

Florida Extension Long-Range Plan for 2004-2007 A Nine Step Process

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Across the Nation, each State Extension Partner is being asked by the Extension Committee on Policy (ECOP) to reflect upon its purpose, to examine its vision for carrying out its purpose and to determine whether it is prepared to cope with the changing world.

The goal of the University of Florida Extension is to conduct a long-range planning process that brings stakeholders, targeted audiences and Extension faculty together to translate Extension's purpose, vision and strategy into tangible future results.

Steps to be conducted in carrying out the long-range planning process

1. Long-range Plan Steering Committee formulate the long-range planning process and review Extension Mission Statement
 - a. Current: To provide research-based knowledge and educational programs that enable people to make practical decisions to improve their quality of life.
 - b. Proposed: To enable people to improve their lives and communities through learning and partnerships that put knowledge to work in such areas as agriculture and natural resources, the environment, human health and well being, families and youth, and community resource development.

2. County-based, center-based and campus-based faculty and administration conduct listening sessions to help translate Extension's purpose, vision and strategy into tangible future programming priorities
 - a. County listening sessions will involve stakeholders, Extension advisory committee members and other community leaders in addressing the following questions about their county:
 - What do we value?
 - What issues, trends, or concerns are impacting what we value?
 - If current directions persist, is this where we want to go? If not, are there local resources who can best address these trends or issues?

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- Of those issues and/or concerns that can best be addressed through the expertise of Extension educators, what priority should be placed on each issue or concern?
 - b. Center-based and campus-based faculty meet as departments and centers and get input from faculty and staff concerning
 - Review of the unit's mission and purpose as it relates to Extension education
 - Describe Extension programs of excellence in support of Extension's mission
 - Identify and prioritize trends and transitional issues that could impact both traditional and potential audiences impacted by those issues
 - c. Extension Administration conduct an external review listening session
3. Conduct listening sessions to get answers (January – March, 2003)
 4. All faculty units develop long-range objectives based on results of their respective listening sessions
 5. Long-range objectives presented and discussed with Extension Administration at regional listening sessions (April – June)
 6. UF Extension develop statewide long-range objectives based on discussions at regional listening sessions and input from external review (July – August)
 7. Design teams work with appropriate county faculty to develop educational materials in support of statewide long-range objectives (September – October)
 8. Program Development and Evaluation Center work with design teams to develop evaluation and accountability indicators to measure progress in addressing long-range objectives.
 9. County-based, center-based and campus-based faculty implement programs in support of long-range objectives (January, 2004)