

Minutes of the
ESCOP CAC Conference Call
December 19, 2006
4:00 PM (EST)

Attendees: Ron Pardini, Ralph Cavalieri, Steve Slack, LeRoy Daugherty, Ron Pardini, Tom Fretz, Dan Rossi, Al Parks, Mike Harrington, Eric Young, Arlen Leholm, Bruce McPheron, Harriet Sykes

Job Jar

12/19/06 Assignments		Status
Pardini & Harrington	Work with Lund to develop a letter to send to all regions regarding possible policy change to require impact statements for mid-term reviews and renewal proposals	In progress
Harrington	To work with Pardini, Arlen Leholm and someone from CSREES - perhaps Ralph Otto regarding possible research awards	In progress Tom Bewick to be contacted
Harrington	Make arrangements with Eddie Gouge of NASULGC regarding attendees from ESCOP to the Ag on the Hill exhibit	To be done
Sykes	Will set up a conference call when the group membership has been established regarding ESS awards - conference call to include Pardini	
McPheron/ Fretz	Contact Burr to see if he is willing to serve on the NPGCC committee	
Leholm, Harrington, and Young	Create a strawman poll regarding awards - similar to that used by Extension	

Job Jar Assignments from 11/28/06 Call - Completed

1. Harrington and Young - Provided Handouts on CREATE-21 for New Deans/Directors Workshop
2. Harrington - MacArthur Floyd to serve as 1890's representative to the agenda/structure planning committee for the Fall SAES/ARD Workshop
3. Sykes - Sent information on the ESCOP logo to Tom Fretz
4. Sykes - Sent dates and information on CAC conference calls to CAC and new ED's
5. Young - Reviewed all pages of the new ESCOP website prior to the activation of the site

1. Status of Job Jar – see page 1
2. Communications and Marketing committee/strategic marketing plan (Arkin/Fretz)

Fretz indicated that the Communications and Marketing Committee is trying to meet face-to-face, probably in February. They will decide on logo development at that time.

3. Budget and Legislative Committee (Daugherty/Lund)
 - a. Priority Survey
Harrington reported that a Zoomerang survey is ready for input and that the directors have been notified.
 - b. FY 07 Budget Continuing resolution
 - i. Congress has indicated that it will pass a continuing resolution that will remove all earmarked funding. It will not be a standard continuing resolution. This could be a huge problem for universities. If earmarked funds go away, it may require furlough of personnel.
 - ii. The Budget and Legislative Committee is trying to determine mechanisms to keep funds. A Modified 406 is a possibility. It would need to be put into formula because it involves Extension funds. Cornerstone will send information with instructions on talking points and possible solutions. Lund, Harrington, and Daugherty have developed a letter to alert the directors about the continuing resolution. Cornerstone is concerned that the funds will be used to fund other agencies - the immediate problem is to keep the money in CSREES. The funds could be used as a pool for competitive funds - rather than earmarked.

4. Impacts from the Multistate Program (Pardini/Harrington)

Pardini stated that he had nothing new to report.

5. Structure of future ESS meetings (McPherson)

McPherson stated that he had nothing to report.

6. Plant Germplasm Task Force Update (Fretz/Sommers)

Comments included in Item 8.0

7. Research Awards for ESS (Pardini)

a. Appoint committee

A committee of one representative from each region should be appointed to conceive the program and develop the selection criteria.

Leholm, Harrington, and Young are to create a strawman poll regarding awards - similar to that used by Extension.

8. Plant Germplasm NRSPs

Fretz indicated that the NRSP and Germplasm Task Force had met and are in the process of developing a white paper. They will likely recommend continuation of funding of four regional trusts. A committee of three ARS, three CSREES, and three AES representatives will develop the white paper.

NRSP5 and NRSP6 meet the NRSP intent. The NRSP Oversight Committee recommendation was too harsh for 2007. All other NRSPs have outside funding except NRSP5. The hope is to find a way to get an additional \$50,000 more for NRSP5 by the end of the fiscal year.

The NE Region is not represented on NPGCC - Tom Burr (NY-G) was recommended as a representative. McPheron and Fretz will contact Burr to see if he is willing to serve on the NPGCC committee.

Cavalieri indicated that NRSP5 needs \$75,000 to \$100,00 to keep operating - and to fund six full-time and six part-time employees. He is recommending to revert back to the 2006 funding in 2007. Industry is contributing to the extent that they can.

The same is for NRSP6 - to increase funding from \$110,000.

The NRSPs are to provide their budget requests for FY2008 to the regional associations so that the NRSP review committee can have a sense of what the directors want after their spring meetings.

9. NIAS recommendation to identify molecular biologists to interact with DHS National Science Advisory Board for Biosecurity (Nipp)

10. New website (see <http://lgu.umd.edu/ESCOP/index.cfm>)

Young reported that the new ESCOP website was in process and that server space is expensive and may need to be evaluated. The NE region is currently hosting the new site at Maryland, but that the site could be moved.

11. ESCOP Winter Meeting Feb. 27 1-5 pm Waterfront Center (All)

No additional information was provided.

12. 2007 ESS meeting dates (McPheron)

McPheron reported that preliminary information is on the new ESCOP website (09/16/2007 ~ 09/19/2007 -2007 ESS/SAES/ARD Workshops.