

FEDERAL MILESTONES IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE LAND-GRANT UNIVERSITY SYSTEM AND THE COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE

- 1862 **Passage of the Federal ‘Morrill Act’** – Created the Land-Grant University System placing instruction in agriculture and home economics in American higher education.
- 1887 **Passage of the Federal ‘Hatch Act’** – Created state agricultural experiment stations within the land-grant institutions to establish a research base for scientific agriculture.
- 1880’s – 1914 Land-grant colleges extended off-campus programs to rural areas via agricultural trains, farmer clubs, farmers’ institutes, homemaker groups, and boys’ and girls’ clubs.
- 1890 **Passage of the Second Morrill Act** - Established 1890 Land-Grant Colleges.
- 1908 Employment of the first “county extension agent,” forming a partnership in funding and programming between state colleges and county organizations.
- 1914 **Passage of the Federal Smith-Lever Act** – Created the Cooperative Extension Service as the third part of the Land-Grant System, including resident instruction, Cooperative State Research, and Cooperative Extension Service. Provided for \$10,000 per state, plus a formula for distributing the remainder of federal funds to the states on the basis of rural population – a formula which continued until 1923. The provisions of the Act (as amended through Public Law 107-293, November 13, 2002) can be found at <http://www.csrees.usda.gov/about/offices/legis/pdfs/smithlev.pdf>.
- 1917-20 Cooperative Extension appointed “emergency food agents” and additional staff under the World War I Emergency Food Act, thus demonstrating special roles for this agency in times of national and local emergencies and disasters.
- 1928 **Passage of the Federal Capper-Ketchum Act** – Provided for expansion of Cooperative Extension with \$1.5 million in additional federal funds. Required 1/3 of the added funds to be matched within states. In subsequent years, full matching was required, but the formula was still based on rural population.
- 1935 **Passage of the Federal Bankhead–Jones Act** – Provided for further expansion with \$8 million in 1936 and \$1 million additional for each of the next four years. Formula change: \$980,000 was distributed equally among states; the rest, for the first time, was based on farm population rather than rural population.
- 1943-47 Funds were provided to the states for special additional staff for World War II emergency programs.

- 1945 **Passage of the Federal Bankhead-Flannagan Act** – Further expansion. For the first time, a portion (2%) of the federal appropriation was for Federal Administration, 4% was set aside for the Secretary for special need allocation, and the remaining 94% was distributed based on farm population.
- 1953 **Congress Amended the Smith-Lever Act** – Consolidated nine existing acts. Provided that subsequent increases be allocated 4% to special need, 48% based on rural population, and 48% on farm population, and subject to matching by states.
- 1953 Section 3(d) was added to provide appropriations for Federal Extension staff in USDA
- 1955 **Smith-Lever Amendment** – Set aside special funds outside the formula for the first time. Funds to be used for benefit of disadvantaged farmers and awarded on proposals from states.
- 1961 Section 3(d) was added to appropriations to provide \$700,000 for resource and community development. Other special 3(d) programs initiated since 1961 include such programs as Farm Safety, Urban Gardening, Pest Management, Pesticide Impact Assessment, Energy Demonstration, Non-point Pollution, and Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP).
- 1962 **Smith-Lever Amendment** – Froze distribution of current federal funds to each state. Subsequent increases to be 4% to the Federal Service and, of the remainder 20% in equal proportions to all states, and 40% each according to rural and farm population. (Formula remains essentially the same today).
- 1965 Section 3(d) was used to provide pesticide chemical programs in Appalachia.
- 1968 Congress shifted all 3(d) special funds back to formula funding except for \$1.6 million in agricultural marketing.
- 1969 Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program (EFNEP) was established under section 3(d) and was expanded subsequently from \$10 million in 1969 to \$65.6 million in 2008.
- 1972 **Passage of the Federal Rural Development Act** – Title V authorized expanded work in rural communities in non-agricultural as well as agricultural fields. Funds were distributed 4% for Federal Administration, 10% for multi-state work, 20% equally divided among states, and 33% each according to rural and farm population. In 1981, these funds were transferred into Smith-Lever formula appropriations.
- Appropriation Act 1972** – 1890 Land-Grant colleges received earmarked funds.

- 1973 The Congress provided earmarked funds for 4-H work in urban areas and for 4-H rural community development.
- 1976 **Passage of the Farmer-to-Consumer Direct Marketing Act** – Funded special direct marketing proposals from states.
- 1977 **Food and Agriculture Act of 1977** – Refined the Rural Development Title V formula of 1972 to 4% for federal administration, 19% for farm research programs, and 77% for small farm extension programs. Also provided appropriations each fiscal year for the 1890 Land-Grant Colleges and Tuskegee Institute, an amount not less than 4% of the amount appropriated under the Smith-Lever Act.
- 1978 **Passage of the Renewable Resources Extension Act** – Authorized funding for extension forestry and other renewable national resources. Two million dollars were appropriated in FY 82 for the first time.
- 1981 **The Food and Agriculture Act of 1981** – Amended 1977 Farm Bill to increase 1890 college funding to not less than 5 ½% of the total Smith-Lever appropriations in 1982 and to not less than 6% in 1983 through 1985.
- 1994 **The Elementary and Secondary Education Reauthorization Act of 1994** – Confers land-grant status on 29 Native American Colleges located in 12 states.
- 1996 **The Federal Agricultural Improvement and Reform Act of 1996** – Identifies eight general purposes for agricultural research, extension and education; establishes 30 member advisory board and 15 member Strategic Planning Task Force; details technical requirements; and provides appropriation authorizations. See <http://www.usda.gov/farbill> for more information.
- 1998 **The Agricultural Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998** – See USDA web site for complete act:
<http://www.usda.gov/1700/legis/areera.htmS5105>
- 2002 **The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002** – Alters the farm payment program and introduces counter-cyclical farm income support; expands conservation land retirement programs and emphasizes on-farm environmental practices; relaxes rules to make more borrowers eligible for Federal farm credit assistance; restores food stamp eligibility for legal immigrants; adds various commodities to those requiring country-of-origin labeling; introduces provisions on animal welfare. See <http://www.usda.gov/farbill> for more information.

Additional information on this and other Federal legislation related to Extension and Land-Grant Universities can be found at http://www.csrees.usda.gov/about/offices/legis/legis_statutes.html.

STATE LEGISLATION SPECIFIC TO CSU EXTENSION

The first “county agent” law was passed by the Colorado General Assembly on April 13, 1913. This was S.B. No. 227 by Senator Reynolds and authorized Boards of County Commissioners to appoint a “county agriculturist” upon the petition of one hundred taxpayers within the county. The Act specified the function and duty of the County Agriculturist; and included was, “to cooperate with and act under the general direction of the State Agricultural College of Colorado and the United States Department of Agriculture.” (This law has not been repealed.)

Colorado accepted provisions of the Smith-Lever Act on April 9, 1915 when the state legislature approved S.B. No. 225 by Senator Barela. This bill provided for “full and complete acceptance to the provisions, terms and condition made and prescribed by the Act of Congress,” and further provided for funds “equal to that available to the State of Colorado under said additional appropriations for the purpose of maintenance of cooperative agricultural extension work, as provided for in said Act of Congress.” In other words, state funds were appropriated to match federal funds available to Colorado.

Extension work in Colorado actually began before passage of the Smith-lever Act with the creation of the office of “State Leader of Farm Management Field Studies and Demonstration for Colorado.” The office was the result of a memorandum of understanding between the Bureau of Plant Industry and the Colorado Agricultural College (now CSU). Although the memorandum was not signed until November 1912, it was made effective as of October 1, 1912, so that it would conform to the agreements entered into with Logan and El Paso counties for the employment of extension agents.

Logan County appointed the first Colorado extension agent on October 1, 1912. El Paso County followed two weeks later with the appointment of an agent on October 16, 1912. Other counties employed agents prior to passage of the Smith-Lever Act included the San Luis Valley counties (as a group), December 1, 1912; Pueblo County, March 18, 1913; Mesa County, January 1, 1914; Boulder County, February 6, 1914; Morgan County, April 20, 1914; and Prowers County, May 1, 1914.

Extension work as we know it today was actually organized by a memorandum of understanding between Colorado Agricultural College (now CSU) and the United States Department of Agriculture. The agreement was signed by President Charles A. Lory on July 30, 1914 and became effective on August 20 of the same year when Secretary of Agriculture D.F. Houston signed it. President Lory served as Acting Extension Director on June 1, 1914 to September 1, 1915 and again in 1929 from January 15 to July 1.

Stated funds were provided by Colorado General Assembly in 1917 for supplemental Extension work, and in 1929 it accepted provisions of the Capper-Ketchum Act passed by Congress a year earlier to furnish additional Extension funds. In 1935 the Colorado Legislature accepted provisions of the Bankhead-Jones Act, passed by Congress, providing the further support of Extension work.

The General Assembly in 1963 passed legislation authorizing boards of county commissioners to:

“(a) Enter into cooperative agreements with the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System for the assistance of the Colorado State University including all of its agencies in the development and financing of the projects to be included in the operations of the county agricultural research work each year.”

“(b) Enter into cooperative agreements with the commissioners of other counties to economically carry out the purposes of this article.”

The revised statutes of 1963 quote prior legislation which authorizes, “the boards of county commissioners of the several counties to appropriate from the county general funds such money as may be necessary to pay the obligations for county agricultural extension and research work as may be authorized.”

In 1979, the state legislature approved and the governor signed into law, Senate Bill 77, the “Colorado Cooperative Extension Service Act.” This bill provides the basic statutory authority for the Colorado Cooperative Extension Service. The Act acknowledges the responsibility of the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service (informally renamed Colorado State University Extension (CSUE)) to administer and conduct programs of practical, informal education on a statewide basis.

SENATE BILL 77

AN ACT

SENATE BILL NO. 77. BY SENATORS H. Fowler, Hatcher, Allshouse, Bishop, McCormick, Nobel, Soash, Stockton, and Zakhem; also REPRESENTATIVES Youngland, Burns, Hamlin, Hastings, Hilsmeier, and Showalter.

CONCERNING THE COLORADO COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE, AND PROVIDING FOR ITS PROGRAMS, POLICIES, AND ADMINISTRATION.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Colorado:

SECTION 1. Title 23, Colorado Revised Statutes 1973, as amended, is amended BY THE ADDITION OF A NEW ARTICLE to read:

ARTICLE 34

Colorado Cooperative Extension Service

23-34-101. Short title. This article shall be known and may be cited as the “Colorado Cooperative Extension Service Act.”

23-34-102. Acknowledgement of related federal laws.

- (1) Section 23-32-112, accepting and assenting to the provisions, terms and conditions of the act of congress known as the “Smith-Lever Act” (38 Stat.372) providing for Cooperative Extension programs, is acknowledged.
- (2) Subsequent congressional enactments, including the “National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977” (Title XIV, Public Law 95-113, September 29, 1977), the “International Food and Agricultural Development Act of 1975), and the “Rural Development Act of 1972” (Title V, Public Law 92-419, October 3, 1972), are acknowledged as authorizing, supplementing, expanding, and redefining the federal role in Cooperative Extension programs, including those conducted in cooperation with the Colorado Cooperative Extension Service.
- (3) Nothing in this section shall be construed to oblige the state in any way to institute or maintain with state funds any program in contravention of the laws of Colorado or the interest of the General Assembly in providing for the education needs of the people.

23-34-103. Responsibility and objectives.

- (1) Primary responsibility, according to section 23-23-102, for statewide programs of educational non-credit, informal extension conducted through cooperative federal, state, and county relationships and as more particularly authorized in this article shall continue

to lie with the Colorado State University Cooperative Extension Service, referred to in this article as the “service.”

- (2) The objectives of the service’s programs shall continue to be the dissemination of information to the people of this state in order to assist them in applying the results of scientific research and technological developments, as well as lessons from practical experience, to the solution of individual, family, and community problems, drawing on relevant knowledge from various fields, including but not limited to agriculture, natural resources, home economics, nutrition, health, citizenship, and community and economic development.

23-23-104. Organization – cooperative relationships.

- (1) The service is an organizational unit of the Colorado State University, under the supervision and control of the University’s administration and the Board of Governors of the Colorado State University System.
- (2) Programs of the service shall reflect and respond to problems, needs, and opportunities in the state and its regions as formulated and articulated through the participation and involvement of the people, and said programs shall be conducted in accordance with program plans pursuant to agreements with federal and state agencies and with local governments and shall be consistent with authorizations of the Congress, the General Assembly, and local governments.
- (3) In support of program objectives, the service is authorized, pursuant to the policies of the university and the service’s governing board, to enter into contracts and agreements with the United States Department of Agriculture, other federal departments and agencies, state departments, agencies, and institutions, county and other local governments, and private organizations and associations to further extension programs and to provide for funding and administration of said programs.
- (4) The service is authorized to establish a state advisory committee to assist in the planning, implementation, and evaluation of the extension programs statewide; is authorized to cooperate with boards of county commissioners in the creation of county or area advisory committees to assist local extension personnel in planning, developing, implementing, and evaluating programs and performance; may establish administrative standards, operating procedures, and methods for utilizing such advisory committees; and may make the utilization of said standards, operating procedures, and methods for utilizing such advisory committees a basis for program cooperation and coordination.

23-34-105. Authority to accomplish purposes of article.

- (1) The service is authorized, pursuant to applicable university, state and federal policies and procedures, to spend appropriated funds, to collect and expend reasonable and proper service fees, to employ personnel, purchase materials and supplies, and to take other

necessary action to facilitate the accomplishment of the purposes of this article, including but not limited to the following:

- (a) Training of group leaders and directing of group educational activities;
- (b) Conduct of workshops, institutes, conferences, and non-credit short courses at Colorado State University or at convenient locations in the state;
- (c) Use of demonstrations and other appropriate educational methods and dissemination of information by appropriate means, including press, radio, television, and other forms of communication;
- (d) Cooperation with federal, state, and local agencies, other universities and colleges, private organizations, and institutions to further program objectives; and
- (e) Development of interstate and multi-county administrative or program arrangements, memoranda of understanding, and agreements to achieve state extension objectives.

23-23-106. Reporting and accountability.

- (1) In addition to such reports as may be required under federal laws and agreements, the service shall:
 - (a) Provide annual reports to the Governor reviewing activities and goal accomplishments, assessing the value and significance of extension program activities, and indicating problems, needs, and opportunities, especially such as might require the attention of the General Assembly and the Governor.

Six copies of each report shall be filed with the Legislative Council.

- (b) Prepare such other information as may be requested by the General Assembly on the Governor in areas of the service's concern and responsibility.

SECTION 2. Safety clause. The General Assembly hereby finds, determines, and declares that this act is necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health and safety.

/s/ Fred E. Anderson
Fred E. Anderson
PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

/s/ Robert F. Burford
Robert F. Burford
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

/s/ Marjorie L. Rutenbeck
Marjorie L. Rutenbeck
SECRETARY OF THE SENATE

/s/ Lorraine F. Lombardi
Lorraine F. Lombardi
CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED May 25, 1979, 12:09 p.m.

/s/ Richard D. Lamm

Richard D. Lamm

GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF COLORADO