

**Agriculture Advisory Committee**
**March 13th, 3:00 PM - 4:30 PM @ Kings County Farm Bureau**
**VIA ZOOM:** <https://whccd-edu.zoom.us/j/81817545171?pwd=1pbXbXGwdsSJ1f7WXGlbJBmZwSYICA.1>
**Meeting ID:** 818 1754 5171 | **Passcode:** 716158

**Minutes**
**Attendees:**

- Grant Ermis- LC Dean of CTE
- Amy Baker- Director of Special Grants - Apprenticeship Programs
- Anthony Farao- Agriculture Instructor
- Cameon Jones- CTE Senior Secretary
- Dusty Ference- Kings County Farm Bureau
- Graciela Flores- Director of Special Grants
- Bobby Peters- Assistant Superintendent, Educational Services HJUHSD

3:00pm	Welcome & Introductions	Anthony Farao, Lead Faculty
	Campus Updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Campus Updates               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Building out the program is going to be the focus. VASS building opening soon which will help in expanding. Could impact Ag down the road are the buildings that will be open due to certain programs moving to the new building. Goal is to make the NW side of the campus the CTE wing.</li> <li>○ Tony has been working on curriculum especially for AgTEC</li> <li>○ At 3,300 FTE's about 5,000 students unduplicated; enrollment has increased rapidly.</li> <li>○ Will offer Crop Science 1 in the Fall to help satisfy major requirements, Coalinga will not be having this class in the fall.</li> </ul> </li> <li>• Staffing Updates               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Tony is the full-time faculty for the program, have some adjunct but mostly are Dual enrollment</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Grant Ermis, PhD
3:10pm	Review and Action on Minutes from Previous Meeting 9/2024 Minutes: <a href="#">Ag Advisory Meeting Minutes FA2024_09042024.docx</a> <b>First:</b> Dusty Ference <b>Second:</b> Anthony Farao <b>Vote:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried <input type="checkbox"/> Denied <input type="checkbox"/> Abstentions –	Grant Ermis, PhD
3:15pm	Program Overview & Updates <b>Notes:</b> The <u>programs</u> have been updated to align with state requirements as well as modern trends. Several agriculture courses have been revised, including AG 15X, intro to ag business, computer applications, ag accounting, and ag economics, while others have seen minimal or no changes.	Anthony Farao/Grant Ermis

The AgTEC program supports industry professionals and non-traditional students by providing skill development and peer connections through monthly meetings. We are developing a vocational ESL program to improve English and agricultural vocabulary. Fernando, AgTEC Pathway Navigator, acts as the community-college liaison, while Tony monitors student progress in a personalized, competency-based noncredit course.

The recruitment effort focuses on immigrant and migrant farmworkers for noncredit courses in highlighting the benefits of education. While some farm labor contractors are engaged, progress is slow. Classes are available in Stratford and Riverdale, with plans to expand through stronger contractor partnerships. Dusty recommends crafting a strong sales pitch and involving a business manager to gain employer support before reaching out to workers. Sustainability beyond the 2026 grant is also being considered.

#### Agriculture Programs Overview

Anthony Farao/Grant Ermis

- Associate of Science in Agriculture – General
  - Prepare student to transfer to Fresno and Chico
- Associate of Science in Agriculture Business (ADT)
  - Working on embarking on this, agreement with Fresno State and a couple other CSU's, submitted to the chancellor's office, needs to be approved before it will be on the course catalogue.
  - Will be offered once it is passed and will be able to add them into the program once it hits the system.
- Certificate in Agriculture Systems Basics
  - Non-Credit Courses: NC191 - NC195
  - Developed through the F3 Grant
- Ag Ambassadors Program
  - Golden Eagle Aggies Club- this will grow into an ambassador's program similar to Merced, Reedley, and COS. Having a space on campus for those in the Ag pathway is important. Being able to market the program, going to be at Farm Day, other events are planned for the rest of the year. Tony has two students going with him to the FFA State Conference.
  - Any guidance of how the program should go?
    - Way to formalize agreement to COS and LC have an active program for a local leadership program. The struggle is figuring out the events that are happening if they are 21+ or not. Not all CC students are over 21.
    - Email Grant or Anthony for any ideas or events that are happening in the community

3:30pm	<b>Course Offerings</b> <b>Notes:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of Current Course Offerings:           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ AG011 - Agriculture Sales and Communication</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Anthony Farao
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Send link to the course catalogue, Dusty would review it to make sure that it will benefit students who are taking the class to help them in the real world.</li> <li>▪ Ag Ambassadors would be a great pathway for strengthening the communication skills.</li> <li>○ AG015X - Occupational Work Experience Education</li> <li>○ AG049 - Directed Study in Agriculture</li> <li>○ AGBUS010 - Introduction to Agriculture Business</li> <li>○ AGBUS015 - Computer Application to Agriculture</li> <li>○ AGBUS022 - Agriculture Leadership           <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Offering the course in the 25-26 school year, must be taught by and administrator, this was brought back post covid.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ AGBUS024 - Agricultural Accounting</li> <li>○ AGBUS040 - Introductory Agricultural Economics</li> <li>○ ASCI012 - Animal Science</li> <li>○ CRPSCI001 - Introduction to Plant Science</li> <li>○ Non-Credit Courses: NC191 - NC195</li> </ul>	
4:45pm	<p>Action:</p> <p>A. Curriculum/Program Proposals</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Agriculture System Fundamentals (COA)</li> <li>b. High points: 5 courses to help ensure they understand necessary documentation, and by the end of the course, they will have a full operational plan.</li> <li>c. Catalogue Links for:           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <a href="#">NC191</a></li> <li>ii. <a href="#">NC192</a></li> <li>iii. <a href="#">NC193</a></li> <li>iv. <a href="#">NC194</a></li> <li>v. <a href="#">NC195</a></li> </ol> </li> <li>d. Wanting those taking this to look at these from a manager's perspective, you know everything already.</li> <li>e. What is the upskill with these courses?           <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Many of the students are at the point where they should be management level. This is for the student who is ready to move up, but they may not the managerial skills.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> <p><b>Maker:</b> Dusty Ference  <b>Second:</b> Bobby Peters  <b>Vote:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried    <input type="checkbox"/> Denied    <input type="checkbox"/> Abstentions:  <b>Consent method:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice    <input type="checkbox"/> Rising    <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Ballot</p> <p>B. Curriculum/Program Revisions</p>	Anthony Farao

	<p>a. Agriculture Business AST- send Ag 11, Tony will send the public Canvas for this program.</p> <p><b>Maker:</b> Bobby Peters  <b>Second:</b> Dusty Ference</p> <p><b>Vote:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carried    <input type="checkbox"/> Denied    <input type="checkbox"/> Abstentions:</p> <p><b>Consent method:</b> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Voice    <input type="checkbox"/> Rising    <input type="checkbox"/> Secret Ballot</p> <p>C. Curriculum/Program Deletions</p> <p>a.</p>	
4:00pm	<p>Advisory discussion:          Survey link for Advisory Members: <a href="#">[CLICK HERE]</a></p> <p><b>Notes on Data:</b> Looking at the trends. Seeing numbers in this program, it is going to take time to continue to grow in this area. Driven heavily on labor market- see the projected job market (see the data below)- the data is based off of EDD. There will be some downfalls in certain areas.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What changes might be made to improve program size, scope, and quality?</li> <li>2. Is the content of CTE Programs appropriate for the pathway to employment/transfer?</li> <li>3. Which of the following are areas for improvement:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. # of CTE Students Enrolled,</li> <li>b. # of female Enrolled,</li> <li>c. Min. Class size,</li> <li>d. # of Dual Enrollment,</li> <li>e. # of CTE Instructors,</li> <li>f. # of CTE Counselors,</li> <li>g. # of pathways,</li> <li>h. # of Articulations,</li> <li>i. Internships,</li> <li>j. # of Apprenticeships</li> <li>k. Others: _____</li> </ol> </li> </ol>	
4:15pm	<p>Other Feedback and Discussion:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Does this committee represent the industry?</li> <li>2. What representation is still needed on this advisory committee?</li> <li>3. What occupational areas, skills, and/or certifications are not represented on this committee and should be added?</li> <li>4. What subpopulation of students would benefit from additional support?</li> <li>5. What steps can be taken to improve student performance?</li> </ol> <p><b>Notes:</b> seeing a shift in disproportionate students especially in white males. Brother to Brother is a way to target males.          Open to having the meetings out in the community rather than at Lemoore College.          Dusty will put it out on the open invite on their newsletters and at their meetings. Ag Commissioner has a big meeting space.</p>	
4:30pm	<p>Adjourn- @4:15pm</p> <p>Next Meeting Date and Time: <b>October 8, 2025 3:00-4:30pm; Location TBD</b></p>	

## Agriculture Programs and Data Review

### Agriculture Systems Fundamentals (Course Prefix and Numbers subject to change)

NC191 - Agriculture Technical Literacy	2
NC192 - Agricultural Systems	2
NC193 - Agricultural Safety	2
NC194 - Equipment Operation, Configuration and Troubleshooting	2
NC195 - Workplace Effectiveness	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>10</b>

### Agriculture Sales & Marketing

AG011 - Agriculture Sales and Communication	3
AG015X - Occupational Work Experience Education	3
CIS002G – Introduction to E-Commerce	3
AGBUS010 - Introduction to Agriculture Business	3
AGBUS015 - Computer Application to Agriculture	3
CIS034 – Introduction to Spreadsheets	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>

Awards	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
	0	0	0	2

### Agriculture - AS Degree

AG015X - Occupational Work Experience Education	2
AGBUS024 - Agricultural Accounting	3
AGBUS040 - Introductory Agricultural Economics	3
ASCI012 - Animal Science	3
CRPSCI001 - Introduction to Plant Science	3
SLSCI021 - Introduction to Soil Science	4

#### Degree Option Track Courses:

##### Agriculture Business

AGBUS010 - Introduction to Agriculture Business	3
AGBUS015 - Computer Application to Agriculture	3

##### Mechanized Agriculture

ELET001 – Basic Electronics (DC)	3
ITEC008 – Mechanical Systems	3

##### Agriculture Education

EDUC001 – Introduction to Teaching	3
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##### General Agriculture

##### *Local General Education Requirements*

##### *Elective Units for Degree*

<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>
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Awards	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24
	0	0	0	0



**Lightcast Jobs Data (09032024: Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Tulare)**

Description	2025 Jobs	2030 Jobs	2025 - 2030 Change	2025 - 2030 % Change	Avg. Annual Openings	Typical Entry Level Education	Avg. Annual Earnings	Median Hourly Earnings
Farmworkers and Laborers, Crop, Nursery, and Greenhouse	97,266	98,701	1,435	1%	14,725	No formal ed	\$34,147.24	\$15.85
Farmworkers, Farm, Ranch, and Aquacultural Animals	5,961	5,493	(468)	(8%)	845	No formal ed	\$35,859.87	\$15.93
Agricultural Workers, All Other	4,185	4,008	(177)	(4%)	604	No formal ed	\$44,483.76	\$18.08
Meat, Poultry, and Fish Cutters and Trimmers	660	716	56	8%	92	No formal ed	\$33,421.71	\$15.71
Slaughterers and Meat Packers	3,287	3,333	46	1%	403	No formal ed	\$39,898.85	\$17.62
Farmers, Ranchers, and Other Agricultural Managers	9,972	9,580	(392)	(4%)	1,012	HS	\$62,166.29	\$20.08
Veterinary Assistants and Laboratory Animal Caretakers	660	706	46	7%	141	HS	\$38,853.53	\$17.52
Animal Control Workers	33	38	5	14%	4	HS	\$47,153.60	\$22.73
Animal Trainers	277	280	3	1%	40	HS	\$41,865.05	\$17.45
Animal Caretakers	1,438	1,555	117	8%	292	HS	\$38,143.05	\$16.93
First-Line Supervisors of Farming, Fishing, and Forestry Workers	4,441	4,575	134	3%	616	HS	\$51,322.92	\$22.22
Animal Breeders	41	38	(3)	(6%)	6	HS	\$50,302.52	\$20.59
Agricultural Technicians	347	343	(4)	(1%)	46	AS	\$45,700.78	\$19.34
Hydrologic Technicians	17	17	(0)	(1%)	2	AS	\$66,045.65	\$29.49
Compliance Officers	1,916	1,996	80	4%	164	BS	\$82,472.30	\$36.50
Animal Scientists	<10	<10	Insf. Data	Insf. Data	1	BS	Insf. Data	Insf. Data
Food Scientists and Technologists	307	310	2	1%	25	BS	\$79,505.22	\$35.87
Conservation Scientists	148	155	7	5%	13	BS	\$69,941.89	\$32.28
Biological Technicians	262	271	8	3%	34	BS	\$48,106.17	\$21.31
Agricultural Inspectors	414	427	12	3%	68	BS	\$54,126.82	\$24.70

131,639 132,547 909 1% 19,134