

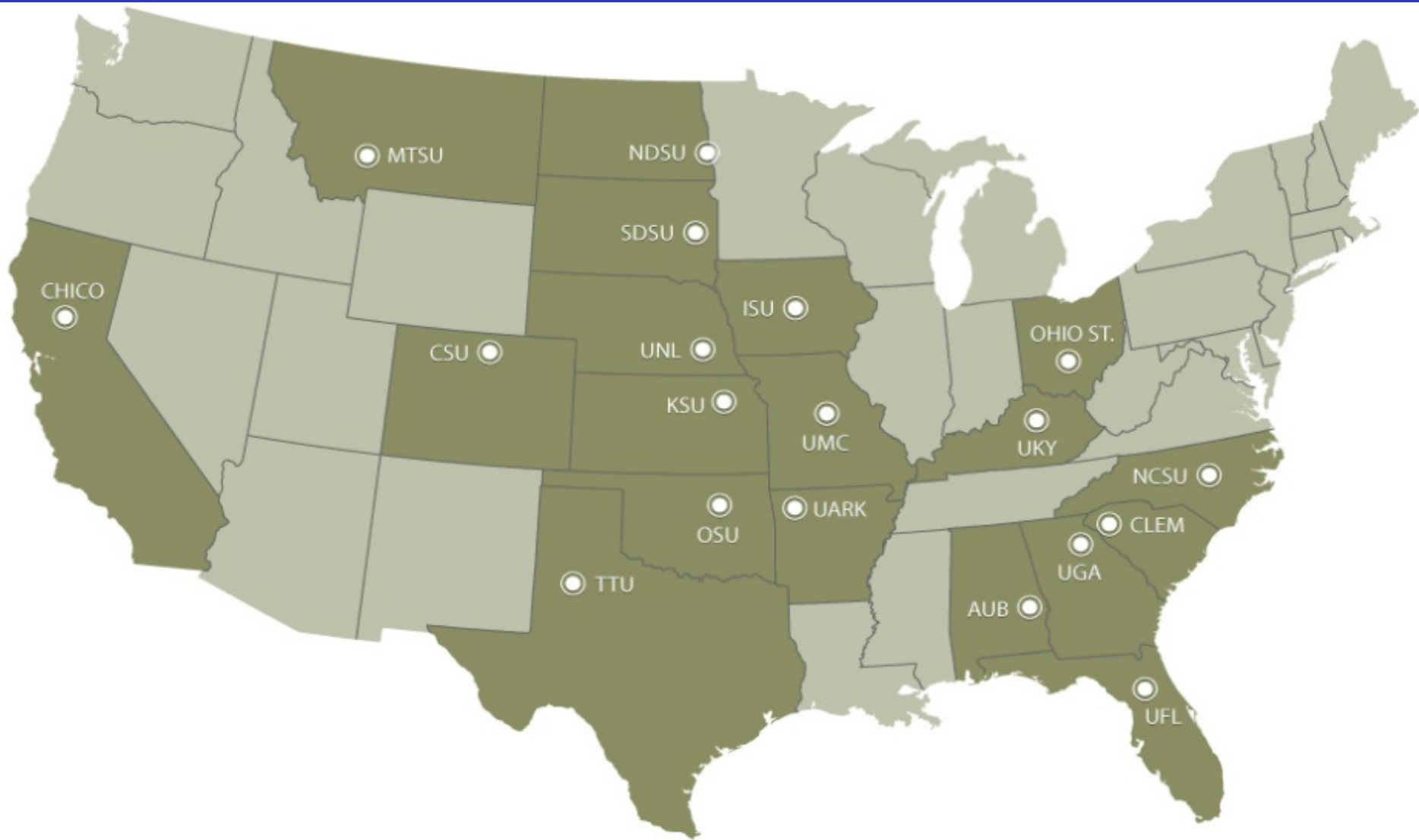
**AG*IDEA:
Animal Science Graduate
Certificate Program**

**J. Keith Bertrand
University of Georgia, Athens**

What is AG*IDEA?

- **AG*IDEA is the acronym for “Agricultural Interactive Distance Education Alliance”**
- **Part of Great Plains IDEA – Began in 1994 (course delivery initiated in 2001); developed by human sciences faculty/administrators to educate rural professionals through the use of distance technologies and shared courses.**
- **AG*IDEA is a national consortium offering programs and courses in agricultural disciplines**

AG*IDEA Member Universities



AG*IDEA Programs

Agricultural Education

Agricultural and Environmental Law

Agricultural Systems Management Technology

Animal Science

Bioenergy and Sustainable Technology

Food Safety and Defense

Grassland Management

Horticulture

Soil, Water and Environmental Science

Swine Science Online

Current AG*IDEA Animal Science Programs

➤ Animal Science Graduate Certificate

5 course currently scheduled:

- ✓ **Advanced Ruminant Nutrition**
- ✓ **Advance Non-Ruminant Nutrition**
- ✓ **Advance Reproductive Physiology of Farm Animals**
- ✓ **Advanced Selection of Domestic Animals**
- ✓ **Advanced Meat Science**

➤ Swine Science - Undergraduate Certificate

Students required to take 12 hours:

- ✓ **6 hours of core courses**
- ✓ **1 hour production course**
- ✓ **5 hours of electives**

ABOUT AG*IDEA

The Agriculture Interactive Distance Education Alliance (AG*IDEA) is a consortium of distinguished, accredited universities offering distance education programs. Each university brings a unique strength in faculty and curriculum to the multi-institution program.

Students choose a home university where they apply, are admitted, register for courses, and receive their degree or certificate. Online courses are taught by the best faculty in each discipline from several universities. Students pay one common price per credit hour regardless of which university is their degree-granting institution.

PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

Auburn University

Clemson University

University of Georgia

<http://students.caes.uga.edu/distance-education/ag-idea.cfm>

North Carolina State University

<http://agxed.cals.ncsu.edu/about-the-graduate-program/agidea/>

South Dakota State University

<http://www.sdstate.edu/cee/distance/gpidea.cfm>

FOR MORE INFORMATION,
CONTACT US AT

785-532-6848
alliance@ksu.edu

PARTICIPATING UNIVERSITIES

Contact the Campus Coordinator at one of these
AG*IDEA participating institutions to learn more about the program.

Auburn University

Megan Ross | mhr0001@auburn.edu | 334-844-3201

Clemson University

Ted Whitwell | twhtwll@clemson.edu | 864-656-5333

University of Georgia

Dana Nash | danash@uga.edu | 706-542-0726

North Carolina State University

Julie Holder | julie_holder@ncsu.edu | 919-515-9716

South Dakota State University

Katie Grayson | gpidea@sdstate.edu | 605-688-6988



www.agidea.org

Animal Science

Graduate Certificate



AG*IDEA

An Affiliate of the Great Plains IDEA

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How Does AG*IDEA Work?

- **Courses and programs available on-line**
- **Courses and programs offered/approved at each local institution**
- **Local departments schedule courses**
- **Local institutions award grades, credit and degrees**
- **Students pay a common price**

Student registers for course at home institution & pays common tuition

Grade placed on student's transcript

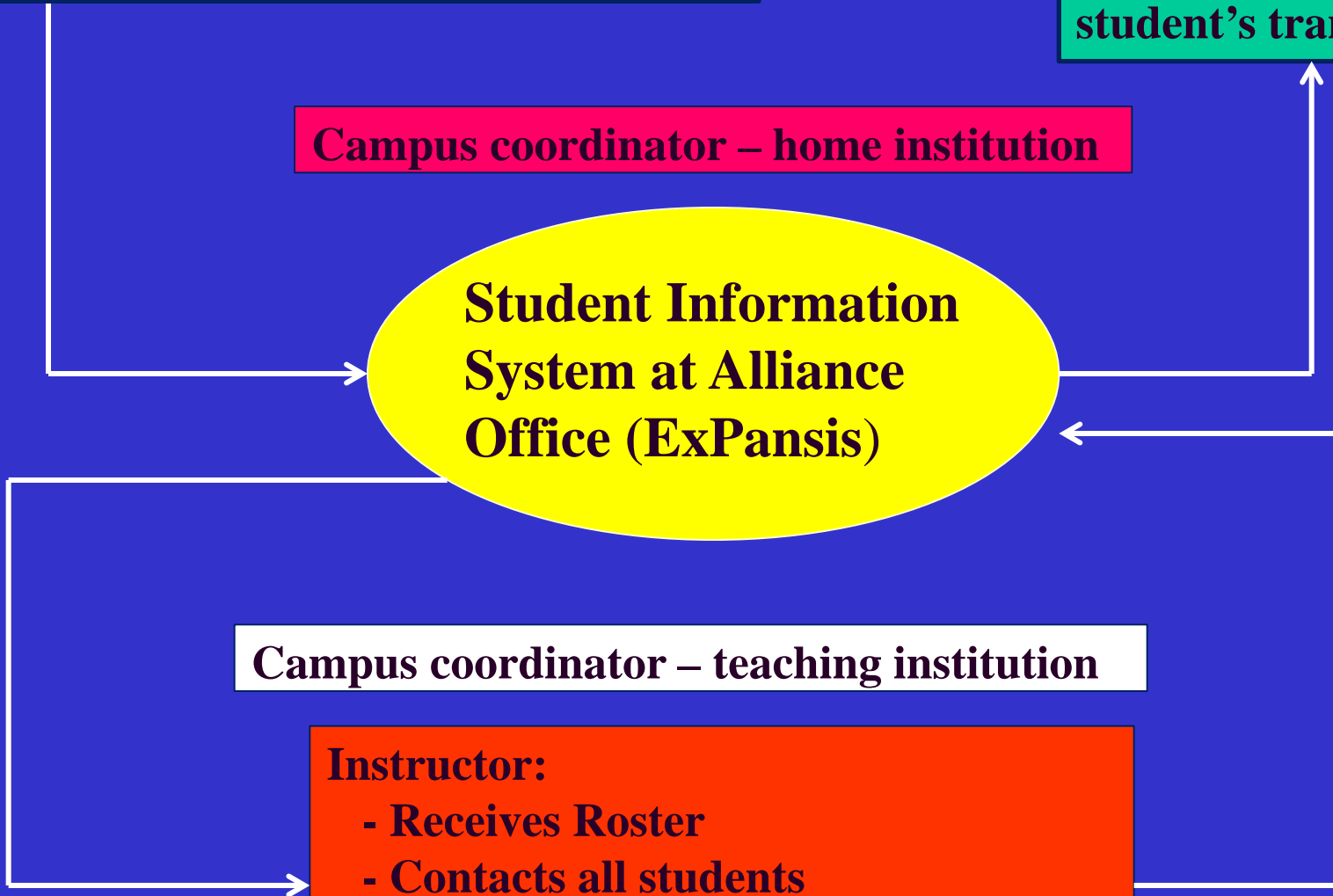
Campus coordinator – home institution

Student Information System at Alliance Office (ExPansis)

Campus coordinator – teaching institution

Instructor:

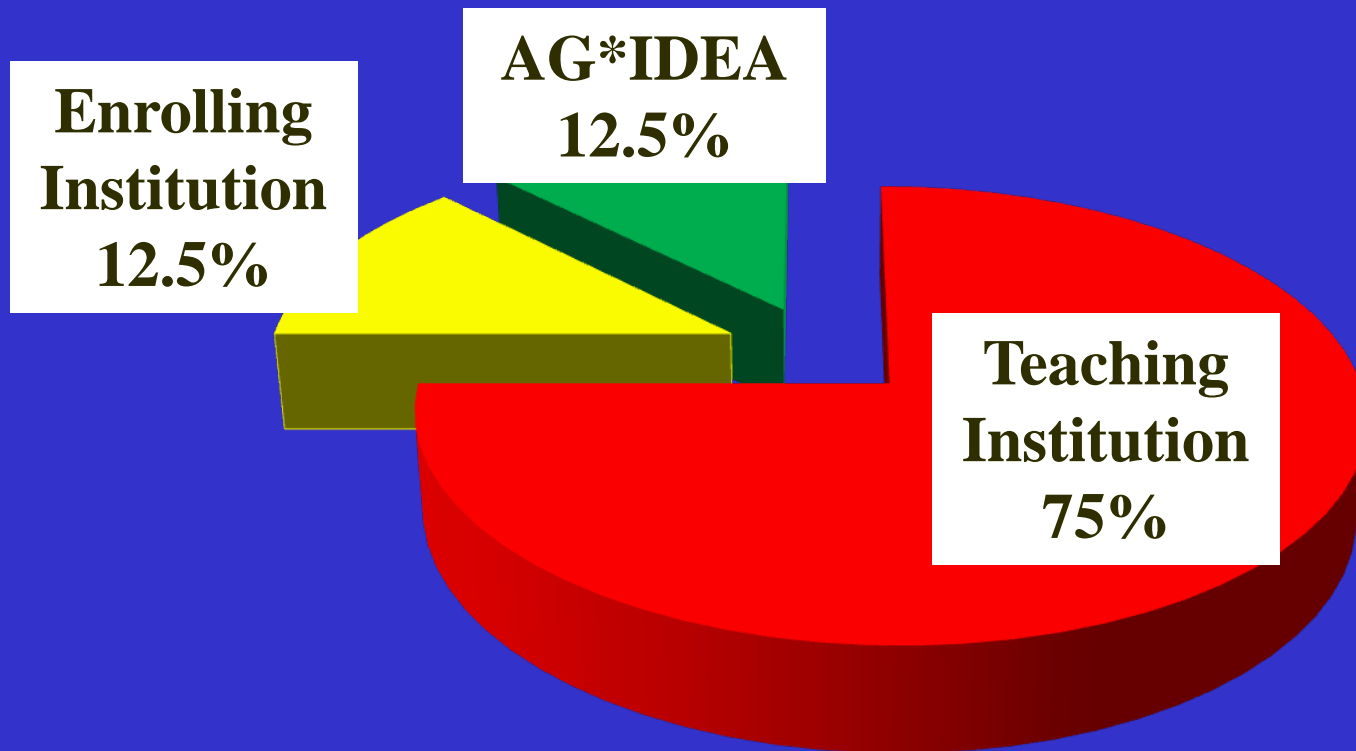
- **Receives Roster**
- **Contacts all students**
- **Teaches course**
- **Evaluates students & awards grade**



Funding Model

Common Price = All Tuition & Fees

**2014-2015 Academic Year: \$515/Graduate Credit Hour
\$370/Undergraduate Credit Hour**



Current Course Matrix for Animal Science Courses

Course	Cr.	2014			2015			2016			2017		
		Sp	SU	Fall	SP	Su	Fall	Sp	Su	Fall	Sp	Su	Fall
Advanced Ruminant Nutrition	3			<u>Huntington</u>			<u>Huntington</u>			<u>Huntington</u>			<u>Huntington</u>
Advanced Non Ruminant Nutrition	3			<u>Azain</u>			<u>Azain</u>			<u>Azain</u>			<u>Azain</u>
Reproductive Physiology of Farm Animals	3		<u>Pratt</u>		<u>Whisnant</u>	<u>Pratt</u>		<u>Whisnant</u>	<u>Pratt</u>		<u>Whisnant</u>	<u>Pratt</u>	
Selection of Domestic Animals	3		<u>Cassady</u>			<u>Cassady</u>			<u>Cassady</u>			<u>Cassady</u>	
Meat Science	3				<u>Stelzleni</u>			<u>Stelzleni</u>			<u>Stelzleni</u>		

Future Classes:

Growth and Development

Breeding and Genetics

PhD Nutrition Courses

Who Controls Program and Courses?

➤ Faculty

- ✓ Approve instructors for courses
- ✓ Develop and update curricula & course subject matter
- ✓ Teach courses & advise students
- ✓ Determine quality

➤ Others

- ✓ Facilitate instruction, tuition collection, resource distribution, etc.

Interest in AG*IDEA: Personal Perspective

- Access to courses that institution does not teach
- Able to provide courses for graduate training in areas lacking faculty critical mass
- Opportunity to recruit graduate students
- Enhance regional/national reputation of Dept.
- Enhance cooperation across univ. that create additional collaborative research opportunities
- Increased student credit hrs = increased funding
- Increased funding and visibility for faculty

AG *IDEA Issues and Questions

- Tuition? – “real” dollars that must be paid
- **Managing semesters when institutions have different calendars? – campus coordinators communicate deadlines to each other, students and instructors.**
- Student rights? – governed by policy of home institution
- **Vetting of faculty to teach courses? – governed differently by each institution.**
- How should courses be considered: in-house or transfer?
- **What happens if something goes wrong? AG*IDEA has a policy manual & local university administrator involvement.**
- How are grading differences across universities handled? – Grade translation matrix.

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ABOUT THE PROGRAM

The Animal Science Certificate program is designed to provide students with courses in the major disciplinary areas of animal science. The goal of the program is to provide foundation courses across many facets of animal science, serving as a basis for further study in one of the disciplines or in a particular animal species.



COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Advanced Animal Nutrition Courses:

Advanced Ruminant Nutrition

- Digestive physiology of the ruminant animal
- Mechanisms of rumen fermentation and post-ruminal nutrition biochemistry
- New developments in feeding systems, feed additives and the prevention and treatment of metabolic disorders will be presented

Advanced Non Ruminant Nutrition

- Digestion, absorption, utilization and metabolism of macro nutrients
- Nutrient interrelationship in poultry, swine and other non-ruminant species

Advanced Reproductive Physiology of Farm Animals

- Physiological, endocrine, cellular, and molecular mechanisms regulating mammalian reproduction
- The examination of current reproductive biotechnologies
- Ethical issues associated with the application of reproductive biotechnologies

Advanced Selection of Domestic Animals

- Quantitative and population genetic theory of sound breeding programs for domestic animals

Advanced Meat Science

- Physiology, anatomy and biochemistry of tissue growth
- Techniques used to measure muscle composition
- Antemortem and post mortem factors affecting meat quality and palatability in meat animals

METHOD OF DELIVERY

The courses in this program are online and taught by the same instructors who teach on campus at the participating universities. Curriculum is specially adapted for the online environment to ensure students receive the same quality education as they would experience on campus.

Course schedules are determined by the teaching institution but do not have set class times, allowing students to access course content when it is convenient for them. Students meet deadlines as outlined by the instructors, and interact with instructors and other students through e-mail, chats, discussion boards, and other interactive methods. Students must have access to a computer, e-mail, and the Internet.

Benefits of Pursuing an Online Graduate Certificate

- Advance your career
- Increase your earning potential
- Maintain work and family commitments
- Interact with instructors and classmates from across the nation
- Take classes anywhere, anytime



Founded 1785

The University of Georgia

A Unit of the University System of Georgia