

2017 VATAT Conference Workshops

Tentative List

Workshop Title: Advanced Technical Credit Opportunities for Agriculture Students in Texas

Presenter(s): Kristine Chadwick - Educational Policy Improvement Center

Description: Learn about the statewide Advanced Technical Credit (ATC) program, which offers articulated college credit for courses offered at the high school level. The workshop will provide information about the courses available to students in the agriculture cluster, the requirements for teaching an ATC-approved course, and where to go to learn more.

Workshop Title: AET Basics

Presenter(s): Vanessa Rutherford - The AET

Description: Come learn about the necessities of navigating AET along with great tips on how to improve your record book experience, for you and your students. Bring your laptop and your record book questions.

Workshop Title: Ag Robotics Competitions

Presenter(s): Jana Wilson - New Waverly and Doug Ullrich - Sam Houston State University

Description: This workshop will cover ag robotics competition rules and expectations, tips for training a team, and will discuss required equipment and supplies.

Workshop Title: Agricultural Mechanics: Budget Minded Teaching Approaches

Presenter(s): Jeff Reed - University of Missouri and Curtis Langley - Tarleton State University

Description: This workshop will discuss and demonstrate two different methods for teaching an agricultural mechanic laboratory. The first methods will be creating a trailer wiring model and trailer wiring tester. The second method will be designing and utilizing a scaled version boom sprayer for utilization with sprayer calibration and nozzle selection.

Workshop Title: Agriscience Fair

Presenter(s): Andrea Nordman - Florence and Janell McMullan - James Madison

Description: This workshop will cover developing and completing a science fair project.

Workshop Title: Alternative SAEs - Seeking Out Students Who Hold Back

Presenter(s): Tracy Krueger - Ferris and Hannah Moon - Mansfield

Description: This workshop will discuss using non-traditional animal programs as SAE's for those students not connecting with traditional livestock.

Workshop Title: Animal Clipping and Fitting

Presenter(s): Wade Shackelford - Prosper

Description: This workshop will explain the proper way(s) to clip & fit animals for show purposes.

Workshop Title: Animal Science Pathway

Presenter(s): Amy Podlewski - Beckville

Description: This workshop will walk you through Small Animal Management, Veterinary Medical Applications, Advanced Animal Science and Veterinary Science Practicum. Presenters will discuss course materials and syllabus, cross-curriculum for core classes, starting your vet science program, industry certifications, information regarding bringing animals into the classroom, and much more.

Workshop Title: Best Classroom Practices

Presenter(s): Liz Treptow - Weimar, Jessica Reeves - Tomball, Misty Richter - Navasota, Erynne Jenschke - Cinco Ranch and Michele Knox - Rudder

Description: Hands-on learning takes on a whole new meaning when it comes to AFNR classes. Teachers from across Texas will share their best classroom practices in several different areas.

Workshop Title: Best Practices for AFNR Programs

Presenter(s): Jeff Eichman and Tally Stout - Region 6 ESC

Description: This workshop will focus on all aspects of an Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources program. A wide array of topics will be discussed, including budgets, advisor roles, communication, travel and other subjects that should be included in your local policies and procedures.

Workshop Title: Competitive Edge...Get It! Use It! Share It!

Presenter(s): Aaron Alejandro - Texas FFA Foundation

Description: Whether we are promoting our local program, competing for the minds and attention of our students and communities, or empowering our students to excel in their collegiate or professional careers, having a competitive edge can make the difference. This workshop will share the best practices in use of strategies, technology and concepts which have assisted in setting the development efforts of the Texas FFA Foundation apart from peers both at the state and national level. Participants will be provided strategies, methods and tools to assist in developing the individual brands of teachers, local program and ways to empower their students.

Workshop Title: Constructing Homecoming Mums and Garters

Presenter(s): Kori Adams - Clear Falls, Kim New - Pasadena Memorial, Brooke Lyles - New Caney and Lisa Pieper - Caldwell

Description: This workshop will teach participants how to construct a mum or garter, in addition to fashioning different ribbon braids.

Workshop Title: Creating the Perfect Proficiency Award Application

Presenter(s): David Frazier - Tarleton State University

Description: Understanding how to fill out a proficiency award application is a skill that requires basic training. This workshop will concentrate on the basics of developing proficiency awards applications that are complete and competitive.

Workshop Title: CTE and AFNR Program Information From TEA

Presenter(s): Ron Whitson - Texas Education Agency

Description: This workshop will cover new and relevant TEA updates, including an overview of the new and revised projects and programs that affect career and technical education (CTE) and Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources. Participants will gain information related to CTE funding, the Carl D. Perkins CTE grant program, teacher certification, instructional materials and other topics related to conducting a quality CTE program, with an emphasis on agriculture education. This workshop will be an expanded version of the information that is presented by the State Director during the general session, and will include an opportunity for questions and answers.

Workshop Title: Different Painting Systems and Applications to Fit Your Budget

Presenter(s): John Templeton - A&M Consolidated

Description: This workshop will discuss painting and finishing agriculture mechanic projects and will cover various ways to stay within a budget. We will go over paint selection, application methods and tools used to achieve a desired finish.

Workshop Title: Discover TPWD's Education and Outreach Programs

Presenter(s): Johnnie E. Smith, Kiki Corry and Kiera Quam - TPWD

Description: TPWD presents Texas Aquatic Science, Angler Education, and Project WILD. These three programs contribute directly to meeting the TEKS requirements for the Wildlife, Fisheries, and Ecology Management course. TPWD staff and volunteers will demonstrate hands on activities from each curriculum and explain how you can incorporate them into your course.

Workshop Title: Dogs in the Classroom

Presenter(s): Mike Roy - Continental Kennel Club

Description: Come learn about Continental Kennel Club's exciting and fun Canine Care and Training Program. This program prepares students for a career with dogs. The program can be taught as a stand-alone curriculum, or as a supplement to your small animal/pre-vet courses.

Workshop Title: Engaging Minds

Presenter(s): Shannon Miller - Carrollton-Farmers Branch and Tracy Cofield - R.L Turner

Description: Instructional activities to use in the classroom to enhance classroom instruction and develop student lead discussion.

Workshop Title: Fabricating Careers for Your Students

Presenter(s): TD Industries

Description: Join us for a half-day workshop to learn about our unique Servant Leadership culture and hear about the vast array of opportunities available within our company and industry. Participants will take a tour of our prefabrication shop; attend mini breakout sessions regarding career paths for degreed and non-degreed individuals within construction, facilities, and service; and receive an overview of the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum and how it relates to the construction industry. The charter bus leave the convention center at 8:30 am, and return around 12:30 pm.

Workshop Title: First Week of School Activities

Presenter(s): Liz Treptow - Weimar, Erynne Jenschke - Cinco Ranch and Roxanne Herbrich - Columbus

Description: For some, the beginning of the school year can be the most challenging time of the year due to schedule changes, add-drop, moving, etc. Some schools even encourage teachers to postpone curriculum instruction until the second week. This means a variety of activities, questionnaires, forms, etc. are needed to fill the gap. This workshop will provide materials you might want to use to preempt AFNR core instruction.

Workshop Title: Floral Design in the High School Classroom - Building on the Basics

Presenter(s): Jack Winterrowd - Texas State Floral Association

Description: The presentation will focus on the best mechanics, proper proportion, depth and proper balance of floral design. The constant guidelines of composition, harmony focal point, balance, proportion, line rhythm, texture and color governs the design and will be featured.

Workshop Title: Grants for AFNR Projects

Presenter(s): Robert L. "Bob" Williams - Texas A&M University-Commerce

Description: This workshop will provide an overview of the grant writing process along with strategies for addressing common components of grant applications.

Workshop Title: Hay Judging on the Forage Evaluation CDE

Presenter(s): Robert A. Lane - Sam Houston State University

Description: New rules regarding the Forage Evaluation CDE hay judging component will be discussed and an opportunity to practice on actual hay samples will be provided. Participants are encouraged to bring their own samples for evaluation by other participants.

Workshop Title: Horticulture Labs without a Greenhouse

Presenter(s): Tim Closs - Naaman Forest

Description: Veteran and new teachers share lab ideas that can be used to teach Horticulture with or without a greenhouse. Learn to micropropagate plants in baby food jars, how to create live walls, common propagation techniques, soil studies and other topics. Bring your ideas to share what works for you.

Workshop Title: How to Master the Ag Teacher Balancing Act

Presenter(s): Danni Lunsford - Garrison, Morgan Meyer - White Oak and Robert Reynolds - Alba-Golden

Description: Between a person's family and career, it can be difficult to balance an ag teacher's chaotic lifestyle. This workshop will provide three different perspectives and will discuss balancing families and careers throughout different life phases.

Workshop Title: iCEV Implementation: Tips, Advice & Strategies for the Beginning User

Presenter(s): Dusty Moore and Clayton Franklin - CEV

Description: This session is for a first-time user of the iCEV platform. Learn from iCEV team members as they provide detailed demonstrations of the Proclamation 2017, state-approved courses. Suggested pacing guides, TEKS-correlation alignments and detailed lesson plans provide time-saving solutions, and thought-provoking student projects and interactive activities enhance student learning. From automatic testing and grading to managing class rosters to industry-backed certifications, learn how iCEV's course content and management tools can make classroom implementation simply and easy. Additionally, how to utilize LDE/CDE training materials will also be discussed.

Workshop Title: iCEV Implementation: Tips, Advice & Strategies for Student Licenses

Presenter(s): Dusty Moore and Clayton Franklin - CEV

Description: This session is for the more tenured or advanced user of the iCEV platform. Learn from iCEV team members as they provide detailed demonstrations of iCEV's Proclamation 2017, state-approved courses, specifically the incorporation of student licenses. From industry-backed certifications to classroom roster management to automatic testing and grading, acquire tips on how to best maximize iCEV's course content and management tools.

Workshop Title: Ideas to Incorporate Record Keeping in Your Classroom

Presenter(s): Mary Wilson - The AET, Fallon Boenig - Cypress Woods, Sommer Thomas - Tomball and Melissa Loerwald - Florence

Description: Tired of spending late nights and weekends trying to catch your students up on their record books? Why not take advantage of your AFNR TEKS and start record books in your classroom in September? Get your FFA roster done easier and quicker. Be ready in the spring to see all Mets and challenge your students to find success with Texas FFA Awards that flow from routine quality record keeping.

In this workshop, teachers will share their strategies and experiences for getting every student in the class to keep SAEs and journal their experiences in ag education. You will also leave with ideas to grade your students records, have your students track their time, summary of SAE ideas and much more.

Workshop Title: Implementing Trapping into your Wildlife Classroom

Presenter(s): Robin Wheelus - Devine, Earle Blakney and David Simpson - TTFHA, Monica Bickerstaff and Brock Minton - TPWD

Description: This workshop will focus on different ways to implement trapping into your wildlife classroom. With states losing their hunting and trapping rights, it is time to become proactive in educating students, educators and the public regarding the necessity of using trapping as a wildlife management tool.

Workshop Title: IMS Online - Your Affordable Solution to Curriculum and Online Testing

Presenter(s): Roger Hanagriff and Kirk Edney - Texas A&M University

Description: This workshop will cover content management resources from Texas A&M University's IMS System that can save you time, allows you to share educational content with your students and manages online test. Learn more our features and how to boost technology use in the classroom.

Workshop Title: Introduction to AutoCAD Inventor

Presenter(s): Jay Newton - Vega

Description: This workshop will provide a basic introduction to the capability of AutoCAD Inventor. AutoCAD Inventor is a 3D drafting program used to design plans for Ag. Mechanics Projects. Information will be provided on how to get a free copy for students and your school.

Workshop Title: Judging Chapter Conducting

Presenter(s): Dwayne Pavelock - Sam Houston State University

Description: There will never be a completely objective approach to judging chapter conducting with 100% accuracy. But judges should at least be consistent and fair, while using common sense. This workshop will focus on discussing and developing some consistencies and basic skills in judging the Chapter Conducting LDE.

Workshop Title: Know Your Timeline: "Things They Didn't Tell You on the Block."

Presenter(s): Jimmy Key - Grandview

Description: This workshop will help newer teachers understand school protocol, timelines and deadlines, as well as ways to discover valuable resources to make the job easier.

Workshop Title: Livestock Selection

Presenter(s): Kevin Thomas - Jacksboro and Stu Dildine - Bullard

Description: Improve your ability to select animals that are useful in improving your livestock projects as well as developing specific evaluation skills that are useful in the livestock industry. There will be three different sections including swine, sheep/goats and cattle.

Workshop Title: Make Google Classroom Work for You

Presenter(s): Emily Veraa and Jeff Kelley - Leander

Description: Google Classroom is a great way to post and collect classroom assignments and have classroom discussions. Let technology help you and your students. Workshop attendees are requested to bring a laptop or tablet to the session.

Workshop Title: Nepris: Connecting Industry to Classrooms

Presenter(s): Steve Bradshaw - Paradise

Description: This workshop will provide information regarding Nepris; an online live interactive feed that puts industry professionals in your classroom for live chat and instructional purposes.

Workshop Title: New AET Program Management Tools

Presenter(s): Roger Hanagriff - Texas A&M University

Description: This workshop will cover teacher tools in AET and ways you can get students to lead the process. All of the strategic planning (POA) flow directly into FFA's National Chapter Award, again saving time and letting students lead the process. Other areas include managing student accounts and the teacher journal.

Workshop Title: New Commercial Driver's License Requirements

Presenter(s): Jessica Koetting - Claude and Amber Campise - Pearland

Description: This workshop will review the new commercial driver's license requirements, including new pre-trip information, written tests tips, and other resources.

Workshop Title: Poinsettia Crop Basics

Presenter(s): Tracey Cortez - Lanier

Description: This workshop will discuss how to grow and market a successful poinsettia crop from start to finish.

Workshop Title: Practical Interactive Notebook Strategies

Presenter(s): Brandy Elrod - Concordia Lutheran, Lily Pruitt - Chavez and Courtney Champagne

Description: This workshop will teach you how to implement Interactive Notebooks (IN) into your curriculum, create templates both tangible and virtual, convert current curriculum to IN materials, and find resources. Other skills discussed will be how to manage and grade notebooks without losing your mind. This session is for anyone new to INs, as well as the veteran IN users.

Workshop Title: Preparing Teams for the New Invitational AFNR Quiz Bowl

Presenter(s): Gary Briers and Lori Moore - Texas A&M University

Description: This workshop will discuss the new AFNR Quiz Bowl that is a state-level invitational competition for students who just completed Principles of AFNR.

Workshop Title: Principles of AFN-R You Ready?

Presenter(s): Jennifer Jackson - Centennial and Julie Anderson - Liberty

Description: AFN-R you ready to teach Principles of AFNR? You will be after this workshop! We will cover innovative projects encompassing hands-on activities, technology driven curriculum, and a whole lot of fun. Participants will leave with the means and methods to make sure that this foundation course gives students the motivation to continue on the agriculture science pathway.

Workshop Title: Principles of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources

Presenter(s): John Rayfield, Kasee Smith and Dave Boelio - Texas Tech University

Description: This workshop will showcase newly developed instructional materials for teaching Principles of AFNR. Materials are aligned with TEKS and have several added features such as STEM connections.

Workshop Title: Promoting Career and Technical Education

Presenter(s): Mark McClure - Cleburne and Mark Boshier - Waxahachie

Description: Finding the time and resources to promote your program can be difficult. This workshop will provide information that is proven to put your program on the map.

Workshop Title: Responsibilities and Liabilities

Presenter(s): Paul Jordan and Kathryn Porter - Sneed, Vine & Perry, P. C.

Description: This session will discuss a few tips that might save you some headaches and possibly your job, teaching certificate and VATAT some money on attorney fees.

Workshop Title: Safely Managing an Agricultural Mechanics Laboratory

Presenter(s): Ryan Saucier - Sam Houston State University

Description: This workshop is designed to provide real-world advice, materials, and methods in maintaining student safety in an agricultural mechanics laboratory. A panel of mid-career ag teachers will provide insight into best practices.

Workshop Title: Stop Reinventing the Wheel: Free Resources

Presenter(s): Charlotte Main - Bullard

Description: This workshop will focus on using free resources that are available at your fingertips, all located in one location! Everything from substitute lesson plans, to leadership lesson plans. Other resources include a sample chapter officer application/contract; chapter handbook, recruitment and retention flyers, etc. All of this, and more is ready for you to plug your information into and go!

Workshop Title: Teaching Basic Agricultural Mechanics

Presenter(s): Ryan Saucier - Sam Houston State University

Description: This workshop will place emphasis on metal, wood working, concrete, electricity, and plumbing skills. Hands-on teaching aids and plans will be provided.

Workshop Title: Teaching Minority students in Agriscience

Presenter(s): Sam Thomas - Chireno, Kenneth Parker - Thurgood Marshall and C.G Geurro

Description: This workshop will explore methods to improve the performance of minority student in the ag classroom. Teachers will share ideas and concepts that have helped minority students effectively improve their development.

Workshop Title: TEKS Implementation 2017

Presenter(s): Ron Whitson - Texas Education Agency

Description: This workshop will provide an overview of the new CTE TEKS, with an emphasis on the courses from the AFNR Career Cluster and provide strategies and best practices for utilizing the new courses. Information will serve as supplement to available online TEKS training.

Workshop Title: Texas Agricultural Education Regarding the Absence of Diverse Students

Presenter(s): John Denson - Longview

Description: This workshop will present dissertation findings including evidence-based conclusions that inform administrators and agriculture food and natural resource(AFNR) teachers how to increase interest and participation of African American students in agriculture and FFA programs.

Workshop Title: The AET On the Go - The Mobile App

Presenter(s): Vanessa Rutherford - The AET

Description: Come learn about the cool new features of the web-based mobile app from The AET. You will learn about photo uploading for SAEs, calendar events, and how your students can manage their SAEs using their phones.

Workshop Title: The Fundamentals of Exhibition/Breeding Poultry

Presenter(s): Craig Rounsaville - Frisco and Monty Fitzgerald - Poultry Judge

Description: This workshop will provide information concerning securing good birds, housing, diseases control, show preparation and exhibition.

Workshop Title: Training a Agronomy CDE Team

Presenter(s): Tyler McCoy - Byron Nelson, Jamie Willson - Cleburne, Materials Provided by Brock Blaser - West Texas A&M University

Description: This workshop will cover various components of the Agronomy CDE contest and provide tips and advice on how to train a successful team, in the growing and in-demand career field of Plant Sciences. This contest is growing in popularity and gives students opportunities to compete at National Convention and collegiately. Training materials and resources will be provided by Dr. Brock Blaser and West Texas A&M.

Workshop Title: Training a Entomology CDE Team

Presenter(s): Greta Schuster - Texas A&M University - Kingsville

Description: This workshop will cover various components of the Entomology CDE contest and provide tips and advice on how to train a successful team.

Workshop Title: Training a Tractor Tech Team

Presenter(s): Doug Kingman - Texas A&M University and Curtis Langley - Tarleton State University

Description: This workshop will cover various components of the Tractor Tech contest and provide tips and advice on how to train a successful team. Updates will also be provided regarding changes within the contest.

Workshop Title: Training a Wool Judging CDE Team

Presenter(s): Will Dickison - Angelo State University and Mike Wallace - La Vernia

Description: This workshop will cover various components of the Wool Judging CDE contest and provide tips and advice on how to train a successful team.

Workshop Title: Understanding Muscle Concepts of the Equine and Canine Anatomy with Clay

Presenter(s): Phillip Thielemann - Lamar

Description: In this workshop, participants will learn comprehensive equine and canine musculature by applying clay onto accurate, realistic scale models. The act of building from the inside-out enhances traditional methods of learning anatomy. This approach provides an active, hands-on experience that reinforces learning and empowers students with a strong sense of accomplishment. Perfect for small and large animal science and veterinary science educators.

Workshop Title: USDA Farm Service Agency: Investing in the Next Generation of American Agriculture

Presenters: Erasmo (Eddie) Trevino and Lauren Hazelrigs - Texas FSA

Description: FSA is committed to supporting American Agriculture's next generation. Discover Texas FSA's "angle" in helping high school students turn abstract concepts into meaningful tools with the new Math in Agricultural Application Project. Learn how Youth Loans can help youth participating in 4-H or FFA fund their future. Explore diverse federal career options in agriculture with USDA.

Workshop Title: Welding Certification

Presenter(s): Jeff Jones - Ranger College

Description: With the passage and implementation of HB-5, certifications are now more important than ever. This work shop will focus on the welding certifications and some of the opportunities for grants that are available.

Workshop Title: What to Expect as a First Year AFNR Teacher

Presenter(s): Michael Derry and Fay Patkowski - Bandera

Description: In this open forum workshop one veteran teacher and one first year teacher will lead a discussion to assist first year AFNR teachers in constructing a monthly calendar for planning a successful first year. Topics will include planning and entering LDEs, CDEs, SDEs, FFA Science Fair, stock shows, and scholarships. We will also discuss teacher evaluations and classroom resources.

Workshop Title: Wildlife Curriculum Implementation

Presenter(s): Scot McClure - Outdoors Tomorrow Foundation

Description: This workshop will discuss the Outdoors Tomorrow Foundation's great set of curriculum that helps with development of wildlife coursework.

Workshop Title: Your TRS Benefits

Presenter(s): Teacher Retirement System of Texas

Description: This workshop will include a review and full array of TRS benefits available to TRS active members, including retirement, disability, death and survivor benefits. Participants will be provided with various ways to contact TRS, as well as TES information that will be useful as active members plan ahead. There will be a questions and answers period at the close of the workshop.