

**Item 10.0 Science and Technology Committee**

**Presenters: Marikis Alvarez and Jeff Jacobsen  
For information only**

**Committee Members:**

<p><b>Chair:</b> Marikis Alvarez (ARD)</p> <p><b>Delegates:</b> Larry Curtis (WAAESD) David Thompson (WAAESD) Joe Colletti (NCRA) Deb Hamernik (NCRA) Cameron Faustman (NERA) Adel Shirmohammadi (NERA) Nathan McKinney (SAAESD) Harald Scherm (SAAESD) John Yang (ARD) Ed Buckner (ARD) Chair Elect tbd (WAAESD)*</p> <p><b>Executive Vice-Chair</b> Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA ED) Chris Hamilton (NCRA AD; Recorder)</p>	<p><b>Liaisons:</b> Terry Nelsen (ERS) Cliff Gabriel (OSTP) Adrianna Hewings (ARS) Frank Zalom (Pest Mgmt Subcom) Edwin Price (ICOP) Scott Loveridge (Social Sci Subcom) Parag Chitnis (NIFA) Denise Eblen (NIFA)</p> <p><b>*Chair elect</b></p>
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**General –** The Science and Technology Committee (S&T) has regular monthly calls on the third Monday of each month. A face-to-face meeting was conducted on the Thursday morning after the ESS/SAES/ARD meeting in Charlotte, NC. All meeting agendas and minutes are posted at: <http://escop.ncsu.edu/ViewCommittees.cfm?comid=5> . S&T reviewed the ESS goals and processes for this Standing Committee. In addition, an Operating Guidelines document was created, modified and approved to codify processes going forward (attached). Membership to S&T is being updated, particularly with the Liaisons to the Committee.

**Report Discussions –** The Riley Foundation Report on a unified message for agricultural research and the AGree Report on Research & Innovation: Strengthening Agricultural Research were evaluated. In general, S&T was supportive of these efforts which would potentially enhance the potential for new funding into existing programs, as well as through partnerships with other federal agencies and with the private sector. S&T fully supported efforts to strategically focus our collective activities with messaging and partnering with the appropriate entities and organizations. S&T was not in favor of the proposal to increase Congressional oversight through more hearings and reaffirmed the support of capacity funds, in contrast to the stated position in the AGree Report.

Each of these Reports had elements that addressed the need for open access to publications and, in particular, data. S&T discussed this important topic, reviewed the status at the respective institutions and with NIFA officials. All understand that this is a mandate that is in progress both at the State and Federal levels, yet is an opportunity to enhance and grow scientific advancements from all sources of funding. In that the suite of open access approaches are very dynamic and fluid, at the present, S&T is viewing this with a go slow approach to ensure that limited resources at the State and Federal level are used effectively and efficiently.

The Farm Bill mandated provisions for Commodity Boards and the self-declaration of Center of Excellence were openly discussed as they are active elements of NIFA efforts. Eligible Commodity Boards have been certified and are in discussions with NIFA for inclusion in future RFAs. The current RFAs requests regarding Center of Excellence (COE) declarations in each competitive grant was reviewed. This is a practice that is part of the current grant review process. Data is being collected by NIFA from the activities of grant review Panels as they conduct their reviews and will be presented at a later date when sufficient data is available. There are numerous criteria for consideration and, if proposers are successful in their COE representation, proposals will be advanced in a tiebreaker approach.

**National Integrated Pest Management Coordinating Committee (NIPMCC)** – The NIPMCC met in Washington, DC October 6-7, 2015. The NIPMCC is a subcommittee of S&T (supported by ESCOP and ECOP) and is following through with its more formal status with operating guidelines and membership. Jeff Jacobsen, Mike Harrington and Robin Shepard were in attendance. More information will be forthcoming as NIPMCC develops its agenda.

**Experiment Station Section  
Science and Technology Committee  
Operating Guidelines  
August 19, 2015**

**Purpose**

The ESCOP Science and Technology (S&T) Committee is charged with promoting and enhancing science and technology in the Land-grant university system. The committee will assist ESCOP to identify future directions and anticipate and respond to research needs and opportunities for funding. The committee will assist in linking science and technology programs to multistate and national research initiatives. The committee will recommend how ESCOP will respond to reports, recommendations, and planning documents from the national science community. This committee will provide guidance to ESCOP strategic planning and priority setting.

**Membership**

- Chair from one of the five SAES/ARD regions
- Two representatives from each of the five SAES/ARD regions
  - Incoming Chair
- One ED (non-voting) to serve as executive Vice-Chair and to assist the Chair
- Non-voting representatives from the following organizations:
  - NIFA
  - ARS
  - ERS
  - Chair of the Social Science Subcommittee
  - ESCOP Co-Chair of the Pest Management Strategies Subcommittee
  - Other organizations including OSTP, other COPS and other federal agencies as appropriate (i.e., NASA, EPA, DOE)

Members serve four year terms and may be reappointed indefinitely. The term of Chair, Incoming Chair and Past Chair are for two years each.

**Organization and Function**

The S&T may meet in person once a year associated with the Fall ESS Meeting and Workshop or as the need arises. Other in-person meetings can be scheduled by the Chair as necessary. The S&T will meet by teleconference monthly to quarterly for S&T work plan updates, coordination, issue or problem solving, selecting the ESS National Excellence in Multistate Research Award winner and associated business. Meeting agendas and support materials will be provided, after consultation with the Chair, to the S&T Committee in advance of the teleconference or in-person

meetings. Minutes will be taken from each teleconference, approved at the next S&T meeting and posted on the ESCOP website.

Annually, during late May and early June, the S&T will receive and evaluate the regional nominations for the ESS National Excellence in Multistate Research Award. The S&T Committee will individually rank the nominees and a summary will be provided to the Chair for teleconference discussions to select the top Multistate project. This recommendation is provided to ESCOP for their evaluation and ratification. The S&T will announce the winner to ESS membership and APLU before the end of June.

It is expected that programmatic and policy decisions are to be made by consensus. If necessary, formal decisions are to be determined by simple majority of a quorum of S&T members.

The S&T may create ad hoc work groups to assist with special tasks or problem solving, as needs are addressed by ESCOP. The work groups will be responsible to the S&T.

### **Officers**

The Chair of the S&T will be a member of one of the five SAES/ARD regions. The Chair serves for two years. The position will rotate among the sections in same order as the ESCOP Chair (NC, S, ARD, W, NE).

The incoming Chair will discharge the duties of the Chair, such as presiding over meetings when the Chair is not available and guide the work of the S&T. The Regional Office may also facilitate the meetings as the need arises.

### **Quorum**

For purposes of doing business, a quorum shall consist of a simple majority of the duly constituted members at any officially called meeting for which written notice is sent in advance of the meeting. A simple majority of the quorum resolves all issues.

### **Parliamentary Authority**

The emphasis in all S&T meetings shall be on orderly process to achieve an objective decision by those present and voting. Should there be a parliamentary challenge, it shall be answered by referring to the most current edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

### **Amendments**

These operating guidelines may be amended at any business meeting of the S&T provided the proposed amendment has been sent to all members in advance of the meeting, and the question is passed by a simple majority of a quorum of the voting members present at that meeting.