

# Minutes of the Meeting of The Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors



ALASKA • AMERICAN SAMOA • ARIZONA • CALIFORNIA • COLORADO • GUAM  
HAWAII • IDAHO • MICRONESIA • MONTANA • NEVADA • NEW MEXICO  
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS • OREGON • UTAH • WASHINGTON • WYOMING

**Lory Student Center, Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO  
April 30 – May 3, 2013**

## Summary of Actions/Appointments/Decisions

Agenda Item	Action
2.0	Unanimously approved the minutes from September 2012 meeting. Unanimously approved agenda with the addition of a consensus agenda item , Joint Session 8.0 (J8.0)—the MRC Report
4.0	The seconded motion from the Executive Committee to drop the Northern Marianas from the association unless paid in full through FY14 by June 30, 2013 was approved unanimously. A memo will be sent to Northern Marianas giving notice of this decision.
7.0	Directors requested that finalized impact statements be sent to all directors via regional association listservs. Unanimously approved off-the-top funding requests for NRSPs and regional trusts at requested levels.
8.0	Agreed that a common database would be useful. Barbara Allen-Diaz confirmed that UC can host the database. The WDO can manage the system, once created, but cannot build it from scratch. Formed a subcommittee (Barbara Allen-Diaz, Lee Sommers, and Larry Curtis) to work on this issue.
10.0	<p>Several recommendation for improvement were provided, which Sarah Lupis recorded and will pass on to Rubie Mize, who is coordinating the overhaul effort:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Reviewers should be able to “view” their previous reviews even after they have been finalized</li> <li>• Review forms should use a likert scale (not Y/N)</li> <li>• Having only one official representative from each institution is problematic at times</li> <li>• When is a project “over?” Do objectives need to change?</li> <li>• For TEMP projects, the Appendix E needs to go to the AA</li> </ul>
12.0	Directors suggested including all capacity lines and AFRI programs in the survey.
16.0	Directors approved a title change to “Assistant Director.” Lee Sommers, Mike Harrington, and Sarah Lupis will prepare a new job description, as per CSU requirements, for Directors to review during the Summer Meeting.
17.0	Directors decided to provide 0.3 FTE support (up to \$5,000) for Sara Delheimer from June 1 –Sept. 30, 2013 to work on Western Region impact statements and stories. Bret Hess will also ask WEDA Chair Bill Frost if WEDA is interested in taking on half of this commitment, in an effort to create a “joint initiative” between the two associations.
18.0	Approved with amendments to increase ED salary by 2%, AD salary by 3%, addition of \$5,000 to support Western Region impact reporting, and elimination of separate funding lines for ED/AD travel in future budget summaries.

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**WAAESD Spring Meeting  
April 30 – May 3, 2013  
Minutes**

**Participation:**

Alaska	Milan Shipka	Utah	Don Snyder
	Steve Sparrow	Washington	James Moyer
Colorado	Lee Sommers		Michael Kahn
	Craig Beyrouthy	Wyoming	Bret Hess
California	Barbara Allen-Diaz	OTHERS:	
Guam	Greg Weicko	WAAESD	H. M. Harrington
Idaho	Don Thill		Sarah Lupis
Oregon	Larry Curtis	ARS	Maureen Whalen
Nevada	Ron Pardini		Mickey McGuire
New Mexico	Steve Loring		

**Agenda**

- 1.0 Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions ..... Bret Hess
- 2.0 Approval of Agenda and Minutes of September 2012 meeting ..... Brett Hess
- 3.0 Chair’s Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report ..... Bret Hess
- 4.0 Treasurer’s Report.....Jeff Jacobsen/Mike Harrington
- 5.0 ARS Report..... Maureen Whalen/Mickey McGuire
- 6.0 ESCOP Science and Technology Committee.....Larry Curtis
- 7.0 Recommendations - Off the top funding requests .....Bret Hess/Mike Harrington
- 8.0 Common Data Collection and Storage Database ..... Lee Sommers
- 9.0 National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee ..... Lee Sommers
- 10.0 NIMSS Overhaul..... Sarah Lupis
- 11.0 Tweeting: Not just for the birds ..... Sarah Lupis
- 12.0 ESCOP B&L Priority Setting Process.....Bret Hess/Mike Harrington

13.0 WAAESD Reconvenes, Call to Order..... Bret Hess

14.0 Rate and Recharge Summary .....Mike Harrington

15.0 ED Annual & Quarterly Report .....Mike Harrington

16.0 Assistant to Director Annual & Quarterly Report .....Sarah Lupis

17.0 National Impact Writing Project..... Sara Delheimer

18.0 FY 2014 Office Budget ..... Mike Harrington/Sarah Lupis

19.0 Follow-up on actions/recommendations from Wednesday Priorities & joint discussions.... Bret Hess

20.0 Items from the Floor and Consent Agenda ..... All

21.0 Resolutions ..... Greg Wiecko

**Agenda Item 1.0:** Call to Order, Welcome, Introductions

**Presenter:** Bret Hess

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

Bret Hess called the meeting to order.

The attendees introduced themselves.

**Agenda Item 2.0:** Agenda and Minutes of September 2012 meeting

**Presenter:** Bret Hess

**Action Requested:** Approve agenda and minutes of September 2012 meeting.

Action Taken: Unanimously approved the minutes from September 2012 meeting. Unanimously approved agenda (below) with the addition of a consensus agenda item , Joint Session 8.0 (J8.0)—the MRC Report.

**Background:**

### WAAESD Agenda

**WEDNESDAY, May 1**

**8:00 – 11:45 WAAESD, Lory Student Center (213-15)**

Agenda Item	Time	Description - Presenter
1.0	8:00	Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions – Bret Hess
2.0	8:05	Approval of Agenda and Minutes of September 2012 meeting – Brett Hess
3.0	8:10	Chair’s Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report – Bret Hess
4.0	8:15	Treasurer’s Report - Jeff Jacobsen
5.0	8:20	ARS Report – Andy Hammond, Director, ARS Pacific West Area
6.0	8:30	ESCOP Science and Technology Committee – Larry Curtis
7.0	8:40	Recommendations - Off the top funding requests – Bret Hess/Mike Harrington
8.0	8:55	Common Data Collection and Storage Database – Lee Sommers
9.0	9:05	National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee – Lee Sommers
10.0	9:15	NIMSS Overhaul – Sarah Lupis
11.0	9:30	Tweeting: Not just for the birds – Sarah Lupis
	10:00	<b>BREAK</b>
12.0	10:30	AES Regional Priorities Discussions – Bret Hess/Mike Harrington

**THURSDAY, MAY 2**

**8:00 – Noon WAAESD, Lory Student Center 213-15**

Agenda Item	Time	Description – Presenter
13.0	8:00	WAAESD Reconvenes, Call to Order– Bret Hess
14.0	8:05	Rate and Recharge Summary – Mike Harrington
15.0	8:20	ED Annual & Quarterly Report – H M Harrington
16.0	8:40	Assistant to Director Annual & Quarterly Report – Sarah Lupis
17.0	9:00	National Impact Writing Project – Sara Delheimer
18.0	9:20	FY 2014 Office Budget – H M Harrington/Sarah Lupis
	9:30	Assistant to the Director Evaluation – H M Harrington (Executive Session)
		ED Evaluation – Barbara Allen Diaz (Executive Session)
	10:00	<b>Break</b>
19.0	10:30	Follow-up on actions/recommendations from Wednesday Priorities and joint discussions
20.0	11:00	Items from the Floor and Consent Agenda
21.0	11:15	Resolutions – Greg Wiecko
	11:30	<b>Adjourn for Lunch/Field Trip</b>

Minutes from the September 2012 Fall Meeting can be found here: <http://www.waaesd.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/10/WAAESDFallMeeting2012-Minutes.pdf>

**Agenda Item 3.0:** Interim Actions of Chair

**Presenter:** Bret Hess

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

Bret Hess reported that he has participated in the regularly scheduled WAAESD Executive Committee conference calls and helped to plan the WAAESD-WEDA-WRPLC joint session for this meeting.

Other items discussed by the Executive Committee in their meeting will be reported during their agenda items in the meeting.

**Agenda Item 4.0: Treasurer's Report**

**Presenter:** Jeff Jacobsen & Mike Harrington

**Action Requested:** For information

**Action Taken:** The seconded motion from the Executive Committee to drop the Northern Marianas from the association unless paid in full through FY14 by June 30, 2013 was approved unanimously. A memo will be sent to Northern Marianas giving notice of this decision.

**Background:**

**WESTERN DIRECTOR EXPERIMENT STATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2013**

31-Mar-13

ASSESSMENTS	FY 13 Assessments	Outstanding Assessments	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	\$ 11,109.57		\$ 11,109.57	\$ -
Am Samoa	600.00		600.00	-
Arizona	19,410.88		19,410.88	-
California	31,283.59		31,283.59	-
Colorado	22,758.29		22,758.29	-
CSU Rent	(7,800.00)		(7,800.00)	-
Guam	10,831.33		10,831.33	-
Hawaii	14,364.79		14,364.79	-
Idaho	17,244.82		17,244.82	-
Micronesia	600.00		600.00	-
Montana	18,212.88		18,212.88	-
Nevada	14,122.79		14,122.79	-
New Mexico	14,618.91		14,618.91	-
Northern Marianas	600.00	600.00		1,200.00
Oregon	21,976.28		21,976.28	-
Utah	19,184.66		19,184.66	-
Washington	25,353.48		25,353.48	-
Wyoming	16,385.64		16,385.64	-
<b>Assessment Total</b>	<b>\$ 250,857.90</b>	<b>\$ 600.00</b>	<b>\$ 250,257.91</b>	<b>\$ 1,200.00</b>

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
7/1/12	Balance forward			\$ 110,015.59
	YTD Assessments Received	\$ 250,257.91		360,273.50
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	June/July	84.34		360,357.84
	August	108.58		360,466.42
	September	70.64		360,537.06
	October	97.83		360,634.89
	November	49.46		360,684.35
	December	28.49		360,712.84
	January	28.61		360,741.45
	February	17.82		360,759.27
	March	22.12		360,781.39
	April			360,781.39
	May			360,781.39
7/1/12	MT Accounting Fee		\$ 3,500.00	357,281.39
	<u>CSU Payments</u>			357,281.39
	FY12 Fourth Quarter		56,511.88	300,769.51
	First Quarter		61,416.98	239,352.53
	Second Quarter		57,406.82	181,945.71
	Third Quarter			181,945.71
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 250,765.80</b>	<b>\$ 178,835.68</b>	<b>\$ 181,945.71</b>	<b>\$ 181,945.71</b>

**WESTERN DIRECTOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2013**

31-Mar-13

<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	FY 13 Assessments	Outstanding Assessments	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	\$ 1,305.50		\$ 1,305.50	\$ -
Am Samoa	\$ 200.00		200.00	-
Arizona	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
California	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Colorado	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Guam	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Hawaii	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Idaho	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Micronesia	\$ 200.00		200.00	-
Montana	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Nevada	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
New Mexico	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Northern Marianas	\$ 200.00	800.00		1,000.00
Oregon	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Utah	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Washington	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
Wyoming	\$ 1,305.50		1,305.50	-
<b>Assessment Total</b>	<b>\$ 18,877.00</b>	<b>\$ 800.00</b>	<b>\$ 18,677.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,000.00</b>

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
7/1/12	Balance forward			\$ 14,589.54
	YTD Assessments Received	\$ 18,677.00		33,266.54
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	June/July	6.21		33,272.75
	August	10.71		33,283.46
	September	6.42		33,289.88
	October	8.76		33,298.64
	November	4.40		33,303.04
	December	2.53		33,305.57
	January	2.70		33,308.27
	February	1.99		33,310.26
	March	2.51		33,312.77
	April			33,312.77
	May			33,312.77
	<u>CSU Payments</u>			
	FY12 Fourth Quarter		5,499.53	27,813.24
	First Quarter		4,569.25	23,243.99
	Second Quarter		4,569.25	18,674.74
	Third Quarter			18,674.74
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 18,723.23</b>	<b>\$ 14,638.03</b>	<b>\$ 18,674.74</b>

**WESTERN DIRECTOR SPECIAL ACCOUNT  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2013**

31-Mar-13

<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	FY 13 Assessments	Outstanding Assessments	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska				\$ -
Am Samoa				-
Arizona				-
California				-
Colorado				-
CSU Rent				-
Guam				-
Hawaii				-
Idaho				-
Micronesia				-
Montana				-
Nevada				-
New Mexico				-
Northern Marianas				-
Oregon				-
Utah				-
Washington				-
Wyoming				-
<b>Assessment Total</b>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
7/1/12	Balance forward			\$ 21,662.34
	YTD Assessments Received			21,662.34
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	June/July	11.35		21,673.69
	August	9.66		21,683.35
	September	5.19		21,688.54
	October	6.84		21,695.38
	November	4.07		21,699.45
	December	2.48		21,701.93
	January	2.69		21,704.62
	February	2.05		21,706.67
	March	2.60		21,709.27
	April			21,709.27
	May			21,709.27
<b>Total</b>		\$ 46.93	\$ -	\$ 21,709.27

NOTE: 2008 Grant workshop net from regional workshop plus interest (\$7465.27)

**Agenda Item 5.0:** ARS Report

**Presenter:** Maureen Whalen, Associate Area Director, ARS-PWA

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

## **ARS REPORT (Western)**

April 2013

### **AREA LEADERSHIP**

#### **Pacific West Area**

- Area Director: Andrew Hammond
- Associate Area Director: Maureen Whalen
- Assistant Area Director: Vacant
- *Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington*

#### **Northern Plains Area**

- Area Director: Larry Chandler
- Associate Area Director: Mickey McGuire
- *Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming*

#### **Southern Plains Area**

- Area Director: Dan Upchurch
- Associate Area Director: John McMurtry
- *Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, (Panama)*

### **BUDGET**

#### **FY 2013 Appropriations**

- ARS Salaries and Expenses:
  - Across the board cuts of 2.7%.
  - Sequestration cuts of 5.1% at location level.
  - **Final Budget Authority for FY 2013 is \$1,016,346,000.**
  - Represents a reduction of funding to ARS of \$78.3 million from FY 2012 (total of \$157 million cut since FY 2011)

#### ***Research Priorities and Initiatives***

ARS research continues to address priorities in the following program areas: Animal Production and Protection, Crop Production and Protection, Natural Resources and Sustainable Agricultural Systems, and Nutrition, Food Safety and Quality.

#### **FY2014 President's Budget for ARS**

<b>Salaries and Expenses: FY2014 Appropriation</b>		<b>\$1,124,003,000</b>
<b>Proposed Increases</b>		\$154,580,000
	FY2014 Pay Costs	\$6,376,000
	Program Initiatives	\$148,204,000
<b>Proposed Decreases</b>		<b>(\$131,923,000)</b>
	Proposed Termination of Extramural Research	(\$32,052,000)
	Proposed Termination of Ongoing Research	(\$3,347,000)
	Proposed Laboratory/Location Consolidations	(\$16,996,000)
	Proposed Redirection of Ongoing Research	(\$72,829,000)
	Unspecified Decreases	(\$6,699,000)
<b>FY2014 Buildings &amp; Facilities</b>	Biocontainment Lab & Poultry Research Facility, Athens, GA	<b>\$155,000,000</b>

### *Research Priorities and Initiatives*

ARS research continues to address priorities as listed above, with additional emphasis in Sustainable Agriculture, Climate Change, and Earth Sciences.

## **NEW LEADERSHIP AND VACANCIES**

### California

- San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Sciences Center, Parlier, CA (Director, James Throne)
- Pacific West Area Office, VACANT, Assistant Director
- Western Regional Research Center, Albany, CA
  - Crop Improvement and Utilization Unit, VACANT (Acting RL, Ann Blechl)
  - Plant Mycotoxins Research Unit, VACANT (Acting RL, Ron Haff)
  - Produce Safety & Microbiology Unit, VACANT (Acting RL, Bill Miller)
  - Foodborne Contaminants Research Unit, VACANT (Acting RL, Larry Stanker)

### Hawaii

- Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center (PBARC), Hilo, HI, VACANT (Acting Center Director, Eric Jang)
  - Tropical Plants, Genetics and Disease Unit, VACANT (Acting RL Lisa Keith)

### Montana

- Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory, Agricultural Systems Research Unit, Vacant (John Gaskin, Acting RL)

**Agenda Item 6.0:** ESCOP Science and Technology Committee

**Presenter:** Larry Curtis

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

Excellence in Multistate Research Award

1. Improve documentation of impacts in nominations
2. Increase exposure of winners

Science Roadmap

1. Identify target audiences and communicate with them
2. Develop text for a synthesis
3. Create promotional material (tri-fold, pocket cards)

Improve LGU decision making processes

**Agenda Item 7.0:** Off-the-Top Funding Requests

**Presenter:** Bret Hess/Mike Harrington

**Action Requested:** Vote on off-the-top funding request

**Action Taken:** Directors requested that finalized impact statements be sent to all directors via regional association listservs. Unanimously approved off-the-top funding requests for NRSPs and regional trusts at requested levels.

**Background:**

**NRSP 2013-2014  
Requests for Off-the-Top Funding**

Project	Request FY2011	Authorized FY2011	Request FY2012	Authorized FY2012	Request FY2013	Authorized FY2013	Revised FY2013 based on sequestration cuts (Senate 7.61%)	†Request FY2014 (assuming a return to FY12 levels)
NRSP1	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	46,195	75,000
NRSP3	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	46,195	50,000
NRSP4	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	444,564	481,182
NRSP6	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	138,585	150,000
NRSP7	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	300,268	325,000
NRSP8	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	461,950	-
NRSP9	350,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	161,683	175,000
NRSP_temp281							-	500,000
<b>Western Region Trusts</b>								
W006	405,288	405,288	405,288	405,288	405,288	405,288		405,288
W106	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000		100,000

†Assuming an acceptable midterm review during year 3, all NRSP budgets were approved during 2012 Fall ESS Meeting for the duration of their current, 5-year cycle.

NRSP-1	National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS)	Project Period	Midterm Review Year
		2011-2016	2014
NRSP-3	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)	2009-2014	-
NRSP-4	Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses	2010-2015	2013
NRSP-6	The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (Solanum) Germplasm	2010-2015	2013
NRSP-7	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs	2009-2014	-
NRSP-8	National Animal Genome Research Program	2008-2013	-
NRSP-9	National Animal Nutrition Program	2010-2015	2013
NRSP_temp281	National Animal Genome Research Program (NRSP8 replacement)	2013-2018	2016

**Discussion:**

Once the FY2013 sequestration cuts are finalized, the NRSPs' off-the-top AES budget amounts will be reduced by the same amount, likely 7.61%, as outlined in the ESCOP NRSP Guidelines.

NRSP001 is requesting additional funding for the impact reporting program. The additional request would adjust the FY14 NRSP-1 budget to \$75,000 per year. Of the \$75,000, \$53,410 will go to the impact reporting project and \$21,590 will go to support NIMSS. Note that we are will likely have a major upgrading of NIMSS this year. While the upgrade will be covered by currently available funds, we will not know if additional funding will be needed for maintenance of NIMSS in the future. If increased funding is necessary, it will be added to the FY15 request.

A major concern expressed at some regional meetings was that it would be difficult to justify increasing a commitment to this project in the face of sequestration-mandated budget cuts at the National level. While budget sequestration is in effect for FY2013, the President's budget proposal for FY2014 restores Hatch and other capacity funds to the FY2012 levels representing an increase over FY2013 levels. In addition, we no longer fund a portion of the CRIS which has significantly reduced the commitment to NRSP-1.

It was also suggested that in lieu of increasing the time commitment to this effort, fewer, selected higher impact stories could be developed by a part time writer. While this is true in concept, it is unclear how such a process would work or who would determine which projects would be featured. It seems likely that each AA would want his/her projects to have well written impact statements. As it stands, the writer spends a considerable amount of time combing through SF422 reports to find impact stories worth telling.

# **NRSP001 Impact Communication**

## **Proposal for Increased Commitment**

### **Background**

Effective communications of research outcomes is crucial to maintaining as well as building support for such programs. In order to effectively communicate impacts and outcomes of the multistate research program in each region, the NRSP001 Management Committee committed funds to support the hiring of a professional writer to prepare impact statements for all terminating multistate research/coordination projects, including NRSPs. These impact statements communicate the importance of Land Grant Universities and the funding required to sustain and grow the Agricultural Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension to the general electorate and influential leaders of America and American agriculture.

Since July 2012, the impact writer has designed a template for publishing impact statements that is visually appealing and facilitates comprehension, completed 42 impact statements for Multistate Research and National Research Support Projects that terminated in 2011 and 2012, helped to develop an archiving system for impact statements in NIMSS, and written several press releases and stories for the media to promote key outcomes and milestones reached by multistate research project teams (see appended Annual Report for details). Completed impact statements are now regularly published on regional association websites and are frequently promoted by the system's communications and marketing efforts lead by kglobal, via the web page [www.AgIsAmerica.org](http://www.AgIsAmerica.org) as well as social media.

The Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors office (WDO) has provided coordination, editorial oversight, and physical space for this effort to ensure a common voice and consistent approach to impact reporting efforts. The WDO also provides coordination between this effort and the ongoing efforts of ESCOP and ECOP (i.e., with kglobal, Cornerstone, and the ESCOP/ECOP Communications and Marketing Committees). The WDO is uniquely poised to take on this responsibility because Sarah Lupis, the Assistant to the Executive Director of the WAAESD, is a communications specialist with over six years of experience as a science writer and communicator, including experience coordinating science writing teams. In addition, Dr. Michael Harrington, Executive Director of the WAAESD, serves on the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee and has led the development of impact statements for multistate activities.

### **Purpose and Need**

The impact writer was hired to fill a part-time position. However, temporary funds permitted the NRSP001 committee to support a short-term increase in the impact writer's hours from (18 hour to 40 hours/week) from July 2012 to March 2013. In March 2013, those funds were exhausted and the position returned to part-time. Based on the success of this initial period of implementation, we propose continuation of the impact writer position at a competitive full-time rate for the following reasons:

- There are over 50 projects terminating in 2012. Working full-time (40 hours/week), the writer has been able to finalize one impact statement per week. Working only part-time the writer would not be able to generate impact statements for all 2012-terminating projects in a timely manner. There is no efficient and effective way to sort terminating projects into those with “good” or “meaningful” impacts because the information needed to make this determination is often buried within the current structure and overall quality of SF-422 reports.
- During the temporary full-time employment, the writer has developed additional impact stories and pitched them to national and institutional media outlets. A press release developed in October 2012 was published in over 10 media outlets. Efforts like this that provide additional promotion for multistate work would be curtailed if the position remains at part-time.

### **Proposed Scope of Work**

The impact writer will continue to create impact statements using the proven process developed during the initial period of employment. For each terminating project:

- In October of the year prior to expiration, each regional System Administrator will provide the WDO with a list of terminating projects. The WDO and the writer will track the status of impact statements (external to NIMSS) to ensure that all terminating projects are communicated in a timely and efficient manner.
- The writer will review SF-422 reports in the NIMSS and draft an initial impact statement.
- The writer will share this first draft with the project AA who will then pass it on to the committee for review. Committees will have up to two weeks to respond with comments.
- The writer will develop a final draft impact statement based on comments from the AA and committee and will format the impact statement, including addition of photographs/graphics/charts/etc. as provided by the committee for this purpose. The writer will distribute this near final version to the committee via the AA to ensure that all the information is correct, photo/graphic captions are accurate, etc. Committees will again have up to two weeks to respond with comments.
- The writer will make final revisions to the impact statement and send the final version in PDF form to the AA and committee for approval.
- Once the final version is approved, the writer will upload the impact statement on NIMSS and distribute to the AA and committee, the regional associations, ESCOP, ECOP, NIFA, and kglobal as necessary.

### **Additional Communications Efforts**

In addition to developing impact statements, the writer will create press releases and feature stories about multistate research activities for distribution to participating universities, government agencies, industry, and regional and national media outlets their use. Additional communications efforts will not be limited to terminating multistate research projects, but will also include new projects and projects that have reached major milestones. In this way, impact of multistate activities will reach a wider audience in a timely manner. Selection of stories for additional communication efforts will be coordinated with the NRSP001 Management Committee, the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee, the ECOP Communications and Marketing Committee, any joint ESCOP-ECOP

Communications committee, kglobal, and Cornerstone to ensure that timely, relevant stories are distributed.

**Responses to Comments from Spring Meetings**

A major concern expressed at some regional meetings was that it would be difficult to justify increasing a commitment to this project in the face of sequestration-mandated budget cuts at the National level. While budget sequestration is in effect for FY2013, the President’s budget proposal for FY2014 restores Hatch and other capacity funds to the FY2012 levels representing *an increase* over FY2013 levels. I would also point out that we no longer fund a portion of the CRIS which has reduced the commitment to NRSP-1.

It was also suggested that in lieu of increasing the time commitment to this effort, fewer, selected higher impact stories could be developed by a part time writer. While this is true in concept, it is unclear how such a process would work or who would determine which projects would be featured. There is little doubt in my mind that each AA would want his/her projects to have well written impact statements. As it stands, the writer spends a considerable amount of time combing through SF422 reports to find impact stories worth telling.

**Revised Budget**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Proposed Annual Expense</b>
Impact Writer Salary (40 hours/week)	\$37,045
Benefits (24.1% CSU fringe rate)	\$8,928
WDO Coordination	\$3,437
Software/Equipment/Office Supplies/Phone	\$1,000
Travel	\$3,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$53,410</b>

**Budget Justification**

Salary and benefits for the writer are projected at \$37,045 and \$8,928 (24.1%) respectively. The WDO will continue to provide oversight, review and coordination for \$3,437. Software updates are projected at \$1,000. Travel/Other funds are requested for long distance telephone charges and to attend the ACE Annual meeting and/or the ESS meeting to summarize activities (\$3,000).

**Agenda Brief 8.0:** Common Data Collection & Storage Database

**Presenter:** Lee Sommers

**Action Requested:** For Information

**Action Taken:** Agreed that a common database would be useful. Barbara Allen-Diaz confirmed that UC can host the database. The WDO can manage the system, once created, but cannot build it from scratch. Formed a subcommittee (Barbara Allen-Diaz, Lee Sommers, and Larry Curtis) to work on this issue.

**Background:**

Extension Directors nationwide have worked together to provide common data to Texas A&M, where their database is housed. The southern region AES directors decided they wanted something similar; however, Texas A&M cannot currently support any additional data. Below is a list of data currently collected:

**SAAESD Database Parameters - October 2011**

- Total budgeted funds appropriated from NIFA (Hatch, McIntire-Stennis, and Animal Health only) for the current federal FY
- Total AES awards from most recent state FY from grants and contracts
- Total AES expenditures from most recent state FY from grants and contracts
- Total other revenue for AES during the most recent state FY from any source other than those above (could include gifts, royalties, etc.)
- Total number (in FTEs) of permanent filled researchers (professional level researchers regardless of title) from all hard funding sources at beginning of state FY
- Total number (in FTEs) of hard-funded support staff (technicians, post-docs, etc., but not secretarial/clerical) in the state at beginning of state FY
- Total number (in FTEs) of Directors and Associate/Assistant Directors (i.e., AES administrators) in the state at beginning of state FY. This does not include support units (e.g., computing, communications, fiscal and personnel, etc.) or department heads.
- Average and range (high/low) starting salary for tenure-track assistant professors with a research appointment (12 month equivalent) during most recent state FY
- Average and range (high/low) starting salary for non-tenure-track faculty with a research appointment (12 month equivalent) during most recent state FY
- Number of patents awarded during most recent state FY year

**Agenda Item 9.0:** National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee

**Presenter:** Lee Sommers

**Action Requested:** For Information

**Background:**

No new information to report.

**Agenda Item 10.0: NIMSS Overhaul**

**Presenter:** Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** Discussion of suggestions/recommendations for improvement of NIMSS

**Action Taken:** Several recommendation for improvement were provided, which Sarah Lupis recorded and will pass on to Rubie Mize, who is coordinating the overhaul effort:

- Reviewers should be able to “view” their previous reviews even after they have been finalized
- Review forms should use a likert scale (not Y/N)
- Having only one official representative from each institution is problematic at times
- When is a project “over?” Do objectives need to change?
- For TEMP projects, the Appendix E needs to go to the AA

**Background:**

For the last 10 years, the National Information Management and Support System has served as a web-based application that has allowed participants of Multistate Research Projects and Activities to submit proposals and reports online. The NIMSS is managed by the NRSP-1 Management Committee. Currently available funds are allowing us to upgrade the NIMSS in 2013 from a Cold Fusion-based platform to a Java-based platform, which is more easily upgraded and will allow for use with Apple products. This upgrade will be conducted by a development team of programmers at the University of Maryland where the NIMSS resides.

The overall look and feel of the web-site won’t change very much and the system will continue to be based on a “user roles.”

Work has already begun. The development team has been exploring the existing database and web-site to understand how it is organized and the regional offices have submitted a list of fixes and changes they would like to see addressed. The remaining timeline for this effort is as follows:

- April/May 2013: Finalize scope of work for development team, begin work on prototype
- June/July 2013: Testing of new product by regional associations and select AAs, administrative assistants who regularly use NIMSS
- July 2013: Present near-final new system at Joint COPS
- September 2013: Launch new NIMSS and hold training webinars in each region



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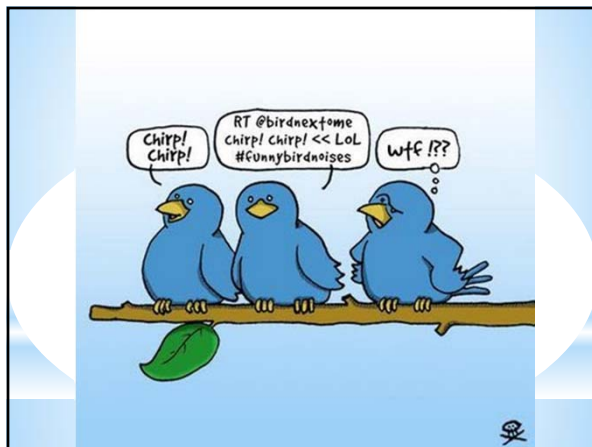
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Avatar (or photo) Handle (or username) Author

WAAESD @WAAESD 8 Apr  
 Collaboration funded by #NIFA, led by #ucdavisCAES is developing disease-resistant @tomatoes that fight lethal pests.  
[tinyurl.com/d2n3egg](http://tinyurl.com/d2n3egg)

Timestamp: 7:41 AM - 8 Apr 13

Message (140 characters or less)

Hashtag: Used within a tweet to categorize a message & participate in a particular conversation.

Shorten URL: Many free services to help keep your message <140 characters

**\* Example Tweet**

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\* Twitter is about sharing media, ideas, and commentary as well as positioning yourself in your field of expertise. Don't overthink, *don't think twitter is not for you, just do it.*



**\* Mission not impossible**

<http://www.colbertnation.com/the-colbert-report-videos/425785/april-24-2013/alli-clinton-s-twitter-lessons>

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- \* 1. Get on Twitter.  
 Register an account today at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com). Write a bio, use a good photo.
- \* 2. Listen  
 Find and follow 10 people you are interested in. A few times a day, see what they tweet about.
- \* 3. Get your tweet on  
 Take baby steps. Get familiar, then start tweeting. Set a goal and try to meet it.
- \* 4. Step it up  
 Ready for the next step? Start using lists, the # hashtags, and the @ symbol.




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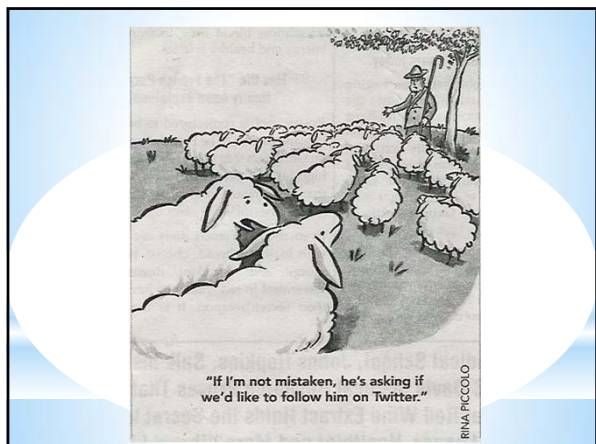
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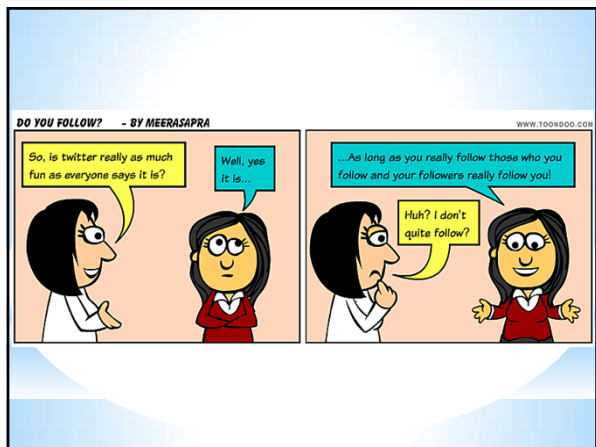
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- \*Get others to follow you by:
  - \*Following them
  - \*Mentioning them in a tweet
  - \*Retweeting something interesting they tweeted
  - \*Ask questions or ask for a retweet



**\*Being the leader**

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\*What do you want to get out of twitter? Do you want to attract business/attention? Do you want to start or be part of a conversation? Do you want to serve as a resource for information? Actually, you can do all of these.



**\*Be Mindful**

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**WHEN YOU HAVE NOTHING TO SAY, SAY IT ON TWITTER**

*geek and poke*

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\* 1. Stay Focused  
Focus on quality, not quantity. No need to cram the entirety of your organization or your latest idea, paper, etc. into one Twitter feed.

\* 2. Be Constructive  
Successful Twitter feeds offer something to the reader. Be conversational, but also informative. Link to articles, sites, etc. Be a resource.

\* 3. Have a perspective  
Be yourself, but don't take yourself too seriously.

**\* Keys to Success**



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\* Go for quality over quantity. 1-2 quick tweets a day is good.

\* Use the # hashtag. Its an easy way to categorize a conversation and makes it easy for others to see a clear stream of the ongoing conversation.

\* Try some add-ons like Hootsuite or TwitPic

**\* Parting thoughts**

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**\* To create a Twitter account:**

\* Go to <http://twitter.com> and find the sign up box, or go directly to <https://twitter.com/signup>.

\* Enter your full name, email address, and a password.

\* Click Sign up for Twitter.

\* On the next page, you can select a username (usernames are unique identifiers on Twitter) – type your own or choose one we've suggested. We'll tell you if the username you want is available.

\* Double-check your name, email address, password, and username.

\* Click Create my account. You may be asked to complete a Captcha to let us know that you're human.

\* Twitter will send a confirmation email to the address you entered on sign up, click the link in that email to confirm your email address and account.

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**Agenda Item 12.0:** ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Priority Setting Process

**Presenters:** Bret Hess, Mike Harrington

**Action Requested:** Discussion of AES regional priorities

**Action Taken:** Directors suggested including all capacity lines and AFRI programs in the survey.

**Background:**

The process begins for ESCOP with the Budget and Legislative (B&L) Committee determining funding priorities, which will be initiated via regional discussions followed by an on-line survey among the five regions. The process necessarily identifies priorities two years in advance of the federal fiscal year budget according to the BAA-Budget and Legislative Committee schedule.

For the last several years, The ESS has agreed that the top priorities are capacity funding including (Hatch, Evans Allen, and McIntire-Stennis) and AFRI. In addition, capacity programs and AFRI funding would be presented as a complementary package to Congress. B&L agrees to a voting survey for regions consisting of NIFA budget lines under the Research and Education Activities, those lines with system wide benefit (e.g. certain Integrated Activities) and on possible consolidation of lines where it make sense to do so. In addition, the survey will assist the B&L in:

- 1) Specifying a program topic that ESCOP B&L needs to advance to ESCOP and BAC, and
- 2) Identifying topics for potential budget collaboration with ECOP and ACOP
- 3) Identifying 2-3 emerging issues for future consideration by the B&L.

**Timeline:**

- March 1 – Survey sent to regional EDs from spring meeting discussions, Encourage discussion at each region's spring meetings.
- April 1 – Memo with link to on-line survey for regional distribution sent to EDs
- May 1 – Responses would be due from each region and tabulated by the ED supporting the B&L Committee.
- May B&L conference call – The survey summary would be discussed along with consideration of the responses to the open-ended questions. Following the discussion, the B&L would consult with Cornerstone about the feasibility of focusing attention on these budget lines. Recommendations forwarded to ESCOP Chair and CAC.
- June ESCOP CAC Call – The B&L presents priorities to ESCOP for initial discussion.
- July ESCOP meeting during Joint COPs – B&L presents priority recommendations to ESCOP for approval
- Sept. B&L presents priorities to ESS
- Nov. ESCOP priorities presented at BAC meeting

**2015 Priorities Process:**

Discussions occur at regional spring meetings on topics developed by the committee (See below). This would be followed by a national survey deployed via the regional EDs as above. The survey would appear as follows:

- I. Please indicate your priority 1- highest, 2 lowest, Both could be ranked 1
  - Capacity Funds: Hatch, Evans Allen, McIntire Stennis
  - AFRI
- II. Please select the top 5 priorities from the USDA-NIFA lines below and rank them from one to five with one being the highest priority.
  - Animal Health and Disease
  - Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative (FADI)
  - Ag and food system educational grants (e.g. Higher Ed Challenge and Fellowship grants programs)
  - Pest Management
  - Region Pest Management Centers
  - Regional Rural Development Centers
  - Sustainable Agriculture Programs including SARE
  - Sustainable Agriculture Federal-State Matching Grants
  - Water Quality Programs
  - Other \_\_\_\_\_
- III. Specify one program or topic the B&L and ESCOP needs to advance that is not necessarily associated with the USDA-NIFA budget.
- IV. Please identify one budget issue on which ESCOP and ECOP should work together.
- V. Please identify one budget issue on which ESCOP and ACOP should work together
- VI. Please identify an emerging issue for future consideration by the B&L.
- VII. Please offer any suggestions you might have to strengthen ESCOP partnership with Extension and ACOP
- VIII. The Pest Management Working Group consisting of more than 40 professionals representing AES, Extension, IR-4 as well as industry stakeholders agreed that there were a number of Integrated Program budget lines relating to pest management could be combined into a larger budget line. This action is consistent with efforts to simplify the budget and also allows for increased flexibility in program management.
  - With this in mind are there other budget lines that could be considered for consolidation?  
\_\_\_\_\_
- IX. Please indicate your regional affiliation
  - ARD
  - NERA
  - NCRA

- SAAESD
- WAAESD

**Agenda Item 13.0:** WAAESD Reconvenes & Call to Order

**Presenter:** Bret Hess

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

Bret Hess called the meeting to order.

# Rate and Recharge

April, 2013  
H M Harrington

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## Labor (\$/hr)

Senior Professional Staff	\$110
Professional Staff	\$30-80
Lab Tech	\$45
Graduate Students	N/A
Student help	\$15-20
Clean up	\$50
Irrigation assistance	\$28-30
Mechanic	\$30

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## Space

Greenhouse Benches (on campus)	\$0.5 – 4.00
Greenhouse Benches (off campus)	\$0.25-1.00
Growth Chambers	\$3.3-4.00
Growth Rooms	\$3.00
Pathology Isolation Chambers	\$1.60
Headhouse Storage Cage	\$5.45

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### Equipment (\$/hr)

Tractor	\$30-65
Tractor with manure spreader	\$30
Combine	\$60
Dump truck	\$15
Bobcat	\$20

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### Field Use (\$/ac/yr)

Irrigated Field	\$110-1100
Dryland Field	\$50-150
Small Plot (\$/ft <sup>2</sup> )	\$0.2
Potato	\$1000
Row Crops	\$800
Cereals	\$700
Research Orchard	\$3100
<small>*Includes preparation, amendments, but not harvest</small>	

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### Livestock – Beef (\$/day/animal)

Research using station cattle includes bedding	\$0.5-1.00
Research using non station cattle	\$0.05-0.16
Pasture rental	\$0.6
Feedbox rental (\$/month)	\$5
Commodity Bay	\$30
Storage Bin	\$30
Barn storage (\$/ton)	\$0.5

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### Dairy (\$/day/animal)

<b>Cow includes feed</b>	<b>\$4.00</b>
Calf < 12 months	\$2.00
Day old bull calf	\$100
45 day old Steer calf	\$275

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### Sheep (\$/day/animal)

<b>Sheep includes feed, bedding</b>	<b>\$0.5</b>
Sheep - pasture	\$0.25
Day old bull calf	\$100
45 day old Steer calf	\$275

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WHY VARIATION?

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**Agenda Item 15.1:** Executive Director Annual Report

**Presenter:** H. M. Harrington

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

**H. Michael Harrington  
Executive Director, WAAESD  
2012 Annual Report**

## **I. NARRATIVE SELF ASSESSMENT**

It's been quite a year with 6 trips to MD Anderson in Houston for chemotherapy and with a complication of having a blood clot between my brain and skull that required surgery during cycle one. In spite of my health challenges, I was able to work most of the time while in Houston. I am pleased with progress made on the 2012 objectives and recognize that the major omissions were not being able to attend several meetings. Highlighted below are several important items.

### **Regional Activities**

WAAESD meetings continue to improve with the addition of stimulating discussions on timely issues that are relevant to the Directors.

Our regional portfolio and associated activities appear to be running smoothly with the single submission deadline for multistate projects. We continue to work to assure accountability in the multistate program including timely submission of annual reports and the collection of impact statements. I continue to work with the Extension and Academic Program directors to encourage regional collaboration where appropriate. The problems we discovered in the NIMSS relative to participation in projects not reflecting actual commitments have been resolved; however, there are still a number of issues to be addressed to make NIMSS more useful.

**New administrative assistant:** As you know, Sarah Lupis, who came to us with excellent qualifications, commenced work on December 6, 2011. Worked with Sarah to develop goals and objectives to develop for 2012. Working with the Executive Committee and using the minimum qualifications for an administrative-professional level, I developed a set of evaluation criteria and procedures by which Sarah will be evaluated. This will allow the association to assess performance and provide salary increases in the same manner as the Executive Director.

### **National Activities**

With Lee Sommers serving as ESCOP Chair, I provided support as the Executive Vice Chair. Activities included logistics and planning ESCOP meetings in conjunction with AHS-CARET and Joint COPS Annual Meetings. I maintained ESCOP communications and facilitated monthly Chair's Advisory Committee conference calls.

I also continue to serve as the vice chair of the ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee which develops budget priorities for the Experiment Station Section. Through this responsibility, I have developed a trusted working relationship with members of the Cornerstone team. I have recently joined the System Communications and Marketing

Committee to assist with this important activity. I also serve on the BAC as well as the new Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP) which is working the next Farm Bill.

In response to the President’s Budget, the BAC created a special Pest Management Work Group (WG) to address the proposed crop protection program and enhance engagement of practitioners across the country. I worked with both ESS and Extension regional EDs and others to identify possible WG members and solicited participation. I worked closely with Mike Hoffman (Cornell), Daryl Buchholtz (Kansas State) and Robin Shepard to provide leadership for this effort that included more than 40 scientists, extension specialists and agents, industry and other stakeholders. I developed initial draft of possible future program and strawman draft that was reviewed by the WG. Robin Shepard and I revised the strawman document which was discussed and approved at the July BAC meeting. After a number of revisions a final document was endorsed by the Work Group, approved by both ECOP and ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committees and forwarded to the BAC for consideration.

## II. STATUS OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2012

The following table describes the status of many activities described in the following narrative.

### Regional Activities

Activity	Status
Provide support to the Association Chair, the Executive Committee, and MRC	Continuing
Assist with meeting planning and logistics for WAAESD, WAPD and W-AHS	Continuing
Update regional MRC Guidelines as appropriate	Updates as needed
Assure smooth transition of multistate program from current biannual submission practice to a single annual submission date	We will see as we gain more experience since this was the first year; but things appear to have gone smoothly.
Facilitate the regional portfolio and assist with the continued integration of regional activities	Continuing
Facilitate adoption/endorsement of the Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West (CREW).	CREW steering committee held a meeting in Seattle of three interest groups: Wind energy, weatherization/buildings efficiency and impacts of energy development on rural communities
Improve website including addition of short summaries of all multistate projects.	Some progress, recommend termination
Implement collection of impact statements for multistate projects in their final year.	Continuing, Sara Delheimer was hired to assist with this as part of NRSP 1
Assist with the continued integration of	Continuing

regional activities.	
Assist with the identification of emerging opportunities/needs in the region.	Continuing
Assist with planning for Regional Grants Workshop	Two workshops were held in the North Central and Southern regions focused on team proposals.
Assist with the collection and analysis of data relative to the President's proposed 2012 budget and to other issues of interest to the WAAESD	Completed
Assist with Western Region Teaching Symposium planning	Continuing
Work with the WEDA as appropriate	Continuing, excellent progress
AA Responsibilities, W2122 and W2190	Continuing
Fully develop liaison relationship with the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture	No progress
Maintain contact with Western Governors' Association, Western NACO, Western Council of State Governments	Continuing, expect the new ED for the WGA to attend our spring 2013 meeting.
Develop a western water meeting to better align multistate efforts with stakeholder needs	Assisted with the development of a water coordinating committee
Promote relevant interactions with other EDs and regions based on shared priorities	Continuing, good progress
Complete state visits as schedules permit.	No progress – still need to visit Am Samoa
Website modifications	New website deployed, impact statements rotate on home page
Continue regional committee representation including W-SARE, W-IPMC	Continuing. Currently serve in the Executive Committee and as the Chair-elect for WSARE AC
Western Rural Development Center Board of Directors.	Continuing, Chair Nominations Committee

### National Activities

Activity	Status
Provide support to Lee Sommers during his tenure as ESCOP Chair	Completed as of ESS Annual Meeting, Sept 2012
As Executive Vice Chair provide support for the ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee and to Steve Slack, and now Jeff Jacobsen, the current Chair	Ongoing

Serve on Communications and Marketing Committee	Continuing
Science Roadmap	Complete
Provide support to ESCOP based on committee assignments and special tasks.	Continuing
Promote relevant interactions with NIFA leadership	Excellent progress, Continuing
Serve on new Committee on Legislation and Policy (Farm Bill)	Continuing
Promote relevant interactions with other EDs and regions based on shared priorities	Continuing
Continue to meet and develop relationships with NIFA, ARS, APHIS staff and others	Continuing

## **I. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **WAAESD**

#### **Support to the Chair and Organization**

- **Meeting Support and Logistics**
  - **Spring Meeting:** With Barbara Allen–Diaz, U- California staff and the Executive Committee developed the agendas and arrangements for the March meeting.
  - **Joint Summer Meeting:** Worked with Chair and Executive Committee to finalize WAAESD agenda. Worked with Noelle Cockett, Chuck Gay, Lyla Houglum, and others to develop overall agenda as well as the agenda for combined session. (Sorry for some of the confusion!!)
  - **Fall Meeting:** Worked with Executive Committee to develop the WAAESD meeting agenda.
  
- **Annual Report and Evaluation:** Submitted annual report for the calendar year 2011 to the chairs of the WAAESD and WAPD. Worked with Barbara Allen-Diaz and Jeff Jacobsen to facilitate the evaluation process.

**National Multistate Program Impact Statements:** Our office is now in full swing with the hiring of Sara Delheimer who has completed nearly more than 40 statements to the delight of oth the NRSP AAs and the committee participants. Sarah Lupis will be providing more details during the ESS meeting.

## Committee Activities

- **Western SARE Administrative Council:** I serve as the Western Directors' representative on this group. Attended the Administrative Council meeting, Mar 5-8 in Salt Lake City during which funding decisions were made. Serve on W-SARE Administrative Council and as chair elect of the Council. An upcoming issue will be transition to a new regional coordinator when Phil Rasmussen retires in 2 years.
- Serving on a national committee to develop outcome measures for the SARE program
- Authored "WRITING A SUCCESSFUL GRANT PROPOSAL: Insights from a Grant Reviewer" for *Simply Sustainable* W-SARE Newsletter
- Participated in SARE Sustainable Agriculture Fellows Program held in Ft Collins May 15-17
- Participated in the AC summer meeting held in Ft Collins, Served as a principal/secondary reviewer for six Chapter 1 Research and Education grant proposals and also reviewed all proposals submitted.
- Reviewed applications and made recommendations for graduate student fellowship awards.
- Reviewed all Chapter I R&E pre proposals for 2013
  
- **Western Rural Development Center Board of Directors:** I serve as one of three WAAESD representatives on this group and chair the membership committee. Serve as the Nominations Committee chairman responsible to identifying new board members.
  
- **Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Consortium:** Serving on the Science Committee and will participate in on the Steering Committee meetings as time permits. Worked Science Committee to refine a listing of science needs and attended committee meetings in Denver to finalize needs. The Steering Committee approved needs that will be the subject of future RFAs.
  - Distribute RFAs to WAAESD as appropriate.

## New Biofuels opportunity with Agrisoma

Agrisoma is a Canadian company with conventional and biotech improved varieties of *Brassica caranata*. I have worked with Arlen Leholm to facilitate field trials of *B. caranata* in the Dakotas, Montana and possibly Hawaii. *B. caranata* is a high yielding oil seed (>50% by weight), has larger seeds (~ 3-5x larger than *B. camelina*) and can be harvested by conventional means. The primary oil is C-22 Erucic Acid that can be cleaved to a biodiesel and jet fuel without further modification. The plant is drought tolerant and can be grown in rocky soils. One other advantage is that there is an apparent yield boost to wheat when grown in rotation. Trials are planned to commence this spring in several locations in MT, ND and SD.

### Western Academic Program Directors

- FY 2012 budget approval: Worked with Charles Boyer to facilitate budget approval
- APLU Academic Summit: Participated in summit held in Loveland CO, June 17-19
- Attended WAPD meeting in Denver Nov 2012

## II. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### ESCOP

**Support to ESCOP Chair:** Provide support to Lee Sommers as Executive Vice Chair.

**ESS Annual Meeting:** Worked with Lee Sommers finalize agenda for ESS Business meeting. Worked with Lee, Mike Hoffman and my ED colleagues led a major revision of the ESS Rules of Operation to be considered in Portsmouth. Worked with the other EDs to develop the all meeting agendas and the ESS workshop agenda. Secured participation by William So from the FBI who spoke on biosecurity.

### **Committee Activities**

- **Chairs Advisory Committee:** Organized and participated in monthly conference calls.
- **ESCOP Meetings:** In conjunction with Lee Sommers, EDs and others, developed agendas for ESCOP meetings.
- **ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee:** Supported Chairman Steve Slack (Ohio State) and now Jeff Jacobsen as the Executive Vice Chair on this important committee. Summarized data from the national survey on budget priorities for the FY 2012 budget cycle; sought B&L Committee input on the 2012 budget proposal and provided a report to ESCOP. Organize monthly conference calls and produce meeting notes. Attended BAC meetings in Washington DC, Feb. 9-10 and in Denver Nov 10.
  - **BAA-BAC Pest Management Working Group:** At the request of Frank Galey BAC Chair, I provided leadership for the development of a white paper on the Crop Protection program proposed in the president's budget. Our office coordinated conference calls for the leadership team and workgroup as well as subgroup conveners.
- **APLU - BAC one-pagers:** Worked with Cornerstone to collect and finalize all one-pagers for 2012. Sarah and I edited the Hatch one pager
- **Science Roadmap** –Developed and deployed a short survey to ascertain priorities from the more than 30 initiatives listed in the Roadmap. Analyzed results and communicated

survey rankings of the several action items within each of the seven Challenge areas.

- **NIMSS** - With the separation of the NIMMS from the CRIS system in NRSP-1 the committee proposed to develop impact statements for all projects in the MRF portfolio much as we have done in the West. Sarah and I developed a proposal whereby the WDO would employ a part time writer funded by NRSP-1 who would be responsible for writing impact statements as well as press releases about the projects. All statements are to be housed on as PDFs on the NIMSS and provided to each region. Efforts will be made to include statements on the ESCOP webpage and these efforts would be coordinated with the kglobal communications efforts as well. Sarah would provide final oversight. The proposal would provide some \$24,000 for these operations.
  - Sara Delheimer has completed more than 50 statements to the delight of the NRSP Committee and specific multistate committee participants.
- **Communications and Marketing Committee:** I serve as back up ED to Arlen Leholm
- **NRSP Review Committee:** I have transitioned to this committee as the West will assume leadership for this committee in 2 years. I worked with the committee to develop recommendations for streamlining operations; wrote the agenda brief and developed the presentation for the ESS meeting. All recommendations were approved at the ESS meeting. I rewrote the NRSP RC Guidelines to conform to approved changes.
- **Invited presentation at NERAOC** - National Extension and Research Administrative Officers Conference presentation "History of the Land Grant Movement"

### Summary of Travel

Jan. 12-13: System Communications Committee meeting with kglobal Washington DC

- Meeting with Meryl Broussard and Lee Sommers

Jan 17-18: Meeting with Agrisoma (Canada) representatives, John Oliver, Don Schenk, Arlen Leholm on *B. caranata* biofuels efforts in Dakotas, MT and HI, Minneapolis

Jan 25-26: Southern Rockies LLC Science Committee meeting Denver, CO

Feb.15-16: Budget and Advocacy Committee meeting, Washington DC

Feb 20-21: Meeting with NC Sun Grant staff, Agrisoma representatives, John Oliver, Don Schenk, Kent McVay (MT) Arlen Leholm on *B. caranata* biofuels efforts in Dakotas, MT and HI, Brookings, SD

Feb. 26-27: Washington DC

- AHS-CARET meeting
- ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee meeting
- ESCOP meeting

- Meeting with Meryl Broussard and Lee Sommers
- Meeting with crop protection staff at NIFA

Mar 2: FBI Biosciences Security Workshop, Ft Collins, CO

Mar. 5-8: W-SARE Advisory Council meeting Salt Lake City, UT

Mar. 19-22: Napa, CA

- MRC meeting
- Spring WAAESD Meeting

March 28-30: International IPM Symposium, Memphis TN

April 17-19: WRDC Board of Directors Meeting, Park City UT

May 20-24: NERAOC Annual Meeting, Morgantown WV

June 17-19: APLU Academic Summit, Loveland CO

Nov. 10-13 APLU Annual Meeting, Denver CO

- BAC meeting
- ESCOP meeting
- Western Academic Program Directors meeting
- Committee on Legislation and Policy meeting (Farm Bill)

**H M Harrington Executive  
Director, WAAESD GOALS AND  
OBJECTIVES FOR 2013**

**Regional:**

- Provide support to the Association Chairs, the Executive Committee, and MRC
- Update regional MRC Guidelines as appropriate
- Continue smooth transition of multistate program to a single annual submission date
- Assist with meeting planning and logistics for WAAESD, WAPD, W-AHS and summer meeting hosts.
- Continue to update best practices virtual notebook for joint summer meetings as needed.
- Facilitate the regional portfolio and assist with the continued prioritization and integration of regional activities.
- Continue to foster development of impact statements for multistate projects.
- With Sarah develop plans for communicating the successes and impacts of regional partners.
- Improve website including addition of short summaries of all multistate projects.
- Assist with the collection and analysis of data relative to the President's proposed 2013, 14 budgets and to other issues of interest to the WAAESD.
- Continue to work on relationship with the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture.
- Continue to nurture relationship with Western Governors' Association.
- Facilitate Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West (CREW) activities.
- Continue to work with W-SARE partners to develop plans for western water meeting in 2013.
- Continue committee representation.
- Assist WAPD as appropriate and with Western Region Teaching Symposium planning as needed.
- Continue long range planning efforts.
- Work with the WEDA and Lyla Houglum as appropriate.
- Continue state visits as schedules permits, especially American Samoa.

**National Activities**

- Provide support to Mike Hoffman, ESCOP Chair, as needed
- Provide support for the ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee and to Steve Slack Chair; serve as Executive Vice Chair of the committee.
- Serve of Budget and Advocacy Committee
- Serve on Committee of Legislation and Policy (Farm Bill)
- Serve on the System Communications and Marketing Committee activities
- Provide support to ESCOP special tasks.
- Promote relevant interactions with NIFA leadership
- Work with ESCOP, ESCOP and water quality program representatives to develop a working group and white paper on how NIFA might manage and promote these programs
- Work with Regional IPM Center stakeholders to maintain program
- Promote relevant interactions with other EDs and regions based on shared priorities.
- Continue to meet and develop relationships with ARS, APHIS staff and others.
- Transition to providing logistical and other support for the NRSP Review Committee

**From:** [Buchholz, Daryl](#)  
**To:** [Francis D. Galey](#)  
**Cc:** ["Michael Peter Hoffmann" \(mph3@cornell.edu\)](#); [Harrington,H. Michael](#); [Robin Shepard](#); [Lupis,Sarah](#)  
**Subject:** Re: Pest Management Working Group - ECOP Supports All Recommendations  
**Date:** Wednesday, January 30, 2013 8:14:13 PM

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Frank,

Absolutely appropriate to give the kudos for the tireless work that Robin and Mike gave to this task. My thanks goes to Sarah Lupis and Mike Hoffman as well. It has been a pleasure working with the team. I know we are hopeful that this very thoughtful and indepth effort will bring benefit and provide a model for future opportunities to strengthen funding streams in high priority initiatives for the BAC.

Daryl

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Dr. Daryl Buchholz, Associate Director  
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**From:** "Francis D. Galey" <[FGaley@uwyo.edu](mailto:FGaley@uwyo.edu)>  
**To:** "Robin Shepard" <[robin.shepard@ces.uwex.edu](mailto:robin.shepard@ces.uwex.edu)>  
**Cc:** "Daryl Buchholz ([dbuchhol@ksu.edu](mailto:dbuchhol@ksu.edu))" <[dbuchhol@ksu.edu](mailto:dbuchhol@ksu.edu)>, "'Michael Peter Hoffmann' ([mph3@cornell.edu](mailto:mph3@cornell.edu))" <[mph3@cornell.edu](mailto:mph3@cornell.edu)>, "H. Michael Harrington ([Michael.Harrington@colostate.edu](mailto:Michael.Harrington@colostate.edu))" <[Michael.Harrington@colostate.edu](mailto:Michael.Harrington@colostate.edu)>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2013 1:52:17 PM  
**Subject:** RE: Pest Management Working Group - ECOP Supports All Recommendations

Thanks Robin and Mike, for all the hard work that ECOP and ESCOP did in putting this together.  
Frank.

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**From:** Shepard, Robin [<mailto:robin.shepard@ces.uwex.edu>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, January 30, 2013 11:12 AM  
**To:** Francis D. Galey  
**Cc:** Buchholz, Daryl ([dbuchhol@ksu.edu](mailto:dbuchhol@ksu.edu)); 'Michael Peter Hoffmann' ([mph3@cornell.edu](mailto:mph3@cornell.edu)); Harrington,H. Michael ([Michael.Harrington@colostate.edu](mailto:Michael.Harrington@colostate.edu)); Shepard, Robin  
**Subject:** Pest Management Working Group - ECOP Supports All Recommendations

**Date:** **January 30, 2013**

**To:** Dr. Frank Galey, Chair BAA Budget and Advocacy Committee

**From:** Dr. Daryl Buchholz, ECOP Chair, and  
Associate Director, Kansas State University Extension and Applied Research  
(*Message By Way Of: Robin Shepard, NCCEA*)

**Subject:** Pest Management Working Group - Recommendations

The recommendations of the Pest Management Working Group have been unanimously approved by both the ECOP-Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC), and by ECOP itself. I also understand the ESCOP-BLC has approved the contents of the document. Therefore, I wish to forward this affirmation of support from Cooperative Extension to you and request the Board on Agriculture Assembly's Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAA) take these recommendations under consideration at the earliest possible time. Thanks for your support of the Pest Management Working Group and for establishing an open-inclusive process by which these recommendations were developed. Please call if I can answer any questions.

**ATTACHED:** PM Working Group Paper FINAL 01-29-13 [Two files, same document: (1) MSWord format, and (2) Adobe-PDF]

*C: Dr. Mike Hoffmann, ESCOP Chair, Associate Dean, Director Cornell AES  
Dr. Mike Harrington, Executive Director, WAAESD (AES)  
Dr. Robin Shepard, Executive Director, NCCEA (CES)*



*North Central  
Cooperative Extension Association*

**Robin Shepard  
Executive Director**

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432 N. Lake Street, Madison, WI 53706  
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NCCEA Office email: [nccea@uwex.edu](mailto:nccea@uwex.edu) WEB: [www.nccea.org](http://www.nccea.org)

## Executive Summary

### [New] Pest Management Program – National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

Based upon recommendations from

The Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU)

In 2012, the BAA formed a national Working Group on Pest Management (“Working Group”)<sup>1</sup> to develop recommendations to strengthen the nation’s responses to crop production challenges and the threats of disease, insect pests, and weeds. The Working Group’s recommendations focus on improving support for the agricultural, as well as the urban sector, through the identification of several core programs (“Essential Elements”) within a new Pest Management Program. The recommendations also address better collaboration and streamlining of a number of important, but currently standalone, NIFA budget lines.

#### Essential Elements of a New Pest Management Program

A number of critically important Pest Management programs supported by USDA are administered by the nation’s Land-Grant Colleges and Universities (LGUs). These programs involve direct assistance to producers and urban clientele (in ways that are effective and efficient) and are backed by strong support from farmers and many other stakeholders. The Working Group identifies these as “Essential Elements” (see page two).

#### Funding Needs

Over the past five years, several pest management funding lines at NIFA have been eliminated and/or combined. Within just the last two years, some \$2.6M has been redirected for (FY 2012 vs. FY 2013-proposed) and two important programs, Crops at Risk (\$1.4M) and the Risk Avoidance and Mitigation program (\$4.4M), have been eliminated. In addition, congressionally-targeted special grant funds to address plant diseases and pest management (approximately \$23M) have been eliminated. The Working Group calls attention to the need to recapture the nearly \$34M in reductions and redirections. This support is critical to our ability to respond to pest management problems at the local, regional, and national levels.

Essential Elements*	Estimated 2013 Funding (\$1,000s)	Estimated Future Funding Needs (\$1,000s)
Extension – IPM (E-IPM)	\$9,918	\$9,918
Regional IPM Centers (base support for four centers)	\$4,000	\$4,000
Integrated Pest Management Pest Information Platform for Extension (IPM-PIPE)	\$115	\$150
Competitive Grants Programs		
Regional IPM Centers (RIPM-targeted grants on pest control tactics)	\$2,362	\$2,362
Extension Integrated Pest Management (EIPM) Decision Support System	\$153	\$153
Pest Management Alternatives Program (PMAP)	\$1,402	\$1,402
Crops at Risk (CAR)	0	\$1,400
Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program (RAMP)	0	\$4,400
Community IPM		NEW/TBD
Next Generation of Pest Management Specialists		NEW/TBD
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,950</b>	<b>\$23,785</b>

\* Not in priority order. Not represented here are the funds for the IR-4 program totaling \$11,913,000.

#### Essential Elements of a New Pest Management Program

- **Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program (E-IPM)** works directly with agricultural producers, urban clientele, and other pest managers by providing education about sound pest

<sup>1</sup> The National Pest Management Working Group was composed of more than 40 professionals representing land-grant universities, industry, stakeholder groups, ARS, and NIFA.

management practices. The E-IPM program is centered on locally-adapted, problem-solving and is critical to fully integrating scientific expertise with outreach that engages stakeholders about Integrated Pest Management (IPM). (This ensures that the work of the other Essential Elements actually reach pest managers resulting in economic, social, and environmental benefits.)

- **Regional IPM Centers** maintain critical linkages to local stakeholders through the IPM programs of participating states and territories. These centers fund research and extension activities and broker information about IPM research, education and extension priorities for regions, commodities, and other environments where IPM is needed.
- **The ipmPIPE** is a monitoring network and early-warning system developed by the LGUs, USDA, and private groups to alert farmers to the presence of pest problems of area-wide importance. The ipmPIPE program includes surveillance and monitoring networks, a web-based information management system with criteria for deciding when to apply pesticides, predictive modeling, and outreach directly to producers (often through the E-IPM network of state coordinators).
- **A Competitive Grant Program** is an important component for strategically focusing the following essential elements of the New Pest Management Program. The Working Group recommends that recently lost funding in a number of NIFA pest management programs (e.g., CAR, RAMP, RIPM and PMAP) be recaptured and restructured into a new single competitive grant effort with shared responsibility for administering by both NIFA and the network of Regional IPM Centers. In addition, the Working Group also noted significant funding has been lost since 2010 by discontinuing many pest-management related special grants. If recovered, these funds could be redirected within a new overall approach to competitive grant management.
- **Community IPM** is a new initiative proposed by the Working Group to help manage pests in schools, homes, yards, office buildings, workplaces, etc. Community IPM encompasses an extremely wide range of environment ( including places where people live, work, learn, and play) and directly benefiting nearly all US citizens.
- **Developing future and next generation of scientists/professionals while expanding the capacity for science-based decision making by pest management specialists** is critical to meeting challenges we face today and those for which we must prepare. The Working Group recommends that the new program include a commitment to undergraduate internships, graduate student opportunities, and curriculum development.

### **Enhancing Coordination and Improving Efficiency**

Each Essential Element serves an important niche within the national pest management portfolio of programs and supporting services for producers. However, it is also important to directly and clearly enhance coordination and efficiency through role clarification, shared leadership, and accountability at national, regional, and state levels. The Working Group further recommends:

- A Pest Management Coordinating Council appointed by the BAA's Extension Committee on Operations and Policy (ECOP) and Experiment State Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP) to provide "shared leadership and decision-making" in national level decisions with NIFA. Such collaboration should include program priorities and funding, and coordination among the Essential Elements of the new Pest Management Program.
- A National IPM Coordinator should be named within USDA (the REE Under Secretary's office) to provide department-wide leadership, coordination, and management for federally-funded pest management efforts.

# **NEW PEST MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

## ***Working Group – Discussion Paper***

***{A summary of recommendations from the BAA Working Group on Pest Management}***

### **Background**

The Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU) Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA), Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC) supports “in principle” the Integrated Crop Protection Program proposed in the President’s FY2013 Budget. However, this terminology would appear to exclude many other efforts that play crucial roles in today’s society. The BAC recognizes the need to simplify the budget by consolidating lines, particularly within the Integrated Activities accounts of the NIFA budget. However, the BAC has expressed concern over diminishing fiscal appropriations for existing programs and/or in some instances the complete loss of effective programs altogether. The BAC has noted an erosion of previous funding from the agency within its Integrated Activities accounts. That reduction is estimated to be approximately \$34 M in the last five years. In addition, nearly \$23M in congressionally mandated grants targeting pest management issues across the country has been lost. This has resulted in a reduction in funding for Pest Management and related programs by nearly \$57M, severely limiting the development of solutions to pressing problems. The BAC forwarded its recommendation to the BAA Policy Board of Directors, and subsequently (May 2012) a Working Group on Pest Management program was formed. The following discussion paper has been developed based on discussions of the BAA Working Group on Pest Management.

### **Pest Management Program**

The use of the term “Integrated Crop Protection Program” as described in the President’s Budget would focus on “crop production.” While noteworthy, this program would appear to exclude other critical pest management problems such as invasive species, insect vectors of human disease, pests in homes, gardens, lawns, schools, recreational facilities and public buildings, etc. Thus, this terminology would appear to exclude many related programs that play crucial roles in today’s society and limited opportunities to partner with other federal Departments and agencies.

The term IPM has been in use for a number of years and is widely recognized by scientists, Extension professionals, crop consultants and other practitioners as well a variety of stakeholders including those in production agriculture, public buildings, schools, libraries, as well as recreational facilities such as golf courses; however, it is less familiar to the general public and decision makers.

The Working Group strongly recommends the use of the term “Pest Management Programs” to fully encompass the nature of what is included in these recommendations. The rationale for using this term is that everyone has an idea of what a “pest” is, but doesn’t necessarily know what is meant by Integrated Pest Management (IPM) or “Integrated Crop Protection, or the context in which these terms are used. The goal of this effort is to not only reengage the above traditional stakeholders, but to educate and build support among the general public and decision makers who may not understand programmatic details. Throughout this paper, we will use the term “Pest Management” or “Pest Management Program;” integration is implied in either case.

### **Scope of the Recommendations by the Pest Management Program Working Group**

A number of critically important Pest Management programs supported by USDA are administered by the nation’s Land Grant Colleges and Universities (LGUs) that help maintain America’s agricultural productivity. Such

efforts by LGUs involve direct assistance to producers in ways that are effective and efficient, and backed by strong support from farmers and stakeholder organizations across the U.S.

With the emergence of a renewed commitment to crop protection and integrated pest management the Working Group on Pest Management is offering recommendations that focus on both current and new programmatic approaches that will make our national response more effective, efficient, and collaborative. The Working Group identifies these core elements, or programmatic responses of national USDA Pest Management efforts, as “essential elements.”

**Table 1. Estimated funding trends and needs\*.**

<b>Essential Elements*</b>	<b>Estimated 2013 Funding (\$1,000s)</b>	<b>Estimated Future Funding Needs (\$1,000s)</b>
Extension – IPM (E-IPM)	\$9,918	\$9,918
Regional IPM Centers (base support for four centers)	\$4,000	\$4,000
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Competitive Grants Programs		
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Next Generation of Pest Management Scientists and Specialists		NEW/TBD
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,950</b>	<b>\$23,785</b>

\* Not in priority order. Not represented here are the funds for the IR-4 program totaling \$11,913,000.

### **Importance of Pest Management Programs to National Food Security**

The value of U.S. crop production exceeded \$200 billion in 2010 (NASS). Maintaining a strong agricultural industry requires a coordinated national network of research and Extension programs aimed at addressing weed, disease, invasive species, and arthropod management on the nation’s croplands. The following recommendations will position USDA’s Pest Management Programs as a primary response to protecting the nation’s food supply, while also improving the profitability of agricultural-related businesses and products. Further, these programs also enhance human and environmental safety by reducing threats from inappropriate use of pesticides.

USDA’s portfolio of support for Pest Management includes a range of programs and projects, the majority of which are delivered by LGUs. Examples include data generation for so-called minor use crops to enable essential pesticide approvals for limited markets, four regional pest management centers that focus the expertise of the LGUs on multistate and national scale problems, and locally-relevant Extension IPM programs and pesticide applicator training.

The Working Group acknowledges other critically important programs that leverage and extend the reach of the nation’s LGUs, yet they fall beyond the scope of these recommendations. For example, successful pest management programs must engage with complementary programs such as the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) which facilitates the detection, accurate diagnosis, and rapid communications associated with new pests that cross U.S. borders. Partnership between NPDN and Pest Management Programs help to mitigate the impact of endemic, emerging, and exotic pathogens and pests that attack agricultural, forest, and landscape plants in the U.S. In addition, efforts targeting special competitive grant programs help refine the focus of the LGUs to address critical issues that are unique to different production zones (these include the IPM-PIPE program and the former CAR and RAMP programs).

Taken alone, none of these programs are individually responsible for the success of American crop production. However, collectively these Pest Management Programs significantly reduce production risks for growers and improve profitability, while providing for a safe and plentiful food supply with minimal impacts on human health and the environment. We argue that the success of American crop production would not be possible without these essential programs. We further argue that components of a more broadly defined pest management program contribute the health and well-being of all Americans.

## **National Funding for Pest Management Programs**

The President's FY2013 Budget Proposal (not supported by Congress) would have eliminated a number of lines related to pest management totaling about \$38M and created a new Integrated Crop Protection Program with a tentative proposed funding of \$23 M exclusive of IR-4 (see table on page one). Funding for 2014 proposes two additional essential elements, community pest management and graduate student fellowships/undergraduate internships , without specifying amounts

Over the past five years, significant funding has been redirected, and/or combined from three sections of the NIFA budget: Research and Education, Extension, and Integrated Activities. Further, some \$2.6M has been redirected or unaccounted for, and two important programs, Crops at Risk (CAR) (\$1.4M) and the Risk Avoidance and Mitigation program (RAMP) (\$4.4M), have been eliminated in the last two years. In addition, congressionally targeted special grant funds to address plant diseases and pest management (approximately \$23M) have been cut. Given this recent history and in spite of need, additional federal funding reductions for crucial programs are likely in the future.

The Pest Management Working Group calls attention to the need to recapture the nearly \$34M in additional reductions and redirections that have occurred in the past five years in the USDA budget. This support is critical to our ability to respond to pest management problems at the local, regional and national levels.

## **NIFA Goals**

The stated goal of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is to combine all related pest management efforts into a single coordinated national response. The agency has expressed intent to create a new program from the ground up in order to "respond to pest management challenges with coordinated region-wide and national research, education and extension programs, and serve as a catalyst for promoting further development and use of IPM approaches." This so-called Integrated Crop Protection Program is intended to foster regional and national team building efforts, communication networks, and enhanced stakeholder participation. The Working Group on Pest Management shares the desire for greater coordination, but does not agree with the need to "recreate" an entirely new program from the ground up. The Working Group also stresses the need to engage stakeholders in the process.

There is pressure across government to simplify the budget process by consolidating program lines where appropriate. There may also be many positive aspects to repackaging current pest management funding. A larger, banner-like Pest Management Authority should include many existing programming efforts. As such, USDA should give more emphasis, including funding, to support the needs of many essential programs that when combined enable a coordinated national response to pest management challenges. Too many previous decisions have appeared as defending smaller projects in ways that have ultimately pitted programs within the national pest management portfolio against one another. Furthermore, a larger banner like "Pest Management Programs" may make it easier to increase funding because as a group of programs, as stakeholders may see themselves reflected in these wider goals and the local responses to problems that they bring about.

To succeed in creating a new Pest Management Program, at a minimum, there must be level funding; however, given the scale of the threats to U.S. food security, agricultural production and the health and well-being families and communities, there is most certainly need for additional funding. Never before has the need been greater for a comprehensive Pest Management Program for the U.S. The long list of chronic pest problems combined with the accelerating onslaught of new weeds, plant diseases and insect pests presents a relentless challenge. All pose risks to agriculture and food security, our natural resources and human health. Any new initiative will not be successful when it asks us to do more in response to these challenges but with less.

## **Engage Stakeholders**

The Pest Management Program initiative needs to actively engage the stakeholders of the programs whose budget lines are being consolidated. To better address the needs of the nation and stakeholder concerns in the broadest sense, the program must also be very flexible, yet comprehensive, in supporting local problem solving. A new commitment to the Pest Management Program should recognize the tremendous capacity already in place across our states in local E-IPM programming, regional IPM Centers, the diagnostic network, and the IPM-Pipe. For a national effort in Pest Management to be successful, it must provide: (1) a comprehensive regional, state and community response that reaches local producers; and (2) competitive projects that support, and take advantage of local and state expertise.

The development of this new, nationally coordinated Pest Management Program needs to be much more inclusive; it cannot rely solely on input received during federal listening sessions. If we are to move forward in developing these concepts and shared common goals, there must be greater opportunity for stakeholder participation in establishing how a new Pest Management Program will be designed and implemented. Stakeholders should also be involved in identifying programs and resources that will be needed. Some redirection of effort is important; however, it is not necessary to recreate an entirely new initiative, especially one solely based on national coordination of limited term single function projects.

## **Budget Disposition/Location**

The President's FY2013 budget proposed a new Integrated Crop Protection Program within the Integrated Activities area of the NIFA budget. However, experience over the last few years indicates that Integrated Activities lines have been severely cut or eliminated. Any budget lines in the Integrated Activities account may be in future jeopardy, suggesting that it would be prudent to locate this program elsewhere. If the goal is budget simplification, all lines should move to the same location and it is essential that the affected programs be partners. Given that the majority of funds would come from Research and Education Programs and Integrated Activities, all elements of the new Crop Protection Program could be moved to the Research and Education Programs area.

Following the guiding principles outlined (below), this could be accomplished with full authority and functional intent of the legislation such that several of the programs highlighted above will maintain form and function. However, consolidation into a single budget line (within NIFA) should only be done in such a way to enhance coordination among the essential elements described in this working paper (e.g., Regional IPM Centers and E-IPM). Such consolidation should not be interpreted as justification for overall budget reductions.

Furthermore, any consolidation must be contingent upon: (1) the allocation of additional (not redirected) funds for new programs such as Community IPM and Developing Next Generation of Crop Protection Scientists; and (2) additional funding to address an overall loss in operating funds from any new indirect allowances, should they occur due to changes in policy and/or budget location of specific program lines.

The concept of functional equivalency (described below) is critical to the success of this effort. It is important to protect program integrity, including maintaining current eligibility for accessing the funding. Without functional equivalency, many currently successful programs will only be asked to do more with less when, in fact, the need has never been greater for these programs.

## **Guiding Principles\*\***

The following principles were developed and endorsed by the ESCOP and ECOP Budget and Advocacy Committees, and provide the foundation from which the Working Group on Pest Management has developed its rationale for this report.

- Protect/maintain the funding for E- IPM and Regional IPM Centers of the Land Grant Universities. This includes local capacity as well as competitive support for important programs and projects;
- Consolidate budget lines where it makes sense, doing no harm;
- Maintain intent (functional equivalency) of programs (e.g., integrated activities regardless of where the budget resides within the USDA/NIFA Budget);
- Expand our ability to integrate research, education, and Extension functions of the nation's Land Grant Universities in local and multistate problem solving; and
- Ensure regional multistate collaboration focused on sharing and cooperating among Land Grant Universities and NIFA.

Additional input and comment was obtained (and subsequently addressed) from COPs, BAC and PBD. In addition, the recommendations must also be acceptable to appropriators.

*\*\*These guiding principles were also reflected in the 2011 ECOP/ESCOP Task Force Report on Section 406 Programs, including recommendations that addressed a number of Pest Management activities supported in the Integrated Activities Accounts of NIFA.*

## **Functional Equivalency Defined**

Pest Management Programs will be conducted and funded as provided for in legislation. While programs may be combined into a single budget line, each will maintain functional integrity, intent, and eligibility.

## **Essential Elements of a New Pest Management Program**

### **Essential Element - Extension-IPM (E-IPM)**

The Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program (E-IPM) works directly with agricultural producers, urban clientele, and other pest managers, providing education about sound pest management practices that meet economic and environmental goals. The E-IPM program is centered on locally-adapted, problem-solving, and is critical to fully integrating scientific expertise with outreach that engages stakeholders about IPM. A strong E-IPM effort helps ensure that the work of other the Essential Elements (e.g., Regional IPM Centers) reaches producers and transforms their operations.

The E-IPM program has a long record of increasing the adoption of improved management practices through training, demonstration, and evaluation of impacts at the end user level. Each Land Grant Institution identifies an individual to be the primary institutional/state Coordinator. When taken together, these state

leaders form a national network of more than 50 E-IPM Coordinators providing an essential cadre of experts on pest management. These coordinators are a critical bridge between local/county-based extension personnel and the research and Extension capacities of their institutions, and act as a catalyst for state and regional IPM programs. They translate needs into programs and then coordinate implementation back to the client base. E-IPM programming is based on an implementation strategy that rapidly addresses state/local/multistate needs, and existing and emerging pest problems. State-based plans and strategies are funded at various levels based on a national competitive review, and IPM Coordinators merge these funds with local funding sources to enable our national IPM capacities to operate efficiently. By addressing pest problems locally, E-IPM meets national IPM goals and larger geographic issues of significance. This network of interconnected state-based programs is critical for providing pest managers, producers and urban clientele with unbiased information on pest control tactics. The E-IPM program also has a strong commitment to measuring the outcomes and impacts of its work, and by doing so it is able to share its expertise and successful approaches to local IPM programs carried-out by Extension Agents throughout the nation.

E-IPM has been flat or declining (when adjusted for inflation) for many years, while other programs like Organics and SARE have increased. Other Essential Elements of the new Pest Management Program cannot function without Extension-IPM infrastructure in place in each state and territory. The Working Group recommends a large and significant increase in funding. Furthermore, the Working Group notes that any such federal investments leverage additional local commitment by incentivizing people and institutions to invest more in E-IPM.

### **Essential Element – Regional IPM Centers**

The Regional IPM Centers maintain critical linkages to local stakeholders through the IPM programs of participating states and territories. These four Centers develop and broker information about IPM research, education and Extension priorities for regions, commodities, and other environments where IPM is needed. They offer support to the extensive network of experts who respond to federal, regional and local inquiries about pest management issues of importance.

Each center has an advisory and/or steering committee comprised of IPM practitioners, often from both the agricultural and urban sector, industry, and other regional representatives. Committees meet regularly to provide critical guidance to help ensure that Centers are responding to priority pest management problems for the region. Each state has an IPM Coordinator who is typically connected to his/her respective Regional IPM Center, providing direct feedback on needs. Regional IPM Centers commonly have components that include: state and regional crop profiles, multistate pest management strategic plans on major problems, regional/national pest alerts on emerging issues, and regional/national training programs in cooperation with Land Grant Universities, NPDN, APHIS, and ARS. The Centers currently coordinate the competitive proposal review processes for the Regional IPM (RIPM) grants programs (\$2.8M), assuring that regional needs are met. The Regional IPM Centers are at the core of effective IPM programs across the Nation and must be maintained.

The Working Group recommends maintaining existing funding for the Regional IPM Centers, and further encourages additional support of these entities. Increased funding would create opportunities to support unique needs within regions. For example, each Center's core operations would be funded at similar levels across all regions; while a competitive pool could be established to help Centers address unique needs such as those that occur within difference cropping zones of the country.

### **Essential Element - Integrated Pest Management Pest Information Platform for Extension (ipmPIPE)**

The ipmPIPE (<http://www.ipmpipe.org/>) is a monitoring network and early-warning system developed by the Land Grant Universities, USDA, and private groups to alert farmers to the presence of pest problems of area-wide importance. The ipmPIPE includes surveillance and monitoring networks, a web-based information management system with criteria for deciding when to apply pesticides, predictive modeling, and outreach directly to producers, often through the E-IPM network of state coordinators. The program's coordinated framework has been highly effective in helping our nation's producers to make informed decisions about pesticide application. First established for Asian Soybean Rust, ipmPIPE has become an essential tool for farmers and producers, guiding the use of fungicides. In its first year the ipmPIPE was estimated to have helped American farmers save up to \$299 million, according to an Economic Research Service report (Roberts et al. 2006). Subsequent savings approach \$1 billion.

Currently, there are seven ipmPIPE projects in operation: soybean rust, insects and diseases of legume and pulse crops, cucurbit downy mildew, pecan scab and nut case-bearer, onion diseases, southern corn rust, and, most recently, Western Specialty Crop PIPE that focuses on grape pests and new *Drosophila* pests of stone fruit and small fruits.

Valuable data has been collected through the ipmPIPE; however, in recent years, it has become critical that the data captured by the various ipmPIPEs be readily accessible to extension specialists and agents as well as research scientists across the country. A central repository of data and models is needed that would house and make accessible all ipmPIPE data. Providing this core function will allow new ipmPIPE components to be added when they are developed. Through small investment, these stored data could provide a foundation for new research and outreach efforts.

### **Essential Element - Competitive Grant Programs**

The development of a new Pest Management Program offers an opportunity to consider, more broadly, how competitive funding could be brought to bear on critical pest management and crop protection issues. Competitive funds are important to enhance the essential elements of IPM. The Working Group recommends that the new Pest Management Program recapture lost funding and then restructure former grant programs (e.g., CAR, RAMP, RIPM, PMAP and/or other congressionally targeted special grant funds that have been recently cut). Such competitive grants could also target "Critical Emerging Issues" such as invasive species, expanding pest ranges, etc. (this is still under consideration by the Working Group).

A significant portion of this new competitive funding pool could be managed by the Regional IPM Centers. These Regional Centers have considerable experience in managing competitive grant programs with a clear understanding of local, regional and national needs. Furthermore, such regional management of competitive funds is found in other USDA programs like SARE. Regional coordination by the IPM Centers would insure stakeholder input into priorities and strengthen the relevance of funded projects.

More recently significant funding has been brought to bear of pest management issues within the Specialty Crop Research Initiative and Organic Research and Education as well as the Beginning Farmer Rancher programs. However, these are mandatory programs funded in the 2008 Farm Bill that have expired with no guarantee of continuation into the future and there is no specific charge relative to pest management issues.

Further discussion is needed to determine the scope of Competitive Grants, level of funding needed (e.g., critically important if the scope is to include a component to address "Emerging and Critical Issues").

### **Essential Element (new programmatic effort) – Community IPM**

Community IPM includes managing pests in schools, homes, yards, office buildings, workplaces, and wherever pests that affect public health are found. Community IPM encompasses an extremely wide range of environments; places where people live, work, learn, play, receive care, and the public spaces (e.g., transportation, rights of way, etc.) that connect those environments. It also addresses sensitive structural environments where the pest threshold level is set at zero (e.g., hospital operating rooms, food processing plants, computer chip manufacturing plants, etc.). Through its far-reaching impact, Community IPM benefits nearly all U.S. citizens, from non-farm households in rural areas to office workers in the center of major metropolitan areas.

There is a growing network of Community IPM educators across the country. This network includes leaders in government, research, education, public health, and indoor air quality and pest management. For example, the National School IPM Implementation effort involves four regional working groups and more than 300 partners. These efforts have resulted in an average 71% reduction in pesticide use and 78% reduction in pest complaints, with no long-term increase in costs. In other public buildings, implementing an IPM-based contract for structural pest management services coupled with competent oversight of service providers reduced pesticide use by 93% and pest complaints by 89%, with immediate and dramatic reductions in the application of insecticide sprays, greatly reducing the potential for human exposure while enhancing health and quality of life for all.

### **Essential Element (new programmatic effort) – Developing the Next Generation of Crop Protection Scientists**

Supporting the on-going and future needs for science and discovery in managing the nation's agricultural lands is critical to meeting challenges we see today and those we must prepare for, including those that are yet to be known. The Working Group recommends that the new Pest Management Program include a commitment to developing future scientists and expanding the capacity for science-based decision making by agricultural professionals. Such a commitment could be reflected in undergraduate internships, graduate student opportunities and in curriculum development by our Land Grant Colleges and Universities. All of the Essential Elements of a new Pest Management Program would be asked to develop specific strategies aimed at increasing the number of young people entering IPM and related fields in agriculture.

### **Enhancing Coordination and Improving Efficiency**

Each Essential Element (described in this report) serves an important niche within the national IPM portfolio. It is acknowledged that coordination is taking place among state IPM coordinators, regional IPM centers, regional grants, and the IR-4 program. Many such projects supported by these Essential Elements already function well and with great efficiency. Therefore, maintaining **functional equivalency** in a combined budget line is critical.

However, there is a continuing need to enhance the ways in which expertise is combined to focus on problems. Further, it is important to show how current investments in those programs are leveraged within and across the Essential Elements (described above). Enhanced coordination and efficiency would involve role clarification, shared leadership, and structural changes that foster more cooperation and communication at the national, regional and state levels.

- **Regional** – Increase uniformity in the core support services of the Regional IPM Centers. Each IPM Center has a technical and applied research problem solving mission that is organized to address pest issues at the regional level. However, the Centers are currently generating unique contributions among the four regions that when combined have the potential to provide strategic contributions nationwide. Centers should also increase their leadership in the arena of multistate information sharing to rapidly distribute

the benefits of programmatic advances and the methodologies that underlie successful pest management techniques. Centers could also expand support and collaboration with the E-IPM network (e.g., information sharing to supporting both biophysical and social science needs assessments). As previously stated, Regional Centers could also manage competitive grants that provide additional financial support to address emerging and special pest management problems.

- **State** - Each E-IPM program (within a state or institution) will have a clearly identified IPM Coordinator. All coordinators should meet annually within their respective regions for the purpose of cross-state sharing and multistate priority setting. This is a function that would also be supported/hosted by the Regional IPM Centers. Likewise Regional Center directors should be encouraged to meet as a team (probably at least annually). It is also noted that national-scale meeting/conference should be considered (similar to the National Integrated Water Program's Annual Conference) for the purpose of national information sharing and fostering multi-state collaboration on pest problems. Furthermore, successful state coordination should also involve sharing with the many other programs, agencies and involved stakeholder groups working on IPM within our states.
  
- **National** – Creation of:
  - (1) A Pest Management Coordinating/Administrative Council appointed by ECOP and ESCOP. Creating an environment for “shared leadership and decision making” in national level decisions about program priorities and funding is very important to maintaining coordination among the Essential Elements of the new Pest Management Program. This council (leadership team) would be established with representation from the Essential Elements and likely include those who are members of the current National IPM committee. The NIFA-NPL (or NPLs) would be part of the council as advisors (not official voting members due to federal advisory committee rules). This national Pest management Coordinating Council would foster coordination and collaboration, internal decision-making, and priority setting among the Essential Elements that make up the new Pest Management Program. Importantly this committee would have connections to ECOP and ESCOP and the national budget priority setting processes. *NOTE: Effective and successful models for this type of shared leadership exist in the SARE and the National Integrated Water programs.*
  
  - (2) A National IPM Coordinator position, recognized within USDA (e.g., in the Undersecretary for REE Office). A 2001 report by the Government Accounting Office indicated that USDA had not provided any departmental entity with the authority necessary to lead its IPM initiatives. It further described that among six USDA agencies, state and land-grant universities, and EPA there was little or no coordination on IPM related activities. That report called on the agency to establish department-wide leadership, coordination, and management for federally funded IPM efforts. Such USDA (department-wide) leadership could include an office of IPM, staffed by a national IPM coordinator, with purview of USDA agencies and its mission areas that have IPM related programs. This concept is further endorsed by the National Roadmap for Integrated Pest Management (2004) and also by the IPM Institute. It is envisioned that the National IPM Coordinator would work closely with the above coordinating council, USDA-NPLs, other government agencies such as EPA, DOD, HUD, Interior, NIH, etc. where there are interests in pest management, insect vectored diseases and invasive species. This coordination would focus critical issues in pest management bringing to bear additional resources.

- **IR-4 (Interregional Research Project #4)**

The IR-4 program provides crucial support to specialty, and minor use crops by developing residue and other data that are required by U.S. EPA to facilitate the regulatory clearance of conventional reduced-risk pesticides and biopesticides. The efforts of IR-4 help sustain specialty and minor use crops through the expansion of pesticide labels to cover these critical needs. At the advice of the IR-4 Commodity Liaison Group and others, the Working Group reluctantly accepts IR-4's desire to be excluded from the combined Pest Management Program. This is based on concerns about the future identity of the IR-4 program, potential indirect costs that could reduce available funds and overall loss of program funds.

However, the Working Group recommends IR-4 continue to enhance its collaborative activities to assist in the national and global study of pesticide resistance baselines and monitoring systems for key pest targets and key active ingredients. Stronger integration of IR-4 with outreach efforts by the Regional IPM Centers, E-IPM Land Grant Research and Extension and other USDA agencies will increase efficiency and coordination of all of the programs.

**Agenda Item 15.2:** Executive Director Report, January – March, 2013

**Presenter:** H. Michael Harrington

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

## **I. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **WAAESD**

#### **Support to the Chair and Organization**

- **Annual Report and Evaluation:** Submitted annual report for the calendar year 2012 to the chairs of the WAAESD and WAPD. Worked with Bret Hess and Barbara Allen-Diaz to facilitate the evaluation process.
- **Assistant to the Director Evaluation:** Distributed Sarah Lupis' annual report; developed evaluation instrument and results summary for the Executive Committee.

#### **Meeting Support and Logistics**

- **Spring Meeting:** With Colorado staff and the Executive Committee developed the agendas and arrangements for the March meeting.

#### **Committee Activities**

- **Western SARE Administrative Council:** I serve as the Western Directors' representative on this group served as a principal/secondary reviewer for six Chapter 1 Research and Education grant proposals and also reviewed all proposals submitted. Attended the Administrative Council meeting, Mar 5-8 in Salt Lake City during which funding decisions for 2013 were made. Serve on W-SARE Executive Council as chair elect of the Executive Committee. Providing leadership for the transition to a new regional coordinator when Phil Rasmussen retires in 2014.
- **Western Rural Development Center Board of Directors:** I serve as one of three WAAESD representatives on this group and chair the membership committee. Participate in regular conference calls. Attended 2013 Board meeting at Dine Navajo College in Chinle, AZ.
- **Southern Rockies Landscape Conservation Consortium:** Serving on the Science Committee and will participate in on the Steering Committee meetings as time permits. Worked Science Committee to refine a listing of science needs and attended committee meetings in Denver to finalize needs. The Steering Committee approved needs will be the subject of future RFAs.

## **II. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **ESCOP**

#### **Committee Activities**

- **Chairs Advisory Committee:** Participate in monthly conference calls.

- **ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee:** Support Chairman Jeff Jacobsen (Montana State) as the Executive vice Chair on this important committee. Developed national survey on budget priorities for the FY 2015 budget cycle to be deployed in early May. Organize monthly conference calls and produce meeting notes.
- **Budget and Advocacy Committee:** Support Jeff Jacobsen on this BAA committee. Coordinate ESS input into the BAC. Participate in monthly conference calls.
- **APLU-BAC one-pagers:** Worked with Cornerstone to collect and finalize all one-pagers for 2013.
- **NIMSS/National Impact Writing Project:** The NIMSS program is being rewritten and will be housed at the University of Maryland. Sarah and I oversee a part time writer funded by NRSP-1 who is responsible for writing impact statements as well as press releases about the projects. More than 50 impact statements have been completed. All statements will be housed as PDFs on the NIMSS and provided to each region.
- **System Communications and Marketing Project:** Serve as back up ED on this important joint committee that works with kglobal and Cornerstone to promote high priority impacts to those who need to understand what we do. Participate in monthly conference calls.

#### ACOP

- Developed a short draft white paper which summarized existing academic programs support in NIFA and discussed possible future programs for ACOP Chair Nancy Irlbeck.

#### Summary of Travel January-March 2013

Feb. 24-25: Washington DC

- AHS-CARET meeting
- System Communications and Marketing Committee meeting
- ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee meeting
- ESCOP meeting

Feb. 26-28: W-SARE Advisory Council meeting Salt Lake City, UT

Mar. 12-14: WRDC Advisory Committee meeting Dina Navajo College, Chinle, AZ

April 22-24: SARE National Evaluation Committee, Washington DC

April 24-25 National Multistate Coordination Committee, Washington DC

**Agenda Item 16.1:** Assistant to the Executive Director Annual Report, January 1 – December 31, 2012

**Presenter:** Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** For information

**Action Taken:** Directors approved a title change to “Assistant Director.” Lee Sommers, Mike Harrington, and Sarah Lupis will prepare a new job description, as per CSU requirements, for Directors to review during the Summer Meeting.

**Background:**

**Annual Report**  
Assistant to the Executive Director  
January 1– December 31, 2012

**Narrative Self-Assessment & Summary of Activities**

This report outlines progress and achievements during my first year as the Assistant to the Director of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAAESD). Overall, I am pleased with progress made on the 2012 objectives. Below, I highlight some specific examples of accomplishments made during the past year and detail objectives moving forward.

***Regional Activities***

As this was my first full year in this position, I spent much of my time getting up to speed with regional activities, names and faces, programs, and processes. I feel that I now have a comfortable working knowledge of how the WAAESD functions and have met and become familiar with AES directors and others in leadership positions in the region and nationally. In addition, I have become proficient with guidelines and standard operating procedures for Colorado State University’s purchasing and travel systems, both of which are integral to maintaining a smoothly-functioning office.

**WAAESD Office:** I supported activities of the WAAESD office through various ongoing activities, including maintaining electronic mail lists for various groups; developing, maintaining, and reconciling WAAESD budget and expenditures; creation and processing of financial and travel documents; inventory and stocking of office supplies; and maintenance and replacement of office equipment as necessary.

**Meeting Support and Logistics:**

- I worked with Mike Harrington, Barbara-Allen Diaz and her staff, and the Executive Committee to develop the agenda and arrangements for the Spring Meeting in Napa, CA.
- I worked with Mike Harrington, Noelle Cockett and her staff, and the Executive Committee to develop the agenda and arrangements for the Summer Meeting in Park City, UT.
- Worked with Mike Harrington and Lee Sommers to develop the agenda and arrangements for the Fall Meeting in Portsmouth, NH.

**Multistate Research:** I facilitated the annual proposal review for new/renewing multistate projects and the mid-term review process. I communicated results of each to project Administrative Advisors, AES Directors in the Western Region, and NIFA. I coordinated the collection and review of nominations for

the Excellence in Multistate Research Awards Program and forwarded Western Region winner to the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee. I produced and distributed award certificates to members of the WERA1009 committee, winners in the western region.

**NIMSS:** I provided regular ongoing support to western region administrative advisors and administrative staff, helping to troubleshoot and solve issues with the NIMSS.

I have taken steps to facilitate and expand the use of NIMSS in the Western Region through the creation of an occasional e-newsletter called NIMSS T.I.P.S. for administrative advisors, directors, and other NIMSS users. In 2012, seven issues were published, covering topics from changing individual user profile settings to project renewal and termination. All issues are archived on the WAAES web site: <http://www.waaesd.org/multistate-program/nimss-t-i-p-s>. In addition to being a valuable resource for recipients, this system has greatly enhanced NIMSS troubleshooting efficiency as I can now simply send a link to instructions for frequently asked questions and solutions to frequently encountered problems.

**WAAESD Web Site:** In addition to the new NIMSS T.I.P.S. page on the WAAESD web site, I have made other improvements to enhance the effectiveness of the site. A new Multistate Project Archive Page was created to handle the abundance of impact statements generated during 2012: <http://www.waaesd.org/multistate-program/multistate-projects-impact-statement-archive>. In addition, the WAAESD Twitter feed now appears on the side bar of the home page as does a new section called "News!" which highlights important information or upcoming events, making them more accessible to visitors (vs. being buried on other pages).

**Social Media:** In 2012, the WAAESD established a presence on social media through the creation of a twitter account, @WAAESD. We currently have approximately 70 followers, including several association colleges and universities, national organizations, government partners, and others. The Twitter account has been used to help promote stories about AES research from our member institutions within the region and also to a broader national audience, including influential decision-makers.

**Guidelines:** Given that 2012 was primarily a development year, little progress was made on revising NIMSS Western Regional Guidelines or the Virtual Notebook for Directors and Administrative Advisors.

**Committee Activities:** I served on the WRAOC Planning Committee, helping to develop a program for the annual meeting in Reno, NV.

## ***National Activities***

### **Committee Service:**

- I serve on the NRSP001 Management Committee that oversees NIMSS implementation. In 2012, the committee had conference calls in December and March. During 2012, the committee decided to expand impact reporting efforts for multistate research projects pioneered by the Western Region. With Dr. Harrington's assistance, I was responsible for drafting a national impact reporting strategy that the committee adopted and for recruiting and hiring a

professional writer to assume the duties outlined in the strategy. Since June when the impact writer, Sara Delheimer, started, I have been responsible for implementing the National Impact Reporting Strategy; editing initial drafts, coordinating distribution, and setting direction, especially for publication in broader media outlets.

I co-wrote (with Sara Delheimer) a press release about the National Award of Excellence in Multistate Research and coordinated its distribution with APLU, NIFA, and university staff from institutions that participated in the winning project. The press release was picked up by numerous media outlets (see list below), bringing positive press to the multistate program and issues related to soybean rust. In addition, our office prepared a packet of Impact Statements with a cover letter that was distributed to those who attended the APLU awards ceremony in Denver, CO, helping to highlight both the projects themselves and the impact reporting effort.

- <http://cfaes.osu.edu/news/articles/oardc-receives-national-research-award-for-critical-soybean-rust-work>
  - <http://agisamerica.org/award-for-excellence-in-research-goes-to-multi-state-collaboration-for-groundbreaking-work>
  - [http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/news/story/Jardine\\_award111312.aspx](http://www.ksre.ksu.edu/news/story/Jardine_award111312.aspx)
  - <http://extension.osu.edu/news-releases/archives/2012/november/oardc-receives-national-research-award-for-critical-soybean-rust-work#.UKJXtbJmQh8.twitter>
  - <http://www.porknetwork.com/pork-news/OARDC-receives-national-research-award-for-critical-soybean-rust--179175891.html?ref=891>
  - [http://www.agprofessional.com/news/Award-for-research-excellence-in-work-on-soybean-rust-179169121.html?utm\\_source=dlvr.it&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://www.agprofessional.com/news/Award-for-research-excellence-in-work-on-soybean-rust-179169121.html?utm_source=dlvr.it&utm_medium=twitter)
  - <http://www.ag.iastate.edu/news/releases/1061/>
  - <http://www.agriculture.purdue.edu/aganswers/story.asp?storyID=6951>
  - <http://ocj.com/2012/11/oardc-recognized-for-work-on-soybean-rust/>
  - [http://www.thecropsite.com/news/12413/soybean-rust-research-could-mean-savings-for-growers?utm\\_medium=twitter&utm\\_source=twitterfeed](http://www.thecropsite.com/news/12413/soybean-rust-research-could-mean-savings-for-growers?utm_medium=twitter&utm_source=twitterfeed)
  - <http://news.ca.uky.edu/article/researchers-among-those-honored-soybean-rust-work>
- I serve as the ESCOP representative on the Planning Committee for the annual National Extension Research Administrative Officers Conference (NERAOC) and helped to develop the 2013 conference agenda. In response to comments that the 2011 conference lacked AES-relevant material, I made a special effort in 2012 to solicit ideas for conference sessions from other regional administrators and from administrative professionals in the Western Region. I will be presenting several sessions at the 2013 conference in New Orleans.

**ESCOP:** Lee Sommers served as the ESCOP Chair. I provided support to the Chair and also to Mike Harrington, the Executive Vice Chair. I made conference call arrangements and helped to develop agendas, collect agenda briefs, and produced minutes of conference calls and in-person meetings. In addition, I also supported and/or participated in several other ESCOP activities:

- **Chair’s Advisory Committee:** I served as the recording secretary. In addition, I attended the Joint COPS meeting and served as the recording secretary for that meeting. I was responsible for gathering agenda briefs for the Fall Meeting and maintaining the ESCOP web site calendar with meeting agendas, agenda briefs, and meeting minutes.
- **ESCOP/ECOP Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC):** As a member of this committee, I regularly participated in conference calls and in-person meetings. In 2012, I helped to develop protocol for efficient internal communication and lead an effort to draft various guidelines that describe how the overall joint communications strategy would be implemented (i.e., Information for Directors, Guidelines for Communications Professionals). I developed and implemented an online survey to collect Primary and Secondary Contact information for the kglobal effort and disseminated the results of that survey to kglobal. I continue to serve as a liaison between kglobal/CMC and the western region Deans and Directors. I was nominated to serve as the CMC representative to the Science Roadmap Report effort, and look forward to working on that document in the coming year.
- **IPM Working Group:** I helped to coordinate activities of the IPM Working Group. My responsibilities in 2012 included coordinating meetings and conference calls, recording minutes, and editing drafts of the Working Group report, memos, and other documents.
- **Budget and Legislative Affairs Committee:** I served as the recording secretary.

### Status of 2012 Goals and Objectives

Activity	Status
<b>Support the WAAESD and MRC</b>	
Facilitate WAAESD operations and serve as recording secretary; produce meeting minutes	Ongoing
Maintain WAAESD web site	Ongoing
Establish Google Analytics for WAAESD web site; collect baseline data about visitation and use	Excellent progress, Continuing
Serve as a liaison with USDA/NIFA , AES Directors, other college of agriculture leaders in region/nation	Ongoing
Maintain electronic mail lists for various groups	Ongoing; addition of lists for IPM Working Group, International Agriculture in Western Region
Develop, maintain, and reconcile WAAESD budget and expenditures	Ongoing
Create and process financial and travel documents	Ongoing
<b>Facilitate and Expand Use of NIMSS in the Western Region</b>	
Train new administrators, members of the MRC and others in NIMSS use	Ongoing
Initiate a regular email newsletter, NIMS T.I.P.S	Excellent progress, Continuing
Serve on the NRSP001 Management Committee	Continuing
Work with other regional system administrators to improve NIMSS performance and meet changing needs	Continuing
Facilitate review/evaluation of the NIMSS system; implement	Ongoing

improvements to enhance functionality and meet changing needs	
Provide oversight for the Western Region Project Portfolio	Ongoing
Revise Regional Guidelines to reflect changes in NIMSS, the National Guidelines, and other policy changes	Ongoing
Develop financial resources commitments report for Western Region projects	Ongoing
Maintain and expand information included in the Virtual Notebook for Directors and Administrative Advisors	Ongoing
<b>Communications</b>	
Produce periodic narrative summary reports and impact statements for WAAESD project portfolio	Ongoing
Produce “user-friendly” written communications for other regions, APLU, USDA, NIFA, Congress, stakeholders, and others	Continuing
Develop issues and position paper drafts to increase awareness of important western region issues, positions, policies, and opportunities and/or respond to other regional or national initiatives affecting the region and funding	Excellent progress, Continuing
Maintain regional listservs for AES Directors, Deans, APDs, CARET, WROAC, and others	Ongoing
Establish and maintain a WAAESD presence on social media sites like Twitter, Facebook, etc.	Excellent progress, continuing
Support national-level communications and marketing efforts in coordination with the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee, kglobal, and Cornerstone LLC	Ongoing

## Draft Goals and Objectives for 2013

### Western Region

- Facilitate WAAESD operations and serve as recording secretary
- Produce minutes of meetings and conference calls
- Maintain WAAESD web site
- Reorganize WAAESD web site to improve functionality and usefulness, and provide greater connectivity to ESCOP and AgIsAmerica.com
- Serve as a liaison with USDA/NIFA , AES Directors, other college of agriculture leaders in region/nation
- Maintain electronic mail lists for various groups
- Develop, maintain, and reconcile WAAESD budget and expenditures
- Create and process financial and travel documents in support of WAAESD transactions and activities
- Train new administrators, members of the MRC and others in use of the new NIMSS, to be developed in 2013
- Continue to publish email newsletter, NIMS T.I.P.S (troubleshooting, information-sharing, problem-solving, and solutions)
- Provide oversight for the Western Region Project Portfolio

- Continue to serve on the WRAOC Planning Committee; encourage inclusion of AES-specific topics at the regional meeting
- Continue to maintain a WAAESD presence on social media sites like Twitter, Facebook, etc.

### **National**

- Continue to serve on the NRSP001 Management Committee
- Work with other regional system administrators and EDs to evaluate and reform standard operating procedures for multistate research project initiation and reporting
- Work with other regional system administrators and EDs to evaluate and reform the NIMSS to improve performance and meet changing needs
- Facilitate review/evaluation of the NIMSS system; implement improvements to enhance functionality and meet changing needs
- Revise Regional Guidelines to reflect changes in NIMSS, the National Guidelines, and other policy changes
- Re-write the Virtual Notebook for Directors and Administrative Advisors to reflect the new NIMSS
- Continue to provide oversight, support, and guidance to the national, NRSP001, impact reporting effort
- Develop issues and position paper drafts to increase awareness of important western region issues, positions, policies, and opportunities and/or respond to other regional or national initiatives affecting the region and funding
- Support national-level communications and marketing efforts in coordination with the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee, kglobal, and Cornerstone LLC
- Continue to serve on the NERAOC Planning Committee; encourage inclusion of AES-specific topics at the national meeting
- Continue to provide support to ESS activities and committees, as needed
- Continue to serve on the ESCOP/ECOP Joint Communications and Marketing Committee

### **Summary of Travel**

January 12-13: ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee, Washington DC

February 25-28: ESCOP meeting, USDA introductions, Washington DC

March 17-22: WAAESD Spring Meeting, Napa, CA

May 20-24: National Extension and Research Administrative Officers Conference (NERAOC), Morgantown, WV

July 16-19: NERAOC Planning Meeting, New Orleans, LA

July 24-26: Joint COPS, Savannah, GA

July 30-31: Western SARE Administrative Council Meeting, Loveland CO (attended some sessions on behalf of the WAAESD)

September 23-27, 2012: ESS Annual Meeting and Workshop, Portsmouth, NH

October 1-3, 2012: Western Regional Business Officers Meeting, Reno, NV



**Sarah Lupis**  
**Assistant to the Director, WAAESD**  
**Goals and Objectives for 2012**

**Research Project Portfolio Management**

- Provide support to NIMSS users
- Administer the NIMSS website/database for the Western Region
- Coordinate proposal submission and project reporting for the Western Region

**Communications**

- Maintain the WAAESD website
- Produce periodic narrative summary reports of the WAAESD project portfolio and project impact statements for the web
- Produce “user-friendly” written communications (print & web) for other regions, APLU, USDA, NIFA, Congress, stakeholders, and others at the national level
- Develop issues and position paper drafts to increase awareness of important western-region issues, positions, policies, and opportunities and/or respond to other regional or national initiatives affecting the MRC and funding
- Maintain regional listservs for AES Directors, Administrative Advisors, Deans of Agriculture, Academic Program Directors, Council of Agricultural Research Extension and Teaching (CARET), and Western Regional Administrative Officers Association, and others as needed
- Establish and maintain a WAAESD presence on social media sites like Twitter, Facebook, etc.
- Support the activities of the ESCOP System Communications and Marketing Committee through technical advice and coordinated actions with kglobal and Cornerstone

**Support of the Association**

- Provide support to the WAAESD Executive Director
- Provide support to Lee Sommers during his tenure as ESCOP Chair
- Assist with meeting planning and logistics for WAAESD, ESCOP, Western Administrative Officers, MRC, etc.
- Develop agenda briefing materials for all meetings of the WAAESD
- Develop, maintain, and reconcile WAAESD budget and expenditures
- Develop the WDA annual budget in cooperation with the Executive Director
- Create and process financial and travel documents in support WAAESD transactions and activities
- Serve as Recording Secretary of the Association

**Agenda Item 16.2:** Assistant to Director's Report, January – March, 2013

**Presenter:** Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

## 1. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### WAAESD

- Served as the Recording Secretary of the WAAESD; produced minutes of meetings and conference calls.
- Maintained the WAAESD web site and continue to improve functionality and usefulness
  - Updated scrolling multistate project featured articles
  - Updated multistate program project archive with newly produced printable PDFs
- Maintain electronic mail lists for various groups
- Develop, maintain, and reconcile WAAESD budget and expenditures
- Created and processed financial and travel documents in support WAAESD transactions and activities
- Created and continue to maintain WAAESD Twitter account, posting relevant stories about AES research, news, etc. and leveraging stories to national attention. Coordinated a short campaign to encourage Farm Bill hearings in the west. Twitter account has 60 followers (up from 54 in July), including several association colleges and universities, national organizations, government partners, and others.
- Assisted CSU AES and WAAESD EC with planning for the Spring 2013 Joint WAAESD-WEDA meeting.

### NIMSS

**NIMSS TIPS:** Sent out a new NIMSS T.I.P.S. issue focused on project termination/renewal; an archive is on the WAAESD web site: <http://www.waaesd.org/multistate-program/nimss-t-i-p-s>

**NIMSS Improvements:** Have attempted to facilitate review/evaluation of the NIMSS system and help to implement improvements to enhance functionality and meet changing needs.

**Regular Support:** Regularly provide support to Administrative Advisors and AES staff on navigating the NIMSS. In this quarter, I have made an effort to help AAs clean up Appendix E data in an effort to improve accuracy.

### Multistate Program

**2012/2013 Renewing Projects:** Began to facilitate the renewal of projects expiring in 2013. See MRC report for details. Harriet Sykes helped to coordinate the project renewal process this year while I was on maternity leave.

## **2. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

### **NRSP001**

Serve on the national Management Committee that oversees NIMSS implementation. Have been responsible for implementing the National Impact Reporting Strategy. Over 50 Impact Statements have been produced; all are being archived on NIMSS and have been posted on AgIsAmerica.org and regional association websites.

### **NERAOC**

Serve on the National Conference Planning Committee (replacing Harriet Sykes as the ESCOP representative). Will be presenting several sessions at the 2013 conference in New Orleans.

### **ESCOPE**

**Chair's Advisory Committee:** Serve as the recording secretary; send call reminders.

**Budget and Legislative Affairs Committee:** Serve as the recording secretary.

**AES/CES Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC):** Member of this committee; serve as the recording secretary.

**IPM Working Group:** Have helped to coordinate activities of the IPM Working Group including setting up meetings, recording minutes, and editing drafts of the Working Group report.

## **3. TRAVEL SUMMARY**

No travel this quarter.

**Action Requested:** For information

**Agenda Item 17.0: National Impact Writing Project**

**Presenter:** Sara Delheimer

**Action Requested:** For information

**Action Taken:** Directors decided to provide 0.3 FTE support (up to \$5,000) for Sara Delheimer from June 1 – Sept. 30, 2013 to work on Western Region impact statements and stories. Bret Hess will also ask WEDA Chair Bill Frost if WEDA is interested in taking on half of this commitment, in an effort to create a “joint initiative” between the two associations.

**Background:**

*Effective communications of research outcomes is crucial to maintaining and attracting support for multistate research/coordination projects. By writing Impact Statements for each project, we are showing voters and leaders why supporting Land Grant Universities and sustaining the Agricultural Experiment Stations and Extension is so important.*

**Impact Statement** – a two-page summary produced after a project terminates that uses non-technical language and graphics to explain who cares about the project and why, what has the project done so far, what impacts these research activities have had, and what research is still needed

**National Impact Writing Project Accomplishments, July 2012-April 2013**

Goal/Objective	Status
Design Impact Statement layout template	Completed
Classify 2011 and 2012 projects by keywords	Completed
Develop Impact Statements for 2011 projects	31 finalized
Develop Impact Statements for 2012 projects*	12 finalized; 4 in progress
Design NRSP Impact Statement layout template	Completed
Develop Impact Statements for NRSPs	2 in progress
Track Impact Statement progress	Ongoing
Upload finalized Impact Statements to NIMSS	Completed; ongoing
Audit projects for additional impact story potential	Ongoing**
Write press releases	1; released in 10+ outlets
Pitch impact stories	8 stories pitched; 3 in progress; 0 accepted

\*waiting on termination reports to be submitted for some projects

\*\*deprioritized during part-time employment

**Finalized Western region Impact Statements, July 2012-April 2013**

2011-terminating projects	2012-terminating projects
W504	W1005
W1112	W1008
W1167	W2122
W1173	W2185
WCC1006	WERA060
WERA020	WERA1009
WERA066	
WERA089	
WERA099	
WERA1007	
WERA1008	



### **Developing Impact Statements**

Since July 2012, the impact writer has:

- Designed a standard format for Impact Statements that is visually appealing and facilitates comprehension, can be easily scaled up or down to accommodate varying amounts of text and graphics, and translates to both online and print uses.
- Identified 2011-terminating and 2012-terminating projects with adequate annual report material to use to write Impact Statements
  - Assigned projects keywords (based on USDA-NIFA codes in NIMSS) and shared list with kglobal in order to identify high-priority Impact Statements given current events and/or target audiences
- Tracked draft and review status of Impact Statements to ensure that the impact reporting is conducted in a timely and efficient manner
- Completed 43 Impact Statements for Multistate Research Projects that terminated in 2011 and 2012
- Designed special format for NRSP Impact Statements
- Drafted two NRSP Impact Statements

### **Distributing Impact Statements**

Since July 2012, the impact writer has:

- Distributed finalized Impact Statements as PDFs to Administrative Advisors (AAs), Regional Executive Directors (EDs) and their assistants (ADs), NIFA representatives (Barton Hewitt, Meryl Broussard, Ralph Otto, and Sonny Ramaswamy), and kglobal (Lauren Sloat)
  - AAs have sent the finalized Impact Statements to project participants and often to partner trade associations, regulatory organizations, industry representatives, government representatives, college leadership, and other stakeholders
  - ADs have posted finalized Impact Statements on the regional websites
  - kglobal has featured one to two Impact Statements each week on the Ag Is America website, in the weekly internal “Research and Extension Highlights” e-newsletter, and on the Ag Is America Twitter feed and Facebook page.
- Archived all finalized Impact Statements in the “Impacts” section of NIMSS

### **Additional Communications Efforts**

Since July 2012, the impact writer has:

- Written a press release for the Award of Excellence in Multistate Research
  - This press release was picked up by 10+ media outlets
- Developed a special packet of Impact Statements for APLU awards ceremony in Denver
- Pitched 11 stories for various media outlets (including health and science reporters, a public health news website, and regional and national newspapers) to promote key outcomes and milestones reached by multistate research project teams
  - No pitches have been accepted (two stories were considered, but eventually turned down)

### **Goals/Objectives for 2013**\*\*\*

- Continue to produce one Impact Statement every three weeks (57 project terminated in 2012)
- Assure that all finalized Impact Statements are posted on NIMSS
- \*Work with kglobal team to identify newsworthy impact stories and target audiences
- \*Pitch one impact story to two different outlets each month with the goal of getting three impact stories published in media outlets in 2013
- \*Increase use of social media to distribute impact stories
- Develop system for writing and pushing press releases about new/renewing projects
- Attend Association for Communication Excellence in Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Life and Human Sciences (ACE) conference June 9 – 13 in Indianapolis to network with current and potential colleagues and build skills

\*\*\**assuming continued part-time (18 hours per week) employment*

**Agenda Item 18.0:** FY2014 Office Budget**Presenter:** H. M. Harrington, Sarah Lupis**Action Requested:** Approval of FY2014 Western Director's Office budget**Action Taken:** Approved with amendments to increase ED salary by 2%, AD salary by 3%, addition of \$5,000 to support Western Region impact reporting, and elimination of separate funding lines for ED/AD travel in future budget summaries.**Background:**

Description	FY2012 (2011-2012)		FY2013 (2012-2013)		FY2014 2013-2014
	Budget	Actual	Budget	to 1/1/12	Budget
Executive Director salary	178,871	178,871	184,237	92,118	187,921
CSU Fringe	45,075	47,043	46,428	22,221	47,356
<i>Sub-totals</i>	<i>223,946</i>	<i>225,914</i>	<i>230,665</i>	<i>114,339</i>	<i>235,277</i>
Assistant Director salary	67,104	67,772	60,000	25,161	61,800
CSU fringe	18,252	18,059	16,320	6,064	15,574
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>85,356</i>	<i>85,831</i>	<i>76,320</i>	<i>31,225</i>	<i>76,320</i>
Hourly/Contract Labor	4,900	4,746	4,900	4,050	5,000
CSU fringe	100	0	100	0	0
<i>Sub-total:</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>4,746</i>	<i>5,000</i>	<i>4,050</i>	<i>5,000</i>
CSU space rental	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800
Montana Accounting Fee	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
NC-FAR Membership	500	500	500	-	500
<b>Operating Expenses:</b>					
Office supplies	2,500	342	2,500	705	1,000
Copying/printing	200	841	200	1,973	2,000
Telephone charges	1,000	1311	1,000	792	1,500
Postage/Delivery/Packaging	50	124	50	92	100
Equipment repair/purchase	2,500	0	2,500	0	500
Incidental expense	1,000	550	1,000	152	1,000
Computer supplies/service	2,000	8,925	2,000	3,297	3,150
Empl Recruit & Moving costs	0	1,713	0	0	
<i>Operating Expenses Subtotal:</i>	<i>9,250</i>	<i>13,806</i>	<i>9,250</i>	<i>7,011</i>	<i>9,250</i>
<b>Travel:</b>					
Travel-Executive Director	35,000	19,362	35,000	1,036	35,000
Travel-Assistant to ED	10,000	18,453	10,000	6,419	10,000
<i>Travel Subtotal:</i>	<i>45,000</i>	<i>38,815</i>	<i>45,000</i>	<i>7,455</i>	<i>45,000</i>
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>380,852</b>	<b>377,912</b>	<b>378,535</b>	<b>175,380</b>	<b>382,647</b>
<b>Funding Information:</b>					
<b>AES</b>					
Amount from W-106	100,000		100,000		100,000
Total Assessment	279,852		277,535		282,647
Actual Assessment ( <i>reflects reduction for CSU rent of \$7,800</i> )	260,859		269,735		274,847
<b>APD</b>					
Assessment	18,993		18,877		19,132

## Western Directors Office Detail for Budget/Expenditures

### FY 2014 Tentative Budget (starts 7/1/2013)

Executive Director—Salary & Benefits <sup>1</sup>	\$235,277
Assist. To the Executive Director—Salary & Benefits <sup>2</sup>	\$76,320
Hourly/Contract Work	\$5,000
Montana Accounting Fee	\$3,500
CSU Rent	\$7,800
Office Operating	\$54,250

**FY 2014 Total Budget    \$382,647**

### Total Assessment Needed By Function for FY2014 (based on function % of total budget of \$382,647)

	AES @ 95%	APD @ 5%	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$363,515</b>	<b>\$19,132</b>	
W-106 (Off-Top MRF)	-100,000		
<b>Actual</b>	<b>\$263,515</b>	<b>\$19,132</b>	
<b>Total Proposed AES/AP Directors' Assessment</b>			<b>\$282,646</b>

**Agenda Item 19.0:** recommendations and Action Steps from Wednesday Joint Discussion

**Presenter:** Bret Hess

**Action Requested:** For Information

**Background/Discussion:**

Purpose of the session on Wednesday was:

1. Gain better understanding
2. Find common ground
3. Build trust

The intent was to keep discussion at the regional level: common issues/strengths/etc., common audiences. The intent was NOT to focus so much on Battelle. Rather, the question of how to “document and demonstrate” the value of the western region.

The overall goal remains to have a unified voice that documents and demonstrates the value of the western region.

The session DID:

- ID common areas of interest
- ID unique attributes of the West
- ID common audiences

Recommendations and Actions:

- Report from facilitators will be available after June 15<sup>th</sup> and will be shared via COO lists
- There will be a session at the Joint Summer meeting to continue momentum that will be driven by the report
- In future Joint meetings, substantial time for joint meeting should be built into the agenda
- AES and CE directors should talk in their states about perceptions and issues
- 2013 Joint Summer Meeting to be held in Coeur d’Alene, ID
- 2014 Spring Meeting will be held in Scottsdale, AZ. If necessary, UC commits resources for event planning/organization
- 2014 Summer meeting will be held in Nevada.

## Executive Summary

### [New] Pest Management Program – National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA)

Based upon recommendations from

The Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) of the Association of Public and Land-Grant Universities (APLU)

In 2012, the BAA formed a national Working Group on Pest Management (“Working Group”)<sup>1</sup> to develop recommendations to strengthen the nation’s responses to crop production challenges and the threats of disease, insect pests, and weeds. The Working Group’s recommendations focus on improving support for the agricultural, as well as the urban sector, through the identification of several core programs (“Essential Elements”) within a new Pest Management Program. The recommendations also address better collaboration and streamlining of a number of important, but currently standalone, NIFA budget lines.

#### Essential Elements of a New Pest Management Program

A number of critically important Pest Management programs supported by USDA are administered by the nation’s Land-Grant Colleges and Universities (LGUs). These programs involve direct assistance to producers and urban clientele (in ways that are effective and efficient) and are backed by strong support from farmers and many other stakeholders. The Working Group identifies these as “Essential Elements” (see page two).

#### Funding Needs

Over the past five years, several pest management funding lines at NIFA have been eliminated and/or combined. Within just the last two years, some \$2.6M has been redirected for (FY 2012 vs. FY 2013-proposed) and two important programs, Crops at Risk (\$1.4M) and the Risk Avoidance and Mitigation program (\$4.4M), have been eliminated. In addition, congressionally-targeted special grant funds to address plant diseases and pest management (approximately \$23M) have been eliminated. The Working Group calls attention to the need to recapture the nearly \$34M in reductions and redirections. This support is critical to our ability to respond to pest management problems at the local, regional, and national levels.

Essential Elements*	Estimated 2013 Funding (\$1,000s)	Estimated Future Funding Needs (\$1,000s)
Extension – IPM (E-IPM)	\$9,918	\$9,918
Regional IPM Centers (base support for four centers)	\$4,000	\$4,000
Integrated Pest Management Pest Information Platform for Extension (IPM-PIPE)	\$115	\$150
Competitive Grants Programs		
Regional IPM Centers (RIPM-targeted grants on pest control tactics)	\$2,362	\$2,362
Extension Integrated Pest Management (EIPM) Decision Support System	\$153	\$153
Pest Management Alternatives Program (PMAP)	\$1,402	\$1,402
Crops at Risk (CAR)	0	\$1,400
Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program (RAMP)	0	\$4,400
Community IPM		NEW/TBD
Next Generation of Pest Management Specialists		NEW/TBD
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$17,950</b>	<b>\$23,785</b>

\* Not in priority order. Not represented here are the funds for the IR-4 program totaling \$11,913,000.

#### Essential Elements of a New Pest Management Program

- **Extension Integrated Pest Management Coordination and Support Program (E-IPM)** works directly with agricultural producers, urban clientele, and other pest managers by providing education about sound pest

<sup>1</sup> The National Pest Management Working Group was composed of more than 40 professionals representing land-grant universities, industry, stakeholder groups, ARS, and NIFA.

management practices. The E-IPM program is centered on locally-adapted, problem-solving and is critical to fully integrating scientific expertise with outreach that engages stakeholders about Integrated Pest Management (IPM). (This ensures that the work of the other Essential Elements actually reach pest managers resulting in economic, social, and environmental benefits.)

- **Regional IPM Centers** maintain critical linkages to local stakeholders through the IPM programs of participating states and territories. These centers fund research and extension activities and broker information about IPM research, education and extension priorities for regions, commodities, and other environments where IPM is needed.
- **The ipmPIPE** is a monitoring network and early-warning system developed by the LGUs, USDA, and private groups to alert farmers to the presence of pest problems of area-wide importance. The ipmPIPE program includes surveillance and monitoring networks, a web-based information management system with criteria for deciding when to apply pesticides, predictive modeling, and outreach directly to producers (often through the E-IPM network of state coordinators).
- **A Competitive Grant Program** is an important component for strategically focusing the following essential elements of the New Pest Management Program. The Working Group recommends that recently lost funding in a number of NIFA pest management programs (e.g., CAR, RAMP, RIPM and PMAP) be recaptured and restructured into a new single competitive grant effort with shared responsibility for administering by both NIFA and the network of Regional IPM Centers. In addition, the Working Group also noted significant funding has been lost since 2010 by discontinuing many pest-management related special grants. If recovered, these funds could be redirected within a new overall approach to competitive grant management.
- **Community IPM** is a new initiative proposed by the Working Group to help manage pests in schools, homes, yards, office buildings, workplaces, etc. Community IPM encompasses an extremely wide range of environment ( including places where people live, work, learn, and play) and directly benefiting nearly all US citizens.
- **Developing future and next generation of scientists/professionals while expanding the capacity for science-based decision making by pest management specialists** is critical to meeting challenges we face today and those for which we must prepare. The Working Group recommends that the new program include a commitment to undergraduate internships, graduate student opportunities, and curriculum development.

### Enhancing Coordination and Improving Efficiency

Each Essential Element serves an important niche within the national pest management portfolio of programs and supporting services for producers. However, it is also important to directly and clearly enhance coordination and efficiency through role clarification, shared leadership, and accountability at national, regional, and state levels. The Working Group further recommends:

- A Pest Management Coordinating Council appointed by the BAA's Extension Committee on Operations and Policy (ECOP) and Experiment State Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP) to provide "shared leadership and decision-making" in national level decisions with NIFA. Such collaboration should include program priorities and funding, and coordination among the Essential Elements of the new Pest Management Program.
- A National IPM Coordinator should be named within USDA (the REE Under Secretary's office) to provide department-wide leadership, coordination, and management for federally-funded pest management efforts.

**Consent Agenda Item:** C-3 ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Report

**Presenters:** Jeff Jacobsen and Mike Harrington

**Action Requested:** For information

The committee holds regular monthly conference calls that have generally been well attended. The current B&L Committee membership is shown below.

<p><b>Chair:</b> Jeff Jacobsen (WAAESD)</p> <p><b>Delegates:</b> William (Bill) Brown (SAAESD) Ron Allen (WAAESD) Ernie Minton (NCRA) Karen Plaut (NCRA) Orlando McMeans (ARD) Carolyn Brooks (ED-ARD) Bob Shulstad (SAAESD) Tim Phipps (NERA) Thomas Burr (NERA) Ron Allen (WAAESD) Bret Hess (WAAESD)</p> <p><b>Executive Vice-Chair</b> Mike Harrington (WAAESD)</p>	<p><b>Liaisons</b> Paula Geiger (NIFA) Caird Rexroad (ARS) Glen Hoffsis (APLU Vet Med) Eddie Gouge (APLU) Ian Maw (APLU) Dina Chacon-Reitzel (CARET) Cheryl Achterberg (APLU - BoHS)</p> <p>Jim Richards (Cornerstone) Hunt Shipman (Cornerstone) Vernie Hubert</p> <p>*Chair elect -TBD</p>
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The B&L Committee endorsed the Pest Management Working Group Recommendations. The final document was essentially identical to what was approved at the 2012 Joint COPS meeting. With consent of ESCOP Chair Mike Hoffman, the recommendations were forward to the BAA-Budget and Advocacy Committee for further action.

The B&L Committee held a face to face meeting earlier today during which approaches to priority setting were discussed. Details from this discussion will be presented.

**BAC Meeting Results:** The BAC met by conference call on Feb 12 to finalize the system's FY 2014 appropriations requests for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Unfortunately, the President's 2014 Budget had not been released prior to this discussion. President's 2014 Budget is expected 2<sup>nd</sup> week in March.

No action is being taken on FY 2013 Budget and Farm Bill until sequestration (\$89 B) occurs and numbers are known. It is unknown if sequestration will affect the Research Title, but "We need to minimize impact on programs we care about and NIFA top line".

**New discussion items:**

**SNAP-Ed:** The SNAP-Ed program which incurred a 28% cut in total funds in January (as a one-time cut) and after the fiscal year started. SNAP-Ed funding, which comes from the Food and Nutrition Service (not NIFA) , may exceed S-L funding in some states.

Concerns:

- Not all states manage the program in the same manner, e.g. extension, state departments of health, so there is a potential for mixed messages.
- Who is the lead?
- There is potential for confusion relative to existing NIFA budget lines, so clarity of discussion and any advocacy information should be very informative of this program.

Next steps:

- This will be a separate initiative since funding comes from a different budget line so as not to confound NIFA advocacy.
- All parties need to sing from the same page.
- Need to stress impacts on end users.
- Each region is putting together “impacts” of cuts
- Work with ASNNA (state groups) to create consistent message

**Crop Protection Working Group:** Approved WG paper and Summary and will forward to Policy Board of Directors with recommendation for approval.

Given the tight budget situation, the committee supported all current programs at the appropriated level or the President’s budget request whichever is higher. Need to make sure that we do not lose ground.

**2014 Budget:** No changes to priorities as stated in November and January: AFRI, capacity funds for Hatch, Evans-Allen –McIntire-Stennis, Smith-Lever, 1890 Extension and 1994 Research and Extension.

Other Critical Issues supported: 1890 Institutions Capacity Building Grants and Facilities Grants Programs, Insular Area Competitive Grants, Higher Education Competitive Grants, New Technologies for Ag Extension (eXtension), Renewable Resources Extension Act, Veterinary Medicine Loan Repayment Program and Animal Health and Disease Research.

Each of these priorities will be documented in a one-pager (two-sided) at [www.land-grant.org/documents.html](http://www.land-grant.org/documents.html)

**Agenda Item 21.0:** Resolutions

**Presenter:** Greg Wiecko

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

**WHEREAS** Dr. Craig Beyrouthy, Dean College of Agricultural Science at Colorado State University; Dr. Lee Sommers, Director of the CSU Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. Frank Johnson, Associate Director of the CSU Agricultural Experiment Station; Mr. Ryan Abbott, Manager of the CSU Agricultural Experiment Station; Dr. Lou Swanson, Director of CSU Cooperative Extension Service; Dr. Michel Harrington, Executive Director of Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAAESD); Ms. Sarah Lupis, WAASED Assistant Director; Dr. Bret Hess, WAASED Chair; Dr. Lyla Hoglum, Executive Director of Western Extension Directors Association (WEDA) were organizers and hosts for the Joint Spring Meeting of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors and Western Extension Directors Association at Colorado State University in Ft. Collins, CO from April 30 to May 3, 2012; and

**WHEREAS** Dr. Sommers and his colleagues and staff were outstanding hosts, providing hospitable and comfortable surroundings in which to meet and enjoy the return of beautiful Colorado winter weather; and

**WHEREAS** the Hilton Hotel in Ft. Collins, CO provided excellent service, accommodations and delicious meals; and

**WHEREAS** the aforementioned meeting organizers arranged an excellent program that allowed discussion of issues pertinent the Western Region in a cooperative and collegial atmosphere; and

**WHEREAS** Mr. James Ogsbury, Executive Director of the Western Governors Association, and Dr. Jim Pritchett, representing Colorado Water Institute, provided excellent information about important issues facing Western states and Colorado water management, respectively; and

**WHEREAS** Northern Colorado Water Conservation District provided an interesting and informative tour; and

**WHEREAS** Mr. David Jessup hosted an excellent dinner and gathering at the Sylvan Dale Ranch; be it

**RESOLVED** that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at its meeting in Ft. Collins, Colorado, from April 30 to May 3, 2013, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to all those who made significant contributions to a successful meeting; and be it further

**RESOLVED** that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

**Agenda Item J5.0: 2013-14 Budget Update**

**Presenter:** Hunt Shipman, Cornerstone Government Affairs (by phone)

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

The President's budget restores FY13 cuts to core capacity line back to FY12 levels. AFRI goes up to \$383M (from \$110M) in FY13.

House budget resolution likely makes significant cuts in overall discretionary program spending; takes us back to FY2000 levels.

FY14 Ag Subcommittee allocation is anticipated to be roughly equal to what it was in FY2000, a very significant and devastating reduction. Meat inspection and WIC are likely to remain untouched. The subcommittee markups start in the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of May. Ag will get marked up after Memorial Day.

The Senate is not as far along. No markup is scheduled yet.

Final sequestration cut for Extension and AES: No good numbers. The Senate has exempted meat inspectors. There was an error that has yet to be corrected. OMB is trying to interpret congressional language to find a solution. This may result in an additional cut of 2%. Total cuts will be around %7.68 with 2% in the first and second quarters and 5.68 over the third and fourth.

Another lingering issue: "SURE" program (farm disaster assistance). Congress doesn't want to ask for money back that has already been given out, and so needs to move money into that program.

The Farm Bill markup may happen next week in the Senate, May 15<sup>th</sup> in the House. Senate disagrees about the commodity title. Looking at probable reductions in the SNAP-ED program and other nutrition programs. The Committee on Legislation and Policy is working on these issues.

**Agenda Item J6.0: System Communications and Marketing Committee**

**Presenters:** Scott Reed and Ron Pardini

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background/Discussion:**

kglobal has been sending out an internal newsletter. Most people are receiving it. The Western Directors Office will coordinate a quarterly update of names/email address for the master list.

The Western Directors Office will gather a list of YouTube channels maintained by colleges of Agriculture/Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension programs in the western region for kglobal to use as they look for material to add to the AgIsAmerica YouTube channel.

kglobal monthly reports will continue to be distributed to directors via COO lists. These reports are strictly for internal viewing only.

There was some discussion about measures of success. There was general agreement that the effort should continue.

**Agenda Item J8.0: Multistate Review Committee (MRC) Report**

**Presenter:** Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

Project Number	Title	Action Requested
W_TEMP2009	Integrated Systems Research and Development in Automation and Sensors for Sustainability of Specialty Crops	Renewal – Approved with major revisions
W_TEMP2010	Integrated Approach to Enhance Efficiency of Feed Utilization in Beef Production Systems	Renewal – Approved
W_TEMP3002	Nutrient Bioavailability--Phytonutrients and Beyond	Renewal – Approved with major revision*
W_TEMP3003	A Social Marketing Campaign for Promoting Healthy Eating and Food Choices among Preadolescent Children	Renewal – Disapproved. Granted WDC status.
W_TEMP3168	Environmental and Genetic Determinants of Seed Quality and Performance	Renewal – Approved with major revisions or continue as a coordinating committee (each participant will need an individual Hatch project) or a development committee if there is insufficient time to address concerns.
W_TEMP3147	Managing Plant Microbe Interactions in Soil to Promote Sustainable Agriculture	Renewal – Approved
W_TEMP3186	Variability, Adaptation, and Management of Nematodes Impacting Crop Production and Trade	Renewal – Approved with major revision*
WCC_TEMP1008	Rangeland Education Across Institutional Borders	Renewal – Approved
WERA_TEMP001	Beef Cattle Breeding in the Western Region	Renewal – Approved
WERA_TEMP1010	Reduction of Error in Rural and Agricultural Surveys	Renewal – Approved
WERA_TEMP1012	Managing and Utilizing Precipitation Observations from Volunteer Networks	Renewal – Approved
WERA_TEMP1013	Intermountain Regional Evaluation and Introduction of Native Plants	Renewal – Approved
WERA_TEMP1014	Intensive Pasture Management for Sustainable Livestock Production in the Western US	Renewal – Approved
W_TEMP2009	Integrated Systems Research and Development in Automation and Sensors for Sustainability of Specialty Crops	Approved Qin Zhang, Director of the Center for Precision & Automated Agricultural Systems at WSU, and James Moyer, WSU AES Director, as co-AAs, replacing Ralph Cavalieri.
WERA1016	Adaptation, Quality and Management of Sustainable Cellulosic Biofuel Crops in the West	Approved James Moyer, WSU AES Director, as AA, replacing Ralph Cavalieri - approved
WERA020	Virus and Virus-Like Diseases of Fruit Trees, Small Fruits, and Grapevines	Approved James Moyer, WSU AES Director, as AA, replacing Mike Kahn - approve
WDC026	Western States Algae Bioproducts and Biotechnology Initiative (WeSABBI)	Approved James Moyer, WSU AES Director, as co-AA, replacing Ralph Cavalieri. Jan Auyong is co-AA on this project ( <i>she is likely to be replaced by John Talbott during summer phone call</i> ). –approve