

forum

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Extension in the 80s . . . and Beyond. What changes should be made in the Cooperative Extension Service in the next decade—changes in its mission and its goals, changes in its sources of funding, changes in its program delivery format and methods? Should the federal Extension office in Washington have a larger role or different roles than in the past? Should the operations at state level be broadened to cover more fields or narrowed? Who should be the clientele? What subject areas should be expanded, added, deleted?

These and other publicly expressed concerns are behind the appointment of a national joint committee by USDA Secretary John Block and Robert Clodius, president of the National Association for State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges (NASULGC). Every professional in the Cooperative Extension Service will be asked to give his/her opinion on some of these and other questions in the month of January.

The collecting of opinions through a questionnaire to all Extension professionals is being handled by each state director. The same questionnaire will be used with your county advisory committee chairs, state and national organizational leaders, other university administrators, and selected media people and legislators.

The questionnaires are only one source of data for the joint committee. ECOP subcommittees and other Extension leaders have been developing briefing papers of important studies and evaluations, legislation and budgets, etc., covering past years. This work is being managed through Laverne Forest of the Wisconsin staff, who is serving as the executive secretary to the joint committee and this project. Special funds for this project have been provided by the federal Extension office to Wisconsin for project coordination and support.

The overall project is under the guidance of a staff design team appointed by ECOP and the federal Extension administrator more than a year ago. That team includes Chairman Gale VandeBerg, Wisconsin; Brice Ratchford, Missouri; Maynard Heckel, New Hampshire; B. B. Archer, Virginia; Fred Woods and John Stovall, USDA in Washington; and Dale Stansbury, NASULGC.

The joint committee is expected to complete its work by September 30, 1982, with copies of its report available by January 1, 1983.

This national joint USDA/NASULGC committee consists of 20 people with co-chairs Ray Lett, executive assistant to Secretary Block, and Dan Aldrich, chancellor of the University of California-Irvine. Other members include University of Arkansas President, James Martin; Minnesota Governor Al Quie; the USDA Director of Science and Education, Anson Bertrand; Federal Extension Administrator Mary Nell Greenwood; one state Extension director from each region—Lucinda Noble, New York; Gordon Guyer, Michigan; Dan Pfannstiel, Texas; and Orville Young, Washington; Agricultural Deans Lee Kolmer, Iowa State University, and Charles Hess, University of California-Davis; County Agent Leslie Firth, Pennsylvania; Robert Kramer, Kellogg Foundation; Charles Tollander, president of the Wisconsin County Boards Association; and three members from the National Extension Advisory Committee—Patricia Iman, Montana; David Farley, Michigan; and Albert Rombough, New Jersey; and two people yet to be named.

coming

- ★T 'n T: time management for paraprofessionals
 - ★is agricultural extension for women?
 - ★cartoons: when are they effective?
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