

Agenda Item: Policy Board of Directors Report

Presenter: Steve Slack

The Policy Board of Directors met in Napa, CA on March 31 and Providence, RI on July 22. Below are summaries of discussions from those meetings.

1. By-laws Change

- Another vote to change the Board on Agricultural Assembly bylaws on number of votes needed to change by laws to “Approval by 2/3 of those voting, provided > 50% of eligible voters vote” was held in April
- This vote also failed due to less than 2/3 of eligible votes casting ballots
- It was decided in July to explore electronic voting further, although D.C. prohibits this practice, an exemption may be possible
- PBD will decide in November how to proceed depending if electronic voting is allowable or not.

2. Unified message

- Riley Foundation and AGREE are both working on developing a message
- AGREE’s idea is different from Riley Foundation, particularly related to capacity funds. AGREE does not mention capacity funds
- These groups are primarily interested in research, not extension or teaching
- The Board on Agriculture Assembly needs to develop a message that is broad enough to cover the Land Grant University mission
- Wendy Wintersteen is now chair of Riley Foundation and could convene a meeting of these groups
- Motion to move forward on developing a message, request proposal from Mitch Owens to facilitate process, identify taskforce members
 - Linda Martin/Steve Slack, motion approved

3. Budget and Advocacy Committee Report

- Alan Grant is Budget and Advocacy Committee chair and Orlando McMeans is Chair-elect and Advocacy Chair
- Process for advancing new initiatives has been drafted by ECOP’s and ESCOP’s Budget & Legislative Committees and are being merged into one document
- Responses from NIFA on water and Pest Management initiatives
 - Unlikely that any initiative will be adopted wholly by NIFA
 - However, NIFA will use key parts, and may also need additional information
 - Motion – “Any initiative from parts of the system represented on the BAA Policy Board of Directors in which funds or special requests are being made in which the requestor is doing so as part of the BAA shall be transmitted through the chair of BAA PBD with a written letter of request being part of the formal process. This does not preclude meetings or other communications by members to discuss and develop ideas and concepts before reaching the formal request stage”. – Steve Slack/Alan Grant
 - Tabled to be considered by Sections along with process for bringing forward big initiatives

4. Committee on Legislation and Policy

- Tribal colleges letter asking for recommendation that 1994’s can compete for CYFAR and FRTIP
- Possible change in overtime exempt status for up to \$50,000.
 - This impacts all university employees, but Extension would be hit particularly hard
- A new clause just introduced would require state match for 1862 and 1890 to be equivalent, i.e. have to match at least 1 to 1

5. FSLI/LEAD-21

- LEAD-21 has paid back APLU loan completely
- LEAD-21 applicants are over 90 per year now, so they have to decide how to handle this much demand
- LEAD-21 contract with University of Georgia ends January 1, 2016, so an RFP will issued for a new management contract. UGA may not put in a bid.
- FSLI is currently recruiting and also has more applicants than slots for their next class
- FSLI has raised tuition to meet costs and are maintaining a stable budget

6. Futuring Initiative

- Discussions that Ian Maw had with Peter McPherson lead to decision that APLU will launch a futuring effort at the President's level focused on food in the broad sense
 - Randy Woodson will lead this effort
 - This will be a joint CEFRR and Presidents' initiative with the BAA heavily involved
 - Looking for external funding for effort, will talk with Kellogg Foundation soon

7. Anti-microbial Taskforce Report

- Lonnie King, Ohio State University, is chair.
- Taskforce is making recommendations to various federal agencies on managing microbial resistance related to antibiotic use in animal agriculture
- Work products also include research needs and knowledge gaps, curriculum adjustments in undergrad and graduate courses, and public education
- Final report is due out in September

8. Communication Marketing Committee Report

- Scott Reed will be chair until November
- Water security will be one of the focuses
- Continuing to make efforts to document the return on investment of this effort
- kglobal has completed message testing that was approved last year and will likely repeat testing on a smaller scale annually. Proposal will be coming from kglobal soon for this activity

9. Infrastructure Survey

- Sightlines have held two webinars and one more will be done
- Almost every institution is participating and have paid assessments
- Surveys are currently out for completion
- Report is expected in early Fall

10. APLU Annual Meeting

- November 15 -17, 2015, Indianapolis
- Board on Agricultural Assembly session Monday morning
 - Ideas for plenary session
 - Unified message
 - Board on Agricultural Assembly initiatives status
 - APLU futuring
 - GMO issue, Land Grant Universities stand
 - BAA initiatives was chosen as the topic

11. 2015 Election for Policy Board of Directors

- Academic Programs Section, Administrative Heads Section, Cooperative Extension Service, 1890, Non-Land Grant Universities need to elect a new representative
- Clarence Watson was chosen to complete Steve Slack's term. Ernie Minton will be the alternate