

## ESCOP CAC Teleconference – Thursday, June 20, 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/>

**Call Participants:** Eric Young, Mike Harrington, Alton Thompson, Doug Steele, Maggie Earle, Vernie Hubert, Laura Lavine, Jeff Jacobsen, Bret Hess, Rick Rhodes, David Leibovitz, Deb Hamernik, Gary Thompson, George Hopper, Alton Thompson, Steve Loring, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

### Call Notes:

1. Welcome and roll call – Deb/Chris, See participants list above.
2. Approval of today's agenda – Deb
3. ECOP/ESCOP Chair Activities Update – Deb/Jeff
  - a. Planning a DC visit in August that will include incoming leadership with George Hopper, Eric Young, and Mark Latimore to facilitate the transition.
  - b. ESCOP/ECOP chairs are preparing a letter to Doug Steele (APLU) outlining ideas for having budget priority and advocacy conversations closer to APLU November meeting, rather than the current February timetable.
4. APLU Update – Doug Steele
  - a. Met with 1890s admins this week and discussed the NIFA move to Kansas City.
  - b. Focus for Joint COPs discussions will be to evaluate the House appropriations budget and the Senate's response to it, as well as NIFA 2020 administrators' letter and our strategic realignment effort.
  - c. Once the budget is more closely defined, the plan is to have the November APLU focus be more about advocacy and setting priorities early, if possible. Doug is working closely with Cornerstone on this effort.
  - d. There is a CMC call next week. The committee will provide options to ECOP, ESCOP, and AHS as main funders, then also to the PBD. Joint COPs conversation.
  - e. In advance of the November APLU meeting, Doug is working with Tom Coon of the PBD on assessments and how they are calculated, with the hope of being more transparent on this process.
5. Cornerstone Update – Jim/Maggie
  - a. Maggie Earle, Appropriations Update: The House is currently debating the budget amendment minibus that includes ag. Ag amendments have been adopted and they are working on Interior amendments now, with the expectation of completion next week.
  - b. Vernie Hubert, SCRI Matching Waiver Status Update:
    - i. In the Ag Appropriations Bill, there is an effort that would provide the Secretary of Ag the ability to waive the matching requirement, which would be effective starting in FY2020.
    - ii. In Senate, within the NDAA bill, there is another SCRI amendment with bipartisan support, to amend 1998 AREERA statute that would insert a specific waiver provision patterned on those existing for other research grants. Concern

exists that it would open up Farm Bill, so CGA is trying to weave through this concern at this time.

- iii. On the House side, there is also an effort to take the NDAA Senator Stabenow amendment mentioned above to become a stand-alone bill, which would ensure the match waiver is permanent.
6. Climate Programs and Hub MOU – Feedback/Discussion – Deb/Jeff
    - a. Received this request for feedback a few weeks ago (6/4/2019 email), unsure what has changed for LGUs because of the Hubs.
    - b. Doug Steele met recently with Rachel Steele to see where we have strongest relationships in the area of climate research. Doug was also contacted by members of Congress to see what APLU/NIFA/LGUs can do regarding climate efforts and will send this information to the EDs for further discussion on possible partnerships.
    - c. There are possible opportunities for funding within this effort and the USDA Climate Hubs might be a good vehicle for this and LGU partnerships. Doug will speak with Cornerstone on what might be the best mechanisms.
    - d. Chris/Jeff will add the topic to our ESCOP agenda for more in-depth conversation on our course of action.
    - e. NRSP3 could also be engaged in this conversation, since they are very involved with climate research. George Hopper will speak with Doug Buhler on this.
  7. Joint COPs ESCOP Meeting (attachment) – Deb/Jeff
    - a. Add Climate Programs/Hubs and LGUs discussion as a topic
    - b. Move our discussions and input up, place committee reports at the end. Rick mentioned DCC and NRSP-RC won't have much new information, so cutting down on committee reports will add more agenda time. Most of these could be consent reports only.
    - c. Double check that NIFA can give an update (done, either Scott Angle or Parag Chitnis will attend).
    - d. Chris/Jeff will modify the agenda accordingly and send it on with a call for briefs.
  8. Fall ESS 2019 Joint Workshop Update – George, Eric: Meeting website is online with registration open now; please register if you haven't already. Should be a great program with four different sessions.
  9. Other ESCOP Committee Reports (new information since last call only, please)
    - a. BLC (Ernie, Mike) – Strategic realignment update:
      - i. SARE doesn't want to be part of Centers of Excellence and the 1890s response on grants program is still pending. Alton indicated that Albert Essel's (1890 Extension Administrator) response will come next week for the 1890s.
      - ii. Discussion on including 3d program under Smith-Lever led to some concern that large institutions would benefit more than others.
      - iii. Ernie Minton (BLC chair) recently named dean of K-State College of Ag, but plans to finish out his year as chair.
    - b. STC (Laura, Jeff) – S1077/1056 (referenced as S1056) chosen as 2019 winner of Excellence in Multistate Research Award and was confirmed by ESCOP Executive Committee. Notice of award has gone out to the winners and Jeff is working with them on attending the APLU award ceremony in November.

- c. CMC (Steve, Rick) – Meeting by teleconference next week to discuss options and reconfigurations.
  - d. DCC (Ali, Rick) – Scheduling second quarter call soon.
  - e. NRSP RC (Fred, Rick) – Met in May, and will present renewal project recommendations for the fall ESS vote soon, as well as hoping to have revised set of guidelines by Joint COPs.
  - f. NIDB (Steve/Eric) – Email sent to all 30 originally identified reviewers to see who is still interested in serving. They'd ideally like a core group of 10 active, committed reviewers to obtain more efficient process. Steve indicated that he has received confirmation from about 7 at this point.
10. Regional Items of Significance (ARD, NC, NE, S, W; as needed)
- a. ARD: Currently planning their summer meeting during Joint COPs. Also participated in a NIFA engagement roundtable last week, during which the 1890s explored ways to be more involved with NIFA and more competitive with NIFA, NIH, and NSF grants. DoD invited but couldn't attend. Secretary Purdue and Congressman Scott presented the celebration of 1890s FY2020 scholarships during this session. The RFA for these and the Centers of Excellence haven't come out yet, but will soon.
  - b. NC: Jeff mentioned Ernie Minton's new role as K-State College of Ag dean.
  - c. NE: Met at Urban Ag session in DC last week; Scott Angle was able to attend. Rick also mentioned the economist cost benefit analysis document regarding the NIFA move. This document is currently being circulated to our directors.
  - d. S: Decided to have another joint SAAESD/APS meeting in September, during which they will discuss and develop action items on jointly identified key topics.
  - e. W: Mike is working with CSU to archive many years of WAAESD and ESCOP files for the ESCOP website, prior to his retirement.
11. Other, as needed
- a. The July CAC call will be canceled due to the Joint COPs ESCOP meeting. Deb's last CAC call will be in August, since September call will also probably be canceled as well, due to fall ESS meeting.
  - b. Rick Rhodes thanked Mike for all of his efforts as the WAAESD ED over the years.

Call adjourned at 4:48 pm ET.

**Recent ESCOP Appointments:**

- None since last CAC call.

**Upcoming Meetings:**

- ESCOP Committee Meeting, Tuesday, July 23, 1-5 pm MT. Westgate Park City Resort & Spa. Park City, Utah.
- Fall ESS/AES/ARD Meeting and Workshop, joint with Extension, September 23-26, 2019, Marriott at Vanderbilt, Nashville, TN.
- APLU Annual Meeting, November 10-12, 2019, Hilton Bayfront, San Diego, CA.