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

Snow King Resort
Jackson, Wyoming
July 15-18, 2007

Summary of Actions

Table of Contents

Participants:

Alaska	Carol Lewis	New Mexico	LeRoy Daugherty
American Samoa	Dan Aga	Oregon	Jan Auyong
Arizona	C. Colin Kaltenbach	Utah	Donald Snyder
California	Donald Cooksey	Washington	Ralph Cavalieri
Colorado	Lee Sommers		Vicki McCracken
Guam	Greg Wiecko	Wyoming	Steven Miller
Hawaii	C. Y. Hu		Bret Hess
Idaho	Greg Bohach	OTHERS:	
Micronesia	Singeru Singeo	ARS	Robert Matteri
Montana	Jon Wraith		Michael McGuire
Nevada	Ron Pardini	W. Exec. Dir.	H. Michael Harrington
		OWDA	Harriet Sykes

2007 Western Region Joint Summer Meetings
WAAESD Agenda
Snow King Resort
Jackson, WY
July 15-18, 2007

Sunday, July 15

8:00 am to 4:00 pm **RCIC Meeting**

12:00 noon to 5:00 pm Registration Snow King Lobby

4:00 pm to 5:30 pm **WAAESD Executive Committee**

6:00 pm Load buses to Dornan's Restaurant for reception

9:00 pm to10:00 pm Buses return to Snow King Resort

Monday, July 16, 2007

6:00 am to 8:00 am **Breakfast (Grand Teton Room)**

8:00 am Welcome and Introductions — Frank Galey, Dean, College of Agriculture, University of Wyoming

8:10 am Key Issues: Ag & Natural Resources Keynote

8:40 am		Wildlife Issues	
9:40 am		**Break**	
10:00 am		Energy and Natural Resources in Wyoming	
12:10 am		Wrap-up and assignments for afternoon	
12:15 pm to 1:30 pm		**Lunch** Keynote Speaker (Grand Teton Room)	
1:45 pm to 5:00 pm		**WAAESD Meeting - Summit 2**	
1:45	1.0	Call to Order and Welcome	CY Hu
1:50	2.0	Approve Agenda and Minutes of March 2007 Meeting (http://www.colostate.edu/Orgs/WAAESD/WAAESD/SP07WAAESDMin.pdf)	CY Hu
1:55	3.0	Chair's Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report	CY Hu
2:00	4.0	Treasurer's Report	H. Michael Harrington
2:10	5.0	CSREES Update	Dan Kugler
2:20	6.0	ARS Report	Robert Matteri
2:30	7.0	ESCOP Report	Ron Pardini
2:40	8.0	ESCOP Marketing & Communications Committee	Ron Pardini
2:50	9.0	ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee	LeRoy Daugherty
3:00	**Break**		
3:15	10.0	Federal Legislation Update	Tim Sanders
3:30	11.0	NRSP Review Committee Recommendations	Lee Sommers
3:40	12.0	Plant Germplasm Task Force Report	Lee Sommers
3:50	13.0	Executive Director's Report, Changes to Bylaws	H. Michael Harrington
4:05	14.0	Draft Informational Survey	Don Snyder, Ron Pardini, H. Michael Harrington
4:15	15.0	Appointments and Election of Officers	CY Hu
4:30	16.0	Other Business/Discussion of items on the Consent Agenda (Written Agenda Briefs only)	CY Hu /All
	16.1	State Reports	All
	16.2	ESCOP Science & Technology Committee	Greg Bohach

		16.3	Create 21, Farm Bill Committee	H. Michael Harrington
		16.4	BAA Policy Board	H. Michael Harrington
		16.5	EERE/NASULGC Partnership	H. Michael Harrington
		16.6	RCIC Report	John Foltz
		16.7	SARE Report	V. Phil Rasmussen
4:45	17.0	Future Meetings		
		17.1	2007 Fall EES Meeting	Ron Pardini
		17.2	2008 Spring Meeting	TBD
		17.3	2008 Joint Summer Meeting	Carol Lewis
4:55	18.0	Resolutions		Jan Auyong/Lee Sommers
5:00		Adjourn		

Evening dinner on own in Jackson

Tuesday, July 17, 2007

6:00 am	**Breakfast (Grand Teton Room)**
8:00 am	Leave Jackson by bus for all day tour
9:00 pm	Arrive back at Snow King Resort

Wednesday, July 18, 2007

7:00 to 8:15 am Breakfast – Western Extension Awards

9:00 to 10:00 am Joint WAAESD – WEDA – WAPD Meeting

9:00 am	Welcome	Association Chairs
9:05 am	North Central Bioeconomy Consortium	Arlen Leholm, Executive Director NCRA
9:30 am	Joint Working Session	All
10:00 am	Adjourn	
	Consent Agenda: (Written Reports only)	
	Academic Programs Report	Charles Kinoshita
	RCIC Report	John Foltz
	WAAESD Update	CY Hu
	WED Update	Linda Fox
10:00 am to 10:20 am	**Break**	

10:20 am	**Plenary Session Western Opportunities in Renewable Energy** **W-AHS, W-APD, WAAESD, W-EDA, CARET**	Frank Galey, Presiding
10:25 am	REE Energy Science Program	Jim Fischer, Special Consultant to Gale Buchanan, Under Secretary for REE, USDA
10:50 am	Western SunGrant Update	Jan Auyong
11:05 am	Overview of Western Renewable Energy Activities	H. Michael Harrington
11:20 am to 12:00 noon	**Closing Session**	
	• Association Summaries and Issues	
	• Invitation from 2008 Host	Carol Lewis
	• Closing Remarks	Frank Galey

Agenda Item 1.0: Call to Order and Welcome
Presenter: CY Hu
Background:

Hu called the meeting to order and welcomed the attendees to the meeting.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 2.0: Approve Agenda and Minutes of March 2007 Meeting
Presenter: CY Hu
Background:

The motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda for the 2007 Summer Meeting and the minutes of the March 19-22, 2007 meeting.

Action Requested: Approval of agenda and minutes of the March 19-22, 2007 meeting.
Action Taken: Approved the agenda for the 2007 Summer Meeting and the minutes of the March 19-22, 2007 meeting.

Agenda Item 3.0: Chair's Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report
Presenter: CY Hu
Background:

Hu reported that the Executive Committee had met July 15 and discussed items that will be reported later in the agenda. There were no interim actions taken.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 4.0: Treasurer's Report
Presenter: H. Michael Harrington
Background:

WESTERN DIRECTOR EXPERIMENT STATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2008

06-Jul-07

A S S E S S M E N T S	**FY07 Assessments**	**Outstanding FY06/FY07**	**Payment Received**	**Balance Due**
Am Samoa	600.00	1,200.00		1,800.00
Micronesia	600.00			600.00
Northern Marianas	600.00			600.00
Alaska	9,664.65			9,664.65
Arizona	16,802.54			16,802.54
California	25,771.68			25,771.68
Colorado	19,990.87			19,990.87
CSU Rent	(7,800.00)			-7,800.00
Guam	9,425.32			9,425.32
Hawaii	12,463.61			12,463.61
Idaho	14,940.04			14,940.04
Montana	15,772.43			15,772.43
Nevada	12,255.53			12,255.53
New Mexico	12,682.13			12,682.13
Oregon	19,008.43			19,008.43
Utah	16,567.25			16,567.25
Washington	24,449.25			24,449.25
Wyoming	14,201.27			14,201.27
Assessment Total	$217,995.00	$1,200.00		219,195.00

I N C O M E /E X P E N S E

Date	**Transaction**	**Income**	**Expense**		**Balance**
07/01/07	Balance forward				$7,518.21
YTD	Assessments Receive				7,518.21
	July Interest				7,518.21
	August Interest				7,518.21
	September Interest				7,518.21
	October Interest				7,518.21
	November Interest				7,518.21
	December Interest				7,518.21
	January Interest				7,518.21
	February Interest				7,518.21
	March Interest				7,518.21
	April Interest				7,518.21
	May Interest				7,518.21
	June Interest				7,518.21
	MT Accounting Fee		3,500.00		4,018.21
	CSU First Qtr				4,018.21
	CSU Second Qtr				4,018.21
	CSU Third Qtr				4,018.21
	CSU Fourth Qtr				4,018.21
	TOTAL		3,500.00		**4,018.21**

WESTERN DIRECTOR EXPERIMENT STATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2007

30-Jun-07

A S S E S S M E N T S	**FY07 Assessments**	**Outstanding FY06**	**Payment Received**	**Balance Due**
Am Samoa	**600.00**	**600.00**		**1,200.00**
Micronesia	600.00		600.00	0.00
Northern Marianas	600.00	600.00	1,200.00	0.00
Alaska	8,955.96		8,955.96	0.00
Arizona	15,570.45		15,570.45	0.00
California	23,881.91		23,881.91	0.00
Colorado	18,524.99		18,524.99	0.00
CSU Rent	(7,800.00)		(7,800.00)	0.00
Guam	8,734.19		8,734.19	0.00
Hawaii	11,549.69		11,549.69	0.00
Idaho	13,844.53		13,844.53	0.00
Montana	14,615.88		14,615.88	0.00
Nevada	11,356.86		11,356.86	0.00
New Mexico	11,752.18		11,752.18	0.00
Oregon	17,614.59		17,614.59	0.00
Utah	15,352.41		15,352.41	0.00
Washington	22,656.45		22,656.45	0.00
Wyoming	13,159.92		13,159.92	0.00
Assessment Total	$201,570.00		**$201,570.01**	1,200.00

I N C O M E /E X P E N S E

Date	**Transaction**	**Income**	**Expense**		**Balance**
07/01/06	Balance forward				$7,079.94
YTD	Assessments Receive	201,570.01			208,649.95
	July Interest	313.65			208,963.60
	August Interest	320.10			209,283.70
	September Interest	310.77			209,594.47
	October Interest	321.03			209,915.50
	November Interest	310.82			210,226.32
	December Interest	321.46			210,547.78
	January Interest	374.83			210,922.61
	February Interest	367.82			211,290.43
	March Interest	404.33			211,694.76
	April Interest	391.54			212,086.30
	May Interest	501.91			212,588.21
	June Interest				212,588.21
07/01/06	MT Accounting Fee		3,500.00		209,088.21
10/01/06	CSU First Qtr		50,392.50		158,695.71
10/01/06	CSU Second Qtr		50,392.50		108,303.21
06/01/07	CSU Third Qtr		50,392.50		57,910.71
06/01/07	CSU Fourth Qtr		50,392.50		7,518.21
	TOTAL	205,508.27	205,070.00		**7,518.21**

WESTERN DIRECTOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2008

6-Jul-07

A S S E S S M E N T S	**FY07 Assessments**	**Outstanding FY06/FY07**	**Payment Received**	**Balance Due**
Alaska	1,181.93			$1,181.93
American Samoa	200.00	**$400.00**		$600.00
Arizona	1,181.93			$1,181.93
California	1,181.93	**1,120.21**		$2,302.14
Colorado	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Guam	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Hawaii	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Idaho	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Micronesia	200.00			$200.00
Montana	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Northern Marianas	200.00			$200.00
Nevada	1,181.93			$1,181.93
New Mexico	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Oregon	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Utah	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Washington	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Wyoming	1,181.93			$1,181.93
Assessment Total	$17,147.00	$1,520.21	$0.00	$18,667.21

I N C O M E /E X P E N S E

Date	**Transaction**	**Income**	**Expense**		**Balance**
07/01/07	Balance forward				$1,029.07
YTD	Assessments Received	0.00			1,029.07
	July Interest				1,029.07
	August Interest				1,029.07
	September Interest				1,029.07
	October Interest				1,029.07
	November Interest				1,029.07
	December Interest				1,029.07
	January Interest				1,029.07
	February Interest				1,029.07
	March Interest				1,029.07
	April Interest				1,029.07
	May Interest				1,029.07
	June Interest				1,029.07
	CSU First Qtr				1,029.07
	CSU Second Qtr				1,029.07
	CSU Third Qtr				1,029.07
	CSU Fourth Qtr				1,029.07
TOTAL		$0.00	$0.00		1,029.07

WESTERN DIRECTOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2007

30-Jun-07

A S S E S S M E N T S	FY07 Assessments	Outstanding FY06	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
American Samoa	200.00	**$200.00**		**$400.00**
Arizona	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
California	1,120.21			**$1,120.21**
Colorado	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Guam	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Hawaii	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Idaho	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Micronesia	200.00		200.00	$0.00
Montana	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Northern Marianas	200.00	200.00	400.00	$0.00
Nevada	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
New Mexico	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Oregon	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Utah	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Washington	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Wyoming	1,120.21		1,120.21	$0.00
Assessment Total	$16,283.00	$400.00	$15,162.73	$1,520.27

I N C O M E /E X P E N S E

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense		Balance
07/01/06	Balance forward				$1,895.75
YTD	Assessments Received	15,162.73			17,058.48
	July Interest	16.76			17,075.24
	August Interest	17.11			17,092.35
	September Interest	16.61			17,108.96
	October Interest	17.61			17,126.57
	November Interest	16.61			17,143.18
	December Interest	21.91			17,165.09
	January Interest	28.79			17,193.88
	February Interest	27.72			17,221.60
	March Interest	30.47			17,252.07
	April Interest	29.51			17,281.58
	May Interest	30.49			17,312.07
	June Interest				17,312.07
9/15/2006	CSU First Qtr		4,070.75		13,241.32
9/15/2006	CSU Second Qtr		4,070.75		9,170.57
6/1/2007	CSU Third Qtr		4,070.75		5,099.82
6/1/2007	CSU Fourth Qtr		4,070.75		1,029.07
TOTAL		$15,416.32	$16,283.00		1,029.07

Agenda Item 5.0: CSREES Report
Presenter: Dan Kugler
Background:

Kugler reported that CSREES had been required to shift funds following the continuing resolution. RFA's have been developed for projects, such as IR-4, etc. CSREES was given $145 million to cover the elimination of Special Grants.

Construction is allowed using the additional Hatch funds.

One Solution is getting close to being rolled out and is being pilot tested.

Because of funding considerations, NPL Liaison program travel is restricted and reviews are limited.

Mary McPhail Gray is the new liaison for the Western Region.

CSREES may have some new emphasis items in the new Farm Bill.

Contact people are: Ralph Otto - Energy contact; Tom Bewick - Specialty crops.

The following page provides information on the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Enterprise, supported by CSREES.

Action Requested: For information

Science and Education for Working Lands [1] and Ecosystems

The goal of the Environment and Natural Resources (ENR) Enterprise is to support research, education, and extension programs that optimize the production of agricultural goods and services while protecting the environment.

Agricultural working lands are highly connected human-natural systems. Due to complex relationships and feedback among people, ecosystems, and the physical environment, human well-being is inextricably linked to the optimal use and management of the agroecosystems that make up working lands. Relative to space, composition, and functionality, the agricultural, natural, and human components are so highly interdependent that the system of systems has to be studied and managed as an integrated whole. As a result, ecology, socioeconomics, and culture cannot be separated from agricultural production, farming communities, and environmental health. Viewing working lands as part of an ecological system and a human-dominated, socioeconomic production system yields a broad range of performance criteria, including ecological goods and services, sustainability, resource conservation, food security, economic viability, social equity, and quality of life. Fundamental questions in coupled human-natural systems consider feedback, human design and engineering of ecological processes and whole ecosystems, emergent behavior, and the dynamics of interacting agricultural, natural and socioeconomic systems.

Working lands face many opportunities and challenges in the 21st century. Current demographic and economic forces are changing how working lands are managed. In a world that is more populated, urbanized, and highly interconnected, a more integrated understanding of the complex interactions among human societies, ecosystems of working lands, and natural areas is needed. Improved knowledge of how behavior, decisions, and choices affect natural resources at the local, regional, national and global scale can identify vulnerabilities and options that enhance agricultural sustainability and provide a basis for the necessary structures (legislation, administration, financing) for change. Efforts to seize these opportunities and surmount the challenges of the "new rural economy" will require new partnerships among a wide range of institutions and stakeholders. Building partnerships both within and outside the land grant system and becoming more engaged with national and international communities, government agencies, and society at large are critical to addressing the complex issues involved with managing working lands.

Our educational system must develop a diverse workforce with the transdisciplinary knowledge, skills, and values required to solve complex problems in agroecosystems. Fresh and innovative approaches to education are needed to engage individuals equipping learners with skills to work on complex, interdisciplinary and cross-cultural teams. Public education and extension programs are needed to inform and educate a new generation of decision makers, landowners, and engaged citizens. The ENR goal (see above) involves transforming the ways that working lands are managed. Successful land stewardship, especially under climate change and changing land use scenarios such as biofuel production and urbanization, requires an understanding of the complex interrelationships among physical, ecological, and social drivers. The ENR strategy in achieving this goal is to use our understanding of coupled human-natural systems to enable people to be better informed in their personal and professional endeavors about working lands and ecosystems.

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[1] Working lands are defined as lands used to produce agricultural goods and services.

Agenda Item 6.0: ARS REPORT
Presenter: Robert Matteri
Background:

- Pacific West Area
  - Directors - Dwayne Buxton, Andy Hammond, Bob Matteri
  - Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington

- Northern Plains Area
  - Directors - Will Blackburn, Larry Chandler, Mickey McGuire
  - Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

- Southern Plains Area
  - Directors – Dan Upchurch, James Coppedge
  - Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, (Panama)

FACILITIES

1. Albany, CA - WRRC - Research and Development Facility Modernization. Need money to complete.

2. Davis, CA - Center for Advanced Viticulture and Tree Crop Research - In early stages of planning.

3. Hagerman (Billingsley, Creek), ID - National Trout Production and Evaluation Facility. Planning and Design and some construction money appropriated.

4. Hilo, HI - U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center – Dedication of phase 1, May 2007. Phase 2 construction funding needed.

5. Pullman, WA - ARS Research Laboratory - Final Program of Requirements completed. Some construction money appropriated.

6. Salinas, CA - Agricultural Research Center - Design completed. Need rest of construction money.

7. Bozeman, MT - Animal Bioscience Research facility. Program of Requirements completed. Design initiated. Construction funding needed.

8. Miles City, MT - Fort Keogh Modernization. Planning and Design and some construction money appropriated.

9. Sidney, MT - Biological Control and Soil Conservation Research Laboratory. Design build contract for a BL-2 Quarantine Laboratory has been awarded.

10. Logan, UT – ARS Agricultural Research Center. Facility needs study completed.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE

FY 2008 PRESIDENT'S BUDGET

FY 2006 Appropriations ……. $1,128,943,000

FY 2007 Appropriations …….
(Joint Budget Resolution at FY 2006 level. No construction funding. No earmarks.)

FY 2008 President's Budget …… $1,021,517,000
Difference from FY2007 ……...……... -$107,426,000

Pay Costs ……...……..... +$19,987,000
Research Initiatives ……...……..... +$84,546,000
Proposed Program Reductions ……...……...…..……..... -$211,950,000

FY08 Appropriations Information - http://thomas.loc.gov/home/approp/app08.html

WESTERN ARS LOCATIONS

ALASKA

Fairbanks
Subarctic Agricultural Research Unit, Dr. Alberto Pantoja, RL

Palmer
Arctic Germplasm Preservation (Worksite of Fairbanks Research Unit), Dr. Alberto Pantoja, RL

ARIZONA

Maricopa
U.S. Arid Land Agricultural Research Center, VACANT, Center Director (Dr. Bert Clemmens, Acting CD)

- Pest Management and Biocontrol Research Unit, Dr. Steve Naranjo, Acting RL
- Plant Physiology and Genetics Research Unit, Dr. Mike Salvucci, Acting RL
- Water Management and Conservation Research Unit, Dr. Bert Clemmens, RL

Tucson

- Carl Hayden Bee Research Center, Dr. Gloria DiGrandi-Hoffman, RL
- Southwest Watershed Research Center, Dr. Mark Nearing, RL

CALIFORNIA

Albany
Western Regional Research Center, Dr. James Seiber, Center Director

- Genomics and Gene Discovery Research Unit, Dr. Olin Anderson, RL
- Crop Improvement and Utilization Research Unit; Dr. Maureen Whalen, RL
- Processed Foods Research Unit; Dr. Tara McHugh, RL
- Bioproduct Chemistry and Engineering Research Unit, Dr. William Orts, RL
- Produce Safety and Microbiology Research Unit, Dr. Robert Mandrell, RL
- Foodborne Contaminants Research Unit, Dr. Mark Carter, RL
- Plant Mycotoxins Research Unit, Dr. Bruce Campbell, RL
- Exotic and Invasive Weeds Research Unit, Dr. Raymond Carruthers, RL

Plant Gene Expression Center, Dr. Sarah Hake, Center Director

Davis
Crops Pathology/Genetics Research Unit, Dr. Dan Kluepfel, RL
National Clonal Germplasm Repository for Tree Fruit/Nut Crops and Grapes, Dr. Ed Stover, RL
Western Human Nutrition Research Center, Dr. Lindsay Allen, Center Director

- Obesity and Metabolism Research Unit, VACANT RL
- Immunity and Disease Prevention Research Unit, VACANT RL

Exotic & Invasive Weeds Research (Worksite of Albany EIW Research Unit), Dr. Raymond Carruthers, RL

Parlier

San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Sciences Center, Dr. Ed Civerolo, Center Director

- Water Management Research Unit, Dr. Dong Wang, RL
- Crop Diseases, Pests and Genetics Research Unit, Dr. Drake Stenger, RL
- Commodity Protection and Quality Research Unit, Dr. James Leesch, RL

Arid Land Plant Genetic Resources (Worksite of WRPIS, Pullman),
VACANT RL

Riverside

George E. Brown Jr. Salinity Laboratory, Dr. Donald Suarez, Lab Director

- Water Re-use and Remediation Research Unit, Dr. Donald Suarez, RL
- Contaminant Fate and Transport Research Unit, Dr. Scott Yates, RL

National Clonal Germplasm Repository for Citrus and Dates, Dr. Richard Lee,
RL

Salinas

Crop Improvement and Protection Research Unit, Dr. James McCreight, RL

Shafter

Western Integrated and Cropping Systems Research Unit, Dr. Dale Spurgeon, RL

COLORADO

Akron

Central Great Plains Research Station, Dr. Merle Vigil, RL

Fort Collins

Rangeland Resources Research Unit, Dr. Jack Morgan, RL
Sugarbeet Research Unit, Dr. Lee Panella, RL
National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation Center, VACANT, Center Director (Dr. Dave Ellis, Acting CD)
- National Animal Germplasm Program, Dr. Harvey Blackburn, Curator
- Plant Germplasm Preservation Research Unit, Dr. Christine Walters, Acting RL
- Plant Genetic Resources Preservation Program, Dr. Dave Ellis, Curator

Agricultural Systems Research Unit, Dr. Lajpat Ahuja, RL
Soil Plant Nutrient Research Unit, Dr. Ron Follett, RL
Water Management Research Unit, Dr. Tom Trout, RL

HAWAII

Hilo

U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center, Dr. Dennis Gonsalves, Center Director

- Tropical Plant Genetics Resource Management Research Unit, Dr. Frances Zee, RL
- Tropical Plant Physiology, Disease, and Production Research Unit, Dr. Paul Moore, RL
- Tropical Plant Pests Research Unit, Dr. Eric Jang, RL
- Postharvest Tropical Commodities Research Unit, Dr. Jack Armstrong, RL

IDAHO

Aberdeen

Small Grains and Potato Germplasm Research Center, Dr. J. Michael Bonman, RL

Boise

Northwest Watershed Research Center, Dr. Fred Pierson, RL

Dubois

U.S. Sheep Experiment Station, Dr. Greg Lewis, RL

Hagerman

National Trout Production and Evaluation Facility (Worksite of Small Grains and Potato Research Center), Dr. Michael Bonman, RL

Kimberly

Northwest Irrigation, Soils, Research Laboratory, Dr. Robert Sojka, RL

Parma

Viticulture Research (Worksite of Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Corvallis), Dr. Robert Martin, RL

MONTANA

Miles City

Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Unit, Dr. Elaine Grings, Acting RL (recruit for permanent RL in process)

Sidney
Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory

- Agricultural Systems Research Unit, Dr. Robert Evans, RL
- Pest Management Research Unit, Dr. Stefan Jaronski, Acting RL (recruit for permanent RL in process)

NEVADA

Reno
Exotic and Invasive Weeds Research Unit (Worksite of Albany IEWRU), Dr. Raymond Carruthers, RL

NEW MEXICO

Las Cruces
Cotton Ginning Research Unit, Mr. Sidney Hughs, RL
Range Management Research Unit, Dr. Kris Havstad, RL

OREGON

Burns
Eastern Oregon Agricultural Research Center, Dr. Tony Svejcar, RL

Corvallis
Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Dr. Robert Martin, RL
Forage Seed And Cereal Research Unit, Dr. Gary Banowetz, RL
National Clonal Germplasm Repository Research Unit, Dr. Kim Hummer, RL

Newport
Pacific Shellfish Aquaculture (Worksite of Forage Seed and Cereal Research Unit, Corvallis), Dr. Gary Banowetz, RL

Pendleton
Columbia Plateau Conservation Research Center, Dr. Daniel Long, RL

UTAH

Logan
Forage and Range Research Unit, Dr. Tom Jones, Acting RL (Dr. Jack Staub named RL with report date of Nov. 2007)
Poisonous Plant Research Unit, Dr. Lynn James, RL
Pollinating Insect-Biology, Management Systematics Research Unit, Dr. James Rosalind, RL

WASHINGTON

Prosser
Vegetable and Forage Crop Research Unit, Dr. Ashok Alva, RL
Viticulture Research (Worksite of Horticultural Crops Research Unit, Corvallis), Robert Martin, RL

Temperate Forage Legume Genetic Resources (Worksite of WRPIS, Pullman), VACANT RL (Dr. Daniel Skinner, Acting RL)

Pullman
Western Regional Plant Introduction Station, Dr. Daniel Skinner, Acting RL
Wheat Genetics, Quality, Physiology and Disease Research Unit, Dr. Daniel Skinner, RL
- Western Wheat Quality Lab, Dr. Craig Morris, Lab Director

Animal Disease Research Unit, Dr. Don Knowles, RL
Land Management, Water Conservation Research Unit, Dr. Donald McCool, RL
Root Disease and Biological Control Research Unit, Dr. David Weller, RL
Grain Legume Genetics Physiology Research Unit, Dr. George Vandemark (Effective August 5, 2007), RL

Wenatchee
Tree Fruit Research Laboratory, Dr. James Mattheis, RL

Wapato

Yakima Agricultural Research Laboratory, Dr. Peter Landolt, RL

WYOMING

Laramie
Arthropod Borne Animal Disease Research Unit, Dr. Dick Mayer, RL

Cheyenne
(see Ft. Collins Rangeland Resources Research Unit)

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 7.0: ESCOP Report
Presenter: Ron Pardini
Background:

Leadership
ESCOP is currently chaired by Dr Ron Pardini, University of Nevada. Bruce McPheron (Penn State) is the chair elect and assumes office in September.

Interim Actions:

Memoranda
- April 20: Memo to ESCOP Executive Committee to approve NRSP-7 assessment process
- April 24: Memo to Peter Bretting re ITPGRFA input
- May 16: Memo to SAES Directors re results of special assessment vote to support NRSP-7

Other Communications
- Contacted Alton Thompson about the Science on the Hill Exhibit, received draft evaluation instrument which was forwarded to the Communications and Marketing Committee for review.
- Forwarded the RFA for hiring a marketing firm to develop a marketing plan for ESCOP to Ian Maw for distribution to the AHS and to Nancy Cox for the ESCOP report at the BAA Policy Board meeting.

Communications and Marketing Committee
The Communications and Marketing Committee has prepared a set of FAQs for the Administrative Heads Section with regard to the proposed marketing plan for experiment station activities. ESCOP plans to issue an RFA for the development of a marketing plan targeting approximately 30 key legislators.

Science and Technology Committee
Recent accomplishments of the committee include updating the Science Roadmap and setting the NRI priority process. The committee is currently: (1) investigating NRI integrated awards; (2) reviewing its original charge; and (3) determining it role in a proposed ESCOP strategic planning activity.

Budget and Legislative Committee
The B&L committee will be initiating a priority setting process for FY 2010 prior to the fall ESS meeting. This process will look broadly at what research priorities should be included in the NASLUGC budget and advocacy process.

Multistate Awards
A draft program has been developed that would present awards to the outstanding multistate project in each of the four regions. A single national award would be given to recognize the outstanding multistate project. The regional awards would be presented at the regional meetings while the nation

award would be presented at the NASULGC Annual Meeting. The proposed program will be discussed at the regional associations' summer meetings for further modification and possible endorsement.

Meetings:

- **ESCOP Meeting :** Joint COPs, Philadelphia July 25-26

- **Experiment Station Section Annual Meeting:** The ESS meeting will be held in Philadelphia, September 16-19, 2007. Registration and hotel information will be forthcoming.

Action Requested: For Information

Agenda Item 8.0: Communications and Marketing Committee Report
Presenter: Ron Pardini
Background:

Marketing the SAES

Despite the vital work and exciting discoveries at the State Agricultural Experiment Stations (SAES), we believe there is insufficient visibility for sustenance of our programs, let alone the growth which the nation needs. We seem to suffer not just from a shortage of fiscal resources but also from a lack of a recognized identity. Too few in Washington D.C. and elsewhere know of us, our mission, and the substance of our research efforts. To remedy this situation, the ESCOP, Communication and Marketing, Committee recommends a marketing (educational) campaign aimed at key federal officials who make the funding decisions upon which our collective destinies depend.

How do we build upon existing efforts to get better recognition of SAES and turn that into strategic support for our programs? The ESCOP, Communication and Marketing, Committee believes that earlier and repeated use of the media to educate and attract major sponsors for our programs is the best way to go forward. We have to build support in home districts and states of our congressional champions and convert that locally-based support into explanations of and publicity for the national SAES system.

Challenge

Over the past fifteen years (F.Y. 1992 to F.Y. 2006), Hatch program funds have been steadily eroded by inflation. As measured in constant 2000 (inflation adjusted) dollars, Hatch funding was $192 million in F.Y. 1992 and $153 million in F.Y. 2006. During this same time period (and again measured in constant 2000 dollars), appropriations for the National Institutes of Health (NIH) increased from $8.6 billion in F.Y. 1992 to $24.0 billion in F.Y. 2006 and funding for the National Science Foundation (NSF) increased from $2.2 billion in F.Y. 1992 to $3.6 billion in F.Y. 2006.

Why have NIH and NSF thrived while funding for the SAES system has withered?

- NIH and NSF have a strong cadre of congressional supporters who understand the agencies' missions, support their goals, and champion their causes.

CSREES and the SAES institutions do not have legislative champions who are ready, willing, and/or able to provide the sustained leadership necessary for significant SAES funding growth.

Recommended Solution

The land-grant system (including the Experiment Station Section) has a strong and effective lobbying effort in place. We believe that this existing effort needs to be complemented by a narrowly-focused education campaign aimed at no more than 20-30 members of the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives. We need these members to understand:

- What we do in their state or district.
- What we do for the nation and the greater global community.
- How federal SAES funds leverage state, local, and private funds.
- Why increased SAES funding – both through the formulas and competitive methods – is so important.

The ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee recommends that the Experiment Station Section retain a nationally recognized marketing firm to help us establish a brand identity and educate federal decision-makers.

Why do State Agricultural Experiment Stations (SAES) need a marketing strategy?

- The SAESs lack identity, are difficult to describe, and have not achieved the financial and political support levels necessary to take full advantage of their problem-solving and economic development capacity. The SAESs, a $2 billion per year enterprise, do virtually no marketing at present.
- The land-grant system's current lobbying approach has worked well, but is not designed to educate key federal decision-makers at a level more than needed to support the lobby effort.

What will the SAESs achieve with a marketing effort?

- It will link state and local-based research impacts to dynamic, integrated and competitive food, agriculture, human systems, forestry, and environment research institutions.
- Also, a successful marketing effort will allow for a more educated base to support increased, sustainable funding (which must include both competitive and formula/capacity-building resources).

Who is the key audience for the SAES marketing strategy and where should the SAESs first focus resources to obtain the most impact?

- In the next few years, ESCOP should focus the primary marketing message on key members of the House and Senate and House Agriculture and Appropriations Committees and their relevant subcommittees. The SAESs might also focus on leaders in OMB, OSTP, and USDA.
- By initially focusing on key Members of Congress (in their local districts) we would limit the targets and link a national marketing campaign by utilizing experiment station communication expertise already in place to provide access to the local media and other outlets. This would be the most strategic and cost effective approach to marketing the SAESs.

Should a SAES marketing strategy include teaching and extension functions?

- A skilled marketing firm will help the SAESs determine how best to craft marketing messages for maximum impact. Clearly, teaching and extension functions need marketing assistance too; an integrated approach would better represent the system's breath and depth.
- The advantage for marketing the SAESs includes its ability to develop multistate research teams and rapid responses to national issues.
- No matter the mission involved, a successful marketing effort must remain focused, simple, economical, and directed at those individuals who affect system budgets.

Doesn't our advocacy firm already perform the marketing function as part of its lobbying contract with the SAESs through NASULGC?

- No the existing advocacy firm, hired to lobby Congress on behalf of the Colleges of Agriculture, Extension, the SAESs, etc. does not have the marketing function in its contract. However, the marketing strategy must coordinate closely with the lobbying effort – a strong marketing effort would complement and strengthen the system's effectiveness.

What attributes and experiences must a marketing firm possess if selected to develop and implement a SAES marketing strategy? Where would the firm deliver the messages?

- The firm must have demonstrated congressional marketing success and it must understand how to influence our key target audience.

- The firm must be able to deliver marketing messages to the key members in their home districts and to the most important media markets that influence those members but be able to tie local outcomes to a national SAES system.

How do you hold a marketing firm accountable for performance?

- ESCOP would identify and carefully monitor outcome measures and objectives stated in the marketing firm's contract for progress toward the strategy's objectives and goals.
- ESCOP will develop a marketing outcome report and present it to the system annually. Additionally, ESCOP will conduct a comprehensive review after three years.

Who will hold the marketing firm to its milestones and outcomes as stated in the contract?

- ESCOP charged the Communication and Marketing Committee with developing a strategic marketing plan and thus accepts this responsibility.

How will SAES marketing efforts complement other attempts to gain new resources?

- It will enhance our chances for success with efforts such as CREATE-21 and NIFA.
- It will enhance and be coordinated with the existing lobbying effort.
- It will cooperate with other parts of the NASULGC system where appropriate.

How will ESCOP fund this marketing effort?

- ESCOP initially provided the Communication and Marketing Committee $10,000 to develop a marketing firm proposal.
- ESCOP must fund and implement successful marketing efforts over the long run.
- ESCOP needs some off-the-top funding to sustain at least the initial phases of this marketing effort.
- ESCOP and its member institutions could strategically redirect funds currently spent on fragmented efforts whose impacts are, at best, unknown to fund and sustain much of the proposed marketing effort.
- At some point, ESCOP could ask SAES stakeholders to contribute to the effort's funding.
- A coordinated marketing effort from ECOP and ACOP may also benefit the strategy.

When should the marketing effort begin?

Ideally, in order to influence the next annual budget/appropriations cycle, the effort should begin no later than October 1, 2007. A marketing firm should be selected as soon as possible.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 9.0: Budget and Legislative Committee Report
Presenter: LeRoy Daugherty
Background:

The ESS federal budget priorities for FY 2010 will be developed and discussed at the ESS annual meeting this September. The ESS FY09 priorities to this point are as follows.

1) Maintain capacity for research through base funds (Hatch, Evans-Allen, McIntire-Stennis, Animal Disease).

2) Increase the National Research Initiative (NRI) with special emphasis on integrated program areas.

ESS FY 09 Subject Matter Priorities for Federal Funding (all agencies)

Broad Category	Rank	Issue
Biobased Economy	1	Bioconversion and biofuels Feedstocks Development and utilization of bioproducts Economics and policy Land-Use Issues and policy Water quality and quantity Energy security
Food, Nutrition and Health	2	Food Safety Obesity/Consumer Behavior Innovative plant and animal technologies and systems Functional Foods/Nutraceuticals
Environment	3	Water quality and quantity Invasive species Rural communities and land use issues Global climate change Sustainable agriculture systems Agricultural mechanization
Food and Agro Security	4	Rapid Detection of Threat Agents Risk Assessment Facility and Personnel Security

Biobased Economy: Increase our knowledge of bioconversion of plant and animal feedstocks to bioenergy and bioproducts including plant and microbial genomics, bioprocessing systems, and biomass production.. Enhance understanding of the long term sustainability of bioconversion systems including economics, land use policies, water availability, and energy security.

Food, Nutrition and Health: Develop the knowledge base on the etiology of food safety. Develop an understanding of the role of diet and consumer behavior on human health including obesity. Develop innovative plant and animal production technologies and systems. Enhance the ability to identify foods with physiological activity and apply new, innovative technology to improve food systems.

Environment: Provide a framework for understanding and addressing issues of water quality and quantity and invasive species. Develop a better understanding of rural community vitality including land use. Contribute to issues of global climate change. Develop sustainable agriculture systems including agricultural mechanization.

Food and Agro Security: Develop the knowledge base for (1) rapid detection of threat agents and disaster preparedness and recovery efforts, (2) risk assessment, and (3) facility and personnel security. Provide for facilities as stated in section 1485 of the 2002 Farm Bill that authorizes up to $10M per year awarded to each experiment station on a competitive basis with required matching funds (77 units (SAES and ARD) at $10M each amounts to $250M per year for three years).

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 10.0: Federal Legislation Update
Presenter: Tim Sanders (via teleconference)
Background:

Sanders reported that the House markup will be done title by title beginning on 7/17/07. The House markup is expected to be contentious.

The Senate leadership will not have time until September for the Farm Bill and will probably extend the current Farm Bill. Title VII from HR2398 incorporates CREATE-21 and Title IV is being worked. Danforth is pushing for inclusion as NIFA in Title VII. CREATE-21 has been a success. The House captured 85-90 percent in HR2398.

The statutory allocation of capacity funds complicate the structure competitive funding from CREATE-21.

IFAFS - without NASULGC support, funding would have been lost. The House Appropriations Subcommittee markup was good. However, the total was down $32 million for CSREES and $50 million for ARS. After receiving many phone calls from constituents, the Committee chair was working to repair the problem.

The Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee markup is to be on 7/17/07 and is expected to have the same dollars for CSREES as last year. The actual appropriations process won't be done until Christmas.

The proposal on reorganization of the USDA will be put off until 2009.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 11.0: NRSP Review Committee
Presenter: Lee Sommers and Mike Harrington
Background:

The NRSP Review Committee met on June 6, 2007 in Kansas City. Committee members present were Lee Sommers (CO), chair and W rep; Marshall Martin (IN), NC rep; Bill Vinson (WV), NE rep; Craig Nessler (VA), S rep; Al Parks (Prairie View A&M), ARD rep; Larry Miller, CSREES rep; Eric Young, S Executive Director; Mike Harrington, W Executive Director and; Don Latham (IA), stakeholder rep.

Following discussion of the NRSP budget proposals submitted to the Committee, the following recommendations will be presented to the Experiment Station Section at the annual meeting.

Budget Requests
NRSP-1. Research Planning Using the Current Research Information System (CRIS). The amount requested for FY08 was $337,574. It was noted that the FY08 budget reflects the obligation of the SAES to fund 25% of the cost of CRIS as well as an increase in funding since the SAES now funds 75% of the cost of NIMSS through the CRIS budget. Motion by Martin to accept budget request. Second by Parks. Motion passed.

NRSP-3. National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP). The budget proposal of $61,000 for FY08 was consistent with the prior recommendations of the Committee to implement a phased reduction in funding. Motion by Latham to accept budget request. Second by Nessler. Motion passed.

NRSP-4. National Agricultural Program to Clear Pest Control Agents for Minor Uses. The amount requested for FY08 was $481,182. This request is consistent with prior recommendations of the Committee. Motion by Martin to accept budget request. Second by Parks. Motion passed.

NRSP-5. Develop and Distribute Deciduous Fruit Tree Clones Free of Viruses and Virus-like Agents. The amount requested for FY08 was $145,919. This request restores funding for the project to the level existing in FY06. The Committee supports this level of funding based on input from the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee as well as feedback from each of the regional associations. Motion by Martin to accept budget request. Second by Nessler. Motion passed.

NRSP-6. Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project. The amount requested for FY08 was $110,000. This project is an essential component of the National Plant Germplasm system and the funding request is consistent with maintaining ongoing support from the SAES for the project. Motion by Nessler to accept budget request. Second by Latham. Motion passed.

NRSP-7. Minor Use Animal Drugs. The amount requested for FY08 was $542,700. This project has not requested funds in past fiscal years because the funding has been provided via a special grant originating in the USDA budget. Due to the uncertain status of special grants in the USDA budget, the project submitted a request for off-the-top funding to the Committee. The Committee concluded that funding via the President's budget request for USDA was likely. Motion by Latham to reject the budget request. Second by Nessler. Motion passed.

NRSP-8. National Animal Genome Program. The amount requested for FY08 was $400,000. This request is consistent with prior recommendations of the Committee. Motion by Latham to accept budget request. Second by Parks. Motion passed.

NRSP Project Reviews

Based on the NRSP guidelines, each project should conduct an external review if a proposal for renewal will be submitted. In FY08, NRSP-3, NRSP-5, and NRSP-8 will be in their 5th year and should conduct an external review if renewal is contemplated. The Administrative Advisers for these projects should coordinate the review process with the CSREES NPL assigned to the project. The NRSP Review Committee will utilize the external review documentation to assess the need for ongoing off-the-top funding.

NRSP Guidelines

The Committee reviewed the guidelines and is proposing the following changes for consideration by the ESS.

1. Change from 2/3 vote to simple majority for overturning recommendation
2. Change of term for regional association committee members

The Committee also noted the change in leadership within ECOP. The chair will contact ECOP about their preference for membership on the Committee.

It was also noted that the current guidelines do not contain a section detailing the process for their revision. A proposed process will be submitted to the ESS.

Committee Membership

We are recommending that the terms increase from 3 to 4 years to facilitate rotation of Committee leadership among the ESS regions. The S and NE need to have the terms of their reps extended for 1 year to synchronize terms. We also encourage similar terms for all members. If a member of the Committee resigns/retires, the regional association is asked to appoint a rep to complete the term in order to maintain the staggering of reps from the four regions.

The current guidelines specify that the chair will rotate between the regions in a specific order. Our discussions concluded that the guidelines should not specify the rotation, rather the committee should internally adopt an appropriate structure for sharing leadership responsibilities.

Representative	Individual	Final FY for Term and Notes
W	Sommers(chair in FY07)	2007 – new rep for ‘08; 4 year term
NC	Martin	2008 – new rep for ‘09; 4 year term
S	Nessler (chair in FY08)	2009 – extend 1 year; new rep for ‘10
NE	Vinson (chair in FY09)	2010- extend 1 year; new rep ‘11
ARD	Parks	ARD option and appoints
CSREES	Miller (retiring July 2007)	R. Otto will appoint replacement
ECOP	Wade	ESCOP appoints with ECOP input
Exec Director	Harrington & Young	ESCOP option
Stakeholder	Latham	ESCOP option

Committee Discussion

The committee discussed several items of interest to activities of the ESS.

- Specialty crops – A critical component of many specialty crop research and extension programs is the incorporation of new species and evaluation on alternative crops. The National Plant Germplasm System plays a major role in providing the germplasm used by plant breeders in developing new and alternative crops. The NPGCC should consider how to contribute to the emerging efforts in the Farm Bill on specialty crops.
- National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee – There will be likely be an ongoing discussion about the most appropriate mechanism for funding NRSP projects contributing to the National Plant Germplasm System. The NPGCC is encouraged to further evaluate alternative funding approaches for the ESS components of the system.
- New NRSP projects – The Committee did not receive any suggestions or formal proposals for new projects.

Action Requested: Final Association recommendations on NRSP budgets

THE EXPERIMENT STATION SECTION

GUIDELINES FOR NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECTS (NRSPs)

ADOPTED December 13, 2002
REVISED September 27, 2004
REVISED September XX. 2007

Table of Contents

I. MISSION OF NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECTS

The activity of an NRSP focuses on the development of enabling technologies, support activities (such as to collect, assemble, store, and distribute materials, resources and information), or the sharing of facilities needed to accomplish high priority research, but which is not of itself primarily research.

II. GENERAL

National Research Support Projects are created to conduct activities that enable other important research efforts. Ideally, an NRSP would facilitate a broad array of research activities. The primary purpose of NRSPs shall not be solely to conduct research as there are other available mechanisms for creating these types of projects including the multistate research projects and the National Research Project (NRP) options. Examples of NRSP activities might include collection of data that are widely used by other research groups and efforts; development of databases; or development of critical technologies.

All NRSPs must involve a national issue, relevant to and of use by most, if not all regions. These projects draw on the best minds and resources within and outside the State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) system to address the issues. All projects must pass scientific scrutiny as well as be an issue that has national significance. Where appropriate, linkages to similar international activities are encouraged.

Priority for funding will be given to NRSPs that address and meet one or more of the national priority areas identified by ESCOP. General consideration will be given to assuring that the portfolio of NRSP projects has sufficient diversity so as to make best use of limited funds.

NRSP are initiated by use of Hatch funds drawn from the total federal allocation prior to the formula distribution to state agricultural experiment stations (SAESs). This funding process is called “off-the-top” and in total represents about 1% of the federal formula funds to SAES.

The National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS) is the official repository for NRSP project information. NIMSS is a web application for management of the Multistate Research Activities in a paperless environment. It is an information technology tool that facilitates the submission of proposals, reports and reviews online. NIMSS also serves as the central repository of records pertaining to multistate research projects and activities since September 2003. Information can be accessed anywhere, anytime at www.nimss.umd.edu.

Refer to Appendix B for more information on “Criteria for Establishing or Renewing an NRSP.”

III. ORGANIZATION: NRSP REVIEW COMMITTEE

A. General

Since the dissolution of the Committee of Nine, there has been no single SAES entity with the general oversight responsibility for National Research Support Projects. An NRSP Review Committee (hereafter referred to as the committee) with broad oversight responsibility for the NRSP portfolio has been established and charged with providing general oversight, consistency in review and approval processes, and a national perspective relative to research support needs. The committee does not have the responsibility to micromanage individual projects.

While playing a gatekeeper function for the SAES system, it is also important that the committee’s role is clearly advisory to the system. It makes recommendations to the Experiment Station Section (ESS) concerning existing and new projects. A key component of their role is to oversee implementation of sunset clauses whereby an NRSP reduces or eliminates its dependence on off-the-top funding. The committee brings its recommendations to the annual ESS meeting, currently held in September. It reports on the final project proposals and projected budgets, as well as their final recommendation. The SAES Directors vote (one vote per institution contributing off-the-top funding) on approval of the project and five-year budget. A simple majority vote is required to overturn the NRSP Review Committee recommendation.

One of the specific charges to the committee is to use the national priorities and needs as a basis for the review and evaluation of existing and new NRSP projects. It is responsible for assuring that the NRSP portfolio is monitored and is responsive to needs. The committee will identify specific areas of research support needs or at least utilize input from an established ESCOP mechanism such as the Planning Committee because of their focus on emerging issues and needs. The committee has the authority to proactively identify research support needs. The committee has access to resources available to seed the creation of new NRSPs responsive to emerging needs.

The committee is directly responsible for the annual review of progress and budget for existing NRSPs. It has the authority to ensure that the criteria contained in these guidelines are satisfactorily met by NRSPs.

Relative to the evaluation of revised and new projects, the committee oversees review by peer and merit panels. It develops criteria for the reviews, selects reviewers, assists in establishing protocols for review, and prepares the specific charge to the panels. Utilizing the results of the reviews and the committee's understanding of national research support needs, the committee makes recommendations concerning revised and proposed projects to the ESS.

A final role for the committee is one of broad advocacy for the NRSP system.
It insures the documentation of system and individual project impacts. It serves as the point entity for marketing the system and bringing it to national level prominence.

B. The NRSP Review Committee shall consist of:

1. One representative from each of the four SAES regions (1862 experiment stations) who is a current or past member of an MRC, and one from the ARD region (1890 research directors), appointed by the regional association chair. Each unit represented on the NRSP Review Committee will also designate an alternate to insure representation. For the geographical regional associations, a logical alternate would be the regional MRC chair.

2. One representative from Extension appointed by the ESCOP Chair following the recommendation of the ECOP Chair.

3. One representative from CSREES, preferably a National Program leader, recommended by the CSREES Administrator and appointed by the ESCOP Chair.

4. One stakeholder representative, possibly a CARET representative, appointed by the ESCOP Chair.

5. Two regional executive directors appointed by the ESCOP Chair. One of the executive directors should be from the same region as the chair of the committee and will serve as the Executive Vice Chair, administratively supporting the committee. These two appointed executive directors will be voting members of the Committee. The other three regional executive directors (both SAES and/or ARD) not assigned to the Committee may attend meetings as ex officio, non-voting members.

6. Officers will include a chair and chair-elect chosen by the committee from the representatives' four SAES regions. The position of chair will rotate among the four geographical regions NC, W, S, and NE.

C. NRSP Review Committee Operations
1. Term of appointment to the committee will be three years. Terms of the four SAES regions' representatives will be staggered so as to provide continuity to deliberations.

2. The committee will meet face-to-face once per year prior to the September ESS meeting. Other business of the committee will be conducted electronically through conference calls and

e-mails. All expenses will be borne by member's respective institutions except for the stakeholder representative. Travel funds for the stakeholder representative will be provided by ESS/ESCOP.

3. The committee will coordinate peer reviews of new and revised NRSP proposals and associated five-year budgets.

4. The committee and CSREES jointly arrange for review of NRSPs at the beginning of year 5.

5. The committee reports at the ESS Fall meeting on new or revised NRSP project proposals and five-year budgets and makes a recommendation for approval or rejection.

6. The committee reviews annual reports and budgets of active NRSPs and approves annual budget if no increase is requested from initial five-year budget. If a budget increase is requested, the committee reports and makes a recommendation for approval or disapproval at the ESS Fall meeting.

IV. ESTABLISHING NEW NRSPs
(Also refer to Appendix B for the NRSP criteria; Appendix C for the NRSP proposal format; and Appendix D for the NRSP Review Forms.)

In addition to addressing the criteria described in the General section above, a proposal for a new NRSP must contain the following elements:

A. Relevance
The proposal must identify stakeholders and indicate their involvement in project development, review and/or management plan. The proposal must indicate how the project meets stakeholder needs and indicate the relationship with the research to be supported. (The real stakeholders are the researchers and the funding agencies that will use the information or services generated.) The proposal must also include a mechanism for assessing stakeholder use of project outputs.

B. Management and Business Plan
Each NRSP should have a well-developed business plan that describes how the project will be managed and funded for a five-year period. This plan includes a management structure to adequately integrate the efforts of multiple participants. The plan should include provisions for linking multiple sources of funding and leveraging those sources with the limited off-the-top research funds. This plan should include efforts to bring in new agencies, organizations, industry, foundations, etc. to help address the issues and provide funding for the project.

All project proposals must provide evidence of contributions from experiment stations across the nation beyond what is available through off-the-top funds.

In general, NRSPs should expect a finite period of off-the-top funding. This is not a reflection of the quality of work being conducted or the research being supported by the project. Rather, this allows the SAES system to continually assess needs and develop new projects as necessary. For this reason, the business plan of project renewals must include a transition plan and provisions for developing alternative funding or reducing off-the-top funding to a minimal level.

C. Objectives and Projected Outcomes
Objectives, milestones and deliverables should be described in sufficient detail such that progress can be measured. Indicate the prospects for meaningful impacts within the proposed duration of the project. The proposal must indicate what approaches will be used to assess outcomes and how these assessments will be used in program planning.

D. Integration
Where applicable, projects should indicate how efforts are integrated with extension or academic programs and how results might be of use by other potential stakeholders.

E. Outreach, communications and assessment
All projects must have a sound outreach, communications and assessment plan that seeks to communicate the programs goals, accomplishments and outcomes/impacts. The communication plan must detail how results will be transferred to researchers and other end users and contain the following elements:

1. Clear identification of the intended audience(s) of the NRSP. Since this is a Research Support Project, in most instances the primary beneficiary of the results will be other scientists. However, careful consideration should be given to other possible users of the information (such as consumers, producers, governmental agencies (local, state and federal), general public, etc.)

2. Clear description of the engagement of stakeholders in the definition and/or conduct of the research support project.

3. Thorough description of the methodology to measure the accomplishments and impacts of the National Research Support Project. Methods such as surveys, town meetings, conferences, analyses of reference data (e.g. citation index, etc.), and use of professional evaluators should be considered.

4. Specific description for development of communication pieces describing the activities, accomplishments, and impacts of the NRSP. The communication pieces will be used with SAES/ARD directors, stakeholders and their organizations, funding sources and agencies, and congressional delegations.

5. Suggested mechanisms for distribution of the results of the research support project. Examples include sharing the results at annual meetings of stakeholders, providing material to the Budget and Advocacy Committee of the NASULGC Board on Agriculture Assembly and other appropriate committees within the SAES/ARD organization, and assisting CSREES is preparation of appropriate documents highlighting the impacts of the project.

F. Budget: The NRSP team must present an annual budget for each of the five years (See Appendix F). The budget must take into account all sources of funds (Multistate Research Funds, industry, federal agencies, grants and contracts, and SAESs). There are two tables in Appendix F, one for MRF and one for Other Sources. For the SAESs, the project should estimate the in-cash and in-kind contributions. The budget narrative should provide an estimate of the per cent contribution from each funding source.

V. RENEWAL OF AN NRSP
(Also refer to Appendix B for the NRSP criteria; Appendix C for the NRSP proposal format; and Appendix D for the NRSP Review Forms.)

Prior to renewal, each NRSP must undergo a review according to the schedule presented in the timelines section. Each NRSP seeking renewal must meet/address all of the criteria for a new NRSP described in the previous section. In addition, renewal requests must address the following:

A. General
NRSPs should expect a finite period of significant levels of off the top funding. This allows “the system” to undertake new initiatives and address new priorities. For this reason the business plans of applications for renewals will be carefully scrutinized. For renewals, proposals must demonstrate direct relationship in support of continuing national priority need(s). The proposal should discuss its support activities relative to other NRSPs. The renewal application builds on the previous project and provides a logical progression.

B. Relevance
Proposals must demonstrate continued need as evidenced by stakeholder use of outputs and impacts of research efforts that are supported by the activity,

C. Assessment of Outcomes
The proposal must address productivity, completion of original objectives and the relationship between projected goals and actual accomplishments.

The proposal must include an assessment of the outcomes and/or impact of the previous project period. This assessment must include an evaluation of stakeholders' use of project outputs

D. Objectives
The proposed objectives must reflect appropriate revision, e.g. evolution or building to greater depth, and/or capacity. All project revisions must incorporate stakeholder needs. Renewals will be judged as to the degree to which project has been on task, on time and within budget for the previous funding period.

E. Management and Business Plan
In general, NRSPs should expect a finite period of off-the-top funding. This is not a reflection of the quality of work being conducted or the research being supported by the project. Rather, this allows the SAES system to continually assess needs and develop new projects as necessary. For this reason, the business plan of project renewals must include a transition plan and provisions for developing alternative funding or reducing off-the-top funding to a minimal level. Included would be an assessment of transition options, and alternative funding sources.

However, not all projects may be shifted to other funding sources. Projects seeking to continue with significant amount of off the top funding should fully justify the request.

The renewal application should include a critical assessment of the original plan and address any shortcomings to ensure that the project will function more smoothly or effectively in the future. The proposal must indicate what additional resources have been generated or leveraged and indicate how those and any additional resources will be continued or sought.

Note. Not all projects can be transitioned to other funding sources and, if the project meets an ESCOP priority, the project may continue with off-the-top funding.

F. Integration and Documentation of Research Support
The business plan must indicate the diversity of partners involved in the project as well as the multiple sources of funding. The proposal should indicate any new partnerships built during the project period. The proposal should address the degree to which full team is engaged in project planning and implementation and discuss plans to complement any weaknesses that may have been identified.

The proposal should contain a description of how research activities nationwide will be supported by the project.

G. Outreach and Communications
The proposal should assess the success of the project's outreach and communications plan and indicate any steps to be taken to improve effectiveness. A clear description of impacts resulting from the project is required.

H. Budget: The NRSP team must present an annual budget for each of the five years (See Appendix F). The budget must take into account all sources of funds (Multistate Research Funds, industry, federal agencies, grants and contracts, and SAESs). There are two tables in Appendix F, one for MRF and one for Other Sources. For the SAESs, the project should

estimate the in-cash and in-kind contributions. The budget narrative should provide an estimate of the per cent contribution from each funding source.

VI. REVIEW AND APPROVAL TIMELINES FOR NEW NRSPs OR RENEWAL OF AN EXISTING NRSP (Also, refer to Appendix A)

A. New NRSP Development

Anytime
Sponsoring Director(s) submits request to establish an NRSP writing committee to the sponsoring regional association's Executive Director following that region's standard process for initiating new multistate activities.

Sponsoring regional association assigns lead Administrative Advisor and solicits names of Co-advisors from other Executive Directors. Sponsoring regional association follows the normal process for approving the establishment of a writing committee and solicit additional participants.

NRSP writing committee membership, in consultation with Administrative Advisors, prepares initial project proposal, including projected five-year budget.
Administrative Advisors submit the project proposal and projected five-year budget, along with names of several qualified peer reviewers, to the NRSP Review Committee. The NRSP Review Committee solicits peer reviews by scientists familiar with the area and transmits review results along with Committee comments to Administrative Advisors. NRSP writing committee revises proposal and budget based on review.

Not later than Oct 1
Administrative Advisors submit revised proposal and five-year budget, along with peer review comments, to NRSP Review Committee and Executive Directors (transmission of materials to Executive Directors throughout this process implies subsequent transmission to members of corresponding regional associations).

Oct-Feb
NRSP Review Committee reviews proposal and budget and sends comments with initial recommendation to Executive Directors. Appropriate regional committees review the project proposal and projected five-year budget and report to association at their Spring meeting.

Feb-Mar
Regional associations discuss project proposal and projected five-year budget, along with NRSP Review Committee recommendation, at their Spring meetings and Executive Director transmits comments and/or concerns to the Administrative Advisors and NRSP Review Committee.

Apr-June
NRSP Committee addresses any comments and/or concerns through further project and/or budget revisions and/or separate responses.

July 1
Final project proposal, projected five-year budget, and any additional responses are transmitted to the NRSP Review Committee and the Executive Directors.

July-Aug
Regional associations discuss the final proposal and budget at their summer meetings, or the appropriate regional committee reviews the proposal and budget, and Executive Directors transmit comments to the NRSP Review Committee.

September

The NRSP Review Committee reports at the ESS Fall meeting on the final project proposal and projected budget, and its recommendation. SAES Directors vote (one vote per institution contributing off-the-top funding) on approval of the project and five-year budget. A two-thirds majority vote is required to overturn the NRSP Review Committee recommendation.

October 1
Approved NRSP starts five-year cycle with five-year budget approved.

B. During Project Term (years 2-4)

January
NRSP Committee submits annual report (see below) and detailed budget for subsequent fiscal year to the NRSP Review Committee and Executive Directors by January 15.

The NRSP Review Committee reviews annual report and budget and transmits any comments to Administrative Advisors and Executive Directors. If there is no change in total annual budget from approved five-year budget, Executive Directors transmit report and budget to regional associations for their information.

If a change in the annual budget from the approved five-year budget is requested, a detailed justification must be submitted to the NRSP Review Committee and Executive Directors, and change request is reviewed through the following process.

Feb-Mar
Regional associations review budget change request during Spring meetings and transmit comments to the NRSP Review Committee.

Apr- Sep
The NRSP Review Committee interacts with CSREES and NRSP Administrative Advisors to determine and approve any budget changes for the next year.

C. Renewal of an Existing NRSP

Year 4
NRSP committee decides to renew project as NRSP and notifies the NRSP Review Committee and CSREES.NRSP committee drafts initial renewal proposal and five-year budget.

CSREES and the NRSP Review Committee jointly arrange for review of NRSP that is due to terminate at the end of year 5. Review organizer consults with the NRSP Review Committee and NRSP Administrative Advisors regarding review protocol, charge, etc.

Not later than Sep 1
Administrative Advisors submit renewal proposal and five-year budget to the NRSP Review Committee and Executive Directors.

Year 5

Sep-Nov
Review team conducts review of past four years progress and renewal proposal and transmits report to the NRSP Review Committee and Administrative Advisors.

Oct-Feb
Appropriate regional committees review report and renewal proposal with five-year budget and report to association at Spring meetings. The NRSP Review Committee reviews proposal and budget and Sends comments with initial recommendation on renewal to Executive Directors.

Feb-Mar

Regional associations discuss renewal proposal and budget along with the NRSP Review Committee recommendation, at their Spring meetings and Executive Director transmits comments and/or concerns to the Administrative Advisors and the NRSP Review Committee.

Apr-June
NRSP Committee addresses any comments and/or concerns through renewal proposal and/or budget revisions and/or separate responses.

July 1
Final renewal proposal, five-year budget, and any additional responses are transmitted to the NRSP Review Committee and the Executive Directors.

July-Aug
Regional associations discuss the final renewal proposal and budget at their summer meetings, or the appropriate regional committee reviews the proposal and budget, and Executive Directors transmit comments to the NRSP Review Committee.

September
The NRSP Review Committee reports at the ESS Fall meeting on the final project proposal and projected budget, and its recommendation. SAES Directors vote (one vote per contributing institution) on approval of the project and five-year budget. A two-thirds majority vote is required to overturn the NRSP Review Committee recommendation.

October 1
NRSP approved for renewal starts five-year cycle with five-year budget approved. NRSP not approved for renewal receives one-year extension (with budget equal to 5th-year budget) to transition off NRSP funding to other sources or downsize project.

VII. ANNUAL REPORT OF AN NRSP
Annually each NRSP will prepare a State Agricultural Experiment Station 422 Report (SAES-422) and include the following information:

1. Stakeholders: A description of the interaction and engagement with the stakeholders during the past year and brief description of plans for next year.

2. Activities, Accomplishments, and Impacts: A description of the activities (ie. meetings, etc.), accomplishments (ie. publications, information sharing, etc.), and impacts (ie. demonstration of adoption of new techniques, advancement in sharing information, change is stakeholders' techniques, knowledge, or action, etc.) for the past year and a brief description of plans for next year.

3. Communication Plan: A description of the implementation of the Communication Plan as stated in the proposal and a brief description of plans for next year.

4. Research Support activities: Describe how project contributes to and supports related research programs nationwide.

VIII. Revision of Guidelines
These guidelines will be modified using the following process:
1. Periodically, the guidelines will be reviewed by the NRSP Review Committee. Proposed changes will be drafted by the Committee and incorporated into this document.
2. The proposed changes will be submitted to ESCOP for review, editing, and approval.
3. Changes will be presented to the ESS for approval by a simple majority vote at the annual meeting.

APPENDIX A
NRSP Calendar
For New/Renewal/Existing NRSP Projects

2 years prior to approval for new projects **4th year for renewals**
New Project: • Regional association or NRSPRC recommends development of new project as NRSP and notifies CSREES (as well as NRSPRC if they are not already aware). • Potential NRSP committee assigns potential lead Administrative Advisors and project leaders who then draft the initial proposal and five-year budget. • CSREES and the NRSPRC jointly arrange for review of new NRSP proposal. Review organizer consults with the NRSPRC and potential NRSP Administrative Advisors regarding review protocol, charge, etc.
Renewal: • NRSP committee decides to renew project as NRSP and notifies the NRSPRC and CSREES. NRSP committee drafts initial renewal proposal and five-year budget. • CSREES and the NRSPRC jointly arrange for review of NRSP that is due to terminate at the end of year 5. Review organizer c • review protocol, charge, etc.

September **(2 years prior to approval for new projects; 4th year for renewals)** **ESS meeting**
• **Not later than Sep 1:** Adm the NRSPRC and Executive Directors.

(1 year prior to approval for new projects; 5th year for renewals)
• CSREES reviews take plac **Existing Projects:**
• NRSPRC sends communicated to the NRSPRC by January 15.

November
New and Renewal Projects: • **By November 15:** CSREES Review team conducts review of new proposal and transmits report to the NRSPRC and Administrative Advisors.

December
New and Renewal Projects: • Continue to revise proposals for January 15 deadline.

January
New Project: • **By January 15,** Potential NRSP project team revises the proposal in response to the CSREES review team report and sends the revised proposal to the regional association offices and NRSPRC
Renewal: • **By January 15,** NRSP project team revises the proposal in response to the CSREES review team report and sends the revised proposal to the regional association offices and NRSPRC.
Existing Projects: • **By January 15,** all budget changes should be sent to the NRSPRC for regional distribution. Each region will examine the budgets at their Spring Meetings.

February
New and Renewal Projects: • Regional associations gather material for initial project reviews.

March Regional Spring Meetings
New and Renewal Projects: • **By March 30,** regional associations discuss new/renewal proposals and budget at their Spring Meetings and Executive Director transmits comments and/or concerns to the lead Administrative Advisor and the NRSPRC.
Existing Projects: • Regional associations discuss existing project budgets at their Spring Meetings and Executive Director transmits comments and/or concerns to the lead Administrative Advisor and the NRSPRC.

April
New/Renewal/Existing Projects: • Prepare response to regional comments/concerns.

May

New/Renewal/Existing Projects:

• Prepare response to regional comments/concerns for June 15 deadline.

June

NRSP Review Committee:

• **By June 1,** NRSPRC notifies CSREES of tentative budgets on all NRSPs (new/renewal/existing).

New/Renewal/Existing Project:

• **By June 15,** Potential/Renewal NRSP Committee addresses any comments and/or concerns through (1) a revised proposal and/or (2) a budget revision and/or (3) a separate response. These comments are sent to executive director offices and NRSPRC.

July
Regional Summer Meetings

August

New/Renewal Projects:

• **By August 1,** regional associations or an appropriate regional committee discuss the final proposal and budget at their summer meeting. The Executive Director transmits comments to the NRSPRC and the lead AA.

• **By August 31,** the final revision of the proposal will be sent from the NRSP project team to NRSPRC.

September (5th Year)
Regional Fall Meetings at ESS Meeting

New and Renewal Projects:

• **By September 15,** the NRSPRC prepares its report for the ESS Fall meeting on the final project proposal and projected budget, and its recommendation. SAES Directors vote (one vote per contributing institution) on approval of the project and five-year budget. A two-thirds majority vote is required to overturn the NRSPRC recommendation.

NRSP Review Committee:

• **By September 30,** the NRSPRC submits final notification to CSREES of approvals.

October (Project Approved)

New Project:

• **October 1** New NRSP approved; starts five-year cycle with five-year budget approved.

Renewal:

• October 1 NRSP approved for renewal starts five-year cycle with five-year budget approved. NRSP not approved for renewal receives one-year extension (with budget equal to 5th-year budget) to transition off NRSP funding to other sources or downsize project.

APPENDIX B
CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING OR RENEWING A NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECT
Established September 22, 2003

These criteria are based on the NRSP Guidelines adopted by the Experiment Station Section in January 2003. The Experiment Station Section adopted these specific criteria on September 22, 2003.

The following statement defines the mission of the NRSP program:

"MISSION OF NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECTS
The activity of an NRSP focuses on the development of enabling technologies, support activities (such as to collect, assemble, store, and distribute materials, resources and information), or the sharing of facilities needed to accomplish high priority research, but which is not of itself primarily research. Ideally, an NRSP would facilitate a broad array of research activities. The primary purpose of NRSPs shall not be solely to conduct research as there are other available mechanisms for creating these types of projects including the multistate research projects and the National Research Project (NRP) options. Examples of NRSP activities might include collection of data that are widely used by other research groups and efforts; development of databases; or development of critical technologies."

Based on the mission of NRSPs, all proposals (new and renewals) will be evaluated using the following criteria (renewal of an NRSP must meet all of the criteria for a new NRSP in addition to the specific criteria identified for a renewal):

A. Prerequisite criteria for NRSPs

1. **Mission**: All NRSPs must be consistent with the mission of an NRSP.
2. **National Issue:**
   a. All NRSPs must involve a national issue, relevant to and of use by most, if not all regions. These projects draw on the best minds and resources within and outside the State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) system to address the issues. The proposal should discuss its support activities relative to other NRSPs.
   b. For renewals, proposals must demonstrate direct relationship in support of continuing national priority need(s). The renewal application builds on the previous project and provides a logical progression.

B. These are the criteria addressing the rationale for the NRSP.

1. **(20 points) Priority Established by ESCOP/ESS:** Priority for funding will be given to NRSPs that address and support one or more of the national priority areas identified by ESCOP (see ESCOP Science and Technology Committee and Science Roadmap)
2. **(20 points) Relevance to Stakeholders:**
   a. The proposal must identify stakeholders and indicate their involvement in project development, project activities, review and/or management plans. The proposal must indicate how the project meets primary and secondary stakeholder needs and indicate the relationship of the stakeholders with the research to be supported. The proposal must also include a mechanism for assessing stakeholder use of project outputs. Identify project outcomes that aide in development of or contribute to the discussion of public policy.
   b. For renewals, proposals must demonstrate continued need as evidenced by stakeholder use of outputs and impacts of research efforts that are supported by the activity.

C. Criteria for implementing the NRSP proposal

1. **(15 points) Management and Business Plan:**

a. Each NRSP should have a well-developed business plan that describes how the project will be managed and funded for a five-year period. This plan includes a management structure to adequately integrate the efforts of multiple participants. The plan should include provisions for linking multiple sources of funding and leveraging those sources with the limited off-the-top research funds. The plan should demonstrate that alternative funding sources have been explored. This plan should include efforts to bring in new agencies, organizations, industry, foundations, etc. to help address the issues and provide funding for the project. All project proposals must provide evidence of contributions from experiment stations across the nation beyond what is available through off-the-top funds.

b. The business plan for project renewals must include a funding plan including development of alternative funding for reducing off-the-top funding to a minimal level. Renewals will be judged as to the degree to which the project has been on task, had an impact, on time and within budget for the previous funding period. The renewal application should include a critical assessment of the original plan and address any shortcomings to ensure that the project will function more smoothly or effectively in the future. The proposal must indicate what additional resources have been generated or leveraged and indicate how those and any additional resources will be continued or sought.

2. (15 points) Objectives and Projected Outcomes:

a. Objectives, milestones and deliverables should be described in sufficient detail such that progress can be measured. Indicate the prospects for meaningful impacts within the proposed duration of the project. The proposal must indicate what approaches will be used to assess outcomes including stakeholder use and how these assessments will be used in program planning.

b. For renewals, the proposal must address productivity, completion of original objectives and the relationship between projected goals and actual accomplishments. The proposal must include an assessment of the outcomes and/or impact of the previous project period. This assessment must include an evaluation of stakeholders' use of project outputs. The proposed objectives must reflect appropriate revision, e.g. evolution or building to greater depth, and/or capacity. All project revisions must incorporate stakeholder needs.

3. (15 points) Integration and Documentation of Research Support:

a. Projects should indicate how efforts are integrated with extension or academic programs and how results might be of use by other potential stakeholders.

b. For renewals, the proposal should indicate any new partnerships built during the project period. The proposal should address the degree to which the full team is engaged in project planning and implementation. Discuss plans to correct any weaknesses that may have been identified.

c. Proposals should indicate specifically how the project will support research activities nationwide.

4. (15 points) Outreach, Communications and Assessment:

a. All projects must have a sound outreach, communications and assessment plan that seeks to communicate the programs goals, accomplishments and outcomes/impacts. The communication plan must detail how results will be transferred to researchers and other end users and contain the following elements:

i. Clear identification of the intended audience(s) of the NRSP. Since this is a Research Support Project, in most instances the primary beneficiary of the results will be other scientists. However, careful consideration should be given to other possible users of the information (such as consumers, producers, governmental agencies (local, state and federal), general public, etc.)

ii. Clear description of the engagement of stakeholders in the definition and/or conduct of the research support project.

iii. Thorough description of the methodology to measure the

accomplishments and impacts of the National Research Support Project and effectiveness of the communication plan. Methods such as surveys, town meetings, conferences, analyses of reference data (e.g. citation index, etc.), and use of professional evaluators should be considered.

iv. Specific description for development of communication pieces describing the activities, accomplishments, and impacts of the NRSP. The communication pieces will be used with SAES/ARD directors, stakeholders and their organizations, funding sources and agencies, and congressional delegations.

v. Suggested mechanisms for distribution of the results of the research support project. Examples include sharing the results at annual meetings of stakeholders, providing material to the Budget and Advocacy Committee of the NASULGC Board on Agriculture Assembly and other appropriate committees within the SAES/ARD organization, and assisting CSREES is preparation of appropriate documents highlighting the impacts of the project.

b. For renewals, the proposal should assess the success of the project's outreach and communications plan and indicate any steps to be taken to improve effectiveness. A clear description of impacts resulting from the project is required.

APPENDIX C
NRSP Proposal Outline
15 Page limit

Project Title: (140 characters)
Requested Duration:
Administrative Advisor:
CSREES Representative:

STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND JUSTIFICATION:

Prerequisite Criteria:

1. How is the NRSP consistent with the mission? (8,000 characters)
    a. Mission: The activity of an NRSP focuses on the development of enabling technologies, support activities (such as to collect, assemble, store, and distribute materials, resources and information), or the sharing of facilities needed to accomplish high priority research, but which is not of itself primarily research. Ideally, an NRSP would facilitate a broad array of research activities. The primary purpose of NRSPs shall not be solely to conduct research, as there are other available mechanisms for creating these types of projects including the multistate research projects and the National Research Project (NRP) options. Examples of NRSP activities might include collection of data that are widely used by other research groups and efforts; development of databases; or development of critical technologies."

2. How does this NRSP pertain as a national issue? (10,000 characters)
    a. All NRSPs must involve a national issue, relevant to and of use by most, if not all regions. These projects draw on the best minds and resources within and outside the State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) system to address the issues. The proposal should discuss its support activities relative to other NRSPs.
    b. For renewals, proposals must demonstrate direct relationship in support of continuing national priority need(s). The renewal application builds on the previous project and provides a logical progression.

Rationale:

1. Priority Established by ESCOP/ESS: Priority for funding will be given to NRSPs that address and support one or more of the national priority areas identified by ESCOP (see ESCOP Science and Technology Committee and Science Roadmap) (8,000 characters)
2. Relevance to stakeholders: (8,000 characters)
    a. The proposal must identify stakeholders and indicate their involvement in project development, project activities, review and/or management plans. The proposal must indicate how the project meets primary and secondary stakeholder needs and indicate the relationship of the stakeholders with the research to be supported. The proposal must also include a mechanism for assessing stakeholder use of project outputs. Identify project outcomes that aide in development of or contribute to the discussion of public policy.
    b. For renewals, proposals must demonstrate continued need as evidenced by stakeholder use of outputs and impacts of research efforts that are supported by the activity.

IMPLEMENTATION:

1. Objectives and Projected Outcomes: (4,000 characters)

a. Objectives, milestones and deliverables should be described in sufficient detail such that progress can be measured. Indicate the prospects for meaningful impacts within the proposed duration of the project. The proposal must indicate what approaches will be used to assess outcomes including stakeholder use and how these assessments will be used in program planning.

b. For renewals, the proposal must address productivity, completion of original objectives and the relationship between projected goals and actual accomplishments. The proposal must include an assessment of the outcomes and/or impact of the previous project period. This assessment must include an evaluation of stakeholders' use of project outputs. The proposed objectives must reflect appropriate revision, e.g. evolution or building to greater depth, and/or capacity. All project revisions must incorporate stakeholder needs.

2. Management, Budget, and Business Plan: (16,000 characters)

a. Each NRSP should have a well-developed business plan that describes how the project will be managed and funded for a five-year period. This plan includes a management structure to adequately integrate the efforts of multiple participants. The plan should include provisions for linking multiple sources of funding and leveraging those sources with the limited off-the-top research funds. The plan should demonstrate that alternative funding sources have been explored. This plan should include efforts to bring in new agencies, organizations, industry, foundations, etc. to help address the issues and provide funding for the project. All project proposals must provide evidence of contributions from experiment stations across the nation beyond what is available through off-the-top funds.

b. The business plan for project renewals must include a funding plan including development of alternative funding for reducing off-the-top funding to a minimal level. Renewals will be judged as to the degree to which the project has been on task, had an impact, on time and within budget for the previous funding period. The renewal application should include a critical assessment of the original plan and address any shortcomings to ensure that the project will function more smoothly or effectively in the future. The proposal must indicate what additional resources have been generated or leveraged and indicate how those and any additional resources will be continued or sought.

3. Integration and Documentation of Research Support: (5,000 characters)

a. Projects should indicate how efforts are integrated with extension or academic programs and how results might be of use by other potential stakeholders.

b. For renewals, the proposal should indicate any new partnerships built during the project period. The proposal should address the degree to which the full team is engaged in project planning and implementation. Discuss plans to correct any weaknesses that may have been identified.

c. Proposals should indicate specifically how the project will support research activities nationwide.

4. Outreach, Communications and Assessment: (15,000 characters)

a. All projects must have a sound outreach, communications and assessment plan that seeks to communicate the programs goals, accomplishments and outcomes/impacts. The communication plan must detail how results will be transferred to researchers and other end users and contain the following elements:

i. Clear identification of the intended audience(s) of the NRSP. Since this is a Research Support Project, in most instances the primary beneficiary of the results will be other scientists. However, careful consideration

should be given to other possible users of the information (such as consumers, producers, governmental agencies (local, state and federal), general public, etc.)
ii. Clear description of the engagement of stakeholders in the definition and/or conduct of the research support project.
iii. Thorough description of the methodology to measure the accomplishments and impacts of the National Research Support Project and effectiveness of the communication plan. Methods such as surveys, town meetings, conferences, analyses of reference data (e.g. citation index, etc.), and use of professional evaluators should be considered.
iv. Specific description for development of communication pieces describing the activities, accomplishments, and impacts of the NRSP. The communication pieces will be used with SAES/ARD directors, stakeholders and their organizations, funding sources and agencies, and congressional delegations.
v. Suggested mechanisms for distribution of the results of the research support project. Examples include sharing the results at annual meetings of stakeholders, providing material to the Budget and Advocacy Committee of the NASULGC Board on Agriculture Assembly and other appropriate committees within the SAES/ARD organization, and assisting CSREES is preparation of appropriate documents highlighting the impacts of the project.

PROJECT PARTICIPATION: Appendix E

LITERATURE CITED:

BUDGET: The NRSP must present an annual budget for each of five years (See Appendix F). Information should be provided on funding from MRF and funding from other sources (i.e. industry, federal agencies, grants and contracts, and SAESs). **(Refer to Appendix F)**

APPENDIX D
NRSP Proposals Review Form

The following statement defines the mission of the NRSP program:

MISSION OF NATIONAL RESEARCH SUPPORT PROJECTS
The activity of an NRSP focuses on the development of enabling technologies, support activities (such as to collect, assemble, store, and distribute materials, resources and information), or the sharing of facilities needed to accomplish high priority research, but which is not of itself primarily research. Ideally, an NRSP would facilitate a broad array of research activities. The primary purpose of NRSPs shall not be solely to conduct research as there are other available mechanisms for creating these types of projects including the multistate research projects and the National Research Project (NRP) options. Examples of NRSP activities might include collection of data that are widely used by other research groups and efforts; development of databases; or development of critical technologies."

Based on the mission of NRSPs, all proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

A. Prerequisite criteria for NRSPs:		**Circle One:**
1. Mission: Is the NRSP consistent with the mission of an NRSP?		**Yes / No**
2. National Issue:		
	1. All NRSPs must involve a national issue, relevant to and of use by most, if not all regions. These projects draw on the best minds and resources within and outside the State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) system to address the issues. The proposal should discuss its support activities relative to other NRSPs.	**Yes / No**
	2. For renewals, proposals must demonstrate direct relationship in support of continuing national priority need(s). The renewal application builds on the previous project and provides a logical progression.	**Yes / No**
Comments:		

B. These are the criteria addressing the rationale for the NRSP:		**Total Points:**
a. **(20 points) Priority Established by ESCOP/ESS:** Priority for funding will be given to NRSPs that address and support one or more of the national priority areas identified by ESCOP (see ESCOP Science and Technology Committee and Science Roadmap)		**__ / 20**
2. (20 points) Relevance to Stakeholders:		**__ / 20**
	a. The proposal must identify stakeholders and indicate their involvement in project development, project activities, review and/or management plans. The proposal must indicate how the project meets primary and secondary stakeholder needs and indicate the relationship of the stakeholders with the research to be supported. The proposal must also include a mechanism for assessing stakeholder use of project outputs. Identify project outcomes that aide in development of or contribute to the discussion of public policy. **b.** For renewals, proposals must demonstrate continued need as evidenced by stakeholder use of outputs and impacts of research efforts that are supported by the activity.	
Comments:		

C. Criteria for implementing the NRSP proposal		Total Points:
1. (15 points) Management, Budget and Business Plan:		**__ / 15**
	a. Each NRSP should have a well-developed business plan that describes how the project will be managed and funded for a five-year period. This plan includes a management structure to adequately integrate the efforts of multiple participants. The plan should include provisions for linking multiple sources of funding and leveraging those sources with the limited off-the-top research funds. The plan should demonstrate that alternative funding sources have been explored. This plan should include efforts to bring in new agencies, organizations, industry, foundations, etc. to help address the issues and provide funding for the project. All project proposals must provide evidence of contributions from experiment stations across the nation beyond what is available through off-the-top funds. **b.** The business plan for project renewals must include a funding plan including development of alternative funding for reducing off-the-top funding to a minimal level. Renewals will be judged as to the degree to which the project has been on task, had an impact, on time and within budget for the previous funding period. The renewal application should include a critical assessment of the original plan and address any shortcomings to ensure that the project will function more smoothly or effectively in the future. The proposal must indicate what additional resources have been generated or leveraged and indicate how those and any additional resources will be continued or sought.	
2. (15 points) Objectives and Projected Outcomes:		**__ / 15**
	a. Objectives, milestones and deliverables should be described in sufficient detail such that progress can be measured. Indicate the prospects for meaningful impacts within the proposed duration of the project. The proposal must indicate what approaches will be used to assess outcomes including stakeholder use and how these assessments will be used in program planning. **b.** For renewals, the proposal must address productivity, completion of original objectives and the relationship between projected goals and actual accomplishments. The proposal must include an assessment of the outcomes and/or impact of the previous project period. This assessment must include an evaluation of stakeholders' use of project outputs. The proposed objectives must reflect appropriate revision, e.g. evolution or building to greater depth, and/or capacity. All project revisions must incorporate stakeholder needs.	
3. (15 points) Integration and Documentation of Research Support:		**__ / 15**
	a. Projects should indicate how efforts are integrated with extension or academic programs and how results might be of use by other potential stakeholders. **b.** For renewals, the proposal should indicate any new partnerships built during the project period. The proposal should address the degree to which the full team is engaged in project planning and implementation. Discuss plans to correct any weaknesses that may have been identified. c. Proposals should indicate specifically how the project will support research activities nationwide.	

4. (15 points) Outreach, Communications and Assessment:	**__ / 15**

	a. All projects must have a sound outreach, communications and assessment plan that seeks to communicate the programs goals, accomplishments and outcomes/impacts. The communication plan must detail how results will be transferred to researchers and other end users and contain the following elements:		
		i) Clear identification of the intended audience(s) of the NRSP. Since this is a Research Support Project, in most instances the primary beneficiary of the results will be other scientists. However, careful consideration should be given to other possible users of the information (such as consumers, producers, governmental agencies (local, state and federal), general public, etc.)	**Yes / No**
		ii) Clear description of the engagement of stakeholders in the definition and/or conduct of the research support project.	**Yes / No**
		iii) Thorough description of the methodology to measure the accomplishments and impacts of the National Research Support Project and effectiveness of the communication plan. Methods such as surveys, town meetings, conferences, analyses of reference data (e.g. citation index, etc.), and use of professional evaluators should be considered.	**Yes / No**
		iv) Specific description for development of communication pieces describing the activities, accomplishments, and impacts of the NRSP. The communication pieces will be used with SAES/ARD directors, stakeholders and their organizations, funding sources and agencies, and congressional delegations.	**Yes / No**
		v) Suggested mechanisms for distribution of the results of the research support project. Examples include sharing the results at annual meetings of stakeholders, providing material to the Budget and Advocacy Committee of the NASULGC Board on Agriculture Assembly and other appropriate committees within the SAES/ARD organization, and assisting CSREES is preparation of appropriate documents highlighting the impacts of the project.	**Yes / No**
	b. For renewals, the proposal should assess the success of the project's outreach and communications plan and indicate any steps to be taken to improve effectiveness. A clear description of impacts resulting from the project is required.		
Comments:			

Total Points:	**___ / 100**

APPENDIX E
Format for Reporting Projected Participation

For each participant in this activity, include his/her name and e-mail address, employing institution/agency, and department; plus, as applicable:

- For research commitment, indicate the CRIS classifications [Research Problem Area(s) (RPA), Subject(s) of Investigation (SOI), and Field(s) of Science (FOS)], and estimates of time commitment by Scientists Years (SY) (not less than 0.1 SY), Professional Years (PY), and Technical Years (TY);

- For extension commitment, indicate FTE and one or more of the seven extension programs (See http://www.reeusda.gov/1700/programs/baseprog.htm); and,

- Objective(s) under which the each participant will conduct their studies.

Project or Activity Designation and Number (if applicable): _____
Project or Activity Title: _____
Administrative Advisor: _____

Participant Name and E-Mail Address	Institution and Department	Research						Extension		Project Objectives				
		CRIS Codes			Personnel									
		RPA	SOI	FOS	SY	PY	TY	FTE	National Program	1	2	3	4	5

Appendix F: NRSP BUDGET REQUESTS SUMMARY

Project Number and Title

MRF FUNDING										
DESCRIPTION	**Proposed FY (year 1)**		**Proposed FY (year 2)**		**Proposed FY (year 3)**		**Proposed FY (year 4)**		**Proposed FY (year 5)**	
	Dollars	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**
SALARIES										
FRINGE BENEFITS										
WAGES										
TRAVEL										
SUPPLIES										
MAINTENANCE										
EQUIPMENT/ CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT										
TOTAL										

OTHER SOURCES OF FUNDING

Please check one of the following: **Industry** **Federal Agencies** **Grants/Contracts** **SAESs**

Other (please list): _____

DESCRIPTION	**Proposed FY (year 1)**		**Proposed FY (year 2)**		**Proposed FY (year 3)**		**Proposed FY (year 4)**		**Proposed FY (year 5)**	
	Dollars	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**	**Dollars**	**FTE**
SALARIES										
FRINGE BENEFITS										
WAGES										
TRAVEL										
SUPPLIES										
MAINTENANCE										
EQUIPMENT/ CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT										
TOTAL										

Agenda Item 12.0: National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee
Presenter: Eric Young for Lee Sommers
Background:

The National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee met on May 29, 2007 in Beltsville, MD at the ARS Carver Center just prior to the Plant Germplasm Operations Committee (PGOC). Several NPGCC members also attended the first day of the PGOC meeting.

The following agenda items were discussed during the NPGCC meeting.

1. **NRSP-5 and -6 Funding.** Regional feedback on NRSP-5 and -6 was reviewed and the funding issues discussed. Feedback indicated support for maintaining funding at least at the FY06 levels. One question that was frequently asked is: Should fees be assessed to recover costs for distribution of plant germplasm? Peter Bretting indicated that the ARS rationale for free distribution has been addressed in the past and white papers have been developed to explain the current system. The NPGCC will review a white paper written several years ago on this topic.
   a. Motion was passed endorsing off the top funding mechanism for NRSP-5 and -6 at least at the FY06 level.
   b. Memo with motion was sent to NRSP Review Committee with cc to Colien Hefernan, Ralph Otto, Exec Directors, and ESCOP chair Ron Pardini
   c. To continue communication, NPGCC will provide ESCOP with agenda briefs describing it's activities and every 2-3 years request time on the ESS annual meeting agenda for a more complete report.

2. **International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources and the Standard Material Transfer Agreement.** ESCOP solicited comments from SAES Directors on the Treaty and SMTA and the memo from Ron Pardini summarizing feedback was discussed. June Blaylock, ARS Tech Transfer, shared her perspectives of prior activities on this issue. The Executive Branch supports the Treaty, which now requires ratification by the Senate (not scheduled for action at this time). American Seed Trade Association also has endorsed the treaty. Points from the discussion include:
   a. Complex document and SAES system needs educational material to implement the Treaty.
   b. Treaty includes a list of 64 crops affected; some major US crops are not included such as soybean and cotton.
   c. NPGS must comply if plant material comes to US from 1) country signing Treaty or 2) CG International Research Centers.
   d. SMTA follows material and is a contract between original seed provider and recipient. That is, seed from a CG center distributed by a US plant introduction station to a university results in a SMTA between the CG center and the university.
   e. An issue requiring further clarification is payment of royalties to the international trust if germplasm is a component of commercialized product or if restrictions of use imposed.
   f. Current holdings in the NPGS are NOT affected if distributed within the US – no SMTA required.
   g. ARS members of NPGCC will draft a flow chart with details of the Treaty/SMTA process, which will be shared with SAES Directors.

3. **Representation on NPGCC from Other Interested Groups.** The pros and cons of having liaisons from related organizations were discussed. Some possible criteria for liaison members included commitment to NPGS, users of NPGS, advocate for NPGS, provide a mutual benefit, and/or lack of a formal entry point into the NPGS. The following groups were identified as having missions related to NPGCC: ASTA, AOSCA, Am Assoc Industrial Crops (AAIC), and Organic Seed Alliance.

   However, the committee decided that it was premature to invite formal liaison members. Instead the NPGCC will volunteer to give presentations on the roles, functions, and components of the NPGS at major meetings of selected national organizations. Initial targets are ASTA, AOSCA and AAIC. A standardized PowerPoint presentation will be developed for the NPGCC member to use.

4. **Marketing the NPGS.** Possible marketing activities and several approaches to marketing were discussed and the following suggested:
   a. Target - SAES: regular agenda briefs and request in-depth session every 2-3 years at ESS annual meeting.
   b. Target – related organizations: presentations at their meeting by a NPGCC member.
   c. Target – LGU system: develop web site with NPGCC information; post PowerPoint presentations, white papers, links, etc.

5. **Next Meeting.** It was decided to meet face to face each year at the PGOC meeting to facilitate our interaction with the leaders of NPGS. Quarterly conference calls will also be scheduled to update the NPGCC on NPGS activities and issues. The first call will be scheduled for early October to report on ESS meeting discussions and results of NRSP funding decision.

National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee
Minutes
May 29, 2007, Beltsville, MD

Present: Eric Young, Lee Sommers, Candy Gardner, Peter Bretting, Ed Kaliekau, Ann Marie Thro, Jerry Arkin
Guest: June Blalock (ARS)

Meeting was called to order at 1:00 pm and agenda approved as distributed.

6. Review of regional feedback on NRSP-5 and -6. The funding issue for NRSP-5 and -6 was discussed. Feedback from regional associations indicated support for maintaining funding at least at the FY06 levels. One question that is frequently asked is: Should fees be assessed to recover costs for distribution of plant germplasm? Peter indicated that the rationale for free distribution has been addressed in the past and white papers developed to explain the current system. Peter will send the NPGCC a copy of a paper that he wrote several years ago discussing this issue.
    a. Motion was passed endorsing off the top funding mechanism for NRSP-5 and -6 at least at the FY06 level.
    b. Memo with motion will be sent to NRSP Review Committee with cc to Colien Hefernan, Ralph Otto, Exec Directors, and ESCOP chair Ron Pardini
    c. Action item: NPGCC will provide ESCOP with annual agenda brief describing our activities and every 2-3 years request that the ESS annual meeting include the NPGCC as a topic in the workshop where an emphasis will be placed on raising the visibility of the NPGS and showing the impact of the NPGS on SAES research.

7. International Treaty on Plant Genetic Resources and the Standard Material Transfer Agreement. ESCOP solicited comments from SAES Directors on the Treaty and SMTA and the memo from Ron Pardini summarizing feedback was discussed. June Blaylock, ARS Tech Transfer, joined us to share her perspectives of prior activities. The Executive Branch supports the Treaty and it next requires ratification by the Senate (not scheduled for action at this time). American Seed Trade Association has endorsed the treaty. A couple of the few points from our discussion are:
    a. Complex document and SAES system needs educational material to implement the Treaty.
    b. Treaty includes a list of 64 that are affected; some major US crops are not included such as soybean and cotton.
    c. NPGS must comply if plant material comes to US from 1) country signing Treaty or 2) CG International Research Center.
    d. SMTA follows material and is a contract between original seed provider and recipient. That is, seed from a CG center distributed by a US plant introduction station to a university results in a SMTA between the CG center and the university.
    e. Another issue requiring clarification is payment of royalties to the international trust if germplasm is a component of commercialized product or if restrictions of use imposed.

f. Current holdings in the NPGS are NOT affected if distributed within the US – no SMTA required.
g. Action item: **Peter** will draft thank you letter to Ron Pardini
h. Action item: **Peter** and **Candy** will draft a flow chart elaborating Treaty/SMTA processes which we will share with SAES Directors.
i. Action item: **Peter** will obtain copy of ASTA statement regarding Treaty.

8. Representation on NPGCC for other interested groups – We discussed the pros and cons of asking liaisons from related organizations to join our committee. Some possible criteria for liaison members included commitment to NPGS, users of NPGS, advocate for NPGS, provide a mutual benefit, or those groups lacking an entry point into the NPGS.
    a. Conclusion: may be premature to invite formal liaison members
    b. We identified the following groups as having missions related to NPGCC: ASTA, AOSCA, Am Assoc Industrial Crops (AAIC), Organic Seed Alliance, others??
    c. Action item: The NPGCC will volunteer to give a presentation on the roles, functions, and components of the NPGS at major meetings of selected national organizations with initial targets of ASTA, AOSCA and AAIC; a standardized PowerPoint presentation will be developed for the NPGCC member to use. Contacts are: ASTA-**Peter**; AOSCA-?; AAIC-**Candy**.

9. Interaction with Plant Germplasm Operations Committee (PGOC) – several of the NPGCC will attend the PGOC meeting. No official action needed.

10. Possible marketing activities – Several approaches to marketing were discussed and the following suggested:
    a. Target - SAES: regular agenda briefs and request workshop session every 2-3 years at ESS annual meeting.
    b. Target – related organizations: volunteer presentation at their meeting by a NPGCC member.
    c. Target – general: develop web site with NPGCC info; post PowerPoint presentations, white papers, links.

11. Other business – We decided to meet face to face each year at the PGOC meeting to facilitate our interaction with the NPGS. **Peter** will communicate the time and location of next PGOC once it's determined. We will also schedule quarterly conference calls to update the NPGCC on activities with the first call scheduled for early October to report on ESS meeting and results of NRSP funding decision. **Eric** will schedule conference call.

Recorded by Lee Sommers and Eric Young.

Action Requested: For Information

Agenda Item 13.0: Executive Director Report, Changes to By-Laws
Presenter: H. Michael Harrington
Background:

April - June, 2007

I. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

WAAESD

Support to the Chair and Organization

Meeting Support and Logistics

- **Spring Meeting:** With CY HU and the Executive Committee developed the agenda for the March meeting. Worked with our EC, Arlen Leholm and Nikki Nelson the NCRA executive committee to develop the joint meeting agenda.

New Project Development

Worked with Lee Sommers, Don Snyder and Ron Pardini to develop 500 series projects on UV-B and grass fed beef; the latter project coming from discussions at the spring meeting with the NCRA.

REE Energy Science Survey

Developed and deployed an online survey to obtain regional input on the proposed energy science program as presented by Jim Fischer at the spring meeting in Hawaii. (See below.)

CSREES Grantsmanship Workshop, October 2-3, 2007: The western grants workshop will be held in Denver in partnership with the University of Wyoming, Colorado State, WAAESD and CSREES. Serve as the event coordinator and work closely with Lee Sommers, Steve Miller, Glen Whipple, the CSREES team and Chris Haring (conference coordinator) at UWY. Worked with hotel staff to develop catering and AV needs, facilities including rooms for the various sessions; finalized the budget and registration cost. With UWY conferences staff and CSU staff, finalized registration website and meeting website. Notified all members of the BAA of the workshops. Currently collecting applications for travel grants and fielding questions.

Committee Activities

- **Western SARE Administrative Council:** I serve as the Western Directors' representative on this activity. Participated in the review of graduate student grant applications.
- **Western Region IMP Center Steering and Advisory Committees:** I participate in policy development discussions, provide background information, review proposals, and participate in funding decisions. Attended meetings of both committees in Portland, OR April 30-May 2.

Joint Summer Meeting

Worked with Chair and Executive Committee to finalize WAAESD agenda. Worked with WEDA, WAPD and WAAESD to develop agenda for combined session and organized final joint session of all groups. Secured Arlen Leholm's participation for the joint session and Jim Fischer's participation for the closing joint session. Assisted Marc Johnson with W-AHS agenda.

II. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ESCOP

Support to the Chair and Organization: With Ron Pardini serving as Chair, our office assumes responsibility for facilitating ESCOP activities. Ron, Harriet and I continue to assure that all matters are attended to in a timely manner. These responsibilities include drafting correspondence, developing agendas, collecting agenda briefs, drafting minutes, facilitating regular conference calls, and maintaining communications with the ESCOP membership.

Meeting Support and Logistics: Worked with Ron Pardini, the Chair's Advisory Committee to develop agenda for the summer ESCOP meeting in Philadelphia, July 24-26.

NRSP-7 Special Assessment: Sought additional information on NRSP-7 financial needs to better inform decision making relative to the need for financial support**.** Worked with the NRSP-RC to develop a recommendation to ESCOP on the support request. Developed communications to the ESCOP Executive Committee and the SAES Directors on the proposed assessment. Developed draft assessment letter for use in all regions.

International Plant Genetic Resources Treaty: Distributed treaty details to AES Directors. Solicited and assimilated input from the SAES system which was provided to a special committee comprised of representative from the state department and USDA.

Multistate Research Awards Program: Developed draft awards program to recognize excellence in multistate research.

Committee Activities

- **ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee:** Support Chairman LeRoy Daugherty as the Executive vice Chair on this important committee. Participated in a number of calls. Kept Committee members informed of latest developments with the Farm Bill. Will attend BAC meeting in Philadelphia in July.

- **NRSP Review Committee:** Harriet and I support Lee Sommers who chairs this important committee. We facilitated the face to face committee meeting in Kansas City June 5.

- **CREATE-21/Farm Bill Committee:** I serve on the Executive Committee for this activity representing AES directors and the Western Region. Participated in both EC and regular conference calls. Serve as Executive vice Chair of the Farm Bill Committee and as a staff support for the energy title. Assisted with proposed modifications that would expand the current energy title. Worked with the C-21 EC and Cornerstone staff to provide input into drafting of language for the Farm Bill.

- **LEAD^{21}:** Represent ESCOP on the Board for this program and serve as the Secretary.

- **REE Energy Science Workshop Steering Committee:** At the request of Under Secretary Buchanan, I represent the research interests of the LGU on the organizing committee for this workshop to be held September 5-6 in Washington DC. James Wade and I developed a list of potential university invitees to this conference. Participated in several conference calls.

National survey on proposed REE Energy Science Program
Developed and deployed an online survey to obtain regional input on the proposed energy science program as presented by Jim Fischer at various spring meetings. This survey was used by all regional association and was sent to AES, ARD, CES, Academic Programs AHS, 1980 Extension, 1994s to obtain broad input. We anticipate using results assist with organization and to inform discussion at the REE Energy Science Workshop.

NASULGC-DOE/EERE Partnership
The BAA-Policy Board of Directors was charged with implementing the activities for this partnership effort. I represent the executive directors (both AES and CE) on the Steering Committee which provides guidance and oversight for the project. We are entering the third year of a MOU which provide funding for pilot projects. Outstanding success has been achieved with all aspects of the initial pilot projects. Specific examples include the 4-H after school program that has been implemented in 23 states, the buildings program in the southern region and the PWN Extension Energy Initiative. There was also excellent success with the faculty workshops and DOE laboratories.

Based on these successes, DOE is moving to "institutionalize" the project within its framework. Future activities will be primarily education and extension focused. Working with Ian Maw, Jim Fischer and others to facilitate transition to a new management structure that would link DOE more directly to service providers.

Project 1: Pacific Northwest Extension Energy Initiative: Continue to work with Linda Fox (WA), Charlotte Eberlein (ID), Scott Reed (OR), Pete Pinney (AK), Jake Fey and Sheila Riggs (EERE Information Center-WSU energy program) and Lyla Houglum to implement the 2006-7 plan of work. Each state has hired an energy specialist to facilitate attaining the program's goals and objectives. Worked with the state energy specialists, and Lyla Houglum to develop and deploy online surveys for each of the states to obtain information on the types of informational requests that are received by extension agents. Participated in conference calls and collected and assimilated quarterly reports that are filed with NASULGC and DOE.

Summary of Travel April-June 2007

April 16-18: NMCC Meeting Washington DC
April 19: Met with U-WY conferences staff, Laramie WY
April 22-26: CSREES Administrative Officers Meeting, Seattle, WA
April 30-May 2: Western Region IPM Center Steering and Advisory Committee Meetings, Portland OR
June 4-5: NRSP Review Committee Kansas City MO
June 16-28: Boy Scout backpacking trip, Philmont Scout Ranch, NM – What a trip!!!

Proposed Changes to WAAESD By-Laws

The proposed modifications were sent to all Directors on June 13, 2007 for consideration to meet the 30 day notification requirement for changes to the Association By-Laws.

Changes were recently made to the Association By-Laws two areas: officers term dates and delegation of responsibilities for the Multistate Program to the RCIC. There changes were approved via electronic ballot.

However, it was noted at the spring meeting there was some confusion as to the term "National Association" in Article V - Officers. The suggested modification shown below clarifies the term of office consistent with the original intent. Existing language is stricken, new language in bold and underlined

Article V - Officers

A. The Officers of the WDA shall be a Chair, Chair-Elect, Past Chair, Secretary and a Treasurer, each for a one (1) year term that begins at the close of the Association meeting held in conjunction with the annual meeting of the ~~National Association~~ **Experiment Station Section**. Officers may succeed themselves (be re-elected) for one additional term, except for the Treasurer who may serve successive terms.

Action Requested: Approval of changes to the WAAESD By-Laws
Action Taken: Approved recommended changes to the WAAESD By-Laws

Agenda Item 14.0: Draft Informational Survey
Presenters: Don Snyder, Ron Pardini, Mike Harrington
Background:

Western Region
Questionnaire Regarding Hatch/State Fund Allocations

This questionnaire deals primarily with Hatch (formula) and McIntire-Stennis (where applicable) funds, but some questions also are directed at state matching funds as required by law. Also, we are primarily interested in ***faculty*** salary and operating funds.

I. Hatch (formula) and McIntire-Stennis

1. Faculty receiving Experiment Station funding are on
   ☐ 11 or12-month (fiscal or calendar year) contracts
   ☐ 9-month (academic year) contracts
   ☐ Combination of 9- and 12-month
   If a combination, what determines what types of contracts incoming faculty receive?
   _____
   _____

2. Are Hatch/McIntire-Stennis (as applicable) used as part of the 9-month/12-month salaries?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No
   If ***No***, are these funds used to augment 9-month salaries?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

3. If Hatch funds were lost, would it cause faculty to be released?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

Explain_____

4. If Hatch funds were lost, would it cause staff to be released?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

Explain_____

5. If Hatch funds were lost, would your state funding be affected?
   ☐ Yes
   ☐ No

Explain_____

6. With respect to Hatch (formula) funds, the funds are allocated to departments and faculty through
   - ☐ A strictly historical basis
   - ☐ Based on FTE
   - ☐ An historical basis with changes made at the margin between departments as a function of productivity
   - ☐ All on a competitive basis
     How long are the competitive allocations based?
     - ☐ 1-2 year
     - ☐ 3 years
     - ☐ 3 years
     - ☐ 4-5 years
     - ☐ Other (explain) _____
   - ☐ Part historical, part competitive
   - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

7. Are the Hatch (and McIntire-Stennis where applicable) funds held
   - ☐ Centrally by the station
   - ☐ Allocated to departments
   - ☐ Part centrally and part allocated to departments
   - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

Please comment as needed: _____

8. When open positions occur, funds are
   - ☐ Pulled back and held by the central administration
   - ☐ Pulled back and held by the Experiment Station
   - ☐ Pulled back but available to departments on request
   - ☐ Left within department
   - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

Please comment as needed: _____

9. If made available to departments or left within departments, the funds are allowed to remain within the department
   - ☐ For 1 year
   - ☐ 2 or more years
   - ☐ Indefinitely
   - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

10. When funds pulled back by the station,
   - ☐ Funds are used to meet one-time operating/equipment needs
   - ☐ Funds are made available for a 1-year competitive award
   - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

10. Individual faculty evaluations conducted between dean and/or director and
    - ☐ Individual faculty members
    - ☐ Department head
    - ☐ Both individual faculty members and department head
    - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

11. Are state matching funds?
    - ☐ Larger than Hatch/McIntire-Stennis allocations
    - ☐ Equal to Hatch/McIntire-Stennis allocations
    - ☐ Less than Hatch/McIntire-Stennis allocations

12. For state matching funds, the funds are allocated to departments and faculty through
    - ☐ A strictly historical basis
    - ☐ An historical basis with changes made at the margin between departments as a function of productivity
    - ☐ All on a competitive basis
      How long are the competitive allocations based?
        - ☐ 1 year
        - ☐ 2 years
        - ☐ 5 years
        - ☐ Other (please explain) _____
    - ☐ Part historical, part competitive
    - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

13. Are state matching funds held?
    - ☐ Centrally by the station
    - ☐ Allocated to departments
    - ☐ Part centrally and part allocated to departments
    - ☐ Other (please explain) _____

II. MULTISTATE RESEARCH FUNDS

How are MRF used to support personnel and/or operations?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No
- ☐ If yes, explain how this is determined_____

If yes, please indicate the approximate % funding for each

- Faculty ____
- Technicians ____
- Post Docs ____
- Students (graduate, undergraduate) ____
- Operations ____ (Dollar amount or %)
- Travel to committee meetings ____ (Dollar amount or %)

III. INTEGRATED PROJECTS

Do you currently conduct integrated projects with Extension?

- ☐ Yes
- ☐ No

If yes, please explain how these projects are implemented?

_____

_____

When approving projects, how do you determine which ones are integrated and how do you assure that you will meet the 25% requirement?

_____

_____

IV. LAND USE

Who holds the deeds or titles to AES properties?

- ☐ University
- ☐ College/Station
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

Who has ultimate authority over AES lands?

- ☐ Board of Regents or Trustees
- ☐ University President
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

How are station farms/facilities operations funded?

- ☐ Centrally from experiment station funds
- ☐ Through departments from experiment station allocated funds
- ☐ Combination of centrally-held funds and funds allocated to departments
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

How are plot allocations on AES properties determined?

- ☐ Centrally in the Directors office
- ☐ By the respective station managers
- ☐ A combination of the above
- ☐ Other (please explain) _____

If lands are to be sold, how are such decisions made?

- ☐ Board of Regents or Trustees
- ☐ Central Administration
- ☐ In collaboration with the appropriate University officials
- ☐ This is a station decision

☐ Other (explain) _____

If lands are to be sold, how are funds distributed?
☐ Central Administration retains funds
☐ Split between Administration and College/AES
☐ Other (explain) _____

V. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY POLICY

What is your university policy on intellectual property, i.e. who owns the IP?
☐ University
☐ Faculty
☐ Other (explain) _____

Does your unit have existing agreements (e.g.CRDA) with private companies?
☐ Yes
☐ No

How is the decision to seek a patent made? Please explain.
☐ Technology Transfer Office make decision after due diligence
☐ University Committee makes recommendation
☐ Other (explain) _____

Who negotiates licensing agreements?
☐ Technology Transfer Office
☐ Other (explain) _____

If an invention is licensed, how are royalties shared?
☐ University only
☐ Faculty only
☐ Split between University and Faculty

What is a typical royalty share that is received by your university?
☐ <5%
☐ 5-10%
☐ Other (explain) _____

Action Requested: Comment as appropriate

Agenda Item 15.0: Appointments and Election of Officers
Presenter: CY Hu
Background:

Hu reported that the Executive Committee recommended the following slate of officers for 2008:

Chair - Greg Bohach (ID)
Chair-elect - David Thawley (NV)
Secretary - Jan Auyong (OR)
Executive Committee Members at Large - Steve Miller (WY) and Carol Lewis (AK)
RCIC - Larry Curtis (OR)

The Executive Committee appointed Ralph Cavalieri (WA) to serve on the ESCOP NRSP Review Committee.

Action Requested: Approval of the recommended slate of officers for 2008
Action Taken: Approved the recommended slate of officers for 2008

Agenda Item 16.1: State Reports

Hawaii State Report
Presenter: CY Hu
Background:

College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources,
University of Hawaii at Manoa
Station Report for Western Directors Joint Summer Meeting, July 2007

Centennial of the University of Hawaii and CTAHR

The year 2007 is the centennial of the University of Hawaii, its flagship Manoa campus, and its founding college, the College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources.

- **CTAHR Centennial Homecoming and Awards Celebration:** To mark our first century of instruction, research, and outreach, CTAHR hosted a Centennial Homecoming and Awards Celebration on April 12, 2007. Among the exceptional students, staff, faculty, alumni, and supporters honored were Outstanding Alumnus Dr. Nan-Yao Su, the inventor of Dow AgroScience's Sentricon system for termite colony elimination, and agribusiness entrepreneur Dean Okimoto, president of the Hawaii Farm Bureau Federation, member of the CTAHR Board of Advisors, and co-founder of HFBF's farmers' markets. Fundraising linked to the event brought in more than $200,000 for student scholarships.

- **'Centennial' anthurium:** CTAHR released a new anthurium cultivar, to commemorate the university's and college's first hundred years. The 'Centennial' hybrid's green and white coloration matches the UH colors, the tulip-shaped spathe resembles the flame that appears on the UH seal, and the green veins that come together at the flower's base and apex symbolize the university's union of diverse cultures. 'Centennial' is among 40 cultivars released by the college's anthurium research and breeding program, which was established in 1950 and has played a key role in making anthurium Hawaii's top cut-flower crop.

- **UH Manoa Centennial Celebration:** CTAHR took part in a Centennial Celebration open house at UH Manoa on January 13, 2007. Members of the community were invited to learn more about our land-grant, sea-grant, and space-grant university. The breadth of the college's mission was well-represented by its displays, which included samples of an extensive insect collection, a costume museum, and an informational booth on agricultural biotechnology that featured taste tests comparing genetically engineered and non-GE food products.

UH Manoa Update

- **New Chancellor:** On July 1, 2007, Dr. Virginia Hinshaw assumes the chancellorship of UH Manoa. An experienced administrator, she served most recently as Provost and Executive Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Finance at the University of California, Davis and previously as Dean of the Graduate School and Vice Chancellor for Research at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. Dr. Hinshaw's

research expertise is in virology; at UC Davis, she held a joint professorial appointment in the Schools of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. We commend outgoing Interim Chancellor Denise Eby Konan for her outstanding service during the past two years.

- **Leadership changes in Academic Affairs:** Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs Neal Smatresk recently joined the University of Nevada–Las Vegas as Executive Vice President and Provost. UH Vice President for Academic Planning and Policy Linda K. Johnsrud has been appointed UH Manoa's Interim Vice-Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

CTAHR Update

- **Enrollment:** CTAHR's reorganized academic programs were formally announced to students in 2002. Between the Fall 2002 and Fall 2006 semesters, the college's total student enrollment increased by 40%. During the same time period, enrollment in the University of Hawaii system increased by less than 4%, and enrollment at UH Manoa increased by less than 9%. Enrollment in the college's six academic departments has reached its highest level in 20 years, with more than 800 undergraduate and graduate majors registered in Fall 2006.

- **2007 Legislative Session:** Prior to adjourning its 2007 Regular Session, the Hawaii State Legislature incorporated into the state budget a capital improvement appropriation of $764,000 for a second phase of renovations at the Komohana Agricultural Complex in Hilo and $150,000 in each year of the budget biennium to support the Center on the Family. These funds are subject to approval by the Governor.

- **Grants and contracts:** As we approach June 30, the end date for CTAHR's fiscal year 2007, the college's faculty and staff members have received 170 extramural awards worth almost $23.3 million. FY2007 has been among the college's most productive years for extramural funding, second only to FY2004's $24.2 million. In addition, the number of grants received in FY2007 nearly matches the record of 171 that was set in FY2006. The discontinuation of federal special grants (earmarks) in the federal FY2007 budget is expected to cost the college more than $8 million in FY2008.

- **New County Administrators:** Kelvin Sewake and Ray Uchida have been appointed county administrators for the islands of Hawaii and Oahu, respectively. Roy Yamakawa has been named the interim county administrator for the island of Kauai.

- **Hawaii Employee of the Year:** Machinist Charles Nelson was named the State Employee of 2006 by Gov. Linda Lingle after having been recognized by CTAHR with the college's 2006 Outstanding Civil Service Award and subsequently selected as the University of Hawaii's nominee for the Governor's Employee of the Year Award. The Governor lauded Mr. Nelson's dedication and ingenuity in creating technologies that benefit Hawaii as well has his exceptional service in the aftermath of the 2004 Manoa flood.

- **UH Manoa Chancellor's Service Awards:** Two members of CTAHR were honored with UH Manoa's annual Service Awards. Research support staff Karl Yanagihara, an integral member of the laboratory that evaluates pesticides for registration to use on Hawaii's diversified crops, received the 2006 Chancellor's Outstanding Administrative, Professional, and Technical Service Award. Ethel Murata, a secretary with Cooperative Extension Service on Oahu, was recognized with the 2006 Chancellor's Outstanding Civil Service Award.

Nevada State Report
Presenter: Ronald S. Pardini
Background:

New Greenhouses
We are currently constructing 6 new "state of the art" greenhouses at our Valley Road Field facility to support our research and education programs in the plant sciences. The old greenhouses are located on the site designated for construction of the new Science building, so relocating them at our Valley Road Field which is only one block off of campus was an opportunity to modernize the greenhouses.

Field Lab Days
One June 23rd, we held our second annual "Field Day" which was open to the public and featured four field tours including 1. Large Animal Surgery and biomedical research using livestock as models for human diseases; 2. Wolf Pack Meats with new product development; 3. Field tours of alfalfa varietals trials including Round up Ready Alfalfa; 4 Prescription grazing for noxious weed control and biofuels crop production trials. In addition, 40 faculty/student research posters were presented and we hosted an old fashion BBQ. The children's activities were educational and had a popular hay ride. Over 400 attendees were present.

On October 2 and 3rd, the third annual Gund Range Research Ranch Field Day and Range Monitoring Workshop will occur. Topics will include grazing for fire control and public land issues.

Faculty Salaries
Our budget resulted in a 2% cost of living increase for faculty and 2.5% merit increase for FY 2008-09.

Positions
Kurt Pregitzer, Professor and Chair, Natural Resources and Environmental Science
Kelly Stewart, Assistant Professor, Natural Resources and Environmental Science
Tigran Melkonyan, Associate Professor, Resource Economics
Maria Pregitzer, Advising Recruitment Retention Coordinator - CABNR
Susan Casey, Assistant Director, Development – CABNR

Oregon State Report
Presenter: Jan Auyong
Background:

STATE REPORT – OREGON

Oregon State University
Colleges of Agricultural Sciences, Science, Health & Human Science, and Forestry
Summer 2007

CAS Update

- **Centennial Celebration for Departments of Crop & Soil Science and Animal Sciences** A six-month program of seminars, open houses, and alumni programs marked the centennial anniversary of two major departments within the College of Agricultural Sciences at Oregon State University. Posters, flyers, historical materials were generated as support for the activities.

- **Information Technology for Sustainable Agriculture.** OAES is collaborating with a wireless entrepreneur to incorporate the use of computer systems to better manage agricultural production and experiments. The Hermiston Agricultural Research & Extension Center is proposed as the site of a pilot program to remotely run operations and experiments. Preliminary steps include field water monitoring and application, chemical applications, and soil moisture measurements.

- **Base Budgets for Oregon Statewide Service Programs.** After a tumultuous session, the biennial Oregon Legislature passed a $ 5 million increase for the statewide programs, which include the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station, Oregon Cooperative Extension Service, and the Forest Research Laboratory. However, this 5% increase included a number of earmarks, whose impact on the actual discretion of the programs directors is yet to be known. It is expected that this policy option package will be sufficient to cover the proposed 2+2 cost of living/merit increases and employee benefit package in the upcoming year. Good news considering the unfunded mandated raises last year depleted most college reserves.

- **Bio-Economy and Sustainable Technologies (BEST) Signature Research Center.** The mission of Oregon Innovation Council (Oregon INC) is to identify Oregon's top innovation-driven growth opportunities, maximize the state's competitive advantages and establish Oregon's niche in the global economy. One of their programs is the identification and funding of Signature Research Centers (SRCs), which represent perhaps the state's best opportunity for long-term investment in research and development. The state already enjoys significant success through its first SRC, ONAMI, a nanotechnology and micro technology initiative that has brought together public university, national laboratory and private sector strengths in an unprecedented collaboration supported by federal and state funds. The Oregon BEST Center is one of two new SRCs being funded in the 2007–09 biennium. The Oregon Legislature passed $1.5 million in start-up funding, matched by $1 million from the Oregon University System. Faculty from CAS Biological and Ecological Engineering were among those developing the proposal and involved in the direction of this new SRC.

- **Grants and Contracts**. As of the end of May 2007, CAS/OAES brought in $28,848,293 in awards, representing 22% of total awards generated by OSU to date for the fiscal year. This does not account for the awards obtained by OAES faculty in Colleges of Health & Human Sciences, Science, and Forestry. OAES is OSU's highest grossing unit.

OSU Update

Within the past few months, the Provost announced the establishment of a new Vice Provost, that of Outreach and Engagement, to complement those for Research and Academic Programs. He also appointed the Dean & Director of Extension to the new post. Scott Reed will continue to serve in both capacities. However, a

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 16.2: Science and Technology Committee
Presenter: Greg Bohach
Background:

The ESCOP Science and Technology Committee met via a conference call on June 7, 2007. The Social Science Subcommittee remains very active and is focusing collaboration around the following key issues: the human aspects and impacts of the bioeconomy; immigration and rural communities; the intersections of food and health; and specification of the rural development NRI RFP. Pat Dick was elected chair and Cornelia Flora will serve as the representative to the Science and Technology Committee.

The NRI priority input process was completed and forwarded to the NRI leadership. We are waiting to determine what impact the input will have on the RFP's. We may need to re-evaluate the process in future meetings and decide whether to re-engage the system.

The Science Roadmap update was well received. It may be necessary to revisit and update the Roadmap every 4 to 5 years. There is discussion of the development of an operational strategic plan for ESCOP. The Committee is prepared to participate in this process.

The Committee discussed the issue of a maximum percentage for NRI integrated awards. There was a feeling that the awards should be driven by program needs and the quality of the proposals received, and that all outstanding integrated proposals should qualify. As the maximum percentage is currently legislated, it was suggested that ESCOP should request a revision of the legislation removing the maximum. The committee looked at some background information on how other funding agencies define and handle integration. It was felt that it would be helpful to invite representative from NSF and NIH and Anna Palmisano to our next meeting.

The committee started to review its charge to determine whether it is still relevant. As the participation in the conference call was somewhat limited at that time, it was decided the committee will reconvene to revise and update the charge.

Dr. Pueppke has served as chair of the committee for three years and suggested that it may be time to appoint another chair. Nominations are being requested.

The Committee may meet at the ESS Meeting on September 17. If not, a conference call will be scheduled after the meeting.

Action Requested: For Information

Agenda Item 16.3: CREATE-21/Farm Bill Update
Presenter: Mike Harrington
Background:

The C-21 bill was introduced in both the Senate and House. The latter bill included the Farm Bill recommendations and also removed the proposed reorganization of USDA. Testimony was provided in support of the bill by the BAC. The research title has many features of the C-21 proposal. Cornerstone continues to effectively to provide language and input into the Bill.

The latest information on C-21 is posted in the website at http://www.create-21.org.

Action Requested: For information only

Agenda Item 16.4: BAA – Policy Board of Directors
Presenter: H. M Harrington
Background:

The PBD met in March 13-14 Dallas TX

CREATE- 21. Jeff Armstrong, Gale Buchanan, Bill Danforth, AAAS President, and an Iowa farmer testified before Senate hearing. The hearing went well, good questions from members One criticism of CREATE-21 is that it's too complicated. There are a few LGUs which oppose C-21 as written. The House bill which lacks the reorganization has reduced the criticism from ARS and some LGUs.

Budget and Advocacy Committee: The BAC will be meeting at the Joint Cops meeting to reaffirm 09 priorities and begin work on the 2010 priorities.

Science on Hill Exhibit: PBD is undertaking an evaluation of the value of the exhibit.

AHS-CARET Meetings: The CARET Executive Committee is making an effort to determine how to better use CARET in the future.

2007 Elections: Academic Programs Section (APS), Cooperative Extension System (CES), 1890's, non-Land Grant Universities (ASCARR)

Future PBD Meetings

- July 24: 8:00 – 5:00, Philadelphia
- November 11: 4:00 – 9:00, New York
- March TBD

Action Requested: For Information

Agenda Item 16.5: EERE-NASULGC Partnership
Presenter: H. Michael Harrington
Background:

There 4 projects currently underway:

I. Enhancing EERE program impact by increasing the working relationships between NASULGC regional associations and EERE regional offices: The PNW Extension Energy Project involving AK, ID, OR and WA. Each state has identified an energy extension specialist who is serving as the principal point of contact within each state. A survey on information needs has been conducted within each state to better meet stakeholder needs.

II. Institutionalizing the Extension outreach capacity in DOE/EERE programs: This project, implemented in the southern region, is primarily focused on energy efficient housing. Connections have been made with the building industries and with various stakeholder groups.

III. Increasing public education about energy by augmenting youth education in science and math with EERE-related interactive modules: This project is focused on the science of energy for young people, primarily middle school age, through three curriculum units that have been done with The NEED Project - a organization with over 25 years of experience in teaching energy to young people. The three units are Science of Light and Lighting, Science of Heat and Heating, and the Science of Motion. Currently, 23 land-grant institutions have trained 4-H faculty to deliver these three 10 unit curriculum modules.

III. Faculty staff exchanges: The project Team has assembled information on current scientist exchange opportunities at the energy laboratories. It has also looked at current information DOE has regarding future hiring needs, and also the relevance of this information to curriculum development for NASULGC institutions. To successfully fulfill their objectives, the Team must now enlist the input of a broader array of individuals to determine how to best develop a program for adoption.

Future: DOE is interested in developing a more formal relationship specifically around the first three project areas above. At this point the only $200,000 has been allocated for FY 08 which is considerable less that the $500,000 initially promised. Clearly no more than 1or 2 projects can be funded for the coming year.

Action Requested: For Information

Agenda Item 16.6: Regional Coordination Implementation Committee (RCIC) Report
Presenter: John Foltz
Background:

RCIC met on July 15, 2007. People attending were: John Foltz (Chair), David Thawley, Steven Miller, Mike Burke, Deborah Young, Duane Williams, John Winder, Jan Auyong, Robert Matteri, Colin Kaltenbach, Bret Hess, H. Michael Harrington.

Items that were discussed and actions taken follow:

1.0 The following Western Multistate Research Projects/Coordinating Committees are scheduled to terminate on September 30, 2007.

	Project	Title
●	W1001	Population Change in Rural Communities
●	W1122	Beneficial and Adverse Effects of Natural, Bio Dietary Chemicals on Human Health and Food Safety
●	W1177	Enhancing the Competitiveness of U.S. Meats
●	W1185	Biological Control in Pest Management Systems of Plants
●	WDC3	Benchmark soilscapes to predict effects of climatic change in the western USA
●	WDC7	Iris yellow spot virus (IYSV) and Thrips
	WDC8	Agricultural Bioethics
●	WDC9	Sustainable Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship
●	WDC10	Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat (from WERA081)
●	WERA001	Beef Cattle Breeding in the Western Region
●	WERA060	Science and Management of Pesticide Resistance
●	WERA1001	Reduction of Error in Rural and Agricultural Surveys
	WERA1002	Managed Grazing Systems for the Intermountain West

● Requests have been received and are itemized below

2.0 Requests for Multistate Project Extensions

None

3.0 Requests for Multistate Project Revisions

3.1 w_temp1981 Beneficial and Adverse Effects of Natural, Bioactive Dietary Chemicals on Human Health and Food Safety (from W1122)

RCIC approved the revision of W1122 for five years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/12, **pending minor revision**. The proposal needs better description of the approaches. When approved, the new project number will be W2122.

3.2 w_temp2021 Enhancing the Competitiveness and Value of U.S. Beef (from W1177)

RCIC rejected the request for the continuation of W1177 **if major revisions to the proposal are not made and resubmitted by 9/10/07**, addressing the peer reviewer and RCIC concerns. RCIC concerns are: the objectives are too broad; the states listed in the procedures are not reflected in the Appendix E's that have been submitted; the procedures are poorly organized.

3.3 w_temp2141 Population Dynamics and Change: Aging, Ethnicity and Land Use Change in Rural Communities (from W1001)

RCIC approved the revision of W1001 for five years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/12. **pending minor revisions**. The proposal should identify who does specific jobs; needs to identify integration; what happens if the researcdh isn't done; and provide a CRIS search. When approved, the new project number will be W2001.

3.4 w_temp2201 Biological Control in Pest Management Systems of Plants (from W1185)

RCIC approved the revision of W1185 for five years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/12. The new project number will be W2185.

4.0 Requests For Establishment of New Multistate Projects

4.1 w_temp1881 Benchmark soilscapes to predict effects of climatic change in the western USA (from WDC3)

RCIC approved the establishment of a project titled "Benchmark soilscapes to predict effects of climatic change in the western USA" for five years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/12, **pending minor revision**. The states listed in the procedures don't agree with the Appendix E's that have been submitted; the readability and standardization are to be improved. When approved the project number will be W1007.

4.2 w_temp2081 Biology and Management of Iris yellow spot virus (IYSV) and Thrips in Onions

RCIC approved the establishment of a project titled "Biology and Management of Iris yellow spot virus (IYSV) and Thrips in Onions" for five years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/12, **pending major revisions**. The methodology requires major revisions to address all the stated objectives. The revisions are to be completed by September 10, 2007. If approved by the reviewers, the project number will be W1008.

5.0 Requests for WERA/WCC Renewals or Extensions

5.1 WERA001 Beef Cattle Breeding in the Western Region (request for one-year extension)

RCIC approved the extension of WERA001 “Beef Cattle Breeding in the Western Region” for one year, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/08.

5.2 wera_temp2121 Reduction of Error in Rural and Agricultural Surveys (from WERA1001)

RCIC recommended not to approve the renewal of WERA1001 “Reduction of Error in Rural and Agricultural Surveys.” The committee may rewrite the proposal, addressing RCIC concerns, and resubmit for next year.

5.3 wera_temp2221 Management of Pesticide Resistance (from WERA060)

RCIC rejected the renewal of WERA060 “Management of Pesticide Resistance” **unless major revisions addressing the RCIC concerns are made and the proposal is resubmitted by September 10, 2007**.

6.0 Requests for New WERA/WCC’s

6.1 wera_temp2061 Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat (from WDC10)

RCIC approved the establishment of a WERA titled “Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat” for five years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/12, **pending a correction in the FTE table**. RCIC notes that this is a good example of a well written proposal. The project number will be WERA1009.

6.2 wera_temp2161 Mountain and Southwest Regional Evaluation and Introduction of Native Plants

RCIC approved the establishment of WDC11 “Mountain and Southwest Regional Evaluation and Introduction of Native Plants” for one year, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/08. The proposal needs broader participation and industry involvement.

6.3 wera_temp2181 Integrating Access to Information from Herbaria

RCIC approved the establishment of WDC12 ”Integrating Access to Information from Herbaria” for one years, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/08. The proposal should address linkages with the national germplasm system.

6.4 wera_temp2241 Sustainable Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship (from WDC9)

RCIC approved the extension of WDC9 ”Sustainable Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship” for one year, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/08. The proposal is to address how they differ from other active projects with similar titles.

6.5 wera_temp2182 Implementation and Assessment of IPM in Urban Environments

RCIC approved the establishment of WDC13 ”Implementation and Assessment of IPM in Urban Environments” for one year, from 10/1/07 to 9/30/08. The proposal requires major revisions, including specificity on the objectives and corrections of FTE listed in the Appendix E’s.

7.0 Follow-up of Development Research and/or Coordinating Committees

7.1 WDC3 Benchmark soilscapes to predict effects of climatic change in the western USA - see 4.1

7.2 WDC7 Iris yellow spot virus (IYSV) and Thrips - see 4.2

7.3 WDC8 Agricultural Bioethics - committee is considering moving to North Central Region

7.4 WDC9 Sustainable Rangeland and Watershed Stewardship - see 6.4

7.5 WDC10 Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat (from WERA081) - see 6.1)

8.0 Administrative Advisor Assignments

8.1 WDC11 “Mountain and Southwest Regional Evaluation and Introduction of Native Plants” - Steve Miller (WY)

8.2 WDC13 “Implementation and Assessment of IPM in Urban Environments” - Richard Zach (WA)

8.3 WDC12 ”Integrating Access to Information from Herbaria” - an Administrative Advisor is needed for this project.

9.0 Mid-Term Reviews

9.1 The following projects were reviewed and appear to be progressing satisfactorily with good publication records, adequate resources and/or participation, and the committees are following their stated objectives. The review comments will be available to the Administrative Advisor on NIMSS.

Project/ Committee	Title	Administrative Advisor
W1128	Reducing Barriers to Adoption of Microirrigation	Daugherty (NM)
W1170	Chemistry, Bioavailability, And Toxicity Of Constituents In Residuals And Residual-Treated Soils	Sommers (CO)
W1171	Germ Cell and Embryo Development and Manipulation for the Improvement of Livestock	Hu (HI)
W1187	Interactions among Bark Beetles, Pathogens, and Conifers in North American Forests	Coakley (OR)
W1190	Interfacing technological, economic, and institutional principles for managing inter-sector mobilization of water	Daugherty (NM)
WERA021	Revegetation and Stabilization of Deteriorated and Altered Lands	du Toit/Gay (UT)

WERA058	Production, Transition Handling, and Reestablishment of Perennial Nursery Stock	Coakley (OR)
WERA072	Agribusiness Research Emphasizing Competitiveness	Whipple (WY)
WERA077	Managing Invasive Weeds in Wheat	Sommers (CO)
WERA110	Improving ruminant use of forages in sustainable production systems for the western U.S.	Hu (HI)

9.2 RCIC has concerns regarding the following projects:

Project/ Committee	Title	Administrative Advisor
W1181	Modifying Milk Fat Composition for Improved Nutritional and Market Value RCIC notes that attendance is struggling - the group could benefit from Extension involvement	Pardini (NV)
W1188	Characterizing Mass and Energy Transport at Different Scales RCIC notes that impacts and milestones are not stated in the annual reports	Jacobsen (MT)
WERA011	Western Regional Turfgrass Research RCIC recommends that the project **terminate unless annual reports are current by 9/15/2007.** Annual Project/WERA/WCC reports are due within 60 days following the annual meeting. An annual report from the previous year is required before authorization of the current year's meeting. No reports have been submitted for the two meetings that have been scheduled.	Wallner/ Sommers (CO)
WERA095	Vertebrate Pests of Agriculture, Forestry and Public Lands Progress is not shown on objectives 2, 3, 4. No publications are cited and findings are not shown to be communicated.	Thawley (NV)
WERA1004	Agricultural and Community Development in the American Pacific RCIC recommends that the project **terminate unless annual reports are current by 9/15/2007.** The annual report for 2005 is missing.	Harrington (ED)

10.0 Other Business

RCIC discussed the following items:

10.1 Process of reviewing/approving Rapid Response Project (500 Series) requests.

10.2 Possible rewrite of the Regional Guidelines to work on standards. H. Michael Harrington (Chair), Dave Thawley, Mike Burke, Duane Williams, and Deborah Young will collaborate on updating the Guidelines.

10.3 w_temp503 “Economic, Environmental, Genetic, and Nutritional Aspects of Grass-Fed Beef”

Agenda Item 16.7: SARE Report
Presenter: V. Phil Rasmussen
Background:

Simply Sustainable

quarterly newsletter from Western SARE

working to sustain western agriculture

July 2007 Volume 1, Issue 3

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Western Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education

SARE Grant Options Growing

As Western SARE matures beyond its teenage years, pushing to become a 20-year-old program in 2008, it has expanded its reach into several targeted areas beyond the traditional competitive grants.

- The Western Region is currently developing the first of its subregional conferences, this one for the tropical Pacific island subregion Oct. 16 and 17.
- The next phase of evaluating its competitive grants, the Research and Education grants, is nearly complete.
- Four state coordinators – from Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon and Washington – are embarking on their funded projects in the new supplemental R&E funding for "Innovative SARE Coordinator Programs."

(For more on the new Innovative SARE Coordinator Programs, please turn to page 7. For an update on the current planning for the subregional conferences, please see page 8.)

What's more, the Western SARE Administrative Council has begun discussions on the possibility of increasing Farmer/Rancher grant funding through a competitive request for applications that would likely be handled by a principal investigator from a land grant university. Those talks will continue in August when the AC meets in Bozeman, MT.

"Because SARE has grown from $610,000 a year in 1994, when Utah State University began hosting the program, to $3.6 million in 2007, we continue to have targeted calls that go out to various land grant institutions," said Phil Rasmussen, Western SARE regional coordinator.

In the meantime, the Western Region continues to strengthen its competitive grants program, which issued in April its Request for Applications for 2008 funding. Here's an update on Western SARE's five competitive grant categories:

continued on page 2

Young To Direct CSU Extension

Colorado State University has selected Western SARE Administrative Council chair-elect Deborah Young as its new extension director.

Young, who will assume the new extension position Aug. 1, has served as associate director of the University of Arizona Cooperative Extension Service since 1997 and has been a member of the Western SARE executive committee since 2004.

"We of the Administrative Council of Western SARE are very proud of Deborah's appointment as CSU Extension director," said Karl Kupers, current AC chair. "Her leadership and passion for the role of extension in the development of sustainable agriculture will be a cornerstone of her tenure. In light of the changes farmers are seeking for more sustainable systems through their university research arm, Deborah will ensure Colorado producers receive the information in a timely and useful format."

Phil Rasmussen Western SARE regional coordinator agrees that Young's choice to lead extension in Colorado is a good one.

"SARE has always recognized Deborah's talents and abilities, and it's satisfying to see that others agree," said Rasmussen. "She has a keen sense of measurable outcomes and is always asking

continued on page 10

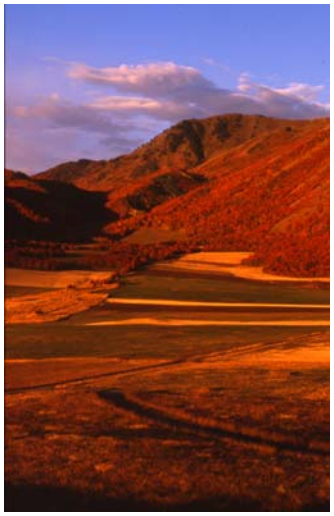
Grants Funded at $2.18 Million

Western SARE funded 44 competitive grants this year for $2.18 million, down slightly from last year's $2.31 million funding of 56 competitive grants.

"While our competitive grant funding was lower this year, we increased the dollars targeted at several new programs designed to enhance sustainability in the Western Region, said Phil Rasmussen, regional coordinator. (See articles on pages 7 and 8 about SARE's new targeted funding initiatives.)

Eleven Research and Education grants were funded this year for a total of $1.36 million compared with 12 grants in 2006 for $1.49 million and 12 grants in 2005 for $1.45 million. Over the last three years, R&E grants have averaged just over $120,000, while in previous years the average has fluctuated more widely, from as low as $83,000 per grant to as high as nearly $150,000.

The Professional Development Program funded seven grants in 2007 for $406,094.



That compares with six grants in 2006 for $413,725 and eight in 2005 for $508,921.

The Farmer/Rancher grant program has seen a steady rise in funding over the last three years. In 2007, 20 grants were funded for $313,058, up from 27 grants for $300,406 in 2006 and 23 grants for $280,419 in 2005. The first year Farmer/Rancher grants were available, 1995, 27 projects were funded for $102,965.

The two-year-old Graduate Fellow in Sustainable Agriculture grants saw six grants funded this year for $106,979, compared with 11 grants for $105,445 in 2006.

A full listing of the 2007grants begins on the next page.

"While our competitive grant fund was lower this year, we increased the dollars targeted at several new programs."

Phil Rasmussen, regional coordinator

Growing Options... from Page 1

Research & Education – As of the June 14 deadline, 133 online pre-application submissions had been received in the SARE office. That compares with 79 pre-applications submitted last year and 111 the year before. For the first time this year, all applicants were required to post their submissions online through the Western SARE website, which generates a PDF file for reviewers. This year's pre-applications will be reviewed in September and those selected will be asked to submit full applications, due Nov. 15. After a technical review in January 2008, the Western SARE Administrative Council will make final selections in March. Successful applicants will be informed in April, and funds will be disbursed in the summer.

Professional Development Program – The deadline for applications is Nov. 1, 2007. This year, drawing on the results of a 2004 survey of extension county agents/ educators, Western SARE is soliciting applications that build on agricultural professionals' skills and abilities in three categories, 1) ecological weed management strategies, 2) economics of alternative farming systems and 3) ecological insect or disease management strategies. Applications will be reviewed in January, final selections made in March, successful applicants informed in April and funds disbursed in the summer.

Farmer/Rancher and Professional + Producer – Applications for both of these grant categories are due Dec. 7, 2007. During the technical review in January 2008, the Farmer/Rancher grant applications will be reviewed competitively against one another and separately from the Professional + Producer applications. The Western SARE AC will make final selections in March, applicants will be informed in April and funds will be disbursed in the summer.

Graduate Student Fellow in Sustainable Agriculture – This program, now in its third year, received 20 applications as of the May 31 submission deadline. Twenty-two were submitted last year and 30 the year before. The applications are scheduled for review July 20 by a technical review of selected members of the Western SARE Administrative Council. Final selections will be made in mid August and successful applicants will be informed in September.

For more information, , visit the Western SARE website at http://wsare.usu.edu and click on Apply for a Grant. Or contact the Western SARE office on the campus of Utah State University, (435) 797-2257 or wsare@ext.usu.edu.

2007 Funded Competitive Grants

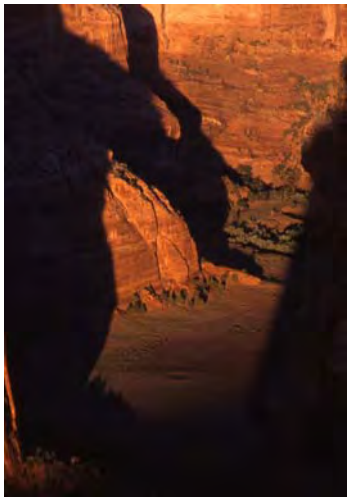
Alaska

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-037, Evaluation of Wild Rice in the Rural Kuskokwim Region of Western Alaska, Fritz Grenfell, project coordinator, P.O. Box 1427, Bethel, AK 99559, (907) 543-5760; Jeff Smeenk, technical advisor, (907)746-9470, jeff.smeenk@uaf.edu. Western SARE funding: $3,526

Graduate Fellow Grant: GW07-013, Sustainable Farming in Alaska: Maintaining Old Traditions and Building New Ones, Philip Loring, University of Alaska, Fairbanks, P.O. Box 757880, Fairbanks, AK 99775-7880, (970) 474-7051, (907) 474-7453 fax, ftpal@uaf.edu. Western SARE funding: $10,347

Arizona

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-310, Hopi Rangeland Management Series, Dennis Becenti, project coordinator, Hopi Tribe Range Conservationist, P.O. Box 123, Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039, (928) 738-0018. Western



SARE funding: $14,513.

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-020, "High Tech, High Touch" Professional Development in Geospatial Applications for Invasive Species Management, Barron Orr, principal investigator, University of Arizona Geospatial Extension Specialist, 1955 E. 6th St., Tucson, AZ 85719, (520) 626-8063, barron@ag.arizona.edu. Western SARE funding: $60,560

Graduate Fellow Grant: GW07-004, Contamination of Non-Bt Cotton Fields by Transgenic Bt Cotton, Shannon Heuberger, University of Arizona Department of Entomology, P.O. Box 2100 (36), Tucson, AZ 85721-0036, (520) 621-4981, (520) 621-1150 fax, heubergs@ag.arizona.edu. Western SARE funding: $20,000

Graduate Fellow Grant: GW07-007, An Environmentally Friendly Alternative for Control of Citrus Nematode in Arizona, Joanna Gress, University of Arizona, Department of Plant Sciences, Forbes 303, 1140 E. South Campus Drive, Tucson, AZ 85721-0036, (520) 626-3854, (520) 626-1150 fax, jgress@email.arizona.edu. Western SARE funding: $19,476

American Samoa

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-035, Sustainable Tilapia Aquaculture Production Demonstration Facility, Troy Fiaui, project coordinator, P.O. Box 2435, Pago Pago, AS 96799, (684) 622-7188; John Gonzales, technical advisor, (684) 699-5358, johnm@hawaii.edu. Western SARE funding: $9,148

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-036, Model Small-Scale Greenwater Tilapia Hatchery Facility, Joseph Faumatu, project coordinator, P.O. Box 1953, Pago Pago, AS 96799, (684) 252-0131, fuamatujvsr@yahoo.com; John Gonzales, technical advisor, (684) 699-5358, johnm@hawaii.edu. Western SARE funding: $9,969

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-002, Sustainable Fruit and Vegetable Production in American Samoa: Protecting Your Health and the Health of Your Land with Integrated Pest Management and Soil Conservation, Jeff Satele, principal investigator, Chairman, American Samoa Soil and Water Conservation District, P.O. Box 3094, Pago Pago, AS 96799, jeffsatele@yahoo.com. Western SARE funding: $55,660

California

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-303, Farm Direct Distribution, Brigitte Moran, Executive Director, Marin Farmers Market Association, project coordinator, 76 Pablo Avenue, San Rafael, CA 94903, (415) 472-6100, SREvents@alo.com. Western SARE funding: $25,444

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-311, Building on Organic Knowledge: On-Farm Transfer of a Trap Cropping Method to Control Lygus Bug in Conventional Strawberry Production, Sean Swezey, project coordinator, Center for

Western SARE funded 11 Research and Education grants for a total of $1.36 million.

2007 Funded Competitive Grants

The Western Region funded seven Professional Development Program grants this year for a total of $406,094.

Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems, University of California, Santa Cruz, CA 95064, (831) 332-6231, findit@ucsc.edu. Western SARE funding: $14,846

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-324, Management Challenges for Dairy Goat Sustainability, Deborah Giraud, project coordinator, University of California Farm Advisor, 5630 South Broadway, Eureka, CA 95503, (707) 445-7351, ddgiraud@ucdavis.edu. Western SARE funding: $15,360

Research and Education Grant: SW07-022, Using Nectar Cover Cropping in Vineyards for Sustainable Pest Management, Mark Hoddle, principal investigator, Associate Extension Specialist, Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521, (951) 82704714, mark.hoddle@ucr.edu. Western SARE funding: $178,300

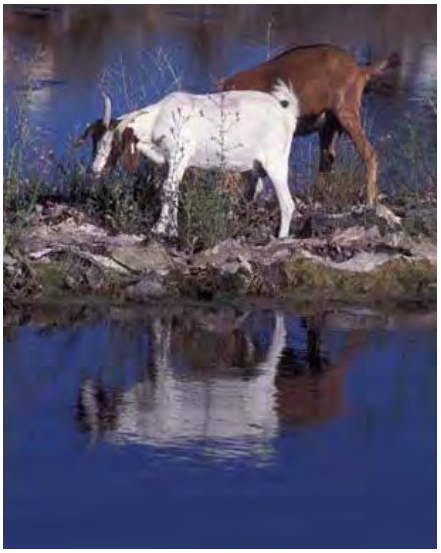
Graduate Fellow Grant: GW07-003, Sustainable Landscapes: Investigating the Landscape Scale Effects of Riparian Habitat on Natural Pest Control on the Farm, Suzanne Langridge, Environmental Studies, University of Santa Cruz, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064, (831) 325-1745, (831) 459-4015 fax, sml@ucsc.edu. Western SARE funding: $17,950

Graduate Fellow Grant: GW07-006, Risk, Rate, and Impact of Medusahead Invasion of California Savannas, Corey Cherr, Department of Plant Sciences Mail Stop 1, University of California, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, (530) 754-7577, (530) 752-4361 fax, cmcherr@ucdavis.edu. Western SARE funding: $19,971

Graduate Fellow Grant: GW07-012, Managing Soil Food Webs for Enriched and Suppressive Soils: Effects of Cover Crop Diversity and Quality, Tianna DuPont, University of California, Davis, Department of Nematology, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, (530) 754-7577, (530) 752-4361 fax, stdupont@ucdavis.edu. Western SARE funding: $19,235

Colorado

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-024, Different Goat Breed Crosses to Find the Best Tasting Meat, Holly Napier, project coordinator, Napier Family Farms, 1117



C.R. 126, Hesperus, CO 81326, (970) 588-3716, napierfamily@earthlink.net; Beth LaShell, technical advisor, (970) 385-4574, beth.lashell@colostate.edu. Western SARE funding: $12,623

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-319, Season Extension and Crop Area Multiplication with a Moveable Hoophouse in an Organic System, Edward Page, project coordinator, Colorado State University Area Extension Agent, 1001 N. 2nd Street, Montrose, CO 81401, (970) 249-3935, edward.page@colostate.edu. Western SARE funding: $11,230

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-008, Enterprise, Environmental and Community Development to Promote Agricultural and Heritage Tourism, Dawn Thilmany, principal investigator, Professor, Colorado State University Department of Ag and Resource Economics, B-325, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1172, (970) 491-7220, thilmany@lamar.colostate.edu. Western SARE funding: $59,973

Hawaii

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-034, Choosing the Best Figs for Hawaii, Ken Love, project coordinator, P.O. Box 1242, Captain Cook, HI 96704, (808) 323-2417, ken@mycoffee.net; Kent Fleming, technical advisor, (808) 989-3416, fleming@hawaii.edu. Western SARE funding: $25,000

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-004, New Crops for Pacific Island Forestry, Craig Elevitch, principal investigator, Permanent Agriculture Resources, P.O. Box 428, Holualoa, HI 96725, (808) 324-4427, SARE@agroforestry.net. Western SARE funding: $80,000

Research and Education Grant: SW07-073, Enhancing Phyto-Nutrient Content, Yield and Quality of Vegetables with Compost Tea in the Tropics, Theodore Radovich, principal investigator, Department of Tropical Plant and Soil Science, University of Hawaii,

2007 Funded Competitive Grants

3190 Maile Way, St. John 102, Honolulu, HI 96822, (808) 956-8351, Theodore@hawaii.edu. Western SARE funding: $162,500

Montana

Research and Education Grant: SW07-013, Evaluation of Alfalfa Weevil (Coleoptera curculionidae) Densities, Weed Abundance and Regrowth Characteristics of Alfalfa Grazed by Sheep, Hayes Goosey, principal investigator, Research Scientist, Department of Animal and Range Sciences, Wool Lab, P.O. Box 172900, Bozeman, MT 59717-2900, (406) 994-2012, hgoosey@montana.edu. Western SARE funding: $96,817

Research and Education Grant: SW07-025, Grower-Based Selection of Varieties and Systems for Wheat Stem Sawfly Suppression, Luther Talbert, principal investigator, Professor, Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology Department, Montana State University, Bozeman, MT 59717, (406) 994-5060, usslt@montana.edu. Western SARE funding: $125,000

Research and Education Grant: SW07-028, Is Sulfur Cinquefoil a Candidate for Control with Sheep and Goats? Jeff Mosley, principal investigator, Professor of Range Science and Extension Range Management Specialist, Department of Animal and Range Sciences, Montana State University, P.O. Box 172820, Bozeman, MT 59717-2820, (406) 994-5601, jmosley@montana.edu. Western SARE funding: $54,250

Micronesia

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-028, Sei Enterprise Inc. Farm Pohnpei Pepper, Sei Uemoto, project coordinator, P.O. Box 301, Kolonia Pohnpei, FM, 96941, (961) 320-2659, sei_f_pepper@mail.fm; technical advisors Kadalino Lorens, (961) 320-2400, pniagriculture@mail.com, and Alpenster Henry, (961) 320-5731, henry@comfsm.fm. Western SARE funding: $12,000

New Mexico

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-032, Southwest Survivor Queenbee Project, Melania Kirby, project coordinator, Zia Queenbee Co., P.O. Box 898, Alcalde, New Mexico, 87511, (505) 852-0831, ziaqueenbee@hotmail.com; Greg Watson, technical advisor, (505) 46-320, awatson@mnda.msu.edu. Western SARE funding: $15,000

Northern Mariana Islands

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-001, Neem Tree Production for Alternative Pesticides, Nematode Control and Fertilizers, Francisco Atalig, project coordinator, P.O. Box 1007, Rota, MP 96951, (670) 532-0349, pacific_hotstuff@hotmail.com; Gadi Reddy, technical advisor, (671) 734-4439, reddy@guam.uog.edu. Western SARE funding: $14,500

Oregon

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-006, Butcher Waste Composting for Field Fertility, Ross and Kelly McGarva, project coordinators, 16866 Westside Rd., Lakeview, OR 97630, (541) 947-4062, McGarva@centuryte.net; Christopher Anderson, technical advisor, (541) 955-9873, canderso@oda.state.or.us. Western SARE funding: $13,750

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-015, Using Season Extending Techniques to Diversify Traditional Agricultural Economy and Improve Quality and Quantity of Fresh Food Supply in Remote NE Oregon Valley, June Colony, project coordinator, 67597 Lostine River Road, Lostine, OR 97857, grassjune@hotmail.com; Laura Barton, technical advisor, (503) 872-6600. Western SARE funding: $12,475

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-308, Augmentation of Mite Predators on Apples and Grapes, Lyla Lampson, project coordinator, President, Lampson Research and Consulting, 54738 Day Road, Milton-Freewater, OR 97862, (541) 938-4711, lampsonl@motioncodec.com.

Western SARE funding: $25,000

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-018, Conserving the Three P's:

There were 20 Farmer/Rancher grants funded this year, including the category of Ag Professional + Producer, for a total of $313,058.

2007 Funded Competitive Grants

Six graduates students were funded this year under the Graduate Fellow in Sustainable Agriculture grant category for a total of $106,979

Habitat Conservation Practices for Beneficial Predators, Parasites and Pollinators, Mace Vaughan, principal investigator, Conservation Director, Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation, 4828 SE Hawthorne Blvd., Portland, OR 97215, (503) 232-6639, mace@xerces.org. Western SARE funding: $51,165

Utah

Professional + Producer Grant: FW07-315, Bramble Variety Trials in Utah to Reduce Disease, Increase Production and Enhance Profitability, Rick Heflebower, project coordinator, Horticulture Extension Agent, 44 North 100 East, St. George, UT 84770, (435) 634-5706, Ext. 4, rickh@ext.usu.edu. Western SARE funding: $23,250

Research and Education Grant: SW07-014, Sustainable Vegetable Production Systems: Screening Cover Crops for Water Use Efficiency, Dan Drost, principal investigator, Extension Vegetable Specialist, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-4820, (435) 797-2258, dand@ext.usu.edu. Western SARE funding: $118,411

Research and Education Grant: SW07-035. High Value Crop Rotations for Utah High Tunnels, Brent Black, principal investigator, Extension Fruit Specialist, Utah State University, Logan, UT 84322-4820, (435) 797-2174, blackb@ext.usu.edu. Western SARE funding: $144,495

Washington

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-008, JJJ Farm Duckweed Harvesting, Jerry Darnall, project coordinator, 25789 Miller Bay Rd. NE, Kingston, WA 98346, (360) 509-0351, jaddarnall@aol.com; Arno Bergstrom, technical advisor, (360) 337-7225, awbergstrom@wsu.edu. Western SARE funding: $8,519

Farmer/Rancher Grant: FW07-009, Leafy Spurge Management in Shrub Steppe Rangeland, Craig Madsen, project coordinator, Healing Hooves, LLC, P.O. Box 148, 49332 Sobek Rd. E, Edwall, WA 99008, (509) 990-7132, shepherd@healinghooves.com; Tom Platt, technical advisor, (509) 725-4171, plattom@wsu.edu. Western SARE funding: $10,000

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-009, Western Region Dairy Odor and Air Quality Education, Pius Ndegwa, principal investigator, Biological Systems Engineering, LJ Smith 201, Washington State University, P.O. Box 646120, Pullman, WA 99164-6120, (509) 335-8167, ndegwa@wsu.edu. Western SARE funding: $89,236

Research and Education Grant: SW07-055, A Sustainable Distribution and Evaluation Program for Selected Honey Bee Stock in the Pacific Northwest, Walter Shepherd, principal investigator, Professor, Department of Entomology, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6382, (509) 335-5180, shepp@mail.wsu.edu. Western SARE funding: $172,938

Wyoming

Professional Development Program Grant: EW07-016, Educator Training for the Wyoming Cow-Calf Record Management System, Dallas Mount, principal investigator, Southeast Area Livestock Extension Educator, University of Wyoming Cooperative Extension Service, 57 Antelope Gap Rd., Wheatland, WY 82201, (307) 322-3667, dmount@uwyo.edu. Western SARE funding: $9,500

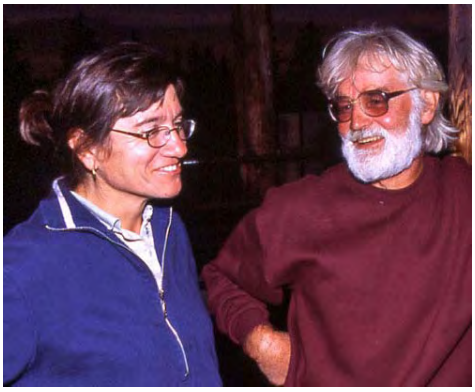
Research and Education Grant: SW07-049, Evaluation of Camelina sativa as an Alternative Seed Crop and Feedstock for Biofuel and Developing Replacement Heifers, Brett Hess, principal investigator, Associate Professor of Ruminant Nutrition, Department 3684, 1000 E. University, Laramie, WY 82071, (307) 766-5173, brethess@uwyo.edu. Western SARE funding: $155,000

Innovative Coordinator Grants

To provide Western SARE state and island protectorate coordinators with an opportunity to expand their programs and impacts, Western SARE recently issued a competitive Request for Applications for Innovative SARE Coordinator Programs. The submissions of four state coordinators have now been funded:

- Washington, Carol Miles, Sustainable Water Law Programs, $24,842.
- Oregon, Brian Tuck, Sustainable Organic Seed Development, $3,615.
- Colorado, Dennis Lamm, Sustainable Options for Rural Landowners, $25,000.
- Jonathan Deenik, Virtual Field Days for the Pacific Islands, $25,000.

Miles project will make available information on water law through a handbook and DVD, a website, two one-day workshops in Spokane and Mt. Vernon and at on-farm demonstration sites.



Carol Miles, Washington State SARE co-coordinator, with Henning Sehmsdorf of Lopez Island

Tuck, noting increased demand for organic seed over the last five years, plans to work with Washington State University and the Organic Seed Alliance to hold an "Organic Seed Growers Conference" in Portland next February.

Lamm, who sees a need for expanding the amount of sustainable ag information to several audiences, plans to embark on a "Mini-Grant" program with the theme, "Keeping Colorado Green."

Dennis Lamm, Colorado State coordinator

Deenik plans to develop and deliver a video workshop titled, "From the Experiment Plot into the Farm Field." It will showcase current SARE projects in Hawaii and discuss ways to link the needs of the farmer with the science of the researcher and seek to identify critical research gaps in sustainable agriculture for Hawaii.

Funds for the Innovative State Coordinator Program can be used for projects and programs that cannot be done with 3-D Extension funds.

Save the Date for Sustainable Ag

The 20th anniversary conference for the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program will be March 25-27 at the Westin Crown Center in Kansas City, Missouri.

The conference theme is "The New American Farm: Advancing the frontier of sustainable agriculture." It will showcase how sustainable farming is rapidly changing the face of American agriculture and rural life.

The conference will feature cutting edge research, inspiring speakers and practical advice from experienced farmers and ranchers, The New American Farm conference is shaping up to be one of the nation's most important agricultural gatherings. Those attending will:

- Learn the ins and outs of innovative marketing and production.
- Visit local farms to see sustainable agriculture at work.
- Meet others and build partnerships.
- Explore SARE grant opportunities for innovative ideas.
- Help chart a course for 20 more years of SARE success.

The conference is open to farmers, ranchers, educators, researchers, agricultural professionals and the curious consumer.

More information will become available as the conference plans unfold. Check the website of the Sustainable Agriculture Network at www.sare.org.

Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education is a program of the Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service, U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Subregional Plans Shaping Up

The subregional conferences will enable Western SARE to reflect on what it has accomplished during its first 20 years and assess what challenges it should be addressing in the future

In addition to the traditional competitive grants that Western SARE funded in 2007, the Administrative Council directed the staff to put out a competitive request for applications to fund "subregional conferences."

The RFA was sent out and two respondents have been funded so far:

- Tropical Pacific island subregional conference, Bob Barber, David Crisostomo and Manuel Duguies, $50,000.
- High Desert and Intermountain subregional conferences, Dennis Lamm, John Allen and Jim Dyer, $98,807.82.

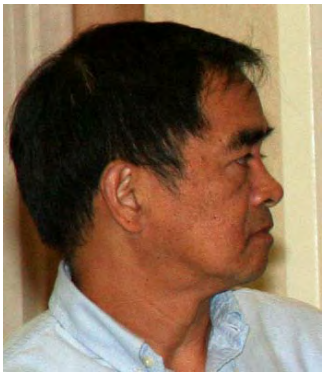
Planning for the conferences, designed to showcase SARE successes of its first 20 years and make plans for the next 20, began in earnest May 24 in Salt Lake City, where the grant recipients and SARE staff met to map out strategies.

Jerry DeWitt of Iowa will moderate all of the subregional conferences in the Western Region.

The first conference out of the blocks will be "Sustaining Tropical Pacific Island Agriculture" Oct. 16 and 17 on Guam. Conference planners Barber, Duguies and Crisostomo, all with the University of Guam, plan to invite around 50 key stakeholders from the Pacific island protectorates of Guam, American Samoa, the Northern Mariana Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia. The two-day conference will feature presentations of SARE successes in the tropical Pacific islands as well as table-top discussions on strategies and directions for SARE and sustainability in the years to come.

Dennis Lamm, Colorado state SARE coordinator and a professor at Colorado State University, John Allen, director of the Western Rural Development Center at Utah State University, and Jim Dyer, project director for the Southwest Marketing Network in Colorado, have tentatively scheduled their first conference in Albuquerque next spring or summer and the second in Cheyenne in the fall of 2008.

A second competitive RFA is currently soliciting additional applications for subregional conferences in the Pacific Northwest, California and Hawaii.



The Tropical Pacific subconference team, from left, Manuel Duguies, Bob Barber and David Criosotom.

New American Farmers Speak Online

If you want an idea what drives innovative producers to farm and ranch the way they do, take a look at the website of the Sustainable Agriculture Network.

"Voices from the New American Farmers," a new feature of www.sare.org, features short video clips (and corresponding audio for those with dial-up access) of farmers and ranchers sharing the inspirations that motivate them to produce in ways that are profitable, environmentally sound and good for people and communities.

Take a moment and let us know what you think of this pilot effort by visiting http://www.sare.org/publications/naf2/voices.htm.

Sustainable Ag in the News

The Western wine industry is embracing environmental responsibility and the concept of ag sustainability. The June 30, 2007, issue of **Wine Spectator** magazine, in a section titled, "Green Revolutionaries: West Coast Winegrowers Fight to Save the Environment," devotes 23 pages of text and photos to wine grape growers who have adopted organic, biodynamic or sustainable practices. In California, the article notes, at least 1,165 vineyards and wineries have assessed the sustainability of their farming practices. The California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance says these businesses account for 33% of the state's 522,000 acres of wine grapes and 53% of its annual production of 273 million cases. Among those quoted in the article is **Ann Thrupp**, a former member of the Western SARE Administrative Council and currently manager of organic development for the Fetzer winery.

Not to be outdone, **Newsweek** magazine, in its May 28 issue, spotlights organic, biodynamic and sustainable winegrowing in an article titled "Reds, White and Green."

Anticipating that the focus on sustainably grown could translate into increased sales, the **Central Coast Vineyard Team**, recipients of a 2003 Western SARE Farmer/Rancher Grant, sponsored a workshop June 28 titled, "Consumer Preferences for Wines Made with Sustainably Grown Grapes." "With current growth of various eco-labeling efforts and evolving consumer preferences, the winegrape industry is in a unique position to capitalize on these trends," the postcard promoting the event said. Central Coast Vineyard Team's 2003

grant for $13,000 was titled, "Increasing Adoption of Sustainable Practices in Central Coast Vineyards." For more information, go to www.vineyardteam.org.

The June 2007 issue of **Western Farmer-Stockman** magazine features a full-page article on a new free publication from the Sustainable Agriculture Network, "Rangeland Management Strategies." The 16-page bulletin highlights successful rangeland practices, many promulgated through grants from Western SARE. A PDF copy of the bulletin is available for downloading at www.sare.org/publications/bulletins.htm. A hard copy can be ordered by calling (301) 504-5411.

Diana Roberts, Washington State University Spokane County extension educator and a participant in several Western SARE grants, is pictured and quoted in a May 25 article in the Capital Press weekly ag newspaper on the growing problem of cereal leaf beetles in Pacific Northwest grain fields. In 1999, anticipating the eventual spread of the beetles and looking to biological control potentials, Roberts established the state's first insectory of parasitic wasps. Now she's working on an additional biocontrol option, planting strips of oats between winter and spring wheat to stop migration from winter to spring fields.

The Western Front, a newsletter of the **Western Integrated Pest Management Center,** highlights on the front page of its June 2007 newsletter the awarding of a Western SARE Research and Education grant to work on small fruits titled "Encouraging Sustainability in Small Fruits by Educating Producers on Scouting and Decision-Making Parameters" (SW06-013, $170,929). The newsletter said the grant resulted from the coordinated efforts of the Western IPM Center-funded Pacific Northwest Small Fruits Working Group and Washington State University Extension. The grant's principal investigator is **Craig McConnell,** WSU extension faculty and director. Portland crop consultants **Anna** and **Tom**

Peerbolt created the Small Fruits Working Group. The Western SARE grant will create a scouting toolbox for small fruits that will include consensus based decision-making parameters to guide and reduce risk. The toolbox will empower producers to conduct their own scouting or train their employees.

Nearly 1,200 California vineyards and wineries, representing 33% of the state's wine acres and 53% of its production, have assessed the sustainability of their practices.

California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance

Deborah Young … continued from Page 1

the 'so-what' questions. "She never flinches at tackling the difficult questions."

As associate director of extension in Arizona, Young has provided leadership for the coordination of statewide outreach from the UA College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, working closely with department heads, school directors and county extension directors. Her goal has been to foster interdisciplinary team efforts, coordinate programs and stimulate grants. In 2000, she served on the planning committee for the Western Extension Leadership Development program, or WELD.

"We look forward to Dr. Young's arrival to assume this important leadership position with Colorado State University Extension," said Lou Swanson, CSU's vice provost for outreach and strategic partnerships whose office administers cooperative extension.

Deborah Young and Phil Rasmussen

Young, who has a wealth of experience in promoting sustainable agriculture and its principles and is one of its most ardent supporters, noted that sustainable agriculture uses both local knowledge that is specific to place and scientific knowledge that looks to larger systems.

"We need both types of knowledge, which develop over time, to support farming and ranching in the West," she observed.

Young earned a bachelor of arts in biology and Spanish in 1974 from Indiana University and Universidad Iberoamericana in Mexico City. She has an M.S. and a Ph.D. in plant pathology, both from the University of Arizona.

She joined UA in 1984 as an extension agent in Cochise County, where she worked with agricultural producers who market directly to consumers. Young was extension agent and county extension director in Yavapai County and was named in 1997 as an extension specialist in plant pathology and associate director of programs. In addition to her expertise in plant pathology, she focuses on plant health, grassland ecosystems and sustainable agriculture.

"We look forward to Dr. Young's arrival to assume this important leadership position with Colorado State University Extension."

Lou Swanson, CSU vice provost for outreach and strategic partnerships

Colorado Now Hosts Five Western SARE AC Members

With Deborah Young moving to Fort Collins to become director of extension at Colorado State University, Colorado is now home to five of Western SARE's 14 Administrative Council members. Coordinator Phil Rasmussen points out that each member has a reason and a responsibility for being on the council.

"It might appear that we have an overabundance of Colorado representatives, but we should remember that each represents a broader regional organization."

- Young, based in Fort Collins at CSU, represents the region's cooperative extension programs.
- Cattle producer Mark Frasier, past AC chair from Fort Morgan, is a rancher representing the interests of farmers and ranchers.

- Mike Harrington, executive director of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors based at CSU in Fort Collins, represents that organization on the AC.
- Cindy Lair, program manager for the Colorado State Conservation Board at the Colorado Department of Agriculture, represents the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture.
- Peg Perreault, an environmental scientist with EPA Region 8 in Denver, represents the Environmental Protection Agency.

Class on an Island

On Lopez Island, in the Puget Sound of northwest Washington, Henning Sehmsdorf and Elizabeth Simpson have created a veritable campus of research, education and extension for sustainable agriculture.

Their 50-acre diversified crop and livestock operation, S&S Homestead Farm, has been transformed into S&S Center for Sustainable Agriculture. It provides practical education in farming and nutrition to interns, students and island residents. It's become a thriving research laboratory delving into the nuances and impacts of ecological farming. And it hosts a variety of seminars and workshops on sustainability.

While Sehmsdorf and Simpson have been fashioning their model of sustainable farming and living since 1970, Sehmsdorf says Farmer/Rancher grants from Western SARE have brought focus to priorities.

"The grants helped me articulate, in objective terms, the goals and mission of this farm, which is ecological food production and education in sustainable living," said Sehmsdorf. "The grants have helped us solve specific problems on the production side of our farm and, at the same time, strengthened our educational outreach."

S&S Homestead Farm, 15 acres owned and 35 leased from neighbors, produces beef, pork, lamb, chicken, eggs, dairy products, fruit and vegetables as well as animal feed and local fertility.

In all, Sehmsdorf has been involved in three Western SARE grants, two he coordinated and another on which he serves as a farmer advisor.

The first SARE grant (FW01-081), conducted in 2001 and 2002, tested grain on a small scale. The idea was to find a crop – in this case barley – that could capture and recycle excess soil nutrients from a field used for wintering beef cows, preventing pollution and reducing farm inputs.

Henning Sehmsdorf of Lopez Island Washington.

A Western SARE Grant Profile

As a result of the project, the farm saves money to buy straw it uses to mulch fruits and vegetables (it typically costs $7 a bale from the local feed store). The grain fed to cattle, sheep, pigs and chickens promotes their health by guaranteeing a clean, organic feed source. And the barley takes up nutrients that otherwise might pollute ground or surface waters.

A second SARE-funded project (FW04-305), Bio-Intensive Forage Production, scheduled to be completed in 2007, is testing whether farm-produced biodynamic soil stimulants are a viable substitute for lime applications in modifying soil acidity. S&S is collaborating on the project with Washington State University research and extension faculty, including a forage specialist, microbiologist and soil scientist. Preliminary assessments indicate that the biodynamic preparations performed at least as well as the lime application, if not better.

Students learn about sustainable crop production at S&S Homestead Farm.

"If final analysis bears this out, we will have achieved our goal, which is to maximize protein production in the form of harvestable forage, meat and dairy products," says Sehmsdorf. "That will increase overall farm productive while maintaining ecological balance by reducing the consumption of non-renewable fossil fuels and other resources."

The third SARE project (FW04-006) supports the mission of S&S Homestead Farm to provide education in ecological food production and sustainable living. The grant continued a program Sehmsdorf and Simpson had developed two years earlier to teach local public school students and supply fresh produce to the local school cafeteria.

The farm built a 45-foot by 12-foot hoop house in which to grow vegetables during the winter, and a Washington State University plant special-

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"The grants have helped us solve specific problems on the production side of our farm and, at the same time, strengthened out educational outreach."

Henning Sehmsdorf, S&S Homestead Farm

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Class on an Island ...continued from page 11

ist provided guidance for two-year bean trials in which students could participate for science credit.

Beyond instilling a better understanding about nutrition in the island community, Sehmsdorf acknowledges that the work evolving from the SARE grants has had several ripple effects, among them:

- The school board has officially sanctioned the farm-to-school project in support of the state-mandated Wellness Policy.
- An island donor has contributed a large hoop house now installed on S&S Homestead Farm for instruction and vegetable production for the school cafeteria.
- The school cafeteria has committed to maximize access to locally grown, organic food (within current school budget limits), and the chef kitchen staff have undergone extensive training to redirect the delivery of school lunch.

The San Juan Conservation District and the Lopez Island Farm Education program have jointly applied for two years of funding under the Agriculture Pilot Project Initiative supported by Washington's Gov. Gregoire; if successful, the grant will double the food budget of the school cafeteria to demonstrate impacts on student health and academic performance, at the same time supporting local agriculture.

Sehmsdorf says the S&S Center for Sustainable Agriculture hopes to obtain grant funding that will continue the center's work to promote sustainability into the foreseeable future – beyond the time when he and his wife can carry out the work.

He says agricultural sustainability is possible only in the context of soils, plants, animals, community and landscape, all of which are local concerns with global implications. He adds that the current industrial global food system, predicated on diminishing fossil energy and waste sinks, is not sustainable.

"Agricultural can be sustainable," Sehmsdorf, "only if it cultivates perennial, pastoral, polycultural, biological and diverse systems based on renewable, solar energy harvested directly through plants and animals."

Western Region SARE Program
Utah State University
Ag Science Bldg, Room 305
4865 Old Main Hill
Logan, UT 84322-4865

Agenda Item 17.1: 2007 Fall ESS Meeting
Presenter: Ronald S. Pardini
Background:

2007 ESS/SAES/ARD Workshops
Sept. 16, 2007 – Sept. 19, 2007
Sheraton Society Hill Hotel, Philadelphia, PA

Information will be added to the regional websites when available.

Action Requested: For Information

Agenda Item 17.2: 2008 Spring Meeting
Presenter:
Background:

Kaltenbach extended an invitation for the 2008 Spring WAAESD Meeting to be held in Tucson, AZ on March 17-20, 2008. A day tour may be included as the meeting is planned. The Extension Directors will be invited to meet jointly with the Agricultural Experiment Station Directors.

Action Taken: For information

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University of Alaska Fairbanks

PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

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- Sustainable horticulture
- Energy extension & village sustainability
- Innovative Economic development

TRAVEL / REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The 2008 Joint Summer Meetings coincide with the peak of the Fairbanks summer tourist season. To ensure accommodation, a block of rooms has been reserved for this conference. Further information will be made available soon.

Early confirmation of rooms guarantees availability.

Exclusive contact e-mail: Alaska2008@dsnalaska.com

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Agenda Item 18.0: Resolutions
Presenter: Jan Auyong
Background:

RESOLUTION #1:

WHEREAS Dean Frank Galey, Associate Dean & Director of the Agricultural Experiment Station, Dr. Steve Miller, Associate Dean and Director of the Cooperative Extension Service, Dr. Glenn Whipple, Associate Dean and Director Academic Programs, Dr. Jim Wangberg, Ms. Anne Leonard, Ms. Kathleen Bertoncellj, Ms. Alice Hamilton, Ms. Carolyn Hermann, and their colleagues from the University of Wyoming were organizers and hosts for the Summer meeting of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, Wyoming, July 16-19, 2007; and

WHEREAS Dr. Galey, and his colleagues were outstanding hosts; and

WHEREAS Dr. Galey, and his colleagues provided such hospitable surroundings in which to meet; and

WHEREAS Dr. Galey, and his colleagues arranged excellent joint meetings and excellent presentations, be it

RESOLVED, That the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at its meeting in Jackson, Wyoming, on July 16, 2007, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Galey and his colleagues for their significant contributions to successful individual and joint meetings; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the original of this resolution be provided to Dr. Galey, and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTION #2:

WHEREAS Dr**.** G. Allen Mitchell, served as the associate director of the University of Alaska Fairbanks Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station, where he directed operations at the Palmer Research and Extension Center and the Matanuska Experiment Farm; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mitchell was instrumental in retaining funding for the then School of Agriculture and Land Resources Management (now the School of Natural Resources and Agricultural Sciences) and the Alaska Experiment Station during the budget crises of the mid-1990s by making an aggressive and effective outreach effort in the community in southcentral Alaska and with the Alaska Legislature and the Alaska congressional delegation; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mitchell's strong support of the ARS presence in southcentral Alaska made possible the state-of-the art laboratories now in place at the Matanuska Experiment Farm in Palmer, Alaska; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mitchell was instrumental in establishing the Natural Resource Management baccalaureate Option in Plant, Animal, and Soils Sciences in southcentral

Alaska through the Palmer Research and Extension Center, recruited students and served as their advisor and mentor, and he assured that the distance delivered courses were run efficiently and with as little interruption as possible; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mitchell has had a 36-year distinguished career in soil fertility, and has contributed to agronomic crop production and adoption of grass varieties for forage crops, revegetation, and sports turf in the circumpolar north; and

WHEREAS Dr. Mitchell retired from the University of Alaska, in June, 2007; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at their meeting at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, Wyoming, on July 16, 2007, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Mitchell for the significant contributions he has made to our Association; and be it further

RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be provided to the Dr. Mitchell, and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTION #3:

WHEREAS Dr**.** W**.** R. (Reg) Gomes, served as the University of California Vice President of Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR), from 1995-2007, as well as serving as Director of the California Agricultural Experiment Station and of the California Cooperative Extension, University of California overseeing operations at the Berkeley, Davis, and Riverside campuses and the 50 regional and county offices; and

WHEREAS Dr. Gomes also had a distinguished career at Ohio State University and at University of Illinois before coming to the University of California; and

WHEREAS Dr. Gomes served on numerous state and national boards including: the Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources of the National Research Council (Chair), Farm Foundation Agricultural Round Table (Steering Committee), California State Board of Food and Agriculture, and the Joint Policy Council on Agriculture and Higher Education (Co-Chair); and

WHEREAS Dr. Gomes has been a Fulbright-Hays Distinguished Traveling Professor in Croatia and a Fellow of the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science, and was awarded an honorary doctorate by Moldova State University; and

WHEREAS Dr. Gomes retired May 1, 2007, from the University of California**;** therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at their meeting at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, Wyoming, on July 16, 2007, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Gomes for the significant contributions he has made to our Association; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Gomes, and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

RESOLUTION #4

WHEREAS Dr. Sandra Ristow, having served as Associate Director for the Agricultural Research Center at the Washington State University from 2001 to 2007; and

WHEREAS Dr. Ristow ably served as Washington's representative to the Western Regional Aquaculture Center and as Administrative Advisor for the following multistate projects - WERA-99, WERA-23, WERA 1001, and WERA 101; and

WHEREAS Dr. Ristow capably served as a member and 2006 Chair of the Western Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee; and

WHEREAS Dr. Ristow co-chaired with the University of Idaho the USDA/CSREES Grantsmanship Workshop held September 2005; and

WHEREAS Dr. Ristow served as chair of the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council's 2003 conference, "Biotechnology: Science and Society at a Crossroad," and was one of the editors for the proceedings; and

WHEREAS Dr. Ristow retired March 31, 2007, from Washington State University, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at their meeting at the Snow King Resort in Jackson, Wyoming, on July 16, 2007, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Ristow for the significant contributions she has made to our Association; and be it further

RESOLVED that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Ristow, and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Action Requested: Approval of resolutions
Action Taken: Unanimously approved four resolutions