

# Historical Foundations of the Department of Agricultural Communication, Education and Leadership: Celebrating Our First 100 Years

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## Introduction

On July 1, 2017, the Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership (ACEL) at The Ohio State University will celebrate its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Smith-Hughes Act of 1917, which marked the beginning of the increased growth in agricultural education across the country, is simultaneously celebrating its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. The Smith-Hughes Act provided the funding needed to educate more individuals to teach agriculture in public schools. Consequently, the Department of Agricultural Education was established at The Ohio State University.

## Purposes

To document and make public the 1917 to 2017 history of The Ohio State University Department of Agricultural Communication, Education, and Leadership.

## Objectives

1. To organize both chronological and thematically departmental highlights.
2. To share publicly the findings of the historical information collection in the form of a booklet and other means.
3. To determine the prominent individuals who influenced the development of the department and what they accomplished.

## Methodology

1. To utilize primary sources such as The Ohio State University Board of Trustees meeting minutes, the Smith-Hughes Act, departmental faculty meetings minutes, college catalogs, and interviews with both current and former faculty members.
2. To utilize secondary sources such as previously published departmental histories and newsletters.

## Findings

