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Increasing Understanding of Public Problems and Policies — 1981

Government Programs and Individual Decisions

Public Support of Research and Extension

Agriculture in the 1980s

Methodology of Public Policy Education

Subjects Discussed at Previous Conferences

- 1964 Education in a Democratic Society • Meeting Our International Obligations • Farm Policy Issues—1965 and Beyond • Extension Programs in Public Policy
- 1965 Emerging Foreign Policy Issues • New Directions: Trade, Aid, Farm Policy • Politics and Agricultural Policy • Human Resource Development Issues
- 1966 Meeting World Food Needs • The Food Marketing System • The Crisis in Cotton • Breaking the Poverty Cycle • Helping People Solve Public Problems
- 1967 Southeast Asia Policy Alternatives • Response to World Food Outlook • Policies for Commercial Agriculture • Minimum Family Income Proposals • Community Development Policy
- 1968 Extension Public Affairs Programs • United States' Role in World Affairs • Agricultural Policy Alternatives • Rural Poverty
- 1969 Successful Extension Programs • Inflation and Economic Growth • Competitive Structure for Agriculture • Foreign Trade and Development • The Changing Structure of American Society
- 1970 The University's Role in Public Policy Education • Policy Issues for the Seventies • Income Maintenance Programs • Environment and Quality of Life
- 1971 Who Makes National Policy? • Struggle for Control of the Food System • Where Will People Live and Work?
- 1972 Current Economic Policy • Who Will Control Agriculture? • Rural Development • Property Rights and Land Use • Policy Education
- 1973 Energy Policy Issues • Policy Education Methods • Land Use Policy • Agricultural and Foreign Trade • New Policy Perspectives and Dimensions
- 1974 State of the Economy • Food Policy • Energy Issues • Land Use Policy and Planning • Improving the Performance of Government
- 1975 The U.S. Economic System • Energy and Transportation • World Food Issues • Domestic Food and Farm Policy • Public Policy Education in Perspective
- 1976 The U.S. Political Economy • Food and Agricultural Policy • Impacts of Judicial and Regulatory Decision Making • Energy Policy
- 1977 Federal Policy Process • U.S. Energy Policy • World Food — U.S. Policy Choices • 1977 Food and Agriculture Legislation • Agent Training and Leadership Development
- 1978 Food and Nutrition Policy • Policy Options for Small Farms • International Agricultural Trade • The Land-Grant System and Public Policy
- 1979 Controlling Inflation: Alternative Approaches, Impacts and Implications • Policy Legislative Process
- 1980 Dispersed vs. Concentrated Agriculture • Ethics of Public Policy • Productivity • Rural Transportation • Energy Policy Issues • Policy Issues and Educational Approaches

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NATIONAL PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION COMMITTEE

- RICHARD BARROWS, Associate Professor, Resource Economics, University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wisconsin
- JOHN W. BERGSTROM, Assistant to Director, Cooperative Extension Service, Pennsylvania State University, University Park, Pennsylvania
- GEORGE CAMPBELL, Extension, USDA, Washington, D.C. (IPA on leave from University of Arizona)
- OTTO DOERING, Associate Professor, Public Policy, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
- N. EUGENE ENGEL, Professor, Resource Economics, University of Massachusetts, Amherst Massachusetts
- HOLLIS D. HALL, Director, Cooperative Extension Service, South Dakota State University, Brookings, South Dakota
- D. RAY HUMBERD, Professor and Leader, Agricultural Economics and Resource Development, Tennessee Cooperative Extension Service, University of Tennessee, Knoxville, Tennessee
- J. PAXTON MARSHALL, Professor, Public Policy, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, Blacksburg, Virginia
- WILLIAM V. NEELY, Program Leader, Public Affairs, Land Use Policy and Energy, Extension, USDA, Washington, D.C.
- JERRY B. SIEBERT, Director, Cooperative Extension Service, University of California, Berkeley, California
- WARREN TROCK, Professor, Department of Economics, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado
- DEAN F. TUTHILL, Professor, Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland
- JOHN T. WOESTE, Dean for Extension, Agricultural Extension Service, University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida

CONSULTANTS

- CHARLES BEER, Deputy Administrator-Agriculture, Extension, USDA, Washington, D.C.
- J. CARROLL BOTTUM, Professor Emeritus, Department of Agricultural Economics, Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana
- JOHN S. BOTTUM, Deputy Administrator for Community and Rural Development, Extension, USDA, Washington, D.C.

HENRY BROOKS, Administrator for 1890 Programs and Associate Director, Maryland Cooperative Extension Service, University of Maryland-ES, Princess Anne, Maryland

KENNETH R. FARRELL, Acting Administrator, Economic Research Service, USDA, Washington, D.C.

CECELIA ROLAND, Senior Extension Associate, Cooperative Extension, Cornell University, Albany, New York

FARM FOUNDATION

R. J. HILDRETH, Managing Director, Farm Foundation, Oak Brook, Illinois

WALTER J. ARMSBRUSTER, Associate Managing Director, Farm Foundation, Oak Brook, Illinois

FOREWORD

This publication reports the major discussions of the 31st National Public Policy Education Conference, held September 14-18, 1981 at Stone Mountain, Georgia. The 117 participants represented most states, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and other public agencies.

The Conference was planned by the National Public Policy Education Committee to stimulate and challenge extension workers responsible for public affairs programs to do a better job in policy education. This should ultimately lead to more intelligent and responsible choices by citizens aimed at solving local and national public programs.

Specific objectives were: (1) to provide timely and useful information on public issues; (2) to explore different approaches in conducting public policy educational programs; and (3) to share ideas and experiences in policy education.

The Farm Foundation, following its policy of close cooperation with the State Extension Services, financed the instructional staff and the transportation of one individual from each Extension Service, as well as publication of this report. It will be made available to state and county extension personnel, to teachers and students and others interested in increasing understanding of public policy issues.

The report was edited by a committee consisting of: Harold Guither, Robert Spitze and David Chicoine, University of Illinois; and Walter Armbruster and R. J. Hildreth, Farm Foundation.

Warren Trock, Chairman
National Public Policy Education Committee
R. J. Hildreth, Managing Director
Farm Foundation

CONTENTS

	Page
SECTION I. GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AND INDIVIDUAL DECISIONS	
The Political/Economic Environment: Are We at a Watershed? Lynn M. Daft	3
How Far Should the Government Go in Providing a Minimum Level of Nutrition? G. William Hoagland	17
How Far Will the Government Go in Providing a Minimum Level of Income? D. Lee Bawden	23
Small Farm Policy: What Role for the Government? Thomal A. Carlin David Houston	30
SECTION II. PUBLIC SUPPORT OF RESEARCH AND EXTENSION	
Public Support for Agricultural Research and Extension—Policy Issues R. J. Hildreth	43
How to Change Agricultural Research and Extension to Make it a Better Investment Emery N. Castle	49
Politics of Public Support of Research and Extension James H. Anderson	55
SECTION III. AGRICULTURE IN THE 1980s	
U.S. Agriculture in the 1980s: Economic Perceptions Kenneth C. Clayton	65
Policy Alternatives to Manage Supply: Management of Our Productive Capacity W. B. Sundquist	81
Policy Alternatives to Manage Supply: Conservation of Land and Water Resources Lawrence W. Libby	93
Policy Alternatives to Manage Demand: Food Reserves and Storage Programs Thomas A. Miller	107
Managing Demand to Minimize Instability in the 1980s: The Trade Dilemma Patrick O'Brien	119
Non-Traditional Products from Corn W. Robert Schwandt	127
SECTION IV. METHODOLOGY OF PUBLIC POLICY EDUCATION	
Community Cultural Development: A Public Affairs Education Program in Florida E. B. Bolton	133
Combining the Resources of Agricultural Economics and Home Economics at 1890 & 1862 Land Grant	

	Page
Institutions for Public Education: The Kentucky Experience	Karen Behm 139
Increasing Your Impact via Leadership Development.	Verne W. House 143 Anne S. Williams
Public Policy Programs—A Political Science Approach	Carole Yoho 147

***Government Programs and
Individual Decisions***