

ESCOP CAC Meeting Notes Thursday, February 18, 2016

Participants: Bob Shulstad, Bret Hess, Carolyn Brooks, Clarence Watson, Eric Young, Gary Thompson, Hunt Shipman, Jeff Jacobsen, Jeremy Witte, Michael Harrington, Rick Rhodes, and Shirley Hyman-Parker

Action Items from Meeting:

- 1. Agenda briefs for the March ESCOP meeting need to be requested ASAP.**
 - 2. Request a meeting time and space for a joint meeting of the B&L committees of ESCOP and ECOP at the Joint ESS-NEDA meeting (Gary to Brett)**
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1. Notes from January 14, 2016 CAC call and the agenda were approved.
2. Interim Actions of the chair:

Shirley reported that the meetings scheduled for the ESCOP and ECOP chairs and associated staff (Carolyn and Jane) with NIFA leaders and NPLs were cut short by a day because of snow. However meetings that took place on January 20, 2016 were thought to be productive. In the meeting with Cathy Woteki, she suggested ESCOP provide leadership in forming a committee to determine next steps in responding to the Sightlines Deferred Maintenance Report. Shortly thereafter an email was sent out by Ian establishing such a committee (and selected EDs) and those asked to be on the committee are:

- Greg Bohach (CLP)
- Alan Grant (BAC)
- Jay Akridge (PBD Chair)
- Mark Hussey (chair-elect PBD & large 1862 institution)
- Walter Hill (1890)
- Orlando McMeans (Advocacy Chair of BAC & 1890)
- Lou Swanson (AHS Chair)
- Greg Weidman (Chair-Elect of AHS, small 1862)
- Michele Rogers (ECOP Chair & med. size 1862)
- Shirley Hyman-Parker (ESCOP chair & 1890)
- Susan Sumner (APS Chair)
- Ronnie Green
- Tom Coon (currently VP at OK State)
- Wendy Wintersteen
- Jack Payne
- Clarence Watson

Over a year ago, ARS went through a similar exercise detailing the maintenance deficiencies within ARS facilities and those that are “co-located” with a number of our institutions. Consequently, one of the areas to be discussed by this committee will be how representatives from ARS and REE might come together in a partnership with BAA representatives to develop multiple strategies to address this long-term issue and effort. Simon Liu (ARS) and Meryl Broussard will take the lead from ARS and NIFA (including others as they may determine) respectively and the goal is now to put together a joint committee to come together and define such efforts that might be undertaken.

Bob asked if any of the individual reports have gone out to campuses as he had not seen one for UGA. Eric said the reports would be sent to the Administrative Head’s office, and some of these offices currently are vacant or interim positions. Mike said he is trying to get those reports for his region. Jeff said he has tried too, but to no avail.

Shirley mentioned Cathy’s request that ESS get more involved with Cuba.

During the meetings in DC, Cornerstone asked ESCOP to assist more with mobilization of advocacy. Hunt further clarified that to mean we assist them in targeting influential (Super CARET) state citizens to advocate for us with Congress.

Action item from last meeting was to have Bob chair a committee to tighten up the guidelines that relate to the ESCOP budget. That committee report will be given at the March 7th ESCOP meeting and Bob thanked Jeff for his special role on this committee. The other action items completed were Bill Brown’s appointment to represent ESS on the ECOP Innovation Task Force and the approval by ESCOP Executive Committee vote to give \$500 from ESCOP to produce the HFSHP brochure.

Reports

1. *Federal Budget Update – Cornerstone:*

BAC’s recommendations on the 2017 budget have been approved by the PBD. Hunt outlined the areas of importance to the BAA in the President’s Feb. 9th budget. There was a substantial increase to the AFRI budget by the President and while he did not have to say where the cuts were made to provide this increase in AFRI to get it to the authorized level of \$700 M, it is believed that it primarily comes from the proposed cuts to Crop Insurance (over \$1 billion cut this year alone). There were increases proposed for the Minority Serving Institutions but cuts/eliminations to other lines. We need to contact Congress prior to CARET as mark-ups this year will be a month earlier than usual.

Our CARET documents will request the following and the action alert has been sent to us by Cornerstone:

Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)	\$700,000,000	Evans-Allen	\$60,500,000
Smith-Lever 3(b)-(c)	\$304,000,000	1890 Institutions Extension	\$49,350,000
Hatch Act	\$256,201,000	McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry	\$35,500,000

* APLU opposes the elimination of the New Technologies for Ag Extension (NTAE), Animal Health and Disease Research—Section 1433, and Capacity Building for Non-Land Grant Colleges of Agriculture programs.

* APLU supports the proposed increases to 1890 Institution Capacity Building Grants and 1890 Facilities Grants.

2. *Budget and Legislative Committee - Gary Thompson and Mike Harrington*

Gary explained how the numbers for the capacity funds that were flat received increase requests. The 2016 numbers were used. Last time those proposed increases were to come with competition within the capacity lines - which was not palatable to the universities. eXtension had been reorganizing and needed funding continued to help it get back on its feet. However, this has been a line that was expected to eventually stand on its own. The B&L committees of both ESCOP and ECOP will meet from 6:30 AM – 7:45 AM on March 7th in the Bell Room of the Westin and have invited Darren Katz. They will talk about the ‘both and’ approach with capacity and competitive funding, how to jointly support initiatives and other things related to the newly released budget for NIFA. They hope to also meet jointly at the ESS-NEDA meeting in September.

Mike mentioned that he and Robin met in D.C. with Meryl and others about the Water Security initiative. He thinks funding will be there for water security, but not like the system proposed. There was a lot of work done on this big initiative and yet no real traction took hold, thus disappointment based on the transactional costs that now seem wasted. It was suggested we consider an NRSP-type of water initiative with Extension using special funds isolated from the formula funds.

3. *Communications and Marketing Committee – Rick Rhodes*

Not much has transpired since the last CAC call. The work going forward is to implement the finalized Plan of Work. At the March 6th meeting (at 4 PM) during the CARET/AHS meeting, the three working groups will lead discussions.

4. *Science and Technology Committee* – Jeff Jacobsen

On the March call they will discuss the Antimicrobial Resistance Report follow-ups. The Social Sciences Committee is now fully constituted and met in DC recently. Dan stood in for Jeff. At the meeting the Water Security white paper was shared to see how to better include the social sciences in this initiative.

Discussions/Updates/Requests

5. Review of Agenda for the ESCOP meeting to be held during the CARET/AHS meeting in Virginia, March 7th, 8 AM – noon) - nothing added but it was noted that the request for agenda briefs had not gone out.
6. NIMSS update and Diversity Task Force Update – Jeff Jacobsen

NIMSS is released, going forward, and the ‘bug reports’ are getting shorter. Chris, Sara and Jeff have weekly calls with the developers. Suggestions for improvements should continue as this is a long-term process. Online training manuals are available and there is a manual that utilizes Q&A located on the regional websites.

The Diversity Task Force has been having teleconferences. There are readings, data and information sharing available and all results/reports will be summarized in a report soon. The task force has five (5) working groups for the critical topic areas.

7. Suggestions on assisting 1862s and 1890s on the NIFA requirement that “Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research (RCR) training is required for all NIFA grantees”

This may not be as critical as was previously thought. The Western Region and the ARD have already learned that their institutions are mostly compliant. The issue was that all campuses must know about the RCR, but the fear was that those engaged in research through the capacity funds might not have been as diligent. All were grateful to Dan for providing the documentation to share with the regions and for bringing our attention to what may be a compliance issue on some campuses as it relates to capacity funding.

8. Updates on Fall Joint meeting between ESS and NEDA - Brett Hess and Mike Harrington

Good progress is being made according to Brett and the notice of registration for the conference will be out soon. The registration site is being/has been beta tested. Sub-groups are in the process of determining/inviting speakers. Brett asked Gary to provide the request to them for the joint B&L Committees of ESCOP and ECOP to meet during the meeting ASAP for the handling of the logistics that would be required.

9. Announcements/General Information:

Summit on Antibiotic Resistance has committees to follow –up and they will seek additional members. A new NCDC230 Antimicrobial Resistance has been created. Bob announced that Sam Pardue, previously at NCSU, will be coming to UGA as the new dean there.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:59 PM. Notes Submitted by Carolyn Brooks. Next call schedules for 3/17/16