Experiential Learning through Student Farming at Five Colleges & Universities

Sabbatical Travel Overview

Bob Williams, PhD
Texas A&M University-Commerce
Background Reading
University of Georgia

- UGArden Student Farm
- Internships
- Student Research
- Community Volunteers
- Campus Kitchen
- Sustainability Projects
- Repurposing
- Produce Stand
- Local Foods Certificate
University of Massachusetts
College of the Atlantic
Student Projects & Livestock
Community Garden
Green Mountain College
"THE CULTIVATION OF HUMAN VALUES ALONE IS EDUCATION."
General Themes

- Dedicated, enthusiastic students
- Strong sense of student engagement
- Dedicated, collaborative faculty and staff
- Administrative support
- Communication via social media
- Positive public relations
- Focus on *food* rather than *commodities*
New Directions

• Expand experiential learning related to food and farming for all students
• Designate space and other resources for group and individual projects
• Promote extended learning communities around themes like food, gardening, animals
• Promote reuse, recycling, and repurposing of existing resources
Resulting Projects Underway or On the Way

• *Farm Team* Internship Program for TAMUC at university farm

• Agriculture Courses for Dual Credit
  – Funded USDA SPECA grant for pilot study

• Service Learning Abroad

• Internships in Industry and Government

• Multidisciplinary minor in Food Studies

• USDA NLGCA Capacity Building Grant
Questions?