



USDA IFAFS GRANT 2001-2005

Website Updates:

Mid-Year Reports Online
Target action steps on web

Follow-Up of Mid Year Meeting:

Are you recording your activities with photos?
Preparing articles to submit for publication?

Highlights:

- Video Underway – 1
- Annual Meeting - 1
- Partner News – 2
- First Friday Call - 3
- SBC Campus Projects - 3

NRE Partners:

- FBCC
- ISU
- NICC
- NDSU
- SBC
- SGU
- SDSU
- UNL

Paula's Travel:

Aug 26 - SGU

Production of Partners Video Magazine Underway



Ron Anderson, USDA
Cameraman with Jim Hallum,
NICC



Patrick Holian, USDA Video
Director, with Erin Black
Feather at SGU



Lisa Colombe and riders, SGU

Video shooting began for the USDA CSREES Partners Video Magazine the week of July 25 at Nebraska Indian Community College and Sinte Gleska University. In unseasonably cool weather, the USDA crew shot video of Hank Miller, Jim Hallum, Quintin Saunsoci and others in their community garden, an NRE project to encourage residents to produce fresh fruits, flowers, and vegetables, provide food for elderly and needy in the community, and initiate small business development through sales at a nearby farmers market.

At Sinte Gleska University, both the youth project with horses and the research on the herb garden were the subjects of video taping. Several youngsters who come to SGU ranch regularly to learn horse care and riding skills were filmed and interviewed regarding the benefits of the program. Erin Black Feather explained the medicinal and ceremonial use of several herbs in the garden as others helped with watering, weeding, and general garden maintenance.

Patrick Holian, Video Director and Ron Anderson, cameraman from USDA will be shooting video at Fort Berthold Community College and Sitting Bull College from August 8 to 11. The video is to be released in May, 2006, the 15th episode in the CSREES Video Partners Magazine series. The finished video will be distributed to all land-grant institutions, public television stations across the country, and will be on the USDA website to view by video streaming.

Bruce Menzel, USDA Program Manager of the NRE Project, participated in the NICC and SGU video shooting. Bruce was particularly pleased that the NRE project had been selected by CSREES as the subject of a video magazine, and as he said " the NRE project illustrates a unique partnership with decision making seated at the Tribal Colleges to address capacity building and community issues related to natural resources."

Sinte Gleska University Hosts NRE Annual Meeting

The tentative date to mark on your calendar for the NRE annual meeting at Sinte Gleska University is September 28-30. The theme of the meeting will be on developing final year partnership workplans. Lisa Colombe will serve as host coordinator, with Tim Nichols and Mary de Baca on the planning committee.

To make your reservations, call Prairie Knights Casino at 1-800-425-8277 extension 7704. Look for the agenda for the meeting in the August NRE newsletter or by direct e-mail. This is a return to SGU as the organizational meeting for the NRE project was held there in September, 2001.

NRE REPORTING

Year 4, Quarter 3 reports were due Aug 1. Please also submit past due reports.



Jordan Shell Track and Nikeya American Horse, Solen High School in North Dakota, presented findings of their summer internship research at Iowa State University on July 29. With them (far left) is their mentor, Robert Hibbing, Animal Science Department.

Send your news for the next newsletter to Mary M. de Baca

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NRE on the Web
<http://ifafsnrp.ag.iastate.edu/>

Submit project workbook and photos for the web to Jason at
Jason_Decker@hotmail.com

Partner Activities

Fort Berthold Community College

Stacey Mortensen is the new NRE instructor at FBCC. Stacey has had her own Chiropractic Clinic in Stanley and New Town, North Dakota since February 2004. She has a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry from the University of North Dakota at Grand Forks and Doctor of Chiropractic from Western States Chiropractic College in Portland, Oregon. Stacey expects to teach a broad range of courses that have natural resource connections, such as organic, inorganic and physical chemistry. We welcome Stacey to the NRE team.



Stacey Mortensen, NRE Instructor, FBCC

Fort Berthold Community College and Iowa State University

Meteorology 102 will be offered at FBCC through distance education for a course taught by Dr. Elwynn Taylor, Iowa State University. The class consists of 13 lectures with assignments, a series of in-class small group projects, two tests, and some extra credit options. Each class period will consist of two sections, weather theory and applications with assignments associated with both. Lectures are delivered by CD to accompany required texts.



Dr. Elwynn Taylor, Professor of Agronomy, explains the meteorology distance education class to Dr. Subodh Singh, SGU

The topics include:

1. What Makes the Weather? Heat, air pressure, wind, moisture, and clouds.
2. Rain, Snow, Dew, and Frost. Nature, types, origins and rainmaking.
3. The Atmosphere. Restless ocean of air, structure and function
4. The Earth's Motions and Weather. Seasonal changes, earth's rotation and wind.
5. Highs and Lows. Pressure cells, winds, and associated weather
6. Air Masses. Major air masses of the world, their identification and role as weather sources.
7. Fronts and Frontal Weather. How fronts form, move, and change.
8. Storms. Origin, development, and effects of thunderstorms, tornadoes, and hurricanes.
9. Weather Forecasting. Weather instruments and how they are used to forecast.
10. Weather Maps. Plotting and charting data, reading maps and your own forecasts.
11. Weather and Climate. Average conditions worth knowing for day by day understanding.

The meteorology course can be made available to other Tribal Colleges. FBCC is leading the way for this particular course as a part of their science and environment offerings, coordinated by Kerry Hartman.

Where in the World?

Subodh Singh, NRE instructor at SGU, writes from India about natural resources in different parts of the country. Subodh and his family will return to SGU in August.

In the western part of India up by the Pakistan border, where Subodh's home region, is mostly covered by the Thar desert, and is famous among tourists for marvelous forts. The Central region is mostly plain with some forests, herb and rice cultivation and the world famous Tajmahal. About 1/3 the size of the United States, the country has many types of climate, ranging from the monsoon season in the south to temperate in the north.

Regarding water: India has a number of rivers, the largest being the Ganges, but some parts are short of water due to poor distribution, floods, and irrigation. In the 1980s, a large canal project was constructed to collect water from 3 rivers and distribute that to the 4 driest states, including Subodh's own state Rajasthan.

In the August newsletter, read more about air, forests and fisheries of India. Check information about India at <http://www.cia.gov/cia/publications/factbook/geos/in.html>.

Linda Hugelen, NRE instructor at Sitting Bull College will participate in a conference in Montreal, Canada from August 8-12. Justin Parisien, President of the SBC Ecology Club, and Linda received travel awards to the ESA Annual Meeting where they will be presenting a poster on the Ecology Club projects. Linda will also present at oral session.

Hank Miller, NRE instructor at Nebraska Indian College is in Bolivia for 10 days participating in an international dimension of the prairie PhD program.

First Friday Monthly Conference Calls

There will be no First Friday Conference Call on August 5. Because of the Labor Day holiday, the September Conference Call will be on Friday, September 9. The theme for the conference call will be the annual meeting coming up later in the month at SGU.

SBC New Campus Projects Result From Collaboration

NRE at Sitting Bull College has projects with a student organization and SDSU to make the new campus an area of appeal while requiring minimum maintenance. The Sitting Bull College Ecology Club was awarded financial assistance through the Ecological Society of American (ESA) through the SEEDS (Strategies for Ecology Education, Development and Sustainability) program to provide research leadership on Standing Rock Indian Reservation, to seed native grass in a research/demonstration site, and establish wildlife habitat on the new campus. Linda Hugelen is the Ecology Club Advisor, and Dr. Leo Schleicher from South Dakota State University, a Turfgrass Specialist, is working with Linda and the students in this project.



*James Parisien, student Ecology Club member.
Dr. Leo Schleicher, SDSU*