

## Program Director Update

After speaking with most breed representatives, I have come up with my educational goals. As a program and group, we need to provide a unified message that shows a clear **value** to the entire production chain; from purebred and seedstock, to commercial and lamb feeders. Conveying this message is my primary goal. I have already developed a couple articles that will help to convey this and will be posting them soon. Several commercial producers have stated they see the value in EBVs on rams but there is not a large enough supply of available rams. Some NSIP breeders state there is not enough demand for their rams. We will need to connect these dots with the educational efforts.

I have recorded 5 you tube videos in a tutorial series on Pedigree Master. I will be starting a NSIP you tube channel in the next week or so once I get the series completed. These are a supplement/breakdown of the PM manual.

I attended a workshop about the Shearwell data management and EID system at Pipestone last week. I think there is a lot of promise with that program coming in the near future. It can be a great tool for producers and can streamline data submission for NSIP producers. The meeting was well attended by pipestone producers and they showed an overwhelming interest in the re-launch efforts NSIP has undergone.

A Conversation with Sheep Genetics raised a few issues we will have to address in the future about billing and they are listed in the Exec. Committee report.

Lastly, I've developed a newsletter prototype. Please let me know if you have any thoughts/suggestions on it. I would like to send it at least quarterly, possibly monthly and have it aimed at NSIP producers, commercial producers and potential NSIP members. I would like to call on each of you to help with articles in the future. I wrote everything in this prototype but you all have great ideas too I'd like to include. Each issue, I would like to have a few educational articles, pedigree master tips/tricks, program updates and anything else interesting. I would also like to add a small ½ page section that features 1 NSIP producer per issue. I'd also like your thoughts on if we want to send this strictly digitally or if we'd like to mail a hard copy as well.