

ESCOP Science & Technology: <http://escop.info/committee/scitech/>

Call Minutes: 6/25/2018

4 pm ET, via Zoom (<https://msu.zoom.us/j/577962114> or phone 1 408 638 0968 or +1 646 876 9923; Meeting ID: 577 962 114)

**Committee Members:**

<p><b>Chair:</b> Laura Lavine (WAAESD) <b>Past Chair:</b> Marikis Alvarez (ARD)</p> <p><b>Delegates:</b> Gene Kelly (WAAESD) Chris Davies (WAAESD) Joe Colletti (NCRA) Deb Hamernik (NCRA) John Kirby (NERA) Adel Shirmohammadi (NERA) Nathan McKinney (SAAESD) Susan Duncan (SAAESD) John Yang (ARD) Alton Thompson (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) TBD (OSTP) Robert Matteri (ARS) Patrick Beauzay (NIPMCC) Edwin Price (ICOP) Kristina Hains (SSSC) Parag Chitnis (NIFA)</p>
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**Participants:** Laura Lavine, Adel Shirmohammadi, Deb Hamernik, Nathan McKinney, Bob Matteri, Susan Duncan, Joe Colletti, Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

**Action Items:**

- Jeff will create and distribute to the other EDs language to facilitate regional discussions on whether NRSPs should be allowed to compete for the National Excellence in Multistate Research Award.
- Jeff and Laura will go through all draft Grand Challenge documents created by S&T members and edit for consistency/give all a common look.
- Jeff will then request from Sarah Lupis and Sara Delheimer a quote and timeline for a finished product of the 8 new, 2-page Roadmap documents. Jeff will then present the quote and timeline for ESCOP discussion and approval at the July Joint COPs meeting.

**Call Notes:**

1. Welcome and roll call – Done, see call participants list above.
2. Approval of meeting notes from 4/23 – Approved by acclamation.
3. Approval of today’s agenda – Approved by acclamation.
4. Updates:

- a. NIFA - Parag Chitnis – Unable to join, no NIFA update given.
  - b. ARS - Bob Matteri - The FY2019 federal budget is still pending. The President’s budget showed significant cuts, but the House and Senate markups indicate increases for ARS, which mostly include funds for setting up the National Bio and Agro-defense Facility in KS. Also, \$9M for big data infrastructure is included for FY2019, to maintain and enhance the main ARS computer facilities in IA and improve access for others. The overall ARS increase is about \$30M. Finally, so targeted hiring is now allowed, mostly science and science-support positions, with some administrative vacancies being filled. A significant number of positions have been released by the administration. ARS will be allowed to prioritize certain projects for hiring. Bob also gave some information on the hiring process and start-up policies for new ARS scientists.
5. Discussion on eligibility of NRSPs for Excellence in Multistate Award – Group discussion ensued on whether or not NRSPs should be allowed to compete for this national award. Some comments: NRSPs are support projects, not truly research like the regional ones, and hard to compare. Perhaps the discussion should occur at the regional level. **Action:** Jeff will create discussion language for other EDs to use to solicit regional input on whether NRSPs should be eligible.
6. Review and discussion of new Roadmap documents – All (see: [https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14XhnaZGaaPgveo0abf-c\\_OWfpUjx1IKB?usp=sharing](https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/14XhnaZGaaPgveo0abf-c_OWfpUjx1IKB?usp=sharing))
- a. Clarification: The impact stories section should include impact stories to date. In that we are using the Science Roadmap (2010), S&T has reaffirmed the existing Grand Challenges outlined and will show progress, with much more work to be conducted. Expected outcomes and impacts can list future goals/impacts.
  - b. Facts & figures section might also contain a “For further reading,” that would link to other, related or more detail publications, as available.
  - c. Some of the draft documents contain discipline specific terminology. We should be aiming for lay-person text.
  - d. All are too long and need to be shortened quite a bit to fit the 1-2 pager template.
  - e. **Action:** Jeff and Laura will go through all 7 documents and edit for consistency and give all a common look. This is to enable a discussion at Joint COPs on these early mock ups. This will not take the place of communication professionals from significantly contributing their skills to the final products.
  - f. **Action:** Jeff will then reach out to Sarah Lupis and Sara Delheimer to get a quote and time-table for the development of final versions, which he will present at Joint COPs for discussion and ESCOP approval.
7. Review new Roadmap timeline (below) and next steps for Joint COPs – Refer to Action Items in #6 above.
8. Other business, as needed -
- a. Laura mentioned that multistate research project renewal criteria don’t match the Award criteria. While these are two unique components with differing purposes, some alignment between the two should occur. Jeff indicated that the EDs/ADs are planning a discussion regarding what NIFA requires, what we should be collecting, etc., and will integrate this into that initial discussion.
  - b. No S&T call in July. Next call is scheduled for Monday, August 27 at 4 pm ET.

Call adjourned at 4:56 pm ET.