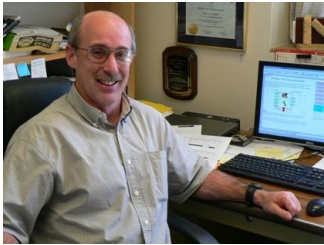


Energy Education Grant

UNL Extension Energy Initiative Startup

Principal Investigator:



Rick Koelsch

Biological Systems Engineering

<http://www.animalscience.unl.edu/facultystaff/faculty/rickkoelsch.html>
rkoelsch1@unl.edu

(402) 472-2966

Project Contact:

Francis (John) Hay

Biological Systems Engineering

jhay2@unl.edu

(402) 472-0408

ABSTRACT.

This project will lay the groundwork for a direct and sustained engagement of Nebraska residents with educational and research resources of the University of Nebraska. During the energy crisis of the 1970's, UNL Extension was fully engaged in statewide outreach and education on energy issues. For a variety of reasons, UNL Extension is less well positioned to respond to today's energy concerns. The Dean of Extension has identified energy as a priority emerging issue to which the UNL Extension system must pro-actively respond. He has initiated faculty planning sessions to plan an extension program, conducted a review of existing UNL energy experts, engaged Representative Osborne's Congressional staff in discussion on ethanol issues, and initiated assembly of a Biofuels Implementation extension team.

This project will develop the essential infrastructure for a broad base extension response to energy issues and facilitate an immediate engagement of extension faculty in emerging ethanol industry issues. An existing part-time Extension Specialist would lead implementation of field staff in-service, media packet development on UNL energy resources, web access to educational resources, and facilitation of a Biofuels team. Extension is committed to identifying existing extension faculty who will transition to greater leadership on energy issues or promoting modification of an existing open position to include energy as a focus.