

# MACC VOICE

September 2014 Newsletter



Mid America Cooperative Council

Mid America Cooperative Council  
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## OSU Ag Department Chair Tim Haab and Hillary Price, Director, Corporate and Foundation Partnerships at The Ohio State University Tour Ohio Co-ops - August 28, 2014

On August 28, 2014, Tim Haab, Department Chair and Professor of OSU Dept. of Agricultural, Environmental and Development Economics, and Hillary Price, Director, Corporate and Foundation Partnerships at OSU; took a tour of Heritage Cooperative in Kenton, OH; and later toured Trupointe Cooperative, Inc. in South Charleston, OH. This tour demonstrates their engagement with Ohio cooperative businesses.

**The Center for Cooperative, Business and Community Education and Development** was developed through the department, and provides support for innovative curriculum, student/industry engagement, management and executive education, applied research, international experiential learning, business and community engagement. As many of the older cooperative businesses will be losing senior management due to retirement; the Center can assist them with Succession Planning, Business and Community Engagement, Management and Executive Education, just to name a few of its services.

As a regional, national and international hub for University and industry partnerships in the education of future business and cooperative enterprise leaders, the **Center for Cooperative, Business and Community Education and Development** will facilitate cross-regional collaborations in sustainable business education through student, faculty and employee exchange programs.

*"The tour was well spent discussing and sharing viewpoints with candid thoughts on the status, concerns, and direction of our industry, cooperatives, Ohio State, Heritage Cooperative and Trupointe Cooperative. Issues of relevancy and expectations of different current and future players were addressed. More importantly, discussion centered on how individually as well as collectively, we can solve issues and capture successes",* said **Eric Parthemore, President/CEO of Heritage Cooperative.**

The Center is planning more of these tours in the future; to gain knowledge of how it can better serve cooperative businesses, the communities they serve, and enhance its innovative curriculum education built on AEDE's extensive expertise in the fields of Agribusiness and Applied Economics, and Environment, Economy, Development and Sustainability.

For more information about the Center visit <http://aede.osu.edu>, by email at [haab.1@osu.edu](mailto:haab.1@osu.edu), or by phone at 614-292-6237.



(left to right) - Heritage Cooperative employee, Hillary Price, Eric Parthemore - President/Heritage Cooperative and Tim Haab.



Heritage Cooperative employees with Eric Parthemore, Hillary Price and Tim Haab.



Trupointe Cooperative employees with Gordon Wallace, COO Trupointe Cooperative, Inc. (far right), Hillary Price and Tim Haab

## People, Planet, Profit

Using AEDE's current curriculum as a launching point, the **Center for Cooperative, Business and Community Education and Development** will consolidate and coordinate AEDE's teaching, research and outreach efforts in cooperative enterprises, farm income enhancement, business retention and expansion, and community development to provide a vehicle to develop new areas of innovation in educating undergraduate students, graduate students, and managers and executives in the future of sustainable business and cooperative enterprise leadership.

Drawing on the principles of profit maximization, public resource stewardship, cooperation and corporate social responsibility; the Center for Cooperative, Business and Community Education and Development will educate future and current cooperative, business, and community leaders in the sustainability of business within a broader social context with a focus on the principles of the triple bottom line: people, planet and profit.

Through partnerships with traditional and non-traditional constituencies, industry and public entities, the Center for Cooperative, Business and Community Education and Development will establish a new student centered education experience that **fully integrates classroom and real world experiences to provide hands-on education focused on professional development and career training that meets the needs of today's employers.**

### 2014 MAC-ED PROGRAM CALENDAR

#### Co-ops101 Classes

September 18	Louisville, KY	Farm Credit Mid-America
October 14	Wabash, IN	Beacon Credit Union
November 6	Louisville, KY	Farm Credit Mid-America

#### Co-op Credit Conference

October 16-17 Indianapolis, IN Holiday Inn North/Carmel

#### CFO Essentials Conference

November 19-20 Indianapolis, IN Embassy Suites North

#### CFO/Controller Conference

November 20-21 Indianapolis, IN Embassy Suites North

### 2015 MAC-ED PROGRAM CALENDAR

#### Co-ops101 Classes

June 25	Louisville, KY	Farm Credit Mid-America
September 17	Louisville, KY	Farm Credit Mid-America
November 5	Louisville, KY	Farm Credit Mid-America

#### Cooperative Leadership Forum

February 18-19 Oxford, OH Miami University

March 3-4 Oxford, OH Miami University

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Mid-America-Cooperative-Council/115596228461591>**

## Rod's Thoughts

The establishment of a new **Center For Cooperative, Business, and Community Education and Development at The Ohio State University** is a big step forward in the academic world, as well as for all cooperatives in the Buckeye State. The research and talent generated from this center will impact many cooperatives and business economies beyond the borders of Ohio.

I am very excited about this new center. We all should be bursting with pride. This is only the second center for cooperatives of its kind, the other being the University of Wisconsin Center for Cooperatives. Visit their website at <http://www.uwcc.wisc.edu/> and you will get an idea of how the center has affected the cooperative world in the upper Midwest.

I understand that during the Farm Science Review, the center at OSU will be celebrated publicly and their newly hired chair will be announced. I want to congratulate the new chair, and publicly celebrate the tremendous opportunity the new center has made available for cooperatives in Ohio and the surrounding states. I want to honor **Dr. Bruce McPheron, the Dean of the College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences**, for his vision to establish such an important center. Additionally, we must honor **Dr. Timothy Haab, chair of the Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Development Economics**, for recognizing how previously established endowments could be better utilized by establishing such a center.

It is quite fitting that this center be established 100 years after the first class on cooperatives was taught at The Ohio State University in 1914, most likely by J.I. Falconer, the chair of the department at that time. Since that time, **Chuck Ingraham** has taught the class to a high number of Ohio cooperative leaders. Currently, **David Hahn** is teaching the class on the Columbus campus, and **Bob Cohen** is teaching a cooperative class on the Wooster campus. We can understand the rich heritage cooperative education has at OSU, and in the state of Ohio.

**You may be asking yourself, why is this important?** When we consider that 50% of Ohio's current cooperative CEOs and General Managers are retiring in the next 5 years, and retirement predictions of the next level of managers who report to these CEOs is even higher than 50%, we can see the need for talented leaders. These leaders understand the unique responsibilities of managing a cooperative, where every customer is also an owner. They also understand that the size of these cooperatives has generally increased 10 times in the past couple of decades, and that working for their local co-op members' mutual benefit is very different that keeping investors happy who live well outside the trade area.

I see, as the most immediate goal, to develop talented individuals who understand the unique responsibilities of cooperative leadership. I am told that there is a new major at OSU that focuses on cooperatives, education, and sustainable businesses. This new major's classroom is rapidly growing with students from within the college and from the college of business.

Another goal will be conducting research on cooperatives and the plethora of businesses in Ohio, and educating current and future leaders about the principles of successful business structure and development. **MACC and its members applaud this effort and will support this new center.**