

Motivations and Needs of Volunteers within School-Based Agricultural Education (SBAE) Programs

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Research Background

- Shortage of trained agriculture teachers
- SBAE is a demanding profession
- Need for understanding volunteer motives in SBAE programs and training needs

Research Purpose

- Identify the motivations and needs of volunteers within SBAE programs

Research Methods

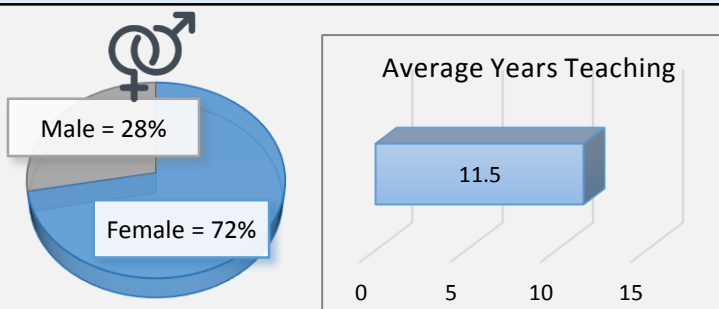
- Anonymous online survey to SBAE volunteers in Utah and Oregon ($n = 112$)
- 3 Part Survey: (1) Volunteer Functions Inventory (VFI) scale; (2) Training needs; (3) Roles/characteristics

Research Conclusions

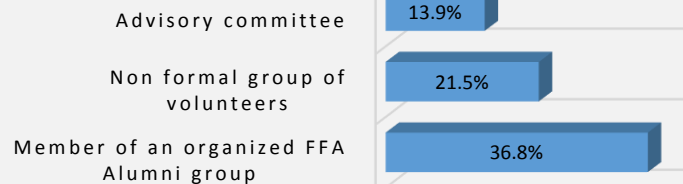
- SBAE volunteers spend most of their efforts on FFA activities
- SBAE volunteers are career-motivated (improve career prospects) and protective-motivated (to protect ego from difficulties of life)
- SBAE volunteers have several professional and volunteer training needs

Research Findings

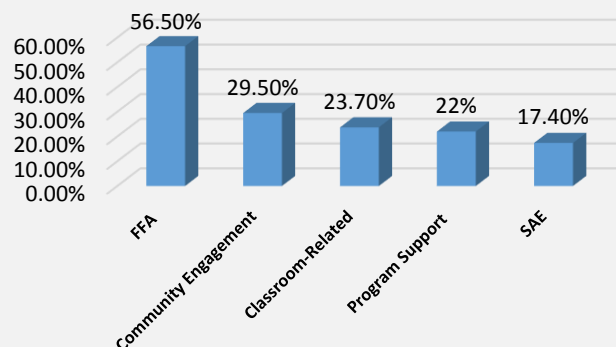
RQ1- What are the characteristics of SBAE volunteers?



Types of Volunteers



Volunteer Activities



RQ2- What are SBAE volunteer motivations?

Motives for Volunteering	Mean
Career	3.94
Protective	3.93
Enhancement	3.39
Social	2.99
Understanding	2.80

5-point scale (5 = strongly agree, 1 = strongly disagree)

RQ3- What are the training needs of SBAE volunteers?

- Opportunities and resources available
- Volunteer leadership-related topics (recruitment strategies, leadership training, establishing a formal organization, etc.)
- CDE coaching
- SAE Supervision

Recommendations

- Provide training and needed resources to SBE volunteers, and in-service & preservice teachers
- SBAE programs should capitalize on career advancement of volunteers
- Replicate study with better sampling techniques
- Explore nuances of protective motives among SBAE volunteers

