

ESCOP CAC Teleconference MINUTES – Thursday, August 15, 2019 at 4 pm ET

To join:

Web/mobile: <https://zoom.us/j/844816628>

Phone: 1 646 558 8656 or +1 669 900 6833 Meeting ID: 844 816 628

<http://escop.info/committee/cac/>

Participants: Fred Servello, Deb Hamernik, Dave Leibovitz, George Hopper, Jeff Jacobsen, Bret Hess, Eric Young, Rick Rhodes, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

Agenda/Call Notes:

1. Welcome and roll call – Done, see participants list above.
2. Approval of today's agenda – Approved.
3. ECOP/ESCOP Chair Activities Update – Deb/Jeff
 - a. Jeff, George, Eric, and Deb were in DC this week with Ed Jones and Rick Klemme from ECOP (Timing miscommunication – ESCOP arrived day before ECOP)
 - b. On Tuesday, ESCOP leadership went to NIFA and met with Mark Mirando (AFRI lead), Bobbie Moore (Title IX issues), and Cynthia Montgomery (Grants and Financial Management). None are moving to Kansas City (at this time, tbd), but they will be staying to help facilitate the overlap, at least for a few months. All visits were good. Cynthia Montgomery spoke about past NIFA Capacity Fund miscalculations, described in Scott Angle's 8/14 email. They won't be asking for that money back. ESCOP will encourage them to postpone calculations until census done in 2020, let states know, then implement in 2022.
 - c. On Wednesday, they all met with two science/professional societies (entomology and the turfgrass association), which was Bret Hess' idea originally. Deb indicated that this is a good idea for ESCOP/ECOP to continue with, going forward.
 - d. Also met with Scott Hutchins who has 5 themes/priorities for REE and wants to develop an Ag Innovation Strategy for REE in the next 12 months.
 - e. Spent about an hour with Parag Chitnis, who will be head person in Kansas City. Parag suggested we send any recommendations, as needed, to Scott Angle. George indicated that he really liked the recommendation to have universities beta test new NIFA policies.
 - f. Jeff is also working on communication piece to come from ESCOP/ECOP chairs regarding the NIFA transition, that will recommend directors prepare for delays in the release of NIFA funds, due to the current decrease in NIFA staff. When this is final, EDs will send out to their regions.
4. APLU Update – None, Doug was unable to make the call.
5. PBD Update, Eric Young
 - a. PBD voted to disband the Strategic Re-alignment committee and accept their last report. Doug Steele and Orlando McMeans will meet with Scott Angle regarding how best to reconcile what the PBD sees as realignment of NIFA funding lines for advocacy efforts compared to NIFA's Congressionally-mandated consolidation of funding line efforts.

- b. They also voted to accept the CMC's recommendation to hire a one-year communications consultant to help plan a path forward. This position would be presented to ESCOP and ECOP at the Fall ESS/CES-NEDA meeting to make sure both sections are comfortable with this approach.
- 6. Cornerstone Update – None, not on call.
- 7. Fall ESS Business Meeting Draft Agenda Review – Deb, Jeff, Chris
 - a. Will try to find time to add in a CMC update from Steve Loring, regarding the thoughts on hiring a one-year communications expert for planning a national effort. Deb indicated that as of this week, ESCOP's recommendation will be to put the hiring effort on hold for now until the LGU system can come to consensus on the message and what we want to accomplish.
 - b. Unclear if Hunt Shipman will attend. **Action: Chris will see if he's available to Zoom into the meeting (email sent on 8/15 right after the call).**
 - c. The NRSP vote to approve NRSP3 and 10's renewals will be via Survey Monkey online, while changes to ESS Rules of Operation will be done via a show of hands.
- 8. Joint Meeting Update – George, Eric
 - a. Meeting information is now all online.
 - b. There will be a good professional development session planned - George and Chuck Hibberd will encourage everyone to stay engaged in the session.
 - c. During Scott Angle's session, our message will focus on partnering with NIFA during the move to Kansas City and going forward. George would like to ask each section to come up with a few questions to share in advance with Scott, so Scott can prepare and address them in Nashville.
- 9. Other ESCOP Committee Reports (new information since last call **only**, please)
 - a. BLC (Jeff for Ernie) – Joint lunch ESCOP/ECOP meeting will occur in Nashville.
 - b. STC (Bret for Laura) –
 - i. No new STC activity yet.
 - ii. Bret also asked if ESCOP wants to sign on to the letter from NC-FAR in support of the America Grows Act? Deadline is 8/28. This is in regard to the annual 5% increase in research amendment from Senator Durbin of IL. The letter has been shared with the regions, which have been supportive, overall. The group agreed that it's good to be supportive of efforts to increase funding for ag research.
Action: Deb will respond to NC-FAR with support of America Grows on behalf of ESCOP and copy EDs.
 - c. CMC (Rick for Steve) – nothing beyond what was mentioned above in Item 7a.
 - d. DCC (Rick for Ali) – Looking forward to presenting the award to the DCC 2019 winner. Ali Fares will introduce the award and winner, as well as provide background on the DCC. Rick will reach out to Ali and then confirm with George so he can get the topic fully on the meeting program.
 - e. NRSP RC (Fred) – Committee has a phone meeting planned on 8/22 to finalize recommendation for Fall ESS NRSP vote.
 - f. NIDB (Eric) – They now have 8 committed reviewers ready to go and will reactivate the impact statement review process for the database.
- 10. Regional Items of Significance (ARD, NC, NE, S, W; as needed)

- a. S region (Eric) – They are having another joint meeting in September with their academic programs leaders with two main topics for discussion: Public/Private Partnerships and also Evaluating and Measuring Excellence in Teaching and Research Split Positions.
 - b. W region (Bret) – WAAESD will be extending their meeting time during the Nashville meetings to discuss how WAAESD may be structured in the future. Once this new structure is identified, the call for a permanent regional ED will go out. WAAESD will also use the time to discuss best practices on utilizing Capacity funds for newer directors. W has also recently discussed supporting the America Grows amendment. Bret mentioned issues regarding NIFA being unable to attend administrative officers’ meetings. Jeff suggested proceeding with the focus on we can help NIFA bridge these gaps and how universities can better share information, as well. David indicated that NIFA has been removed from the NERAOC agenda for 2020, so they are looking for help and leadership from directors.
11. Other, as needed
- a. Jeff mentioned that there will be a call tomorrow, 8/16, on Strategic Realignment with the Section leadership, APLU and Scott Angle.
 - b. Next CAC call is scheduled for 9/19 and George Hopper would like to proceed to discuss last minute issues prior to the Nashville meeting, as well as possible future strategies. George is also fine with keeping the third Thursday at 4 pm time for FY2020’s CAC calls. Please be aware that the phone/Zoom number will change starting in October.
 - c. **Action: George requested that each section prepare 1-2 questions for Scott Angle and send them to him to share with Scott in advance of the joint fall meeting. NOTE: Additional information has been communicated that guidance on this issue will occur next week.**
 - d. **Action: George asked Rick to reach out to Ali about DCC luncheon and introducing Jeff, background of the award, then to send him an email confirming, so that George can add it officially to the meeting program.**

Recent ESCOP Appointments:

- Bill Barker, NCRA representative to STC, replaces Deb Hamernik

Upcoming Meetings:

- Fall ESS/AES/ARD Meeting and Workshop, joint with Extension, September 23-26, 2019, Marriott at Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN. ESS business meeting on Wednesday, 9/25, 9 am to 12 noon.
- APLU Annual Meeting, November 10-12, 2019, Hilton Bayfront, San Diego, CA.