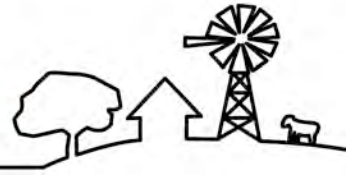
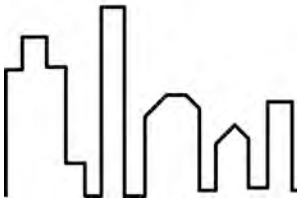


Primary Industries Education Foundation



From the Chair

We are pleased to make contact with our network again and give you an update on the further development of the Foundation. The Board and Ben Stockwin, Interim Chief Executive, have been working on a number of fronts and progress is being made. This is often much slower than we would like it to be but, it is important to get our foundations secure.

The Company held its annual general meeting in Canberra on 27 August and it was attended by all member groups. It was a good opportunity to speak to our members directly and inform them of progress. The support of members and their respective organisations is much appreciated.

It is significant that PIEF commenced its operation right at the time that the Australian Curriculum Assessment and Reporting Authority also commenced. In many ways we have been able to develop our thinking at the same time as the Australian Curriculum has evolved. Curriculum development is always a contested area, whether it is a curriculum within a discipline or the implementation of a curriculum within a school. Time and resources are contested all the way through, so for those who are seasoned educators this comes as no surprise. For those who have limited contact with the educational system but are vitally interested in it, it can seem frustrating and difficult to understand. I must say I expected what is happening in the media at present and these debates will continue.

We believe that Primary Industries can be well represented in teaching to Australian students in the future through the Australian Curriculum. It will occur in different ways at different times and there is a range of opportunities for its delivery. We in the Primary Industries sector need to have a good understanding of the curriculum and how it will be delivered to ensure that Primary Industries are given due attention. Later in this newsletter there is an update on discussions with ACARA and some of the complexity involved will be clear.

One of the most challenging matters the Board has faced has been to find an appropriate trading name for the company. This will be the brand under which we will operate both in schools and within the educational community. Developments have been proceeding in this regard and we will soon have details available.

PIEF believes the professional development of teachers will be one of the cornerstones of its services. To this end, we are piloting a Professional Development Day for agriculture teachers within the Sydney region on areas of study relevant to the electives in the Higher School Certificate Agriculture Program. We have had good support from NSW teachers of agriculture and the NSW Department of Education and Training. We look forward to that workshop occurring on 26 November 2010. It is a pilot in more ways than one, because we will examine the economics of such an event and develop a costing strategy so that when we seek funds from industry we can say exactly what an event will cost and the benefits gained.

My thanks to everyone for the continued support for PIEF.

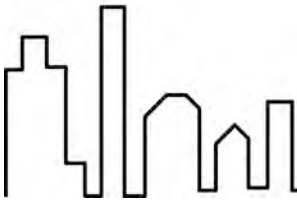
Regards,

Cameron

Dr Cameron Archer, Chair PIEF



Primary Industries Education Foundation



PIEF Network - Spring 2010 Newsletter

MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

We valued the continuing support of Forest and Wood Products Australia, Pork Australia, Meat and Livestock Australia and the Department of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries for their membership for this financial year.

We are continuing to have conversations with other industry groups and various agribusiness groups to ensure we have a secure funding base to achieve our objectives and support the teaching and learning of Primary Industries in Australian schools.

NATIONAL CURRICULUM UPDATE

We are very pleased with progress in a number of areas in relation to the national curriculum. From a position three months ago where groups were told there would be no change, to where we are today is significant.

The curriculum is still very much in a draft stage but to date we have reached the following agreements with ACARA;

- There will be a Kindergarten-year 8 context entitled 'Primary Industries'. This will be similar in design and layout the current cross-curriculum contexts of 'Sustainability', 'Indigenous Perspectives' and 'Engagement with Asia'.
- There will be an optional subject called 'Primary Industries' with the national curriculum for years 7-10.
- There will be greater emphasis on primary industries as curriculum examples throughout all learning areas.
- In addition work will begin next year to collaboratively develop the years 11/12 curriculum and the VET in schools subjects.

ACARA is currently preparing draft documents for review and PIEF will convene a meeting of stakeholders at the offices of NSW Farmers Association to facilitate a coordinated and unified response.

AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH BENCHMARKING SURVEY UNDERWAY

Work has commenced in relation to the ACER benchmarking survey. This survey, to be conducted by the internationally recognised ACER, will survey approximately 10 000 students and teachers Australian wide to gain knowledge of their understanding of Australia's primary industries.

This survey will initially inform the development of resources and the key strategic direction of PIEF. The survey will also be conducted every three years to monitor and evaluate the on-going performance and effectiveness of our programs.

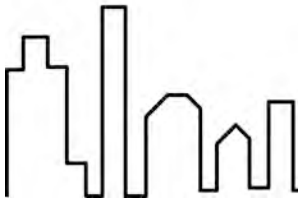
CAREERS WEBSITE WITH AUSTRALIAN COUNCIL OF DEANS OR AGRICULTURE

PIEF is currently partnering with the Australia Council of Deans of Agriculture to develop a primary industries career website. This website will provide students, teachers, advisors and the wider community current and accessible information relating to careers in primary industries.

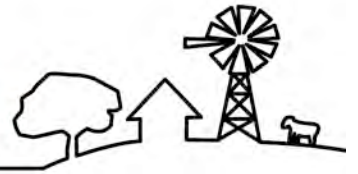
A planning meeting was held in Canberra on October the 18th and included many key people in this area.

STATE BY STATE

Connections to the grass roots are vital for PIEF. The initial aim of these state networks is increase understanding and awareness of PIEF and for PIEF to gain a deeper understanding of issues and activities in each state and territory. So far the meetings have been a great success in that our network is growing, awareness of PIEF is increasing and the feedback we are receiving is assisting us to clarify our strategic direction.



Primary Industries Education Foundation



NEW SOUTH WALES AND AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

The first NSW network meeting was held at Sydney Olympic showgrounds on the 15th of September.

Approximately 20 people met and discussed issues relevant to primary industries education in that state.

Specific issues included; Professional development, clarifying the vision of PIEF, resources, involving farm groups, curriculum inclusion, membership and links with sustainability.

The group will also be producing a succinct palm-card to distribute to our network to assist everyone in spreading the word about PIEF.

Thank you to the RAS of NSW and RASF for their support of this meeting.



SOUTH AUSTRALIA

The first South Australian PIEF meeting was held on the 20th of August and was attended by approximately 25 people at Urrbrae Agricultural High School.

Issues covered and identified at this meeting included;

Improved communications, community capability, pre-service teachers, connecting school and industry, identifying needs within primary industries education, getting industry and agribusiness involved and curriculum.

Andrew Curtis has established a LinkedIn SA group as a communications strategy within SA. Go to <http://www.linkedin.com/groups?mostPopular=&gid=3392049> to join or sign up to linkedin if not already a member.

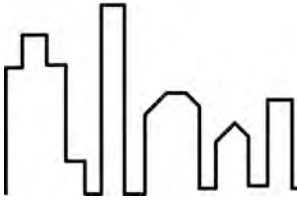


WESTERN AUSTRALIA

After an initial visit in July, PIEF will be visiting Western Australia to host its first WA network meeting on Thursday 9th December.

Please email benstockwin@gmail.com or kerry.regan@agric.wa.gov.au to express an interest in attending.

Primary Industries Education Foundation



VICTORIA

A successful meeting was held on the 26th of August and was attended by a very diverse group of interested people. The main item for discussion was developing the network, connections to resources and the national curriculum.

Thank you to Lorraine Tran and the DPI for the use of their facilities.

TASMANIA

Tasmania held its meeting on the 18th of August at Hagley Farm School.

The meeting discussed; establishment of network-who and for what purpose, Is there a need for regional or purpose based networks, what is the industry need in Tasmania, identifying and linking pathways between school and industry, sharing PI education success stories, identifying what is happening in Tasmania in regards to PI education initiatives, who are the key educational people?

Carol Brown from the Tasmanian Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment has established an online forum at Farm Point accessible at <http://www.farmpoint.tas.gov.au/farmpoint.nsf> Please email Caroline Brown at caroline.brown@dpiuwe.tas.gov.au.

QUEENSLAND

A planned PIEF network meeting is to be held in Queensland on the 3rd of December at from 10am to 2pm and will be held at the offices of AgForce in Brisbane.

Please let Ben Stockwin or Colleen Kleinschmidt KleinschmidtC@agforceqld.org.au know if you interested in attending.

NORTHERN TERRITORY

Unfortunately a planned meeting in November did not go ahead due to a serious illness in the ICE's family. Things are on

the mend and we are very keen to connect with the Northern Territory.

An alternate date will be set early next year. Please let Ben Stockwin or Trudi Oxley know via email trudi.oxley@nt.gov.au if you are keen on attending.

Resource Links

Meat Industry resources

For industry stats and facts, videos about where beef and lamb comes from and a fun kids game, go to www.mla.com.au/About-the-red-meat-industry

To find out the facts about red meat green credentials, go to www.RedMeatGreenFacts.com.au

MLA's nutrition team has put together a newsletter called 'Vital', it has plenty of great information about red meat, along with recipes, it can be accessed via www.themainmeal.com.au under Red meat & nutrition.

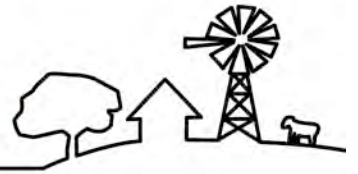
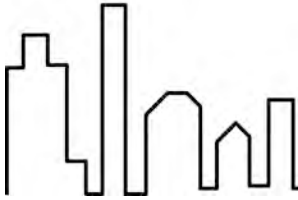
Forest and Wood Products Australia are currently developing a new website for teachers and students covering the wide range of career opportunities within the Forest, Wood and Paper industry. This new website growingcareers.com.au will be available from March 2011 and will provide information on the industry, the types of careers available and the skills and training required for each career. Look out for more information in our upcoming newsletters.

Applications are now open for the 2011 Investing in Youth Studentship Program.

Now in its second year, the Investing in Youth program provides financial and mentoring support to Australian students who are committed to contributing to Australia's rural sector.

Investing in Youth seeks to promote the dynamic and diversified number of career pathways that agriculture offers students entering tertiary education, while helping to address the chronic shortage of rural industry professionals.

Primary Industries Education Foundation



PIEF Network - Spring 2010 Newsletter

The program has identified a real gap in financial and professional support for secondary school students entering into undergraduate study in agriculture and equivalent degrees.

Successful recipients will be selected on the basis of their commitment to primary industries and to a career in primary industries. The studentships will provide support for the 4 year tenure of undergraduate studies.

Application forms can be downloaded from the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation's website www.rirdc.gov.au or by contacting RIRDC on 6271 4100.