

Experiment Station Section Meeting
 Teleconference
 Thursday, September 28, 2005
 (replaced meeting in San Antonio, TX due to hurricane)

Minutes

Action Items

Agenda Item 1: Approval of agenda, ESS meeting minutes (September 27, 2004, Oklahoma City, OK), and Interim Actions - Agenda was approved and 2004 ESS Meeting Minutes were approved. Chair's interim action approved.

Agenda Item 2: NRSP Review Committee Recommendations and Vote - Approved all NRSP proposals and budgets as they were presented

Agenda Item 3: Proposed Changes to ESS Rules of Operation - Approved revisions to the ESS Rules of Operation

Agenda Item 4: Proposed Support for LGU Seminars - Approved an additional \$5000 for each of the two LGU seminars.

Agenda Item 15: Nominations Committee Report - Approved Ron Pardini, University of Nevada-Reno, as ESCOP chair-elect

Agenda Item 16: Resolutions Committee Report - Approved all Resolutions

Agenda #	Agenda Item - Presenter
	Call to Order and Welcome - D.C. Coston
<u>1</u>	Approval of agenda, ESS meeting minutes (September 27, 2004, Oklahoma City, OK), and Interim Actions - DC Coston
<u>2</u>	NRSP Review Committee Recommendations and Vote - Gary Lemme
<u>3</u>	Proposed Changes to ESS Rules of Operation - D.C. Coston
<u>4</u>	Proposed Support for LGU Seminars - D.C. Coston
5	CSREES Update - Gary Cunningham

<u>6</u>	BAA-Policy Board of Directors Update - Mike Harrington
<u>7</u>	ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee - LeRoy Daugherty
<u>8</u>	ESCOP Communication & Marketing Committee - Jerry Arkin
<u>9</u>	ESCOP Science & Technology Committee - Steve Puppeke
	Break
10	NRSP Voting Results - Gary Lemme
<u>11</u>	Germplasm Task Force Report - Tom Fretz
<u>12</u>	Formula Funds Task Force Report - Wendy Wintersteen
<u>13</u>	National Animal Germplasm Program - Harvey Blackburn
<u>14</u>	NIMSS User Survey Preliminary Results - Nikki Nelson
<u>15</u>	Nominations Committee Report - Lee Sommers
<u>16</u>	Resolutions Committee Report - Marshall Martin
17	Final Remarks and Passing Gavel to the New ESCOP Chair - D.C. Coston
	Adjourn

Agenda

AGENDA BRIEFS

Agenda Item 1. Approval of Agenda, Meeting Minutes and Interim Actions

Presenter: D.C. Coston

Background:

Approval of Agenda, September 27, 2004, Oklahoma City, OK Meeting Minutes and Interim Actions

- **Agenda**
- [Minutes from September 27, 2004, Oklahoma City, OK](#)

Interim Actions:

- 8/1/05 - Appointed Greg Weidemann as ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee Chair-elect
- 8/4/05 - Authorized expenditure of \$5,000 to support the LGU Seminar in Wisconsin this October
- 8/9/05 - Reappointed Eric Young as ED representative on the NRSP Review Committee
- 8/12/05 - Appointed Lee Sommers (chair), Ralph Cavalieri, Wendy Wintersteen, Bill Trumble, and David Boethel as the ESCOP Nominations Committee
- 8/25/05 - Appointed Marshall Martin as ESCOP Resolutions Committee Chair
- 8/26/05 - Sent letter to Jerry Arkin appointing him as Experiment Station Section representative on the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee.
- 8/26/05 - Sent letter to Ken Grafton appointing him as Experiment Station Section representative on the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee.
- 8/26/05 - Sent letter to Lee Sommers appointing him as Experiment Station Section representative on the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee.
- 8/29/2005 - Approved the Chair of ESCOP to spend up to \$2500.00 to cover cost of consulting and support for the Formula Funds Task Force using the approved procedures
- 9/2/05 - Transmitted two nominees to Kirklyn Kerr for selection of the ESS representative to the BAA Policy Board of Directors
- 9/15/05 - Reappointed Vance Watson as liaison to the AOSCA Advisory Committee

Action Requested: Approval of agenda, minutes, and interim actions.

Action Taken: Agenda was approved and 2004 ESS Meeting Minutes were approved. Chair's interim action approved.

Agenda Item 2.
NRSP Review Committee Recommendations and Vote

Presenter: Gary Lemme

Background:

[Click here](#) for the NRSP Review Committees final recommendations PowerPoint. It includes the voting actions and a description of the process.

Action Requested: Vote on all NRSP Proposals and/or Budgets.

Action Taken: Approved all NRSP proposals and budgets as they were presented. The final FY06 numbers for the NRSPs are:

NRSP1: \$306,916

NRSP3: \$84,000

NRSP4: \$481,182

NRSP5: \$146,000

NRSP6: \$150,000 (new proposal approved as well)

NRSP8: \$400,000

The ESS will vote again on the FY07 OTT funding next September. The Western Region will handle all NRSP duties next year.

**Agenda Item 3.
Proposed Changes to ESS Rules of Operation**

Presenter: D.C. Coston

Background:

The following two motions to amend the ESS Rules of Operation were emailed to all ESS members on August 16.

1. Elimination of the ESCOP Planning Committee

"ESCOP moves to eliminate the Planning Committee as a core committee of ESCOP and to amend the ESS Rules of Operation by deleting the section under Article VII entitled Planning Committee and any other reference to that committee in the document."

This motion was approved by ESCOP at its meeting in July. The Planning Committee's primary charge has become redundant because the Partnership Working Group is facilitating long-range planning and futuring jointly for all COPs and the ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee is coordinating planning for budget and legislative initiatives.

2. Elimination of the ESCOP-ACOP Leadership Development Subcommittee

"ESCOP moves to eliminate the ESCOP-ACOP Leadership Development Subcommittee as a subcommittee of ESCOP and to amend the ESS Rules of Operation by deleting the paragraph under Article VII that begins "ESCOP-ACOP Leadership Development Subcommittee...."

This subcommittee is no longer functioning because the new leadership program, LEAD 21, has replaced the ESCOP-ACOP program and is managed by a Board of Directors with ESS representation.

These two motions will be brought to the floor for discussion and will require a yes-vote by 2/3 of the voting members present for approval.

Action Requested: Approval of the two motions.

Action Taken: Approved revisions to the ESS Rules of Operation

Agenda Item 4. Proposed Support for LGU Seminars

Presenter: D.C. Coston

Background:

Fleishman-Hillard Government Relations (FHGR) - the lead firm in the advocacy effort - has been working with the BAC, deans, directors, experiment station and extension leaders, and others to develop a semiannual seminar series. The objective of these seminars and their outputs is to provide much needed visibility and outreach for the Land Grant university system.

This seminar series, entitled: *The Land-Grant University System-Leading the Way on Critical Issues*, is outlined in the attached [prospectus](#). As detailed therein, the first two seminars are planned for Milwaukee in October 2005 and Salt Lake City in early 2006. The seminars were discussed by ESCOP at its summer meeting. The seminars were

endorsed and the ESCOP Chair was authorized to spend up to \$5000 for support of each of the two seminars currently planned.

Since FHGR has requested a total of \$10,000 support for each seminar, ESCOP also agreed to request that ESS approve an additional \$5,000 for each of the two seminars planned.

Action Requested: Approval of an additional \$5000 for each of the two LGU seminars currently planned.

Action Taken: Approved an additional \$5000 for each of the two LGU seminars.

**Agenda Item 5.
CSREES Update**

Presenter: Gary Cunningham

Background:

Action Requested:

**Agenda Item 6.
BAA-Policy Board of Directors Update**

Presenter: Mike Harrington

Background:

Actions taken at the BAA-PBD meeting July 25, 2004

- Agreed that a listing of institutions who had not paid all of their 2005 Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA) assessments would be distributed to the Administrative Heads Section and the BAA participants during the NASULGC Annual Meeting in Washington, DC.

- Reviewed and accepted the plans for the plenary session of the Commission of Food, Environment, and Renewable Resources (CFERR) and the program sessions of the BAA.
- Recommended that the CARET Executive Committee consider moving the dates of the 2007 and 2008 Joint CARET/AHS Meetings to Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday.
- Agreed that the PBD would send to the White House Office of Personnel and to the Secretary and Deputy Secretary of Agriculture a letter recommending that Dr. Gale A. Buchanan be nominated to become the next USDA under Secretary of REE.
- Agreed that the BAC should discuss preparing a written document about the federal budget that would be appropriate for 4-H youth to take to Capitol Hill during their visits in April.
- Requested the BAC to have the proposed 2006 contract and plan of work for the advocacy organization available for the PBD to consider at the NASULGC Annual Meeting.
- Requested that the "Think Tank" Subcommittee submit its recommendations to the Policy Board of Directors in writing prior to the NASULGC Annual Meeting and to conduct the Subcommittee's business electronically after the NASULGC Annual Meeting.
- Adopted the following proposed amendments to the BAA **Rules of Operation**:
 - *The Chair-elect position shall be filled by having the AHS nominate two individuals that will be put before the full membership of the Assembly in a special election (if needed).*
 - *All other vacancies shall be filled by the PBD for the remainder of the unexpired term. In this situation, the section or organization with the vacancy will submit two nominees for consideration by the PBD. (Section 2(A)(4), page 5)*
 - *For all meetings, two-thirds (six) of the PBD members (or their alternates) will be required to constitute a quorum. (Section 2(A)(5), page 5)*
- Endorsed the recommendation made by the BAA Budget and Advocacy Committee for the recipient to receive the BAA 2005 Champions' Award.
- Requested that the NASULGC staff create an electronic identification for the Chair of the PBD so that all communications to the BAA from PBD instead of the NASULGC staff.
- Requested the Chair of the PBD develop a new form/method of reporting to the Board so as to avoid repetition and greater efficiency in the section write ups.
- Spring Meeting of the PBD will be March 21-22, 2006 at the Nathan Hale Inn in Storrs, CT.

Website http://www.nasulgc.org/CFERR/board_on_agric/board_on_agric.htm

New members:

Fred Cholick- Chair-elect
Nancy Cox - ESS representative

Elections: Academic Programs, Extension Section, 1890 Institutions, Non Land Grant Institutions

Action Requested: None, for information only.

Agenda Item 7.
ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee

Presenter: LeRoy Daugherty

Background:

The following information from Fred H. Hutchison of Fleishman Hillard Government Relations serves as information for the ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee report. The Senate and House actions on appropriations to date are shown in the attached tables.

The Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee sent its spending bill for F.Y. 2006 on to the full Senate Appropriations Committee for consideration. This measure contains funding for programs administered by the USDA's Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES). Highlights of the Senate action are described below:

Highlights of Senate Bill

With few exceptions, CSREES line items in F.Y. 2006 would be funded at their F.Y. 2005 levels. The exceptions are set forth in the following table:

Research & Education Line Items	F.Y. 2005	Senate Mark	Change
Evans-Allen	36,704,000	37,477,000	+773,000
Special Research Grants	120,314,000	110,281,000	-10,033,000
National Research Initiative	179,552,000	190,000,000	+10,448,000
Alternative Crops	1,186,000	833,000	-353,000
Resident Instruction and Distance Ed. Grants	496,000	0	-496,000
Agrosecurity Education	0	750,000	+750,000

Federal Administration	42,546,000	38,193,000	-4,353,000
Extension Line Items			
1890 Institutions Extension	32,868,000	33,643,000	+775,000
Expanded Food & Nutrition Ed. Program	58,438,000	62,909,000	+4,471,000
New Technologies for Ag Extension (eXtension)	0	2,000,000	+2,000,000
Federal Administration and Special Grants	21,883,000	22,443,000	+560,000
Integrated Activities Line Item			
Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative	8,928,000	10,000,000	+1,072,000

Discussion

The Senate, like the House of Representatives, has rejected the proposal in the President's F.Y. 2006 Budget Request to reduce by 50 percent funding for the Hatch and McIntire-Stennis formula fund programs and to eliminate funding for the Animal Health & Disease program.

With respect to the President's proposal to transfer Sec. 406 line items to the National Research Initiative (NRI), the Senate did not concur with the House. The Senate has rejected the consolidation of the Sec. 406 funding lines within the NRI.

The Senate, even in this tight budgetary year, was able to make modest increases to several of the line items singled out by the Budget and Advocacy Committee of NASULGC's Board on Agriculture Assembly for "priority attention." These line items included: (1) the NRI; (2) Agrosecurity Education; (3) EFNEP; (4) eXtension; and (5) the Food and Agriculture Defense Initiative. In addition, the Senate made increases to two other programs of importance to the 1890 Institutions: (1) Evans-Allen; and (2) 1890s Extension.

The only item on the BAC's "priority attention" list to receive a decrease under the Senate mark was the Resident Instruction and Distance Education Grants line item for the land-grants in the U.S. territories. However, the House did agree to continue funding for this important program at last year's level of \$500,000 and we will continue to fight hard for this line item when the House and Senate meet to reconcile differences between the two versions of the Ag Appropriations bill.

Action Requested: For information only

Agenda Item 8.
ESCOPE Communication & Marketing Committee

Presenter: Jerry Arkin

Background:

The ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee last met face-to-face on May 10 in Washington, DC. Recent completed actions of the committee included the following:

- At the request of Blue Ribbon Team, the Communication and Marketing Committee undertook to solicit and received photos from 15 states for future use by the BRT. Materials in the form of a photo library depicting our system, etc, were transferred to the BRT (Fred Hutchison), and to CSREES (Janet Allen, Director of Communications) for future use
- The C/M Committee was successful in bringing the counterfactual studies to closure with the publication of "**Formula for Success: The Value of Formula Funds to the U. S. Agricultural and Food System**". This publication was used extensively by CARET and featured at the 2005 Agricultural Science on the Hill Exhibit, March 1.
- The committee has continued to focus time and effort on the "Hot Topics" as it has tried to provide input to the process.
- To assist with the ongoing discussions that have focused this past year on formula funds, the Communication and Marketing Committee has endorsed the concept of trying to place as many white papers, and other pertinent materials on the LGU, SAES and Formula Funds on the NERA web for general use. Papers can be found on the above topics at the following urls:

In Support of Formula Funds:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/FormulaFunds/>

Formula for Success:

http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/counterfactual/4061_ISU_NASULGC.pdf

ESCOP/ECOP Task Force on Formula Funds - White Papers:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/FormulaFundsTaskForce/>

Counterfactual Study Reports:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/counterfactual/>

The Land Grant Experience:

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/NERA/LandGrant/LandGrantExperience.html>

The Committee after much discussion agreed to submit via letter to the Chair of ESCOP with the following recommendations:

- ESCOP should take every opportunity to acquaint and educate the OMB staff of the value and impact of federal formula funds, e.g., Hatch, McIntire-Stennis and Animal Health and Disease (Section 1433) funds on research being conducted in the SAES's with field and/or station visits. The Committee also recommends an increased effort to educate OMB staff regarding the value of this component of our funding, and is willing to assist with the further development of this concept if it has the endorsement of ESCOP and the other partners.
- The ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee supports the concept of the regional seminars as proposed by Fleishman-Hillard Government Relations (FHGR). The Communication and Marketing Committee recognizes the costs associated with this activity, but believes that in the long-term finding a cadre of "champions" among the Congressional and Senatorial delegations can only benefit the system. We recommend that ESCOP request that FHGR fully develop the concept of the regional seminars and bring forward a proposal with a budget for consideration and discussion by all parties (Done).
- The ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee recommends that ESCOP carefully review the annual '**Agricultural Science on the Hill**' exhibit to see if changes might be made to make this a more meaningful event. As a committee we believe that there are benefits garnered from the Exhibit, however, future events should be more carefully targeted, perhaps using a strong and visible theme, e.g., water quality, environmental stewardship, nutrition and food safety, etc., to tie the exhibits together. In addition, efforts should be made to demonstrate the partnership efforts that are involved, including a visible elaboration of the level of contribution of federal formula funds, state match and grant funds committed to any activity. Lastly, we think that there might be value in making this a 2-day exhibit, one day focused on the House, and the second day on the Senate. Regardless, ESCOP should take the leadership and suggest an in-depth evaluation of the current '**Agricultural Science on the Hill**' effort with the goal of implementing changes by 2007.
- Lastly, the ESCOP Communication and Marketing Committee believes that there are some opportunities for a National Land Grant Lecture Series to replace the current Hatch Memorial Lecture presented annually at the NASULGC meetings. The current venue of the Hatch Memorial Lecture has us speaking to ourselves. We suggest that the venue for a National Land Grant Lecture be broadened to educate new audiences.

Action Requested: For information only

Agenda Item 9.
ESCOP Science & Technology Committee

Presenter: Steve Puppeke

Background:

The ESCOP Science and Technology Committee met in Cincinnati on May 10 - 11, 2005 and again by conference call on September 7. The committee has worked on the following items in 2005.

1. Science Roadmap for Agriculture Survey

A survey was done during fall 2004 to determine current priorities and needs relative to the challenge areas and objectives outlined in "A Science Roadmap for Agriculture" published in 2001. Bruce Gage (University of Kentucky), who designed and conducted the survey, has produced a report that summarizes the survey results and analysis. [Click here](#) for a PDF copy of his final survey report.

The S&T Committee and ESCOP feel strongly that the Roadmap should be a dynamic document and reviewed periodically for potential revisions to the challenge areas and/or objectives. Based on the survey results, the S&T Committee offers the [attached recommendations](#) for modification of the challenges and objectives. These recommendations are being presented to the ESS for adoption.

2. Genetics Subcommittee

Discussion focused on whether or not S&T should continue to have a subcommittee in one or more areas related to genomics, genetics, breeding, etc. Other national-level groups that will be engaged in related areas are the recently established National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee, which will cover germplasm collection, preservation, distribution, and research, and a new multistate coordinating committee on plant breeding being developed under S_temp1162.

S&T is contacting these two groups for more details on their potential agendas and has deferred a decision on establishing a S&T subcommittee until that information is available.

3. Food Safety Subcommittee

The S&T Committee voted unanimously to terminate this subcommittee because it has been inactive for over three years and this area is well covered by various centers and multistate projects.

4. Next S&T Committee meeting will be in late March or early April of 2006.

Action Requested: Approval of the committee's recommendations for modification of The Science Roadmap for Agriculture's challenge areas and objectives.

**Agenda Item 10.
NRSP Voting Results**

Presenter: Gary Lemme

Background:

**Agenda Item 11.
Germplasm Task Force Report**

Presenter: Tom Fretz

Background:

The ESCOP Plant Germplasm Task Force appointed by Dr. D. C. Coston in September 2004 completed its activities in May 2005 with the submission of its report to the ESCOP Executive Committee.

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/Germplasm/ReportJune2005.pdf>

ESCOP requested that the task force help map the SAES's future involvement with the National Plant Germplasm System, including programmatic involvement, administrative structures and financial support.

The task force made the following recommendations:

1. Establish in conjunction with ARS and CSREES, a ***National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee (NPGCC)*** reporting jointly to the SAES directors via ESCOP in addition to the administrators of ARS and CSREES. The coordinating committee should take responsibility for reviewing and setting national scientific and service priorities related to the role of germplasm in promoting the economic health and security of the agricultural system.

2. The NPGCC should take responsibility for developing materials to promote the value of these collections to the Nation's ability to maintain an economically viable agricultural system in the face of increasing international competition.

Following a presentation of the task force report to the ESCOP Executive Committee at the Joint COPs meeting in Kansas City, July 26th, it was agreed that we initiate the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee, with three appointees each from ARS, CSREES and ESCOP. This task has been completed and the NPGCC established with the following members;

Dr. Peter Bretting, ARS
Dr. Candice Gardner, ARS
Dr. Dwayne Buxton, ARS
Dr. Lee Sommers, SAES, Colorado State Univ.
Dr. Gerald Arkin, SAES, University of Georgia
Dr. Ken Grafton, SAES, North Dakota State Univ.
Dr. Ann Marie Thro, CSREES
Dr. Ed Kaleikau, CSREES
Dr. P. S. Benepal, CSREES
Dr. Tom Fretz, NERA (Staffing)

The Coordinating Committee met for the first time via conference call on Thursday September 15, 2005, with the expressed purpose of establishing goals, short and long-term priorities, and developing organizational guidelines.

Action Requested:

1. Acceptance of the ESCOP Plant Germplasm Task Force report
2. Concurrence with the establishment of a joint SAES, ARS and CSREES National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee

<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/Germplasm/NPGCCcharge.pdf>

Agenda Item 12.
Formula Funds Task Force Report

Presenter: Wendy Wintersteen

Background:

The ECOP/ESCOP Formula Fund Task Force met face-to face at a meeting in Washington, DC, June 2-3, 2005 and had the opportunity to visit with several individuals with different points of view on the current and pending budget process and outcomes. Discussions were held with Drs. Colien Hefferan, and Joe Jen, CSREES and Fitzhugh Elder, staff of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committee. In addition, the Task Force discussed strategies with Dr. Mort Neufville, Fred Hutchison, Steve Gunderson, Legislative Strategist with Graystone Inc., and former Member of Congress and Liz LaPolt, Government Relations, Oregon State University. Additionally, the task force continues to meet monthly via conference call to further develop its ideas and thoughts that are to be presented as input to ESCOP, ECOP and the PBD/Think Tank process.

In our discussions it became clear that as a system we need to communicate better especially within our own system if we are to effectively lobby for those issues we judge important. If we really want change, it is suggested that we invest a considerable amount of time and effort on internal communications (up to 80%) to achieve successful outcomes. This becomes critical when we understand that communications today have moved as a consequence of the computer to a very personal level, and are concentrated on a people-to-people communication as contrasted to communication between organizations, agencies and nations. (Suggested reference: *"The World is Flat"* by Thomas L. Friedman /Farrar, Straus and Giroux)

As we move toward making our arguments and building our strategies, as a system we need to be mindful of the following: If we remove the Federal formula base with which we operate, we will see more earmarks. We should be prepared to accept increasing earmarks as the likely outcome / consequence of any elimination of Federal formula funds or shifting to competitive programs. We also need to understand that the more we think about research, the more we focus on specialization. It is important to understand that we do not think about or reward the generalist today. Federal formula funds have enabled us to create and maintain a system of experts, e.g., the infrastructure that can address time sensitive matters in a rapid fashion. That said, we would remain competitive in the future only if we have a foundation built of excellence and expertise.

Communications with Congress

Our communications with Congress must be composed of simple and straightforward messages, remembering that all politics are local. Our challenge will be to provide and promote the outcomes of our system from the formula based research enterprise otherwise we allow the administration to control the debate. Thus the bulk of our

arguments needs to be local. We need to continue to make our case with our constituents. From our discussions it does not seem that the issue is about our outcomes, but rather how our outcomes are packaged.

Recommendations

- We recommend that the PBD rethink its position regarding future collaboration with CSREES to evaluate alternatives to the current Hatch/ Formula Fund Appropriations. The goal should be to find mechanisms to get us over the next 3-5 year period, then address alternatives for the long term, that will allow the system to focus on priority issues, nationally, regionally, and locally, yet retain the historical state match. Discussions about the future of Formula Funds must come from the users/stakeholders, not from the administration if the system is to seek and find change that will serve to address priority issues in a manner that meets the needs of all constituencies.
- The balanced portfolio has been a hallmark of our system of agricultural research and outreach funding to the state agricultural experiment stations. The system's goals should be to maintain the balanced portfolio.
- We recommend that the PBD and the Think Tank define a strategy for making our case with key agency leadership and decision makers at USDA (Secretary, Deputy Secretary and the Undersecretary). These conversations on the values received to the system from formula funds need to begin ASAP.
- We recognize that the partnership has been significantly threatened as a result of the President's budget proposal. Now is the time to begin the process of bringing the parties together for meaningful discussion on topics of concern.
- Deans and directors need to engage their University presidents, provosts and VP's for research and educate them on the value of formula funds.
- We recommend that an effort be made to develop and articulate the concept of Federal Formula funds as "*Foundation*" or "*Base*" funds, that are, but one component of a blended or mixed portfolio.
- We recommend that we use this year's budget exercise as a means to bring the family together and strengthen the partnership.
- It is important the as we communicate the value of formula funds, that we prepare a white paper to dispel the myth that "there is more value derived from a competitive process", or said another way, "Competition spurs quality". This

needs to be dispelled with clear and impactful examples. (See: Draft White Paper referenced below: *The Case for Formula Funds*)

- Given what we anticipate as the outcome of the budget process this year (FY06) we recommend that the BAC endorse growth of the formula funds as the systems number 1 priority for the next budget cycle. We must be able to address the criticism "that formula funds are stagnant."
- The issue of formula funds inextricably ties the Station and Extension together. We should value and respect our programs in all verbal and written communications and improve how we work together.

Key Speaking Points on Formula Funds

Increasingly there are opportunities for members of our community to speak of and about Formula funds and their impacts, locally, regionally and nationally. Whenever the opportunity arises to speak about Formula funds (Hatch, McIntire-Stennis, Smith-Lever, etc) we need to keep several thoughts front and center. Several of the points discussed at our meeting are listed below, simply as reminders.

- Formula funds are a key component (a foundation or base) of a mixed portfolio of funding that support local and regional needs.
- Federal Formula funds provide the agricultural experiment stations the means to rapidly respond in addressing and meeting local or regional issues in a time sensitive fashion, e.g., soybean rust, plum pox. In each case rapid responses would likely have not been possible if the system had to rely solely on a grants driven process.
- At every opportunity when formula funds are part of the discussion, we need to make sure that those to whom we are speaking are aware that these funds are expended in a fashion that are relevancy-driven, not curiosity-driven as is the case for other competitive-based research portfolios (NSF, NIH).
- When speaking of formula funds for research and their need and value, we must craft the strongest possible arguments and document how cooperative Extension will be impacted should the federal formula funds be eliminated or otherwise directed to a national competitive program.
- The loss of Federal formula funds would likely result in a significant loss of leveraged state matching funds. Any discussion relative to alternatives to the current Federal formula funds should begin with a discussion of the impact on the state matching requirements and the statutory requirement.

Working Drafts:

- A Nation at Risk! - Position paper by T. Fretz and W. Wintersteen, February 2005.
<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/FormulaFunds/ANationAtRisk.pdf>
- Overview: The USDA and the Land Grant System Partnership to Support Agricultural Research - Wallace Huffman and Thomas Fretz (DRAFT)
<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/FormulaFundsTaskForce/>
- The Case for Formula Funds in the USDA and Land Grant University Partnership - Thomas Fretz and Wallace Huffman
<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/FormulaFundsTaskForce/>
- Talking Points - In Support of formula Funds. Tom Fretz and Wallace Huffman
<http://www.agnr.umd.edu/users/nera/FormulaFundsTaskForce/>

Action Requested: For information only

Agenda Item 13. National Animal Germplasm Program

Presenter: Harvey Blackburn

Background:

[Click here](#) for the National Animal Germplasm Program PowerPoint

Action Requested: For information only

Agenda Item 14.
NIMSS User Survey Preliminary Results

Presenter: Nikki Nelson

Background:

[Click here](#) for the NIMSS User Satisfaction Survey

Agenda Item 15.
Nominations Committee Report

Presenter: Lee Sommers

Background:

Ronald S Pardini is the Associate Director of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station and Professor of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology.

He received a BS degree in Animal Husbandry and Agricultural Chemistry from California State Polytechnic College in 1961. He obtained a Ph.D. in 1965 in Food Science with minors in Biochemistry and Nutrition from the University of Illinois.

Dr. Pardini served two years in the US Army Medical Service Corps while stationed at Fitzsimons General Hospital in Denver, Colorado. He served as a First Lieutenant and then Captain where he became the director of the Lipid Research Branch of the U.S. Army Medical Research and Nutrition Laboratory. Following the military Dr. Pardini was a Post Doctoral Fellow of Biomedical Research at the Stanford Research Institute (SRI) and studied with Dr. Karl Folkers, then President of SRI.

Dr. Pardini joined the faculty in the Department of Biochemistry at the University of Nevada, Reno in 1968. He was promoted to Associate Professor in 1972 and Professor in 1977. From 1974-1988 Dr. Pardini Chaired the Department of Biochemistry. Dr. Pardini was honored as the distinguished alumnus of the year, School of Science and Mathematics, California State Polytechnic University in 1978.

From 1988-present he serves as the Associate Director of the Nevada Agricultural Experiment Station. As Associate Director, he represents Nevada as a member of the

Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAASED). He served as Secretary and Chair of WAASED and served as a member and Chair of the WAASED Research Implementation Committee (RIC). In addition, he has served on the USDA Committee of Nine, as one of the western representatives on the Experiment Station Committee on Policy (ESCOP) and on the ESCOP Executive Committee.

Dr. Pardini currently serves on the ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee, is the ESCOP representative to the Impact Writing Committee and is Administrative Advisor to several Western Region Multi-State Research Projects and Coordinating Committees.

He has published over 150 peer reviewed research publications and abstracts of presentations at scientific meetings. His current academic interests include nutritional intervention with omega-3 fatty acids in the treatment of cancer.

Action Requested: Nomination of Ron Pardini for Chair-Elect of ESCOP.

Action Taken: Approved Ron Pardini, University of Nevada-Reno, as ESCOP chair-elect.

Agenda Item 16. Resolutions Committee Report

Presenter: Marshall Martin

Background:

**Resolution of Appreciation to Agricultural Experiment Station
Administrators who left their positions and responsibilities in the 2004-
2005 year.**

WHEREAS, the following have served as Administrators of their respective State Agricultural Experiment Station, and

WHEREAS, they have actively participated and served in various capacities at the state, regional and national level on behalf of the Agricultural Experiment Station system, Now, therefore be it

RESOLVED that the State Experiment Station Directors at their annual meeting on September 26, 2005 recognize the contributions and service toward strengthening the State Agricultural Experiment Station System, and wish them success and happiness in all their future endeavors.

NCRA:

Eric Hoiberg, Iowa State University
Catherine Woteki, Iowa State University
Randy Woodson, Purdue University
Margaret Dentine, University of Wisconsin
Elton Aberle, University of Wisconsin
Gary Lemme, South Dakota State University
Kevin Kephart, South Dakota State University
Darrell Nelson, University of Nebraska

NERA:

Scott Angle, University of Maryland
Daniel Joseph Decker, New York - Ithaca, Cornell AES
Max Pfeffer, New York - Ithaca, Cornell AES

SAAESD:

D.C. Coston, Oklahoma State University
Michael Weiss, Auburn University

WAAESD:

James J. Jacobs, University of Wyoming
Donald Kress, Montana State University
Erik Fritzell, Oregon State University

ARD:

Michael Heard, Lincoln University,
Marjorie Campbell, Lincoln University

Action Requested: Approval

Action Taken: Approved

Resolution of appreciation for Dr. D.C. Coston

WHEREAS, Dr. D.C. Coston, Chairman of the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy and Experiment Station Section, has provided selfless and committed leadership and keen oversight to enhance the system, and

WHEREAS, under Dr. Coston's leadership and support, the activities of ESCOP committees have been greatly enhanced and have achieved significant accomplishments, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Coston has provided outstanding leadership in the area of planning, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Coston has provided outstanding leadership in building relationships with ECOP, ACOP, ICOP, NASULGC, and CSREES/USDA, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Coston has been efficient and timely in the conduct of ESCOP business, therefore

LET IT BE KNOWN, that the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy and the Experiment Station Section recognize Dr. Coston's invaluable contribution and service to the national agricultural research system, and

THEREFORE, on this day of September 26, 2005, the Experiment Station Section and the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy resolve to extend their sincere gratitude for his commitment, service, and leadership for help in making the system more effective in addressing current and future needs, challenges and opportunities in agricultural research.

Action Requested: Approval.

Action Taken: Approved

Resolution of appreciation to the Prairie View A&M University Office of Association of Research Directors

WHEREAS, The Agricultural Experiment Station Section met in San Antonio, TX, September 25-28, 2005; and

WHEREAS, those attending were educated and stimulated by the meetings; and

WHEREAS, the location for the meeting was outstanding and the accommodations were both compatible and conducive to effective interaction resulting in a successful meeting; therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Agricultural Experiment Station Section expresses its appreciation to Dr. Al Parks, his colleagues and staff for arranging the facilities and coordinating the meeting and ; and be it further

RESOLVED, that an original of this resolution be provided to Dr. Parks and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

Action Requested: Approval.

Action Taken: Approved

Agenda Item 17.
Final Remarks and Passing Gavel to the New ESCOP Chair

Presenter: D.C. Coston

Background:
