

2012 SASES Regional Conference Proposal

Iowa State University- Ames, Iowa

The Iowa State University Undergraduate Agronomy Club is very excited to have the opportunity to host the 2012 SASES Regional Conference in Ames, Iowa. Many members of the club have been very active in proposing various ways to showcase all aspects of agriculture in the great state of Iowa. Our proposed schedule of events for the conference is as follows:

FRIDAY

1:00-4:30 pm Early Bird Tours

- ISU Agronomy Research Farm or Horticulture Farm
- Various ISU livestock farms including Beef, Swine, Sheep or brand new Dairy farm
- Bio Century Research Farm- First-in-the-nation integrated research and demonstration farm devoted to biomass production and processing.

5:00-6:00 pm Industry Networking Event

Location: Farm Bureau Pavilion, ISU Campus

6:00-6:15 pm Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Lamkey, Agronomy Department Chair, and Dr. Wintersteen, Dean of CALS.

Location: Farm Bureau Pavilion, ISU Campus

6:15-7:30 pm Dinner

Grill-out prepared by Agronomy Club Grill Team

Location: Farm Bureau Pavilion, ISU Campus

7:30-9:00 pm Break

9:00-12:00 pm Game Time

Arcade, Bowling, Laser Tag at Perfect Games

SATURDAY

7:00 am-4:00 pm Tours

Tour 1: Mycogen Seeds Production Plant, Grinnell Heritage Farm (organic vegetable production), Nitrogen Removal Plant (largest in world), Egg and Chicken production Farm

Tour 2: Dekalb(Monsanto) Production Plant, Barilla Production Facility, Apple Farm, Turkey Farm.

Tour 3: Pioneer Headquarters, John Deere Sprayer/Cotton Picker/Tillage Equipment Production Facility, Swine Farm, Ethanol Production Facility

Tour 4: Ag Leader Technologies Headquarters, Syngenta Production Plant, Wind Farm, Prairie Moon Winery

Tour 5 (if needed to accommodate extra people): Ag Reliant Genetics, USDA Fishery, Poultry Farm, Ethanol Production Facility

5:00-6:00 pm National Officers' Meeting

Location: Hotel Board Room

6:00-7:00 pm Presidents' Meeting

Location: Hotel Board Room

7:00-8:00 pm Banquet Dinner

Location: Hotel Banquet Room
8:00-9:00 pm Keynote Speaker
Location: Hotel Banquet Room
10:00-12:00 Broomball Tournament
Location: ISU Hockey Arena

All times and locations are currently tentative until we create the final schedule. Unfortunately, we have many more stops we would like to make than time will allow but we have created a tour schedule that we believe incorporates many aspects and sizes of Iowa agriculture. We also have added an extra tour that we will put people on if our registration exceeds the 200 people planned.

Hotel accommodations will be reserved at the Holiday Inn and Suites Conference Center in Ames. It is located within two miles of campus and is a very simple drive. Holiday Inn also has the lowest charges in town for the size of facility and accommodations we need. A large banquet room and smaller board room will be reserved as well at the hotel. Venue locations will include the hotel banquet hall and Kildee Hall's Farm Bureau Pavilion where the ISU College of Ag and Life Sciences hosts many large events. Both places will be large enough to fit 200 people.

Our club has narrowed the banquet keynote speaker down to either Mark Pearson or Bill Northey. Mark Pearson is one of the funniest and most insightful Economists in the country today. He hosts the nationally syndicated public television program "Market to Market" and the highly acclaimed program "The Big Show" on several midwest radio stations, including WHO radio in Des Moines, Iowa. Bill Northey is a fourth generation farmer from Spirit Lake, Iowa who grows corn and soybeans. He is serving his second term as Iowa Secretary of Agriculture after being reelected in November of 2010. His priorities as Secretary of Agriculture are advancing science and new technologies to better care for our air, soil and water and reaching out to all Iowans to tell the story of Iowa agriculture.

Social activities may change but many members have expressed a desire to host an inter-club Broomball Tournament. Broomball is an Iowa State Intramural tradition and is played much like hockey on the ISU Hockey Arena. Perfect Games is a large facility in town that includes bowling, laser tag, an arcade, and a pizza place. They allow reservations and would also be a great option for one of the nights' activities.

Our club has done some researching on the costs of food, transportation, social activities, and housing and our working budget is as follows:

Lodging:

Holiday Inn and Suites Conference Center
\$94/night
Banquet Room \$500
Board Room Free

Transportation:

Midwest Coaches
4 buses x 8 hours x \$85= \$2720-\$2900 (overestimation for fuel cost rises)

Food:

Breakfasts: Hotel-included in hotel cost
Friday Dinner: BBQ by ISU Agronomy Club Grill Team (burgers,brats,chips,dessert,drink)
\$350

Saturday Tour Lunch: Subway Meal Boxes (6" sandwich, chips, cookie) plus drink
\$5.50x200=\$1100

Saturday Banquet Dinner: Holiday Food Staff
\$15.95x200=\$3190

Social Activities:

Perfect Games

Cosmic Bowling-24 lanes at 3 hours \$2303.28

Laser Tag/Arcade Package-2 games laser tag plus \$15 arcade money-\$3398

Costs to be determined:

Keynote speaker

Thank you gifts to guest and keynote speakers

Reservation of Farm Bureau Pavilion

Broomball Reservation

T-shirts

Pricing is still workable with many items listed but this gives an overall idea of expenses. We would like the attending schools to pay for their own lodging as well as a registration cost of approximately \$20/person. Our club has relationships with many companies in the industry and we feel that we will be able to find funding beyond the registration costs to cover the rest of our activities. These companies and organizations include Farmer's Cooperative, Iowa Cattlemen's Association, Iowa Pork Producers, Iowa Soybean Association, Iowa Farm Bureau, Pioneer, Monsanto, John Deere, and Land O Lakes.

Our club has consists of over 30 active members that would all love to host the SASSES Regional Conference in 2012. We have more than enough man power to plan and facilitate this conference and we are looking forward to this opportunity. If chosen to host, we will form an official committee within our club immediately to start reservations and logistics of all tours, food, transportation, social activities, speakers, etc.

Any further comments or questions may be directed to Tyler Reimers by email at treimers@iastate.edu or by phone at (712) 269-5470.

Tyler Reimers
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