

Discussion Summary, ESCOP Science and Technology Committee
Waterfront Building, 3-3-03, Washington DC

[Response of ESCOP to certain S&T actions and recommendations are provided in brackets after selected items; these actions were taken at the ESCOP meeting on 3-4-03]

Members Present:

Bill Brown, Dan Rossi, Eric Young, Nancy Cox, Sally Rockey, Dave Boethel, Ron Pardini, Phil Schwab, Patsy Brannon, Chris Waddill

Guests:

Lou Swanson, Eldon Ortman, Randy Woodson

1. Eric Young reviewed all standing committees and provided a handout with the status.
2. Lou Swanson reviewed activities of the Social Science Subcommittee. Stephan Goetz from Pennsylvania State University will be the new chair of this subcommittee. Dr. Swanson requested a letter from the ESCOP chair to CSREES supporting that the position vacated by John Michael be filled. The CSREES representatives encouraged the development of a vision for a new position. *[The ESCOP chair agreed to support this and will be waiting for a draft letter]*
3. Eldon Ortman provided a report from the Integrated Pest Management Subcommittee on the extensive evaluation of the IPM program conducted in response to GAO. He requested that the S&T committee support a review of the IPM program at the joint COPS meeting and for ESCOP to sign a letter (drafted by the IPM committee) to the GAO detailing the changes in the IPM system. *[The ESCOP chair agreed to support this and will be waiting for a draft letter]*
4. Randy Woodson discussed the genomics subcommittee and agreed to chair a task force to provide a clear inventory of public sector genomics and to do a manpower study *[After considerable discussion on 3-4-03, the ESCOP leadership requested that we combine this effort with the old Genetic Resources Committee, which never functioned. We would appreciate Randy's recommendation in this regard.]*
5. We discussed the Ag Biotech Implementation Task Force and suggest re-focusing this Task Force after it completes its current activity.
6. The Food Safety Committee has been inactive for about one year. We will need to consult with ECOP on progress and direction *[ESCOP leadership requested that we appoint a new chair.]*
7. The Public Sector IP Initiative was discussed, and a subcommittee will serve as liaisons to this activity: **Steve Pueppke, Bill Brown, Nancy Cox**
8. Phil Schwab led a discussion of the NAS Report on USDA Research, Education, and Economics. The S&T committee has been asked to provide a review of this document to be presented at the September, 2003 Experiment Station Section meeting. We have been requested to produce a short white paper from the land-grant system. The subcommittee that will address this is: **Dan Rossi (chair), Ron Pardini, Dave Boethel, Sally Rockey and Lou Swanson.**

- 9.* The Science Road Map was discussed and the consensus of the group is that the document is being used. We requested of **Chris Waddill and Patsy Brannon** that they advise us on increasing the relevancy of this document to the extension and human environmental science groups, and they agreed.
- 10.* We will schedule a conference call in May