

**ESCOP CAC Meeting Notes**  
**Thursday, April 21, 2016, 4:00 PM**  
**Shirley Hymon-Parker, ESCOP Chair Presiding**

Participants: Bret Hess, Carolyn Brooks, Clarence Watson, Eric Young, Gary Thompson, Jeff Jacobsen, Jim Richards, Jeremy Witte, Michael Harrington, Rick Rhodes, Dan Rossi, and Shirley Hymon-Parker

**Action Items from Meeting:**

**Carolyn will get the explanatory information and the ballot for the ESS Representative/Alternate on the PBD to voting members of the ESCOP Executive Committee after getting approvals from the ESCOP Chair and the EDs. (Completed)**

**Mike will send the name and brief bio of the candidate from the WAAESD for the ballot to elect the representative/alternate for the above. (Completed)**

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1. Notes (with spelling correction) from February 18, 2016 CAC call and the agenda were approved.
2. Interim Actions of the chair: Shirley appointed Bill Brown to serve as chair-elect of the B&L Committee (he becomes chair Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>) and made appointments to the National Integrated Pest Management Coordinating Committee (NIPMCC) jointly with the ECOP chair.

**Reports**

1. *Federal Budget Update – Cornerstone*

Jim Richards recapped the FY 2017 Appropriations Update: \$25 M increase to AFRI, priority lines flat-lined. Pending more floor action prior to Congress' July break.

2. *Policy Board of Director's Report – Clarence Watson and Eric Young*

The PBD met in San Antonio in March, 2016. They discussed the CLP's short and long versions of write-ups stating the position of the BAA regarding the expansion of the land-grant university as occurred with Central State University. There is still hesitancy about the length/depth of content needed, but defining l-g universities would be detrimental and will not be done. The Smithsonian will partner with the land-grant universities to feature Main Street America. This initiative will be a Smithsonian exhibition for ~6 years and the partnership will be beneficial for the universities. Kellogg has provided the BAA with \$500,000 for the Futuring Initiative, chaired by Randy Woodson. The committee is appointed but there will be subcommittees appointed next. The Antibiotic Resistance Initiative is still a priority and funding for the task force's work will be sought. The PBD will provide \$15,000 to continue and will go to the USDA foundation to seek matching money. The Sightlines Deferred Maintenance Committee will meet May 25<sup>th</sup> in D.C. and will report back at the Joint COPs meeting in July. Also reporting at the COPs meeting will be the updates from HFSHP committee. NAUFRP will make a presentation asking for buy-in to have the next initiative to be about healthy forests. The PBD questions how many new initiatives can we champion effectively/realistically. Updates on the PBD's strategic plan will also be presented at the COPs meeting which will take place July 18-20, 2016 in San Antonio, TX. Since Cathy Woteki's USDA administrative appointment may be drawing near, planning will take place through the PBD to provide her with grateful recognition in some fashion.

The Public Voice Statement: The CAC group agreed that data that was obtained through last summer's facilitated session lacked input from stakeholders which is most critical. PBD is considering working with

Mitch Owen again to have facilitated sessions with stakeholders through a series of retreats and would pay the costs (statement would be ready by January, 2017). The group indicated that the right questions need to be asked and that I-g communicators need to be included if retreats are held. Besides retreats there will also be a stakeholder survey conducted through Mitch. The group felt the purpose needed more clarity before continuing to just collect ideas. It was suggested that we use CARET as a group of stakeholders. First, useful questions (better than those previously used) need to be developed. Using these questions, a survey could be administered on-line and then let the ag. communicators synthesize the one-pager from what they get back. All agreed this is a better method – more focused, simpler, and cheaper. The current January, 2017 completion deadline seems unrealistic.

### 3. *Budget and Legislative Committee* - Gary Thompson and Mike Harrington

Gary spoke of the NIFA effort of having the Capacity Programs evaluated and referred us to the FAQ's sent by Carl Maxwell who is leading the NIFA-side of the effort. The purpose of the evaluation is to help NIFA with evidence-based decision-making, identify research gaps and areas that need improvement, and improve upon visibility and accountability. A survey is being developed and the evaluation process is to have a one year timeline. The concern: ESS should not be asked to participate in a cumbersome process requiring numerous forms and reports. Also suggested...use the excellent reports that have already been written by some economists who are experts within the land grant system. Use REEport and the impact databases that exist, particularly the multistate impact database. B&L is staying abreast of the Deferred Maintenance Committee activities. The ECOP and ESCOP B&L committees are still moving forth together but not to develop even more white papers. NIFA will get ESS the 'Responsible and Ethical Conduct of Research' (RCR) training guidelines soon and it is expected that those needing the training will only be those doing research, not as far down as the farm labor for example.

### 4 *Communications and Marketing Committee* – Rick Rhodes and Dan Rossi

Since its face-to-face meeting, the committee has been working to implement its newly developed POW. The next call will be in June. A priority is to develop a useful executive summary of the extensive C&M report which should not be broadly viewed because of its confidential aspects. Once the summarized version is developed, directors can read it and ask questions rather than need to see the long version.

### 5 *Science and Technology Committee* – Jeff Jacobsen

The Antimicrobial Resistance state and federal initiatives require the committee's engagement. A round-table event hosted by the Ohio I-g universities may become a model for other regions or nationally. The S&T committee is moving forward with its responsibilities for the Multistate Award and the Excellence in Leadership Awards and ask that the EDs provide the information, i.e. award winners, bios, etc. as soon as it is available.

### 6 Process for electing the candidates to fill the positions of ESS representative or alternate on the PBD for the 2017-2019 term.

Carolyn, using the guidelines developed in the ESS Rules of Operation will get this done after approval of emails that will be sent to voting members of the ESCOP Executive Committee. The nominees from the regions are 1. Clarence Watson (current rep and eligible to run again) from SAESD, 2. Ernest Minton from the NCRA, and 3. Gary Thompson from the NERA. The nomination from the WAAESD will be sent

to Carolyn from Mike after their Exec. Committee conference call on April 25<sup>th</sup>. (Note – Jim Moyer was selected).

#### *7 Updates from spring regional meetings*

Carolyn will send out an invitation to the EDs to share with their directors to see if their universities would like to participate in the 2017 ARD Research Symposium on April 1 – 4, 2017 in Atlanta, Ga. This is an opportune time for the 1862 campuses to seek to recruit the 1890 undergraduate students (~400 will be in attendance) to their graduate schools. Other ARD updates were provided and it was announced that the ED who will replace Carolyn on July 1<sup>st</sup> is Alton Thompson, who is currently serving as interim provost at UMES. From the West, the directors want representation on the Deferred Maintenance Committee, are discussing Futuring, and developing documents about the value of the work of the West. The NE spent a considerable amount of time interviewing candidates for the ED position in the NE as Dan retires in July. They are also working on their region's planning grants - for research and jointly with Extension. In the NC, prohibitive budgets, particularly in IL and WI are impacting the outlying research centers. The Univ. of Missouri presented on its exemplary initiatives during the spring regional meeting.

#### *8 NIMSS update and Diversity Task Force Update – Jeff Jacobsen*

NIMSS is about normal now but Jeff asks that feedback still continue. It is hoped that there will be a report from the Diversity Task Force at the Joint Cops Meeting. Consideration is being given to having the presentation done via webinar to get more interaction on the report.

#### *9 Updates on Fall Joint meeting between ESS and NEDA - Bret Hess and Mike Harrington*

Website has a good program layout but it will be updated as agenda details materialize. If one has not booked the hotel and wanted to stay there on September 21<sup>st</sup>, that night is sold out. There is an overflow hotel about 10 minutes away and as participants call to make reservations at the host hotel, if there are no more rooms available, the host hotel will be of assistance in booking at the overflow hotel.

The next CAC call is scheduled for May 18<sup>th</sup>. However because of conflicts, this meeting is cancelled. If something of urgency materializes that requires a conference call before the next June call, attempts will be made to have a call on May 27<sup>th</sup> or to use a doodle poll to schedule.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:07 PM. Notes Submitted by Carolyn Brooks.