



## **Agronomy and Conservation Club**

*A Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences Club (SASES)*

South Dakota State University

Plant Science Department

SNP 247 Box 2140C

Brookings, SD 57007-2141

605-688-4450

Fax: 605-688-4452

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The South Dakota State University Agronomy and Conservation Club is very excited and would be honored to host the 2017 SASES Spring Meeting in Brookings, SD. The Agronomy and Conservation Club is a highly active group of around 60 students who are willing and able to make an event such as this a huge success. We have worked hard to encompass the true heart of South Dakota agriculture by displaying its unique heritage and present day industry.

Two aspects of our proposal we would like to highlight is our wide variety and uniqueness of each tour package and our effort to engage students to network among themselves. Each tour has been carefully compiled to give students a true look at South Dakota's agriculture, history, and culture. We have also planned three nights of student engagement. This is to encourage student interaction with other colleges to create new relationships that can carry throughout their academic careers and beyond.

Our hard work in planning the 2017 SASES Spring Meeting has allowed us to create what we believe to be a very solid proposal. As a club, we have seen the value of specifics during the planning of this proposal. The start date for the spring meeting will be Thursday, April 20<sup>th</sup> and ending at midnight on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The convention center, meals, tours and tour transportation have been lined up and waiting for confirmation. Timing and logistics have been incorporated into our proposal to ensure a smooth transition as well. Tours and event times are subject to change. The following pages include our schedule and a detailed account of our vision for SASES 2017.

The Agronomy and Conservation Club will be attending the spring meeting in Lubbock, TX and presenting this proposal in person. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, feel free to contact any of the people listed below. Thank you for taking the time to consider our proposal.

Scott Foxhoven – Club President  
scott.foxhoven@jacks.sdstate.edu  
402-640-5616

Mindy Filholm – Club Advisor  
melinda.filholm@sdstate.edu  
605-688-4450 work  
605-695-7965 cell

## Schedule

### **Thursday, April 20**

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|-------------|---|
| 1:00-5:00pm | Registration in SDSU McFadden Biostress Atrium        |
| 1:00-5:00pm | South Dakota State University Early Bird Tours        |
| 6:00-7:00pm | BBQ and SDSU ice cream hosted in Animal Science Arena |
| 7:30-10:30  | Ag Olympics   |

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### **Friday, April 21**

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|---------------|-------------------------------------|
| 6:30am        | Free Hotel Continental Breakfast    |
| 7:00am-5:30pm | Tours (details on next page)        |
| 6:30-8:30pm   | Supper at the Swiftel Center        |
| 9:00pm        | Campus and Brookings Scavenger Hunt |

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### **Saturday, April 22**

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|-------------|--|
| 7:30 am     | Breakfast Buffet at the Swiftel Center   |
| 8:00-9:00   | Presidents Meeting   |
| 9:00-10:00  | National Officers Meeting  |
| 10:00-12:00 | Breakout Speakers Round 1  |
| 12:00- 1:00 | Buffet Lunch at the Swiftel Catering   |
| 1:00-3:00   | Breakout Speakers Round 2  |
| 3:00-6:00   | BREAK – this will give everyone an opportunity to unwind and regroup before the evening banquet. Individuals can take this time to check out additional site on campus and in the city of Brookings. |
| 6:00-8:00   | Banquet at the Swiftel Center  |
| 9:00-12:00  | Country Dance  |

## Tours

**Early Bird Tours-** Cow Calf Unit- *Brand New state-of-the-art cow calf unit*  
Dairy Bar Creamery- *Birthplace of Cookies and Cream Ice-cream*  
Young Brothers Seed Testing Laboratory-

## Friday

### **Tour 1-**Tatanka Hills- *Local Bison farm*

Drumgoon Dairy- *Fully automated 5,900 head dairy*  
Glacial Lakes Energy- *100mgy ethanol plant*  
7 Mile Fen Wetland- *Guided tour of a fen wetland that imitates a waterbed*  
Valley Queen Cheese- *Cheese Factory founded in 1929*

### **Tour 2-** Dakota Provisions- *Hutterite owned turkey plant- 20,000 turkeys/day*

Lankota- *Ag manufacturing*  
Hutterite Colony- *Tour of Hutterite farm and lifestyle*  
Laura Ingalls Wilder- *Guided tour of the home of the "Little House on the Prairie" author*  
Schade Vineyard- *Local Vineyard and Winery with taste testing*

### **Tour 3-** Poet Ethanol- *Industry leading ethanol plant*

Raven Industries-*Precision Ag and engineering, they also make the ballons for the Macy's Day Parade*  
Falls Park- *Historic waterfall park- Sioux Falls, SD namesake*  
North American Wholesale Floral- *Floral distributing-plants from all parts of the world*  
Hefty Seeds- *Home of Ag PhD TV show and large research farm*  
USDA ARS- *USDA North Central Ag research facility*

### **Tour 4-** L G Everist Quarry- *Operational quarry mining several rocks, sands, and gravels.*

EROS Data Center- *Data Center for all satellite remote sensing in the U.S.*  
Palisades State Park- *State park featuring unique rock formations of pink quartzite*  
Hutterite Colony- *Tour of Hutterite farm and lifestyle*  
Alltech-*Leading company in global biotechnology for animal nutrition*  
SGS North America- *Brand New state-of-the-art seed and soil testing facility*

### **Tour 5-** Jack Links-*Home of Jack Links Beef Jerky production facility*

Mitchell Corn Palace- *The world's only Corn Palace*  
Indian Village Museum- *Prehistoric Indian Village and archaeological site*  
Gehl Manufacturing- *Agricultural Manufacturing*  
Pioneer Research- *Corn and soybean research facility*

### **Speakers**

We are aiming to have a diverse selection of speakers during our conference. Friday and Saturday keynote speakers will hit on very important issues in agriculture. Currently, our Saturday night keynote speaker will focus on how to promote modern ag in a society that is starting to look down on agriculture. We will also be hosting two breakout sessions. Each two hour session will contain three speakers addressing a variety of topics. Students will be allowed to attend two of the three speakers each session. We want to allow students to choose their speakers based on their individual interest.

### **Keynote Speakers**

Friday Night Keynote- TBD

Saturday Night Keynote- Brad and Peggy Greenway or Troy and Stacy Hadrick  
*Promoting Modern Agriculture*

### **Breakout Speakers**

Andrew Leonard- *Future of Drones in Agriculture*

Zach Ducheneaux- *Native American culture and Ag*

Duane Beck- *Nationally known speaker on Soil and Water Conservation*

Scope of additional 3 speakers may include Professional Development, Agronomy and Soil specialist

### **Venue**

All Thursday events will take place on the SDSU campus, including registration, early bird tours, BBQ/Ice cream social and Ag Olympics. All Thursday events will be within walking distance of each other. On Friday, all tours will start and end at the Swiftel Center parking lot. Friday night dinner and keynote speaker will be hosted at the Swiftel Center Arena. All events on Saturday will be hosted at the Swiftel Center including three meals, all speakers, conference meetings, and the country dance. The Swiftel Center is capable of holding 250+ attendee's with multiple rooms to host the presidents meeting, national officers meeting and breakout speakers without delay.

### **Travel and Lodging**

All Friday tours will be chartered by Windstar Motor coach busses. Mileage and bus fees have all been calculated but are subject to change. Individual clubs will be responsible for local travel to registration, hotel, and Swiftel Center. For clubs that will be flying to the meeting, below is airport information:

Brookings Regional Airport (BKK)

Sioux Falls Regional Airport (FSD) is 55 miles south of Brookings

Watertown Regional Airport (ATY) is 45 miles north of Brookings

Minneapolis/St Paul International Airport (MSP) is approx. 4 hours east of Brookings

Omaha Airport Authority (OMA) is approx. 4 hours south of Brookings.

Hotel options include: Holiday Inn Express & Suites, Super 8, Hampton Inn & Suites, Fairfield Inn & Suites, My Place, Days Inn, Econo Lodge Inn & Suites, and Quality Inn. All of these hotels are less than a mile radius of the Swiftel Center and traffic will be minimal with walking as a possible option. We are currently working with the Brookings Chamber of Commerce to block rooms and negotiate rates but have an estimate of \$85-\$90 per night with breakfast included.

## Social

On Thursday we will be hosting a BBQ and ice cream social. SDSU ice cream is nationally known and has claim to the birthplace of the Cookies n Cream flavor. Attendees can then partake in Ag Olympics. This event will help clubs mingle and enjoy friendly competition with various games and contests all themed around agriculture. Friday night we have come up with an event to further help students interact with each other as well as showcase our great town. The scavenger hunt will take place throughout SDSU's campus and various parts of Brookings. Saturday night will play host to the main social gathering. A traditional SDSU country dance will be hosted in the Swiftel Center arena. This dance will be held in a very spacious arena with a live DJ and an enclosed beer garden. County dances are a proud tradition at SDSU where students have an opportunity to make new friends and learn unique styles of jitterbugging and line dancing.

## Budget and Registration

Prices for several items have been negotiated, but many items are still workable. Our club will immediately begin working on sponsorship upon receiving confirmation of the bid. Many companies we aim to receive sponsorship from are the same companies who have been given the chance to host a tour. In addition, we have currently applied for a grant with the Brookings Chamber of Commerce to pay for venue rent. We are confident with our hard work funding for the remaining cost will be achieved. We will also be receiving support from the SDSU Plant Science Department along with the College of Agriculture and Biological Sciences.

Early bird registration will be \$40 per person beginning February 1<sup>st</sup> until March 31<sup>st</sup>. Late registration cost will be \$50 per person beginning April 1<sup>st</sup> until April 14<sup>th</sup>. Registration needs to end on April 14<sup>th</sup> so final counts can be submitted to the many venues involved in this event. We feel this will be an acceptable registration fee since all meals and tour fees will be covered. Registration will cover \$10,000, which will reduce fundraising needs by 30%.

**All expenses have been calculated for an attendance of 250 attendees.**

	<i>Item</i>	<i>Cost</i>
<b>Meals</b>	Thursday BBQ	\$390.00
	Friday Tour Meals	\$2,000.00
	Friday Catered Supper	\$4,184.00
	Saturday Catered Breakfast	\$3,884.00
	Saturday Catered Lunch	\$3,284.00
	Saturday Catered Supper	\$5,384.00
<b>Venue Rent</b>	Swiftel Convention Center (2 days)	\$3,150.00
	SDSU Animal Science Arena (1 day)	\$200.00
<b>Tour Costs</b>	Five Chartered Busses	\$6,024.00
	Laura Ingalls Wilder Fee	\$400.00
	Indian Village Museum Fee	\$200.00
	Misc tour expenses	\$200.00
<b>Misc.</b>	Speaker Fees	\$1,000.00
	Advertisement(t-shirts & Programs)	\$2,100.00
	Country Dance DJ	\$400.00
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$32,800.00</b>
<b>Registration</b>		<b>\$10,000.00</b>
<b>Sponsorship</b>	Required	<b>\$22,800.00</b>