

ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC): <http://escop.info/committee/blc0/>

Call NOTES for: 5/25/2021, 4 pm ET (Fourth Tuesday Monthly)

Committee Members:

<p>Chair: Glenda Humiston (WAAESD) Past Chair: Ernie Minton (NCRA)</p> <p>Delegates: Alton Thompson (ARD) Vernon Jones (ARD) Gary Pierzynski (NCRA) Shawn Donkin (NCRA) Puneet Srivistava (NERA) Anton Bekkerman (NERA) Steve Lommel (SAAESD) Saied Mostaghimi (SAAESD) John Talbott (WAAESD) Chris Pritsos (WAAESD)</p> <p>Executive Vice-Chair Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA ED) Chris Hamilton (NCRA AD; Recorder)</p>	<p>Liaisons: Jon Boren (ECOP) Katie Frazier (CARET) Doug Steele (APLU) Caron Gala (APLU) Jim Richards (CGA) Hunt Shipman (CGA) Vernie Huber (CGA) Maggie Earle (CGA) Bill Hoffman (NIFA) Paula Geiger (NIFA) Kate Fink (NIFA) Glen Hoffsis (BVM) Laura Jolly (BHS)</p> <p>NOTE: Incoming Chair is from NE</p>
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Attendees: Alton Thompson, Gary Thompson, Hunt Shipman, Saied Mostaghimi, Glenda Humiston, Bret Hess, Jon Boren, Gary Pierzynski, Laura Jolly, Maggie Earle, Shawn Donkin, Paula Geiger, Kate Fink, Anton Bekkerman, Chris Pritsos, Steve Lommel, Vernon Jones, Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton (recorder)

Call Agenda/Notes:

1. Welcome and roll call – Done, see attendees list above.
2. Approval of 4/27/2021 meeting minutes (http://escop.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/01/BLC_MIN_-20210427.pdf) – Approved as distributed.
3. Approval of today's agenda – Approved as distributed.
4. Infrastructure Update –Alton
 - o ARIA is very fluid and dynamic right now, with much done and going well, but more to go. Much appreciation to all our partners and all on this call towards this effort.
 - o Finished the stakeholder's letter, send to House ag committee, with over 350 signatures from groups around the country.
 - o Continue to identify champions from the Democratic party and will keep working on securing champion(s) from the Republican side.
 - o Learned on a call last week that agriculture research infrastructure is indeed considered traditional infrastructure, so we should fit in with possible GOP support for the bill.

- The team continues to address diversity, equity, and inclusion issues to the best of their ability as they come up.
- 5. APLU Update – none given; no one from APLU was on the call.
- 6. Cornerstone Report – Hunt
 - We expect the President’s budget by the end of this week, so subcommittee deadlines are set for within the next few weeks.
 - House markup to start in June and wrap up in July. Schedule is less clear in the Senate right now.
- 7. NIFA update – Paula, Kate
 - NIFA is also expecting the President’s budget to be released this Friday, but nothing else to report at this time.
- 8. ECOP report – Jon
 - Finalized the advocacy website for ECOP BLC: <https://advocacy.extension.org>. Focus is on the 7-8 ECOP initiatives mentioned on previous BLC calls, background on Extension 101, etc.
 - Ad hoc committee active on nutrition education as it pertains to SNAP-Ed.
 - Small group working is also with Caron on the WORK Act.
- 9. BHS report – Laura
 - BHS work continues regarding improving interdisciplinary linkages with federal agencies on human science issues, especially human health.
 - BHS will also connect with SSSc (Social Sciences Subcommittee), via Bret Hess.
- 10. Climate Change Moonshot Discussion – Glenda
 - Fall ESS planning is on-going for a climate change moonshot facilitated panel session to hopefully include members from NRCS, ARS, and FACA. Jeff suggested including Forestry, as well (re: biomass sequestration). Planning team is proposing Glenda moderate this panel. Anton suggested time for roundtable/breakouts and for collecting ideas, possible collaborations during this session or during breaks/lunches, as well.
 - Anton’s suggestion from the chat: *have folks write ID their institutions with ideas, and then see which institutions have overlapping ideas (even if they are sitting at different tables). Natural opportunities to see overlaps in strengths/interests.*
 - Creating an aspiration goal statement around climate change was discussed on the last call. Perhaps involve our communications and marketing people to develop this? Consider using “Food” over or with “Ag” to include more by-in from consumers. “Ag and Food Systems” was also suggested since they are very intertwined.
 - Jon will reach out to ECOP and what they are working on related to climate change moonshot ideas. Good to work together on this from the start.
 - Bret mentioned to the group that at the suggestion of STC, the EDs and ESCOP leadership have discussed contracting with communications professionals to create deliverables around issues/topics suggested by ESCOP committees. These products could be related to CMC efforts or with other efforts on behalf of ESS. This goal statement idea might fit well within the parameters of this proposed effort. The three pieces developed by NIPMCC are loosely related to climate and could also be included, see: <http://escop.info/committee/nipmcc/>, under Resources.
 - Jeff indicated that the EDs have been working closely with Caron at APLU on all these activities to ensure we are included in budget decisions. We also need to consider on-going advocacy strategy, then build communications efforts around this and be sure to include the excellent state impact reporting available to us.

- Should the climate moonshot topic be a Joint COPs topic? ECOP is also looking into this effort and a team effort would likely be most effective. Jeff indicated that Doug Steele may already be talking to NIFA about a conference grant; Jeff will contact him to confirm. (NOTE: Doug indicated that he is working with the Riley Foundation (Cathie Woteki and Dan Robison) on a submission to NIFA.)
- Environment justice opportunities identified in our April call should also be included in our discussions.

11. Other business, as needed

- Fall ESS face to face BLC meeting planned for Thursday, 9/30, from 8 to 11 am PDT, to map out a plan for the next BLC year. Please do your best to attend if you can.

Call adjourned at 4:52 pm ET.

BLC Horizon Topics: Infrastructure, Moon Shot ideas for research, Capacity Funds Advocacy, BAC/CLP issues, next annual budget, Biden/Harris Administration Team Priorities, Government Affairs engagement, etc.