The Role of Regional Committees and the Extension Section in Scholarship Beyond Research

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Scholarship

“Creative intellectual work that is:
  - Validated by peers
  - Communicated” (Weiser)

Regional Extension Committees and AAEA Extension Section can play an important role in scholarship
Regional Committees’ Role

1. Focus attention on important issues
2. Mobilize intellectual resources
3. Provide peer review
4. Facilitate communication
   - Dissemination of existing materials
   - Development and distribution of new materials

Regional Extension Committees

- Western Farm Management and Marketing Extension Committees
- Southern Farm Management, Marketing, and Public Affairs Extension Committees
- North Central Farm Management Extension Committee
Western Extension Farm Mngt. and Marketing Committees

- Expertise and resources are pooled together by committee members to address common issues.
  - Commonly mobilize both financial and human resources on projects
  - Ag Help Wanted (Farm Mngt) and
  - Western Profiles of Innovative Agricultural Marketing: Examples from Direct Farm Marketing and Agri-Tourism Enterprises (Marketing)

Southern Extension Committees

- Provide a forum for Extension agricultural economists from 13 states to discuss current economic issues, and to plan and develop joint educational programs for the region
  - Tobacco and peanut buy-out programs
  - Southern Regional Outlook Conference
  - Risk management and marketing club education
North Central Farm Mngt Extension Committee

- Assist in the creation of world-class farm management educational programs and publications synergistically integrating expertise throughout the region and country.
  - Task forces and regional publications
    1. 15 through Midwest Plan Service
    2. 5 (free) through Ag Risk library
  - In-service training Triennial Conference

Regional Extension Committees

- Each regional committee is unique
  - underlying objectives are similar
- Not all activities are “creative intellectual work,” but many definitely qualify
- Committees are strong on peer review and communication
Old AAEA Activity

- Extension Committee of AAEA
  - Luncheon
  - Pre-meeting workshops
    (generally a 3-year cycle)
  - Crop, livestock and policy outlooks
  - Little other input/impact on program

AAEA Extension Section

- Luncheon and outlook sessions
- Extension Track
- < 10 years – Extension Award
- Web site recognition
  - Dept., individual
- Grad student research outreach
References

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