needs? 3. What is a more modern adoption-diffusion model for today's clientele, and how can this be applied to adult learning?
<p>Teaching and Learning</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Revise our curricula to reach a broader clientele group. 2. Create greater competition for positions as school-based and university agricultural educators. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. What are the most effective strategies for authentic assessment? 2. What strategies will encourage teachers to accept greater accountability for their own professional development and for the advancement of the profession? 3. How can we improve teaching and learning from an educational psychology perspective?
<p>Leadership</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Focus on the quality of agricultural educators rather than the quantity. 2. Increase collaboration between Ag Ed and other disciplines/departments in colleges of agriculture. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. How can leadership be further developed as an academic area of focus? 2. Formal vs. informal leadership development. 3. What are the components of a model university curriculum in leadership?

