

New Mexico State University  
College of Agriculture and Home Economics  
Agricultural and Extension Education Department  
Mission, Goals and Strategies – December 2006

Department Mission:

Preparing and supporting educators and leaders in agriculture to improve the economic well-being and quality of life of all stakeholders.

I. Funding & Resources

Goal: **“Increase funding to the department by 15% of the base budget each year for 3 years beginning in FY08.” (Tom)**

Strategies:

1. Negotiate with the Dean for the department to receive a fair percentage of distance education funds and I&G funds generated by AXED 201
2. Add Extension funding to department budget
3. Increase the percent of money from research and grants
4. Seek and acquire industry dollars

II. Staffing

Goal: **“Fill staffing positions to meet current and anticipated needs by July 31, 2009.” (Tom)**

Strategies:

1. Obtain administrative approval to fill teacher education position for Fall '07 and computer support position for Fall '08, respectively, by March 30, 2007
  - a. Task: Call Dr. Catlett to set up appointment to discuss teacher education position and what it will take to get the position approved. (Tom; January 3, 2007)
  - b. Task: Set up required steps based on meeting
2. Negotiate with administration for new faculty positions based on enrollment growth, including distance education by July 31, 2009
3. Realign faculty appointments to meet department needs by July 31, 2007
4. Continue and expand the use of affiliated faculty
5. Add one graduate assistant in Fall 2007 and one additional graduate assistant in Fall 2008

III. Traditions

Goal: **“Establish and implement a process for ongoing stakeholder involvement and communications by June 30, 2007.” (Kim and Brenda)**

Strategies:

1. Reinststitute the department newsletter and identify additional potential recipients (e.g., alumni) – coordinate database with alumni office
2. Establish and convene a task force that will be charged with creating the stakeholder involvement process, to include: establishing which stakeholder groups need to be represented in the process (students,

Extension Agents, teachers, industry leaders, etc.), the criteria for each stakeholder (geography, years of experience, area(s) of expertise, etc.), how often the stakeholders will meet, where they will meet, etc.

3. Create a database/listserve of Extension Agents and Ag Teachers to provide email notices and department newsletters
4. Update department website by July 31, 2007

IV. Student Advisement

Goal: **“Adapt the department’s semester by semester advising strategy and degree check to the Banner system by July 1, 2008.” (Brenda)**

Strategies:

1. Obtain training on Banner capabilities
2. Determine and make modifications in advisement program as necessary to handle the increased anonymity in the degree tracking process

V. Academic Experience

Goal: **“Increase experiential learning opportunities for future teachers and Extension Agents by July 1, 2007.” (Carlos)**

Strategies:

1. Determine the feasibility, impact and potential benefits of implementing additional early field-based experiences by July 1, 2007.
2. Review departmental curriculum to ensure that students make at least 5 presentations before they begin their teaching methods class and/or internship.

Goal: **“Determine the most relevant technical courses for agriculture education teachers and extension agents and make appropriate modifications to degree plans by July 1, 2008.” (Carlos)**

Strategies:

1. Form a committee to include key stakeholders in the review of technical courses using PED and other relevant standards
2. Make modifications to degree plans based on committee recommendations

VI. Student Recruitment and Retention

Goal: **“Increase the number of undergraduates in the department to 110 (Ag Com = 12; Tech = 16; Teachers = 47; Ag Com Dev = 35) by Fall 2010.” (Tom and Dawn)**

Strategies:

1. Develop and distribute promotional materials on new ACD major
2. Focus recruiting trips on areas that are delivering students
3. Work with recruiting team to identify potential new areas for recruitment and to increase the enrollment of transfer students
4. Utilize the Stakeholder Involvement process identified under Goal III to solicit new ideas and stakeholder buy-in for recruiting students
5. Participate in the College’s student retention programs

**Goal: “Increase the number of undergraduate and graduate credit hours taken in the department by 25%, respectively, by Fall 2010 (includes distance education).” (Dawn and Tom)**

**Strategies:**

1. Advertise courses to undergraduate students, graduate students and advisors both inside and outside of the College
2. Increase the percentage of graduate instruction delivered by technology (vs. weekend classes, e.g.)
3. Modify and advertise the graduate minor
4. Add and promote the Ag and Natural Resource Leadership minor
5. Promote the Ag and Extension Education minor