

Working with Experiment Stations, Academic Departments, and Stakeholders on Water Quality Education and Data Enhancement.

- Brian D. LeBlanc
 - LSU Agricultural Center
 - Louisiana Sea Grant College Program
 - Hammond Research Station
 - Hammond, LA

Historical Relationships in Louisiana

- Stations and departments conduct research
- Extension exports research if applicable and if aware
- Two interacted rarely or only when research projects were completed and if data had needed application

Improvement over last several years (my perspective)

- Research and Extension functions more heavily and formally integrated
- Extension, Research, Academic appointments often dictate that faculty have similar goals
- Client and institutional needs have much to do with extent of interaction
- Much outside funding requires integration of resources
- Most important-- no defined, rigid prohibition of crossing over into non-traditional roles

Needs of Extension Professional and Research Professional must be considered

- What will stakeholder group get out of it?
- What will Research professional get out of it?
- What will Extension professional get out of it?
- Will both be rewarded and supported by administration?

General requirements for real interaction (my experience)

- Project must have practical application
- Project should have support of commodity or trade assoc, interested environmental groups, local and state gov. etc.
- Project must be designed with publication in both scientific and popular or extension media as part of the outputs
- Consensus must be reached about educational outreach while project is underway
- Extension and Research professional must be willing to get out of comfort zone
- Equal credit given both parties at both the research and extension level

WHY BOTHER?

- Is your university thinking about or conducting BMP or water quality education for commodity groups?
 - Need data specific for your region or commodity to educate clientele?
 - Need permanent or frequent access to sites for demonstration and educational purposes?
 - Need access to more sophisticated laboratory analysis?
 - Need more control over variables that could effect your data?
 - Need assistance and expertise at interpreting complex data?
 - Need specific information for your program that is not currently available?
 - Need outside funding?
 - Need publications, tenure, promotion?

Building the relationship takes effort and time

- Must demonstrate need for project
 - Stakeholders
 - Other Faculty you need to succeed
- Not enough to ask for research on a particular problem
- Must be willing to get involved in a substantial way
- Do preliminary lit. reviews. Know what you are talking about and asking for: space, needs, length of project, money, time commitments.
- What you will do
- May have to start and stay involved with external funding request
- Make it as easy as possible for people to say yes

Some projects underway or pending at LSU AgCenter Properties

■ Dairy Waste Management

– Southeast Louisiana Dairy Experiment Station, Franklinton, LA

- Consist of experimental lagoons and wetland treatments (described more fully in poster presentation)
- Cooperation with station scientist Dr. Vinicius Moreira
- Cooperation with LSU Microbiology Dept. scientist Dr. Eric Archberger
- Cooperation with UNO Biology Dept. scientist Dr. Mike Poirrier
- Supported by non-governmental environmental group called the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation.
- Supported by USDA
- LSU Sea Grant College Program
- Past and future field days, publications







Some projects underway or pending at LSU AgCenter Properties

■ Forestry BMP Performance

- At Lee Memorial Forest in Sheridan, LA
- Consist of monitoring water quality, fish assemblages, and macro invertebrates of creek that runs through a 22 acre tract of forest for 12-16 months prior to harvest. Continued monitoring during and after harvest.
- Monitoring stations at upper creek above harvest tract, midway through harvest tract, and below harvest.
- Field days, demonstrations, and publications
- Applicable BMPs during harvest
 - Stream side management zone
 - Logging road construction
 - Tributary crossings
 - Etc.

- Supported by LSU AgCenter, LCES
- LSU Sea Grant College Program
- Cooperation with
 - Louisiana Forestry Assoc.
 - Logging Council of Louisiana
 - LSU AgCenter's School of Renewable Natural Resources
 - Dr. Cornelius DeHoope
 - Dr. Bill Kelso
 - Dr. Joe Neglid



Some projects underway or pending at LSU AgCenter Properties

- Evaluating plant species in a greenhouse recirculation system, storm water retention basin and wetlands for landscape runoff pollution mitigation
- Hammond Horticultural Research Station
 - Hammond, LA
 - Consist of screening wetland plants with esthetic or landscape potential for their ability, rate, and efficiency of nutrient and landscape chemical abatement using a Nutrient Recirculation System
 - Selected plant trials to be conducted on station using retention basin with overflow into small wetland containing these plant species

Some projects underway or pending at LSU AgCenter Properties

- Cooperation with station scientist Dr. Regina Bracy
- Cooperation with station scientist Dr. Yan Chen
- Cooperation with station scientist Dr. Dick Parish
- Cooperation with UNO scientist Dr. Sarah Ferarnley
- Cooperation with UNO scientist Dr. Ron Stossel

- Supported by Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation
- Supported by South East Louisiana Nursery Growers Assoc.
- Supported by Louisiana Sea Grant College Program



