

# RLND Class VI Update

## Agriculture's Future in North Dakota

### Seminar 3 by Lowannn Krueger and Corey Dathe

**February, 2014**

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RLND Class VI participants held their third seminar, "Agriculture's Future in North Dakota", February 6-8 in Fargo. The seminar began with a tour of the NDSU greenhouse where the group was able to see a variety of crops in various stages of research. Class VI participants had the exclusive opportunity to see a new area within the greenhouse that will be a closed environment for plant research.

Mel Nelson conducted a Personal Listening Profile session on Thursday afternoon. Participants learned about their own listening styles. Mel described five different listening approaches that in combination result in fifteen different listening styles.

Thursday evening the group met at The Winery, Fargo, for their RLND Leadership Dinner. Guests included Senator Tim Mathern, Senator Ron Sorvaag, NDSU Extension Director Chris Boerboom, Assistant Director Charlie Stoltenow, and District Director Ron Wiederholt; along with several RLND alumni. Annie Carlson, owner of Morning Joy Farms and Class V alumna, gave an educational and entertaining presentation on her farming business and use of sustainable agriculture practices.



Dr. Frayne Olson

Friday started with tours of two local agricultural businesses. Carl and Julie Peterson, owners of Peterson Farms Seed, provided an overview of their business sharing with the group that even though they are in the seed business, they are a farm first. Bob Sinner of SB & B foods provided a tour of their facility where food products are prepared and shipped to various international markets.



Will Meyer and Bob Lawson at NDSU Greenhouse

The RLND group spent Friday afternoon at NDSU's Barry Hall. Rachel Vetter, NDSU, shared a presentation on Ethical Leadership. Tools for ethical decision-making and tips for interviewing and promoting character at work were included in her talk. Next, a local media panel comprised of Max Kringen-Sanford Health, Todd McDonald-Prairie Public Broadcasting, and Deneen Gilmour-MSUM provided RLND participants with advice on how to work with the media. In the Trading Room at Barry Hall, Dr. Frayne Olson, NDSU provided an interesting demonstration of the latest technology used in commodities trading and agricultural markets.

Friday concluded with dinner at the Holiday Inn and a presentation on Business Etiquette by Jill Wilkey, Director of the NDSU Career Center.

Day three of the seminar started with Marie sharing the reveal of the International Seminar location for 2015. The group was excited to learn that they will be traveling to Ghana in West Africa! The remainder of the morning was spent discussing the final chapters of the Leadership Challenge, sharing project plans, and planning for the March seminar in Washington D.C. At the close of the Fargo seminar, participants left with feelings of excitement and anticipation for both the Washington D.C. and International seminars as well as a sense of accomplishment for meeting the goals of Seminar Three by continuing to equip their leadership tool kits and learning more about the future of agriculture in ND.