

Agriculture Program Meeting  
Tuesday, September 15, 2009  
via Centra

Attending: Gary Bates, Mike Davidson, Eric Drumm, Delton Gerloff, Rob Holland, Debbie Joines, Alan Mathew, David Perrin, Richard Powell, George Smith, Jim Stewart, and Larry Wilson (for Keith Belli).

1. **Inservice Training**

All training sessions for 2010 should be entered in SUPER by September 15, including dates, locations, descriptions, etc. Smith and department heads provided updates on the status of training planned for 2010. The goal is to have training sessions entered in SUPER and ready for agents to sign up by October 1.

2. **Stimulus Funds**

Smith reported that 54 proposals were submitted for stimulus funds and he plans to inform those who requested funds of the status of their request no later than September 16. Money will be placed in the stimulus "E" account in the regions for those projects that are county or multi counties and in the department for specialist projects. Budgets will need to be developed according to UT's budget categories. Tim Fawver will be meeting with the departmental and regional bookkeepers in the next couple of weeks to discuss record keeping requirements. Reports and accomplishments will be due quarterly.

3. **Social Networking Sites**

UT does not have a policy against using these networking sites. Department heads reported on using Face book and/or Twitter sites for departmental use, as well as, a means to contact students and alumni. Herb Byrd is leading the effort to develop guidelines for UT Extension and he plans to ask agents and specialists to assist in the development of the guidelines.

4. **Website Hits Reporting**

Richard Powell asked if hits on websites were being reported. Specialists should be encouraged to capture hits on websites and report these in SUPER as indirect contacts.

5. **Unrelated Business Income Tax**

The IRS is looking at unrelated business income tax. Income that is unrelated to UT's educational mission is considered unrelated business income and must be reported. Tim Fawver will be meeting with departmental bookkeepers soon to discuss this.

6. **Centennial Celebration Plans**

The 100's anniversary of UT Extension and also of the 4-H program in Tennessee is 2010. The year-long celebration will include the following:

January	soft launch
March	a major event around State 4-H Congress
November	The celebration will end in early November 2010 with the state wide Extension conference

A website will be launched soon. A centennial logo is being developed for use throughout the coming year. The centennial celebration should be incorporated in all activities/events conducted in 2010.

7. **Extension Contact in Communication**

Lorna Norwood is in the process of reorganizing Communications and Chuck Denney has been named the UT Extension contact. Chuck is not to replace those you have typically worked with, but could be contacted also.

8. **Other Items**

- Eric Drumm reminded the group of the retirement reception for George Grandle which is scheduled for September 16.

- Dr. Smith also reminded the group that Interim President Simek will be on our campus today as part of his statewide campus tour.

9. **Next Meeting**

November 10, 2009, 9:30 a.m. EDT via Centra. (The October meeting has been cancelled).