

**ESCOP Chairs Advisory Committee
Teleconference Notes
October 20, 2008 [4-5pm Eastern]**

Participants:

Steve Pueppke, Chair
 Arlen Leholm, Executive Vice-Chair (NCRA)
 Clarence Watson, Vice-Chair
 Bruce McPheron, Past Chair
 Dan Rossi (NERA)
 Eric Young (SAAESD)
 Mike Harrington (WAAESD)
 Craig Nessler (Chair-NRSP Review Committee)
 David Boethel (Chair-Budget and Legislative Committee)
 Jim Richards (Cornerstone)
 Jerry Arkin (Chair – Communication and Marketing Committee)
 Chris Hamilton (NCRA-Recorder)

Action Items:

Who	Action	Status
Mike Harrington/DC Coston	Share draft of proposed framework for the roadmap with the directors.	Done
Mike Harrington	Send 2011 survey to directors	
Arlen Leholm	Arrange an informal get-together with Colien Hefferan during the November NASULGC meeting	Done
Arlen Leholm/Dan Rossi	Invite and arrange travel of Multistate Research awardee-NC229 to the NASULGC Annual Meeting	In process
Arlen Leholm/Jerry Arkin	Take decision to inactivate the ESCOP C&M committee to the ESCOP Executive session in November	
All EDs	Finalize SCRI letter	
Steve Pueppke/Arlen Leholm	Send final SCRI letter to CSREES	

Notes:

1. Report from the Chair – Steve Pueppke:
 Chair Pueppke and Colien Hefferan had their first monthly call in October. Steve mentioned that two important issues came out of their recent discussion. First, Colien indicated a desire for more conversations about common interests. As such, Arlen will organize a dinner with Colien and a few others from ESCOP on Sunday evening during the November NASULGC meeting in Chicago. Second, they discussed the possibility of putting on an event to celebrate the new USDA research institute/structure that would include SAES directors.

2. Review of Action Items (from the 8/18 call) – Steve Pueppke:

Arlen will continue to work with NC-229's AA regarding travel for the project's rep to the NASULGC meeting in November. He will also draft a letter of recommendation from Steve to present to NC-229. All other items have been completed.

3. Agenda for Executive Committee Meeting in November – Steve Pueppke and Arlen Leholm:
The four EDs will review the agenda during their meeting in Baltimore. **As of 10/26, a draft agenda has been sent out with a call for agenda briefs.
4. FY09 Budget Update and Farm Bill Status – Jim Richards, Cornerstone:
The government is currently operating under a Continuing Resolution and will likely do so until the new administration takes office. Also, the REO directors will be announced soon. Finally, Jim presented a few options for dealing with the 3D activities and the IPM issue.
5. Budget and Legislative Committee Update – David Boethel/Mike Harrington
The pre-meeting survey reconfirmed the directors' desire to enhance formula funds over competitive ones. The 2011 survey is ready to send and will be about 20 questions, providing new and different information to determine the next \$100M program.
6. System Communication and Marketing Implementation Committee Update – Jerry Arkin/Arlen Leholm:
During their 10/13 teleconference, the committee voted to disband the ESCOP C&M Committee. They will take this action to the Executive Committee meeting in November. Dan Rossi suggested that the group go inactive as needed and avoid a potential need to change terms with the ESCOP Rules of Operation.
7. 2009 ESS/SAES/ARD Workshop – Clarence Watson:
The 2009 meeting will be held at the Sheraton Oklahoma City between September 14 and 17. Unlike previous fall workshops, this meeting will begin on a Monday and end with the banquet dinner on Wednesday evening in an effort to keep the final sessions well-attended. The ESS business meeting is scheduled for Tuesday morning and all other sessions will run through late afternoon on Wednesday. Regional meetings will be scheduled for Monday afternoon from 3 to 6 pm. Rooms will also be available on Thursday, should regions decide that Monday will not work. Breakfast will be served on Thursday morning as usual.
8. Other business:
It was decided to hold off on sending the SCRI letter until after the EDs had another chance to discuss it during the NMCC meeting in Baltimore.

Chair Pueppke closed the meeting and thanked everyone for their time and participation.

Respectfully submitted by:
Christina Hamilton
October 26, 2008