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Increasing Understanding of Public Problems and Policies — 1987

Socioeconomics of Rural America

**Rural Revitalization:
Opportunities, Policy Issues and
Diversification Options**

U.S. Agriculture in the International Arena

**Role of Values, Beliefs and Myths
In Establishing Policy**

Policy Education and the Policy Process

Subjects Discussed at Previous Conferences

- 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
- 1981 Government Programs and Individual Decisions • Public Support of Research and Extension • Agriculture in the 1980s • Methodology of Public Policy Education
- 1982 Domestic Economic Policy • Federal Government Role in Resource Management • Trade Policy • Financing Government Under Tight Budgets • Food Policy
- 1983 Economic Transition • Land Ownership Issues and Policy Education Approaches • The U.S. Food and Agricultural System in the International Setting • The Policy Education Process
- 1984 Federal Deficit • Providing Public Services in an Era of Declining Taxpayer Support • Water Policy • Distribution Issues in Food & Agricultural Policy • Methodology Workshops • Emerging Politics of Food & Agriculture
- 1985 The Changing Face of America • The Changing Face of Agriculture • Status of 1985 Agricultural and Food Legislation • Tax Policy Revision • Developing Policy Education Programs on Controversial Issues
- 1986 Balancing the Federal Budget • Effects of Agricultural and Trade Policies on the Competitiveness of U.S. Agriculture • Human Stress and Adjustment in Agriculture • The Food Security Act of 1985 and Public Policy Education for the Future

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FOREWORD

This publication reports the major discussions of the 37th National Public Policy Education Conference held September 14-17, 1987, in Kennebunkport, Maine. The 118 participants represented most states, the United States Department of Agriculture and other public agencies.

The conference, planned by the National Public Policy Education Committee, is held to help those extension workers responsible for public affairs programs do a better job in policy education. This, in turn, should help citizens faced with solving local and national problems make more intelligent and responsible decisions.

Specific objectives were: (1) to provide timely and useful information on public issues; (2) to explore different approaches to 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. The Foundation also financed publication and distribution of these proceedings which are made available to state and county extension personnel, teachers, students and others interested in increasing understanding of public policy issues.

Barry L. Flinchbaugh, Chairman
National Public Policy
Education Committee

R.J. Hildreth, Managing Director
Farm Foundation

January, 1988

CONTENTS

	Page
SECTION I. SOCIOECONOMICS OF RURAL AMERICA	
Socioeconomic Trends Changing Rural America	Kenneth P. Wilkinson 3
Economic Renaissance: The Massachusetts Experience	James M. Howell 16
SECTION II. RURAL REVITALIZATION: OPPORTUNITIES, POLICY ISSUES AND DIVERSIFICATION OPTIONS	
Revitalizing Rural America: Issues and Challenges	Ayse Somersan 29
Commodity Programs and Rural Revitalization	Keith J. Collins James G. Vertrees 34
Rural Revitalization: Role of and Policies for Entrepreneurship	Dennis A. Watkins Thomas G. Allen 52
Policy Issues Affecting Agricultural Alternatives	Walter J. Armbruster 68
SECTION III. U.S. AGRICULTURE IN THE INTERNATIONAL ARENA	
Policy Aspects of International Capital Flows in Relation to U.S. Agriculture	John Mutti 81
Trade Negotiations and the Future of American Agriculture	Leo V. Mayer Wayne W. Sharp 92

Agricultural Development and the Third World Market for U.S. Farm Exports	Robert L. Paarlberg	101
SECTION IV. ROLE OF VALUES, BELIEFS AND MYTHS IN ESTABLISHING POLICY		
Values, Beliefs and Myths in Agricultural and Rural Policy	Don Paarlberg	111
Values, Beliefs and Myths in Natural Resources Policy Making . . .	Maurice M. Kelso	118
<i>WORKSHOPS</i>		
Agriculture and Ground Water Quality: Challenges and Opportunities for Public Policy Education	Charles W. Abdalla	133
Agriculture and Groundwater Quality: The Arizona Experience	Harry W. Ayer	143
Agriculture and Groundwater Quality: The Florida Experience	Roy R. Carriker	149
Canada-U.S. Trade Negotiations: A View from Canadian Agriculture	Erna van Duren Larry Martin	157
Policies for Noncommercial Farms	W. Fred Woods	171
Policy Issues Related to Small-Scale, Part-Time Farms in the Northeast	John Pontius	175
General Revenue Sharing and Tax Reform Changes: Implications for State and Local Government	Lynn R. Harvey	183
Fiscal Federalism and Minnesota Tax Policy	Arley D. Waldo	193
Tax Reform and Revenue Sharing Changes: Fiscal Impacts on Small, Rural Massachusetts Towns	Catherine L. Flynn	197
Is There Family Policy?	Karen Behm Ira Ellis Elizabeth Moore	204

SECTION V. POLICY EDUCATION AND THE POLICY PROCESS	
Understanding Policy Development.	Randy Green 213
Public Policy Education: A Challenge for the 90's	Marshall Cohen 217
Policy Making Models and Their Role in Policy Education	Alan J. Hahn 222
Increasing our Effectiveness as Public Policy Educators.	Theodore R. Alter 236
Policy Process Models and the Educator's Role	Barry L. Flinchbaugh 241
Models of Policy Making	Verne W. House 244

***SOCIOECONOMICS OF
RURAL AMERICA***