

## **S1071 – Multi-state Research Project**

### **A Framework for Secondary Schools Agriscience Education Programs that Emphasizes the STEM Content in Agriculture**

**Progress report for October 1, 2019 – September 30, 2020**

#### **Leadership Team: (2019—2022, 3-year term)**

Chair: Catherine DiBenedetto, Clemson University

Vice-Chair: Aaron McKim, Michigan State University

Objective 1 Coordinator: Andrew Thoron, University of Florida –not currently a member, now at ABAC

Objective 2 Coordinator: Kasee Smith, University of Idaho

Objective 3 Coordinator: Kevin Curry of Penn State

#### **Current Multi-state Research Team and Institutions**

<b><u>Researcher Name</u></b>	<b><u>Institution</u></b>	<b><u>Email Address</u></b>
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October 2019 –

Pilot study from survey that was developed in July 2019 was completed

May 2020 –

Due to COVID-19 Pandemic – the Annual AAAE Conference was only held virtually- the S1071 group did not meet during this meeting.

June – July 2020

One of our goals is to craft an innovation configuration matrix for the agricultural education profession. We are at the stage of the process where we are soliciting feedback from stakeholders. We reached out to agriculture teachers, university faculty, and principals to gather their feedback as we work toward making a final copy to send to the profession.

August 2020-

Grant Submission to The USDA NIFA Rapid Response grant

## Rapid Response to Novel Coronavirus (SARS-COV-2): Innovating Formal and Non-Formal Educational Experiences in Food and Agricultural Sciences During the Time of Social Distancing

Aaron McKim, Jessica Blythe, Kasee Smith, Kevin Curry, Jon Ulmer, Tyson Sorensen

Catherine A. DiBenedetto - committed to serving as the chair of the advisory board for this project. This advisory board will include fellow teacher educators in Agriculture and STEM; high school teachers in Agriculture and STEM; industry representatives; and experts in diversity, equity, and inclusion. As a board, we will meet remotely, twice a year with members of the project team to review the goals, progress, and outcomes of the project. Further, the board will provide a direct link between the project team and the various systems and stakeholders served through this grant. I look forward to leading this diverse advisory board to provide guidance and feedback on this transformational project.

During these challenging times in education, teachers are in need of ready-to-use, innovative resources that meet the needs of learners. Included in learner needs is equitable access to versatile, hands-on activities and resources supporting mindfulness. The USDA NIFA Rapid Response grant application titled Constructing Agriscience Learning and Mindfulness (Project CALM): Cross-Disciplinary Curriculum with Remote-Access for Educational Success directly addresses the critical and pressing needs of students and teachers engaged in Agricultural STEM education from across the country. Therefore, I fully support this project and its potential for positive impact. Furthermore, I am confident the team of faculty assembling this proposal have the expertise and record of successful collaboration needed to accomplish the project objectives.

December 2020

Funding was not awarded.