

**ESCOP Science & Technology**

**Call MINUTES: August 24, 2015 @ 4 pm ET**

**215-446-3656, ACCESS CODE: 1442561**

**Committee Members:**

<p><b>Chair:</b> John Russin (SAAESD)</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) Teferi Tsegaye (ARD) Marikis Alvarez (ARD)*</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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**Action Items:**

1. Chris will contact those not on this call (Deb, Adel, Teferi, Marikis) to confirm their attendance at the October 1 face-to-face meeting of the S&T for a final head count for breakfast.
2. Call notes from June 22, 2015 were approved.
3. Today's call agenda was approved.
4. Jeff will write up a summary of the data access discussions to present as a report to ESCOP.

**Minutes:**

1. Participants: Larry Curtis, David Thompson, Joe Colletti, Cameron Faustman, Nathan McKinney, Harald Scherm, Parag Chitnis, Denise Eblen, Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton
2. Review and Approve Call Notes (6/22/2015) - Approved
3. Adopt the Agenda - Approved
4. Discussion Topic – Open Access to Publications and Data (across 1862 and 1890 Institutions)
  - a. General Discussion
    - i. Federal Funds (Competitive, Capacity, 'Supported Wholly or In Part' with federal/regional/state/foundations/etc.) Parag mentioned that there is a requirement to create and include data management plans (DMPs) in a number of AFRI programs in the current cycle. From his prior job with NSF, it generally

was the case that the 'cost' was 20-25% of the budget, clearly dependent upon the nature of the proposed work.

1. This threshold is currently undetermined in emerging Federal policy.
  2. Flexible model would be most useful.
  3. Committee suggests a "wait and see" mindset.
- ii. By LGU Institutions, VPR, Libraries, Computer Science, AES directors
    1. How does this play out at the state level?
      - a. Many are deferring to the Vice President of Research (VPR) office, who would be talking to other VPRs; University-wise efforts in data management exist, organized by VPR, driven right now by NSF and NIH requirements
      - b. AES offices may wish to take the lead as it relates to capacity funds
      - c. Everyone is still working to figure this out, including at the Federal level
      - d. There is an effort to integrate with the SE Research Association for a Southern regional data repository; the initial focus is on NSF data right now. Some efforts to regionalize exist, but still a work in progress.
  - iii. National Agricultural Data Network (NADN) Proposed NRSP (For information only):
    1. There is a new, emerging NRSP pre-proposal on its way to the ESCOP NRSP-RC focusing on the data management of the large crop and livestock CAPs and certain large, traditional NIFA grants
    2. Proposes using NRSP funding mechanism for longer, higher use of this data (analytics, meta-analysis, modeling)
- b. Publications (Centralized, Decentralized, Hybrid)
    - i. Approved manuscript or journal article (post embargo period) and/or other publications
    - ii. By Professional Societies, LGU Institution, National Ag Library, LGU Libraries, Private Sector
      - Q: If this is a federal mandate, what true role do these professional societies have, other than to make recommendations?
        - a. For societies that have an associated publication, they would need to know how soon to give public access. Immediate access would collapse their membership fee business model.
        - b. Some societies may archive supplementary data for articles, others do not. Meta data, expense issues, etc.
  - c. Data (Centralized, Decentralized, Hybrid)
    - i. Metadata, Refined data and support data for figures
    - ii. Linked to publications
    - iii. Long-term stewardship – concerns with cost, data decay, etc.
  - d. Financial
    - i. Sustainable resources
    - ii. Cost estimates –
      1. None available yet at the federal level, applicants can include the cost of data management in their grants. From his prior job with NSF, it

generally was the case that the 'cost' was 20-25% of the budget, clearly dependent upon the nature of the proposed work.

2. Issues of data management costs after the grant ends are a concern: How much? How long? Security? Etc.
3. Every federal agency is expected to have a plan and they are currently researching these concerns on cost and structure of data storage.

e. Training

f. Other

i. How has Science and Technology Committee functioned in the past? Reflections for future work?

1. Science Roadmap 2010 was the largest recent issue. ESCOP S&T worked with a similar ECOP committee on this, identifying priority issues for the system. Perhaps the data access issue is something the committee could focus on in a similar way?
2. Also worked to make loss of "Earmarks" less painful (about 12 years ago?)
3. Future topic? Perhaps "How can we grow NIFA budget"

ii. Comments on face-to-face meeting agenda

1. NIFA webinars on Centers of Excellence are occurring in the next few weeks, so Parag Chitnis will be able to provide more information on this topic. In addition, he will provide some comments on the Commodity Board provision and implementation from the Farm Bill.
2. *Added 8/27: This is the first of two webinars for anyone interested in providing feedback on NIFA's implementation of the Center of Excellence (COE) provision from the 2014 Farm Bill. The webinar is Aug. 27 at 1 p.m. (EDT). The second webinar is scheduled for September 3 at 1 p.m. (EDT). For webinar access and call-in information, visit <http://nifa.usda.gov/centers-excellence>.*
3. AFRI Review #2, what is this? Bob Holland referred to this recently, but we are not sure if it's available yet. More information to come. Parag will check with Bob. *Added 8/27: Bob referred to the update about the progress of actions to implement the NRC recommendations about AFRI. It will be posted on the NIFA website soon. The next update about the progress will be posted in January 2016.*
4. There are many items on the 10/1 agenda, we'll have to be careful to time them appropriately to be able to have meaningful discussions on each.
5. If an S&T member cannot attend the 10/1 meeting, feel free to have an associate attend in your place, as you see fit.

Call adjourned at 3:59 pm CT