

**State Staff Meeting
FFA Center, Galt
May 30-June 1, 2017**

May 30, 2017 (State Staff)

Call to Order (McCabe)	The meeting was called to order at 10:07 am. Individuals present: Lloyd McCabe, Jack Havens, Hugh Mooney, Charles Parker, Greg Beard, Josiah Mayfield, Zane Sheehan, Jill Sperling, Jim Aschwanden
Welcome & Update (McCabe)	<p><i>Superior Region Job Opening</i> – update and moving forward</p> <p><i>Professional Development Contracts</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • McCabe got the ok from Donna Wyatt to work on the concept papers for next year • Discussion occurred regarding contract vendors for next year. We will not be using Cal Poly as the fiscal agent. Other options to look into are CSU, Fresno, Fortuna High School District, etc. • McCabe will send us the concept papers to review and provide suggestions (10 day review period) <p><i>Travel Budget for 2017-18</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No real answer yet as the full impact of budget concerns are unknown • Tentative travel budget (plan for \$5,500/person) due to McCabe by August 1st
CATA & FFA Executive Director Update (Aschwanden)	<p><i>CATA Conference</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over 800 teachers already registered • Lots of great professional development offered • Banquet is already oversold
National FFA Update (Ben Meyer)	<p><i>Federal Charter Draft Version</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The draft version of the Federal Charter language was distributed and reviewed. As a staff, we feel that if this draft version passes, it will be hugely detrimental to the future of Ag Education; it takes the legs out from underneath states and California will definitely suffer
AIG Checklist Suggested Changes (Mooney)	<p><i>AIG Application & Changes</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2017-18 application is online • We will start using the new AIG Review Checklist this next year <p><i>Issues that Surfaced During 2016-17 AIG Reviews</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weak areas include Advisory Committees, Sequence of Courses, Comprehensive Program Plans
Honorary American Degrees (McCabe)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • List of suggested nominees was reviewed and discussed • McCabe will complete the applications and submit
Calaged Roster Update (Mayfield)	<p><i>Roster</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional checks being put into place to look for duplicates in FFA membership <p><i>Data Collection</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tyler is working on putting comprehensive reports on a “Reports” tab (should be done by June 15)

<p>State FFA Leadership Conference Review & Recommendations (Mayfield)</p>	<p>Reflection on 2017 Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Many teachers, students and administrators commented about the excessive transitions between events on stage, inappropriate comments on stage (bullying, sexual connotations, etc.), and length of Opening Session Skit. <p>2018 Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contract ready to sign with DoubleTree Hotel to host all speaking events and parli pro on Thursday and Friday; awards ceremony at 6:00 pm in the Sequoia Ballroom • Chuck proposed that we use the members of the State FFA Executive Committee to stand in for State FFA Officers as necessary at State Finals Contests throughout the year. Everyone liked the idea. Mayfield will work on getting those assignments made during the fall State FFA Exec Committee meeting. • Parli Pro will start on Thursday night at 7:00 pm with the coaches' orientation and test; contest will resume on Friday at 8:00 am • We will plan to hold our next staff meeting on September 5-7 in Southern CA so that we can walk the convention center, meet with host committee and tour programs.
<p>Proficiency Scoring Review & Suggested Changes (Havens)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack sent out list of DQ's and scores a few weeks ago • We need to make sure that the SAE's are put in the CORRECT AREA and that all business agreements/SAE plans are completed (this will reduce the number of DQ's)
<p>Leadership Conference Continuum (Sheehan/Mayfield)</p>	<p>Sacramento Leadership Experience</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Using outside technology to supplement what they learn at the conference <p>Greenhand Leadership Conference</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre-conference materials were added online for teachers to use as desired with their students to set the stage for the GLC curriculum <p>General Information</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Starting summer of 2018, some ALA's (probably 2) will move from winter to summer months per teacher recommendations. • Dane White, Hannah Garrett and Natalie Ryan have been working on making some minor changes to the current conference curriculums. • Looking at starting the new senior conference in the summer of 2019 (possible pilot in summer of 2018)
<p>ROLC (Mayfield)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative schedule was distributed and discussed • Supervisors need to email regional officer directory to Mayfield, along with shirt sizes
<p>State FFA Membership (Mayfield)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Total membership for 2016-17 was 87,101
<p>Middle School Ag Programs (Mooney)</p>	<p>Staff discussed the requirements that middle schools need to meet in order to be approved programs with FFA chapters.</p>

	<p>Hugh Mooney moved “to accept the following guidelines for establishing a middle school program . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Program must follow the 3-circle model (leadership development & SAE are graded) • Courses must be taught by a credentialed agriculture teacher • Must follow one of two formats (1) an 8th grade course that leads to a pathway at the high school or (2) two courses that are offered at the middle school during 7th and 8th grade with different curriculum each year • Students must be enrolled in a year-long agriculture course • Program of study must be approved by regional supervisor • All students enrolled in the class must be affiliated with the FFA (FFA is an integral component and is therefore graded) • FFA participation would be limited to those CDE’s where the CATA Curricular Code is amended to allow for 7th & 8th grade membership <p>Chuck Parker seconded the motion. Discussion occurred. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.</p> <p>Hugh will work on creating a one-page “fact sheet” on Establishing Middle School Programs that can be posted online and sent out to interested schools.</p>
Historical AgEd Teacher Update (Parker)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chuck will have student assistant update the historical info after the October 15th deadline
National Convention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jack volunteered to stay behind at end of convention to make sure that flights get out ok • Greg, Jill, Josiah, Chuck and Hugh are planning on going on the DC trip (along with Trisha Chapman and the new Leadership Development Coordinator)
Adjourn (McCabe)	The meeting was adjourned at 5:28 pm. We will reconvene at 9:00 am tomorrow morning and be joined by our larger AgEd family members.

May 31, 2017 (Joint Meeting)

Call to Order (McCabe)	<p>The joint meeting was called to order at 9:10 am.</p> <p>We were joined by: Ben Meyer, Bob Flores, Lynn Martindale, Rosco Vaughn, Kristi Mattes, Mollie Aschenbrenner, Dave Gossman, Bonnie Baxter, Tommy Henderson, Brad Dodson, Christie Fuso, Don Borges, Katie Otto, Mark Poeschl, Dale Crabtree, Josh Bledsoe, Jerilyn Mellencamp</p>
Approval of Minutes (McCabe)	Lloyd McCabe moved to approve the minutes as printed. Motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.
CDE Report (McCabe)	<p>Very difficult year with some major battles . . .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • AB 20 made contracts with UC & CSU systems nearly impossible. Professional development contracts have been housed with Cal Poly, SLO and CSU, Fresno for decades. As of today, there is still

	<p>no signed contract with Cal Poly due to circumstances outside of AgEd staff's control</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since 2008, CA has lost \$25 million in Perkins. Decision was made to not fund the 6 positions vacant in the CCTD Division, including the Superior Region Supervisor. This will continue to be a major battle. • SB 1070 funds (\$15.4 million) were resurrected due to efforts made by the Agriculture industry and Ag Ed supporters; we should have the annual "pie cutting" meeting soon to determine how much of those funds will get allocated to Ag (Lloyd is going to ask for \$350,000 and expects that those funds will be granted) • Special thanks to Bonnie Baxter for her continued efforts with the Teach Ag campaign. Lloyd shared her work with our new Division Director and she was very impressed and wants to use Bonnie's work as a model for other areas. • Congratulations to Zane Sheehan who is going to be leaving us to pursue a PhD at Texas A & M in Teacher Education. Zane was thanked for his years of service and dedication to the California FFA Association and wished good luck in his new adventure!
<p>CATA & FFA Executive Director Report (Aschwanden)</p>	<p>FFA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sailors lawsuit has been dismissed entirely. However, the City of Fresno & SMG are still suing FFA to try to recover their legal fees. At this point, our insurance company will work it out and FFA will not be writing a check of any kind. • New security system has been installed at the FFA Center. • Working on ideas for interactive displays for the FFA Center lobby; looking for a sponsor for that project • Farm Credit is sponsoring a new sign for the front of the FFA Center; will be installed this spring <p>CATA</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • After a strong fight, \$15.4 million in SB 1070 funds were put back in the Governor's Budget for CTE • New Ag Teacher Induction Program is going to start this year as a direct result of the work done by one of the Vision 2030 committees. Districts can now choose to contract with Sutter County Office of Education to provide the BTSA-type experience for ag teachers. Kerry Stockton will work as the liaison with the Sutter County Office of Ed to verify professional development participation. Special thanks to Grant Ermis and Judy Aschwanden for their efforts to making this idea a reality!
<p>Community College Report (Don Borges)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guided Pathways – effort through the Chancellor's Office similar to Partnership Academies; this program will allow students to take a specific schedule tailor-made to a pathway and includes the academic courses that the students need to graduate; program will be pilot-testing this coming year • 5 Deputy Sector Navigators in the 5 regions statewide. In another year, that system will be re-evaluated.

<p>National FFA Programs Report (Ben Meyer)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collegiate FFA chapters – there is a movement to phase out Collegiate FFA MEMBERSHIP but not Collegiate FFA itself; now there will be an Alumni Affiliate at their university/college for those students; there was an amendment approved at the state convention to move from Collegiate Membership to Alumni Membership • Starting September 1, anyone can create their own account and self-register with National FFA. It is understood that this doesn't fit the California model; however, there isn't a way that the function can be turned off for California chapters; teachers will need to refuse/deny/ignore random requests from strangers • National Convention – registration opens later this year (after Labor Day); there will be a priority deadline but the system will not close so changes can be made up until they walk through the convention doors
<p>National FFA CEO Report (Mark Poeschl)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interesting and challenging past 10 months since coming on board • National FFA has spent a considerable amount of time trying to figure out what "divorcing" from the US Department of Education would look like; there is a draft version of the Federal Charter (Public Law 105-225) which will be discussed further with State Staff tomorrow • Fiscal situation has is now improving; 25 positions (15% of employees) were eliminated; pension plan was frozen to meet obligations to former employees; every department was impacted except for the Advocacy Team in Washington D.C. • National Council is being re-evaluated and how it will function in the coming years
<p>FFA Foundation Report (Katie Otto)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very busy year for the FFA Foundation! Giving Tuesday and the FFA Blue & Gold Gala were major activities • Currently \$50,000 away from the Foundation's \$1 million goal for the year • Foundation wants to make sure that the impact of fundraising is seen/felt by the students • The next Foundation Board meeting is in July; some changes will be made to the Board as some members rotate out and new faces come on board
<p>FFA Adult Board of Directors (Kristi Mattes)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Congratulations to Zane Sheehan for entering Texas A & M's Doctorate program! • The Adult Board is working on hiring a new Leadership Development Coordinator
<p>State AgEd Advisory Committee Report (Christie Fuso)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Committee was resurrected a year ago and has met 3 times • Focus is looking at key issues affecting California AgEd • Goals include (1) attracting and retaining quality future teachers and state staff, (2) making sure there is more industry representation on the committee, in the programs and within the teachers, and (3) exploring the many facets involved in the certification process. • There has been 100% participation of committee members at every meeting so far! Very cool!

<p>CATA President & Vision 2030 Committee Reports (Dave Gossman)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on upcoming CATA Summer Conference • Vision 2030 – opportunity to look ahead and think outside of the box; currently in wrapping up second year of work; there are 32 action items with a chair and members working to complete the tasks • Committee met during State FFA Conference to discuss possible solutions to the impacted CDE events at field days; summary document was emailed out; further discussion will occur during Joint Division Meeting at CATA Conference
<p>Teach Ag Campaign (Bonnie Baxter)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More than Just a Teacher . . . video available on California FFA YouTube channel and was played during pre-session at State FFA Conference
<p>2017 CATA Summer Conference Review & Agenda (Aschwanden)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tentative schedule was distributed and reviewed • Please get dates to Josiah as you confirm them
<p>2017 AgEd Student Teacher Placement (McCabe)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be approximately 89 student teachers next year
<p>Master Calendar (Mayfield)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft version of 2017-18 calendar was reviewed and dates were added
<p>University Updates (Teacher Educators)</p>	<p>CSU, Chico</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tommy Henderson has been hired as a professor next fall • Green light has been given to hire a fourth professor for the fall <p>CSU, Fresno</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art Parham just had heart bypass surgery; we wish him well on his recovery • Steve Rocca and his wife are expecting a new baby any day • Getting ready to hire a part-time person to help in AgEd <p>UC Davis</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Filled to capacity • Undergraduate review was done and it may lead to a new hire in the College of Ag & Environmental Sciences • New School of Education Dean will start this week <p>CPSU, SLO</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are 25% more students accepting their invitation to enroll at Cal Poly for next year; over 4,000 students in Ag Dept • Just hosted AAAE Conference which was very successful! • Hiring another Ag Communications instructor for next year • Work being done to start an Ag Leadership minor
<p>Industry Certification Progress: Central Region CCPT Grant (Dustin Sperling)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focus on deliverables has changed from getting money out to schools for program improvement to creating measurement tools to determine how well our programs are doing • CA Department of Education is committed to the idea of certification. We must move forward in determining what certification in agriculture will look like, while we still have the opportunity to shape the process. • The Agriscience & Ag Mechanics pathways are will be meeting with industry representatives next month to determine appropriate student outcomes • CRAECP will be contracting with Vivayic to create an online assessment tool which will serve as a Tier 1 Certification. The plan is to do a “soft launch” in the Spring of 2018 with some

	<p>Central Region Pathway teachers. After that, the plan would be to make the system available statewide to all teachers. The content that is developed will be our own intellectual property as it will be created by teachers with industry support.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tier 2 Certification will be done at a sectional/regional level which will allow students to participate in a hands-on practicum. • Community College system may be the mechanism by which the certification events are offered.
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State Staff Breakout Session

FFA Budget Update (Maria Maberto)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Activity Recap as of April 30 was distributed and reviewed
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Teacher Educator Breakout Session – no minutes were submitted

The meeting was adjourned by Lloyd McCabe at 3:30 pm.

June 1, 2017 (Joint Meeting)

Call to Order (McCabe)	<p>The joint meeting was called to order at 9:06 am. We were joined by: Mark Poeschl, Dale Crabtree, Josh Bledsoe and Jerilyn Mellencamp</p>
Welcome & Opening Remarks (McCabe)	<p>Staff Introductions California Perspective</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ag students and FFA members are one and the same . . . FFA is integral and membership is automatic for every student in an agriculture course <p>FFA Leadership Continuum</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Josiah provided an overview of the current leadership continuum offered to CA FFA members and discussed upcoming projects including the new senior conference and a Discovery conference for middle school students
National FFA Organization Update (Mark Poeschl & Staff)	<p>National Perspective National FFA Growth & Trends</p>
Concerns, Issues & Challenges from a CA Perspective	<p>Amendment to Public Law 105-225</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mark started off conversation by explaining the history of the charter and how the current situation came to be • Essentially, the US Dept of Education is the entity asking for the “divorce”; FFA did not initiate this issue • After spirited discussion, Mark asked us to develop language that we would be comfortable with in lieu of the draft version that is currently proposed; we agreed to work on that language and get to Mark

Industry Certification Via CDE Events

- Lloyd asked if there was a possibility in having certification opportunities tied to CDE participation at the National level
- CDE contest chairs and committees are going to be asked to crosswalk their CDE to AFNR standards when they meet this summer; this should be the first step to working towards a larger certification effort

National FFA Nominating Committee

- Lloyd & Josiah expressed their displeasure with the current process used to elect the National FFA Officers
- Josh spoke to the concerns and assured us that National FFA is taking and will continue to take steps to ensure that the process is fair and equitable to all candidates

Alumni Relations Challenges

- Hugh requested that there be a template made available to state alumni coordinators to use to provide to businesses with to showcase their alumni membership
- Hugh also inquired about how an alumni charter can be issued by National FFA that includes state alumni membership without any knowledge of that going through the state alumni coordinator

National FFA Membership & Profile Issues

- Ben reported that the issue with people being able to request membership via the National FFA website is going to be solved. . . that function will be turned off for California and people will be directed to contact their local program for membership questions

Support for Middle School Students

- Josh suggested that Florida would be a good state to talk to regarding how they incorporate middle school kids into FFA contests/conferences
- Georgia, North Carolina, Virginia, Alabama have the most in terms of middle school curriculum

Proficiency Interview Policies

- Jack expressed his concerns about the bias that exists in the interview rooms (multiple judges from the same state, etc.)
- Could the number of people in the interview room be decreased? Maybe utilize a few industry sponsors and then a few teachers?
- As a room host, Jack has witnessed judges who say they are going to use a different process than the approved method, despite advice/guidance from the room host. This is a problem.

The meeting was adjourned by Lloyd McCabe at 12:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Jill Sperling
State Staff Secretary