

ESCOP CAC Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 21, 2015

Participants: Bob Shulstad, Chair, Eric Young, Shirley Hyman-Parker, Steve Slack, Clarence Watson, Jeff Jacobsen, Dan Rossi, Carolyn Brooks, Hunt Shipman, Jim Richards and Donna Pearce , recorder

Action Items:

Agenda:

1. Interim Actions of the Chair – Bob Shulstad
 - N/A
2. NIMSS/NRSP1 Update – Jeff Jacobsen
 - Close to where redesign team can do some beta testing
 - At the NERAOC meeting in San Diego Chris Hamilton and Sarah Lupis did a show and tell for the staff in attendance
 - Jeff, Chris and Sarah have been looking at the auto-emails generated letters and forms to evaluate the text and make them current
 - Bart Hewitt and Katelyn Sellers, NIFA, are eagerly waiting to view their access pages just to be sure everything looks right and is working as it should
 - Timeline
 - Initial beta testing version – June/July
 - Final version - September
3. Federal Budget Update –Cornerstone
 - Appropriation process is underway in the Senate with the approval of subcommittee allocations for all 12 subcommittees on the Senate committee
 - House had already approved its subcommittee allocations
 - House allocations \$20.65 Billion
 - Senate allocations \$20.05 Billion
 - The House is not likely to take up a bill before the 2nd/3rd week of June. Senate has no schedule
 - Budget and Advocacy Committee canceled their conference call due to lack of materials to discuss at this time
4. Budget and Legislative Committee – Gary Thompson and Mike Harrington
 - N/A
5. Communications and Marketing Committee –Rick Rhodes and Dan Rossi
 - Working with the Plan of Work Development Committee; which is a newly formed committee
 - Goal is to develop the Plan of Work for the 2016 year
6. Science and Technology Committee – John Russin and Jeff Jacobsen
 - Have a summary statement document that we will pass on to ESCOP regarding work with House AFRI review that occur by NRC
 - Upcoming agenda item has to do with discussing Open Access at USDA's policy with data and publications

- Next call is June 1. We will take a look at the regional nominations for the Multistate Research Award
 - Will send recommendation to Bob Shulstad so he can share with ESCOP
 - Will look at language for 2016 call for nominations
7. NIFA-CES Retreat – Clarence Watson and Jeff Jacobsen
- ECOP has adopted the report that came out of the retreat
 - Six recommendations
 - **Recommendation #1**
 - Challenge: What does having a “partnership” mean to CES and NIFA?
 - Recommendation: ECOP and NIFA should establish a rationale for the “relationship” or “partnership” model
 - **Recommendation #2**
 - Challenge: Capacity and competitive funding have unique demands in a “partnership” model.
 - Recommendation: NIFA and CES should further discuss the differences between capacity and competitive programs particular to CES. They also acknowledge that NIFA must respect how these funding authorities differ
 - **Recommendation #3**
 - Challenge: It’s about timing – development of NIFA budget
 - Recommendation: Should try to align our processes more with NIFA’s budget timeline
 - **Recommendation #4**
 - Challenge: How federal authorizations influence and change NIFA, and the responsibilities of NPLs.
 - Recommendation: More face-to-face interactions between CES and NIFA and try to better understand one another.
 - **Recommendation #5**
 - Challenge: Impact indicators
 - Recommendation: Increase understanding and potential use of impact database by NIFA
 - **Recommendation #6**
 - Challenge: Increases in competitive funds while it’s a struggle to maintain capacity funds at current levels.
 - Recommendation #1: Monitor this tension closely
 - Recommendation #2: CES should look for more opportunities in competitive funds
8. Diversity in Research Leadership – Jeff Jacobsen
- Have we in the past, currently, or should we within ESS be thinking about how we advance a conversation recognizing individual institutions doing things at multiple levels to enhance diversity?
 - What would data look like for respective regions?

- Need to capture core College of Ag research administration and primary extension leadership
 - What does the leadership profile look like in academic departments within Colleges of Agriculture?
 - We have full complement of data from North Central, Southern, North East, and ARD
 - Looked at both gender and minority race
 - Still gathering information
 - Should there be Best Practice sessions, conversations, actions, and activities that we could talk about and put into play from a national or region context?
 - Proposal:
 - Ad-Hoc group that can do things electronically, and maybe face-to-face, to discuss initial leadership for this particular topic and look at it from institutional, regional, and national perspectives
 - Five directors, one from each region
 - College diversity administrators (5?)
 - 1 or 2 Executive Directors
 - 1 or 2 Regional Assistants – Chris Hamilton is interested
 - Charge: to think about diversity from the research leadership stand point within ESS and put some ideas on the table that could be discussed with ESCOP that may lead to something more formal in terms of activities implemented as part of our national program
9. BMP's for communication with NIFA – Steve Slack
- In addition to any regular electronic communication that might occur with NIFA, if there is a formal initiative coming forward from the family, then it would also be delivered in writing over the signature of the Policy Board of Directors Chair
 - Will be discussed by the Policy Board of Directors when they meet at the Joint COPS meeting
10. ESS/SAES/ARD Fall Meeting – Carolyn Brooks and Shirley Hymon-Parker
- Meeting website should be up around the first week of June
 - Will send email out to everyone with website link along with hotel, registration, and draft agenda information
11. Other Business
- N/A