

SUMMARY OF IDENTIFIED ISSUES IDENTIFIED TRENDS/FUTURE DIRECTIONS

Comments from Statewide Meetings and the General Field

As the Community College Board of Governor's New Initiative in Workforce Preparation and Economic Development is on the 2002 community college docket, it becomes more critical than ever that viable, up-to-date articulated curriculum be in place to meet these new challenges of vocational education. Three of the seven key elements of this new initiative include developing an over-arching road map, integrating curriculum by connecting the vocational education curriculum to the rest of the college curriculum, and focusing on transfer to both four-year institutions and to the workplace. These are significant for agriculture education and fit the special niche of our common goals with this timely IMPAC project.

A BRIEF OVERVIEW OF THE AGRICULTURE DISCIPLINE

The primary focus for the first year of the project was vastly different from the focus of other IMPAC disciplines and clusters. The Agriculture Discipline is in

unique in that our industry area actively supports a State Agriculture and Natural Resources Advisory Committee which works closely with the California Community College Agriculture Council and State Agriculture Director's Committee. We are also fortunate to have a strong California Agricultural Teachers Association (CATA) which advocates for our profession and promotes progressive agriculture education at all levels of our educational system. There are over sixty community colleges that have agriculture programs in the State of California; four-year institutions having such programs include California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo; California State Polytechnic University, Pomona; California State University, Chico; California State University, Fresno; and University of California, Davis.

In agriculture, we have been meeting across the segments to write and up-date curriculum since the early 1990s through grants funded by the California Community College Chancellor's Office for the following program areas (see [Table 1](#))

The initial task for our three IMPAC regional meetings was to bring all agriculture institutions (UC, CSU, CCC) together to discuss the discipline issues and review ongoing projects. As noted in the regional meeting

	Year	No. of Courses	CCAG CANS Course #	Lead College
Agribusiness	1997-98	7 courses	100-199	Santa Rosa
Animal Science	1995-97	14 courses	200-299	Modesto
Environmental	1997-98	15 courses	300-399	Modesto
Horticulture				
Mechanized	1993-95	16 courses	400-499	Reedley
Agriculture	(Reviewed 1999)			
Plant Science	1991-93 (Reviewed 1997)	16 courses	600-699	Merced
Natural Resources/ Forestry	2001-02		500-599	Modesto Junior College

TABLE 1

reports, each curriculum area has already developed a model common core of courses which meet industry standards, integrates academic and vocational competencies, and meet university transfer requirements. All courses have addressed the five SCANS standards (Secretary's Commission on Achieving Necessary Skills).

Copies of the 68 course outlines were distributed at all meetings and are on file in the CCC Academic Senate IMPAC project office.

IMPAC regional meetings also afforded faculty an opportunity to review Modesto Junior College's Course Articulation Number System Project. Their grid sheet identifies the specific courses articulated for each curriculum area with assigned California Community Colleges Agriculture Course Articulation Numbering System (CCAG CANS) course numbers of 100 - 699.

Attendees to this statewide activity were first-time participants to the IMPAC project. Following the regional meeting, updated model curriculum packets and course articulation project grid sheets were distributed and reviewed by the group.

The proposed courses to forward for CAN numbers was also discussed along with the course articulation grid sheet. Both documents were given preliminary approval to go forward pending a check with Modesto Junior College on the status of their project efforts.

The outcomes of these regional meetings and state-wide conference (by group consensus) are:

1. Re-affirmation of the five curriculum areas and the 68 courses and course outlines thus far developed.
2. Approval of the proposed course list for obtaining California Articulation Numbers

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

1. We surveyed participants, inviting them to attend additional IMPAC meetings to assist in developing a preparatory course of transfer courses in each of the program areas.
2. Anatomy/Physiology and Food Land/Politics courses were mentioned as possible courses to consider in the future.
3. Other items or topics for future discussions were identified as "intersegmental" issues pertaining to agriculture curriculum.

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RECOMMENDATIONS FORWARD TO CAN:

Pending discussion with Modesto Junior College on the status of their project, these proposed courses would be forwarded.

CAN DESCRIPTORS FOR REVIEW—AGRICULTURE

CAN: AG 2

TITLE: Ag Computers

DESCRIPTION: Applied microcomputing for agribusiness management. Evaluation of alternative microcomputing systems and software. Use of word processing, spreadsheet, and database management programs; applications to agricultural enterprise management and agricultural financial planning.

CAN: AG 4

TITLE: Basic Ag Mechanics

DESCRIPTION: Description not available.

CAN: AG 6

TITLE: Introduction to Animal Science

DESCRIPTION: A scientific overview of livestock and poultry; highlights anatomy and physiology, reproduction, nutrition, behavior, health, and marketing; pertinent environmental and social issues, to include animal welfare. Includes human opportunity to influence trait inheritance, population densities, and productivity. Laboratory recommended

CAN: AG 8

TITLE: Introduction to Plant Science

DESCRIPTION: Introduction to and application of principles of plant science to production of cultivated crops; including how yield and quality are affected by breeding, propagation, culture, harvesting, storage, and marketing. Laboratory required.

CAN: AG 10

TITLE: Plant Propagation

DESCRIPTION: Principles and methods of propagating plants, sexual and asexual: field crops, fruits, vegetables, ornamentals, seeds, spores, cuttings, layering, grafting and budding. Propagation media and rooting aids. Laboratory required.

CAN: AG 12

TITLE: Feed and Feeding

DESCRIPTION: Composition and selection of feeds; characteristics of nutrients; principles of nutrition; nutrient requirements of non-ruminant and ruminant animals; and formulating diets to meet these requirements.

CAN: AG 14

TITLE: Introduction to Soil Science

DESCRIPTION: Biological, chemical, physical and mineralogical soil properties. Interpretation of soils information for agricultural management and production. Proper land use and conservation; soil and water management. Laboratory required.

CAN: AG 18

TITLE: Ornamental Plant Identification

DESCRIPTION: Classification, nomenclature, and identification of common trees, vines, shrubs, ground covers, turf grasses, bedding plants, and house plants. Characteristics of important plant families are discussed. Laboratory required.

CAN: AG 20

TITLE: Introduction to Beef Cattle Science

DESCRIPTION: A study of the beef cattle industry emphasizing the importance of breeds, selection, evaluation, nutrition, breeding principles, disease control, equipment, facilities, and marketing. Laboratory recommended.

CAN: AG 22

TITLE: Introduction to Sheep Science

DESCRIPTION: A study of the sheep industry emphasizing the importance of breeds, selection, evaluation, nutrition, breeding principles, disease control, equipment, facilities, and marketing. Laboratory recommended.

CAN: AG 24

TITLE: Introduction to Swine Science

DESCRIPTION: A study of the swine industry emphasizing the importance of breeds, selection, evaluation, nutrition, breeding principles, disease control, equipment, facilities, and marketing. Laboratory recommended.

CAN: AG 26

TITLE: Introduction to Equine Science

DESCRIPTION: A study of the horse industry emphasizing the importance of breeds, selection, evaluation, nutrition, breeding principles, disease control, equipment, facilities, and marketing. Laboratory recommended.

CAN: AG 28

TITLE: Introduction to Dairy Science

DESCRIPTION: Description not available.