



Agenda
Middle Managers Committee
Southern Region Program Leadership Network
October 14, 2021

Topic: SR Middle Managers Quarterly Meeting

Time: Oct 14, 2021, 10:00 AM Eastern Time (the US and Canada)

Join from PC, Mac, Linux, or mobile device: <https://uky.zoom.us/j/82847161874?pwd=aDBxUXFLdHNMNWRhTDF1TFVJSHgyQT09>

Password: 527433

Call to Order, Welcome and introduce new officers

Review Agenda – Jenny reviewed today’s agenda

Review of Minutes from PLN and Membership List -No minutes from PLN.

Jenny has sent the membership list out to state contacts. If there is anyone that should be receiving SR MM communications and are not, please let Jenny, Eric, or Jeff know.

Administrative Advisor updates

- Dr. Carolyn Williams, Prairie View A&M University; Texas
gave greetings and updates. 1890 Administrators are planning their annual conference. The EXCITE Project is continuing to educate the public on the importance of taking vaccines.

- Dr. Mike Phillips, Auburn University; Alabama
Also working on the EXCITE Project. AL is one of the lowest vaccination rates in the county. Still waiting to hear what Federal budget numbers will look like.
Alabama Extension is continuing to utilize virtual delivery methods, which has resulted in many new contacts.

Update from PLC representatives Lonnnette Marsh and Jim Stewart – no report



Overview of 2020-21 Plan of Work – Jenny reviewed the POW. She has updated some of the committee assignments and new advisors.

Jenny will send POW to the listserve

2023 Biennial Middle Managers Conference, April 2023

Plans are for Mississippi to host. No other details at this time.

Ideas for quarterly professional development topics – send suggestions to Jenny

State Updates

Kentucky - Interviewing for Director for Extension Evaluation

Hiring in full swing

State Wide Extension Conference in Dec. 2021

Florida – New Dean starting Nov. 1st – Andre Johnson

Faculty are working on program accomplishments. Faculty are funded 60%

University/ 40% county/local. Working on a standardized MOU with counties.

\$40000 BS/ \$47000 MS / 9% increase for promotions/ 15% for County Directors

State Specialized agents 10% increase over county levels.

Step 1 What is the agent classification?

	Amount
Agent I	40,000
Agent II	43,600
Agent III	47,524
Agent IV	51,801

Step 2 What is the education level?

Bachelor's	0
Master's	7,000
Doctorate	11,000



Step 3 What is the agent level?

	Pct increase
County Agent	0%
Regional Specialized Agent	15%
State Specialized Agent	20%

Florida AMU – Interviewing for research director in Brooksville and some agent positions.

Tennessee – Hiring 32 new positions across the state. The goal is for one agent per program area in every county by Jan. 1, 2022. Raised starting salary July 1 by \$1600. Searching for Asst. Dean for ANR. Looking for a new Vice-Chancellor for Ag (Tim Cross retired). Looking to purchase vans to support transportation of clients. In the middle of Strategic Planning. Statewide Extension conference in November 2022. Working to get greater flexibility for Extension agent working time. \$39600BS/ \$43600MS / 10% increase for County Director/ Career Ladder 10% increase per step

NC ST and AT – Both institutions have the same salaries - \$40/\$45/\$50. There is a vaccine requirement for employees. Having a virtual State-Wide Conference in November. Waiting for the state budget to be announced.

NCAT – several new and vacant positions.

Arkansas - standardizing the Annual Reports. Requesting county staff to be added as faculty status. VP for Div. of Ag has retired. A nationwide search will begin soon. Hiring is difficult in some situations. \$36k BS/\$40K MS. There are still some meeting restrictions because of COVID. End-of-year agent evaluations have started.

Alabama – Having a mixture of virtual and face-to-face programs. Seeing some increases in contacts. Most agents can get back into schools for programming. Statewide face-to-face conference was planned but has been postponed to next year. Going through a strategic planning process. Hiring several positions. Large



applicant pools in most situations. Completed a statewide plan of work. Increase in training because of the large number of retirements.

Mississippi – Several open positions, recruiting has been difficult. Working on a standardized agent orientation in early January 2022. Several counties are down to only one agent. Most meetings are happening face to face. The statewide annual conference in November. The vaccine rate is up to 66% + statewide. State Fair is currently going on.

South Carolina State – Hiring is happening across most regions. Most meetings are face-to-face. All staff are required to be tested if unvaccinated. Weekly prize drawings for those getting vaccinations - \$1000. Working on POW in each region.

NUEL Quarterly Conference Call – Nov. 19th at 1 pm

The Southern Region National Urban Extension Leaders Network will again host quarterly webinars during 2021-22. The dates and themes are listed below and will be held on 3rd Fridays at 1 p.m. eastern time. NUEL seeks 3 presenters for each webinar, who will each give a theme-related 10-minute “Lightning Talk”. All submissions will be reviewed by Extension professionals from across our Southern/1890s region representing multiple programming areas. Criteria for selection include the overall quality of the proposal; relevant, well-defined, and timely topic; demonstration of innovative or “outside-the-box” thinking; and potential for replication.

Dates and Themes:

November 19 – Urban Agriculture: Extension programs/initiatives that support local food production in urban communities, whether through commercial farming, school, and community-based gardening, or home food production. - Deadline to apply October 8th



February 18 – Social and Emotional Wellbeing: Extension programs/initiatives that seek to improve the social, mental, psychological, and/or spiritual aspects of an individual's life across the lifespan. - Deadline to apply January 7th, 2022

June 17 – Urban Sustainability: Extension programs/initiatives that support the restoration and protection of water, air, and natural resources in urban communities- Deadline to apply May 6th, 2022

We hope these opportunities will serve as a platform for county agents/educators/faculty to share successes with colleagues and support applications for promotion.

Join NUEL Listserve - <https://nuel.extension.org/join-nuel/>

Quarterly deadlines for application are listed above.

Dr. Jeff Young
Director for Urban Extension
University of Kentucky
Cooperative Extension
jyoung@uky.edu

Other Business

Adjourn