

[FFA & Ag Ed Calendar of Events](#)

- Upcoming Deadlines September
 - 14-18 “BIG” Conferences – Sponsored by Mountain Plains Farm Credit
 - 18 MFE & ALD Registration due
 - 15 News articles for Colorado FFA Newsletter due
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Topics included this week

[National Council Weekly Update](#)

[NAAE News & Views](#)

[National FFA September Update](#)

[New COO of National FFA](#)

[National Collegiate FFA Convention News](#)

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[Teaching Suggestion from Wisconsin](#)

[Weekly Update](#) from the National Council of Agricultural Education,

September- October Issue of **NAAE** [News & Views](#)

[Monthly Update](#) from the National FFA

New COO of National FFA Announcement from Dr Case

Dear Agricultural Education Leaders,

I have exciting news.

Dr. Dwight Armstrong has accepted the board’s invitation to serve as Chief Operating Officer for the National FFA Organization. Dwight will work with staff to align our operations with the strategic direction and priorities established by the board.

I could not be more pleased with the depth of leadership, management and agriculture industry experience Dwight brings with him. A former FFA member and state officer from Kentucky, Dwight credits agricultural education and FFA with providing a solid foundation for what has proven to be a very distinguished career.

As the attached news release will share, Dwight is a trained agricultural scientist and researcher. He taught animal science at the university level. He built a solid reputation in the agribusiness community as a skilled Chief Operating Officer for Akey, Inc. and as

Chief Executive Officer for North American Nutrition Companies, Inc. In recent years he successfully led the National FFA Foundation to a record fundraising campaign when he served as chair of the National FFA Foundation Sponsors' Board.

Dwight cares passionately about what FFA and agricultural education can do for young men and women. He also understands that our students represent the future of American agriculture. I know each of you will enjoy getting to know and work with Dwight in the coming years.

Dwight will join the National FFA staff October 5. He looks forward to meeting as many of you as possible during the upcoming national FFA convention.

I want to thank you for your patience and assistance as we made our way through this transition period. I also want you to know how pleased the board and I are to have had the leadership of acting COO Bill Fleet who moved the organization aggressively forward while we searched for a fulltime leader. Bill's outstanding contributions have already had a transforming effect on the staff and relationships with key stakeholders. He deserves your special commendation.

Many thanks to each of you for your service and leadership to agricultural education.

Best regards,

Larry D. Case

News from National Collegiate FFA

Teachers: If you have any students in college attending National FFA Convention (American Degrees, CDE teams, Proficiency Awards, etc), please see the below message and attachment from Marty Tatman at National FFA.

It's time for the 2009 National Collegiate FFA Convention! The schedule has been finalized so begin planning your convention today! Attached you will find the collegiate convention guidebook!

Please note the changes and additions to the 2009 Collegiate Convention!

The Career Expo on Saturday, October 24th, will be held at the East Concourse of Lucas Oil Stadium. Currently over 30 ag companies have already reserved their spot at the Expo to talk to you about internship and employment opportunities! When you register, make sure to download your resumes so that we can provide it to each company.

The First Annual Amazing Collegiate FFA Race will take place on Thursday, October 22nd. Collegiate teams of three or four will race around the Circle City completing challenges and solving clues in order to be the first to arrive at the finish line! Make sure to register your team online today!

Plan to stop by the Collegiate FFA booth at the Career Show to see the newly designed Collegiate FFA website and register to win a iPod nano!

Plan to spend your evenings networking and having fun with your friends at the Collegiate House Parties! Thursday night come to Rock Bottom restaurant to watch

football, eat, play pool, and meet new friends! On Friday, plan to show off your school pride by wearing your university colors and coming to the NCAA Hall of Champions! There will be lots of food, fun, dancing and friendly basketball, baseball, and hockey competitions!

If you have any questions at all about convention, please do not hesitate to call or email the Collegiate FFA team at collegiate@ffa.org or 317-802-4356.

Collegiate Guidebook Attachment

ProGreen Expo I received the following from Ray Daugherty at Front Range CC. If you offer horticulture courses I would strongly suggest you look at including the ProGreen Expo in your program. It offers students a look at the green industry from a viewpoint that they've never seen before. It's as valuable educational experience as taking your students to the National Western. The expo is in February this year so it doesn't conflict with NWSS.

Attached is the PDF announcing the time and dates of the career/employment session at ProGreen Expo. Anything you can do to help get high school students there would be great! Also, feel free to throw any suggestions of things we might have ProGreen do to make it a better experience for students my way.

Thanks.

Ray Daugherty
HLT Faculty, Westminster Campus, Front Range Community College
3645 West 112 Avenue, Westminster, CO 80031
Tel: 303-404-5039, Fax: 303-404-2178, Email: ray.daugherty@frontrange.edu

SAE GRANTS

The following information was provided by Ernie Gill NFFA LPS

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SAE Award Opportunities

SAE awards this year will be made available based on sponsor funding. Available grants will be listed on the [SAE webpage](#)

Great opportunities for students SAE's check out the list of grants. Deadline for application is November 5, 2009

http://www.ffa.org/index.cfm?method=c_programs.SAE

Don't forget about the four grants that are for Colorado students only. The attachment contains listings for the additional grants that are available.

Colorado Ag Ed Directory

Final changes have been made to the directory. Thanks to all who provided me updated information for the document. I've attached the Excel version of the information for you to use. We'll have the PDF version of the book done by next week. I've created several worksheets of the data in the excel version. It's sorted by school name, teacher name and district for easy access.

News from Kenton Ochsner

MFE/ALD – October 4 & 5

Again this year, the Colorado FFA Association is pleased to provide Made for Excellence (MFE), to “kick-start” your freshman and sophomore members, and Advanced Leadership Development (ALD) to take your juniors and seniors to new levels of chapter leadership. Each program is defined in greater detail below.

Do you want to find out what makes you unique, how you can develop and maintain a positive outlook on yourself and on life, how to win over challenges and conflicts with others, how to determine what you want in life and how to achieve it? If you do, then the **MADE FOR EXCELLENCE** conference is for you! You will have the chance to learn and experience the excitement of workshops conducted by former national officers.

The **ADVANCED LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT** (ALD) conference builds upon the curriculum of MFE. It creates a new experience specifically for high school juniors and seniors. During the program, students will learn how to prepare for their future careers either through hands-on experience or advanced education. Students will also polish their leadership and communications skills and learn how to utilize those skills through community service and volunteerism efforts.

Both "**MADE FOR EXCELLENCE**" and "**ADVANCED LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT**" will be held October 3 & 4, at the Crowne Plaza Colorado Springs, 2886 S. Circle Drive, Colorado Springs, CO 80906 - telephone 719-576-5900.

Room rates will be a flat rate of \$95 + tax(if applicable), single through quad. **The block of rooms will be available through the cut off date of September 15th.** You must contact the hotel directly at the number above for rooms. You will need to ask for, Heather Smalley in Group Reservations. Heather can be reached at 1-800-981-4012 or at hsmalley@hhgcos.com.

Registration fee is \$45 per person for FFA members and advisors participating. The registration for can be found at:

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=kE9vPKNjgpk1jq5YHDzW1A_3d_3d

This is to be completed by **September 18, 2009**.

All meals are on your own. There is a wide variety of restaurants in the area that should meet your needs. Please send the **registration payment made payable to Colorado FFA:**

MR. KENTON OCHSNER

FFA - MFE/ALD

9101 E. LOWRY BLVD.

DENVER, CO 80230

kenton.ochsner@cccs.edu

If you have questions, please call Mr. Kenton Ochsner at 303-595-1562
REGISTRATION DEADLINE: September 18, 2009

Colorado Agricultural Education Weekly Update

9/16/2009

Below is a teaching suggestion from Keith Gundlach who was a NAAE Outstanding Program winner last year. Keith is a master teacher in Wisconsin and is a key player in the Wisconsin Proficiency Award System. This was pulled from their state listserve by our LPS Rep Ernie Gill.

I know I've said it before and so please ignore this if you are bored.

In addition to my first round of exams being almost done, I have 131 students (8th graders included) who are finishing their resumes designed after what is required for proficiencies. The Leadership class will critique and correct mistakes from the 8th grade and freshmen ones and I will make suggestions to the rest. As I rotate the rest of the 8th and 7th grade students through my classes this year, they will do them too. The ag education SAE people are working with them as well as myself.

I can not tell you how much time this saves when they start proficiencies or for filling out FFA and other scholarships. For me, the resumes are an assignment worth 50 points when turned in and are updated each quarter for another grade. I have around 1000 points per quarter and so it isn't a lot, but it does give some motivation and they love their products.....as do businessmen when the students take them along when looking for a job.

Since the year is new, I thought I would throw this out there one more time.