

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

12/05/2022

1-2 pm PT, Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88134284585?pwd=enFONmFIY25teUNKN3k5WUVoYUI2UT09>

Meeting ID: 881 3428 4585; Passcode: STC

Committee Members:

<p>Chair: Bernie Engel (NCRA) Past Chair: Jody Jellison (NERA)</p> <p>Delegates: Alton Thompson (ARD) John Yang (ARD) Frank Casey (NCRA) Shibu Jose (NCRA) Indrajeet Chaubey (NERA) Nathan McKinney (SAAESD) Nathan Sloan (SAAESD) Gene Kelly (WAAESD) Chris Davies (WAAESD)</p> <p>Executive Vice Chair: Bret Hess (WAAESD ED) Jennifer Tippetts (WAAESD Recording Secretary)</p>	<p>Liaisons: Tara McHugh (ARS) Vacant (ECOP) Kevin Kephart (NIFA) Alejandro Calixto (NIPMCC) Tim Killian (SSCC)</p>
--	--

Agenda:

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Bernie welcomed members and did a round of introductions.
2. **Roll Call** – Bernie Engle, Tara McHugh, Jeanette Thurston, Bret Hess, Alton Thompson, Frank Casey, Nathan Slaton, Alejandro Calixto, Kevin Kephart, Nathan McKinney, Gene Kelly, Chris Davies, Jennifer Tippetts (recording secretary).
3. **Approval of September 29 Minutes 2022**- Alton moved to approve minutes. Nathan Slaton seconded. Minutes approved unanimously as presented.
4. **Liaison Updates, as needed**
 - ARS**- Tara introduced herself as the new area director. Tara has been attending monthly meetings with the regional ED's to discuss ARS/LGU agreements. We have a new facility in New Port OR, and work closely with Oregon State University.
 - NIFA**- Kevin shared that it is that time of year for competitive programs and review panels. Thank you to everyone who serves on the panels. Award announcement will be coming out soon. One program with a lot of attention funded through infrastructure improvement and jobs act. That program was the Bio-Product pilot program. It is not ready to be rolled out but hopefully an announcement will be made by the end of the year, no matching funds required. All agencies are in the process of completing an Environmental Justice card due by the end of the week.
 - NIPMCC**- Alejandro is the new chair for NIPMCC. The group finally had an in person meeting this October located in Iowa. A strategic plan has been a primary focus. A SWAT analysis was conducted, and a report is being prepared. There was an IPM survey that went out, trying to get an assessment of what we have in

each state. Working to identify the emerging needs and improving the infrastructure in the IPM structures. Full survey results will be shared early next year.

5. **Old Business-**

- a. **ESCOP Grand Challenge Briefs Templates-** The improved link is now available. We need to make a call to have institutions to populate. This is imperative now that we are developing our new website on the national level. Content is key to helping develop the new branding and website. We are going to put the multi-state impacts on the website. This year we have also revised the call for nominations that they must complete a grand challenge. Sara wrote a great story regarding the winner of this year's award. We have a consultant that is helping roll out a new brand and image for ESCOP and she has Sara's report. Bernie is going to get a message out to the regions asking for help completing.
- b. [Interactive Map of Branch Experiment Stations](#) - All of the changes have been made. The map is going to be part of the new website. We have worked out an agreement with the host institution to make changes on a regular basis. We will put a call out on a more regular basis to ensure it stays updated. We are also working with our ESCOP brand consultant to generate a one-page document so the map can be printed and shared.
- c. [Climate Summit](#)- Kevin has been working closely with Gene Kelly and Colorado State University. An AFRI grant was awarded to CSU to serve as the coordinator for the project and contracting agency. Meridian out of Nashville has been hired as the mediator. The official title is "Roadmap for addressing climate science in Agriculture horizon Scan". There will be a core group of 25 people, composed from a variation of organizations. This will be the leadership group that will be the work horse. The climate change group will be about 150 experts nominated from the leadership group.

The overall aspect is to bring experts together to discuss/debate from a science aspect what are the best priorities we can put into place to address.

There are four phases, planning, initial work, analysis & drafting, finalization and reporting. Then there should be an implementation phase. Bret provided a follow up that experts we have been asking for will feed into the nominee pool of experts developing the road map. Bernie recommended another call for nominations now that there is more information. Kevin shared that he would like the request to come out from Gene as a centralized ask. It is important to have diverse representation including SSSC, Experiment Station, Extension, etc.

6. **New Business-**

- a. **Revisions to call for nominations for 2023 ESS Award for Excellence in Multistate Research-** Bret reviewed the changes: Include one or more success stories utilizing the ESCOP Grand Challenges templates. These will not be included in evaluation of the nomination, rather the intent is to gather information that can be used on the external website. If the nomination had been submitted previously, include a brief description in the email transmission indicating what changes were made to a previous submission. Indicated the winner's nomination packet will be posted as an example of a successful nomination. Changed the process to have STC make the selection of the winner as opposed to recommending a winner that would then need approval by the ESCOP Executive Committee. Unless ESCOP has issues with the changes, the STC-

approved revised call for nominations will go out under the ESCOP Chair's cover later this week, early next week at the latest.

1. Motion moved and seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

- b. **Blue Ribbon Panel Discussion**- Bret highlighted sections of the presentation. The group reviewed some of the responses/questions by the Blue Ribbon Panel. One area that STC could choose to take on is the following: Questions remain about the definition of, or appropriate metrics, for "success." Partnering institutions also have different expectations for what they hope to accomplish through collaboration.

An interesting aspect was on team science, if the committee is not familiar with this could be a future agenda item. The panel had a great presentation on how effective teams work. This would be great professional development. It could also be something brought forward to ESS on behalf of STC committee. The presentation is on the research of what makes a great teamwork. The researcher takes teams and breaks them down to determine why they are high functioning or what breakdown occurred.

An additional comment was Recommendations for Amplifying Impacts through Effective Communications: NIFA should support a collaborative research and extension activity of social scientists and science communicators in the land-grant system to develop outreach strategies. Nobody tells our story like we do. This points back to the templates. If we have communications going out and can be adapted to one of the templates this would show how the system is addressing the challenges in real time.

Do we want to have a discussion on the appropriate matrix for success? There is an indication that this is only the first phase of the report.

Kevin asked the group their thoughts regarding the comment on independent enterprises. Kevin also addresses the comment capacity funds. NIFA balances capacity with competitive funds.

Bernie shared that the metrics for success could be difficult given the differences in institutions and wanted outcomes.

Bernie recommends that team members look at this future and it can be a future discussion item.

- c. **Future Agenda Items**

1. **Individual Researcher Awards** – This would be starting from scratch; Bret has a few examples to provide. The idea is that each region would have a template and select a winner, this would be like the excellence awards. This committee needs to decide if the section should provide some financial support, monetary award, etc. and then take forward to the ESCOP leadership.

7. **Meeting Schedule** –

January 02, 2023 (no meeting), February 06, 2023, March 07, 2023, April 03, 2023, May 01, 2023, June 05, 2023, July 03, 2023 (no meeting), August 01, 2023, September 04, 2023 (no meeting).

8. **Adjourn**