

TEACHER DELIGHT

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Presentation Title: Ag and STEM Connect: Strengthening the STEAgM Pipeline through Professional Development for Middle and High School Educators

Land Grant Universities produce 36,100 Food, Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Human (FANH) Sciences graduates annually, covering roughly 60 percent of the 59,400 jobs needed each year. Less than 20 percent are underrepresented minorities (URM). Traditionally, few URM students pursue careers in FANH sciences and STEM programs. This session will describe a unique professional development opportunity for educators aimed at strengthening and diversifying the pipeline to the field of FANH by igniting interest and engagement in FANH programs among students in grades 5-12. This presentation will explore how a USDA NextGen program-funded professional development summer program better positions educators and guidance counselors to educate their students about the vast degree programs and career opportunities in Ag and STEM. Suggestions and recommendations for future professional development as well as classroom-based ideas to engage and support students' interest in the FANH fields will be discussed.

Presentation Target: All Audiences

Presenter(s):

1. Jennifer Beasley, Assistant Professor, North Carolina A&T State University
2. Paula Faulkner, Professor, North Carolina A&T State University