

**2009 National Collegiate Agricultural Education
Program of Excellence Award
Rules and Guidelines
Sponsored by ATA**

I. Purpose

The Program of Excellence Award was established as a way to share activities being conducted by collegiate agricultural education organizations throughout the United States and to recognize those organizations that have done an outstanding job of organizing and conducting activities in the following categories: Professional Development, Fundraising, Community Service, and Fellowship.

II. Application Procedure

Application materials shall consist of two parts:

- A. A written summary of activities outlining the accomplishments of the organization during the past academic year. The summary should be no longer than two single-spaced word-processed pages. The font will be no smaller than size 12 and easy to read. Margins will be no narrower than 1" on all sides. The summary should include the number of active members, variety and number of activities, and the success of activities. Each organization will provide four (4) copies of the summary of activities for the judges and 20 copies for chapters in attendance of the conclave.
 - 1. The summary for each of the categories: Professional Development, Fundraising, Community Service, and Fellowship can include no more than three (3) activities for each category.

- B. A series of no more than ten (10) PowerPoint slides (builds are considered part of one slide) can be used to augment an oral presentation that will be no longer than five (5) minutes in length. **Presenters will get a visual time warning at four (4) minutes. For a time of five minutes and one second (5:01) to seven (7) minutes, a two (2) point deduction from the scores in each of the four activity areas and a two (2) point deduction from the oral presentation score will be assessed. These deductions will lead to a ten (10) point deduction on the total score. A time that exceeds seven (7) minutes will result in disqualification.**
 - 1. A digital projector, PC laptop with PowerPoint 2007, CD and Flash drives will be provided. Contestants must use the technology provided at the contest for their presentation.

III. Evaluating Program of Excellence Award Applications

- A. Each application will be evaluated by a panel of four delegates selected at random from organizations that did not submit an application for the Program of Excellence Award.
- B. Judging and award presentation will take place during the National Alpha Tau Alpha Conclave.
- C. The following criteria and scoring will be used:

<u>Criteria</u>	<u>Points</u>
1. Variety and number of activities conducted:	60
Professional Development (15)	
Fundraising (15)	
Community Service (15)	
Fellowship (15)	
2. Success of Activities	10
3. Creativity and Originality	10
4. Oral Presentation	15
5. Script or written summary	<u>5</u>
TOTAL	100

IV. Awards

- A. An outstanding organization will be recognized (with a plaque) in each of the four categories of activities: Professional Development, Fundraising, Community Service, and Fellowship.
- B. The collegiate agricultural education organization that demonstrates the highest level of achievement through their activities in all areas (highest total score) will be recognized as the outstanding organization and presented a plaque. The first and second place organizations on total score will receive checks for \$100.00 and \$50.00 respectively.

If you plan to participate in the Program of Excellence Award event, notice must be given by October 1 by indicating your chapter's intentions on the enclosed **Contest Pre-Registration Form**. All application and presentation materials should be brought to the National Collegiate Agricultural Education Conference.