

# Fall agInnovation Business Meeting



George Smith, Chair  
September 25, 2024

# **Lewis-Burke and Associates Update**

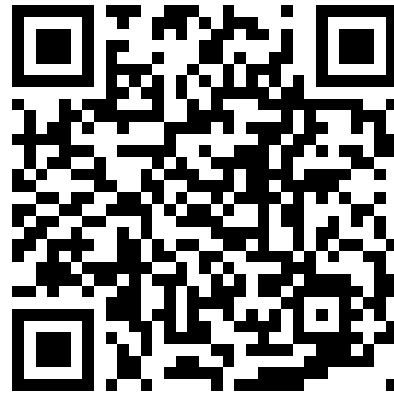
**Elizabeth Stulberg**

# FANR Update

**Doug Steele**

# agInnovation Research Roadmap Update

**George Smith**





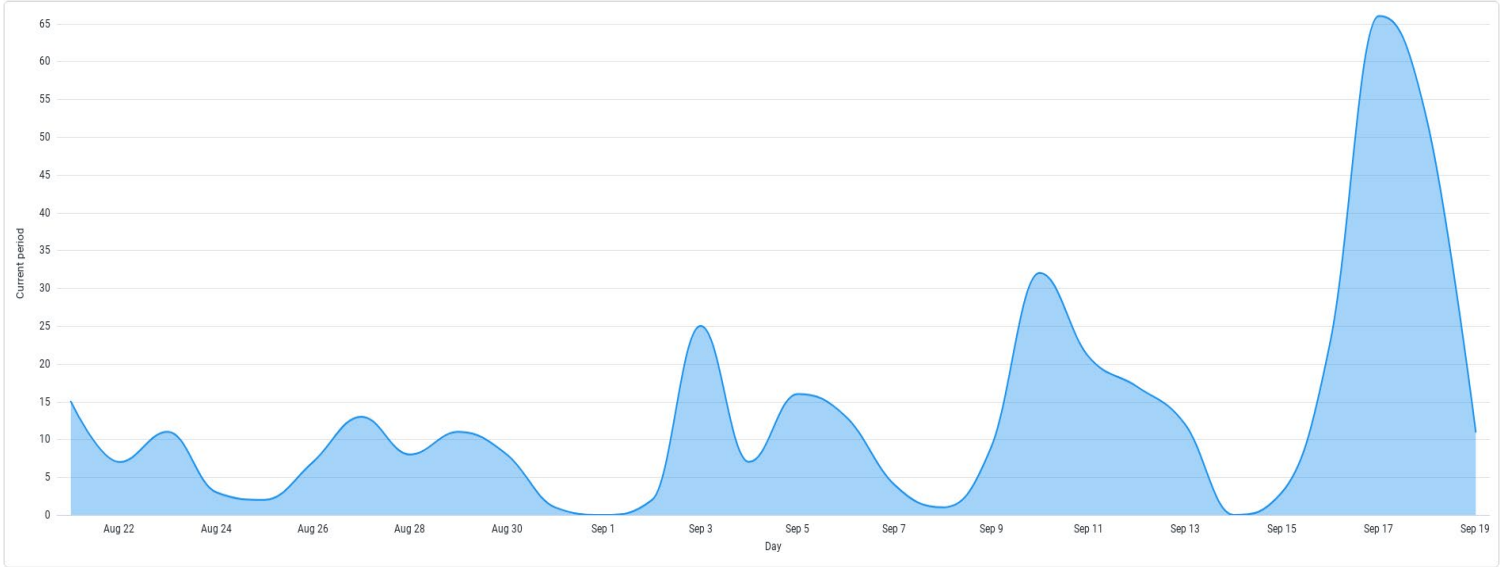
# Great Effort Getting the Word Out—THANK YOU!

## agInnovation.info Website Traffic (past 30 days)



Traffic Over Time

Select a time period is in the last 30 days Compare to is None Group by is Day Select a measure is Site sessions Exclude bots is Yes



Draft roadmap launch 9/17: highest single-day traffic for agInnovation.info (66 unique visitors)



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# agInnovation Standing Committees

# **agInnovation Finance Committee**

**Matt Wilson**



# **agInnovation Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC)**

**Anton Bekkerman**

# Budget and Legislative Committee

## The Budget and Legislative Committee:

- is charged with developing annual justifications for the federal budget process and legislative priorities in consultation with other sections of the APLU Board on Agricultural Assembly (BAA).
- is aligned with two standing committees of the BAA Policy Board of Directors: Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC) and Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP).
- chair is a multifaceted leadership position given the multiple committee assignments (BAC voting member, CLP voting member, ECOP BLC liaison).

# BLC Activities and Goals

## 2023-24 Activities

- Provide recommendations to BAC and CLP toward APLU advocacy efforts
- Contribute to the BAA Decadal Visioning and Advocacy Strategy and agInnovation Research Roadmap
- Launch RFA implementation sub-committee

## 2024-25 Goals

- Provide recommendations to BAC and CLP toward APLU advocacy efforts
- Develop and provide recommendations toward equitable and sustainable RFA implementation
- Contribute to the implementation strategy development of agInnovation Research Roadmap
- Respond to questions and informational requests related to APLU's capacity funding report effort

# **agInnovation Diversity Catalyst Committee (DCC)**

**Rick Rhodes for Brian Raison**

# **agInnovation National Research Support Projects Review Committee (NRSP-RC)**

**Steve Lommel**

# National Research Support Projects Review Committee

NRSP RC July 24 Business Meeting Report

# Committee Members

**Chair:** Steve Lommel (SAAESD)

**Executive Vice Chair:** Gary Thompson (SAAESD, ED)

## Members:

Mark McGuire (WAAESD)

Robert Mattive (CARET)

Blair Siegfried (NERA)

Tom Bewick (NIFA)

John Blanton (NCRA)

Mike Schmitt (ECOP)

Erdogan Memili (ARD)

Rick Rhodes (NERA, ED)

**Ex-officio:** Cindy Morley (Recording Secretary)

# NRSP Portfolio



NRSP	Title	Project Period	Midterm
NRSP1	Multistate Research Information Management and Impact Communications Program	2017-2022	2025
NRSP3	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)	2019-2024	2022
NRSP4	Facilitating Registration of Pest Management Technology for Specialty Crops and Speciality Uses	2020-2025	2023
NRSP8	National Animal Genome Research Program to Genomic Capacity: Building Applied Genomic Capacity for Animal Industries	2024-2028	2026
NRSP9	National Animal Nutrition Program	2020-2025	2023
NRSP11	Building Collaborative Research Networks to Advance the Science of Soil Fertility: Fertilizer Recommendation Support Tool (FRST)	2023-2028	2026

**New Proposals - Submission date 01/15/2025**

NRSP_temp12	National Urban Research and Extension Center		
NRSP_temp13	Artificial Intelligence for Agricultural Autonomy		



# Funding Commitments



NRSP	Project Period	2022	2023	2024	2025	2026	2027	2028
NRSP1	2017-2022	\$ 243,697	\$ 226,400	\$ 240,746	\$ 253,395	\$259,754	\$266,299	
NRSP3	2019-2024	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	VOTE TO RENEW			
NRSP4	2020-2025	\$ 481,182	\$ 481,182	\$ 481,182	\$ 481,182			
NRSP8	2024-2028	\$ 500,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 98,965	\$ 98,965	\$ 109,488	\$ 109,488	\$ 85,348
NRSP9	2020-2025	\$ 199,000	\$ 219,000	\$ 249,000	\$ 199,000			
NRSP10	2019-2024	\$ 510,302	\$ 489,353	\$ 251,044	TERMINATED			
NRSP11	2023-2028			\$ 41,873	\$ 45,659	\$ 50,885	\$ 73,583	\$ -
		<b>\$ 1,984,181</b>	<b>\$ 1,965,935</b>	<b>\$ 1,412,810</b>	<b>\$ 1,078,201</b>	<b>\$ 420,127</b>	<b>\$ 449,370</b>	<b>\$ 85,348</b>

# NRSP\_temp3

## The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)

- Capacity project requesting **\$50,000 per year for five years**
- Leverages a total of **\$2.9M** from EPA, USGS, ARS, USFS, US Park Service, BLM, NOAA, and other sources
- Provides important curated data sets on deposition of pollutants in precipitation at more than 350 monitoring locations
- **NRSP RC unanimously recommends to renew NRSP3**

*Initiated in 1978, NADP sites are in all four SAES regions with 41 having a 40+ year operating record representing almost all the longest-running precipitation chemistry sites in the world.*

# NRSP Timeline: discussion

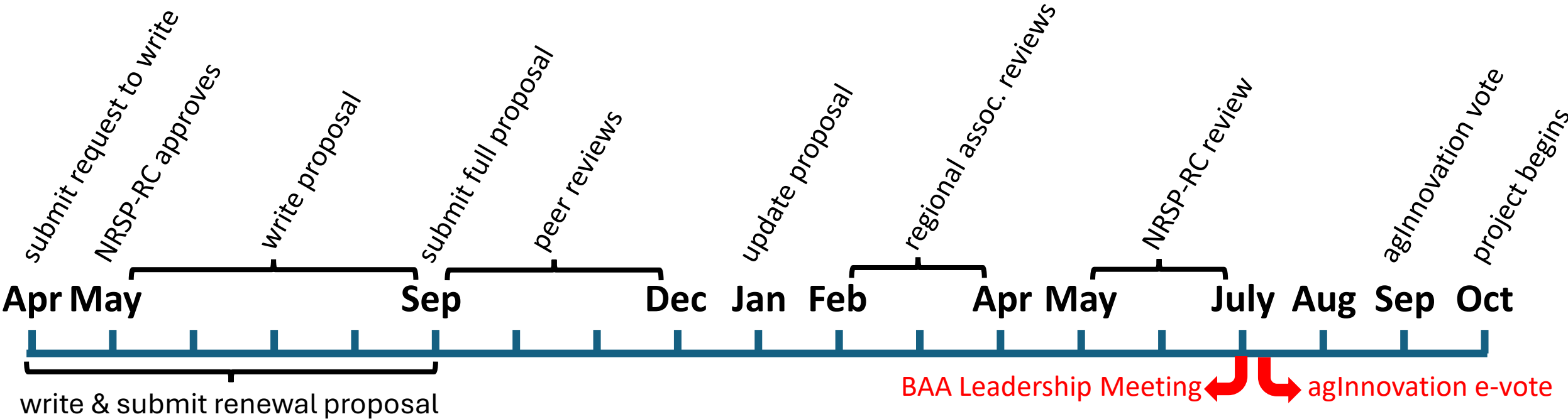


- Currently, new projects and renewals:
  - ✓ Obtain directors' input from regional meetings
  - ✓ NRSP RC recommendations completed in early-to-mid summer
  - ✓ Directors vote in person in late September
  - ✓ Projects scheduled to begin October 1
- Proposal: Conduct electronic vote of the membership
  - ✓ NRSP RC recommendation presented at BAA Leadership Meeting in July
  - ✓ **Electronic vote by directors in July/August** --- October 1 start date
  - ✓ Provides additional time to notify NIFA and sponsoring institutions

# NRSP Project Timelines



Can the process be streamlined to increase the notification interval between final approval and project start dates?



# Voting on the Questions

**Question 1.** Do you accept or reject the NRSP Review Committee recommendation to Support the NRSP3 renewal request as a capacity project at the proposed funding level of \$50,000 per year for FY2024 through FY2028?

**Question 2.** Do you accept or reject revising the NRSP Guidelines to allow electronic voting on NRSP RC recommendations for new projects and renewals?



# **agInnovation Science and Technology Committee (STC)**

**Nathan Slaton**





# STC 2024 BRIEF

2024 AGINNOVATION FALL MEETING

# WELCOME TOM ZIMMERMAN

The committee welcomed Tom Zimmerman from the University of the Virgin Islands to fill the vacant position for agInnovation-South (SAAESD).





# REPRESENT STC ON THE AGINNOVATION CHAIR'S RESEARCH STRATEGY ROADMAP WORKING GROUP



**Nathan Slaton**  
agInnovation-South



**John Yang**  
ARD



**Shibu Jose**  
NCRA



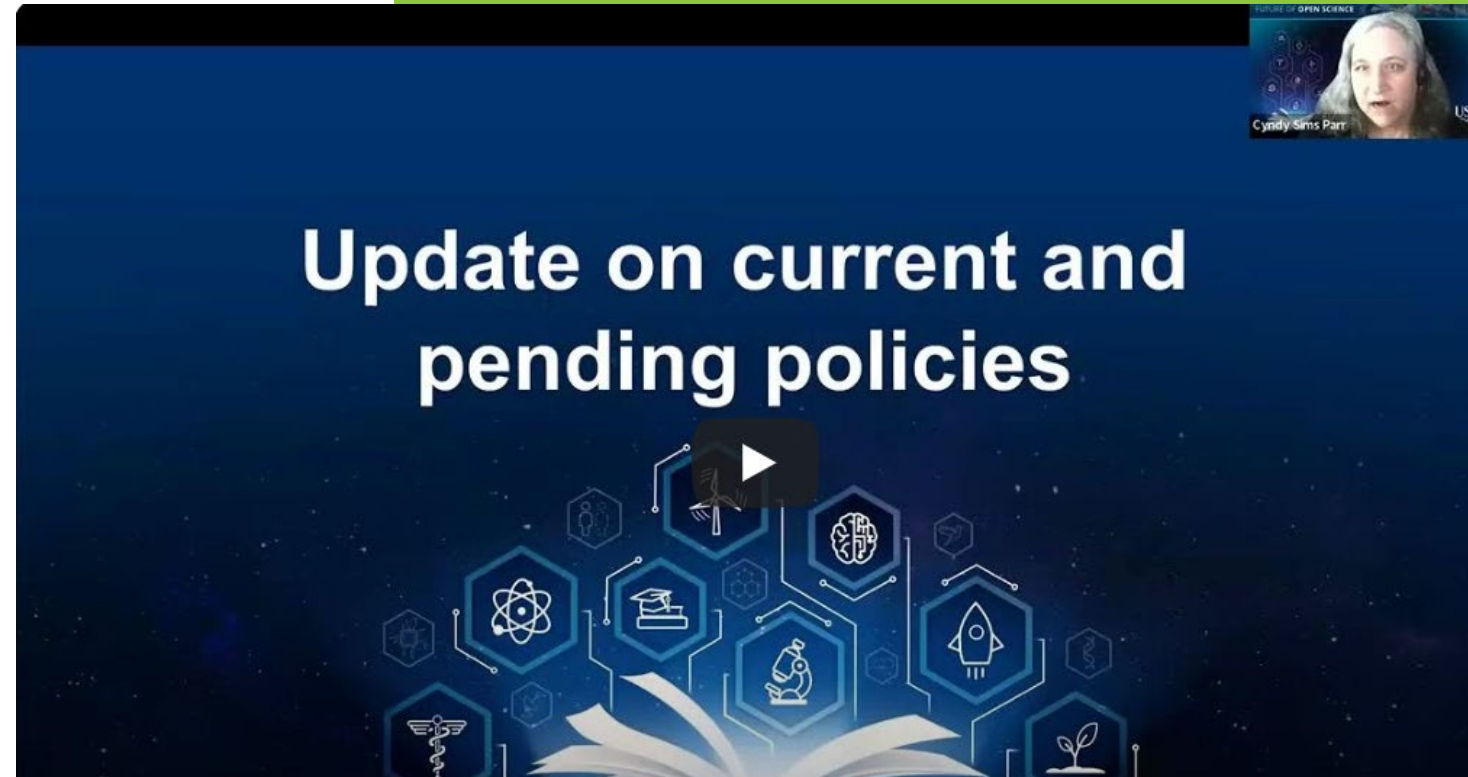
**George Criner**  
agInnovation-Northeast



**Gene Kelly**  
agInnovation-West

# OPEN ACCESS

Development of guidelines to recognize the use of USDA funds in publications and making data publicly available via Data Commons



Presentations by Michal McCullough, USDA-ARS Librarian, Knowledge Services Division.

Dr. Cynthia (Cyndy) Parr, USDA REE Assistant Chief Data Officer and Senior Research Data Policy Analyst at the National Agriculture Library and her colleagues.



# OPEN ACCESS

- Departmental regulation 1020-006 extends to USDA employees, awardees, and contractors involved in scientific research, applicable to projects funded from fiscal year 2023 onwards, starting October 1, 2022. The regulation does not retroactively apply to historical data but focuses on current and future research activities.
- The policy requirements for scholarly publications mandate that peer-reviewed journal articles must be freely available to the public upon acceptance.
- Implementation is a coordinated effort across federal agencies, with full implementation of the revised regulations expected by 2025. Previously, a 12-month embargo was permitted, but this will be eliminated in 2025.
- Data associated with publications must be publicly available when a manuscript is published. Not all data is required to be publicly accessible; exceptions include concerns over national security, endangered species, or data irrelevant to research validation.



**The Ag Data Commons, supported by the USDA, exemplifies a generalist repository that also acts as a catalog for USDA-funded research, ensuring data is FAIR—findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable.**

**Submissions to Ag Data Commons are meticulously reviewed by data curators to ensure the integrity and accuracy of the data before it becomes publicly available.**





agInnovation  
science that feeds the world

**THANK YOU**

[HTTPS://WWW.AGINNOVATION.INFO/](https://www.aginnovation.info/)



agInnovation 501(c)(3) non-profit

## Purpose



The 501(c)3 non-profit organization will support activities of agInnovation and the regional associations.

<https://escop.info/committee/nonprofit/>

# agInnovation 501(c)(3) non-profit



## Primary Objective

To support educational and professional development opportunities through a variety of events offered by agInnovation and the regional associations.



## Secondary Objective

To expand overall capacity to support education and advocacy efforts which enhance agInnovation's position as a global leader in agricultural and food systems research.

<https://escop.info/committee/nonprofit/>

# agInnovation 501(c)(3) non-profit

## Board of Directors

<b>Chris Pritsos</b>	<b>President and Founding Member</b>	<b>WAAESD</b>	<b>pritsos@unr.edu</b>
<b>Steve Lommel</b>	<b>Vice-President and Founding Member</b>	<b>SAAESD</b>	<b>slommel@ncsu.edu</b>
<b>George Smith</b>	<b>President-elect and Founding Member</b>	<b>NCRA</b>	<b>smithge7@msu.edu</b>
Bret Hess	Secretary and Sustaining Member	WAAESD	bhess@unr.edu
Rick Rhodes	Treasurer and Sustaining Member	NERA	rcrhodes@uri.edu
Jose Toledo	Founding Member	ARD	jtoledo@centralstate.edu
Matt Wilson	Founding Member	NERA	mwilso25@wvu.edu
Alton Thompson	Sustaining Member	ARD	athompson1@ncat.edu
Gary Thompson	Sustaining Member	SAAESD	gat009@uark.edu
Jeanette Thurston	Sustaining Member	NCRA	jthurston@ksu.edu

<https://escop.info/committee/nonprofit/>



# agInnovation 501(c)(3) non-profit

## Resources

### Files

Bylaws

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Formation of Nonprofit Corporation

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Corporate Charter

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Original Minutes

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IRS 501(c)(3) Designation

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Notes of First BOD Meeting (June 17, 2024)

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Notes of Second BOD Meeting (August 16, 2024)

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Services Request Menu

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<https://escop.info/committee/nonprofit/>

# agInnovation 501(c)(3) non-profit

## Services Request Menu

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If an event, location \_\_\_\_\_

Which of the following services are being requested (mark all relevant possibilities).

- Contract negotiations for
  - Lodging
    - A hotel has been chosen already
    - Assistance is needed with identifying a hotel
  - Event space
    - At the same hotel
    - At a separate location
  - Food & beverage
    - Included in the hotel contract
    - An outside vendor is needed
  - Audio/visual
    - Included in the event space contract
    - An outside vendor is needed
  - Tours
    - Location(s) have been chosen already
    - Assistance is needed with identifying location(s)
  - Transportation
    - A vendor has been chosen already
    - Assistance is needed with identifying a vendor
- Administration & Financial management
  - Executing Contracts
    - Events as checked above
    - Speaker(s)
    - Facilitator(s)
    - Strategist(s)
    - Communicator(s)
    - Other (specify)
  - Account Establishment and Management
  - Budgeting Services
  - Fund Raising
  - Sponsorships
    - Receiving
    - Providing
  - Bill Paying
  - Reimbursements

<https://escop.info/committee/nonprofit/>

# Supporting agInnovation Members!



**NCRA**

North Central Regional  
Association of  
Agricultural Experiment  
Station Directors



**ARD**

Association of Research Directors



<https://escop.info/committee/nonprofi>

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# agInnovation Openings on Partner Committees— Seeking Nominations

- **BAA Policy Board of Directors  
alternate**
  - **Nominee--Sreekala Bajwa**
- **ECOP Liaison**
  - **Nominee--John Blanton**
- **NCFAR Representative**





A top-down view of a white ceramic coffee cup filled with a dark, frothy coffee. The cup sits on a matching white saucer with a colorful floral pattern in blue, red, and green. The entire set is placed on a light-colored wooden surface with horizontal planks. A semi-transparent dark grey circle is centered behind the coffee cup. Overlaid on this circle is the text "Coffee BREAK— 10:50 to 11:05" in a bold, white, sans-serif font. A thin white horizontal line is positioned below the text, extending across the width of the coffee cup.

**Coffee BREAK— 10:50 to  
11:05**

# **AG-NGINE Update**

**Elaine Turner**



## AG-ENGINE Update

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Elaine Turner

09/25/2024

# AG-NGINE

Agriculture National Graduate Institutional Name Exchange

**Purpose:** Enhance graduate student recruitment through shared data

**Sponsors:** agInnovation and Academic Programs Section

**Status:** Year 2 of 3-year proposal



# Institutional and Student Engagement

- Participating Institutions
  - 2023: 25 institutions
  - 2024: 47 institutions
  - 80% growth
- Students Recruited
  - 2023: 1838 students
  - 2024: 2727 students
  - 48% growth

	2023	2024	Change (%)
# of Institutions	25	45	80%
Students Recruited	1838	2727	48%

# Institutional and Student Engagement

- Returning Institutions
  - 100% of 2023 participating institutions returned for Year Two
  - 8 of 25 returning institutions increased student numbers by 50% or more
  - 5 of 25 more than doubled student numbers

# Student Database

- Gender ratios are reflective of colleges of agriculture across the nation (FAEIS 2024)
  - Man: 29%
  - Woman: 68%
  - Other: 3%
- Race and Ethnicity
  - 2023: 29% Underrepresented
  - 2024: 30% Underrepresented

	2023	2024	Total
Man	27.8%	29.9%	29.1%
Woman	69.7%	66.9%	68.0%
Other	2.5%	3.1%	2.9%

Participation	2023	2024	Change %
Underrepresented	28.69%	30.54%	1.85%
Represented	71.31%	69.46%	-1.85%

# Student Database

- Programs of Interest
  - 20 program areas (44 specific majors)
  - Highest interest: Biological and Biomedical Sciences (CIP 26), Animal Science, and Plant Science
  - 13 program areas received interest from 100 or more students

Program Area	Count	Percent
Agricultural Sciences (CIP 01 +)	2342	51.3%
Natural Resources (CIP 03)	964	21.1%
Biological and Biomedical Sciences (CIP 26)	870	19.1%
Human Sciences	231	5.1%
Other	158	3.5%

# Impact

# QUESTIONS?

*[ag-engine.cals.ufl.edu](http://ag-engine.cals.ufl.edu)*

*Elaine Turner*  
*[returner@ufl.edu](mailto:returner@ufl.edu)*

# **agInnovation Budget Recommendations**

**Matt Wilson**

**agInnovation**  
science that feeds the world



# Calendar Year 2025 Budget Recommendations

MATT WILSON

WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY

CHAIR, AGINNOVATION FINANCE COMMITTEE

SEPTEMBER 25, 2024



## agInnovation Proposed Calendar Year 2025 Budget

		CY25 Proposed	CY24 Approved	CY24 Actual/Encumbered
<b>INCOME</b>				
	Previous CY Carryover (estimate)	\$156,115	\$109,402	\$206,744
	agInnovation Assessment	\$100,000	\$100,000	\$104,218
	Other	\$24,000	\$0	\$0
	<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>\$280,115</b>	<b>\$209,402</b>	<b>\$310,962</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>				
<b>Eliminated Budget Lines</b>	Planning Team In-person Meetings	\$0	\$35,000	\$16,424
<b>Unchanged Budget Lines</b>	Professional Development (formerly Training)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$19,450
	NCFAR Membership	\$1,000	\$1,000	\$1,000
	NRSP Stakeholder (travel)	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$0
	agInnovation Committee Meetings	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0
	AG-NGINE	\$50,000	\$50,000	\$50,000
	Meeting Support (Annual Meeting)	\$15,000	\$15,000	\$15,000
	Diversity Catalyst and Leadership Awards	\$12,000	\$12,000	\$12,000
<b>Funding Line Decreases</b>	Promotion (chair travel, printing, promo	\$15,000	\$20,000	\$901
	Strategic Advocacy--Facilitator	\$2,500	\$15,000	\$15,597
<b>Funding Line Increases</b>	agInnovation 501(c)3	\$3,000	\$2,500	\$6,322
	Website (agInnovation and ESCOP)	\$21,000	\$1,000	\$0
	Communications and Advocacy (Roadmap	\$20,000	\$10,000	\$18,153
<b>New Funding Line</b>	Roundtables with Stakeholders	\$35,000	\$0	\$0
	<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>\$196,000</b>	<b>\$183,000</b>	<b>\$154,847</b>
	<b>PROJECTED BALANCE-END OF CY</b>	<b>\$84,115</b>	<b>\$26,402</b>	<b>\$156,115</b>

# Chair's Reflections

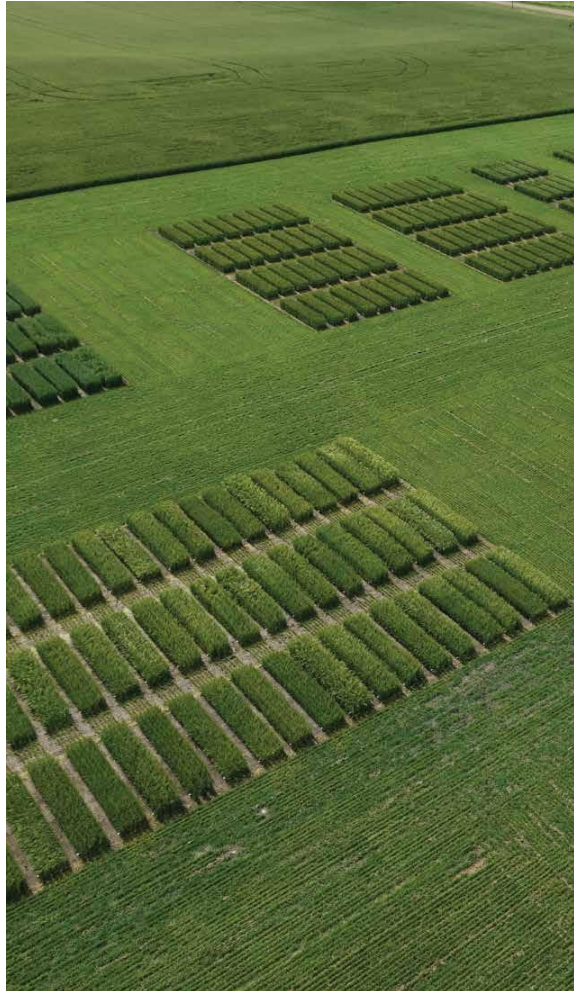
**George Smith**

# **Honoring agInnovation Colleagues— Retirements & New Roles**

**George Smith**

# Welcome Incoming Chair, Steve Lommel

# 2024-2025 agInnovation Priorities



Enhance Funding for Agricultural Research

Address Critical Infrastructure Needs

Promote Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Lead in Environmental and Sustainability Solutions

Strengthen Collaborative Partnerships

Increase Organizational Visibility and Impact

# 2024-2025 Chair's Initiatives



1. Finalize and implement a stakeholder-informed agInnovation Research Roadmap
2. Create a formal framework to facilitate research collaborations among 1862, 1890, and 1994 Land-grant universities
3. Massively accelerate the development and release of important food crops

# 2024-2025 Chair's Initiatives

1. Finalize and implement a stakeholder-informed agInnovation Research Roadmap.
  - Complete the agInnovation Research Roadmap document and deploy Research Roadmap implementation strategies.
  - Strengthen strategic partnerships with federal agencies, foundations, NGOs, and corporate partners by building on previous efforts to engage traditional and non-traditional entities.



# 2024-2025 Chair's Initiatives



2. Create a formal framework to facilitate research collaborations among 1862, 1890, and 1994 Land-grant universities.
  - Use the multistate project portfolio as a tool to facilitate research collaborations across the Land-grant system, institutionalizing relationships among all LGUs.
  - Develop topic areas that would bring researchers together to form multistate projects that incorporate indigenous knowledge with scale-appropriate technologies to serve small, resource-limited farms.



# 2024-2025 Chair's Initiatives



## 3. Massively accelerate the development and release of important food crops.

- Agriculture is a solution to address climate change, sustainability, and global food security. Rapid environmental changes demand accelerated genetic enhancement of plants and animals using existing and emerging technologies to strengthen food security, nutritional quality, and sustainability by adapting to local environments.
- The goal is to develop a unified national initiative to integrate, automate, and multiplex current and emerging technologies into platforms and pipelines for deployment across important agricultural commodities.

# Heartfelt Appreciation to Outgoing Chair, George Smith



George Smith  
agInnovation Chair, 2023-2024

In deep appreciation of your visionary  
leadership and unwavering dedication,  
which set a bold and innovative course  
and laid a strong foundation for the  
future of agricultural research  
nationwide.

# OTHER BUSINESS?