Lists of 2021-2022 Cooperative Extension Section/Extension Committee on Organization and Policy Leadership

Last updated on 2.25.2022

Please forward corrections to National Office Assistant Director Sandy Ruble sandyruble@extension.org. Thank you.

Lists appear according to the Organizational Structure identified in Article IV of the RULES OF OPERATION for the Cooperative Extension Section Membership, and the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP) Operating Guidelines.

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SNAP-Ed Program Development Team
Experiment Station Section
National Impact Database Impacts Team with Experiment Station Section

Board on Agriculture Assembly

Policy Board of Directors
• Committee on Legislation and Policy
• Budget & Advocacy Committee
ECOP

15 Voting Members – Serving 4-year term without limits. Regions appoint 3 members to serve 4-year terms and appoint a Chair on a rotational basis every 5 years. Current order: Western, North Central, Southern, 1890s, Northeast. Chairship – 1 year – is for the Cooperative Extension Section, ECOP, and ECOP Executive Committee (next page) and comes with a commitment of 3 years for progression; Chair-elect, Chair, Post-chair. The National Office Executive Director and their assigns provide staffing for ECOP and ECOP Chair Activities.

Wendy Powers, Chair, Associate Vice President, Ag. and Natural Resources, University of California (2025)
Beverly R. Drgan, Chair-elect, Dean and Director of Extension, University of Minnesota (2026)
Christopher B. Watkins, Past-chair, Director, Cooperative Extension, Cornell University (2024)
A. Richard Bonanno, Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, North Carolina State University (2023)
Mark Latimore, Jr., Associate Dean for Extension, Fort Valley State University (2022)
Damona Doye, Associate Vice President for Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University (2025)
Brent Hales, Director of Cooperative Extension, The Pennsylvania State University (2024)
Jason R. Henderson, Director of Extension & Associate Dean, Purdue University (2022)
Laura Perry Johnson, Associate Dean and Director for Cooperative Extension, University of Georgia (2024)
Kenneth J. La Valley, Dean and Director, Cooperative Extension, University of New Hampshire (2025)
John D. Lawrence, Vice President for Extension and Outreach, Iowa State University (2023)
Ivory W. Lyles, Vice Provost University Outreach & Engagement, Director of Extension, Oregon State University (2023)
Allen A. Malone, Extension Director / Administrator, Alabama A&M University (2024)
Barbara Petty, Associate Dean & Director, Cooperative Extension, University of Idaho (2022)
Vonda H. Richardson, Extension Administrator, Florida A&M University (2024)

Ex-officio, Non-voting Members
Parag Chitnis, Associate Director for Programs, and Brent Elrod, National Science Liaison, USDA-NIFA Liaisons to ECOP
Jon Boren, ECOP Budget & Legislative Committee Chair, New Mexico State University
Michelle Rodgers, CES/ECOP Representative to BAA Policy Board of Directors (2021), University of Delaware
Caroline (Crocoll) Henney, Executive Director, and Roger Rennekamp, Health Extension Director, Cooperative Extension System/ECOP National Office
Laura Stephenson, Co-chair of ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee, University of Kentucky; TBD, 4-H Executive Director, and Andy Ferrin, National 4-H Council
Gregg Hadley, Kansas State University, Chair of Extension Foundation Board of Directors, and Chris Geith, CEO
Brian Kowalkowski, 1994 Land-grant/Tribal Colleges Extension Liaison, College of Menominee Nation
Jo Britt-Rankin, Board on Human Sciences, University of Missouri (2022)
Doug Steele (VP) and Caron Gala, APLU Office of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Liaisons
Char Wenham, Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) Liaison to ECOP, Michigan
Al Wysocki, Academic Programs Committee on Organization and Policy Liaison to ECOP, University of Florida
TBD, Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP) Liaison to ECOP
Executive Directors and Administrator (EDA) Team:
Ron Brown, Southern Region, Association of Southern Region Extension Directors (ASRED)
Albert Essel, 1890 Region, Association of Extension Administrators (AEA)
Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, Western Region, Western Extension Directors Association (WEDA)
Caroline Henney and Sandy Ruble, Cooperative Extension System/ECOP National Office
Ali Mitchell, Northeast Region, Association of Northeast Extension Directors (NEED)
Robin Shepard, North Central Region, North Central Cooperative Extension Association (NCCEA)

KEY: (YEAR) - When term of national leadership expires at the NEDA Meeting with adjournment of the Cooperative Extension Section Annual Business Meeting held each autumn.

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**ECOP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** A standing sub-committee of ECOP.

5 **Voting Members** Officers are the same as ECOP, see the top of page 2. The National Office Cooperative Extension System (CES) Executive Director and their assigns provide staffing for ECOP and ECOP Chair Activities.

Wendy Powers, Chair, Associate Vice President, Ag. and Natural Resources, University of California (2025)
Beverly R. Durgan, Chair-elect, Dean and Director of Extension, University of Minnesota (2026)
Christopher B. Watkins, Past-chair, Director, Cooperative Extension, Cornell University (2024)
Laura Perry Johnson, Associate Dean and Director for Cooperative Extension, University of Georgia (2024)
Mark Latimore, Jr., Associate Dean for Extension, Fort Valley State University (2022)

**Ex-officio/Non-voting Members**
Caroline (Crocoll) Henney, Executive Director, and Roger Rennekamp, Health Extension Director, CES/ECOP National Office
Parag Chitnis, Associate Director for Programs, and Brent Elrod, National Science Liaison, **USDA-NIFA** Liaisons to ECOP
Jon Boren, ECOP Budget & Legislative Committee Chair, New Mexico State University
Michelle Rodgers, CES/ECOP Representative to BAA Policy Board of Directors (2021), University of Delaware
Laura Stephenson, Co-chair of ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee, University of Kentucky; **TBD**, 4-H Executive Director
Doug Steele (VP) and Caron Gala, APLU Office of Food Agriculture and Natural Resources Liaisons

Executive Directors and Administrator (EDA) Team:
- Ron Brown, Southern Region
- Albert Essel, 1890 Region
- Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, Western Region
- Ali Mitchell, Northeast Region
- Robin Shepard, North Central Region

**KEY:** (YEAR) - When term of national leadership expires at the NEDA Meeting with adjournment of the Cooperative Extension Section Annual Business Meeting held each autumn.

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**ECOP PROGRAM COMMITTEE** A standing sub-committee of ECOP.

**5 Voting Members** Officers are elected by the elected by the voting members.

Brent Hales, **Chair**, Director of Cooperative Extension, The Pennsylvania State University (2024)
Damona Doye, **Vice-chair**, Associate Vice President for Cooperative Extension Service, Oklahoma State University (2025)
Jason R. Henderson, Director of Extension & Associate Dean, Purdue University (2022)
Ivory W. Lyles, Vice Provost University Outreach & Engagement, Director of Extension, Oregon State University (2023)
Vonda H. Richardson, Extension Administrator, Florida A&M University (2024)

**Ex-officio/Non-voting members**
Ron Brown, Primary, and Ali Mitchell, Secondary - **EDA Team Support for Meetings and Organization**
Gregg Hadley, Kansas State University, Chair of Extension Foundation Board of Directors, and Chris Geith, CEO
Brian Kowalkowski, 1994 Land-grant Tribal Colleges Extension Liaison, College of Menominee Nation
Char Wenham, Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching (CARET) Liaison, Michigan
Al Wysocki, Academic Programs Committee on Organization and Policy, University of Florida

**Program Committee Action Teams** around priorities listed at advocacy.extension.org
- Climate Extension – Jason Henderson and those listed at [https://www.dropbox.com/s/q4pzbi9wlcay7as/Climate%20PAT.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/q4pzbi9wlcay7as/Climate%20PAT.pdf?dl=0)
- Workforce Development – Ivory Lyles and those listed at [https://www.dropbox.com/s/h7bjqkv0ioe0iid/Workforce%20PAT.pdf?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/h7bjqkv0ioe0iid/Workforce%20PAT.pdf?dl=0)
- Health Extension - Roger Rennekamp, Brent Elrod, and Sheila Fleishhacker (USDA-NIFA)
- 4-H Positive Youth Development – Laura Stephenson, University of Kentucky and those listed page 7 with addition of Jo Britt-Rankin, University of Missouri, Ed Jones, Virginia Tech, Jeff Sallee, Oklahoma State University, and Suzanne Stluka (USDA NIFA).
- Urban Ag and Extension - Brent Hales, Marie Ruemenapp (NUEL), Brad Rein (USDA NIFA)
- Broadband - Rachel Welborn (SRDC) and Brent Elrod (USDA-NIFA)
- Diversity, Equity and Inclusion - Vonda Richardson, Rachel Welborn (SRDC), and Maurice Smith, Keith Harris and Michael Matthews (USDA-NIFA)

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**ECOP PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE** A standing sub-committee of ECOP.

**5 Voting Members** Officers are elected by the elected by the voting members.

John D. Lawrence, **Chair**, Vice President for Extension and Outreach, Iowa State University (2023)
A. Richard Bonanno, Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, North Carolina State University (2023)
Kenneth J. La Valley, Dean and Director, Cooperative Extension, University of New Hampshire (2025)
Allen A. Malone, Extension Director / Administrator, Alabama A&M University (2024)
Barbara Petty, Associate Dean & Director, Cooperative Extension, University of Idaho (2022)

**Ex-officio/Non-voting members**
Albert Essel, Primary, and Robin Shepard, Secondary - **EDA Team Support for Meetings and Organization**
Beverly Coberly, COO, Extension Foundation

KEY: (YEAR) - When term of national leadership expires at the NEDA Meeting with adjournment of the Cooperative Extension Section Annual Business Meeting held each autumn.  

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ECOP BUDGET & LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE (ECOP BLC) A standing sub-committee of ECOP.

15 Voting Members - Regions appoint 3 members to serve 3-year terms without limits. Officers are nominated by the voting members and require ECOP approval. The National Office Cooperative Extension System (CES) Executive Director and their assigns provide staffing for ECOP and ECOP Chair Activities.

*Jon Boren, Associate Dean and Director, New Mexico State University (2022) Chair and Representative on BAA Budget and Advocacy Committee
*Jason R. Henderson, Director of Extension & Associate Dean, Purdue University, Vice-Chair (2024)
*A. Richard Bonanno, Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, North Carolina State University, (2022) and Cooperative Extension Section Representative to the BAA Committee on Legislation and Policy
*Gina Eubanks, Associate Vice President, Louisiana Cooperative Extension Service (2023)
 Gregg Hadley, Director of Extension, Kansas State University (2022)
 Dan Lerner, Associate Director of Extension, University of Vermont (2023)
 Allen A. Malone, Extension Director - Administrator, Alabama A&M University (2024)
 Karl Martin, Dean and Director of Extension, University of Wisconsin (2023)
 *M. Ray McKinnie, Dean, College of Agriculture, Virginia State University (2024)
 Blake Naughton, Vice President for Engagement and Extension, Colorado State University (2023)
 Vonda H. Richardson, Associate Extension Administrator, Florida A&M University (2022)
 Bob Scott, Director of Extension, University of Arkansas – Southern Region (2024)
 Cody Stone, Executive Director of Extension, Montana State University (2024)
 Chris Watkins, Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Cornell University (2022)
 Northeast Region Voting Position remains permanently vacant

Ex-officio/Non-voting members
*Caroline Henney, Executive Director, CES/ECOP National Office, Primary Support for Meetings and Organization
*Caron Gala, APLU Liaison, Director, Agriculture and International Development, Office of Governmental Affairs
 Paula Geiger, Budget Officer, and Josh Stull, Congressional and Stakeholder Affairs Officer
*Michelle Rodgers, BAA Policy Board of Directors, University of Delaware (2021)
 Char Wenham, Liaison, Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching, St. Joseph, MI (12/2022)
 *Jo Britt-Rankin, Liaison, Board on Human Sciences, University of Missouri (2022)
 Peggy Damann, Liaison, Joint Council of Extension Professionals President-elect, University of Wisconsin
 Glenda Humiston, Chair, ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee, University of California

Executive Directors and Administrator (EDA) Team:
*Ron Brown, Southern Region
*Albert Essel, 1890 Region
*Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, Western Region
*Ali Mitchell, Northeast Region
*Robin Shepard, North Central Region

Key: (YEAR) When term of national leadership expires at the NEDA Meeting with adjournment of the Cooperative Extension Section Annual Business Meeting held each autumn.

* - Involved the 2023 Farm Bill Advisory Committee and/or Farm Bill Nutrition Program Working Group.

ECOP BLC list continued next page-
Sub-committees of ECOP BLC

Budget and Legislative Sub-committee on 4-H –
Structure, goals and activities are internal to the group and referenced on page 5 of the ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee Workplan. There is no reference to this committee in the ECOP BLC Workplan.

To be determined, Primary Support for Meetings and Organization
Jon Boren, Co-chair as ECOP BLC Chair, New Mexico State University
Kathleen Lodl, Co-chair as 4-H Program Leaders Working Group Chair, University of Nebraska
To be determined, ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee Member; presumably an Extension Director or Administrator
To be determined, ECOP Member Liaison to 4-H Leadership Committee and ECOP Executive Committee
Jennifer Sirangelo, President & CEO, National 4-H Council
Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, EDA Team member assigned to ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee
**ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee** A standing sub-committee of ECOP formed by collaboration explained in the *National 4-H Partners Memorandum of Understanding, 2019-2024*.

**10 Voting Members** - Elected on a regional basis, Extension Directors or Administrators and 4-H Program Leaders, for a term of 4 years.

Lisa Bouillion Diaz, **Co-chair**, State 4-H Officer, University of Illinois (2024)
Laura Stephenson, **Co-chair**, Director, Cooperative Extension Service, University of Kentucky (2024)
Edmund Buckner, **Dean and Director of Land Grant Programs**, Alcorn State University (2022)
Nia Imani Fields, **Assistant Director University of Maryland Extension & State 4-H Leader**, University of Maryland (2025)
Kenneth J. La Valley, **Dean and Director**, Cooperative Extension, University of New Hampshire (2023)
Jim Lindstrom, **Director, Extension 4-H Youth Development**, University of Idaho (2023)
Woodie Hughes Jr., **Assistant Extension Administrator/State 4-H Program Leader**, Fort Valley State University (2024)
Arch D. Smith, II, **State 4-H Leader and Director of 4-H**, University of Georgia (2022)
Marshall Stewart, **Vice Chancellor for Extension and Engagement**, University of Missouri (2022)
Cody Stone, **Executive Director of Extension**, Montana State University (2025)

**Ex-officio/Non-voting members**
Shannon Horrillo, USDA-NIFA
Andy Ferrin, National 4-H Council
Jon Boren, Extension Director, New Mexico State University appointed by National 4-H Council to their Board of Trustees (2023)
Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, EDA Team
Ken La Valley, ECOP Voting Member Liaison, University of New Hampshire

**KEY:** (YEAR) - When term of national leadership expires in the fall at the NEDA Meeting with adjournment of the Cooperative Extension Section Annual Business Meeting
ECOP Health Innovation Task Force (2020-2022)

Extension Directors and Administrators
- Michelle Rodgers, University of Delaware, Chair
- Karl Martin, University of Wisconsin
- Enrique Nelson Escobar, University of Maryland Eastern Shore
- Karla Trautman, South Dakota State University

Program Leaders
- Cheryl Eschbach, Michigan State University Extension
- Suzanne Stluka, USDA-NIFA
- Mike Gutter, University of Florida

Deans/Department Heads
- Erik Porfeli, The Ohio State University (Board on Human Sciences)
- F. Javier Nieto, Oregon State University
- Craig Newschaffer, The Pennsylvania State University
- Thomas G. Coon, Oklahoma State University

External Partners
- Julie Zajac, Richard Dunville, and Janelle Gunn, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
- Maggie E. Jones, Kaiser Permanente Washington Health Research Institute

EDA Team/ECOP/Board on Human Sciences
- Ali Mitchell, Northeast Region, Primary Support for Meetings and Organization
- Roger Rennekamp, ECOP Office

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**ECOP Liaisons and CES Representatives**

**Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP)**
- Beverly Durgan, **ECOP Chair-elect and ESCOP Representative**, University of Minnesota
- **Diversity Catalyst Committee** (DCC) – Brian Raison, Ohio State University
- **National Research Support Project Review Committee** – Mike Schmitt, University of Minnesota
- **Science & Technology Committee** – Wendy Powers, University of California

**Extension Disaster Education Network (EDEN)**
- Mike Gaffney, Washington State University

**Joint Council of Extension Professionals (JCEP) and Extension Internationalization Committee**
- Beverly Durgan, University of Minnesota Extension

**Journal of Extension**
- To be determined.

**Leadership for the 21st Century Board of Directors** – LEAD21
- Quentin Tyler, Michigan State University, and Amy Loader, University of New Hampshire

**National 4-H Congress Board of Advisors**
- Gregg Hadley, Director for Extension, Kansas State University

**National 4-H Council Board of Trustees**
- Jon Boren, New Mexico State University

**National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research (NCFAR)**
- Rich Bonanno, North Carolina State University
- **NCFAR Research and Outreach Committee** – Caroline Henney, Executive Director, Cooperative Extension/ECOP

**National Extension and Research Administrative Officers Conference (NERAOC) Coordinating Committee**
- Gina Eubanks, Louisiana State University

**National Integrated Pest Management Coordinating Committee**
- John Lawrence, Iowa State University

**National Urban Extension Leaders (Relationship through the ECOP Program Committee)**
- Brent Hales, Penn State

**APLU Board on Agriculture Assembly Policy Board of Directors**—
- Michelle Rodgers, University of Delaware, and Blake Naughton, Colorado State University (nominees for CES)
- **Committee on Legislation and Policy** – CLP
  - Rich Bonanno, North Carolina State University
- **Budget and Advocacy Committee** – BAC
  - Jon Boren, New Mexico State University
- **Communications and Marketing Committee** – CMC
  - Mark Latimore, Fort Valley State University

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Regional Associations Chairs

1890s
Vonda H. Richardson, Director of Cooperative Extension Programs, Florida A&M University
Albert Essel, Executive Administrator, Association of Extension Administrators

North Central
Shelly Nickols-Richardson, Associate Dean and Director of Extension, University of Illinois
Robin Shepard, Executive Director, North Central Cooperative Extension Association

Northeast
Bill Miller, Assistant Director UMASS Extension, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
Ali Mitchell, Executive Director, Association of Northeast Extension Directors

Southern
Rich Bonanno, Associate Dean and Director of Cooperative Extension, North Carolina State University
Ron Brown, Executive Director, Association of Southern Region Extension Directors

Western
Barbara Petty, Associate Dean & Director, Cooperative Extension, University of Idaho
Doreen Hauser-Lindstrom, Executive Director, Western Extension Directors Association

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