

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



**University of California
Davis, CA
March 23 - 25, 2009**

Summary of Actions/Assignments

Actions:

1. Approved adoption of agenda and approved minutes of September 22, 2008 meeting as posted on the WAAESD web page. 6
2. The Western Directors Association supported the renewal/establishment of NRSP_TEMP3, NRSP_TEMP7, and NRSP_TEMP161. The Association did not support the proposal for NRSP_TEMP201. 15
3. Approved off-the-top funding at requested level for NRSP1, NRSP3, NRSP4, NRSP6, NRSP7, NRSP8, NRSP_TEMP161, W006, W106. Did not approve off-the-top funding for NRSP_TEMP201. 29
4. Approved that text “for example” be removed from the Themes document. 35
5. Approved payment of NC-FAR dues of \$500.00 for the year. 60
6. Approved budget pending final salary information for Administrative Analyst and Executive Director. 62
7. Harrington to proceed with pursuing a joint meeting with SAAESD. 83
8. Unanimously approved resolution to University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources meeting hosts. 84

Assignments:

1. Harrington, Allen-Diaz, Kahn to rework listed goals for the Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West. 43
2. Bohach and Lewis will review the WAAESD web page and provide suggestions for new format. 69

Table of Contents

Agenda.....	1
1.0 Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions	5
2.0 Approval of Agenda and Minutes of September 2008 meeting (see: http://www.colostate.edu/Orgs/WAAESD/WAAESD/F08Min.pdf)	6
3.0 Chair's Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report	7
4.0 Treasurer's Report	8
5.0 ARS Report	11
6.0 CSREES Update	14
7.0 New/Renewal NRSP Proposals	15
7.1 NRSP_TEMP201 Specialty Crop Regulatory Initiative	16
7.2 NRSP_TEMP161 Animal Nutrition Management	21
7.3 NRSP_TEMP007 A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs ..	25
8.0 Off-the-top Funding Requests	29
9.0 National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee	30
10.0 Cornerstone Update/Budget Discussion	34
11.0 ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Report	35
12.0 ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee	38
13.0 ESCOP Science and Technology Committee	41
14.0 Follow up on Spring Meeting 2008	
14.1 Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West	43
14.2 Western Water Conference	48
15.0 SunGrant	50
16.0 W-SARE Update, Sub-regional Conferences	53
17.0 W- IPM Center Report	54
18.0 RCIC Report	56
19.0 National-CFAR membership renewal	60
20.0 FY 2009-2010 WAAESD Office Budget	61
21.0 ED Evaluation	
21.1 ED Annual Report	63
21.2 ED Evaluation – (Executive Session)	
21.3 Evaluation Followup	
22.0 REEO Stakeholder Input (Breakout Discussions)	70

22.1	Breakout Discussion Group Reports	72
23.0	NRSP3 & NRSP_TEMP003	75
24.0	Special Discussions on Budget Challenges, Best Management Practices	79
24.1	Session I: Program prioritization processes, closing programs, R and E Centers and peripheral units	
24.2	Session II: Maintaining core academic programs, supporting teaching; leveraging instruction programs across the university	
24.3	Session III: Balancing allocation of State and Federal funds; maintaining/reducing operations funds	
25.0	Future Meetings	
25.1	2009 Joint Summer Meeting	80
25.2	Fall ESS Meeting, WAAESD Meeting, Workshop	82
25.3	Possible Joint Meeting with SAAESD	83
26.0	Resolutions	84
27.0	Consent Agenda (written reports only)	
27.1	State Reports	85
27.2	NIMSS Update	86

WAAESD Meeting

Participants:

Alaska	Carol Lewis	Oregon	Jan Auyong
Arizona	C. Colin Kaltenbach		Larry Curtis
California	Barbara Allen-Diaz	Washington	Ralph Cavalieri
	Don Cooksey		Michael Kahn
Guam	Greg Wiecko	Wyoming	Stephen Miller
Hawaii	C. Y. Hu		Bret Hess
	Doug Vincent	OTHERS:	
Idaho	Greg Bohach	ARS	Andrew C. Hammond
Montana	Jeff Jacobsen		Michael McGuire
Nevada	Ron Pardini	W. Exec. Dir.	H. Michael Harrington
New Mexico	LeRoy Daugherty	OWDA	Harriet Sykes

Agenda WAAESD 2009 Spring Meeting March 23-25, 2009 University of California Davis, CA

MONDAY, MARCH 23

Walter A. Buehler Alumni and Visitors Center, Founders Board Room

3:30-5:00 WAAESD Executive Committee Meeting

5:30-9:00 Opening Reception – Robert Mondavi Institute for Wine and Food Science Sensory Building (<http://robertmondaviinstitute.ucdavis.edu/>)

TUESDAY, MARCH 24

Walter A. Buehler Alumni and Visitors Center Founders Board Room

7:00 Breakfast

8:00	1.0	Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions	Carol Lewis
8:05	2.0	Approval of Agenda and Minutes of September 2008 meeting (see: http://www.colostate.edu/Orgs/WAAESD/WAAESD/F08Min.pdf)	Carol Lewis
8:10	3.0	Chair's Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report	Carol Lewis
8:15	4.0	Treasurer's Report	Jeff Jacobsen

8:20	5.0	ARS Report	Andy Hammond (Director, ARS Pacific West Area)
8:35	6.0	CSREES Update	Ralph Otto (Associate Administrator CSREES, Regional Liaison)
8:45	7.0	New/Renewal NRSP Proposals	
	7.1	NRSP_temp201 Specialty Crop Regulatory Initiative	H. M. Harrington
	7.2	NRSP_temp161 Animal Nutrition Management	Colin Kaltenbach
	7.3	NRSP_temp007 A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs	Milan Shipka
9:30	8.0	Off-the-top Funding Requests	H. M. Harrington/Ralph Cavaliere
9:45	9.0	National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee	Lee Sommers
10:00		Break	
10:15	10.0	Cornerstone Update/Budget Discussion	Tim Sanders (teleconference)
10:30	11.0	ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Report	Jeff Jacobsen/H. M. Harrington
10:40	12.0	ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee	Ron Pardini
10:50	13.0	ESCOP Science and Technology Committee	Greg Bohach
11:00	14.0	Follow up on Spring Meeting 2008	
	14.1	Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West	H. M. Harrington
	14.2	Western Water Conference	H. M. Harrington
11:35	15.0	SunGrant Initiative	Jan Auyong
12:00		Lunch	
1:30	16.0	W-SARE Update, Sub-regional Conferences	V. Phil Rasmussen (teleconference)
1:40	17.0	W- IPM Center Report	Rick Melnicoe (teleconference)
1:50	18.0	RCIC Report	H. M. Harrington
2:00	19.0	National-CFAR membership renewal	H. M. Harrington
2:10	20.0	FY 2009-2010 WAAESD Office Budget	H. M. Harrington/Harriet Sykes
2:20	21.0	ED Evaluation	

- 21.1 ED Annual Report H. M. Harrington
- 21.2 ED Evaluation – (Executive Session) Greg Bohach
- 21.3 Evaluation Followup Carol Lewis/Greg Bohach

3:15 Break

- 3:30 22.0 REEO Stakeholder Input (Breakout Discussions)
- 4:45 22.1 Breakout Discussion Group Reports
- 5:15 23.0 NRSP3 & NRSP_TEMP003

Rich Grant/ Larry Curtis

5:30 Adjourn for the day

Dinner on your own

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Maddy Lab (California Animal Health and Food Safety), Maddy Room

7:15 Breakfast

- 8:00 WAAESD Reconvene, Call to Order Carol Lewis

24.0 Special Discussions on Budget Challenges, Best Management Practices

- 8:05 24.1 Session I: Program prioritization processes, closing programs, R and E Centers and peripheral units

Lead presenter: Greg Bohach. Panelists: Barbara Allen-Diaz, CY Hu

- 9:00 24.2 Session II: Maintaining core academic programs, supporting teaching; leveraging instruction programs across the university

Lead presenter: Ron Pardini. Panelists: LeRoy Daugherty, Carol Lewis

10:00 Break

- 10:30 24.3 Session III: Balancing allocation of State and Federal funds; maintaining/reducing operations funds

Lead presenter: Colin Kaltenbach. Panelists: Larry Curtis, Carol Lewis

- 11:15 25.0 Future Meetings

- 25.1 2009 Joint Summer Meeting Ralph Cavalieri
- 25.2 Fall ESS Meeting, WAAESD Meeting, Workshop H. M. Harrington
- 25.3 Possible Joint Meeting with SAAESD H. M. Harrington

- 11:25 26.0 Resolutions Jan Auyong/Greg Bohach

- 27.0 Consent Agenda (written reports only)

27.1 State Reports

All

27.2 NIMSS Update

H. M. Harrington

11:30 Adjourn

12:00 Bus Tour including box lunch and dinner - Davis campus and Winters, CA

Bus pick up at hotels:

Hotel Davis (formerly Holiday Inn, 1771 Research Park Drive)

Comfort Suites Davis (1640 Research Park Drive)

6:00 Group dinner at Buckhorn Steak and Roadhouse, Winters, CA

Agenda Item 1.0: Call to Order/Welcome/Introductions

Presenter: Carol Lewis

Background:

The meeting was called to order by Chair-Elect Carol Lewis. The attendees introduced themselves.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 2.0: Approval of Agenda and Minutes of September 2008 meeting

Presenter: Carol Lewis

Background:

Lewis asked for additions/corrections to both the agenda and to the minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting.

Action Requested: Adoption of agenda and approval of the minutes of the September 22, 2008 meeting.

Action Taken: Approved adoption of agenda and approved minutes of September 22, 2008 meeting as posted on the WAAESD web page.

Agenda Item 3.0: Chair's Report, Interim Actions, Executive Committee Report

Presenter: Carol Lewis

Background:

Lewis indicated that she was acting as Chair during Thawley's recuperation from his accident.

No interim actions had been taken.

The Executive Committee met March 23, 2009 and the items that were discussed are part of the agenda and will be reported on then.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 4.0: Treasurer's Report

Presenter: Jeff Jacobsen

Background:

**WESTERN DIRECTOR EXPERIMENT STATION
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2009**

13-Mar-09

ASSESSMENTS	FY09 Assessments	Outstanding FY08	Payment Received	Balance Due
Am Samoa	600.00		600.00	0.00
Micronesia	600.00		600.00	0.00
Northern Marianas	600.00			600.00
Alaska	10,645.98		10,645.98	0.00
Arizona	18,513.53		18,513.53	0.00
California	29,623.41		29,623.41	0.00
Colorado	21,907.35		14,107.35	7,800.00
CSU Rent	(7,800.00)			-7,800.00
Guam	10,382.18		10,382.18	0.00
Hawaii	13,731.05		13,731.05	0.00
Idaho	16,460.61		16,460.61	0.00
Montana	17,378.09		17,378.09	0.00
Nevada	13,501.69		13,501.69	0.00
New Mexico	13,971.89		13,971.89	0.00
Oregon	20,944.89		20,944.89	0.00
Utah	17,592.61		17,592.61	0.00
Washington	26,407.38		26,407.38	0.00
Wyoming	15,646.34		15,646.34	0.00
Assessment Total	\$240,707.00		\$240,107.00	600.00

INCOME/EXPENSE

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
07/01/08	Balance forward			\$56,919.75
	YTD Assessments Received	240,107.00		297,026.75
	July Interest	166.91		297,193.66
	August Interest	366.51		297,560.17
	September Interest	468.69		298,028.86
	October Interest	688.05		298,716.91
	November Interest	424.32		299,141.23
	December Interest	335.50		299,476.73
	January Interest	265.76		299,742.49
	February Interest	199.38		299,941.87
	March Interest			299,941.87
	April Interest			299,941.87
	May Interest			299,941.87
	June Interest			299,941.87
07/01/08	MT Accounting Fee		3,500.00	296,441.87
10/24/08	CSU 08 Fourth/09 First Qtr		77,544.22	218,897.65
03/11/08	CSU Second Qtr		63,199.37	155,698.28
	CSU Third Qtr			155,698.28
	CSU Fourth Qtr			155,698.28
	TOTAL	243,022.12	144,243.59	155,698.28

**WESTERN DIRECTOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FY 2009**

13-Mar-09

ASSESSMENTS	FY09 Assessments	FY08 Outstanding	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
American Samoa	200.00		200.00	\$0.00
Arizona	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
California	1,267.29			\$1,267.29
Colorado	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Guam	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Hawaii	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Idaho	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Micronesia	200.00		200.00	\$0.00
Montana	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Northern Marianas	200.00			\$200.00
Nevada	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
New Mexico	1,267.29			\$1,267.29
Oregon	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Utah	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Washington	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Wyoming	1,267.29		1,267.29	\$0.00
Assessment Total	\$18,342.00	\$0.00	\$15,607.48	\$2,734.52

INCOME/EXPENSE

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
07/01/08	Balance forward			\$5,845.84
	YTD Assessments Received	15,607.48		21,453.32
	July Interest	14.34		21,467.66
	August Interest	29.72		21,497.38
	September Interest	34.30		21,531.68
	October Interest	47.19		21,578.87
	November Interest	41.58		21,620.45
	December Interest	32.87		21,653.32
	January Interest	26.04		21,679.36
	February Interest	19.54		21,698.90
	March Interest			21,698.90
	April Interest			21,698.90
	May Interest			21,698.90
	June Interest			21,698.90
10/8/2008	CSU 08 Fourth/09First Qtr		8,872.25	12,826.65
3/11/2009	CSU Second Qtr		4,585.50	8,241.15
	CSU Third Qtr			8,241.15
	CSU Fourth Qtr			8,241.15
TOTAL		\$15,853.06	\$13,457.75	8,241.15

Agenda Item 5.0: ARS REPORT

Presenter: Andy Hammond

Background:

AREA LEADERSHIP

Pacific West Area

- Area Director: Andrew Hammond
- Associate Area Director: Robert Matteri
- Assistant Area Director: Vacant
- Alaska, Arizona, California, Hawaii, Idaho, Nevada, Oregon, Washington

Northern Plains Area

- Area Director: Will Blackburn
- Associate Area Director: Vacant
- Assistant Area Director: Mickey McGuire
- Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, South Dakota, Utah, Wyoming

Southern Plains Area

- Area Director: Dan Upchurch
- Associate Area Director: James Coppedge
- Arkansas, New Mexico, Oklahoma, Texas, (Panama)

BUDGET

FY 2009 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

- \$1.14 Billion – ARS Programs
 - Program increases:
 - \$1.50 Million – Develop Ug99 resistant wheat varieties
 - \$1.00 Million – Research on viral hemorrhagic septicemia (VHS)
 - \$254 K – Human Nutrition Research, Boston, MA
 - \$254 K – Chronic diseases of children, Houston, TX
 - \$254 K – West Tennessee Mississippi River Cropping Systems Unit, Jackson, TN
 - \$254 K – ARS Southwest Watershed Research Center, Tucson, AZ
 - \$254 K – Northwest Center for Small Fruits, Corvallis, OR
 - \$1.35 Million – Research on food allergies
 - \$800 K – Research on colony collapse disorder
 - Congressionally-mandated Projects (proposed cuts in President's Budget are restored)

- \$46.8 Million – ARS Buildings and Facilities

Pacific West Area:

- \$2.19 Million – Center for Advanced Viticulture and Tree Crop Research, Davis, CA
- \$2.19 Million – U.S. Agricultural Research Center, Salinas, CA
- \$1.57 Million – U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center, Hilo, HI
- \$.54 Million – Aquaculture Facility, Hagerman, Billingsly Creek, ID
- \$2.19 Million – ARS Research Laboratory, Pullman, WA

Northern Plains Area:

- \$2.19 Million – Animal Bioscience Facility, Bozeman, MT
- \$1.09 Million – Systems Biology Research Facility, Lincoln, NE
- \$4.35 Million – Agricultural Research Center, Logan, UT

Southern Plains Area:

- \$1.96 Million – U.S. Agricultural Research Facility, Knippling-Bushland Laboratory, Kerrville, TX

FY 2010 President's Budget

- ARS Budget Priorities
 - Prevent Childhood Obesity
 - Sustainable Agricultural Production of Bioenergy
 - Global Climate Change
 - Reduce World Hunger
 - Vulnerability Concerns at the National Centers for Animal Health

NEW LEADERSHIP AND VACANCIES

ARIZONA

Maricopa

- U.S. Arid Land Agricultural Research Center, Water Management and Conservation Research Unit, VACANT, Research Leader

CALIFORNIA

Albany

- Western Regional Research Center, VACANT, Center Director

Davis

- National Clonal Germplasm Repository for Tree Fruit/Nut Crops and Grapes, VACANT, Research Leader
- Exotic & Invasive Weeds Research (Worksite of Albany EIW Research Unit), Dr. Kristina Schierenbeck, Research Leader

COLORADO

Fort Collins

- National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation Center, Dr. David Dierig selected for the Research Leader position. Start date is June 21, 2009

HAWAII

Hilo

- U.S. Pacific Basin Agricultural Research Center, Dr. Dennis Gonsalves, Center Director (Center was re-organized into two research units)
 - Tropical Crop and Commodity Protection Research Unit, Dr. Eric Jang, Research Leader
 - Tropical Plant Genetic Resources and Disease Research Unit, Dr. Dennis Gonsalves, Research Leader

IDAHO

Kimberly

- Northwest Irrigation and Soils Research Laboratory, Dr. Dave Bjorneberg, Research Leader

MONTANA

Miles City

- Fort Keogh Livestock and Range Research Unit, Dr. Mark Peterson, new Research Leader

NEVADA

Reno

- Exotic and Invasive Weeds Research Unit (Worksite of Albany EIWRU), Dr. Kristina Schierenbeck, Research Leader

WYOMING

Laramie

- Arthropod Borne Animal Disease Research Unit, Dr. Jim Mecham, Acting Research Leader, Recruitment suspended pending outcome of FY 2009/2010 budget process proposing transfer of all personnel to Ames, IA

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 6.0: CSREES Update

Presenter: Ralph Otto

Background:

Dr. Otto reported via teleconference. Some items discussed were:

1. CSREES is planning for the transition to NIFA by;
 - developing mission and vision statements
 - determining configuration and structure
 - establishing working groups
2. The director of NIFA will have wide powers for its structure.
 - The first public information on structure will be announced by NIFA, or the new director will provide it when appointed
3. Budget Information
 - USDA was zeroed out for funding under the stimulus package
 - The President's FY2010 budget may not be released until May
 - Details on the FY2009 budget are available on the Thomas website
 - CSREES receives 4% administrative funds on special projects

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 7.0: New/Renewal NRSP Proposals

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

The following proposals were discussed in agenda items 7.1 (NRSP_temp201), 7.2 (NRSP_temp161), 7.3 (NRSP_temp007), and 23.0 (NRSP3/NRSP_temp003).

Action Requested: Action of the Association regarding NRSP renewals/establishment

Action Taken: The motion was made, seconded and approved that the Western Directors Association support the renewal/establishment of NRSP_temp3, NRSP_temp7, and NRSP_temp161. The Association did not support the proposal for NRSP_temp201.

Agenda Item 7.1: NRSP_temp201 Specialty Crop Regulatory Initiative

Presenter: H. Michael Harrington

Background:

The following is the Statement of Issues and Justification from NIMSS. The balance of the proposal is available on NIMSS:

National Research Support Project Summary

Project Number: NRSP_TEMP201

Title: The Specialty Crop Regulatory Assistance Program

Duration: October 2009 to September 30, 2014

Administrative Advisor(s):

[AnnMarie Thro (main) S]

CSREES Reps:

Statement of Issues and Justification

Prerequisite Criteria

How is the NRSP consistent with the mission? The State Agricultural Experiment Stations and the 1890 Land Grant Universities and Tuskegee have invested significant public resources for research on transgenic crops, with the expectation that benefits would accrue to the public. The investments were made to support ESCOP/ESS priorities, but most of the anticipated benefits have not been realized. For example, in the 15-year period between 1990 and 2005, the USDA Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) provided an estimated \$5,000,000 per annum to support public sector research on genetically-engineered crops through competitive programs, special grants, and Hatch funds. Hatch funds require a 100% state match, so for example, in FY2005, states provided a match of at least \$820,000. Altogether, USDA has invested approximately \$200,000,000 in state and federal research on transgenic crop research from 2002-2007. The return on this investment in transgenic crop research is vanishingly small. One of the few examples developed through public research is the virus-resistant papaya that has made it to the market place, where it has been a success.

Consistent with the mission of National Research Support Projects (NRSP), the Specialty Crop Regulatory Assistance (SCRA) initiative activities will help transgenic crop research reach its full potential by addressing specific obstacles that confront small market crops (specialty crops), including fruits, vegetables, tree fruit and nuts, ornamentals and nursery crops, and emerging crops (such as industrial and bioenergy crops).

Crops developed using transgenic methods are not available for farmer and consumer choice until they are deregulated by federal agencies. Intended benefits for production, environmental stewardship, and human health are not realized until deregulation and commercialization are achieved. The consensus from two open stakeholder workshops in 2004 and 2005 (e.g., Goldner et al., 2005) and from other reports indicate that uncertainty, duration, cost, and lack of familiarity with the regulatory process are among the reasons why research on many transgenic applications remains underutilized or not initiated (e.g., Dobres, 2008). These factors are particularly limiting for specialty crops and for research by public sector and small-scale private sector crop and technology developers.

SCRA will support a spectrum of activities that assist public and private sector developers in

navigating through the regulatory process in an efficient manner for a range of crops and traits. NRSP funding will provide an essential foundation of support for the administration and coordination of the program as well as some funding focused on assisting with the regulatory challenges of a few selected projects. This foundational funding will provide staffing support and flexibility and critical leverage to allow SCRA to secure funding from other sources, such as USDA and the private sector, to amplify its work and broaden its assistance activities. Consistent with NRSP guidelines and objectives, the SCRA will not fund or conduct research to develop new transgenic crops or traits per se, but may support research that answers specific regulatory questions as needed by a particular application.

How does this NRSP pertain as a national issue?The primary national issue to which SCRA is relevant is the loss of anticipated benefits from public research on transgenic crops. As stated above, the lack of return on investment for public research support for transgenic crops is glaring. All ESCOP regions including ARD, have conducted and are conducting research on transgenic crops, and/or other, fundamental, research that will rely on transgenic crops to deliver benefits. However, relatively few of these benefits have become available commercially, particularly in specialty crops. While there are a number of factors contributing to this issue, a major hurdle is the complexity and cost of achieving regulatory approval for public release of transgenic plants (e.g. editorials, Nature Biotechnology and Scientific American, 2004; Bradford and Alston, 2004). Regulatory issues include costs of conducting required testing; a certain inevitable level of unpredictability of requirements, particularly with new crops and traits; and lack of familiarity among researchers, administrators, investors, and other decision makers about requirements, duration, and potential outcome of the regulatory process. SCRA will assist directly with these issues. As a facilitator, SCRA will be able to assist crop developers reduce the time that is required to prepare the components of a deregulation dossier for a given regulatory agency. By interacting with crop developers early in the crop development process, SCRA will often be able to provide guidance for the development of required regulatory data to streamline the process and reduce cost. SCRA may also provide cost savings to some public and many small private sector transgenic crop developers by providing guidance and regulatory compliance infrastructure that these institutions may not be able to support year to year.

SCRA will help indirectly albeit importantly in enhancing consumer confidence that the regulatory system is protecting their safety. By enabling the commercialization of safe crops with tangible benefits for consumers and the environment, SCRA can help influence public opinion about the value of modern methods of crop improvement. Providing the public first-hand experience with diverse biotech-derived crops and traits, whether directly consumed, enjoyed (i.e., ornamentals), or as used in other ways, will demonstrate their value and safety. SCRA can ensure that consumers and producers have the opportunity to make better choices for improved nutrition, lower food costs, increased productivity, global competitiveness, and reduced environmental impacts.

The marketing of biotech crops by small companies and public breeders has been limited in some cases precisely because of the costs and uncertainty of the regulatory process. Innovative public action by SCRA will broaden participation and help to alleviate concerns that the benefits of the technology accrue only to large companies. To achieve broader participation (Table 1) in transgenic crop prioritization, development, and commercialization, SCRA will:

- (a) Support entry into the regulatory process for a wider range of crops, traits, and developers; and

(b) Create additional opportunities for regulators to gain experience with reviewing additional crops and traits, making subsequent reviews of similar crops more efficient for all involved. SCRA support will help meet one of several steps necessary (i.e., regulatory review for safety), for increasing the diversity of crops, traits, and sources that are available and visible to the public. In this way, the availability of diverse crops and traits will provide consumers with first-hand opportunities to purchase and try foods and other plant products from these crops and form opinions based on actual experience. Further, it will provide farmers and ranchers with additional choices to help them remain competitive and reduce input costs and increase output traits that, perhaps, can provide added income derived from niche or specialty markets.

OVERVIEW SPECIALTY CROPS REGULATORY ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (NRSP-TEMP201)

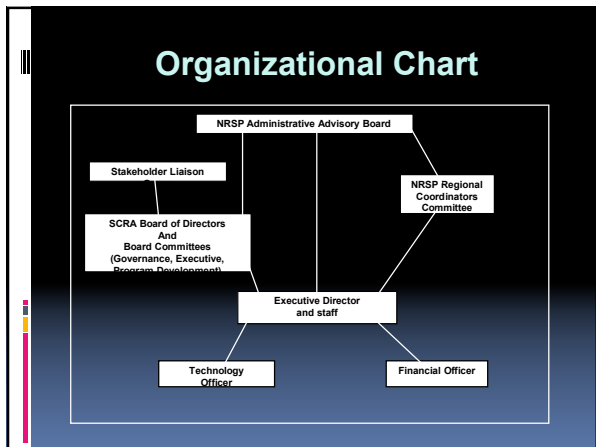
- ## OBJECTIVES
- Facilitate deregulation of transgenic small-market crops, including new crops and traits with significant benefit for consumers and the environment;
 - Ensure that public discussion of transgenic crops is better informed as a result of access to a wider range of crops, traits, and sources than is available currently, leading to a broader discussion of costs and benefits based on additional real-life examples and experiences;
 - Increase private investment, as the path to market becomes less uncertain;
 - Increase opportunities for public sector crop developers, as the regulatory pathway becomes more manageable.

BUDGET

Staff Salaries	Amount	FTE
Executive Director	80,000	0.208
Associate Director(s)	36,500	0.190
Technology Officer	40,000	0.40
Regulatory Consultants	100,000	1.00
Administrative Support	15,000	0.25
CPA	5,000	0.031
Subtotal	276,500	2.080

BUSINESS PLAN AND BUDGET

Travel	Amount	Subtotal
Annual Board Meeting	15,000	
NRSP Committee	5,000	
Stakeholder Meetings	1,500	21,500
Other expenses		
Supplies	1,000	
Webhosting	1,000	



- ## Technology Officer Responsibilities
- Implementation of the Project Evaluation Process (PEP)
 - Summary review of expressions of interest for SCRA support
 - Preparation of calls for proposals for SCRA assistance
 - Implementation of the independent, peer-review process for project selection
 - Implementation of technical services programs

Hits - Positive Impressions

- ☑ Detailed proposal
- ☑ Several years of discussions including regional associations and ESS
- ☑ Good management plan
- ☑ Would support applications from university and private entities
- ☑ Provides much needed assistance for moving GMOs through the approval processes

Misses - Negative Impressions

- Requests \$300,000/yr in continuous off the top funding
- Needs to raise at least \$100,000 from industry
- Status of support from SAESs unclear
- Would support applications from university and private entities
- Application and review process is unclear
- Any fee structure is unclear

Action Requested: WAAESD Recommendation

Action Taken: WAAESD did not recommend to approve

Agenda Item 7.2: NRSP_temp161 Animal Nutrition Management

Presenter: Colin Kaltenbach

Background:

The following is the Statement of Issues and Justification from NIMSS. The balance of the proposal is available on NIMSS:

National Research Support Project Summary

Project Number: NRSP_TEMP161

Title: National Animal Nutrition Program

Duration: October 2009 to September 30, 2014

Administrative Advisor(s): [[David A. Benfield](#) NC] [[Nancy Cox](#) (main) S]

CSREES Reps: [[Adele M Turzillo](#)]

Statement of Issues and Justification

Prerequisite Criteria

How is the NRSP consistent with the mission? A MISSION-DRIVEN EFFORT

The proposed National Animal Nutrition Program, a research-support activity that has been requested by stakeholders, is focused on addressing a serious national problem for researchers and educators in animal agriculture and filling a current void in science-based resources for the research and academic community and the animal agriculture industry. The mission of the proposed effort is focused on collecting, assembling, synthesizing, and disseminating science-based information, educational tools, and enabling technologies on nutrient needs of agricultural animals that will facilitate high-priority research across all domestic agricultural species. Currently, there are no up-to-date, science-based syntheses of data, standard teaching tools, or prediction technologies on nutrient needs of major species of agricultural animals. Similarly, there are no comprehensive up-to-date databases on feed ingredients and their characteristics. Thus, outdated information is being used by educators, researchers, extension professionals, regulators, and the feed and animal industries as the basis for teaching the next generation of animal scientists; for all published animal research; in the development of animal diets, feeds and foods; as the applied driver of efficiency in food and fiber production; as the basis for dealing with environmental impacts; to address animal well being and meet requirements in the Animal Welfare Act; and in regulatory actions involving animal nutrition, feeding, and welfare.

The objectives of the National Animal Nutrition Program are to:

" Support agricultural animal-related research by developing a current, comprehensive, science-based nutrition foundation in the form of easily accessible and publicly available synthesis publications on nutrient requirements across species for animal nutrition education, research, and application.

" Expand and enhance shared feed databases and partner to provide other common resources such as models that facilitate agricultural animal research, education, and extension.

" Increase the national linkage of nutrition information to other scientific endeavors by disseminating tools through real time global communication efforts and improve the animal nutrition infrastructure for researchers, educators, extension professionals, as well as the regulatory and industry communities that rely on conclusive animal nutrition information. Providing a Foundation

The establishment of a National Animal Nutrition Program will provide a foundation that is currently lacking in order to advance discovery and application in multiple areas of animal-related research including current knowledge and future needs of (1) estimating and controlling emissions from animal feeding operations, (2) enhancing animal welfare, (3) improving

utilization of and evaluation of alternative feeds and co-products of the biofuels industry, and (4) ensuring abundant and safe food-animal products. In addition, the proposed program will provide a critical underpinning for research in scientific disciplines important to animal agriculture including genomics, immunology, endocrinology, reproductive and molecular biology, among others in order to make continued substantial progress in efficiencies and competitiveness of production of all agriculturally important domestic animals.

Partnering for Resources

Bringing researchers, modelers, technologies, and resources together accomplishes what could not otherwise be accomplished with single uncoordinated efforts. These partnerships and collaborations result in delivery of a variety of tools that are used widely by the science community and animal industries. Some of those significant tools, which are necessarily derived from sharing of resources, include databases of nutrient composition of feeds and models to predict nutrient requirements under various conditions for different animal species.

Increasing Linkages and Improve Infrastructure

Linking the nutrition foundation with other areas of science has resulted in great strides in our knowledge and ability to improve production efficiencies in animal agriculture. For example, the goals of linking nutrition and genomics are to obtain better feeds and genetic tools to enhance animal health and productivity. Using nutrigenomics it is possible to delineate the relationship between diet, genetics and disease; develop feeds that can be matched to genotypes of animals to benefit health and enhance normal physiological processes; and use genetic code of an animal to measure the effects of certain nutrients (e.g., nutritional supplements) and how they alter the gene's instruction of the body. Another example is linking nutrition with immunology. Goals are to manipulate the immune system through diet to decrease dependence on antibiotic use, to use diet with other environmental factors to change immune responses under production conditions, to control onset of immunologic and production-related changes by dietary modifications, and to develop methods to use immune response as a biologically meaningful index to determine specific dietary requirements. These types of linkages are crucial for many areas of animal science that are dependent on a nutrition foundation. Aside from linkages, a sound infrastructure of nutrition information and resources is required to ensure that the research, education, regulatory and industrial communities have information and tools needed to properly carry out their respective work.

How does this NRSP pertain as a national issue?

A PROJECT THAT ADDRESSES NATIONAL ISSUES

Throughout history, animal nutrition resources and tools have underpinned solutions to critical national issues. For example, during Herbert Hoover's presidency, the challenges facing the nation were exhibited prominently by the popular promise of a chicken in every pot. Indeed, farmers were expected to produce abundant food to feed the U.S. population; however, farmers were experiencing extreme hardships because of low income for their products. Given the demands and financial crisis facing agriculture, especially the food-animal industry, animal nutrition resources and tools were clearly needed to define nutrient needs and feed nutrient values, which allowed farmers to improve the cost-effectiveness of feeding regimes.

In an era of high unemployment, financial crises, and evolving technologies, animal nutrition resources were called upon in the 1930s to ensure that the food supply, the farmers, and food-producing industries remained viable. Research discoveries of essential vitamins, like riboflavin, vitamin K, and pantothenic acid were new to farmers during this time; however, through research support activities these new concepts were synthesized and put into practice allowing farmers to raise increasingly important food items such as poultry in a resource-scarce nation. During World War II, the Secretary of Agriculture called for a 10 percent increase in national pork production to address the nation's shortage of meat and to provide greatly needed food supplies during wartime. Pork producers were faced with serious handicaps presented by the war emergency to meet this demand. Animal diets would have to be significantly revised to ensure an adequate supply of protein and vitamins. These major adjustments were a result of

the decreased supply of fish oils, the diversion of large amounts of skim milk to human needs, and the shortage of protein such as tankage and meat scraps that had been traditionally fed to pigs. Alternative sources of protein and vitamins would need to be identified. The solution was based on support activities that included collecting research findings, developing resources, and distributing information on the use of oilseed meals, which remain important economic nutrient sources in animal diets today.

After World War II the United States was rich in private resources but poor in public ones. The focus was on increasing production in the private sector; there were surpluses of some agricultural commodities and vertical integration was progressing rapidly, particularly in the poultry industry. Animal nutrition tools were one of the few critical resources that continued to support advances in the public sector and were used in the public education system, while they continued to be used by the federal government in setting standards. The private feed and food-animal industries also had come to rely heavily on these tools, which guided their success.

The national issues of today are eerily similar to those of the early 1900s. We are facing an economic crisis. We are in the midst of a war. Unemployment is high. Farmers, especially animal producers, are facing severe challenges. And, the agricultural landscape is changing dramatically. Unlike the early 1900s when the National Research Council (NRC) provided the research support activities for animal nutrition, there is no organized coordinating national group of animal nutritionists to coordinate and assemble information and develop enabling technologies for use by researchers, regulators, and industry; the NRC terminated the activities of its Committee on Animal Nutrition six years ago in 2003. Unlike the early 1900s, when animal nutrition research support projects were actively providing answers to animal nutrition questions facing the nation through the NRC, there are no active species committees and new no activities on nutrient requirements have been initiated in over 5 years. All research support information and enabling technologies for major agricultural animal species (swine, beef, dairy, poultry) produced by the NRC are now 8-15 years old and are of limited value in today's scenarios.

Never has the need been greater for research support, enabling technologies, and resource-sharing in animal nutrition. Like meeting increased demands for food during wartimes and economic crises of the past, farmers are now being asked to meet increased demands for biofuels. The rapid expansion and likely continued development of the biofuels industry significantly impacts the availability, quality, and range of feeds for animal diets. Researchers are being asked to solve issues of processing and derive value added co-products of the biofuels industry for animal agriculture.

The recent move to identify alternatives to fish meal and fish oil in agricultural animal diets today due to growing pressure on wild fisheries mimics the need to identify alternatives to fish oils as a result of decreased supply during World War II. Fish meal and fish oil are important components in the feeds for many farm-raised species, from pigs and poultry to farmed fish. One of the top issues facing the global animal agriculture industries especially the aquaculture industry is the need to reduce the amount of fish meal and oil used in diets, fueling research on suitable alternative feed ingredients. Research support activities in animal nutrition, enabling technologies in predicting animal nutrient needs, and up-to-date assembled information are all critical missing elements needed to solve this issue.

Trends and limited resources in the public education system today are similar to the constraints faced by educators in the early 1900s. Shifts from whole-animal to molecular sciences are being observed and concern exists about where future generations of animal scientists will come from. Assembling fundamental knowledge, educational and research tools, and modern enabling technologies will be essential to future generations, but is currently taking a back seat to other disciplines and scientific endeavors in animal science departments throughout the nation.

Collecting, sharing, and synthesizing information and developing prediction technologies through a national research support project will enable the same kind of previously derived solutions to issues that will allow the nation's agriculture to meet contemporary challenges and provide the resources to researchers, educators, and farmers to remain relevant. The proposed project will draw from the best minds from State Agricultural Experiment Stations in addition to other experts to develop, share, and disseminate these resources.

Like many other National Research Support Projects (NRSP), the proposed National Animal Nutrition Program will provide information, data, and educational tools that are applicable to researchers and educators in every region of the United States. Although there are approximately a dozen multi-state committees working on various aspects of animal nutrition in different animal species, there is no one effort to coordinate, synthesize, and disseminate the research and technology that is developed on nutrient requirements through the collaborative efforts of these committees or through numerous other research endeavors. Relative to the realm of other NRSPs, the proposed project is inclusive of all major agricultural animals and will enhance the research support activities provided for those important national animal-product commodities that account for the majority (51 percent) of the value of U.S. agricultural products, exceeding \$100 billion per year (Economic Research Service, 2008). It is anticipated that strong relationships will be built with the National Animal Genome Research Program (NRSP-8) in areas where information and ideas would be useful to exchange.

Currently, options to involve the National Research Council in the proposed new program are being explored. Updates will be provided on the potential role, extent, and level of involvement of the National Research Council.

Action Requested: Approval

Action Taken: See Agenda Item 7.0

Agenda Item 7.3: NRSP_temp007 A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs

Presenter: Milan Shipka

Background:

National Research Support Project Summary

Project Number: NRSP_TEMP007

Title: A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs

Duration: October 2009 to September 30, 2014

Administrative Advisor(s): [[L. Garry Adams S](#)] [[John Baker](#) (main) NC] [[Margaret E. Smith](#) NE] [[David Thawley](#) W]

CSREES Reps:

Statement of Issues and Justification

Prerequisite Criteria

How is the NRSP consistent with the mission?

Stakeholders identify critical national need in minor use therapeutics - In 1976, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) initiated an extensive study of the minor use of animal drugs through the efforts of a minor use/minor species drug committee. This committee, comprised of representatives of the FDA's then Bureau of Veterinary Medicine and Bureau of Foods, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), the pharmaceutical industry, and animal producer groups identified the scope of the problem as a lack of approved drugs for (1) diseases of minor species and (2) the principle minor diseases of major species. The committee identified the principal diseases for which drugs were not available in the minor species. Additionally, the committee recognized that the livestock industry in the United States relies heavily on the judicious use of drugs for the treatment of diseases in food animals. Without these drugs, animal suffering and mortality would greatly increase, as would the cost of producing animal-derived food products. However, before a drug can be marketed for use in a food animal species, it must be shown to be safe to the human consumer of the animal-derived food, and safe and efficacious in the target animal.

The process of generating the safety and efficacy data necessary for FDA/CVM approval of a drug is costly and time-consuming. In 1999, the estimated cost to a pharmaceutical company for research necessary to obtain FDA/CVM approval for a new drug exceeded \$20 million, and required 8 to 10 years of concentrated research effort (Ringer et al., 1999). More recently, issues relating to (1) increased costs in the development of analytical methods, (2) concerns over antimicrobial resistance in human medicine, and (3) increased environmental testing have increased veterinary drug approval costs dramatically (Lathers, 2003). Drug approvals are generally species and disease specific and additional label claims also come with considerable added expense. Pharmaceutical company estimates place the cost of adding a label claim to an FDA/CVM approved drug at \$2 to \$8 million (Brown, 2003).

Because of this substantial investment in time and resources, pharmaceutical companies must be assured that the drug will have a reasonable potential for profit. Therefore most drug approvals are sought only for those animal species that are produced in sufficient numbers to support large volume sales, specifically cattle, swine, chickens and turkeys. There is little economic incentive for pharmaceutical firms to generate data necessary to seek FDA/CVM approval of drugs in minor species; hence, very few drugs are available for management of diseases in these species. Inequities in drug availability represent serious management and economic problems for producers for minor species. Today, more than half of all commercially led pharmaceutical R&D in the veterinary medical field is focused on developing products for companion animals, and the emphasis on this sector is likely to increase in coming years, as companion animals live longer, and more diseases of old age are diagnosed and treated

(Lathers, 2003).

The FDA/CVM was aware that veterinarians and livestock producers were using unapproved drugs without the safeguards that approved drugs carry. Such unapproved drug use could not only cause detrimental effects to the animals being treated, but could also lead to the persistence of drug residues in animal products intended for human consumption. A definite need was established for approval of minor use veterinary drugs and the scope of the problem was defined. This need was also affirmed by various grower organizations.

In 1982, the IR-4 Animal Drug Program was established as part of the overall IR-4 Minor Use Pesticide Management Program. Since that time the animal portion established itself as a national means of securing approved drugs and as a conduit between the animal industries and the FDA/CVM.

In December 1990, the USDA/CSRS requested a peer review of the IR-4 program, including both the pesticide portion and the minor use animal component. A reorganization of the minor use animal drug section was one of the recommendations of the Review Team. This Change was carried out with the development of a separate Minor Use Animal Drug Technical Committee that reported to the IR-4 Administrative Advisors.

In 1992, IR-4 Administrative Advisors recommended that with the change from interregional Projects (IRs) to National Research Support Projects (NRSPs), as well as the experience gained under the reorganized IR-4 Project, that the two programs (pesticide and animal) be separated into two projects. In 1993, NRSP-7 was thus created as the Minor Use Animal Drug Program.

Animal producers are the primary stakeholders in the NRSP-7 program, but pharmaceutical companies may be considered significant stakeholders as well. Other groups with interest in minor animal drug use include veterinarians and regulators. The active participation of animal producers and pharmaceutical companies is essential for the success of the program. However, to one degree or another, NRSP-7 involves all stakeholders. NRSP-7 producer stakeholders are represented by the following 58 organizations in 10 categories: American Association of Wildlife Veterinarians, American Association of Zoo Veterinarians, American Farm Bureau, American Feed Industry Association, American Pet Product Manufacturers Association, Inc., American Rabbit Breeders Association, American Sheep Industry Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, Animal Health Institute, Animal Drug Alliance, Arkansas Bait and Ornamental Fish Growers Association, Catfish Farmers of America, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Florida Tropical Fish Farms Association, Inc., Food Animal Concerns Trust, International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, North American Deer Farmers Association, North American Gamebird Association, Inc., National Pork Producers Council, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Fisheries Institute, National Turkey Federation, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association, and the National Aquaculture Association.

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American Feed Industry Association, American Pet Product Manufacturers Association, Inc., American Rabbit Breeders Association, American Sheep Industry Association, American Veterinary Medical Association, Animal Health Institute, Animal Drug Alliance, Arkansas Bait and Ornamental Fish Growers Association, Catfish Farmers of America, Center for Veterinary Medicine, Florida Tropical Fish Farms Association, Inc., Food Animal Concerns Trust, International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, North American Deer Farmers Association, North American Gamebird Association, Inc., National Pork Producers Council, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National Fisheries Institute, National Turkey Federation, Pacific Coast Shellfish Growers Association, and the National Aquaculture Association.

Action Requested: Approval

Action Taken: See Agenda Item 7.0

Agenda Item 8.0: Off-the-top Funding Requests

Presenter: H. M. Harrington/Ralph Cavalieri

Background:

2010

Requests for Off-the-Top Funding

	Request	Authorized	Request	Authorized	Request	Authorized	Request	
Project	FY 2007	FY 2007	FY 2008	FY 2008	FY 2009	FY 2009	FY 2010	Action Needed
NRSP-1	315,524	315,524	337,574	337,574	346,829	346,829	346,829	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP-3	72,000	72,000	61,000	61,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP-4	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP-5	96,000	96,000	146,000	146,000	145,678	145,678	0.00	Terminate on September 30,2009
NRSP-6	110,000	110,000	110,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP-7	0	326,018	542,700	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP-8	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	400,000	500,000	500,000	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP_TEMP 161							350,000	1 yr budget recommendation
NRSP_TEMP 201							300,000	1 yr budget recommendation
<u>Western Regional Trusts</u>								
W006	365,000	365,000	371,649	365,000	386,245	386,245	395,660	1 yr budget recommendation
W106		100,000		100,000		100,000	100,000	1 yr budget recommendation

- NRSP-1 Research Planning Using the Current Research Information System (CRIS)
- NRSP-3 The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)
- NRSP-4 High Value Specialty Crop Pest Management
- NRSP-5 National Program for Controlling Virus Diseases of Temperate Fruit Tree Crops
- NRSP-6 Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project: Acquisition, classification, preservation, evaluation and distribution of potato (Solanum) germplasm
- NRSP-7 A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs
- NRSP-8 National Animal Genome Research Program
- NRSP_TEMP 161 National Animal Nutrition Program
- NRSP_TEMP 201 The Specialty Crops Regulatory Assistance Program
- W006 Plant Genetic Research Conservation and Utilization
- W106 Multistate Research Coordination, Western Region

Action Requested: Approval of off-the-top funding requests

Action Taken: Approved off-the-top funding at requested level for NRSP1, NRSP3, NRSP4, NRSP6, NRSP7, NRSP8, NRSP_TEMP161, W006, W106. Did not approve off-the-top funding for NRSP_TEMP201

Agenda Item 9.0: National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee

Presenter: Lee Sommers

Background:

The NPGCC met via conference call and developed a response to a request from the NRSP Review Committee that alternative funding mechanisms be evaluated for NRSP-6. Our report is appended. Discussions have been held with the American Seed Trade Association and the Association of Official Seed Certification Agencies and they both are interested in appointing a liaison representative to the NPGCC

The Committee will meet in Beltsville, MD on June 23-24. The agenda will

NPGCC Justification for Funding the Regional Germplasm Centers and NRSP-6

February 2009

This document is an update of a white paper based on the discussion and presentation about the challenges facing the National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) at the 2005 ESS meeting in Lake Tahoe, NV. The National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee (NPGCC) was charged with examining how the regional research associations deal with funding the four regional germplasm accounts (NE-9 located at Cornell University, S-9 located at the University of Georgia, W-6 located at Washington State University and NC-7 located at Iowa State University) along with the Potato Introduction Project at Sturgeon Bay, WI (NRSP-6) that support germplasm activities. This white paper will provide background information and justification for continued SAES funding of these activities.

Brief History of NPGS Plant Introduction Stations

The U. S. National Plant Germplasm System (NPGS) has responsibility for conserving and encouraging the use of the Nation's plant genetic resources and associated information, which are critical to ensuring the stability and productivity of U. S. agriculture. The NPGS is funded jointly by Federal and State resources, real and in-kind. Among the most important NPGS genebanks are the four Regional Plant Introduction Stations and the Interregional Potato Station.

The U. S. National Research Council in 1943 identified the need for more organized regional plant germplasm conservation efforts. In response, the Research and Marketing Act of 1946 [Public Law 733] authorized the establishment of the National Potato Introduction Station (now NRSP-6, Sturgeon Bay, WI) and the Regional Plant Introduction Stations (RPIS) at Ames, IA (North Central Project 7), Geneva, NY (Northeastern Project 9), Griffin, GA (Southern Project 9), and Pullman, WA (Western Project 6). Subsequently, the RPIS and the National Potato Introduction Station were established under a Memorandum of Understanding between USDA and the State Agricultural Experiment Stations (SAES), their Directors Associations, and the Committee of Nine, with operations commencing between 1948 and 1952.

During more than 60 years of operation, the RPIS and the NRSP-6 have evolved into the backbone of the NPGS and now conserve 244,000 accessions, or about ½ of the total of 510,000 managed by the 20+

NPGS genebanks. At their inception, it was envisioned that the USDA/ARS and the SAES would share the cost of operating these five sites more or less equally. Currently, the USDA/ARS provides most of the funding (Table 1), and has primary responsibility for managing them and the NPGS in total.

Nevertheless, the States contribute in many ways beyond the annual off-the-top funding by providing land, facilities, equipment, student workforces, etc.

Table 1: FY 08 USDA/ARS and SAES Budgets for RPIS and the Potato Station

FY 08 Funding	NC-7 Ames	NE-9 Geneva	NRSP-6 Sturgeon Bay	S-9 Griffin	W-6 Pullman
NRSP or MRF SAES Funding	522,980 (20%)	176,000 (9%)	150,000 (23%)	407,208 (15%)	355,560 (14%)
ARS Funding	2,080,896 (80%)	1,770,511 (91%)	503,500 (77%)	2,180,481 (85%)	2,147,351 (86%)
Total Funding	2,603,876 (100%)	1,946,511 (100%)	653,500 (100%)	2,587,689 (100%)	2,502,911 (100%)

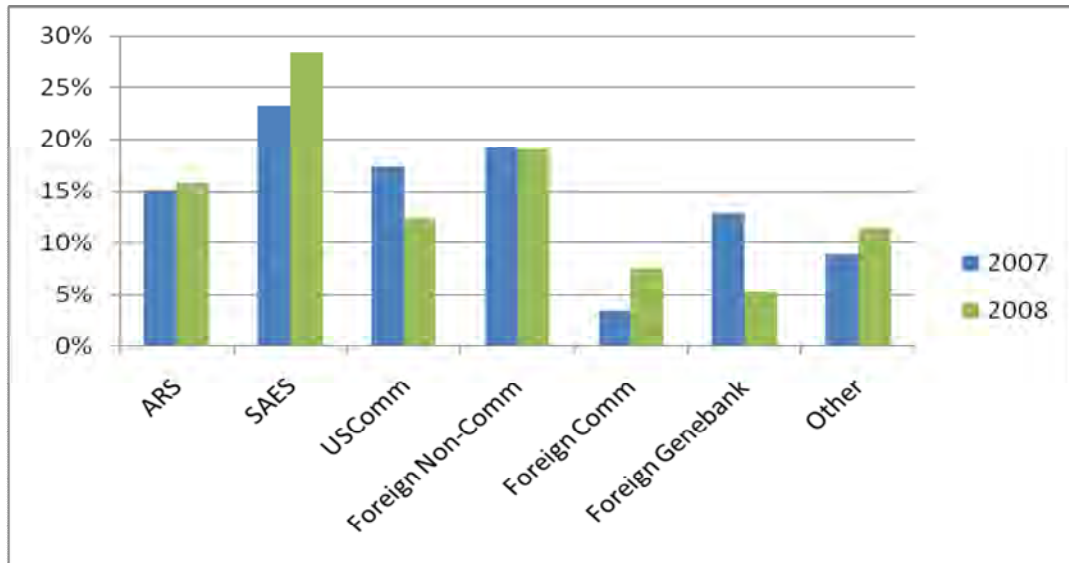
Recently, the value and demand for RPIS and NRSP-6 germplasm have increased significantly as sources of genes for enhanced crop productivity, resistance to rapidly-emerging diseases and pests, and improved nutritional and product quality. In fact, SAES scientists are major users of NPGS germplasm, which is available to them free-of-charge and restriction, whereas access to other germplasm is increasingly problematic due to deteriorating natural habitats and institutional capacities, intellectual property rights, and access legislation or policies.

As noted above, the four regional germplasm centers (NE-9, S-9, W-6 and NC-7) receive a proportion of their funding (approximately 20%) from an annual off the top allocation from the appropriate regional association. The remaining funding for each of the regional germplasm centers comes from a USDA-ARS commitment to the NPGS, individual station in-kind support and to a lesser degree minimal grant and contractual support. This arrangement has, for the most part, been successful, however funding from the regional associations has been flat for several years and reflects the lack of growth in the Hatch appropriation. Suffice it to say, the five germplasm centers operate with limited budgets that increasingly fail to cover the substantial costs of such large, complicated facilities and operations due in part to the highly diverse nature of collection material.

The NPGCC highlights the following factors for the Experiment Station Director’s consideration:

1. The university community of scientists is the largest single user of the materials held in these collections (Figure 1).

Figure 1: FY '07 and '08 percent material distributed by user category



2. Approximately 40% of the collections within the NPGS is managed by the four regional centers located on land-grant university campuses.
3. Approximately 60% of the germplasm that is distributed annually is material from the four regional centers.
4. Fiscal commitment of off-the top funds to the four regional centers constitutes less than 20% of the budget required to keep this activity functioning, with USDA-ARS being the largest single contributor to the success of this program.
5. Capacity of our SAES system to respond to future challenges depends on access to plant germplasm maintained in the NPGS.

Additionally, the NPGCC was charged to look at the funding of one National Research Support Project (NRSP-6, *Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project*), that plays a significant role in the germplasm system and that has been funded through off the top funding from the Experiment Station System via a recommendation from the NRSP Review Committee. Of late, the directors have recommended that NRSP's become less dependent on off the top allocations, and find other appropriate sources of funds to support their activities, to the degree possible. Notably, the potato germplasm center partially supported by NRSP-6 receives most of its funding (approx. 77%) from USDA-ARS and important in-kind contributions from the University of Wisconsin. Some Hatch-funded staff positions at this site can no longer be supported and will be terminated in the next few months.

What is the rationale for off-the top funding of NRSP-6? Some states have more direct involvement in potato research or breeding, and some states have larger acreages devoted to potato production. All regions are actively using NRSP-6 stocks. As documented in the NRSP-6 proposal, a total of 36 states and the DC received germplasm in the past project term (NC -11 states; NE - 8 states; S - 7 states; and W - 11 states). Potato breeding and research programs in these states make important contributions to the states' economies, University programs and agricultural competitiveness. SAES programs pursuing progressive breeding and research using exotic germplasm (some in each region) often depend on NRSP-6 as the *only* practical source of the materials necessary for their work.

Furthermore, the benefits of NRSP-6 activities to potato states by no means stay within their borders. *Every* state at least has a significant and direct involvement in marketing, transportation and consumption of potato as a major part of the diet of its population. Citizens of *every* state have an interest in the influence potato is making on world food policy, considering how closely political stability is tied to

economic and nutritional stability. Thus every state has a significant interest in potato improvement and should accept responsibility for paying a part of the cost.

A convincing case for continuing NRSP-6 support can be based on national needs and potential for significant impact including:

- The major vegetable. Most widely grown and consumed vegetable in the US and world, being among the most palatable and versatile of foods, thus perhaps the most practical hope of delivering improved nutrition to the nation and world.
- Significant production problems to be solved. Very high requirements for quality, which translates into very high inputs of pesticides, water and fertilizer with the associated production costs and risks of food residues and environmental impact.
- Great genetic opportunities. A narrow genetic base in US cultivars compared to the genetic breadth in exotics forms. More exotics germplasm is available than for any other major crops. Almost all modern varieties have exotic germplasm in their pedigrees. Past investments in this crop's germplasm have now built the world's premier collection of stocks and infrastructure within the US.
- Potential for economic impact. Among the greatest potential for market expansion. Very high potential for value-added profit in processed forms. Great differential between average and demonstrated optimum yield. Among the greatest diversity of cultivation in countries, latitudes and altitudes.
- Expertise and infrastructure needed. Germplasm maintenance requires special knowledge, technology and facilities for seed and clonal preservation, exclusion of systemic diseases, and prevention of genetic erosion in seed populations.

Action Requested: Based on the above justifications, the NPGCC recommends that the SAES directors continue to fund the four regional germplasm centers through the traditional regional funding mechanism and maintain level funding for the Potato Introduction Project through the NRSP mechanism.

Agenda Item 10.0: Cornerstone Update/Budget Discussion

Presenter: Hunt Shipman (teleconference)

Background:

Shipman reported that the FY2009 budget process is completed. President Obama has signed the omnibus bill.

There is \$48.5 million in appropriations for BAC priorities plus an additional \$106 million from the Farm Bill. There was no increase from the Stimulus Bill.

For the FY2010 budget process, the BAC is using a themes process, not numbers. Increases are requested for 13 themes, but bottom line is no less than the FY2009 level. The system is trying to increase AFRI and sustainable growth for capacity.

The President's budget process is delayed by two months which causes a delay in the appropriation cycle. The timeline goes deep into late summer/early fall.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 11.0: ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee

Presenters: Mike Harrington, Jeff Jacobsen, CY Hu

Background:

The Budget and Legislative Committee has a full complement of members with Bruce McPherson stepping in as the chair elect. The committee will hold monthly conference calls on the 4th Tuesday of each month.

The BAA- Budget and Advocacy Committee met Feb. 9-10 in Washington DC to discuss priority setting and processes for upcoming budget years.

Status of budgets:

- FY 2009 Budget: An omnibus budget bill has been passed. The final appropriations mark is as follows: Hatch, \$207,106,000; AFRI, \$201,504,000; McIntire-Stennis, \$27,535,000; Evans-Allen: \$45,504,000; special grants, \$84,449,000. There will be an additional \$112,000,000 in mandatory research programs e.g. SCRI, biomass, etc.
- FY 2010 Budget: Obama is expected to submit budget to Congress on or about April 1^{3th}. Priorities: STEM, Human nutrition, obesity, biofuels, environmental sustainability
- FY 2011 Budget: OMB has made requests to Departments.

BAC Process See <http://www.nasulgc-bac.com/documents.htm>

The committee approved timeline and process

The Policy Board is seeking to discourage proliferation or expansion of the list of BAA priorities to obtain a focused list of a few priorities.

2010 Priorities Discussion

All lines must have support from the section presenting; there was a vote of the group to include any item on the list of priorities. This committee and the EDs reviewed the one page justifications for Hatch, AFRI and McIntire-Stennis and modified as needed.

Two categories were created: Targeted Budget Lines and Other Initiatives Supported by the BAC

For 2010 details see <http://www.nasulgc-bac.com/kb.htm>, [Summary: The Numbers](#)

Themes document

The BAC will be using a themes document in the future (see below). There was some discussion about not including specific programs or institution types because doing so might limit the vision for the program. There is very strong support for leaving such citations in the document.

Action Requested: For information

Action Taken: The motion was made, seconded, and approved to request that the text “for example” be removed from the Themes document

THEMES AND ISSUES DRIVING BUDGET PRIORITIES AND INITIATIVES

(Budget and Advocacy Committee working document as of 2/17/09)

v **Competitive, Sustainable and Productive American Agriculture**

- Food and agriculture security
- Profitable farms and rural economies
- New technologies
- Success in a competitive global agricultural environment

Budget and Advocacy Recommendations:

- ü *Increase the capacity of all land grant institutions to provide innovative and responsive research and extension on competitive, sustainable, profitable farms and rural economies.*
- ü *Allocate full funding for new programs in organics and specialty crops at mandatory levels.*
- ü *Significantly expand AFRI funding for integrated studies of plant and animal production systems.*
- ü *Continue to expand funding for innovative technology transfer and information systems, for example eXtension.*
- ü *Support investments that expand our system's reach to non-traditional and underserved farms and agribusinesses, beginning farmers, and other new sources of talent and innovation, for example, by growing the capacity of 1890 and 1994 land grants.*
- ü *Enhance funding to strengthen the capacity of the Land Grant system to contribute to and function effectively in a globalized agricultural economy.*

v **Food Systems, Nutrition and Wellness**

- Nutritional behavior and education
- Food safety
- Global food security

Budget and Advocacy Recommendations:

- ü *Substantially increase AFRI funding for nutrition, food safety and food-related behavior.*
- ü *Build university research and extension capacity in food systems and wellness.*
- ü *Sustain recent gains in the land grant system's capacity to meet demands for nutrition education.*
- ü *Contribute to the global imperative for improved food security, better nutrition, and good health as a matter of national security and well-being.*

v **Sustainable and Renewable Resources**

- Biofuels and bioproducts
- Energy efficiency and conservation
- Soil, air and water quality in a changing climate
- Ecosystem services of forest, range and agricultural lands

Budget and Advocacy Recommendations:

- ü *Support full funding of new mandatory Farm Bill programs related to biofuels and the bioeconomy.*
- ü *Grow the nation's capacity for natural resource-related research and extension by growing funding for critical budget lines, for example, McIntire-Stennis.*
- ü *Expand climate change research partnership.*
- ü *Build university research and extension capacity in energy efficiency and conservation.*

v **Workforce Development and Education**

- Develop the next generation of scientists and professionals for food, agriculture, and natural resource stewardship
- Youth education and the STEM pipeline
- Diversity and access to high quality educational opportunities

Budget and Advocacy Recommendations:

- ü *Review and evaluate all current USDA programs supporting instruction and academic programs, for example, Institution Challenge Grants and Graduate Fellowship Grants, with the goal of significantly expanding support for education by NIFA.*
- ü *Invest in NSF-IGERT-like programs within AFRI.*
- ü *Increase funding to sustain the instructional capacity of all institutions providing food and agriculture education.*
- ü *Increase funding to expand access of underserved and non-traditional constituents, for example, programs delivered by 1890s, 1994s, Hispanic-serving and other land grant institutions.*
- ü *Increase support for programs that incentivize collaboration among agricultural institutions, including those that build distance and web-based learning resources.*
- ü *Enhance support for science-based programs, like SET, in 4-H.*
- ü *Support programs designed to strengthen collaboration in agricultural science and education with partners around the world.*

Agenda Item 12.0: ESCOP Communications & Marketing Committee

Presenter: Ronald S. Pardini

Background:

ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee Report

The ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee initiated a targeted marketing campaign which ultimately led to a system communications and marketing effort and the hiring of the Podesta Group (PD) to work with Cornerstone (CGA) and the system leadership to implement a targeted marketing campaign in the home districts of key decision makers. To oversee the marketing effort, a System Communications and Marketing Implementation Committee (SCMIC) was formed that includes the ESCOP Chair, ECOP Chair, Ian Maw, the chair of the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee as well as the chair of the ECOP Communications and Marketing Committee and Arlen Leholm Executive Director for the North Central area. Part of their task was to evaluate the performance and impacts of the Podesta/Cornerstone marketing effort and report back to the system. As a result of the formation of SCMIC, the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee's job was completed and it was placed in hibernation. A strategic plan was developed by PG/CGA in collaboration with SCMIC and a first years progress/accomplishment report was developed. The key accomplishments are as follows:

- **Scope of Work for Cornerstone and PG, 4/15/08:** Drafted by the Podesta Group (PG) and Cornerstone Government Affairs (CGA), to provide specific guidance of the various components and responsibilities of the marketing campaign.
- **The System Communication and Marketing Implementation Committee Plan, 4/18/08:** Drafted by PG and CGA to provide a one page synopsis of the goals and structure of the marketing campaign.
- **In Face of Global Food Crisis, US Agricultural Research Funding Doesn't Measure Up, 6/4/08:** Drafted by the PG and approved by CGA to utilize to pitch stories to national reporters on the importance of agriculture research and extension funding and to highlight the new Create 21 initiative in the Farm Bill.
- **Examples of compelling research in targeted states, 6/5/08:** This four page document drafted by the PG in consultation with CGA provides abstracts and links to agricultural research projects in target states based in the following categories: nutrition and obesity; sustainability; conservation; crop yields and energy; renewable fuels, and food safety.
- **System Communication and Marketing Plan: Proposed Metrics, 6/11/08:** Drafted by the PG and Cornerstone Government Affairs in consultation with the SCMIC to track results of the marketing campaign and to assess its efficacy.
- **Press Release entitled, "Recently Passed Federal Farm Bill Potential Boon to Connecticut Agriculture Programs, Specialty Crop Program Gets Major Boost," 6/26/08:** Drafted by PG and Released by the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station to highlight new mandatory funding for specialty crops in the farm bill and try to avoid limits on these funds in the FY09 agriculture appropriations bill.
- **Media Advisory entitled, Rep. Alexander to Spend a Day on LSU AgCenter Research Station, Will View Agricultural Research at the LSU AgCenter's Dean**

Lee Research and Extension Center in Alexandria, 6/30/08: Drafted by the PG and the LSU AgCenter's Communication Office to highlight July visit by Rep. Alexander to LSU AgCenter.

- **University Researchers Reduce Risk of Peanut Allergies: 7/11/08:** Drafted by the PG in consultation with Carolyn Brooks, highlighted the work of 1890s institutions in alleviating food allergies and was including in the summer version of the e-newsletter.
- **Research Summary: *Improvements in Life-Cycle Energy Efficiency and Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Corn-Ethanol*, 9/2/08:** Drafted by the PG in consultation with Dr. Ken Cassman, the document provide a one pager summary of the results of a multi-institution study on corn-based ethanol and was used to pitch national, regional and trade publications on the benefits of the research.
- **Texas A&M AgriLife Center Responds to Hurricane Ike, 11/11/08:** Drafted by the PG and Texas A&M, the piece provided a short summary and a link to information on the work that Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service in response to Hurricane Ike and was featured in the fall version of the e-newsletter.
- **Rep. Steve Rothman (D-NJ) Invite Letter, 9/26/08:** Drafted by the PG in consultation with Rutgers, provided information and invitation for Member to visit Health Barn USA, a child nutrition and sustainability program in Bergen County, New Jersey. Event is tentatively being planned for the mid to late April.
- **Senator Ben Nelson (D-NE) Invite Letter, 12/9/08:** Drafted by the PG in consultation with University of Nebraska, letter was an attempt to have Senator Nelson review the school's Science on the Hill project called the Gut Initiative.
- **Cooperative Extension Services Help Citizens Cope in Struggling Economy, 2/15/09:** Drafted by the PG in consultation with CGA to highlight the work of CES in helping individuals cope with the economic recession and was featured in winter e-newsletter.
- **Land-Grant Institutions Lead Obesity Fight, 2/15/09:** Drafted by PG in consultation with CGA to highlight obesity research in winter e-newsletter.

Press Clippings and News Coverage

- **Alexandria Town Talk, 7/8/08 Alexander receives ag update on tour,** Story in the Alexandria Gannett Affiliate about Alexander's visit, includes quote Alexander linking addressing high food costs and sufficient agriculture appropriations.
- **KALB, Alexandria, Louisiana NBC Affiliate, Alexander Visits Dean Lee Research and Extension Center, 7/7/08:** Local Television piece on Alexander visit to LSU AgCenter
- **WNTZ, Alexandria, Louisiana Fox Affiliate, Congressman Tours LSU AgCenter Dean Lee Center, 7/7/08:** Short piece on Alexander's visit to Dean Lee.
- **Money for Crop Research Just a Drop in the Bucket, USA Today, 7/31/08:** Placed lengthy piece in USA today on the need for investments in agricultural research funding. It was the lead story on the paper's website and was feature on the front page of the

business section in the print edition. The story included interviews with officials from 5 land-grant institutions (Cornell, Kansas State, Michigan State, Purdue and Minnesota) all of which were suggested by CGA and PG.

- **Multi-Institution Research on Corn-Based Ethanol, 1/23/09:** PG worked with University of Nebraska Researcher Dr. Ken Cassman to promote the result of a study published in the Journal of Industrial Ecology. This led to the following stories: Corn ethanol produces half emissions of gas: study, Dow Jones News Wire, 1/23/09; Ethanol not so wasteful, report says, Omaha World Herald, 1/27/09; Ethanol study touts emissions, Argus Leader, 1/25/09; New Study Claims Corn Ethanol Helps the Environment, After All, Wall Street Journal, 1/26/09; Research finds ethanol less a threat to environment, Grand Island Independent, 1/25/09:
- **The Art of Science of Agriculture, Washington Times, 3/8/09:** Placed in the Sunday edition of the Washington Times, was written by Al Levine, the dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and edited and placed by PG and CGA. The piece also ran in MinnPost.com, an online newspaper covering the state of Minnesota.

Enewsletters and Member Submissions

- **Summer E-Newsletter:** The First E-Newsletter was sent in early September and was read by 20 percent of the recipients. Featured stories from 5 land-grant institutions including a special focus on work done at 1890s institutions. It also included a lengthy piece that was written exclusively for the inaugural edition of the newsletter by Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Tom Harkin (D-IA). This piece was entitled Farm Bill Advances Nation's Land-Grant Universities.
- **The Fall Enewsletter:** This edition included a piece written exclusively for the newsletter written by Rep. Tom Latham (R-IA) entitled, New Congress and Administration Must Focus on Agricultural Research. It featured a 19% open rate which means that of 1000 individuals who received the email, 200 opened it and read one of the articles. This tracking system does not account for people who may have read on their blackberries or other personal
- **The Winter Enewsletter:** Rep. Sanford Bishop drafted a piece for the newsletter on the importance of providing USDA research funding in the FY 2010 appropriations process. Also included stories on work institutions are doing in the area of personal finance and obesity.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 13.0: ESCOP Science and Technology Committee Report

Presenter: Gregory Bohach

Background Information:

1. Committee Membership:

- Chair
 - Greg Bohach (WAAESD)
- Delegates
 - John Liu (SAAESD)
 - Nancy Cox (SAAESD)
 - Mike Hoffmann (NERA)
 - Tom Brady (NERA)
 - Steve Meredith (ARD)
 - Ambrose Anuro (ARD)
 - Larry Curtis (WAAESD)
 - William Ravlin (NCRA)
- Executive Vice-Chair
 - Dan Rossi (NERA, Executive Director)
- CSREES Representative
 - Meryl Broussard
- ERS Representative
 - Terry Nelsen
- Social Science Subcommittee Representative
 - Travis Park
- Management Strategies Subcommittee Co-chair
 - Frank Zalom
- Liaisons
 - Cliff Gabriel (Office of Science and Technology Policy)
 - Edwin Price (ICOP)

2. Meeting

The Committee met on February 3-4, 2009 in Washington, DC. The Committee met jointly with the Social Science Subcommittee on the afternoon of February 3.

The Minutes are posted at url--

<http://www.nera.umd.edu/ESCOPSciTechFeb2009/Feb2009Minutes.doc>

3. NIFA Research Priorities

The Committee used the results of the survey and discussion at the ESS annual meeting to develop a set of recommendations to NIFA leadership concerning research priorities for AFRI and the funding initiatives from the Farm Bill. ESCOP Chair Steve Pueppke sent the recommendations and the results of the survey to Dr. Colien Hefferan on November 19, 2008.

4. Multistate Research Award

The 2008 award was given to NC-229 “Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Disease: Methods for Integrated Control, Prevention and Elimination of PRRS in United States Swine Herds”. The group was honored at the NASULGC Annual Meeting in Chicago on Nov. 9-11, 2008. The 2009 announcement was released on December 19, 2008. The deadline for submission to the regional associations is February 27, 2009. The Committee will receive the regional association nominations by April 30 and will submit its recommendation for the national winner to the ESCOP Executive Committee by May 15.

5. Science Roadmap

A major focus of discussion of the February 3-4 meeting, including the joint session with the Social Science Subcommittee, was the development of a process for developing a new Science Roadmap. It was decided that rather than attempt to simply update the previous Roadmap and a new Roadmap should be developed. However, the information collected during the last process and subsequent updates will be used as background. A subcommittee with members from both the S & T Committee and SSSC under the leadership of Travis Park prepared a proposal for utilizing the Delphi process for identifying and confirming grand challenge areas and respective research objectives for the Roadmap. Click URL for proposal---

<http://www.nera.umd.edu/ESCOPSciTechFeb2009/ESCOPSciRoadmapProposalFeb2009.doc>

It is proposed that deans, directors of research, Extension and academic programs in 1862, 1890 and 1994 institutions, and key faculty in each institution be asked to participate in the process. It was also suggested that this part of the process could be managed by the PBD Emerging Issues and Future Direction Task Force to insure buy-in from the entire system. Once the challenges and objectives are confirmed, the Committee will work on identifying current gaps in knowledge and resources, strategies and metrics to measure progress.

6. Future Meetings

The next face-to-face meeting of the Committee will be in February, 2010 in Washington, DC. The Committee plans to again meet jointly with the Social Sciences Subcommittee.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 14.1: Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West

Presenter: Mike Harrington

Background:

At the 2008 joint meeting with Extension it was decided to form a consortium that would foster integration of efforts in renewable and bioenergy as well as bioproducts. A small writing group was formed and after a number of iterations the document (below) is now ready for broader discussion and adoption.

Action Requested: Discussion and adoption

DRAFT
THE CONSORTIUM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE WEST (CREW)
CHARTER

Purpose:

The purpose of this agreement is to create a multi-state/territories CONSORTIUM FOR RENEWABLE ENERGY IN THE WEST, herein referred to as the “CREW”. The CREW was created by the Directors of Extension and Agricultural Experiment Stations at the Land Grant Universities in the states/territories which comprise the Western Region. Through this agreement, member states/territories will identify and collaborate on projects including research, Extension, education, policy development, and other ventures; and will partner with government agencies and non-governmental organizations to identify and jointly act upon opportunities that meet the goals outlined in this charter.

Goals:

To ensure our states/territories move toward greater energy independence.

To expand the production and use of renewable energy and the adoption of practices that result in increased energy efficiency.

To increase the discovery and production of bioenergy and bioproducts that advances the bioeconomy in the West.

Scope of Activity:

The CREW will accomplish these goals through the following essential activities:

- On an on-going basis, conduct needs analyses to identify opportunities for regional collaboration on projects to achieve the goals of the consortium.
- Identify knowledge gaps and conduct joint research education and Extension projects, and develop and share educational materials.
- Work collectively to attract funding to facilitate the consortium’s goals.
- Raise the profile of renewable energy, energy efficiency practices in the media and among policymakers.
- Enhance the profile of bioenergy and bioproducts research and development and the bioeconomy in the media and among policy makers.
- Facilitate better information-sharing and dissemination to the public.
- Organize a coordinated regional approach for working with The Western Governors’ Association, the Council of State Governments - West, The State energy offices, WIR-National Association of Counties (WIR-NACo), the US-DOE, USDA and other energy related agencies and/or organizations.
- Organize a coordinated regional approach for implementing the REE Energy Science Education and Extension Strategic Plan.

- Organize regional approaches to take advantage of opportunities in renewable and bioenergy afforded by the 2008 Farm Bill, new programs in the NIFA and other agencies.
- Create and maintain an inventory of research projects, Extension and education activities, materials and programs in the West.
- Share resources and expertise that mutually advances each of the Western states'/territories' efforts in education and research related to the bioeconomy renewable energy, energy efficiency and conservation practices.
- Create web sites for research results, educational materials, and other relevant documents.

Membership:

- ♦ State Agricultural Experiment Stations
- ♦ State Extension Services
- ♦ State Energy Offices
- ♦ WGA – Western Interstate Energy Board
- ♦ Western Rural Development Center
- ♦ Others

The CREW may enter into contracts or agreements with other non-member organizations to fulfill its goals.

Consortium Members agree to the following:

- Participate in CREW conference calls and meetings
- Promote CREW materials and projects
- Actively engage in workgroups
- Work with members to identify and prioritize potential activities

Principles of Participation:

- ♦ All members must be working towards the goals and purposes of CREW; this is working toward education and research related to greater energy independence, producing and utilizing more renewable energy, adopting energy efficiency and conservation practices, and advancing the bioeconomy in the West.
- ♦ All members agree to fully participate;
- ♦ Discussion and deliberations must recognize and take advantage of each member's strengths, skills, and perspectives.
- ♦ The CREW strives to be a coherent voice made up of each member's contributions.
- ♦ Discussion shall be open, honest and forthright.

Number and Frequency of Meetings:

The CREW will meet at least two times annually (possibly by conference call or web conference) to develop short term and longer term plans, and to review accomplishments since the prior meeting.

Initial Actions:

At its first meeting and on an ongoing basis, the CREW will:

- ◆ Review (and modify) its organizational structure in support of its goals.
- ◆ Establish initial and long-term priorities for the CREW.
- ◆ Determine staffing needs and funding mechanisms for the CREW

Governance:

Executive Committee

The Executive Committee will be made up of a chair, vice chair (chair elect), secretary/treasurer, and past chair. Staff will be ex-officio members of the Executive Committee. The chair and vice chair will rotate between the Experiment Station and Extension Directors to insure representation and rotation of leadership. The terms shall be one year. The Executive Committee shall provide fiscal management and oversight, and will act on behalf of CREW to conduct business between meetings.

Standing Committees and Task Forces

Standing committees and/or task forces are established when substantial investigation or other needs are identified which cannot be achieved at a regular CREW meeting. All products of the standing committees and task forces are meant to advise CREW members on various issues, directions, and processes. All members of the CREW will make final decisions on action items and expenditures.

Projects and Products

Projects of the CREW may include multi-state/territory activities that are conducted jointly between members and/or by individual organizational membership depending upon the focus and needs identified. Products of CREW will be accessible to all members.

External Contracts:

The CREW may enter into contracts for services. This consortium may utilize funding from Foundations, Federal Agencies, consortium members and other entities for operational and project expenses. Furthermore, the CREW may contract for services or hire staff as determined by a majority of the members. Services needed may include organizational facilitation and support, meeting planning, webpage development and maintenance, publications, internal and external communication, outcome and impact reporting, specialized publications and materials, relationship building, etc. The repository for all funds collected in support of CREW will be the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors office. The funds will be managed by the Secretary/Treasurer in consultation with the CREW membership.

Staff Support:

The Executive Director of the Western Extension Directors Association (Dr. Lyla Houglum), the Executive Director of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (Dr. Michael Harrington), and the Director of the Western Rural Development Center (Dr. Don Albrecht) may be employed to provide staff support for CREW. Adequate funding will be provided by CREW members to hire and support this staff involvement.

Review of Agreements and Commitments:

Projects and accomplishments of the CREW shall be reviewed annually by the membership. A comprehensive review of this Charter Agreement and Existing Memorandums of Understanding will be conducted every three years.

(Edited 01/05/09)

Action Requested: For information and discussion

Action Taken: Harrington, Allen-Dias, and Kahn assigned to rework the goals. Assessment language should be included in the document

Agenda Item 14.2 Western Region Water Listening Session

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background

The Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAAESD) and the Western Extension Directors Association have agreed that partnering to address pressing needs relating to water in the West is among highest priorities in meeting stakeholder needs. Currently there are seven multistate projects managed by the WAAESD with foci ranging from economics and policy to micro irrigation and watershed management. In addition there are five regional water quality efforts operating with the context of the National Integrated Water Quality Project at USDA-CSREES. However, these efforts should be better integrated among each other and with efforts of the Western Governors Association.

The Regional Experiment Station Association Executive Directors also met with the Committee for Shared Leadership of the USDA-CSREES Water Quality Program to discuss areas of intersection and ways that Water Quality groups could collaborate with the multistate water committees operating within the Multistate Research Fund and regional research structure.

From these discussions it was agreed to work toward planning listening sessions in each region as shown below. The Western region is the first to organize such a meeting.

Target Audience:

- Key stakeholders
- Deans, Directors
- Multistate committees working on various aspect of water
- Water quality project representatives
- Key policy decision makers

Purpose:

- Develop a better understanding of the current water issues from a regional perspective,
- Develop an understanding of the current research, Extension, and education efforts,
- Identify information gaps and research, Extension, and education opportunities,
- What is our competitive niche?
- What can/should the LGUs do?
- What resources are needed?
- Identify new opportunities for multistate collaboration and refocus current multistate efforts.

Outputs/outcomes:

- White paper or Strategic Plan to guide university research, Extension and education on regional water efforts
- Integration of research, Extension and education on regional water efforts
- Integration/coordination with the Western Governors Association
- Enhanced programmatic efforts to address pressing needs
- Identify needs to assist public policy directions and decisions

Information Resources:

- [CSREES Agricultural Water Security White Paper \(2005\)](#)
- [USDA-CSREES National Water Quality Program](#)
- [Envisioning the Agenda for Water Research in the 21st Century \(NRC, 2002\)](#)
- [Confronting the Nation's Water Problems: The Role of Research \(NRC, 2004\)](#)
- [Water Resources Research in the 21st Century \(Vaux, 2005\)](#)
- [Water 2025 \(EPA, 2003\)](#)
- [Water Needs and Strategies for a Sustainable Future \(WGA, June, 2006\)](#)
- [Water Needs and Strategies for a Sustainable Future: Next Steps \(WGA, 2008\)](#)

Organizing Committee

Name	Organization
Kent Briggs	Council of State Governments -West
Edgar Ruiz	CSG-West
Reagan Waskomb	CO-WRRC, CSU
Bob Mahler	National Integrated Water Quality Project (ID)
Henry Vaux	CA
Mike O'Neill	CSREES
Brian Hurd	W1190
Lyla Houglum	WEDA
Mike Harrington	WAAESD
Craig Bell	Western States Water Council (WSWC), Director
Tony Williardson	WSWC, Deputy Director
Jonne Hower	WSWC, Federal liaison
Shirley Hughbanks	NRCS - liaison to WSWC

Agenda Item 15.0: Sun Grant Initiative Report

Presenter: Jan Auyong

Background:





SUN GRANT INITIATIVE

Western Regional Center

UPDATE
03-24-09

Jan Auyong, Executive Associate Director
Oregon State University

Ralph Cavalieri, Assistant Director
Washington State University



SUN GRANT INITIATIVE
Western Regional Center

Five regional SGI centers, located at Land-Grant Universities:

- Facilitate coordination and communication among the respective land-grant institutions in that region
- Partner with state and federal laboratories and agencies

3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 2





Western Center Staffing

- Thayne Dutson, Director
- Jan Auyong, Executive Associate Director
- Ralph Cavalieri, Assistant Director
- Ellie Larsen, Program Specialist
- Karen Bose, Grant/Contract Technician
- CallieJo Carr, Office Specialist

<http://sungrant.oregonstate.edu>




3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 3

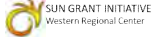


Western Center Programs

- Biomass Feedstock Identification/Development
- BioProcessing
- BioProduct Development
- Analyses (Economic and Systems Approach)




3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting



Funding parameters for the Western Region

- Developing and enhancing regional biomass stocks
- Biomass conversion, including mixed biomass
- Specialty crops and bioproducts for value-added production
- Enhancing efficiencies in existing technologies, and utilizing waste stream feedstocks
- Economic analyses for production decision-making and economies of scale
- Promote economically and environmentally sustainable production and practices
- Addressing a paradigm shift – from centralized to distributed fuel production

3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 5

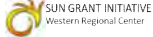


Currently Funded Projects

- Feedstock Development

- **BIOFUELS FROM SALT BASIN ALGAE** - John Cushman, University of **Nevada**
- **HYBRID POPLAR AS A REGIONAL ETHANOL FEEDSTOCK** - Jon Johnson, **Washington** State University
- **DEVELOPMENT OF CAMELINA AS A LOW-INPUT OILSEED CROP FOR OREGON, IDAHO AND WASHINGTON** - Russ Karow, **Oregon** State University
- **CUSTOMIZING BIODIESEL DERIVED FROM TROPICAL TREES** - Richard Ogoshi, University of **Hawaii**

3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 6

 SUN GRANT INITIATIVE
Western Regional Center

Other Center Activities

DEVELOPMENTAL EFFORTS

- **SUSTAINABLE TECHNOLOGIES LABORATORY**
This research facility, housed at Oregon State University, is currently investigating the effect of pretreatment conditions on different cellulosic feedstocks and the development of in situ processing of algae for biofuels and bioproducts
- **FARM ENERGY ASSESSMENTS**
The Center, in collaboration with the Oregon Agricultural Experiment Station and the PNW Energy Extension Initiative, targeted four types of operations (seed and grain, vegetable and small fruits, greenhouse, and dairy) to develop agricultural energy use assessment processes and calculations for web-based self audits. Testing of pilot work with commercial operations to take place in Summer '09 plus expansion of operational types and adding energy evaluation of fertilizer inputs.

3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 13

 SUN GRANT INITIATIVE
Western Regional Center

Sun Grant National Energy Conference

- Held March 11-13, 2009 in Washington D.C.
- Over 150 attendees from all regions
- Agency representatives
 - USDA, USDOE, USDOT, EPA
- Presentations will be posted to the SGI website:
 - <http://www.sungrant.org>


3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 14

 SUN GRANT INITIATIVE
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Collaborative Efforts with Industry

- BBI's International Biomass Conference & Expo
 - Portland, Oregon, April 28-30, 2009
 - Residuals and waste stream feedstocks as well as identified energy crops
- Biotechnology Industry Organization (BIO) World Congress
 - Montreal, July 19-22, 2009


3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 15

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SGI Reauthorizations

- USDA Farm Bill (passed 2008)
 - Title VII, Research
- USDOT Highway Trust Funds
 - Coming up in 2010, RITA program


3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 16


 SUN GRANT INITIATIVE
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SGI Legislative Update

- Department of Energy Biomass Regional Program
 - DOE / SGI Feedstock Partnership
 - The SGI project goals and targets have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget as part of DOE's Office of Biomass program activities. DOE hopes to continue and perhaps expand program.
- USDA Appropriations
 - The authorization specifies appropriation up to \$75 million through USDA, as yet unappropriated.
- Environmental Protect Agency
 - Interest resolves around SGI pilot research programs to assess the direct and indirect environmental impacts of biomass production for energy use (through Centers and DOT funded projects).
- Department of Defense (possible topics)
 - Biobased fuels that will meet jet engine performance requirements
 - Gasification technologies that could be utilized to convert waste to fuels in the field.

3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 17

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The Biomass R&D Initiative

Ralph Cavalieri

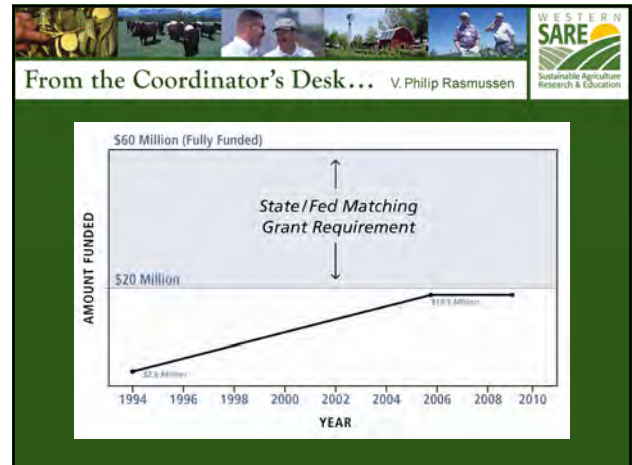
3/24/2009 2009 WAESSD Spring Meeting 18

Action Requested: For information

From the Coordinator's Desk... V. Philip Rasmussen

USDA-CSREES-SARE Budget

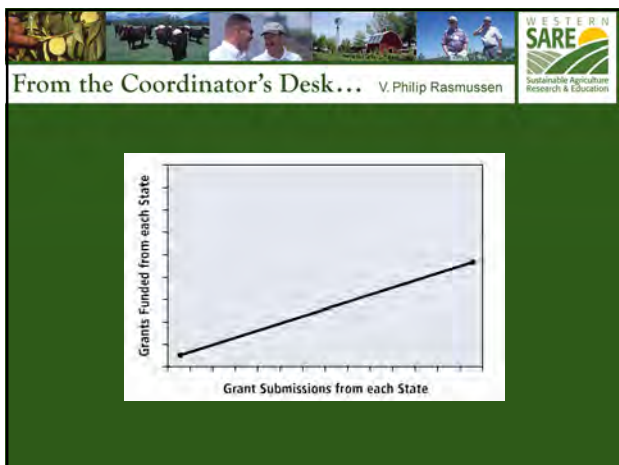
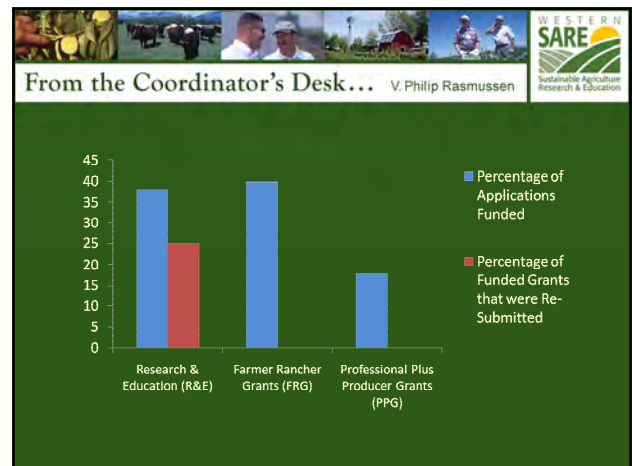
- Level funding for 2008 & 2009
- AES - \$ 3.15 M per region
- Extension - \$ 1.05 M per region



From the Coordinator's Desk... V. Philip Rasmussen

New Deputy Secretary of Ag

- Kathleen Merrigan
- Co-author of SARE enabling legislation

Western SARE Sub-Regional Priorities

	ABQ	HI	CHY	SPO	GLM	Number of Sub-Regionals
1 - Sustainable Agricultural Systems Research	■	■	■	■	■	5
2 - Research & Extension regarding consumer education to encourage local food systems	■	■	■	■	■	5
3 - Research & Extension regarding infrastructure for processing, distribution, etc.	■	■	■	■	■	4
4 - K-12 Education on sustainable food systems & agriculture	■	■	■	■	■	4
5 - Local sustainable ag demonstration centers/farms	■	■	■	■	■	4
6 - Renewable energy sustainable energy & efficiency	■	■	■	■	■	3
7 - Research & Extension on water quality & quantity	■	■	■	■	■	3
8 - Regulations: help to navigate, change or modify	■	■	■	■	■	3
9 - Research on local food systems, gaps, definitions, etc.	■	■	■	■	■	3
10 - Research on policies to encourage local food consumption	■	■	■	■	■	2
11 - Training, land & capital opportunities for beginning farmers	■	■	■	■	■	2

■ Priority in Sub-Regionals

Western IPM Center

Impacts and Outcomes


Rick Melnicoe, Director
Diane Clarke, Writer
Western IPM Center

Activities the WIPMC Supports

- Collaborations
 - Workgroups
 - Pest Management Strategic Planning
 - Information Networks
- Grants
 - Addressing Western IPM Issues
 - Special Issues (startup grants)
 - Manage the Regional IPM Grants Program
 - Manage Legume PIPE Field Plot Funding


Workgroups

- Focused work groups are funded to address particular issues, such as pesticide resistance management, urban IPM, weather modeling and pest forecasting, and other topics. These work groups have been enormously successful in leveraging other funds to address issues identified as important in the West. Several large grants have been obtained by work group members as a result of the small investment provided by the Western IPM Center.



Reduced Risks

- “IPM Issues” Grant Project on IPM Strategies for Parks Maintenance Staff
 - **Outcomes:** IPM strategies developed for parks maintenance staff in the Pacific Northwest and distributed via reports and courses.
 - **Impacts:** Reduced human health risks and environmental effects from pesticides used in parks.




Healthier Environment

- “Startup” Grant Project on Promoting Use of Green Manures
 - **Outcomes:** Green manure used to control cyst nematode in sugar beets in Idaho and Oregon. Field days held to show growers how green manure is planted, managed, and incorporated.
 - **Impacts:** Environment friendly target pest control and weed suppression. Soil and water conservation. Addition of organic matter to the soil. Increase in beneficial soil microorganisms. Soil nutrient enhancement.



Rapid Delivery of Information

- Multistate Information Networks
 - **Outcomes:** Established networks with thorough coverage in the Western Region. Local-level information on pest management needs and tactics.
 - **Impacts:** Regulatory decisions based on real-world, local-level information. Less dependence on default assumptions.



Stakeholder Input

- **Pest Management Strategic Plans (PMSPs)**
 - **Outcomes:** More than 40 PMSPs developed for commodities and sites in the Western Region.
 - **Impacts:** On-the-ground stakeholder input at PMSP workshops, providing accurate pest management information for regulators. Formation of commodity action groups. Spinoff grants exceeding \$1 million. Registration of reduced-risk pesticides. Crop-specific Best Management Practices. Multi-state and multi-regional collaborations.

Communication

- **Potato IPM Scouting Manual**
 - **Outcomes:** Field Guide to Potato Pests, a pocket guide in English and Spanish. Pilot workshops to test usefulness. English- and Spanish-language train-the-trainer workshops on how to use the guide.
 - **Impacts:** Unmet pest management needs filled in Pacific Northwest potato production for both English- and Spanish-speaking audiences.



Leveraged Funds

- **“Crop Insect Losses and Impact Assessment” Work Group**
 - **Outcomes:** Quantitative data enabling precise, timely responses to information requests. Qualitative data on “intent” of each insecticide input.
 - **Impacts:** Group awarded \$2.5 million USDA Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program (RAMP) grant for work on *Lygus* management. Evaluation of IPM programs over time. Quick response to changing needs of grower communities. Expansion of process beyond insect losses to weed, nematode, and plant disease losses.



Rick Melnicoe, University of Georgia, bugwood.org

Renewal of Grant in 2011

- Rick Melnicoe will not be re-competing for the Center
- Time Commitment of Director and staff
 - Essentially a full-time Director
 - Full-time Associate Director
 - 0.5 FTE Writer
 - Other Regional staff total approximately 1.0 FTE
 - Comment Coordinators
 - Data Manager

Duties of Director

- Manage Grant
 - Initial Application, yearly continuation reports
- Participate in National, Regional, State meetings
- Interact with other Federal Programs
- Cooperate on Multi-Regional IPM Center Activities
 - IPM-PIPE
 - PMSPs
 - National Educational Materials
 - Etc.

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Funded by U.S. Department of Agriculture, Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 18.0: Regional Coordination Implementation Committee (RCIC) Report

Presenter: H. Michael Harrington

Background:

RCIC met via telephone conference call on March 9, 2009. This was a first trial at conducting RCIC business via teleconference and was done so due to travel restrictions of several of the members.

Participating: Deb Young, Jon Boren, Steve Miller, Lynn Paul, Milan Shipka, Larry Curtis, Bob Matteri, Colin Kaltenbach

The following reflects the actions of RCIC:

1.0 The following Western Multistate Research Projects/Coordinating Committees are currently scheduled to terminate on September 30, 2009. (● Requests have been received and are itemized below)

	Project	Title
●	NRSP003	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)
	NRSP005	National Program for Controlling Virus Diseases of Temperate Fruit Tree Crops
●	NRSP007	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs
●	W006	Plant Genetic Research Conservation and Utilization
	W502	UV-B Monitoring and Research Program
	W503	Economic, Environmental, Genetic, and Nutritional Aspects of Grass-Fed Beef
	W1004	Marketing, Trade, and Management of Fisheries and Aquaculture Resources
●	W1128	Microirrigation for sustainable water use
●	W1170	Chemistry, Bioavailability, And Toxicity Of Constituents In Residuals And Residual-Treated Soils
	W1171	Germ Cell and Embryo Development and Manipulation for the Improvement of Livestock
	W1181	Modifying Milk Fat Composition for Improved Nutritional and Market Value
●	W1187	Interactions among Bark Beetles, Pathogens, and Conifers in North American Forests
	W1188	Characterizing Mass and Energy Transport at Different Scales
	W1190	Interfacing technological, economic, and institutional principles for managing inter-sector mobilization of water
	WCC1003	Coordination of Western Regional Extension Forestry Activities
●	WDC012	Integrating Access to Information from Herbaria
	WDC013	Implementation and Assessment of IPM in Urban Environments
	WERA011	Western Regional Turfgrass Research
	WERA021	Revegetation and Stabilization of Deteriorated and Altered Lands

WERA058	Production, Transition Handling, and Reestablishment of Perennial Nursery Stock
WERA072	Agribusiness Research Emphasizing Competitiveness
WERA077	Managing Invasive Weeds in Wheat
WERA095	Vertebrate Pests of Agriculture, Forestry and Public Lands
WERA110	Improving ruminant use of forages in sustainable production systems for the western U.S.
WERA1004	Agricultural and Community Development in the American Pacific

2.0 Requests for Project Extensions

None

3.0 Requests for Project Revisions

3.1 W_TEMP2541 Soil-Based Use of Residuals, Wastewater and Reclaimed Water (from W1170)

RCIC approved the request for revision of W1170 pending minor revision. RCIC recommends that the Methods section indicate which objectives each state is going to work on.

3.2 W_TEMP2581 Microirrigation for Sustainable Water Use (from W1128)

RCIC approved the request for revision of W1128 for five years, from 10/01/09 to 09/30/2014. RCIC suggested that the project website be maintained and updated regularly. When submitted to and approved by CSREES, the project number will be W2128.

3.3 W_TEMP2601 Interactions of Emerging Threats and Bark Beetle Microbial Dynamics in Forest Ecosystems (from W1187)

RCIC approved the request for revision of W1187 for five years, from 10/1/09 to 9/30/14. When submitted to and approved by CSREES, the new project number will be W2187.

3.4 W_TEMP2621 Plant Genetic Resource Management, Preservation, Characterization and Utilization (from W006)

RCIC approved the revision of W006 for five years, from 10/01/09 to 09/30/14 pending receipt of positive peer reviews. When the positive peer reviews are submitted, the project number will continue to be W006, as requested. Requests for peer reviews were sent via NIMSS. However, at the time of the NIMSS meeting/conference call, none had been submitted.

4.0 Requests For Establishment of New Projects

None

5.0 Requests for WERA/WCC Renewals or Extensions

None

6.0 Requests for New WERA/WCCs

6.1 WERA_TEMP2561 Retail and Foodservice Food Safety Consortium

RCIC approved the request for establishment of the WERA with major revisions. RCIC recommends more specificity in the objectives; the proposal needs to be more clear on what niche the group is seeking; and other partners should be included.

6.2 WERA_TEMP2641 Developing the US National Virtual Herbarium (from WDC12)

RCIC approved the establishment of WERA1015 for five years, from 10/01/2009 to 09/30/2014.

The following projects need new Administrative Advisors and suggestions for replacements are requested of the Western AES Directors:

7.0 Administrative Advisor Assignments

7.1 W1171 - Germ Cell and Embryo Development and Manipulation for the Improvement of Livestock - Milan Shipka (AK) to replace C. Y. Hu (HI)

7.2 WERA_temp2561 - Retail and Foodservice Food Safety Consortium - Replacement for H. Paul Rasmussen (UT)

7.3 WERA097 - Diseases of Cereals - John Sherwood and Jeff Jacobsen (MT) as AA and Co-AA respectively to replace Tim Murray and Ralph Cavalieri (WA)

7.4 NRSP6 - Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project: Acquisition, classification, preservation, evaluation and distribution of potato (Solanum) germplasm - Larry Curtis (OR) to replace C. Y. Hu (HI)

The following NRSP projects are seeking establishment or renewal and the NRSP reviews are to be submitted by the RCIC reviewers and the proposals discussed at the March 24-25, 2009 WAAESD meeting.

8.0 NRSP Renewals or Establishment

8.1 NRSP_TEMP3 The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) (from NRSP003)

8.2 NRSP_TEMP7 A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs (from NRSP007)

8.3 NRSP_TEMP161 National Animal Nutrition Program

8.4 NRSP_TEMP201 The Specialty Crop Regulatory Assistance Program

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

9.1 WDC012 Integrating Access to Information from Herbaria

See 6.2

9.2 WDC013 Implementation and Assessment of IPM in Urban Environments (from wera_temp2182)

The group had a meeting July 26-31, 2008.

10.0 Evaluation of nominations for Multistate Award winners.

RCIC reviewed the nominations that had been submitted for Western Multistate Awards and unanimously approved the nomination for W1150 “Exotic Germplasm Conversion and Breeding Common Bean (*Phaseolus vulgaris* L.) for Resistance to Abiotic and Biotic Stresses and to Enhance Nutritional Value.”

Action Requested: For information and suggestions for AA replacements

Agenda Item 19.0 NC-FAR Membership Renewal

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

The WAAESD has been a member of NC-FAR since its inception. We have received its renewal notice for 2009 dues in the amount of \$500. There have been number of questions about the effectiveness of the organization. In a show of hands at the recent AHS meeting there were very few who indicated that they would be paying dues for 2009. Last year NC-FAR adjusted its focus as shown below

National C-FAR Assets & Role:

- ***Strength Through Diversity***—Members of National C-FAR find common ground in the recognition that enhanced public funding for food and agricultural research, extension and education is vital to the future of the food and agricultural system and the nation. The coalition brings together stakeholders in the research, extension and education community and entities representing research 'customers'—e.g., the diverse array of stakeholder organizations who need and benefit from research outcomes. National C-FAR is in a position to *complement* the efforts of allied groups, such as NASULGC, CoFARM and CAST.
- ***Customer-Led***—The coalition provides a critical validating voice by ensuring stakeholder groups representing research 'customers' play a leadership role in the coalition, embracing a strong partnership with those in the research, extension and education community.
- + ***Leveraging Active Ownership Involvement***—National C-FAR works to keep member organizations aware of new developments and opportunities to take action. The Board is active and engaged and is strongly supported by member involvement through the Research Outreach Committee (ROC) and work groups.

National C-FAR Action Program:

- + **Hill Research Seminar Series**—National C-FAR conducts a "*Lunch-N-Learn*" hill seminar educational series [9 in 2007, reaching about 400 hill staff] featuring top researchers discussing publicly funded, leading-edge research that promises to address present and future challenges. *
- + **Participation in Farm Bill Reauthorization**—The Research Outreach Committee reports to the Board and facilitates the National C-FAR's role in the Farm Bill reauthorization process.
- + **Support for NIFA**—National C-FAR supported legislation to establish a National Institute for Food and Agricultural Research (NIFA) in USDA. The NIFA debate has helped to elevate the profile of the need for enhanced public funding for food and agricultural research. National C-FAR is well positioned to take advantage of such opportunities in supporting public funding for food and agricultural research, extension and education.
- + **Active Support for Funding in Appropriations Cycle**—National C-FAR submits comments to the appropriations and budget committees and during the federal FY budget process each year in support of maintaining and enhancing public investment in food and agricultural research, extension and education. *
- **Research Success Profiles**—National C-FAR produces and distributes a series of 1-page Research Success Profiles to key hill staff and other target audiences (Administration and food & agricultural media) illustrating examples of how public funding of food and agricultural research, extension and education yields tremendous returns on investment to the food and agricultural system and the public.

Action Requested: Discussion and decision on payment

Action Taken: The motion was made, seconded, and approved to pay NC-FAR dues of \$500.00 for the year

Agenda Item 20.0: FY 2009-2010 Office Budget

Presenter: H. M. Harrington/Harriet Sykes

Background:

WAAESD BUDGET FY 2009 – 2010

FY 2009-2010 Budget (start 7/1/2009)	
Executive Director - Harrington - Salary & Benefits ¹	\$ 213,844
Admin. Analyst Salary & Benefits ²	85,692
Hourly/Work Study	5,000
Montana Accounting Fee	3,500
CSU Rent	7,800
Office Operating	51,800
FY 2009-2010 Total	\$367,636
TOTAL ASSESSMENT NEEDED BY FUNCTION FOR 2009-2010 (based on function % of total budget of \$367,636)	
AES @ 95%	AP @ 5%
Total	\$ 18,382
W-106 (Off-Top MRF) -100,000	
Actual	\$ 18,382
Total Proposed AES/AP Directors Assessment	\$ 267,636

¹ WDA salary of \$171,900 plus CSU FY09 fringe rate of 24.4%

² Current salary of \$68,446 plus CSU FY09 fringe rate of 27.7% (CSU/State salary not set by state legislature as of 03/15/09)

Western Executive Director Office Budget/Expenditures

Description	2007-2008		2008-2009		2009-2010
	Budget	Actual	Budget	(to 12/31/08)	Proposed
Executive Director salary	159,120	159,125	171,900	85,950	171,900
Retirement fund	36,279	36,281	42,287	20,972	41,944
Sub-totals	195,399	195,406	214,187	106,922	213,844
Admin. Analyst salary	65,106	65,105	68,446	34,894	67,104
CSU fringe	16,537	16,536	18,960	9,666	18,588
Sub-totals	81,643	81,641	87,406	44,560	85,692
Hourly/Contract Labor	4,900	0	4,900	0	4,900
CSU fringe	100	0	100	0	100
Sub-totals	5,000	0	5,000	0	5,000
CSU space rental	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800	7,800
Montana Accounting Fee	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500	3,500
Operating Expenses:					
Office supplies	2,500	3,687	2,500	1,585	3,000
Copying/printing	300	99	200	66	200
Telephone charges	2,200	630	2,000	457	1,500
Postage	100	93	100	13	100
Travel-Executive Director	32,000	37,639	32,000	15,590	33,000
Travel-Administrative Analyst	7,000	8,727	7,000	7,004	9,000
Equipment repair/purchase	4,000	2,579	2,000	2,512	2,500
Incidental expense	500	1,033	1,000	524	1,000
Computer supplies	1,000	0	500	1,006	1,500
Sub-totals	49,600	54,487	47,300	28,757	51,800
TOTAL EXPENSES	342,942	342,834	365,193	191,539	367,636
FUNDING INFORMATION:					
AES					
Amount from W-106	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Assessment (reflects reduction for CSU rent of \$7,800)		217,995		240,707	
APD					
Assessment		17,147		18,342	

* Requires approval by both AES and AP Directors. AP Director assessment is currently at 5% of total budget

Action Requested: Approval of FY2009 Budget

Action Taken: Approved budget pending final salary information for Administrative Analyst and Executive Director

Agenda Item 21.1: ED Annual and 1st Quarter 2009 Reports

Presenter: H M Harrington

Background:

My annual report was distributed to the members on February 1, 2009

Overall, I am pleased with progress that has been made on the 2008 objectives and will highlight several items below.

Our regional meetings continue to improve with the addition of stimulating discussions on timely issues that are relevant to the Directors. Our joint spring meeting with Extension was successful and there were potential new partners brought to the table e.g. the Western Governors Association, and the Council of State Governments – West. Importantly there were several action items that Lyla Houglum and I have been working on including renewable energy and water. A continuing challenge will be to coordinate the joint summer meeting schedule to allow sufficient time for regional associations to conduct their business.

Our regional portfolio and associated activities appear to be running smoothly. We continue to work to assure accountability in the multistate program including the collection of impact statements. I continue to work with the Extension and Academic Program directors to encourage regional collaboration where appropriate. We were able to provide for the first time a report on the integration, that is, research and extension participation not only in the Western Multistate project but also members' participation in other regional as well.

The major highlight at the national level was, of course, passage of the 2008 Farm Bill. I am honored to have served on this effort from beginning with the so-called “think tank”, then on the Executive Committee of CREATE-21 and as the executive vice chair of Farm Bill Committee. I am now serving on the new Farm Bill Committee which is working to effectively implement the 2008 Bill.

I assisted with the development of the USDA-REE Energy Science, Education and Extension Strategic Plan at the request of Under Secretary Gale Buchanan. These activities included participation on the workshop organizing committees, drafting the plan, working through potential legal obstacles to direct LGU participation in the plan; identification LGU partners who are willing to assist with plan implementation; stimulating the formation of the LGU Energy Working Group; and developing an integrated response to the draft Plan. The final plan was released in March, 2008. I have also assisted with planning of BEAD II, the second annual energy summit held in September and continue to work on implementation of the plan.

The EDs served on a steering committee and participate regular conference calls facilitated by Tom Bewick (CSREES NPL- Horticulture) aimed at developing a strategic plan for vegetable crops and to promote a greater awareness of the research and extension needs on vegetable crops. A straw man draft plan was developed based on discussion within the steering committee and was revised based on input received at the planning meeting held in Denver below. A strategic planning workshop was held in Denver May 12-13 with some 80 participants including producers, packers, mechanization, ARS and university scientists. The revised draft plan was handed over to the stakeholder leaders for modification/refinement. A final draft plan is now in place.

I have been providing for the PNW Extension Energy Initiative in partnership with Charlotte Eberlein, Linda Fox, Lyla Houglum, Pete Pinney, and Scott Reed. This project involves extension professionals in Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington with the overall goal of facilitating adoption of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) technologies and practices in the Pacific Northwest. This project is in its last year with a no cost extension until March 31, 2009 to complete a website for Extension professionals.

Excellent progress has been made toward achieving the project’s objectives. This project demonstrated a strong need for energy outreach and education. At this time; however, it is unclear how or if the Department of Energy will fund these types of projects in the future.

I continue to work with CSREES Competitive Programs staff to organize and co-sponsor Grants Workshops in the region. Tom Fretz and I continue to refine our one day workshop “Writing Winning Grants”. The Crystal City (Washington DC) and Salt Lake City workshops each received high marks on participant evaluations. Planning is underway for the 2008 workshops in DC area and the North Central region most likely Kansas City.

II. STATUS OF GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2008

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

Regional Activities

Activity	Status
Provide support to the Association Chair, the Executive Committee, and RCIC	Continuing
Assist with meeting planning and logistics for WAAESD, WAPD and W-AHS	Continuing
Facilitate the regional portfolio and assist with the continued integration of regional activities	Continuing
Assist with the collection and analysis of data relative to the President’s proposed 2009 budget and to other issues of interest to the WAAESD.	Complete
Continue long range planning efforts	Continuing, Completed a survey of research priorities for the region
Implement collection of impact statements for multistate projects as needed and required	Continuing
Assist with the continued integration of regional activities.	Continuing
Assist with the identification of emerging opportunities/needs in the region.	Continuing
Assist with planning for the Western	Completed, Continuing

Region CSREES Grants Workshop	
Develop process for collection of impact statements for multistate projects	Completed, Continuing
Assist with Western Region Teaching Symposium planning	Completed, Continuing
Work with the WEDA as appropriate	Continuing, good progress
Work with the PNW Extension Energy Initiative	Continuing, to be completed by March 31, 2009
Fully develop liaison relationship with the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture	Continuing. No progress
Initiate contact with Western Governors' Association, Western NACO, Western Council of State Governments	Continuing. Good Progress
Develop a western water summit would align multistate efforts with stakeholder needs.	Continuing, planning initiated
Promote relevant interactions with other EDs and regions based on shared priorities	Continuing, good progress
Complete state visits as schedules permit.	Completed Utah visit
Website modifications	Continuing

National Activities

Activity	Status
Provide support for the ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee and to David Boethel Chair; serve as Executive Vice Chair of the committee.	Ongoing
Provide support to ESCOP special tasks	Ongoing
Provide support to the LGU Energy Working Group and the Policy Board's Liaison group	Ongoing
Assist with implementation of the REE Energy Science, Education and Extension Strategic Plan	Excellent progress, Continuing
Provide support to ESCOP based on committee assignments and special tasks.	Continuing
National Institute for Agricultural Security	No progress, Recommend termination
Serve on the Lead ²¹ Board of Directors	Continuing, Serve as Recruiting Chairman
Serve on the Create-21 Task Force and Executive Committee	Committee disbanded
Serve on new Farm Bill Committee	Continuing
Assist with final year of NASULGC-DOE/EERE projects	Continuing, Work with PNW Extension on joint project. To be completed by March 31, 2009
Continue to meet and develop relationships with CSREES, ARS, APHIS staff and others	Continuing Participated in discussion sessions with CSREES NPLs.

State Visit Status

X	Alaska	X	Montana
	American Samoa	X	Nevada
X	Arizona	X	New Mexico
X	California (state offices)	X	Northern Marianas
X	Colorado		Oregon
X	Guam	X	Utah
X	Hawaii	X	Washington
X	Idaho	X	Wyoming
X	Micronesia		

**Quarterly Report
January – March, 2009**

I. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

WAAESD

Support to the Chair and Organization

- **Annual Report and Evaluation:** Submitted annual report for the calendar year 2008 to the chairs of the WAAESD and WAPD. Worked with Carol Lewis and Greg Bohach to facilitate the evaluation process.

Meeting Support and Logistics

- **Spring Meeting:** With Carol Lewis and the Executive Committee developed the agenda for the March meeting. Worked with organizer of spring meeting on logistics.

Committee Activities

- **Western SARE Administrative Council:** I serve as the Western Directors' representative on this activity. Participated in the Technical Review Panel meeting in Salt Lake City, January 20-22; served as a principal/secondary reviewer for six Chapter 1 Research and Education grant proposals and also reviewed all proposals submitted. Participated as a facilitator at the Spokane sub regional listening session Feb 17-20. Attended the Administrative Council meeting, March 3-5 in Salt Lake City during which funding decisions were made.
- **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, March 10-12

Western Bioenergy Renewable Energy Activities: Completed a summary of each state's activities and initiatives. There are on our website at: [Western Bioenergy and Renewable Energy Activities \(as of February 2009\)](#)

Western Region CSREES Grantsmanship Workshop, November 10-12: The western-most grants workshop will be held in Kansas City partnership with the University of Missouri – College of Agriculture, NCRA, WAAESD and CSREES at the Embassy Suites Kansas City Airport. Working with UM Conferences, Marc Linit, Arlen Leholm and Michael Bowers (CSREES) to organize the workshop.

II. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

ES COP

Committee Activities

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

- **ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee:** Support Chairman David Boethel (LSU) as the Executive vice Chair on this important committee. Summarized data from the national survey on budget priorities for the FY '11 budget cycle; sought B&L Committee input on the '10 budget proposal and provided a report to ESCOP. Developed draft white paper approaches to future budget initiatives. Organize monthly conference calls and produce meeting notes. Attended BAC meeting in Washington DC, Feb.8-10.
- **Farm Bill Implementation Committee:** This committee has provided feedback of several important actions required by the 2008 Farm Bill.
- **REE Energy Science, Education and Extension Strategic Plan:** Current status is unknown. The Cooperative Agreement which supported Jim Fischer and Stan Johnson has been terminated.
- **LGU Energy Working Group:** Serve as the principle interface between REE and the university system on the Energy Strategic plan. Provide support to this group comprised of representatives from ACOP, ECOP and ESCOP including 1980 participation. The group interfaces with REE on the Energy Science strategic plan and is expected to assist with implementation. I provide assistance to the Policy Board's Energy liaison group to the REE Energy Science to the REE Energy Program.

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.

- **Pacific Northwest Extension Energy Initiative:** Worked with Linda Fox WA), Jake Fey, Shelia Riggs Lyla Houglum and other staff of the WSU Energy Extension program to implement the final quarter of the program. Developed Oct-Dec 2008 quarterly report to DOE based to state input.

Summary of Travel January-March 2009

Jan. 20-22: W-SARE Technical Review Panel meeting Salt Lake City UT

Feb. 8-10: Budget and Advocacy Committee meeting, Washington DC

Feb. 17-20: W-SARE Sub regional Conference, Spokane, WA

Feb. 26: Meeting with Western Governors Association energy staff: Alex Schroeder and Anne Walker, Denver, CO

Mar. 1-3: AHS-CARET meeting, ESCOP meeting, Washington DC

Mar. 3-5: W-SARE Advisory Council meeting Salt Lake City UT

March 10-12: Western Region IPM Center Steering and Advisory Committees meetings, Portland, OR

Mar. 22-26: WAAESD meeting, Davis, CA

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR 2009

Regional:

- Provide support to the Association Chairs, the Executive Committee, and RCIC
- Assist with meeting planning and logistics for WAAESD, WAPD, W-AHS and summer meeting hosts.
- Assemble a best practices virtual notebook for joint summer meetings for hosts.
- Facilitate the regional portfolio and assist with the continued prioritization and integration of regional activities.
- In conjunction with the W-SARE program initiate long term planning process.
- Continue collection of impact statements for multistate projects as needed and required.
- Improve website including addition of short summaries of all multistate projects.
- Assist with the collection and analysis of data relative to the President's proposed 2010 budget and to other issues of interest to the WAAESD.
- Continue to work on relationship with the Western Association of State Departments of Agriculture.
- Initiate relationship with Western Governors' Association.
- Facilitate adoption/endorsement of the Consortium for Renewable Energy in the West (CREW).
- Develop a western water meeting to better align multistate efforts with stakeholder needs.
- Continue committee representation.
- Join Western Rural Development Center Board of Directors.
- Assist with Western Region Teaching Symposium planning.
- Assist with planning the Western Region CSREES Grantsmanship Workshop.
- Continue long range planning efforts.
- Work with the WEDA as appropriate.
- Complete work on the PNW Extension Energy Initiative.
- Continue state visits as schedules permits.

National Activities

- Provide support for the ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee and to David Boethel Chair; serve as Executive Vice Chair of the committee.
- Provide support to the LGU Energy Working Group and the Policy Board's Liaison group.
- Assist with implementation of the REE Energy Science, Education and Extension Strategic Plan.
- Provide support to ESCOP special tasks.
- Serve on Farm Bill Committee.
- Assist with final quarter of NASULGC-DOE/EERE projects.
- Promote relevant interactions with other EDs and regions based on shared priorities.
- Continue to meet and develop relationships with CSREES, ARS, APHIS staff and others.

Action Requested: For information

Assignment Made: Bohach and Lewis will review the WAAESD web page and provide suggestions for new format

Agenda Item 22: REEO Input

Presenter: Mike Harrington

Background:

The 2008 Farm Bill created the Research Education and Extension Office (REEO) which is comprised on six divisions or program offices. The divisions and chiefs are:

- Renewable Energy, Natural Resources & Environment – Mark Walbridge (ARS)
- Food Safety, Nutrition, and Health – Mary Gray (CSREES)
- Plant Health and Production & Plant Products – Catherine Parks (FS)
- Animal Health and Production & Animal Products – Charlotte Kirk Baer (CSREES)
- Agriculture Systems and Technology – Jill Auburn (CSREES)
- Agriculture Economics and Rural Communities – Robbin Shoemaker (ERS)

The REEO Offices are to “assist the Under Secretary in *“implementing the roadmap for agricultural research, education, and extension, as described in section 7504 of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008.* The Roadmap provisions are provided below and it must be completed by September 16.

The following questions will be distributed via the Federal Register seeking stakeholder input which will be used drafting the roadmap.

REEO Questions for Stakeholders

1. What types of current and future critical issues (including those affecting citizens, communities and natural resources) does Agriculture face that no USDA entity could address individually?
2. What criteria should USDA use to prioritize science (i.e., research, education and extension) investments to address these issues?
3. How might USDA better coordinate science among its various agencies and with its partners?
4. Provide examples where agricultural sciences are successfully coordinated for maximum benefit. Why are they successful?
5. Provide examples where agricultural sciences are not coordinated effectively. Why is coordination lacking? What are the barriers?
6. What else might USDA do to improve coordination of science; enhance its ability to identify issues and prioritize investments; and elevate its role in science implementation and coordination?

We will seek your input during breakout discussions. WAAESD input will also be factored into the combined ESCOP response.

2008 Farm Bill Roadmap Provisions:

SEC. 7504. ROADMAP.

(a) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary, acting through the Under Secretary of Research, Education, and Economics (referred to in this section as the “Under Secretary”), shall commence preparation of a roadmap for agricultural research, education, and extension that—

(1) identifies current trends and constraints;

(2) identifies major opportunities and gaps that no single entity within the Department of Agriculture would be able to address individually;

(3) involves—

(A) interested parties from the Federal Government and nongovernmental entities; and

(B) the National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board established under section 1408 of the National Agricultural Research, Extension, and Teaching Policy Act of 1977 (7 U.S.C.3123);

(4) incorporates roadmaps for agricultural research, education, and extension made publicly available by other Federal entities, agencies, or offices; and

(5) describes recommended funding levels for areas of agricultural research, education, and extension, including—

(A) competitive programs;

(B) capacity and infrastructure programs, with attention to the future growth needs of—

(i) small 1862 Institutions, 1890 Institutions, and 1994 Institutions;

(ii) Hispanic-serving agricultural colleges and universities;

(iii) NLGCA Institutions; and

(iv) colleges of veterinary medicine; and

(C) intramural programs at agencies within the research, education, and economics mission area; and

(6) describes how organizational changes enacted by this Act have impacted agricultural research, extension, and education across the Department of Agriculture, including minimization of unnecessary programmatic and administrative duplication.

(b) *REVIEWABILITY.*—The roadmap described in this section shall not be subject to review by any officer or employee of the Federal Government other than the Secretary (or a designee of the Secretary).

(c) *ROADMAP IMPLEMENTATION AND REPORT.*—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the Secretary commences preparation of the roadmap under this section, the Secretary shall—

(1) implement and use the roadmap to set the research, education, and extension agenda of the Department of Agriculture; and

(2) make the roadmap available to the public.

Agenda Item 22.1: Breakout Discussion Group Reports

Presenter: Session Participants

Background:

REEO Stakeholder Input (Breakout Discussions' Summary)

1. What types of current and future critical issues does Agriculture face...
 - Impacts of Climate Change -- Increased temperature variability, reduction snow pack, disruption of pollinators, loss of biodiversity, role of agriculture in the cause and mitigation of climate change, greater role in managing natural resources, disease management and mitigation; integration of ecosystem services, e.g. water quality, water quantity, adaptive management in dealing ecosystems
 - Recognition and definition of sustainable ecosystems (metrics, indicators, thresholds, ecosystem services, urban-wildland interface, small acreage users, etc...)
 - Science Information Capacity – Enhance the capacity to create and deliver science-based information/education to general public, to stakeholders in the urban-rural interface, to farmers with small acreages or to beginning farmers/ranchers or to evolving rural communities. This such as establishing, describing and defining metrics for economic valuations for, e.g. small acreage farming; sustainable agricultural practices; ecosystem services, water use.
 - Quantity and quality of water
 - Capacity for economic analyses and evaluation
 - Sustaining and Expanding the Capacity to Grow Food. – sustainable production practices, food safety, food security, work force issues; water quality, water quantity, emerging alien and invasive species; emerging plant, animal and zoonotic diseases, ecosystem services, energy utilization and costs of carbon-based/fossil fuels and fertilizers, livestock health and well being systems, health and human nutrition, community nutrition, healthy communities.
 - Nutrition, food safety and food security
 - Food and human health connection
 - Labor/workforce issues
 - Secure supplies of energy (affordable, renewable, carbon neutral, economics, etc.)

2. What criteria should USDA use ...
 - Topics that affect people the most
 - Cost
 - Need for long term research – 8-10 year windows, not 1-3 years. Shorter window can foster short-sighted research.
 - National priorities v. local priorities
 - “X by Y” – delivering significant outcomes by an expected time.
 - Need for increasing investment in agricultural science research – we have the infrastructure, people to do it but lack the significant commitment of funding, especially long-term research.
 - Need to include the “triple bottom line” in evaluating projects to be funded.

3. How might USDA better coordinate science among its various agencies and with its partners?

- Establish a scientific coordination board among all agencies in USDA that has science needs
- Provide a mechanism for fed and non-fed partners to come together to leverage resources
- Partner with LGU to determine national needs
- Reinforce CES' role to communicate scientific findings of USDA
- Facilitate coordination of ERS with USDA agencies and LGU's.

4. Provide examples where agricultural sciences are successfully coordinated for maximum benefit. Why are they successful?

- Multistate projects:
 - Reasons they are successful:
 - Goal oriented; focused
 - Leverage resources
 - Multidisciplinary
 - Sometimes stakeholders and international partners are engaged
- Area-wide projects (ARS)
 - Solve major problems
 - Focus on major problems
- Special Research projects
 - Tri-state potato breeding project
 - NW small fruits program
 - Jointed goatgrass project
 - ADAP
 - Reasons they are successful:
 - They leverage resources
 - Solve focused problems
- Coordinated educational projects
 - Educate next generation
- Agency adjuncts
 - Serve on graduate committees;
 - provide undergraduate research opportunities;
 - exchange opportunities
- USDA/DOE Biomass Board
 - Coordination towards a goal
 - People at the right level to influence process

5. Provide examples where agricultural sciences are not coordinated efficiently. Why is coordination lacking? What are the barriers?

- There is a disconnect between biofuels and bioproducts as priority areas for research.
- The definition of specialty crops can vary depending on use of a particular crop. Mustard, for example is a specialty crop when grown for consumption but not when grown as a biopesticide.
- The process for identification of competitive grant program priorities is influenced by both academic input and political pressures.
- AFRI is not well positioned to fund research on emerging issues, such as invasive species. This drives the need for states to pursue earmarks.

- AFRI/NRI has only one RFA per year, which makes it difficult to propose work on emerging issues.
- Barriers exist within our land-grant universities between research and extension, and this may be part of the problem that CSREES has in receiving few proposals for its integrative components of competitive grant programs. Separate administrative structures may not be the most conducive to the collaborations between research and extension that are needed for such proposals.
- AFRI/NRI has not achieved a significant level of funding as originally envisioned. The continued insistence by most states on formula funding is an impediment to increases in the competitive funds.
- We do not promote a strong link between traditional agricultural productivity and breeding programs with positive health benefits.
- OMB criteria for funding programs is not very well known in the academic community. Developing priorities in the absence of awareness of these criteria can be counterproductive.
- Scientific societies do not appear to be coordinated in their governmental relations efforts.

6. What else might USDA do to improve coordination of science; enhance its ability to identify issues and prioritize investments; and elevate its role in science implementation and coordination?

- AFRI should issue RFAs more than once/year to enhance ability to address emerging issues.
- Existing multistate research project groups could be encouraged to apply for AFRI/SCRI integrative proposals. Perhaps there should be a separate RFA directed toward them.
- A better partnership is needed between the land-grant universities and USDA in pursuing increased funding for AFRI. Both entities should engage the scientists more in these efforts, as NIH did when they received large increases in funding a few years ago.
- We need to promote the sophistication of our science, rather than just the warm and fuzzy impacts. That is what the NIH and NSF did, again involving scientists in the effort. The impacts of our research on basic scientific advancements is not promoted as well as practical impacts are.
- Need to better promote the nutritional and other health benefits of our research in traditional agriculture and breeding programs. Recent efforts to develop foods to address individualized nutritional needs should be emphasized. Might achieve greater advancements in this area through an NIH Program Project type of model (or NSF Science Center model). Increased funding for AFRI might be achieved by proposing such new center programs.
- Create greater awareness of OMB criteria for funding of research programs as we develop priorities for competitive grant programs.
- Need better coordination and effectiveness of the various scientific societies representing agricultural sciences in pushing for increases in AFRI funding.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 23.0: NRSP3 & NRSP_temp003

Presenter: Rich Grant/Larry Curtis

Background:

The following is the Statement of Issues and Justification from NIMSS. The balance of the proposal is available on NIMSS:

National Research Support Project Summary

Project Number: NRSP_TEMP003

Title: The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)

Duration: October 2009 to September 30, 2014

Administrative Advisor(s): [[Edward N. Ashworth](#)] (main) NE] [[Douglas Buhler](#)] NC] [[William Dugas](#)] S] [[Donald L. Snyder](#)] W]

CSREES Reps:

Statement of Issues and Justification

Prerequisite Criteria

How is the NRSP consistent with the mission? Prerequisite Criteria: Mission

This proposal seeks renewal of National Research Support Project 003 (NRSP-3) - The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) for fiscal periods FY10 through FY14 with annual off-the-top support of \$50,000.

The mission of NRSP-3 (NADP) is to provide quality-assured data and information in support of research on the exposure of managed and natural ecosystems and cultural resources to acidic compounds, nutrients, mercury, and base cations in atmospheric deposition and to evaluate improvements in its measurement systems and the addition of other chemical and biological species.

NRSP-3 provides a framework for participating scientists from State Agricultural Experiment Stations (SAES); universities; federal, state, local, and tribal government agencies; national forests and laboratories; environmental institutes; private companies; and other research organizations to cooperate in sponsoring NADP measurement networks and responding to current and future needs for environmental information on the effects of atmospheric deposition on terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems, biogeochemical cycling, climate change, and human health.

NRSP-3/NADP data support informed decisions on air quality issues related to precipitation chemistry. This project provides the only regional and national-scale data and information on the amounts, geographic distribution, and trends in chemical deposition by precipitation in the United States. This information has been invaluable in (a) documenting the presence and removal of inorganic pollutant gases and aerosols in our atmosphere (i.e., our chemical climate); (b) documenting how these chemicals are changing in amount and composition over time; (c) understanding the effects of atmospherically deposited chemicals on agricultural crops, forests, rangelands, surface and ground waters, estuaries, aquatic impoundments, and other natural resources; (d) assessing the accelerated weathering of material and cultural resources resulting from atmospheric chemical deposition; (e) discerning pollutant sources and source distributions and their relationships to deposition (i.e., source-receptor relationships); and (f) evaluating the effectiveness of current Clean Air Act legislation and rules, promulgated under the Act, and the impact of atmospheric deposition on water quality requirements set by the Clean Water Act.

How does this NRSP pertain as a national issue? This section demonstrates the national and international relevance of NRSP-3 and describes the logical progression of the project from its formation to the present, identifying issues of contemporary importance.

In October 1977, the SAES North Central Region established NC-141 to address Chemical Changes in Atmospheric Deposition and Effects on Agricultural and Forested Land and Surface Waters in the United States (1). Principal objectives of this project were to establish an atmospheric deposition network for measuring beneficial nutrients and potentially injurious substances in precipitation and dry particulate matter and to organize and coordinate research on atmospheric deposition effects. Sites in this NADP network first began collecting one-week, wet-only deposition samples and one-month dryfall samples in 1978, and by the end of the year there were sites in all four SAES regions. Organizing the efforts were scientists from SAES, federal and state agencies, universities, non-governmental organizations, and Canada. Justification for NC-141 centered on the increasing recognition of the potential for human activities to affect the chemistry of atmospheric deposition and in turn the nutrient status of terrestrial and aquatic systems. European precipitation chemistry was documented, (2) and the same was expected in the U.S. (3). Formation of the NC-141 NADP network was responsive to the call by a National Academy of Sciences panel (4) to establish a U.S. network for measuring the spatial extent and intensity of acidic precipitation.

Acidic precipitation concerns resulted in NADP growth from 21 sites in 1978 to 110 sites in 1982. NADP measurements revealed much of the spatial extent, intensity, and frequency of occurrence of acidic precipitation, as well as the chemical relationships between free acidity and its root causes, un-neutralized sulfates and nitrates resulting largely from fossil fuel combustion. SAES Directors in all four regions approved Interregional Project 7 (IR-7), extending the project nationwide for the five-year period 1982-1987.

In 1980, a 10-year program entitled the National Acid Precipitation Assessment Program (NAPAP) was launched to identify the sources, causes, and processes involved in acid precipitation and to evaluate the environmental, social, and economic effects of acid precipitation (5). A principal goal was to establish a long-term acid deposition monitoring network (the National Trends Network, NTN). The IR-7 Technical Committee merged the NADP and NTN and designated the combined networks NADP/NTN. Eight federal agencies, led by the U.S.G.S, supported growth of the NADP/NTN to 203 sites by 1987. New sites were added to represent regional ecological properties (6) and lead one peer review panel to conclude: "The monitoring program and resultant data set that is being constructed is perhaps the most significant, long-term, continuous, and comprehensive sampling and analysis program to be undertaken in the environmental sciences " (7).

SAES Directors renewed IR-7 through 1992 and IR-7 scientists participated in NAPAP-funded studies of acidic deposition and its effects on crops, forests, soils, and surface waters. These findings were summarized as: (a) acidic sulfate and nitrate decreased at more than 75 % of NADP sites between 1979 and 1987 (8); (b) there is no evidence to show that acidic precipitation at ambient U.S. levels is responsible for regional crop yield reductions (9); (c) ambient deposition in high-elevation eastern-U.S. forests is thought to alter nutrient status leading to growth reduction, frost intolerance, or decline of these ecosystems (9); (d) acidic deposition is expected to cause long-term chemical changes in some soils (9); (e) atmospheric sulfate deposition results in some poorly buffered surface waters becoming more toxic (10); and (f) acidic deposition increases the corrosion of metals and alloys (11). An overarching conclusion of NAPAP research was that chronic chemical loading from atmospheric deposition can result in long-term changes.

During the early 1990s the SAES Directors changed the governance and identified a new class of projects called national research support projects. The primary purpose of NRSPs was to support, rather than conduct, research. Among the target activities of NRSPs was collection of data that researchers could use to address issues of national significance. The mission and activities of the NADP had evolved and now were consistent with NRSPs, and the Directors approved the project as NRSP-3 for the period 1992-1997.

A pilot program to measure mercury in precipitation led to a second expansion of the NADP measurement system in 1996, when the Technical Committee approved the addition of the Mercury Deposition Network (MDN). Research suggested that mercury had entered many of the affected lakes and streams in precipitation (13). A 13-site pilot network has grown to the MDN network of today with more than 110 sites, which are funded mostly by state, local, and tribal government agencies.

NRSP-3 continues to offer a unique opportunity for cooperation among scientists from land-grant and other universities, government agencies, and non-governmental organizations. It provides a framework for leveraging the resources of nearly 100 different sponsoring agencies to address contemporary and emerging issues of national importance. Figure 1 shows the locations of the 50 NADP sites either sponsored or operated by Agricultural Experiment Stations or located on Agricultural or Forestry Experiment Station properties. All but three have been cooperators for more than 20 years and these sites are located in all four SAES Regions (7 - Northeast, 18 - North Central, 18 - South, and 7 - West).

The role of NRSP-3 in providing long-term high-quality measurements has complemented the national need to evaluate atmospheric deposition trends in order to assess the effectiveness of mandated pollutant emissions reductions. The CAAA-90 seeks to reduce the adverse effects of acid deposition through reductions in annual emissions of sulfur dioxide (SO₂) and nitrogen oxides (NO_x). The Act required monitoring and reporting the effect of these emissions reductions on deposition (12). NTN measurements provided the only basis for evaluating regional scale trends in the sulfate deposited by precipitation, and as early as 1996, NRSP-3 scientists were able to report that large SO₂ emission reductions had decreased sulfate deposition by as much as 25% in portions of the East. (14) These trends have been consistent over time and space (15). Trends in nitrogen species, however, have been less straightforward. Although nitrate concentrations have decreased in Mid-Atlantic and New England states, significant increases have occurred in Great Plains and Rocky Mountain states. And, ammonium increases have been nearly as widespread as sulfate decreases (16). The increases in nitrate and ammonium, especially in the West, were unexpected.

Below are contemporary issues in which NRSP-3 has ongoing national relevance.

* The NADP NTN and AIRMoN provide the only regional and national scale data on the wet deposition of acidic sulfur and nitrogen species. These data are needed to assess the efficacy of the federal and state efforts to reduce SO₂ and NO_x emissions over the next decade, and the Clean Air Visibility Rule (CAVR), which requires SO₂ and NO_x emissions reductions at electric generating units in the West.

* Ammonia emissions data are not consistent with the widespread ammonium deposition increases reported from NTN measurements (16). Researchers need widespread airborne ammonia/ammonium measurements to determine the causes of this discrepancy. Since ambient gaseous ammonia measurements are lacking, the NRSP-3 Executive Committee approved a pilot study, initiated in late 2007, to assess the accuracy, feasibility, and costs of adding passive ammonia measurements at NADP sites. NADP's Passive Ammonia Monitoring Network is currently measuring atmospheric concentrations, with publicly available data expected in February 2009 (<http://nadp.sws.uiuc.edu/nh3net/>). This study represents how NRSP-3 is responding to a contemporary issue of growing importance, an especially important issue to agriculture. Ammonia is a precursor of haze-producing aerosols and CAVR has the potential to require ammonia emission reductions that would significantly affect agricultural production costs. As with other rules, ammonia measurements can provide a baseline for evaluating emission reductions.

* A third rule promulgated under the CAAA-90, the Clean Air Mercury Rule (CAMR) has recently been vacated. However, further regulation is expected, and will likely require some type of reductions in mercury emissions from coal-fired power plants soon. Existing MDN data serve as a baseline against which to gauge the effects of these reductions. Complementing the

precipitation-only MDN measurements, the NRSP-3 Executive Committee approved an Atmospheric Mercury Initiative (see <http://nadp.sws.uiuc.edu/amn/>). The goal is to measure mercury in its gaseous and elemental forms, along with the meteorological and land-cover data needed for computing dry deposition fluxes. The combination of MDN wet and dry (i.e., total) deposition data will support model development, source-receptor assessments, as well as evaluations of federal and state regulations.

* Studies have connected atmospheric nitrogen (N) deposition, primarily from nitrate and ammonium, to estuarine eutrophication and related low dissolved oxygen concentrations and losses of aquatic vegetation (17,18). Since 2000, 19 NTN sites located in Atlantic and Gulf Coast watersheds have joined the NADP in order to provide data in support of N deposition research in these areas. Other studies have reported alterations of species richness and diversity of soil flora in sensitive western ecosystems (19). Upward N deposition trends in the West have heightened concerns over the potential effects of nutrient additions in alpine and subalpine areas in the Rockies, Cascades, etc. NTN data provide the information needed to investigate the relationships of N deposition to effects in the aquatic and terrestrial ecosystems.

* *Phakopsora pachyrhizi*, commonly called Asian Soybean Rust (ASR), was first reported in the continental United States in November 2004. ASR is an obligate fungal parasite thought to rely on a living host (legumes such as soybean) for survival (20). ASR spreads through aerial dispersal and deposition of urediniospores, which can be transported hundreds of kilometers before being deposited by precipitation. Under the right conditions of temperature, relative humidity, and (legume) plant stage, deposited spores can germinate and spread the infection (21). With supplemental support from the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), NADP staff collected and prepared filters containing rain sample residue from eastern U.S. NTN samples. The filters were sent to the ARS Cereal Disease Laboratory, where they were tested for ASR using polymerase chain reaction (PCR). Results of a case study during the 2005, 2006, and 2007 growing seasons demonstrated the application of this methodology in tracking *P. pachyrhizi* spores to the Midwest (22). These studies demonstrate the potential for using NADP to assist in tracking airborne pathogens in spreading diseases in U.S. agricultural crops and in supporting additional research in this area.

Action Requested: Approval

Action Taken: See Agenda Item 7.0

Agenda Item 24.0: Special Discussions on Budget Challenges, Best Management Practices

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

Three breakout sessions were scheduled for discussion: I - Program Prioritization processes, closing programs, R&E Centers and peripheral units; II - Maintaining core academic programs, supporting teaching; leveraging instruction programs across the university; III - Balancing allocation of State and Federal funds; maintaining/reducing operations funds.

Action Requested: For information



March 20, 2009

Dear Colleagues:

Washington State University www.wsu.edu and our partner 1994 land-grant Northwest Indian College <http://www.nwic.edu/> are pleased to host the **2009 Western Regional Joint Summer Meetings at Semiahmoo Resort July 19-21, 2009**. We are excited to have this opportunity to share our beautiful coast and mountains as a backdrop to explore important issues about food and health, and about the environment and agriculture in our region and globally.

The theme of the meeting is ***Navigating the Maritime Environment: Food, Farms, Fish***. During the plenary session on **Monday, July 20**, we will be presenting four segments that are expanding the frontiers for the environment, agriculture and science. Reaction panels will discuss what are appropriate changes in research, education, and outreach by the land-grant universities to address emerging issues.

- **Global Climate Change and Its Impacts on the West** – Expected challenges to agriculture, natural resources, and communities across the West. *Philip Mote – University of Washington.*
- **Public Policy Issues Related to Climate Change.** *Dennis Hayes, invited speaker.*
- **How global climate change and increased interaction among humans impacts disease transmission among domestic animals, wildlife, and humans.** *Guy Palmer, Regents Professor, WSU College of Veterinary Medicine.*
- **Impacts of poverty, population growth, energy depletion, and globalization on access to food, human health status and stability in developing countries,** *Dr. Rajiv Shah, Director of Development and representative of the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, invited speaker.*

Tuesday afternoon's tour will take you to a four unique sites of agriculture and natural resources. We will conclude the tour at the NW Indian College with a meal of traditional foods of the NW coast Lummi Nation including salmon.

Two options provide a choice of companions/spouses has been arranged. We offer tours to Vancouver, BC, and whale watching and boating near the beautiful San Juan Islands of Washington. You have lots of reasons to bring family and friends with you!

Registration will be available online on April 1st at www.professionaleducation.wsu.edu/wrjism. Registration is due **June 19, 2009**.

A block of rooms has been reserved at the Semiahmoo Resort. Information about the resort can be found on their web site www.semiahmoo.com. Please make your reservations on or before **June 19, 2009**. We have exceptionally low room rates given the fine resort amenities available. The room rates are: \$139 classic room and \$159 waterview room. This is a reduction in price from previous communications! After June 19, the block of rooms is released and lodging will be at significantly higher rates.

Please pass this information on to anyone we may have missed or direct them to the website. We look forward to seeing you at Semiahmoo in July. If you have any questions, please email **Joy Thompson** joythompson@wsu.edu. Please let us know how we may assist you.

Sincerely,



Linda Kirk Fox
Associate Vice President and Dean
WSU Extension



Dan Bernardo
Dean
College of Agricultural, Human, and Natural
Resource Sciences

\\Cru22\ce_admin\Extension\WEDA - Western Extension Directors\2009 Joint Summer Meetings\Invitation Material\WRJSM invite letter March 2009 (2).doc

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 25.2: Fall ESS Meeting, WAAESD Meeting, Workshop

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

The Fall ESS Meeting, WAAESD Meeting, Workshop will be held September 14-17, 2009 at the Sheraton Hotel, Oklahoma City, OK

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 25.3: Possible Joint Meeting with SAAESD

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

Harrington reported that the SAAESD had expressed interest in meeting jointly with the WAAESD at a future date. The place and date would need to be determined if both Associations are in agreement in a joint meeting.

The consensus of the the WAAESD was in favor of a joint meeting. Harrington will contact the SAAESD and begin exploring the logistics of meeting with them.

Action Requested: Indication from the WAAESD regarding a joint meeting with SAAESD

Action Taken: Harrington to proceed with pursuing a joint meeting with SAAESD

Agenda Item 26.0: Resolutions

Presenter: Jan Auyong/Greg Bohach

Background:

WHEREAS Dr. Barbara Allen-Diaz, Assistant Vice President for Programs and State Leader for Cooperative Extension, Ms. Pat Day, Ms. Katherine Webb-Martinez, Ms. Patricia Harrigan, and their colleagues from the University of California, Agriculture and Natural Resources were organizers and hosts for the Spring meeting of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at the University of California at Davis, from March 23-25, 2009; and

WHEREAS Dr. Allen-Diaz and her colleagues were outstanding hosts, providing such hospitable, beautiful, and progressive surroundings in which to meet; and

WHEREAS Dr. Allen-Diaz and her colleagues provided excellent and delightful meals and break services; and

WHEREAS Dr. Allen-Diaz and her colleagues arranged excellent speakers and examples and summaries of pertinent local programs and activities for the education and enjoyment of meeting attendees, be it

RESOLVED, That the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at its meeting in Davis, California, from March 23-25, 2009, expresses its sincere and heartfelt appreciation to Dr. Allen-Diaz and her colleagues for their significant contributions to a successful meeting; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the original of this resolution be provided to Dr. Dan Dooley, Vice-President, Agriculture and Natural Resources, and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Action Requested: Approval of Resolution

Action Taken: Unanimously approved resolution to University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources meeting hosts

Agenda Item 27.1: State Reports

Presenters: All

Background:

No reports were submitted.

Action Requested: For information

Agenda Item 27.2: NIMSS Update (March 2009)

Presenter: H. M. Harrington

Background:

1. The NIMSS Oversight Committee met via teleconference on January 20, 2009.

The following issues were discussed:

- Request by CSREES to share NIMSS data for their management dashboard:
Dr. Dan Rossi and Rubie Mize met with CSREES-ISTM staff Bill Bristow, John Mingee and Joe Barbano on November 19, 2008, at the NERA office. Discussion centered on sharing the NIMSS data with CSREES for use in their management dashboard and pre-populating the CRIS standard forms.

Three options were explored:

- i. CSREES will build a web service [ColdFusion function] whereby we can upload data to their system. Whenever a new project is approved, NIMSS will call the web service and upload data to the CSREES system.
- ii. NIMSS Programmer, Judy Sun, can build a text file preferably in xml format and we will have a schedule upload/schedule download. CSREES will use a http:request function that Judy will build into our system – a CF command to insert data in the CSREES database.
- iii. Move the entire NIMSS database to the CSREES Oracle server. CSREES was willing to pursue this option as this will greatly facilitate the ease of using the NIMSS data.

As an immediate recourse and to help CSREES populate their management dashboard database, a CD data dump of NIMSS was obtained from the Univ. of MD – OIT and was given to CSREES on December 18, 2008. Subsequently, CSREES asked for the codes used for the multistate summary table in NIMSS so they can re-build the table. This was given to them on January 5, 2009.

On January 14, a third request was received from CSREES for the entire NIMSS folder. This was raised with the Oversight Committee as this now pertains to copyright issues. The Committee suggested looking into the copyright issues and suggested drawing up a Memorandum of Agreement with CSREES if a decision is made to share the NIMSS program.

- A draft of the NRSP-1 proposal has been submitted by CSREES and currently being worked on. This is a good opportunity to give our input and lay out the direction for NRSP-1 in the next 5 years. The members want to see value added in the new project.
- Lead Advisor Mike Vayda had endorsed the request for FY09-10 off-the-top funding for NRSP-1 in the amount of \$346,829 which includes \$50,000 for NIMSS.

2. Successful user requests increased by 150% since the last NIMSS Update on Sept. 2008. User requests in Jan.-Feb. 2009 averaged about 198,000 per week. Data transferred per week averaged to about 4.11 GB.

3. **Active** multistate projects and activities currently recorded in NIMSS by region:

North Central =	103	[NC=43, NCAC=14, NCCC=16, NCDC=5, NCERA=25]
Northeast =	35	[NE=25, NEA=1, NECC=6, NEERA=2]
Southern =	73	[S=34, SAC=11, SCC=7, SDC=1, SERA=20]
Western =	72	[W=35, WCC=2, WDC=2, WERA=33]
NRSPs =	<u>7</u>	
Total =	290	

Respectfully submitted by:
Rubie G. Mize, February 17, 2009

Action Requested: For information