



# ESCOP Winter Meeting Washington DC March 2-3, 2004

## Minutes

**ATTENDEES:** Ian Gray, Chair (MI), Bill Trumble (NH), Colin Kaltenbach (AZ), DC Coston (OK), Darrell Nelson (NE), John Gardner (MO), LeRoy Daugherty (NM), Virginia Clark Johnson (ND), Jerry Arkin (GA), Greg Wiedemann (AR), Rick Rhodes, Jeff Seemann (RI), Al Parks (Prairie View A&M), Ralph Cavalieri (WA), Dave Bankston (ESCOP Leadership Program), Stoney Burke (TX, ICOP), Ralph Otto, Gary Cunningham (CSREES), Ed Knipling (ARS), Mort Neufville (NASULGC), Sam Donald (ARD), Tom Fretz, (NERA), Eric Young (SAAESD), Mike Harrington (WAAESD), Nicole Nelson (NCRA)

<b>Tuesday, March 2: 1:30 – 5:30 (Room 4103 Waterfront Bldg)</b>		
<b>Time</b>	<b>Agenda Item</b>	<b>Topic</b>
1:30	1	Call to order – I. Gray
1:35	2	Approval of agenda <b>APPROVED</b> Approval of minutes: July, 2002 ( <a href="http://www.escop.msstate.edu/minutes/min7-02.htm">http://www.escop.msstate.edu/minutes/min7-02.htm</a> ) <b>APPROVED</b> <a href="#">Approval of Interim Actions</a>
1:45	3	<a href="#">Budget and Legislative Committee</a> – D. Nelson
2:00	4	<a href="#">Communication and Marketing Committee</a> – J. Arkin
2:10	5	<a href="#">Partnership Committee</a> – L. Sommers
2:20	6	<a href="#">Planning Committee</a> – V. Clark Johnson
2:30	7	<a href="#">NRSP Review Committee</a> – E. Young
2:50	8	<a href="#">NASULGC-DOE Collaboration</a> – M. Harrington
3:05	9	<a href="#">Counterfactual Study Follow-up</a> – T. Fretz
3:30	<i>Adjourn</i>	
<b>3:00-4:30pm</b>	<b>EFNEP 35th Anniversary Celebration sponsored by USDA, NASULGC, the Board on Agriculture Assembly, Board on Human Sciences, and CARET</b>	
<b>5:00-6:00pm</b>	<b>Reception</b>	
<b>Wednesday, March 3: 8:30 – 3:30</b>		
7:30	<i>Breakfast</i>	
8:30	10	<a href="#">NASULGC</a> - M. Neufville

8:50	<a href="#">11</a>	<a href="#">ARS</a> – E. Knipling
9:20	<a href="#">12</a>	<a href="#">CSREES Report</a> - C. Hefferan/G. Cunningham
9:40	<a href="#">13</a>	<a href="#">BAA Policy Board Update</a> - C. Kaltenbach
9:50	<a href="#">14</a>	<a href="#">Science and Technology Committee</a> – N. Cox
10:05	<a href="#">15</a>	<a href="#">Unified Leadership Development Program</a> – E. Young
10:15	<i>Break</i>	
10:45	<a href="#">16</a>	<a href="#">NIMSS Update</a> – E. Young
10:55	<a href="#">17</a>	<a href="#">NIAS</a> – DC Coston
11:15	18	Future Meetings: <a href="#">18.1 - 2004 Combined COPS</a> – DC Coston <a href="#">18.2 - 2004 ESS and Workshop</a> – E. Young/DC Coston
11:30	<i>Lunch</i>	
12:30	<a href="#">19</a>	<a href="#">Association of Research Directors</a> - A. Parks
12:40	<a href="#">20</a>	<a href="#">Northeast Region</a> – B. Trumble
12:50	<a href="#">21</a>	<a href="#">North Central Region</a> – W. Wintersteen
1:00	<a href="#">22</a>	<a href="#">Southern Region</a> – G. Weidemann
1:10	<a href="#">23</a>	<a href="#">Western Region</a> – R. Cavalieri
1:20	24	Wrap up Discussions and Assignments – I. Gray
1:30	25	Other items
<i>Adjourn</i>		
Written Report	26	Board on Veterinary Medicine – O. Fletcher <b>No brief provided.</b>
Written Report	<a href="#">27</a>	<a href="#">Board on Human Sciences</a> – D. Savaino
Written Report	28	NAPFSC – P. Brown <b>No brief provided.</b>
Written Report	<a href="#">29</a>	<a href="#">ECOP</a> – E. Dickey
Written Report	<a href="#">30</a>	<a href="#">ICOP</a> – E. Price
Written Report	31	CARET – K. Perry <b>No brief provided.</b>
Written Report	<a href="#">32</a>	<a href="#">CRPGE</a> – R. Trewyn

---

## AGENDA BRIEFS

### Item 2: Interim Actions of the Chair

**Presenter: Ian Gray**

**Background:**

**NIAS:** As follow up action to the events that occurred at the September ESS meeting, I notified NIAS Board Chair DC Coston that NIAS should proceed to develop a membership subscribed funding mechanism. ESCOP would not be seeking further voting on the NIAS request for assessment funding.

**Strategic Planning:** I asked the EDs to formulate a process for ESCOP to reexamine its strategic plan. A process was adopted at the February CAC teleconference and is posted with the CAC Minutes on the ESCOP homepage. Basically the process consists of two activities to be carried out over the next year. The first is for the Planning Committee to develop an operational plan for the ESS to support its programmatic priorities as identified in the Science Roadmap. This operational plan will be presented to the ESS at the fall meeting. The second activity is for the Planning Committee to develop an operational plan for ESCOP that guides its activities in support of the ESS operational plan. This operational plan will be presented to ESCOP at its November meeting for final review and adoption.

**Appointments:** Several appointments to various committees have been made as requested.

**N-CFAR:** Based on advice from CAC, I authorized Mort Neufville to pay our \$1000 membership in NCFAR for 2004 from our residual funds at NASULGC.

**Counterfactual study:** The Counterfactual Study Report that ESCOP authorized was received. I authorized expending up to \$5000 to generate appropriate reports from the study for use in support of our federal budget requests and priorities including base funds. Tom Fretz is working with the authors of the study and the report will be presented at the fall meeting of ESS.

**Civil Rights Guidelines:** Following several civil rights compliance reviews at several Experiment Stations, ESCOP notified CSREES that the reviews were largely redundant with guidelines that the Experiment Station follows from our Offices of Civil Rights Compliance on our campuses. Colien is now in the process of appointing a committee (with representatives from ESCOP and ECOP).

**Jerry Arkin mentioned that Georgia was one of the stations reviewed. He said that the review went well, stimulating some good dialog between the college and the reviewers. However, he wished that the review included even more informational topics and feedback.**

**MRF Committee Nomenclature:** The North Central Regional Association charged Daryl Lund to explore adoption of a common nomenclature for committees operating under the MRF. The NCRA adopted a nomenclature and suggested that a common nomenclature would be desirable. The EDs are proposing the following nomenclature, which will be discussed at each of the regional spring meetings:

*Multistate Activities Nomenclature*

**Approved by CSREES, with expected outcomes:**

**Multistate Research Projects (NC, S, W, NE)** - Projects that are potentially funded in part by Hatch Multistate Research Funds (MRF); involve integrated, potentially interdisciplinary, and multistate activities; have expected outcomes; convey knowledge; and are formally approved by CSREES.

**500 Series (NC-5xx, S-5xx, W-5xx, NE-5xx)** – Committees formed, for a maximum of two years, to provide a mechanism for response to acute crises, emergencies, and opportunities using the multistate

research approach and may be funded by MRF. Activities may range from formally organized research on targeted objectives to very informal research coordination or information exchange activity, depending on the circumstances; have expected outcomes; convey knowledge; and are formally approved by CSREES.

**National Research Support Project (NRSP)** – Activities that focuses on the development of enabling technologies, support activities (such as to collect, assemble, store, and distribute materials, resources and information), or the sharing of facilities needed to accomplish high priority research, but which is not of itself primarily research; formally approved by CSREES.

**Not approved by CSREES, but with expected outcomes:**

**Coordinating Committees (CC)** – Activities that provide a mechanism for addressing critical regional issues where multistate coordination is appropriate within a function (ie. research, education or extension); have expected outcomes; convey knowledge; but are not formally approved by CSREES.

**Education/Extension and Research Activity (ERA)** – Activities that serve to integrate education (academic and extension) and research on a particular topic; have expected outcomes; convey knowledge; but are not formally approved by CSREES.

**Not approved by CSREES, with primary focus on information exchange or advisory:**

**Information Exchange Groups (IEG)** – Activities that bring together faculty/staff to exchange information on a particular topic; not formally approved by CSREES.

**Advisory Committees (AC)** – Committees of department chairs/heads that exchange information on their particular discipline and may serve to review multistate projects; not formally approved by CSREES.

**Not approved by CSREES, primary focus on development of long-term multistate activity:**

**Development Committee (DC)** – Committees of duration less than two years for the purpose of developing a Multistate Research Activity, IEG, ERA, CC, or 500 Series; not formally approved by CSREES.

**Actions Taken:** Approved

---

**Item 3: Budget and Legislative Committee**

**Presenter:** Darrell Nelson

**FY 04 Budget:** The FY 04 budget was passed in January with an overall 0.59% reduction in all CSREES line items and a 10% cut in 33 specific line items. Many of the line items were Extension programs including EFNEP. Pest control including IR-4 was cut 10%.

**FY 05 Budget:** Priorities for the FY 05 budget were adopted at a BAC meeting Feb 9. Priorities are (1) restore the cuts to the line items from the FY 04 budget (generally included in the President's budget request), (2) increase funding for minority-serving institutions, (3) increase EFNEP funding above the FY 03 level by \$3M, and (4) increase the NRI by 10% (from \$164M to \$180M). We are also committed to supporting the President's budget when he requested an increase in support for a program. The BRT analysis reported the following: "1. Overall, USDA funding would be cut by \$1.2 billion. 2. Total CSREES funding is cut by \$108 million, but most of these reductions would come from congressional

earmarks. 3. The National Research Initiative would increase by approximately \$16 million (ten percent) over the FY 2004 enacted level. 4. Funding for many of the programs cut by 10% would be at least partially restored, including EFNEP, which would receive almost \$58 million in funding under the president's request. 5. "Homeland Security" related items would increase: the plant and animal diagnostic labs would get a \$22 million increase and there is a new "higher education agrosecurity education program" line item that would be funded at \$5 million. 6. IFAFS authority was captured again, thereby enabling the administration to "take credit" for \$260 million in budgetary "savings." In addition, there appear to be more "limitations" imposed on mandatory USDA programs, a move that could complicate efforts by our congressional champions to help the system as the budget/appropriations process moves forward." The BRT called for statements from everyone citing how the cuts would impact program. Approximately 25 Experiment Stations responded with specific examples. The BRT will use these to develop materials to use in support of the budget priorities. The EDs generated approximately 40 impact statements from the multistate research portfolio, which will also be used by the BRT.

**FY 06 Budget:** ESCOP went through a process (including all directors and members of the B/L Committee) to identify priorities for FY 06. The priorities are posted on the ESCOP homepage under the B/L Committee. The BAC and BRT will begin working on the FY 06 budget this summer.

**Farm Bill Committee:** LeRoy Daugherty is chair-designate of the B/L Committee and therefore has the leadership for the Legislative part of our agenda. He will serve on the BAA Farm Bill Committee. ED Tom Fretz will serve as Executive Staff to the legislative function of our ESCOP B/L Committee. Daryl Lund will continue to serve as Executive Staff for the budget function. Jeff Armstrong, Chair of the BAA Farm Bill Committee, has called for a teleconference Thursday February 26. The EDs (Research, Extension and Academic Programs) have volunteered to serve as staff to the Farm Bill Committee.

**Action Requested:** None, for information only.

---

#### **Item 4: Communication and Marketing Committee Report**

**Presenter: Jerry Arkin**

##### **Background Information:**

The committee has been dormant since January 2002, however with the appointment of a new Chairperson and Executive Vice Chair, the committee has been recharged this winter. They met via teleconference on February 20, 2004, and agreed on the following actions:

1. Assist Wally Huffman with the edit and revision of the Counterfactual Study for a broader audience. Wendy Wintersteen will assist.
2. T. Fretz will check with Wally Huffman on how 1890s were handled in the study. A suggestion was made to segment the group since the 1890s have fewer formula funds.
3. Review the Science Roadmap and develop strategies on how to keep it on our partners' radar screen. Should milestones be tracked and reported on at a regular basis?
4. Initiate the process of including the Science Roadmap and the Counterfactual Study in next year's Ag. Exhibit on the Hill – J. Arkin and T. Fretz
5. Continue discussion on communication vs. marketing, and the committee's future course of actions.

The committee plans to meet again by teleconference in April.

**Action Requested:** For information only

**The Committee used the document, “Marketing the SAES,” at their initial meeting. They are looking at the specific research priorities (see the Budget and Legislative Committee report) and how to effectively communicate them to the appropriate audience.**

**There was a discussion regarding the state impact statements. Specifically, what is their utility? Can we improve them? Are we using/marketing them effectively?**

**In regards to the Science Roadmap, it was suggested that we use it for its fullest potential now, before it becomes too dated.**

**Jerry mentioned that the Committee is considering design of a strategic plan to make sure the committee operates effectively.**

**Action Taken:** Eric Young and Mike Harrington will talk to Colin Kaltenbach (BAA Policy Board) about using the Science Roadmap to the Ag-on-the-Hill exhibit.

---

## **Item 5: Partnership Committee Report**

**Presenter: Lee Sommers**

The ESCOP Partnership Committee has recently been reconstituted with a full compliment of AES members. One conference call was held with the AES members to discuss the appropriateness of the committee’s current membership, charge, and scope of potential activities. Several potential activities were discussed including: working with other agencies (e.g. NIH, CDC, DHS, etc), other USDA agencies (ERS, ARS, APHIS, NASS) and working with CSREES on the new POW Guidelines and processes that will be forthcoming. The latter would necessarily require a joint effort with extension. The members agreed to poll their respective regional associations at the upcoming spring meetings for possible activities of the Partnership Committee. The Committee plans to hold another conference call in early April to discuss input from the regional association meetings and possible a face to face meeting.

### **Partnership Working Group**

Over the last 2 years, committee leadership (Coston, Sommers and Harrington) has focused its efforts on developing the Partnership Working Group, created at the recommendation of ESCOP and ECOP as a follow-on committee after the Baltimore Partnership Workshop. The PWG is comprised of members from all of the “COPs”, CSREES, AHS and NASULGC. The PWG appears to be functioning well, having developed vision and mission statements and rules of operation. Activities include Successful Teams program (2003 Joint COPs meeting), CSREES White Paper development process, synthesis of COPs vision/mission and strategic plans, feasibility of a “partnership publication”, New Deans/Directors’ Workshop (2004), and a Strategic Planning Summit. All of these activities suggest that the PWC is “up and running” but there is a need to somehow formalize and legitimize the group within the BAA structure.

**Action requested:** None for information only

---

**Item 6: Planning Committee Report****Presenter: Virginia Clark Johnson**

The Planning Committee met February 23-24, 2004 in Irving, Texas. Actions from the meeting follow:

1. Reviewed and discussed the membership list and terms of membership. A request will be made to ESCOP to review and update the list.
2. Discussed potential for involvement in the Fall 2004 meeting priority setting session.
3. Reviewed the proposed timeline for ESCOP and ESS Strategic Planning.
4. Prepared a draft of a Plan for Operationalizing the Science Roadmap. This will be reviewed once more by the committee and then submitted to the ESCOP Executive Committee for input. The goal is to have a document for approval at the July meeting.

**Actions Required:**

- 1) Review and update committee membership.
- 2) Determine role of committee in priority setting session at the Fall meeting.
- 3) Finalize a draft for review and suggestions.

**Action Taken:** It was suggested that the committee discuss specific points of the Science Roadmap. They should also discuss the “where to” and “when” of the next steps.

---

**Item 7: NRSP Review Committee Report****Presenter: Eric Young**

Since the NRSP Review Committee’s last report, the following items have been finalized:

- Timeline for New NRSP Proposal submission
- Timeline for Renewal NRSP Proposal submission
- Proposal Format for New NRSP Projects
- Proposal Format for Renewal NRSP Projects
- Review Form for NRSP Projects (both new and renewal projects)

Also, the NRSP Review Committee has established review of:

- NRSP1, NRSP4, & NRSP7 (renewal proposals and 5-year budgets)
- NRSP3, NRSP5, & NRSP8 (4-year budgets)
- NRSP6 (1-year budget)
- New NRSP Proposal (both regional review and CSREES external review)

**Action Requested:** For information only.

---

---

**Item 8: NASULGC-DOE Collaboration****Presenter: Mike Harrington****Background:**

Jim Fischer assumed a position on DOE's EERE Board of Directors last summer with a charge of enhancing partnerships with Universities. Jim Fischer, Stan Johnson, Dan Bartel and Jim Zuiches developed a draft plan of activities that has been shared with both the SAES and CES. This proposal was covered in a January agreement between NASULGC and DOE-EERE that was signed by Under Secretary Garman. Peter McGrath charged the BAA-Policy Board of Directors with implementing the agreement. It should be stressed that DOE is interested in more than just the LGU and the colleges of agriculture as the overall objective of these efforts is to increase university participation in DOE programs.

The Executive Directors have agreed to provide administrative leadership in implementing the agreement's five sub-projects. These five projects are structured and timed to permit a reporting at the NASULGC Annual meetings in November of 2004. Subsequent to these meetings and the report, the BAA Committee and Jim Fischer and appropriate staff will propose a cooperative program for 2005, which builds on the successes and ideas for collaboration that have surfaced as a result of the experience in 2004.

The AES and CES regional EDs, as well as the NASULGC EDs met in Washington DC with Jill Long Thompson (National Center for Food and Agriculture Policy, NCFAP), Jim Fischer (DOE), Mike Mills (DOE), Rick Brenner (USDA ARS) and Stan Johnson (ISU) in January to initiate the various projects. The NCFAP will serve as a point of contact and coordinating entity for the overall project.

**Specific Projects:****I. Expanding the Opportunities for Cooperation and Communication between NASULGC institutions and DOE (Lund and O'Conner)**

The Purpose of this project is to: 1) Identify opportunities within DOE/EERE for faculty and staff to participate in programs, Boards and review teams. 2) Develop a process to identify specific faculty and staff at NASULGC member institutions eligible to serve on DOE/EERE programs, Boards and review teams. 3) Provide DOE/EERE with a database of names and credentials of faculty and staff with interests aligned with specific DOE/EERE needs. 4) Develop a process to improve information concerning professional opportunities available in EERE for graduates of NASULGC institutions. In addition, provide EERE with information about graduates and their areas of interest.

**II. Use of Extension and Outreach Systems for the Dissemination and Delivery of DOE/EERE Products and Services (Wootton and Brown)**

The purpose of this project will be to link the Extension and Outreach Services with the products and services that are produced by the EERE research and development programs. The objective is to expand the use of the DOE/EERE products and services, reaching all areas of the nation. The result will be increased use of these products and services and improved conservation, energy efficiency and use of renewable energy--addressing the mission of EERE and enabling the Extension Service to better serve its clients.

**III. Youth Education in Science and Technology (Maw and Benning)**



The objectives of the project will be to attract youth to science and technology careers, educate youth about conservation, energy efficiency and renewables, and to leverage the applications of the DOE/EERE materials for in-school and out-of-school educational settings.

#### **IV. Engaging the Research Capacity of NASULGC Institutions (Young and Fretz)**

The objective of the two-phase exercise is to determine if the IP regulations are, in fact, a barrier to participation of the NASULGC-affiliated institutions in consortia including private firms that are bidders on DOE/EERE solicitations, and to make changes in these regulations that make NASULGC-affiliated institutions more attractive partners. The actions will involve a survey and follow up negotiations to develop a more general multi-university IP mechanism--if the survey turns up barriers. Of course, the multi-university IP agreement, if developed, would address the issues or specifics of the barriers turned up in the survey.

#### **V. Workshops at the DOE Labs for Scientists from the NASULGC-Affiliated Institutions (Harrington and Donald)**

The plan for this project is to organize a series of workshops at the DOE Labs. However, in the first year of this effort will likely be focused on The National Renewable Energy Laboratory as a partner in this project. The purpose of the workshops will be to expand the connections between the scientists at the Labs and the scientists that are with the NASULGC-affiliated institutions. These workshops will be narrowly focused in areas that are aligned with the major areas of focus of NREL namely: wind, solar, biomass, buildings, advanced vehicles and fuels, geothermal, hydrogen and fuel cells and/or areas in which the Lab is developing scientific programs. The objective of the workshops will be to acquaint the scientists that are participants and to expand the possibilities for collaboration on current and future projects. A special focus will be on the younger scientists and underrepresented minorities at the NASULGC-affiliated institutions, and the opportunity to complement the teaching responsibilities of the participating scientists.

**Action Requested:** For information only.

---

#### **Item 9: Counterfactual Study**

**Presenter: Tom Fretz**

##### **Background Information:**

The ESS membership in attendance at the '01 meeting approved funding for a National Impact Assessment to better understand the value and impacts to potential changes in formula funds. This was done in lieu of creating a NE Multistate Research project. The impact assessment project has three component parts: A counterfactual study, an optimization study of the types of funding and a data visualization activity. Drs. Robert Evenson and Wally Huffman have lead the project, with collaboration from Dr. Mark Rosegrant of the International Food Policy Research Institute (IPFRI), and Dr. Jay Ritchie of the Social Sciences Research Center at Mississippi State University (leading the visualization component).

Project outcomes will evaluate past and future investments in agricultural research through formula funding. Questions asked, are "What would U.S. Agriculture look like today if there had been only 50% Hatch funding? Or, what if there had been no Hatch? What will the future hold if Hatch funding is doubled? Halved?" As of this date the study has been completed, however I continue to work with Dr. Huffman to see that this material is presented in a more useable format.

Preliminary findings indicate the following:

- Higher NRC rankings (due in part to higher levels of competitive funding) seem to correlate with higher levels of competitive funding.
- Generally those with lower NRC rankings had lower levels of state appropriated support. Presumably lower state SAES support did not allow for significant investments in highly competitive and more basic programs.
- This study calculated an annualized rate of return from public funds invested in agricultural research at 56%, consistent with previous studies.
- This study also noted the high transactional costs of competitive grants, and suggested that productivity is greater with formula than competitive funds, e.g., competitive grants result in a loss of productivity.

**Tom Fretz has been working with Wendy Wintersteen and others to create a one-pager.**

Dr. Huffman (confirmed) will present his full findings at the EES Annual Meeting – SAES Workshop in September. **In particular, Dr. Huffman will discuss the impacts associated with the study. Tom Fretz thought there would be a background report available by the All COPS meeting in July.**

**Action Requested:** For information only.

---

#### **Item 10: NASULGC Report**

**Presenter: Mortimer H. Neufville**

The following are some of NASULGC's key activities:

- 1) Food System Leadership Institute: RFP sent out to seven institutions that submitted letters of intent, deadline of March 31<sup>st</sup>. Institute to be at a Land-Grant institution (**a two-year commitment**) and will host 25 cohorts each year for 3 one-week sessions. Two of these sessions may be at a co-location. Estimated cost is \$15,000. **Letters were sent out for Board of Directors nominations and it is expected that an advisory council will be associated with that. Mort Neufville provided a copy of the proposal at the ESCOP meeting.**
- 2) Food and Society: NAS released its preliminary report of the Food and Society Workshop to the Sponsors on February 23<sup>rd</sup>. The public release is on the 24<sup>th</sup> with a public event to showcase the report during the first week in April. **NASULGC is hopeful that a final document can be published by April 5.**

Next step is meeting with OSTP, engagement of HHS and special initiatives with the Extension and Research communities regarding obesity.

**NASULGC is recommending that an initiative be formed in regards to this topic, with special emphasis placed on obesity and related topics.**

**Daryl Lund and Stan Johnson are discussing the next steps – how do we move ahead from here? Daryl is also assisting with identification of research priority areas.**

**Comments and questions should be directed to Daryl Lund, who will then relay them to Mort Neufville.**

- 3) ICA Meeting: Working with Gale Buchanan to make this meeting a success, date is April 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> in Athens, GA. **NASULGC agreed with the Europeans to form a workshop on GMOs. The workshop will take place in Vienna Austria Sept 17-20, 2004. Daryl Lund is working with Bobby Moser to coordinate this meeting. They are actively seeking volunteers.**
- 4) Rural Renaissance Act: Bill introduced by Senator Norm Coleman (R-MN). The Bill is now in committee – need to know the role the Land-Grant Food System will play in moving this forward. A copy of the Bill is available. **NASULGC has been questioning the amount of their involvement regarding this topic. Any input would be greatly appreciated.**

**Two handouts were provided at the meeting. The first was correspondence between Drs. Peter Magrath and Robert Bruininks in regards to the bill. The second document was an actual copy of the bill.**

- 5) Land-Grant Mission Meeting: NASULGC's President, C. Peter Magrath is hosting a meeting of interested individuals (all EDs and COP Chairs invited) to discuss the eroding of the Land-Grant Mission in some states. It is perceived as a funding issue. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the problem and arrive at solutions and next steps. **The meeting will be April 5 from 1:30-4:30.**
- 6) USDA Select Agents Guidelines: CGA is taking a closer look at the IGs report on select agents. We were expecting to see a request for comments prior to issuance of any rules. We have not received such request. If RFPs are issued universities are asked to look carefully for unusual guidelines appearing in the RFP. **The original request for the review came from Wisconsin. RFPs with unusual guidelines should be shown to Mort Neufville/NASULGC.**
- 7) Mail File: NASULGC is trying to update its mailfile and will send letters to Presidents and Chancellors requesting appointments to Commissions and Councils and some Boards. Please ensure that you are listed appropriately in the presidents' response to NASULGC.

**Mort Neufville also provided information regarding the next NASULGC meeting. It will be in San Diego and the focus will be on partnerships between ARS and Land Grant Institutions.**

---

**Item 11: ARS Report  
Presenter: Ed Knipling**

**ARS celebrated their 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary last November (2003).**

**Ed Knipling provided the following information:**

United State Department of Agriculture  
Agricultural Research Service  
President's 2005 Budget Estimate  
(\$000)

<u>Salaries and Expenses:</u>	<u>President's Budget</u>
FY2004 Base	\$1,082,468
 <u>Program Initiatives:</u>	
Emerging & Exotic Diseases (HS) <i>a</i>	10,722
Food Safety (HS) <i>a</i>	14,375
Genomics	12,000
Human Nutrition <i>b</i>	5,000
Invasive Species	5,000
National Plant and Disease Recovery System (HS) <i>a, c</i>	6,000
Genetics	4,000
Climate Change Research	5,189
Agricultural Information Services <i>d</i>	2,000
Cyber Security	<u>1,507</u>
	65,793
 <u>Operational Needs:</u>	
Pay Cost	14,201
 <u>Program/Operational Reductions:</u>	
IT Activities	-5,393
Project Terminations	<u>-169,472</u>
	-174,865 <i>e</i>
 <u>Net Change:</u>	
	<u>-94,871</u>
<b>FY 2005 Budget Estimate</b>	<b><u>987,597</u> <i>f</i></b>

The following notations should be associated with the above information:

- a.* Anything with the notation "(HS)" is in regards to Homeland Security.
- b.* There is an emphasis here on obesity
- c.* A Presidential Homeland Security Directive was issued January 30, 2004 in regards to this issue. Basically, it was an executive order stating that Food and Agriculture are critical system in homeland security.

Specifically this budget topic is associated with paragraph 18 of the Directive:

*The Secretary of Agriculture, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and in consultation with the Secretary of Health and Human Services and the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, shall work with State and local governments and the private sector to develop:*

- (a) A National Veterinary Stockpile (NVS) containing sufficient amounts of animal vaccine, antiviral, or therapeutic products to appropriately respond to the most damaging animal diseases affecting human health and the economy and that will be capable of deployment within 24 hours of an outbreak. The NVS shall leverage where appropriate the mechanisms and infrastructure that have been developed for the management, storage and distribution of the Strategic National Stockpile.*
- (b) A National Plant Disease Recovery System (NPDRS) capable of responding to a high-consequence plant disease with pest control measures and the use of resistant seed varieties within a single growing season to sustain a reasonable level of production for economically important crops. The NPDRS will utilize the genetic resources contained in the US National Plant Germplasm System, as*

*well as the scientific capabilities of the Federal-State-industry agricultural research and extension system. The NPDRS shall include emergency planning for the use of resistant seed varieties and pesticide control measures to prevent, slow, or stop the spread of a high-consequence plant disease such as wheat smut or soybean rust.*

APHIS has been charged with expending the veterinary vaccine stockpile. Also, the technology associated with the current germplasm system should be used.

This directive is independent of the actual budget proposal listed above – it needs to be done even if everything else on the list is not.

- d. In particular, this topic has to do with the Agricultural Library and electronic distribution.
- e. This number removes the congressional earmarks.
- f. This number reveals the 8-9% budget reduction.

\$178 million has been set aside to complete the ARS/APHIS facility.

**Action Required:** None; information only.

---

## **Item 12: CSREES Report**

**Presenter:** Gary Cunningham

**CSREES Office:** Overall, things are going very well at CSREES. They are especially happy about the new staff that has been hired recently.

### **FY 2005 Budget Proposal:**

Gary Cunningham provided the most recent copy of the President's FY 2005 Budget Proposal. The main idea to note about the proposal was that there was an overall increase in the budget.

Gary also pointed out the two areas that apply to the ARS National Plant and Disease Recovery System:

- The Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative (specifically relating to the Plant and Animal Diagnostic Networks and strategically planning the development of a communication network for all of the states)
- Agrosecurity Education (especially agrosecurity in higher education (bachelors, masters and DVM programs).

**National Research Initiative:** The increase in the National Research Initiative is a major thrust of CSREES. Gary was confident that if CSREES provides a layout of where the NRI and competitive grants are going, it would be more useful to the station directors when they are making decisions about formula funds.

### **Volunteers Needed for CRIS System/POW IPA:**

Gary mentioned that CSREES is looking for a group of 3-4 volunteers to work on an IPA regarding the CRIS system and POWs. OMB would like to see the results by June 1, 2004, meaning that the volunteers would be full-time staff at CSREES, starting immediately, and working for about 3-4 months. They will be working with NPLs and the Planning and Accountability Department.

**MRF Rules:** The MRF Rules are currently at the Office of Budget, Planning, and Accountability, who will then send it on to OMB.

**POW Guidelines:** Planning and Accountability are going through the AREERA rules to develop webpages. They are still waiting on the AREERA audit.

**Civil Rights Review:** The group is meeting with Gary and Collien Hefferan at the end of the month. A major concern is making it useful to those who are receiving the review.

**Briefing on Biosecurity on Life Sciences Research:**

**Gary provided an advance copy of a briefing to be presented by Tommy Thompson March 4, 2004 (one day after this meeting):**

Briefing on Biosecurity in Life Science Research

- A. Biotechnology by manipulating Biological systems has great power to bring benefits but also to wreak havoc thus concerns about its “dual use.”
- B. The National Academy of Sciences recently released “Biotechnology in an Age of Terrorism.” The report identified experiments that could cause concern.
  - 1. Would demonstrate how to render a vaccine ineffective.
  - 2. Would confer resistance to therapeutically useful antibiotics or antiviral agents.
  - 3. Would enhance the virulence of a pathogen or render a non-pathogen virulent.
  - 4. Would increase transmissibility of a pathogen.
  - 5. Would alter the host range of a pathogen.
  - 6. Would enable the evasion of diagnostic/detection modalities.
  - 7. Would enable the weaponization of a biological agent or toxin.
- C. The US Government response in addition to the Patriot Act and the Public Health Safety and Bio9-terrorism Preparedness and Response Act of 2002:

The Administration will establish a **National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (NSABB)** that will be administered by the NIH and will work with the existing Institutional Biosafety Committees (IBC’s) to provide Biosecurity oversight of all federally funded and federally regulated research.

The NSABB will be directed to develop guidelines for oversight of Experiments of Concern and provide ongoing evaluation and modification of these guidelines as needed.

The NSABB will be directed to work with journal editors and other stakeholders to ensure the development of guidelines for the publication, public presentation, and public communication of potentially sensitive research. The NSABB will encourage the adoption of these guidelines by international organizations.

The federal government, in coordination with the scientific community, will develop mandatory programs for education and training in Biosecurity issues for all scientists and laboratory works at federally-funded institutions.

The NSABB will be directed to provide guidance on the development of a code of conduct for scientists and laboratory works that can be adopted by professional organizations and institutions engaged in the performance of life sciences research.

The Administration will foster the extension of these biosecurity policies to the international arena on a voluntary and cooperative basis, working through existing international scientific and health organizations, and other relevant international organizations.

**The NSABB referred to above will be a 25-member board appointed by Tommy Thompson. The Board will be comprised of bioscience and law-enforcement experts, and will establish guidelines for biotechnology research into the seven areas listed under letter “B” above. Gary Cunningham thinks that this will be a self-policing activity.**

**Action Required:** Volunteers are needed to work on an IPA regarding CRIS and POWs.

**Action Taken:** Gary Cunningham will send a notice to the regional association offices with a description of the job. The regional offices should distribute it to their institutions.

---

**Item 13: BAA Policy Board Update**

**Presenter: Colin Kaltenbach**

**Colin Kaltenbach explained that there was not much to report at this meeting, but that the BAA would be meeting the next week. A more thorough report will be available after this.**

**Items that the Board has been discussing include:**

- **The agreement between DOE and NASULGC**
- **The Food and Agriculture Policy Forum**

**Also, see the Communication and Marketing Committee Report regarding the Science Roadmap and the Ag on the Hill Exhibit. (Eric and Mike spoke with Colin during this meeting.)**

**Action Required:** Colin will speak with Cathy Woteki about exhibiting the Science Roadmap at Ag on the Hill.

---

**Item 14: Science and Technology Committee**

**Presenter: Eric Young for Nancy Cox**

The Science and Technology Committee will meet on March 1, 2004 in Washington, D.C. prior to the ESCOP meeting. The agenda is as follows:

1. Conduct a more in-depth, validated needs assessment of the Science Roadmap for agriculture. **The Committee thinks that the Roadmap needs to withstand peer review. They have appointed a sub-group to propose a needs assessment and budget. In particular, this sub-group will need help from facility research centers. Lou Swanson, Dan Rossi, and Sally Rockey chair the group. They hope to have a proposal ready by the July COPS meeting for ESCOP's review.**
2. Recommend ways that ESCOP can assist the PIPRA initiative in its humanitarian mission relative to intellectual property generated by public universities. **If NASULGC has not yet considered PIPRA, ESCOP should recommend it. Those involved in PIPRA should also be in communication with the "[Gates Global Challenge](#)" organization.**
3. Proposed Task Force to develop white paper on current state of knowledge concerning prions, BSE, CJD, nvCJD, and other TSE's (Forrest Chumley, Kansas State Univ.) **There was much discussion within the Committee about if this is the correct way to handle this topic. The National Academy of [Science Communication](#) (NASC) Report just came out, which may be similar to Forrest's proposal. If this is the case, there is no need for**

redundancy. Forrest is looking into this matter. If the NASC Report is dissimilar to the proposal, the Science and Technology Committee said that they might form a sub-committee. Also, Peter Johnson (CSREES) was named as a possible member of the task force. researcher regarding risk assessment and communication.

Forrest has also been in contact with Kevin Kephart at South Dakota State. Kevin is the Administrative Advisor for the new project, NC-505, A Collaborative Initiative For Domestic Surveillance, Diagnosis, And Therapy Of Transmissible Spongiform Encephalopathies.

4. Potential topics for Fall '04 SAES/ARD Workshop session.
5. Update on status of S&T subcommittees.

Outcomes of the committee's discussions on these items will be reported.

**Action Required:** None; information only.

---

#### **Item 15: Unified Leadership Development Program**

**Presenter: Eric Young**

Unified Leadership Development Program planning group met in Kansas City on Jan 27-28, 2004. Participants included the following ECOP/ESCOP/ACOP/CSREES representatives:

ESCOP - LeRoy Daugherty, William Ravlin, Eric Young  
ECOP - Elbert Dickey, Ray McKinnie, Karen Zotz  
ACOP - Ken Esbenschade, Donna Graham, Karen Kubena  
CSREES - Dan Kugler, Phil Schwab  
Current NELD Facilitator - Brenda Hunter  
Current ESCOP/ACOP Facilitators - Marc Frankel and Rob Williams

The planning group strongly endorsed developing a single leadership development program that would meet the need of all the COPs and CSREES. This primary purpose of this unified program will be to facilitate formation of "integrated leaders" that can lead within or across functions and partners in a manner that enhances integration.

Initial plans are to design a module curriculum that would involve 2 or 3 required modules, including both workshops and mentor-guided experiences, and 4-5 optional modules. To be considered "graduate" from the program, an intern would then need to complete 1 or 2 of the optional modules. Additional modules may be completed for future continuing leadership development.

The planning group is also in communication with NASULGC's Food Systems Leadership Institute Design Team and Karen Zotz sits on both committees. Karen Zotz and Eric Young will meet with Mort Neufville and Vic Lechtenberg on March 1 to further discuss the relationship of these two leadership programs. The Institute team currently views the NELD and ESCOP/ACOP leadership programs as feeders for the Institute's program and the new unified program should have a similar relationship with the Institute.



The planning group intends to present a white paper proposal on the unified leadership program to each of the COPs and CSREES at the Joint COPs meeting July 26-27 in Orlando. Implementation of the new program is planned for July 2005 and, therefore, a final decision to move forward must be made this Fall.

**Action Required:** None, information only.

---

### **Item 16: NIMSS Update**

**Presenter: Eric Young**

#### **Background Information:**

NIMSS is currently undergoing major reconstruction. This reconstruction has not affected the usability of the current system. Programmers are using a duplicate database to construct the new NIMSS version. The planned roll-out of early 2004 was considerably delayed due to server problems and software upgrade in the OIT-UMD.

The purpose of the upgrade is to increase NIMSS' functionality by re-designing the framework with which users are registered and assigned access. In the "new" NIMSS, menus are customized according to the user's profile and level of authorization.

Tasks completed to date are:

- New design of the NIMSS main page
- Search and view functions for all multistate projects
- Project homepages and uploading info functions
- Proposal submission
- Submission of participation information (Appendix E) is about 65% completed

The timetable for the remaining activities is as follows:

- Late March – early April: Preview and training of regional system administrators
- April 19-20: Preview of NIMSS Version 2004 to general users at the CSREES Administrative Workshop in Rhode Island
- May 10: Roll-out of NIMSS Version 2004

Each region will preview the new version to their directors at their summer meetings. Training for station directors, advisors and project coordinators will be the responsibility of each region.

**Action Requested:** For information only

---

### **Item 17: National Institute for Agricultural Security (NIAS)**

**Presenter: D. C. Coston**

NIAS is transforming to a membership organization. The response from potential members has been positive. Up-to-date membership information will be presented at the meeting.

A first year's annual report was prepared and distributed with the request for membership commitments. This report is proving to be a successful tool for explaining what NIAS is, who are members, and what are the activities.

At present, much of the activity is focused on implementing the grant provided by USDA entitled Developing Science-Based Site Security Guidelines. The purpose is focused on developing best management practices for handling non-select agents. During the summer, there will be a questionnaire that is distributed to all Experiment Station and ARD Directors. The results of a workshop, some site visits, and the questionnaires will be utilized to develop a draft report that will be distributed in early September. The Tuesday morning part of the SAES/ARD workshop in September will be devoted to a discussion that will lead to finalizing the report.

**As of March 1, 2004, the member response has been:**

- 35 Yes
- 7 No
- 9 Undecided
- 4 Territories have said yes, and the remaining ones are considering it.

**The budget is now at \$100,000 (which is the assessment from last year). NIAS is considering asking ECOP and ICOP to join, and this may be at a discounted rate.**

**ESCOPE raised questions about individual station relations with their extension counterparts. When a station is notified, they will also receive another letter stating that ECOP has received the information as well. NIAS is willing to work with both groups to meet their accounting and business needs.**

**Action required:** None, for information only.

**Item 18.1: 2004 Joint COPs Meeting**

**Presenter: DC Coston**

The 2004 Joint COPs meeting will be held at the Orlando, FL Embassy Suites-Downtown on July 25-27. The general schedule will be as follows:

Sunday, July 25	All day	BAA-PBD meeting and dinner
Monday, July 26	Morning	ECOP, ACOP, and ICOP meetings
	Afternoon	Joint COPs session
	Evening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update on Federal Budget (BRT)</li> <li>- How can COPs effectively support BRT lobbying? (BRT)</li> <li>- Examples of innovative institutional advocacy (V. Lechtenberg, S. Singha, E. Price, M. Tate)</li> </ul>
Tuesday, July 27	Evening	BAA-BAC dinner and meeting
	Morning	Joint COPs reception
	Afternoon	All COPs meet separately
	5:00 p.m.	ESCOP/ECOP Joint meeting 1:30-3:00 ESCOP and ECOP separate meetings 3:30-5:00 ACOP meeting Meeting adjourns

**Action Required:** None, information only.

---

**Item 18.2: SAES/ARD Workshop**  
**Presenter: DC Coston/Eric Young**

*DRAFT SCHEDULE (2/17/04)*  
 2004  
**SAES/ARD Workshop**  
**September 26-29, 2004**  
**Weston Hotel**  
**Oklahoma City, OK**

<b>Sunday, September 26</b>	
6:00 pm – 10:00	Registration and Reception
<b>Monday, September 27</b>	
8:00 am – 12:00	<b>Regional Meetings</b>
12:00 – 1:00	<i>Lunch</i>
1:00 pm – 5:00	<b>ESS Meeting</b>
7:00 –	<i>Reception and Dinner</i>
<b>Tuesday, September 28</b>	
7:00am – 8:30	<i>Breakfast</i>
8:30 – 12:00	<b>Session 1: BMPs for Non-select Hazardous Chemicals and Biological Agents</b> <b>Chair: D. C. Coston, Oklahoma State and ESCOP Chair-elect</b>
8:30 – 9:00	<b>Introduction and overview of USDA/CSREES Grant</b> D. C. Coston, Oklahoma State
9:00 – 10:00	<b>Results of survey and draft BMPs for non-select agents</b>
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 -	<b>Small group reactions to draft BMPs</b>
12:00 – 1:30	<i>Lunch</i>
1:30 pm – 3:00	<b>Session 2: Counterfactual Study – Report and Implications</b> <b>Chair: Tom Fretz, ED, NERA</b>
1:30 – 2:00	<b>Counterfactual Study report</b>
2:00 -	<b>Implications and use of the Counterfactual Study's results and conclusions</b>

3:00 – 3:30	<i>Break</i>
3:30 – 5:30	<b>Session 3: Experiment Station Section Priorities for FY'06 Federal Budget Chair: Daryl Lund, ED, NCRA</b>
3:30 – 3:45	<b>Current ESS priorities and FY'05 federal budget priorities</b>
3:45 – 4:45	<b>Small group priority setting</b>
4:45 – 5:30	<b>Small group reports and wrap up</b>
5:30	<i>Evening Open</i>
<b>Wednesday, September 29</b>	
7:00am – 8:30	<i>Breakfast</i>
8:30 – 10:00	<b>Session 4: SAES/ARD Collaborations with Agencies other than CSREES Chair: Sam Donald, ED, ARD</b>
8:30 – 8:45	<b>Background on DOE/EERE-NASULGC Collaboration Daryl Lund, NCRA</b>
8:45 – 9:30	<b>Reports on DOE/EERE-NASULGC collaboration projects</b>
9:30 – 10:00	<b>Collaborations with APHIS, DHS, etc related to agrosecurity</b>
10:00 – 10:30	<i>Break</i>
10:30 – 12:00	<b>Session 5: Impact of the Hatch Multistate Research Fund Chair: Mike Harrington, ED, WAAESD</b>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Impacts of current and past MRF projects</b>
11:00 – 11:30	<b>Enhancing the potential success and impact of MRF projects</b>
11:30 – 12:00	<b>Documenting and reporting impacts of multistate activities</b>
12:00	<i>Adjourn - Lunch on your own</i>

---

**Item 19: ARD Report**

**Presenter: Alfred L. Parks**

- Greetings
- Current ARD Executive Committee: Alfred L. Parks, (PVAMU), Chair; Stephen Kolison, Jr.

(TSU), Chair-Elect; Carolyn Brooks (UMES), past-Chair; McArthur Floyd (AAMU) Interim Treasurer; Orlando McMeans (WVSC), Secretary; Kirkland Mellad (SU), Member-at-Large; Samuel L. Donald, RD; George Cooper/P.S. Benepal, CSREES Liaisons.

- Standing Committees/Legislative Committees/Etc. (ARD Gold Book).
- Joint AHS/CARET/COPS Meetings (February 29-March 3, 2004)
- EFNEP celebration/Hill visits (March 2, 2004)
- Multistate/collaborative/Integrated Research and Outreach Activities:
  - (1) Human Nutrition, Obesity and Prevention
    - NRI-Integrated Program – 1890 Proposals (2) submitted June 30, 2003
    - Institutions involved: AAMU\*, ASU, KSU, PVAMU, SU, TSU, UAPB
  - (2) Homeland Security Center for Post-Harvest Food Protection proposal submitted; Pending
    - Institutions involved: FAMU\*, AAMU, ASU, PVAMU, Tuskegee
  - (3) Water Quality – CSREES 406 Water Quality Program – (FAMU is Leading)
  - (4) Other – ARD’s RD is compiling a list of all 1890 multistate projects
- ARD Strategic Plan/Promotional Updates
  - Strategic Plan, By-laws, website, promotional materials
- ARD Calendar for 2004:
  - (1) Spring Meeting – March 24-27, 2004, Atlanta, GA
  - (2) Summer Meeting – July 6-9, 2004, St. Croix/St. Thomas, VI
  - (3) Fall Meeting – September 16-17, 2004, TBA
  - (4) SAES/ARD – September 26-29, 2004, Oklahoma City, OK
- Joint AEA/ARD Meeting – Target date, June 2005; focus on issues requiring integrated approaches.
- ARD/1890 Council of Presidents Initiatives
  - USDA/1890 Task Force
  - 1890 Council Special Initiatives
- ARD Other

---

## **Item 20: North East Region Report**

**Presenter: Bill Trumble**

### **Background Information:**

1. NERA last met in Dearborn, MI, on September 22, 2003. The association is currently holding its winter meeting at the USDA-Waterfront Centre, Room 3455 A/B (March 3-4).
2. The following were appointed to the ESCOP committees:

- ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee Members: Cameron Hackney (WV) and Rachel Johnson (VT)
  - ESCOP Partnership Committee Member: Robin Morgan (DE)
  - ESCOP Planning Committee Member: Robert Steele (PA)
  - NRSP Review Committee: Keith Cooper (NJ)
3. Personnel Changes:
- Dr. James Hunter of the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station (Geneva) took an early sabbatical leading to retirement effective January 2004. Dr. Robert Seem is serving as the Interim Director of the station.
  - Dr. Michael Vayda will assume the role of Associate Director of the Vermont Agricultural Experiment Station effective June 1, 2004. He is currently Assistant Director at the Maine Agricultural and Forest Experiment Station.

**Action Required:** None; information only.

---

**Item 21: North Central Region Report**

**Presenter: Wendy Wintersteen**

The NCRA is gearing up for our Joint Spring Meeting with the Southern Region March 28-31 in Orange Beach, AL. The NC Multistate Research Committee will convene prior to this meeting at O'Hare March 11.

The NCRA co-hosted our first NC Regional Funding Opportunities Workshop on USDA/CSREES Competitive Grants with the NC Cooperative Extension Association. About 100 people attended the conference, which was held at the Holiday Inn O'Hare. See <http://www.wisc.edu/ncra/ncfundingwkshp.htm> for the meeting agenda and speaker powerpoints.

The NCRA Office submitted impact statements on 5 NC projects, 4 NCR committees and one NRSP project to the BAC for use by the BRT in support of the FFY 05 Budget. This is the first round of impact statements solicited from projects/committees in the North Central Region. We will eventually obtain an impact statement from each of our projects/committees to create a presence on our website similar to that of the Western Region (<http://www.ag.unr.edu/wri/>).

Nancy Betts from the University of Nebraska will be the second representative to the ESCOP Partnerships Committee from the NCRA, joining her colleague Margaret Dentine (WI).

**Action Required:** None; information only.

---

**Item 22: Southern Region Report**

**Presenter: Greg Weidemann**

2004 Officers for the Southern Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (SAAESD) are as follows:

Chair – Greg Weidemann (AR)

Chair-elect – Nancy Cox (KY)  
Treasurer – Steve Leath (NC)  
Executive Committee Member-at-large – Tom Klindt (TN)  
Multistate Research Committee Chair – Bill Brown (FL)

Personnel changes:

VPI&SU – Sharron Quisenberry became Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Director of the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station on Aug 1, 2003.

The SAAESD Spring meeting will be held at Orange Beach, AL, jointly with the North Central Regional Association and hosted by Auburn University and the Alabama Agricultural Experiment Station.

**Action Required:** None; information only.

---

### **Item 23: Western Region Report**

**Presenter: Ralph Cavalieri**

The WAAESD officers for 2004:

Ralph Cavalieri (WA) – Chair  
Lee Sommers (CO) – Chair-Elect  
Cathy Chan Halbrendt (HI) – Secretary  
Jeff Jacobsen (MT) – Treasurer

The Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAAESD) met at the Radisson Kauai Beach Resort Lihue, Kauai on March 23-26 2002. The agenda included a major session on the OIG AREERA audits with presentations from Phil Carter (CSREES) and Tim Nesbitt (NMSU). Kitty Cardwell (CSREES) discussed the National Animal and Plant Disease and Pest Surveillance Network. The association also met September 22, 2003 in conjunction with the SAES Workshop in Dearborn, MI.

Over the last several years, the association has taken a very proactive approach in assuring that all MRF projects are meeting reporting and accountability requirements. These efforts have paid off in that all western region projects are up to date.

The association continues to work jointly with the western CES directors and academic program directors to develop integrated multifunctional multistate programs. As part of these efforts, the Western Directors Office conducted a needs survey in the Western Region during July to September 2003. The approach employed a web-based system and database that facilitated collection of responses to the following question: *“In your opinion, what are the three most pressing/emerging needs facing the Western Region that could be addressed using an integrated multifunctional (R, E and/or I) approach? Please be as specific as possible.”*

Requests to complete the survey were sent to all Deans, AES, CES, Academic Program Directors, department chairs and equivalent administrators in extension as well as CARET members. The survey was completed by 120 individuals with more than 225 separate entries. (See <http://www.colostate.edu/Orgs/WAAESD/Workroom/Survey/surveysummary.html>)



#### Upcoming Meetings:

The WAAESD will be meeting jointly with the Western Extension Directors March 22-25, 2004 in Las Vegas. The joint sessions will be focused on developing better working relationships between the two organizations and identifying priority regional activities or projects for joint action. The WAAESD will also be working to identify Strategic Directions during its meeting. Chuck Laughlin will serve as a facilitator to assist with both of these activities.

The Western Region Joint Summer will be held in Tumon, Guam, June 20-24, 2004

**Action Required:** None; information only.

---

#### **Item 27: Board on Human Science**

**Presenter: Dennis Savaiano**

The Board on Human Sciences remained active in promoting federal relations and internal benchmarking of member organizations during 2003. In particular, BOHS educated its members on how to work more effectively with campus government liaison officers and extended its successful work with Van Scoyoc Associates. Van Scoyoc focused its efforts to increase funding in child health and obesity prevention. Funded by a USDA grant, BOHS completed a benchmarking survey to establish national data on enrollment, external funding, open positions, fundraising and related issues. BOHS continued its collaborative work with FAEIS (with a joint symposium at NASULGC) and plans in 2004 to conduct a research project survey to establish the sources and amounts of external funds coming to BOHS programs. The winter meeting will include a discussion of the future integration of FAEIS, benchmarking and research project surveys into a comprehensive model for its members.

---

#### **Item 29: ECOP Report**

**Presenter: Elbert Dickey**

##### **Goal: Partnerships**

ECOP Chair Keith L. Smith (Ohio State University) has met with Under Secretary Joe Jen, Deputy Under Secretary Rodney Brown and CSREES Administrator Colien Hefferan to review 2004 ECOP Goals. A meeting was also held with Cheryl Oros, CSREES Director of Planning and Accountability to review the time schedule and format for documentation. ECOP has requested that Cheryl Oros make a presentation at the Joint COPs Summer Meeting to provide an overview of her work

The Land-Grant Partnership Working Group is planning an orientation for new deans, directors and administrators on December 8-10, 2004 in Washington, D.C.

The ECOP appreciates the opportunity to discuss options regarding future leadership opportunities for Land-Grant faculty and administrators with ESCOP and ACOP. While ECOP is proud of its NELD program and feels strongly that it has special merits that distinguish it from other opportunities, ECOP also recognizes that the ACOP/ESCOP Leadership opportunity also has strengths and a very loyal following. Our goal is to help as many faculty and administrators build effective leadership capacity to excel at their jobs and to be ready to take on bigger challenges when opportunities come along.

### **Goal: Program and Staffing Innovation**

Plans are progressing for the second meeting of the Leadership Advisory Council on May 24-26, 2004 in Kansas City. This year the discussion will focus on the perception of outside groups regarding engagement and program priorities. Input from the Leadership Advisory Council is used to help set directions and goals for the Chair of ECOP.

The ECOP is evaluating the continuation of the National Extension Committee on Urban Issues, which functions under the direction of the ECOP Program Subcommittee. One model being discussed would be a committee that includes a significant number of representatives from external agencies/organizations.

The ECOP Personnel Subcommittee provides direction for the Diversity Task Force. Membership is being reviewed and external members added; an updated charge is being written. Seven states have served as pilot states to give extra attention to diversity; the pilot states are recruiting seven additional states to join them in this important effort.

The ECOP has prepared a folder of useful resources that is sent to all new directors/administrators.

### **Goal: Funding, Legislative and Advocacy Issues**

There are five very active task forces working under the direction of the ECOP Budget and Legislative Committee: EFNEP, 4-H Youth Development, Forestry (RREA), Rural Economic Development (e-Commerce), and e-Extension (new as of 2-20-04). The primary goal of these task forces is to find opportunity for additional funding support. This includes building relationships with other agencies, developing background and marketing materials, and advocacy work.

The Cooperative Extension Section is very disappointed in the outcome of the 2004 Federal budget; ECOP Chair Keith Smith is calling a special meeting of the ECOP Executive Subcommittee to meet with the BAA/PBD Advocacy firm, and BAA leadership.

The ECOP is planning an Advocacy Workshop in Washington on May 2-4, 2004. Participants will meet with representatives from agencies outside of USDA such as OMB, HHS and EPA.

### **Goal: Communication and Education Technology**

The Cooperative Extension Section has endorsed the concept of e-Extension and will begin implementation. Additional funding will be raised via a combination of assessment, earmarked funding, appropriation and in-kind contributions. ESCOP representation on the development/implementation committee would be welcome.

The Cooperative Extension Section and the Council on Extension, Continuing Education and Public Service (CECEPS) continue to work together on the topic of engagement. That discussion will continue at the CECEPS Summer Meeting in Washington on June 17-18 and at the NASULGC Annual Meeting in San Diego next November.

---

### **Item 30: Recent Activities of International Agriculture Section** **Presenter: Ed Price, ICOP Liaison to ESCOP**

**Reorganization** – ICOP has reorganized and created a new structure that integrates international more closely into research, teaching and extension, and facilitates better coordination between ICOP and the other COPS. ICOP will have two principal committees: 1) The Strategic Planning Committee, which will be responsible for continually updating the strategic plan and re-shaping the GASEPA concept; and 2) the International Agriculture Coordinating Committee (IACC), which will serve as the budget and legislative committee for ICOP. ICOP is also considering whether to combine or revise regional representation.

**Strategic Planning Committee** – The SPC membership includes representatives from the other COPS to ensure that ICOP’s strategic themes will relate to the broad spectrum of international interests of the NASULGC family. A subcommittee is drafting a new strategic plan that will be brought before the SPC for discussion at some point in the spring, and subsequently before the Policy Board of Directors.

**International Agriculture Coordinating Committee (IACC)** – The primary activities of IACC for 2004 include: 1) Revisiting Title XII eligibility issues and ensuring universities are principal partners in projects; 2) Redrafting the SPARE charter; 3) Ensuring key recommendations in the Sherper report to facilitate USAID-university partnerships; 4) Expanding partnerships with USDA/CSREES, and USDA/FAS; 5) Advocating, for FY05, 50% budget growth in USDA’s International Science Education grants program, and budget increases for the CRSPs and for USAID’s agriculture programs; 6) Facilitating university partnerships in Food for Progress programs (P.L.-480, Section 416b); 7) Serving as a resource for BIFAD in developing long-term training and other university programs in USAID; 8) Working with USAID to make the TraiNet registry of foreign students more compatible with university SEVIS systems; and 9) Ensuring Millennium Challenge Account projects include universities.

**Sherper Report** - ICOP reviewed and submitted a response on a paper prepared by Ken Sherper for BIFAD making recommendations for expanded USAID/University partnerships. The effort is now focused on strategies to implement key recommendations.

**BIFAD** – ICOP continues to provide important consultative services to BIFAD, particularly on a major effort to increase USAID’s long-term training program. An RFA has been issued for long-term training in Mali, and others are expected for Mozambique and for the East African region.

**SPARE** – ICOP plays a key role on SPARE – the Strategic Partnership for Agricultural Research and Education. SPARE has been involved in sub-sector reviews relating to the CRSPs. Some recommendations would subject the Management Entities of the CRSPs to competition, and incorporate flexibility for adding and eliminating CRSPs and changing themes. Funding under a different mechanism -- Leader with Associate Grant – will be tried. Other activities have involved reviewing the IARC’s and the scientific liaisons. ICOP will be chairing a panel of the Policy Board of Directors to re-draft the SPARE charter and revise its mission, membership, and purpose.

**AIARD** – ICOP participates in the Association for International Agricultural and Rural Development. The 175 attendees at AIARD’s winter meeting honored Representative Bereuter for his contributions to international agriculture. Next AIARD meeting is in June.

**Farm Bill Committee** – ICOP remains active on the Farm Bill Committee, which is charged with monitoring the implementation of the Farm Bill and recommending actions as warranted.

**BAC** – ICOP serves on the BAC and chairs one of four FY 05 budget themes: Product-Based Ag: Helping American agriculture transform itself from a commodity-based to product-based system.

**Action Required:** None, information only.

---

---

**Item 32: Council on Research Policy and Graduate Education (CRPGE) Report**  
**Presenter: R.W. Trewyn**

**CRPGE** has been working on a number of research and graduate education issues of relevance to homeland security that impact members of **ESCOP**:

- Visa issues for international students and exchange visitors/scientists. The federally mandated Student and Exchange Visitor Information System (SEVIS) resulted in significant additional responsibilities being placed on universities for data collection and reporting. While SEVIS is working *relatively* well, continuing INS-related problems could cause a decline in international graduate students and exchange visitors/scientists.
- Enhanced security measures. Federal mandates are in place to prevent unauthorized intrusion or access to research facilities and laboratories, the information technology infrastructure, agricultural farmland and research plots, residence halls, and a variety of other potentially vulnerable assets. These have added costs (substantial costs in some cases) without additional revenues.
- Regulations and reporting requirements for select agents. These are additional unfunded federal mandates that institutions have to cover as well. Limitations regarding international students and exchange visitors/scientists having access to select biological agents, toxins, and other biohazards are compounding the problem in many cases.

**CRPGE** is also dealing with some other research and graduate education issues of potential interest to **ESCOP**:

- The crumbling research infrastructure. This is a topic of great concern on campuses across the country. Because many states are not providing adequate funding for research facilities, **CRPGE** has been raising the issue with federal agencies, including USDA, in hopes of increasing federal matching funds for bricks and mortar.
- The National Research Council study on research and doctorate programs. This study (which for the first time includes graduate programs in the agricultural sciences) has been postponed, with data collection now scheduled to begin in July 2005. However, planning and coordination activities on campus should begin well in advance of that date.
- Conflict of interest. Individual conflict of interest matters been a front-burner issue at universities for some time, but *institutional* conflict of interest is now receiving attention as well. **CRPGE** is planning to cosponsor a conference on this topic in Las Vegas on December 2-3, 2004.

**Action Required:** None, information only.