



**KARUCO
Agriculture Curriculum Team**



Jay Bell, Ph.D.

**Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Faculty Affairs
College of Food, Agricultural & Natural Resource Sciences, University of MN**

Dr. Bell brings rich background and expertise to Educate Tanzania's efforts to build KARUCO's curriculum in Agriculture. Dr. Bell is originally from southwestern Virginia where he obtained his BS and MS degrees in Agronomy from Virginia Tech. He worked for four years on surface mine reclamation research for Virginia Tech before completing his Ph.D. at Penn State University in 1990. Dr. Bell joined the faculty in the Department of Soil, Water, and Climate at the University of Minnesota as an assistant professor of soil science in 1991 and was promoted to full professor in 2002. Dr. Bell's research and teaching programs focus on pedology, genesis and morphology of wetland soils, soil mapping, and application of geographic information science for soil and environmental sciences. He has authored numerous book chapters and published 50+ scientific articles. He has worked internationally in Australia and Morocco on issues of land resource assessment and soil degradation. Dr. Bell has served as Editor-in-Chief of Geoderma, the International Journal of Soil Science and Associate Editor of the Soil Science Society of America Journal. He has taught courses in Wetland Soils, Soil Genesis and Landscape Relations, Soil Conservation, Introduction to Environmental Sciences, Geographic Information Science and field courses in Soil Mapping and Geomorphology. Dr. Bell has received numerous teaching awards and has been named a Distinguished Teaching Professor at the University of Minnesota.

Dr. Bell currently serves as Associate Dean of Academic Programs and Faculty Affairs for the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences. In this role he has led a significant curriculum revision effort in the college focusing on creating opportunities for experiential and interdisciplinary learning as well as restructuring agricultural curriculum to meet the future needs of society. This includes several new majors under development in agricultural science and education, plant sciences and organic food systems. He has recently served on the organizing committee for two national conferences focusing on Agricultural Curriculum for the 21st Century through the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities.