



GVATA Update

September 2018

2018-2019 GVATA Executive Board

Audrey Davis
President

Richard Gill
President-Elect

Hannah Elrick
Past President

Ruby McCracken
Area 1 Director

Marcus Pollard
Area 2 Director

Justin Bennett
Area 3 Director

Rick Dubose
Area 4 Director

Josh Drew
Area 5 Director

Ben Culpepper
Area 6 Director

Kedriane Harris
GACTE VP

Michael Stalvey
FFA Foundation Rep.

Reggie Beasley
PRC Chairman

Melissa Riley
Executive Secretary

Chris Corzine
Interim Advisor

President's Message

"Your work is going to fill a large part of your life, and the only way to be truly satisfied is to do what you believe is great work. And the only way to do great work is to love what you do." - Steve Jobs

The GVATA Executive Board had our annual fall meeting on September 18th. Our conversations focused on how to effectively improve our organization and its conferences. A few highlights of the meeting are listed below:

Mid-Winter Conference (January 22-23, 2019)

- Please contact Marcus Pollard if you know of a specific breakout session you would like to see offered or if you are willing to be a presenter.
- Area Directors will be seeking teachers to serve on the Tactical Plan Committees. I strongly urge you to take advantage of this opportunity.
- We will have a new and improved way of documenting attendance at breakout sessions to accurately award Certificate of Participation hours.
- We will be voting on a new GACTE Vice President at Mid-Winter. Jessica Bowden and Lonnie Giddens were the nominees from GACTE for this position.
- We will also be voting on our 2020-2021 summer conference location. More details will be sent in the November/December updates.

Summer Conference (July 7-10, 2019)

- Over the next few months, we will be looking at ways to improve the overall schedule of our summer conference to better manage time and execute business.
- We will continue to work with the Lake Lanier staff to ensure a better experience.

Justin Bennett, Daryl Baxley, and I spoke to senior Ag Ed students at ABAC this past week as the first part of our collegiate outreach. Our goal is to speak at each campus on behalf of GVATA and PRC to explain the importance and benefits of our professional organization. Four of these ABAC students were selected and given partial scholarships by NAAE to attend the Future Ag Science Teachers (FAST) symposium at the upcoming NAAE conference. Three other students also registered to attend, and we were able to present them with a \$750 check to help alleviate some of their travel expenses. We look forward to offering more opportunities for all of the Ag Ed students to participate in our conferences and welcome them into the Ag Ed family.

We should have a PRC update coming out in the next couple weeks, so be on the lookout for that information. I appreciate the work Reggie Beasley, Daryl Baxley, and Joel McKie are doing on our behalf.

If you have any concerns, comments, or suggestions, please reach out to the board. We are here to serve, and we can only do so effectively with your input and support. I, for one, am extremely thankful for our GVATA family and Georgia Agricultural Education.

