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

**12.09.2024**

**4:00-5:00 pm ET**

**Zoom:** <https://unr.zoom.us/j/83632004665?pwd=jab272YVVMB45nzqbSzD6SemgIj0YW.1>

**Meeting ID:** 836 3200 4665; Passcode: WEST

**Committee Members:**

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| --- | --- |
| **Chair:** Nathan Slaton (SAAESD)  **Past Chair:** Bernie Engel (NCRA)  **Delegates:**  Alton Thompson (ARD)  John Yang (ARD)  Frank Casey (NCRA)  Shibu Jose (NCRA)  George Criner (NERA)  Jason Hubbart (NERA)  Tom Zimmerman (SAAESD)  David Monk (SAAESD)  Gene Kelly (agInnovation- West)  Greg Cuomo (agInnovation- West)  **Executive Vice Chair:**  Bret Hess (agInnovation- West ED)  Jennifer Horton (Recording Secretary) | **Liaisons:**  Tara McHugh (ARS)  Kevin Kephart (NIFA)  Roger Magarey (NIPMCC)  Tim Killian (SSCC) |

**Agenda:**

1. **Welcome and Introductions** – Slaton
2. **Roll Call** – Nathan Slaton, David Monks, John Yang, Frank Casey, Shibu Jose, Kevin Kephart, Roger Magarey, Jason Hubbart, Frank Casey, Alton Thompson, Gary Thompson-Guest, Matt Yost, John Yang, Tara McHugh, Jennifer Horton (recording secretary).
3. **Approval of September 25 Minutes**

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Shibu moved to approve the minutes as presented. Alton seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

1. **2024-2025 Workplan** –
   1. **Guest Speaker to present on ideas for STC to be involved with implementation of the agInnovation Research Roadmap.** Gary Thompson on behalf of agInnovation Chair, Steve Lommel
   2. Gary highlighted the three pillars: Water Resilience, sustainable food systems and Climate Solutions. They are asking for support within the next year.
   3. Notes are below. Powerpoint is attached in email.



* 1. Nathan asks how the STC can contribute to the talking points. Nathan asks what Gary foresees as the timeline to develop talking point. March 5th is the deadline for when the roadmap is rolled out. Extension is onboard with the March 5th deadline. Ideally the end of February.
  2. Alton asked if ECOP has an equivalent to STC? Alton suggests that if ECOP has STC that the two committee work together since we are merging the roadmap.
  3. Shibu asks if the one pages have been shared with STC yet. Gary said he has an older version, but they are being revised. Gary will share what he has.
  4. Gary states the funding is a sensitive topic and there is much discussion on making an ask for an appropriate amount that does not conflict with the farm bill.

1. **Liaison Reports-**

**Tara McHugh (ARS)-** Tara shared there is a continuing resolution until December 20th. Will be transitioning to the new administration. Teams are being put in place to help the transition to the new administration.

**Roger Magarey (NIPMCC)-** Roger shared the committee is still working on strategic plan and hope to release at meeting in March, 2025. Working on statistics and measures for pest management efficiency. Continue to study eco-efficiency and base line pest management.

**Kevin Kephart (NIFA)-** Kevin shared that liaison committees have been updated and reviewed the positions.

1. **Excellence in Research Innovation Award** – We are still waiting on a final decision from the agInnovation finance committee on the proposed increase in the budget.

**Updated on the STC ESCOP page.** Please take a look and let us know if you see any updates.

[STC\_INNOVATION\_EXCELLENCE\_AWARD\_CALL\_2025.pdf](https://escop.info/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/STC_INNOVATION_EXCELLENCE_AWARD_CALL_2025.pdf)

Shibu shared that regionally they are looking at adding two additional awards. Shibu will share when completed. Than

1. **Homework:** If you could change one thing about USDA REE or Rural Development, what would it be?If time does not permit full discussion, please send Homework ideas to Bret ASAP @ bhess@unr.edu.
2. **Zoom meetings: 2nd Monday each Month (1 pm PT/2 pm MT/3 pm CT/4 pm ET)**
3. **Adjourn**