

**Board on Agriculture Assembly  
Academic Programs Section Report to the Policy Board of Directors**

**PBD Member – Elaine Turner**

**Reporting Period August 2016 – November 2016**

**Section Chair – Susan Sumner**

(Please check the BAA-PBD Goals that each activity directly addresses.)

<b>BAA Section Activities</b> (Briefly describe activities since previous reporting period)	<b>Emerging Issues and Future Directions</b>	<b>Resource Advocacy</b>	<b>Farm Bill and Legislative Action</b>	<b>System Integration</b>
<b>Higher Education Initiatives</b> - Continued support of Higher Education initiatives, including teaching awards program and advocating for Higher Education Challenge grants program. APS awarded five Innovative Teaching Awards (\$2,000 each) to enhance experiential learning in land-grant classrooms, laboratories and field stations.	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>Leadership Development</b> - APS continues to support LEAD21 (two members serving on the Board of Directors); APS has also been supportive of the Foods Systems Leadership Institute (FSLI) and has encouraged institutional participation in both programs.	<b>X</b>			<b>X</b>
<b>FAEIS</b> - APS strongly supports the need for reliable data regarding students enrolled in majors related to agriculture, natural resources and related sciences. Currently, data relative to enrollment, degrees awarded, faculty, student placement and other information are collected by the Food and Agricultural Education Information System (FAEIS). Data are important in evaluating trends and identifying emerging areas of study.	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>
<b>APS and Diversity</b> – APS is focusing much more on diversity issues around food, agriculture, and natural resources faculty and students. Southern Region APS members met with Southern Region AES directors in September and discussed diversity issues.	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		<b>X</b>
<b>APS at National Meetings</b> - APS will attend some non-BAA sessions to see where it could better align itself with other APLU non-BAA initiatives. In areas such as diversity and student success, this should increase the visibility of BAA efforts.	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>		