CALS AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION STUDENT MICRO-TEACHING

NAVAJO CULTURAL EXPERIENCE

A proposal to The James P. and Shirley J. O’Brien Endowment

February 28, 2014

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Abstract:
The purpose of this project is to provide UA agricultural education students with an opportunity to travel to the Navajo Nation to a nationally-recognized and award-winning Career & Technical Education (CTE) program. Our students will engage in several micro-teaching activities presenting renewable energy lessons to agriculture education students at Monument Valley High School in Kayenta. UA students will have an opportunity tour the unique animal health care teaching facilities, meet with Navajo agriculture education students and Chapter FFA Officers, and spend time with the agriculture education instructors, Mr. & Mrs. Clyde McBride, non-Native educators with over 20 years of agriculture education teaching experience to learn their teaching philosophies. Freshman, sophomore, and junior Agricultural education students will team with senior pre-service student teachers to learn to prepare and present classroom lessons focusing on renewable energy topics. Ultimately, UA agricultural education students will gain experience preparing a lesson for presentation to Navajo students, learn of the Navajo culture, and view the facilities, students, and faculty of MVHS as potential “supervising cooperating center” for future consideration.
DESCRIPTION OF THE PROJECT

During the preparation phase of the teacher education program, pre-service student teachers in the Department of Agricultural Education engage in “micro-teaching” experiences as a way of gaining early classroom presentation experience prior to beginning a semester-long student teaching field experience at a high school agriculture program. Senior and graduate agricultural education students high school prepare and present a single lesson to a class of agriculture students at a local high school program. The lesson presentation is observed by a Department faculty member and videotaped to evaluate the student teacher’s classroom teaching mechanics. Student teachers are challenged to develop a lesson presentation to engage their student audience.

In October 2012, a group of seven UA Agricultural Education students travelled across the border to conduct a single-day micro-teaching experience to an audience of middle and high school agriculture students at a preparatory school (CBETA) in Imuris, Sonora, Mexico. The topic of the presentations was hydroponic demonstration systems for the classroom. The purpose of the experience was to provide pre-service agricultural education student teachers with an opportunity to teach in a classroom environment where the primary language spoken was not necessarily that of the instructor. UA agricultural education students conducted four presentations concurrently a total of four times to classroom audiences of up to 40 persons, which included students, faculty, and invited community members. A student translator assisted in the classroom presentations and facilitated the exchange of information between UA student teachers and Spanish-speaking agriculture students. Following the experience, UA student teachers shared their experience in a reflective writing assignment. Students described the micro-teaching experience as “life-changing”; a “unique experience”; and that it “changed their perceptions of Mexico and its people”.

This project will provide pre-service student teachers and underclass agricultural education students with an opportunity to travel to the northern Arizona communities of Tonalea, and Kayenta, on the Navajo Reservation. Students will visit and tour the home of Mr. and Mrs. Willie Moore, a residence that is completely off the electrical “grid”. The home owners rely on a combination of a solar array and wind energy to provide electricity for their home. Potable water is trucked in by the homeowner every two weeks and stored in an underground cistern. The homeowners practice rainwater harvesting (passive and active) to irrigate a vegetable garden and landscape around the residence.

Our students will travel to and visit Monument Valley High School in Kayenta on the Navajo Reservation to teach renewable energy micro-lessons to agriculture students. The Monument Valley High School Agriculture Education was selected for this activity for several reasons:

- **Nationally-recognized CTE program** - The Animal Health Care instructional program at Monument Valley High School (MVHS) was subject of a *Time Magazine* article, “Learning That Works” by Joe Klein (May 14, 2012), http://content.time.com/time/magazine/article/0,9171,2113794,00.html
- **Award-winning CTE program** – The agriculture program at MVHS has been recognized by the Arizona Association of Career and Technical Education (AzACTE) as an Outstanding Career and Technical Education Program (2009).
- **Award-winning Instructor** – Mr. Clyde McBride was recognized by as the 2013 CTE Educator of the Year by the Arizona Association of Career and Technical Education (AzACTE).

JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT

Agricultural education students completing the student teacher preparation program select their supervising cooperative center for their semester-long student teaching field experience. Typically,
students select high school centers based more on geographic location (i.e., proximity to Tucson, or their hometown) rather than for unique educational opportunities. Currently, there are six (6) agriculture education programs in high schools on the Navajo Reservation. These programs are located in Kayenta, Ganado, Many Farms, Chinle, Red Mesa, and Pinion. In an attempt to show off the unique teaching facilities at MVHS, the 2014 student teacher class under the supervision of Dr. Edward Franklin, took a two-day field trip to Kayenta to tour the local agricultural education facilities, meet agriculture education students and Chapter FFA officers, and spend time meeting and visiting with the Mr. & Mrs. Clyde McBride. Also attending were CALS Ambassadors who made recruitment presentations. The trip was partially funded by a UA Faculty-Student Interaction Grant.

**JUSTIFICATION OF THE PROJECT RELATIVE TO THE MISSION OF THE ENDOWMENT**

Providing UA agricultural education students (both upper and lower classmen) with an opportunity to travel to the Navajo Nation to experience a cultural diversity experience helps to support the mission of the endowment by providing UA student participants with an awareness of the cultural diversity of high school agriculture education students in an award-winning program.

**OBJECTIVES (General and Specific)**

**General Objectives**

- Provide UA agricultural education students with knowledge of Navajo Culture.
- Provide UA agricultural education students with an opportunity to conduct a microteaching experience to an audience of Navajo agriculture education students.

**Specific Objectives**

- Engage approximately 15 UA agricultural education students in the teaching of multiple renewable energy lessons to Navajo high school agricultural education students.
- Provide an opportunity for UA agricultural education students to engage two veteran high school agriculture education professionals with 20+ years of experience teaching agriculture education in a Navajo Nation high school to learn of their unique teaching philosophies.
- Create an opportunity for UA agricultural education students to meet with FFA chapter officers and student members of the Monument Valley FFA Chapter, and tour their unique facilities.

**PERSONNEL FOR COMPLETION**

**University of Arizona:**

- Dr. Edward A. Franklin, Associate Professor, Department of Agricultural Education; Program Coordinator.
- Mr. Quintin F. Molina, Associate Professor of Practice, Department of Agricultural Education; Undergraduate Program Coordinator.

**Monument Valley High School:**

- Mr. Clyde McBride, Career & Technical Education Director, & Agriculture Education Instructor.
- Mrs. Elis McBride, Agriculture Education Instructor.

**END-PRODUCT OR SERVICE AND INTEGRATION INTO THE UNIVERSITY COMMUNITY**

The end product will be the development of UA agricultural education students with knowledge of Navajo Indian culture combined with an awareness of the unique local agriculture education program at Monument Valley High School in Kayenta, and experiences of a husband and wife teaching-team working in a nationally-recognized, award-winning program. This will be the first opportunity for UA agricultural education students to engage in a micro-teaching experience of renewable energy lesson topics to a high school population of Native American students.
## PROPOSED PROJECT BUDGET

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Unit Cost</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
<th>Item Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vehicle rental from UA Motor Pool:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-14-passenger van</td>
<td>$58.96/day</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>$176.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-Suburban to tow our cargo trailer</td>
<td>$58.65/day</td>
<td>3 days</td>
<td>$175.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>UA Motor Pool Per mile Cost:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van</td>
<td>$0.33/mile</td>
<td>825 miles</td>
<td>$272.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>$0.28/mile</td>
<td>825 miles</td>
<td>$231.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Estimated round trip: Tucson to Tonalea, AZ, to Kayenta, AZ and return is approximately 825 miles</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Vehicle Fuel:</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Fuel for UA Vehicles (3)</td>
<td>$3.25/gal</td>
<td>50 gal/vehicle</td>
<td>$487.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Third vehicle is department pickup to pull trailer, haul student luggage (estimated)</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Lodging - Monument Valley Inn:</strong></td>
<td>$150.00/room</td>
<td>6 rooms @ 2 nights each</td>
<td>$1,800.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodging for 15 UA Students and two Faculty (two-nights, six rooms, 2 double beds @ Monument Valley Inn, Kayenta ($150.00/room X 6 rooms/night x 2 nights) + taxes &amp; fees</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>(Taxes &amp; fees)$376.62 = $2176.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Meals:</strong></td>
<td>$30.00/day</td>
<td>$90.00 x 15 students</td>
<td>$1,350.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Meals for UA students $30.00/day/ student</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>UA CALS-branded long-sleeve shirts for each UA student presenters (professional appearance)</strong></td>
<td>$45.00/shirt</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>$675.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**ESTIMATED TOTAL**

$5,545.20

## BUDGET JUSTIFICATION

Funding will be used to offset the expenses related to travel from UA Campus Agriculture Center (4101 N. Campbell Ave.) to Monument Valley High School in Kayenta, AZ. Due to distance, this will be a three-day, two-night trip and includes travel from the UA Campus Agricultural Center on a Wednesday morning to Tonalea, AZ, just north of Tuba City on the Navajo Reservation (approximately a 5.5 hour drive) to visit and tour the rural residence of Mr. & Mrs. Willie and Sylvia Moore; a home that is “Off the Grid”. Travel to Kayenta, AZ (approximately 51 miles from Tonalea), to Monument Valley High School (MVHS) on Wednesday evening to meet with the MVHS agriculture education faculty and FFA officers. All day Thursday will be dedicated to teaching classes. Friday will be a travel day to Tucson.

Use of UA Motor Pool for rental of vehicles, and estimated fuel costs are in the budget. A suburban rented from the UA Motor Pool will be required to transport students and pull our single-axle cargo trailer with teaching materials, including our demonstration solar-powered livestock watering system. A 14-passenger van rented from the UA Motor Pool will be used for transporting the majority of students in our group.

Estimated room rates for lodging at Monument Valley Inn for two nights, approximately six rooms, (from website: [https://www.myfidelio.net/webui/AvailabilitySearch.aspx?chain=IQ&property=USKM](https://www.myfidelio.net/webui/AvailabilitySearch.aspx?chain=IQ&property=USKM)).

We request funds to purchase identical, CALS-branded collared-shirts for all of our participants. This represents a show of ”professionalism” on the part of our visiting entourage.