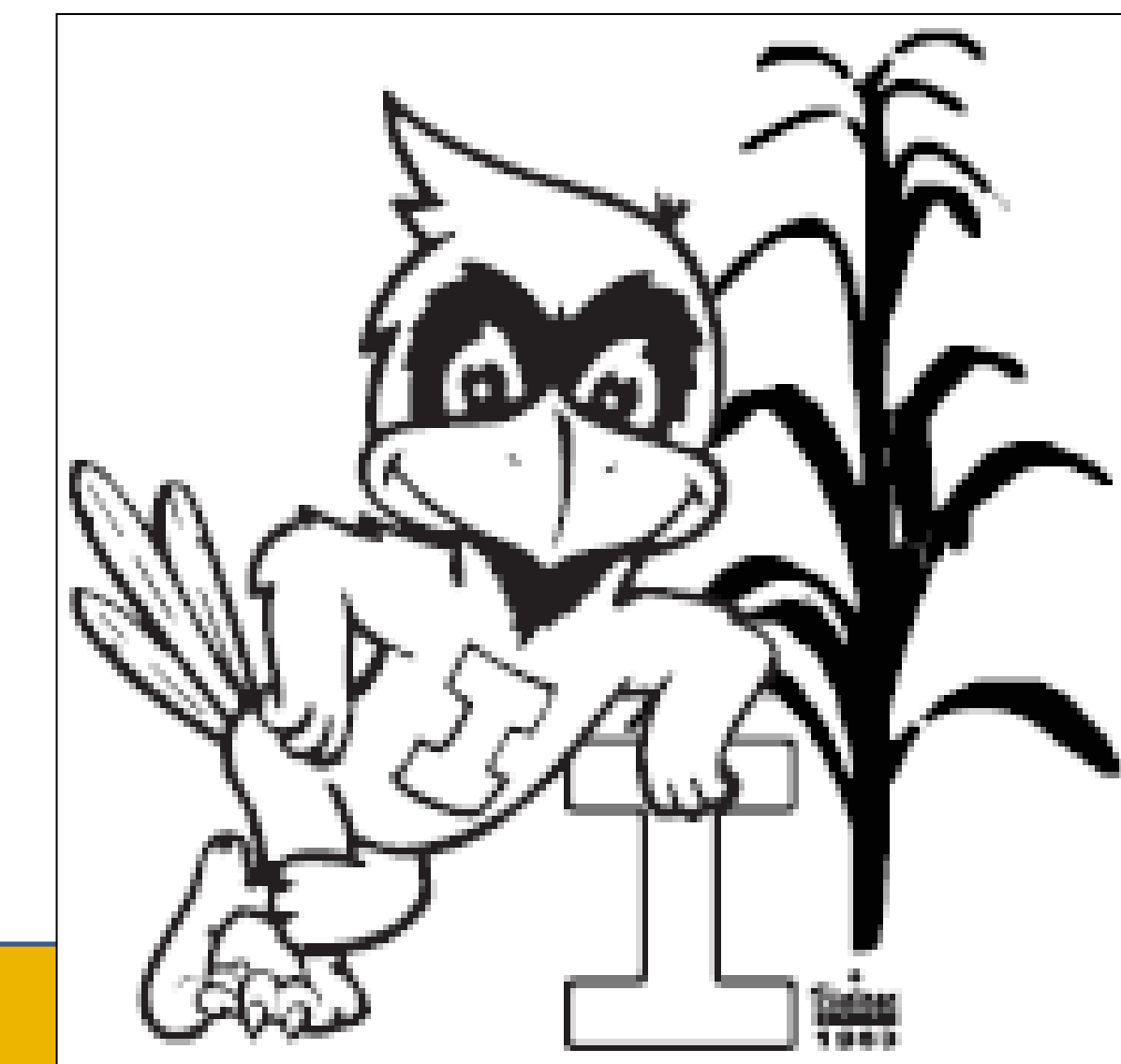




Networking in the Heartland: The 2012 SASES Regional Meeting



On March 23 and 24, 2012, the Iowa State University Agronomy Club hosted the 40th Annual Regional SASES Meeting in Ames, Iowa. There were 19 universities and 250 students in attendance from universities in Nebraska, Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, Wisconsin, Kentucky, Indiana, Texas, Virginia, South Dakota, Minnesota, and Iowa. The groups arrived on Friday, March 23rd and were invited to go on early bird tours to Iowa State University's various livestock farms. Later that night, a dinner was held, along with a Career Mixer with 12 agricultural companies for students to speak with. The next day, the Iowa State University Agronomy Club sent its guests all across the state on their choice of 5 tours that showcased Iowa's agriculture. Through the many activities our committees worked so hard to orchestrate, the students from all over the country were able to network and talk to each other about agronomic issues in their areas. Planning for this event started months before, in September of 2011 with the formation of committees and biweekly meetings to contact sponsors, tours, and locations for meetings, meals, and socials.

Planning

- The club began planning for the Regional SASES Meeting in the fall of 2011 with bi-weekly meetings.
- 25 club members were involved in planning.
- Committees were set up early, for ease of planning.

Committees

- Logistics
 - Scheduling, locations, communications
- Activities
 - Social & dance
- Food
 - Banquets, sack lunches, snacks
- Tours
 - Contacting companies, developing tour routes, recruiting guides
- Sponsorship
 - Contacting businesses, lining up presenters for career fair, securing funds

Schedule of Events

Friday

1-4pm: **Registration**

1-4:30pm:

Early Bird Tours

@ISU Research Farms
Center for Crops Utilization Research, Agronomy, Swine, Beef, and Biocentury Research Farms

5-6pm: **Sponsors' Fair**

@Ag Info Center

6pm: **Welcome Banquet**

@Ag Info Center, with Dr. Kendall Lamkey, ISU Agronomy Department Chair

9-midnight: **Social**

@ Perfect Games

Saturday

7:30-3pm:

Industry Tours

4-5pm: **National**

Officers' Meeting

5-6pm:

Presidents' Meeting

6-8pm: **Banquet**

@ Scheman, with Jay Johnson, Iowa Deputy Secretary of Agriculture

8:30-midnight: **Dance**

@ Gateway Hotel

Attendance

Students:

250 students from 19 universities across the country attended

Guest of Honor:

Iowa Deputy Secretary of Agriculture, Jay Johnson

ISU Faculty:

Dr. Lamkey, Dr. Laird, Dr. Burras, Dr. Moore, Dr. Knapp, Dr. Duffy, Dr. Loynachan, Dr. Schultz, Dr. Thompson, & Dr. Heaton

Tours

Students and faculty were able to attend one of five tours. Each tour had four stops, for a grand total of 18 different Iowa agricultural businesses and organizations being showcased at this meeting.

Tours included:

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|
| • Ag Leader | • Helena |
| • Pioneer Hi-bred | • Dow Breeders |
| • Snus Hill Winery | • Picket Fence Creamery |
| • Schillinger Seeds | • Dekalb |
| • Hawkeye Breeders | • Bauer Built |
| • Syngenta | • Forage Genetics |
| • Growing Harmony Farms | • Latham Hi-tech Seeds |
| • Cattle feedlot | • Hardin Hilltop wind farm |
| • NRCS | • Farmers Cooperative |

Sponsorship

- Dow AgroSciences
- Heartland Co-Op
- Hartung Brothers
- DuPont Pioneer
- Farm Bureau
- Land O'Lakes
- Iowa Pork Producers
- ISU Department of Agronomy

- Monsanto
- John Deere
- Latham Hi-Tech Seeds
- Syngenta
- Crop Production Services
- Hertz Farm Management
- ISU College of Agriculture & Life Sciences

