A CASE STUDY OF STAKEHOLDER NEEDS FOR EXTENSION EDUCATION

A Critique by David E. Lawver

This qualitative study was designed to determine the extent that a Land-grant University was utilizing stakeholder input for programming priorities. The specific research and academic area that was research was forestry. Forestry represents the third largest commodity within this particular state and is the most important commodity within the three county area of the state where the data where collected.

The title of this paper should make clear that only forestry Extension stakeholders were studied. The statement of the problem is clearly stated and the variables of interest are identified. The literature review was relevant and sufficient for the study.

The methods and procedures appear to be appropriate given the problem of the study. The opportunity to learn about conducting qualitative research is appreciated. Given that the total length of the paper was well within page limitations, one would appreciate more detail about the procedures that were used.

This paper was well written and easy to understand. Issues raised include:
- Is forest found only in this tri-county area?
- What specific institutional changes do the authors recommend?
- Should alternative approaches to meeting stakeholder needs be explored? (e.g. multi-state partnerships)