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

**08/01/2022**

**1-2 pm PT, Zoom link:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88134284585?pwd=enF0NmFlY25teUNKN3k5WUVoYUI2UT09>

Meeting ID: 881 3428 4585; Passcode: STC

**Committee Members:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Chair:** Bernie Engel (NCRA)  **Past Chair:** Jody Jellison (NERA)  **Delegates:**  Alton Thompson (ARD)  John Yang (ARD)  Frank Casey (NCRA)  Shibu Jose (NCRA)  Indrajeet Chaubey (NERA)  Susan Duncan (SAAESD)  Nathan McKinney (SAAESD)  Gene Kelly (WAAESD)  Chris Davies (WAAESD)  **Executive Vice Chair:**  Bret Hess (WAAESD ED)  Jennifer Tippetts (WAAESD Recording Secretary) | **Liaisons:**  John Dyer (ARS)  Wendy Powers (ECOP)  Kevin Kephart (NIFA)  Daren Mueller (NIPMCC)  Tim Killian (SSCC) |

**Minutes:**

**Attendance**: Bernie Engle, Chris Davies, Daren Mueller, John Dyer, John Yang, Nathan McKinney, Susan Duncan, Bret Hess, Jennifer Tippetts (recording secretary).

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Bernie welcomed group.
2. **Liaison Updates, as needed**

**ARS**- John shared some leadership changes within ARS. The acting administrator is Dr. Simon Lieu. The house has approved their version of the Ag appropriation bill. We are still waiting for the Senate. There is likely going to be a continuation that may end by the end of the year. Currently looking at a proposed 6% increase to ARS budget. ARS has employees back to work at all locations, with a very generous work from home policy, and completely remote positions for administration.

**NIPMCC**- Daren shared that the primary focus of the group is still on building a strategic plan. The group is still collecting data. A national meeting is scheduled for October 2022.

1. **ESCOP Updates of Interest**- Bret shared there are three ad-hoc committees that chair, Chris Pritsos formed. The first is the ag infrastructure committee, Moses Kairo agreed to chair. The objective with the ag infrastructure committee is to address the critical infrastructure issue. The Senate appropriations committee is going to ask ARS to complete a review of facilities at Land-Grant facilities. A congressman from the house, amended the house bill to include a $2-million-dollar study to evaluate the infrastructure. We will be called on to provide content as the committee continues to build out strategy for infrastructure.

The second committee is the ESS brand awareness committee. The committee has narrowed down on a brand and tag line. The next phase is the digital marketing committee and rolling out a new website for the public. We will keep the current ESS website for internal use. The new focus will be on communicating the value of what we do to the public and sharing our success stories.

The third committee will explore the idea of an ESS Foundation with a 501 c (3) designation. There is a request to have one representation from each region to serve with the objective of determining if creating a 501 c (3) would be a good idea and what it would look like.

1. **Status of 2022 Work Plan** –
   1. [**ESCOP Grand Challenge Briefs Templates**](https://colostate-my.sharepoint.com/personal/sdelheim_colostate_edu/_layouts/15/onedrive.aspx?id=%2Fpersonal%2Fsdelheim%5Fcolostate%5Fedu%2FDocuments%2FScience%20Roadmap%2F2022%20Grand%20Challenge%20Templates%20for%20State%2C%20Regional%20Use&ga=1)**-** Susan asked if there was an easier way to share the templates? They are difficult to access through CSU’s SharePoint. Bret and Jenn will work on a better sharing strategy.
   2. [**Interactive Map of Branch Experiment Stations**](https://webdoc.agsci.colostate.edu/aes/wcrc/US_Map/)**-** Jenn continues to work with CSU to make updates. Jenn has updated the raw data file, but CSU has the software to make the final integration updates. This should be completed soon.
   3. [**Excellence in Multistate Research Award Nominations**](http://escop.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/2022-Excellence-Multistate-Research-Award.pdf) – it was suggested to collect an electronic ballot for approval, we are waiting for votes and should be able to make announcement by the end of the week.
   4. **Response to NASEM BANR Blue Ribbon Panel’s Preliminary Observations**- see the meeting invite for complete details. Members met after data was collected to refine final response that was submitted.
   5. **Crosswalk of multistate portfolio against emerging NIFA priorities and the ESCOP Grand Challenges-** several of the regions worked with their review committees to make the determinations. A lot of times the administrative advisors had better input to determine if an alignment was strong, lose or not aligned. Something to consider for the future is how to leverage this information. May committee’s work in alignment with HATCH Act objectives, which is not surprising. Gaps can easily be identified and could be target area for the future. Bernie noted that this information could be used to leverage political support.
2. **Monthly Meeting Schedule** –Bernie confirmed the next meeting dates.

**4-5 pm ET the first Monday of each month**

***September 6***

***ESS Annual Meeting, September 28, 2-3 pm***

1. **Adjourn**