

ESCOP CAC Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 4 pm ET

Website: <http://escop.info/committee/cac/>

Zoom Meeting Link

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87261232029?pwd=R0NuZXM4Tis3TDVVaHp0WENpeGk1UT09>

(Meeting ID: 872 6123 2029, Passcode: CAC)

Attendance: Bret Hess, Doug Steele, Bernie Engle, Cindy Morley, German Bollero, Glenda Humiston, Hunt Shipman, JF Meullenet, Jeff Jacobsen, Laverne Hubert, Moses Kairo, Paula Agudelo, Steven Loring, David Leibovitz, Chris Pitsos, Jan Nyrop, Christina Hamilton, Alton Thompson, Gary Thompson, Maggie Earle, Mark McGuire, Jennifer Tippetts (recording secretary).

1. **Welcome and roll call** - Chris welcomed everyone to the October CAC meeting and thanked them for joining. He indicated ESCOP has gained tremendous momentum under Moses' leadership, which continued through the 2021 ESS Annual Meeting. Chris is seeking to build on the momentum throughout the remainder of his term as Chair and greatly appreciates everyone's efforts as part of the ESCOP CAC team.
2. **Ag Research Infrastructure** –Glenda reported that the reconciliation bill is still in limbo. There was a membership letter to leadership that Congressman Jimmy Panetta from California and others were part of; however, there are always behind the scene negotiations we are unaware of. Chris asked if we could do anything at this time? Doug reported that we have done what we can, and we are positioned to make a move if needed. Doug thanked members for their continued support. Chris thanked APLU and Cornerstone, and everyone who has put effort into this, especially members of ARIA.
3. **Cornerstone report** -
 - a. **Infrastructure**- Previously discussed.
 - b. **Annual Budget**- On Monday, the Senate Appropriations Committee Chairman released the remaining 9 bills to fund operations of government for FY22. The next steps are likely to have some agreement on spending for FY22, this will be based on what happens with the reconciliation and the debt ceiling vote. This will come to a head during the first week of December. There might be another short-term CR to allow appropriation committee time to work out final agreements. This still has a lot of moving parts.
 - c. **American Jobs Plan**- This is intertwined with the reconciliation process. Our infrastructure piece is included in the bill Glenda discussed.
 - d. Chris questioned if the debt ceiling will be raised? Hunt stated that it is necessary, and the ceiling will be raised.
 - e. Mark questioned the Hatch appropriations. Hunt stated that the House did not provide as much of an increase to Hatch compared to the Senate. This will be driven by the conference allocation. There is room for this to play out.
4. **APLU updates** – Doug reminded members of the upcoming APLU annual meeting. Information is posted on the APLU website. All of the sessions are listed on the website. Additional invites will come out on Monday, including BAA. Dr. Castille has been asked to elaborate on priorities for FY 23.
5. **Advocacy Fly-in** – Glenda (online attendee), Jeff, Alton, and Chris shared information on the recent meeting. The general consensus is that there was great discussion on the next steps, but no action plan. Rather than the historical approach to address issues across the board, there

was conversation on a more strategic plan that integrates current issues. There were a number of NIFA attendees.

- a. BAC is requesting that each section submit a budget. There is a short turnaround time, BAC is hoping to have the input by November 16th. Glenda credits Jeff for documents he has generated to help move through the budget process. Jeff mentioned that the approach is unified, but not uniform. There are nine lines, ESS was assigned to work on HATCH. Each group is to comment on AFRI and a program of their choice.
6. **NIDB report –**
- a. All the pending reviews are complete as of October 5th.
 - b. All update requests have been completed, with the exception of a photo gallery. This should be completed by the end of FY22.
 - c. 97 impact statements have been submitted and additional reminders for submissions will be sent.
 - d. The writing team is meeting February 20 & 21, 2022. Their discussion will include updating training resources and website, information on how to write impact statements. The trainings will also show multipurpose, such as using blogs.
 - e. Distribution of impact statements from the writing team will discuss moving forward and sharing those statements for use by CARET. We could be more effective at sharing more deliberately. For example, we want to share more deliberately with ECOP and ESCOP for their ongoing toolkits.
 - f. National Program Registry is maintained by the Extension Foundation. They have a database that captures programs nationally. This provides a landscape of issues and acts as a living document yet differs because the registry does not collect impact statements.
7. **REEport Research Working Group –** Bret reported that NIMMS multistate integration is still in progress and they are developing the results module. This will be different than the REEport module. For five-year projects, one will only report on what will be done in the next year. The objective is to make it a build on from the previous year's model. They are close to testing and will be asking six institutions to beta test. Capacity projects terminating in FY21 will enter in REEport all others will be reported on in the new system. The financial module is being built soon. At the recent WRAOM meeting last week, users on the financial side have requested to be involved in the working group for the financial module. Anticipate a request from NIFA to ESCOP and ECOP to populate a new financial module working group.
8. **ESCOP Priorities and Chair Initiatives –** Chris thanked the ED's and incoming Chair Matt Wilson for reviewing the ESCOP Priorities and Chair Initiatives. Many of the ESCOP Priorities carried over from last year. The one main exception is the last priority on the list "Implement national and regional research among universities/institutions to help control the COVID-19 pandemic, support economic development, tackle climate change, and advance racial equity, as well as retain America's position as the world leader in agricultural research." Likewise, Chris wished to provide continuity by carrying over several of Moses' Initiatives. Some of the initiatives were adjusted. The two new initiatives are "Position ESS and its LGU members to take a leading role in addressing climate change challenges as they impact agriculture and natural resources. AND Develop an ESS Brand and advocacy toolkit to provide ESCOP leadership and ESS members with consistent messaging and resources focused on ESS advocacy and education priorities." Chris asked for suggestions before presenting these to the ESCOP Executive Committee on November 12, 2021.
9. **Committee plans for ESCOP Executive Committee Meeting, 1-3:30 pm ET on November 12**
- a. **DCC –** Fadamiro/Leibovitz- David reported that DCC met on Tuesday. A debrief of the ESS meeting and strategic plan was discussed, and draft report is being prepared.
 - b. **STC –** Bernie reported that STC met at the ESS meeting on September 29th and again on October 4th. The plan is to focus on the reevaluation of the ESCOP Science Roadmap.

Emphasis will be on the gaps and needs identified in the Grand Challenge documents. Climate science will be a major thrust. STC will also provide content for the advocacy toolkit. STC also discussed a gap for a research award. The committee agreed to work on developing criteria for selection of award winners in each of the five regions.

- c. **CMC** – To be voted in as a formal standing committee a super majority of votes, 75% of 254 available votes will be needed. CMC will be discussing strategies to gain that many votes. A letter is being sent to initiate intent to formally request becoming a standing committee. We would ask for an invitation to present on November 12th. Chris asked if there is something we can do to help the process along? JF asked members to encourage all voting members to vote. Chris invited CMC to present on November 12th. Doug will send the complete list of voting members to ED&A team before it is sent to CMC to ensure we have accurate members, voting eligibility will be an issue. The key is communication and relaying the importance.
- d. **BLC** – There is a meeting next Tuesday and will have more information then.
- e. **PBD** – Gary shared that the board does not meet very often, the next meeting is November 11th. Gary recommended putting PBD on the agenda for the meeting on November 12 because he predicts there will be quite a few items to discuss. .

10. Other items, as needed

- a. **NRSP1 meeting**- Paula reviewed the highlights reported by Steve regarding impact statements. The project is up for renewal this year. Chris Hamilton and Sara Delheimer have done an excellent job of putting together the initial draft of the proposal to renew. This will be the first one running through the new guidelines. It will be a good test to determine what is going well and what needs to be changed.

Recent ESCOP Appointments (since ESS meeting):

- Marty Draper, Kansas State University, Budget and Legislative Committee
- Shawn Donkin, Oregon State University, Budget and Legislative Committee
- Sreekala Bajwa, Montana State University, Budget and Legislative Committee

Upcoming ESCOP Meetings

- **2021 ESCOP Executive Committee Meeting, 1-3:30 pm ET on November 12** | Virtual
- ESCOP BLC Meeting, October 26 | Virtual
- ESCOP STC Meeting, November 1 | Virtual
- ESCOP DCC Meeting, November 16 | Virtual

Scheduled CAC Meetings: 2021 November 18, December 16

2022 January 20, February 17, March 17, April 21, May 19, June 16, July 21, August 18, September 15