

# **Providing Non-Academic Incentives and Attractants for Students. (A01-minihan105827-Oral)**

## **Authors:**

- D.J.Minihan\* - *Kansas State University*
- J.R.McKenna - *Virginia Tech*

## **Abstract:**

The value of non-academic activities are often underutilized as recruiting and retention tools by academic institutions. It has been an accepted practice of offering scholarships to incoming Freshman, yet the renewal of scholarships is inconsistent and varied amongst institutions. Continuing financial aid is not as readily available to returning and transfer students. Involvement in student teams, curricular clubs, and honor's programs provide non-academic opportunities for student development outside of the formal classroom setting allowing students to expand their communication and interpersonal skills. Technical skills and practical application gained from internships and undergraduate research assistants provide valued opportunities to address the needs and wants of industry which hire agronomy students. A concerted effort for scholarship acquisition, faculty involvement with teams and clubs, and support of honor's programs, undergraduate research, and internship programs contribute to the recruitment and retention of agronomy majors.

## **Corresponding Author Information:**

Dana Minihan

Kansas State University

1022 Throckmorton Plant Sciences Center

Manhattan, KS 66506

phone: 785-532-7258

fax: 785-532-6094

e-mail: [minihan@ksu.edu](mailto:minihan@ksu.edu)

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