FACE-TO-FACE MEETING

1:00 p.m. Wednesday, October 14 – 12:00 p.m. Thursday, October 15, 2015, Central Time
Embassy Suites – Downtown, St. Louis, Missouri, Fourth Floor – Mercantile Room
Presiding – Michelle Rodgers, Chair Elect

DATE OF NEXT MEETING:
Web Conference, 11:00 a.m. – Noon ET, Wednesday, January 27, 2016
Zoom Connection TBA


MINUTES

Wednesday, October 14, 2015

1. Opening Business –
Michelle Rodgers, Chair Elect called the meeting to order at 12:46 p.m. Central Time. An update of the ECOP Chair, Delbert Foster was provided by L. Washington Lyons. Roll was taken (see page_); introductions made. A quorum was present.
   a. Approve minutes from last meeting

Chuck Hibberd made a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting of September 23, 2015. Mark Latimore seconded the motion and the motion was approved.

b. Call for additional agenda items

The 5730 Task Force update was added to the Executive Committee report.

2. NEDA Quick Review –

Jimmy Henning: Will visit with Planning Committee. This year was a fine example of how to lock into a few ideas and carry them forward. Many have said it was the best meeting. An evaluation has been composed and will be distributed. Recommends similar thematic approach in the future.

3. Cooperative Extension Innovation Inventory (URL) –

Michelle Rodgers: Based on inventory and response to 2015 NEDA recommends begin conversation now about tying innovation to the ECOP goals for 2016.

Keith Smith: Of the 151 innovations found within the system, heard only from 36 directors/administrators. There may be some value in going back the institutions that have not been heard. Next step is to create an inventory from the innovators themselves for an assessment of what makes innovation happen – may require another interview. Listening to the employers of the future.
Michelle Rodgers: Called on Executive, Personnel and Program Committees to come up with how to package the actionable items. Engage faculty and continue the dialogue with program people and millennials.

Chris Geith – eXtension is considering fellowship opportunities to look at innovation through the lens of ECOP.

4. Extension Disaster Education Network –

Nick Place: 20 Year Strategic Planning was undertaken by Ed Jones, Fred Schlutt, Larry Katz, Chris Boerboom, Carolyn Williams with support of Nick Place and Jane Schuchardt. There were 90 responses (50 were Directors/Administrators) to the survey: Six areas of focus:

- Seamless connection with Extension
- Clarifying roles of delegates and state points of contact
- Uncertainty from Extension Directors/Administrators
- Work with FEMA
- Making better use of technology, disaster education
- Responding to international interest of EDEN

Interest was expressed in knowing the origins of EDEN; this may be found by using searchable archives. Nick requested ECOP’s advice on engagement with EDEN. ACTION: Outcome of the survey will be published in the ECOP Monday Minute and report on what is going on in South Carolina with disaster relief and elevate these details to CARET and NIFA.

5. Communications and Marketing Committee –

Scott Reed: Summarized current situation with finance and structure. Will meet at APLU Annual Meeting; detail to be determined. All are welcome.

Darren Katz: Shared recent outcomes and returns on investment. Goals are to educate people and lawmakers about the Ag. Social media impact appears robust. Share information, numbers are increase, more efficient. During the Twitter town hall at NEDA more than 300,000 viewed the tweets and more than 700 tweets were sent out. AgIsAmerica has an audience of about 1100 reporters. Darren expressed thanks for the support from ECOP to make this possible. Need to get more information from Directors/Administrators. Will look at how “Ask and Expert” can work with AgIsAmerica effort. Highlighting the “face of Extension”.

Michelle Rodgers: Urged others to consider a Twitter town hall like she is planning in Delaware.

6. ESS-CES/NEDA 2016 Joint Meeting –

Bret Hess, ESCOP Chair Elect: University of Wyoming will host the Joint ESS-CES meeting in 2016 in Jackson Hole. There was limited venues and dates to choose from. A contract is in place. The Joint Planning Committee has begun meeting together. Delbert Foster is the co-chair with Bret. Theme: Partnership, Power and Possibilities. Dinner is offsite the last night with a special presentation by a horse whisperer who will demonstrate and provide insights for doing same in partnerships. The question was raised: What happens in 2017? Discussion: Perhaps do this every other meeting. Needs to be on the agenda for the next Planning Meeting.

7. APLU New Engagement Planning Team (p.4)

Jim Woodell: Jim introduced himself as being downstream of the research from land-grants, working with both commissions and councils of APLU around economic development and community engagement. Interest in the initiative came about in part from centennial celebration. A planning team led by Roy Wilson, President, Wayne State University and Mark Hussey, Vice Chancellor and Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Texas
A&M University, is being formed to stand up a task force by Summer 2016. 18 individuals have been nominated by ECOP and 3 other groups. Session will take place at APLU Annual meeting; all are welcome. The planning committee will 1) define a charge for the Task Force, 2) put together background materials and 3) identify the process. Next step is to determine the willingness of the 18 to serve.

8. National Council for Food and Ag Research (NC-FAR)

Tim Cross: Do we want to continue to be a membership at $1,000/year (in the proposed budget)? Do we want to sponsor an event $800? Tim recommends both items.

A motion to approve NC-FAR membership for 2016 was made by Mary Jane Willis. Bev Durgan seconded the motion. Motion was properly amended to include $800 for the Lunch/Learn sponsorship. Tim Cross is willing to continue to represent ECOP with NC-FAR. Fred Schlutt made a motion for Tim Cross to represent ECOP with NC-FAR and to have Jane Schuchardt represent ECOP on the Research Outreach Committee (ROC). Mary Jane Willis seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Lunch/Learn seminar: Identify a topic and one or two experts by 10.16.15. Jane Schuchardt and Tim Cross will engage with Robin Shepard and Mike Harrington about the topic of Water Security. Ideas for experts should go to Tim Cross/Jane Schuchardt as soon as possible before the deadline.

9. USDA-NIFA Update – (p.26)

Robert Holland: Presented an update at NEDA as attached and took questions:

Will there be a report about the taking back of long-term unused funding? Still not available at this time. Is there more background that can be shared about requests by other institutions looking for 1862, 1890 or 1994 land-grant status? Details cannot be communicated, but there has been a recent increase in inquiries received by NIFA in reference to the exemption of matching funds for competitive grants; some with compelling evidence about state declared land-grant status. At first the inquiries were turned over to General Counsel but have halted this process due to lack of understanding. It was suggested to elevate this issue to the attention of university presidents with collaboration of ESCOP.

Jeanette Thurston was announced as Meryl Broussard’s immediate assistant.

Recruitment has begun for the Director of International Programs.

Travel restrictions have been lifted.

10. Extension Executive Consultants (p.7) – Ron Brown

Ron Brown: Motion was made to accept the proposal as presented and to craft an implementation plan by Chuck Hibberd. James Trapp seconded. Discussion included 1,000-$2,000/year is a suggested budget, how does ECOOP determine who serves, and eXtension Foundation Board endorsed this transition. Motion passed.

11. Impacts Writing Training –

Scott Reed: Team of Oregon State communicators developed a 7 module course and 2 hours of training. Moved the assets to eXtension to make available for free to premium and basic members and $80 per participant for non-members for professional development. A passcode will provide free access for unlimited participation. There is a need contact from every institution to make this available. Begins November 1st. Is it possible to start, stop and resume the modules? Chris Geith will check on this and report back.
Invitation to all to bring ideas like this to Chris’s attention. Acclamation of thanks to Oregon State University for working with the eXtension Foundation to make the Impacts Writing Training available. Suggestion was raised to offer the training to administration officials, also.

12. National Impacts Database Committee –

Tim Cross: Emphasis is on quality of impacts. Will work with eXtension to get Experiment Station Section involved and others for the impact summary writing effort. Need to coordinate with business and HR people. Had session with NEERA group. Next item to address is how to keep the information current and archive off but retain old statements and how to use it. ESCOP will considering this for November. Everyone involved in the summary writing is willing to get approval for travel for the first meeting being proposed.

13. BAA-BLC Update –

Jane Schuchardt: ECOP sponsored a webinar, Understanding the Budget Process, with Rick Mertens, Hunt Shipman, Rick Klemme and Doug Steele. https://connect.extension.iastate.edu/p2dfeb7b8sq How to approach for crop protection/pest management in the USDA-NIFA budget lines to avoid indirect costs paid by Extension? Jane Schuchardt will communicate with CARET members for analysis and Michelle Rodger will draft talking points for regional discussion.

There is interest about looking beyond the 7 lines, like the rural research development centers, EFNEP, others. The BAC has approved a well-articulated process.

14. CLP Update –

a. Proposal for 1994s eligibility for FRTEP and CYFAR

James Trapp: Concern about dilutions of federal resources to fund Cooperative Extension. Eligibility was discussed; institutions also want access to EFNEP.

A motion was made by Fred Schlutt that a letter to the Policy Board of Directors that there be no increase in eligibility for these programs and others, until there is an increase of the funding threshold. Jon Boren seconded the motion. The motion passed.

b. Proposed Dept. of Labor rule affecting employee pay

The decision of who is exempt from the new rule will be interpreted by the institution. Conversations should be directed to the counsel who will be responsible for doing this. Whole university system should be involved. A letter to the appropriate, APLU Council of Governors – Action Jane will contact APLU Council on Government Affairs.

James Trapp will continue to represent ECOP with Committee on Legislation and Policy.

BREAK and transition to ECOP Committee Meetings (separate agendas)

ECOP Executive Committee – Michelle Rodgers ............................Mercantile
ECOP Personnel Committee – Celvia Stovall and Mike O’Neill........Laurel C
ECOP Program Committee – Jon Boren and Mary Jane Willis ......Boardroom

Thursday, October 15, 2015

15. ECOP Committee Actions

a. Personnel Committee –
i. Celvia Stovall: ED/A Team Structure Review – incomplete. The committee is considering resending the survey for additional responses.

ii. Celvia Stovall: Excellence in Extension Award process: recommendation to inform the system with details on award nominations by February 1st, regions receive all nominations by May 1st, and that there be an internal deadline for the National Office to receive regional nominees by June 1st. Personnel Committee members will review the regional nominees to determine a National Award. For the region that a national award is selected, an alternate will be requested to receive the regional award. There was discussion about not continuing this portion of the process, but for 2016 it will remain unchanged. The committee considered a request for a national award for county extension educators but there is no change at this time. Members of professional associations are encouraged to apply for the national award.

iii. Celvia Stovall: New Directors and Administrators orientation at NEDA – Panel format will continue. Recommendation for future NEDA conferences: To signify a new person on name badge to enhance networking. Considering a process to allow experiment station research directors to become involved.

iv. Celvia Stovall: Innovation action item – seek opportunities modeling for hiring extension professionals. Ask the system to share competencies and job descriptions. Jane will forward the list from the NEDA Innovation Work Sessions on this topic to the Co-chairs. Send all ideas to Nancy Bull for collection.

b. Program Committee – Jon Boren, Mary Jane Willis
   i. NUEL (URL)

Motion #1: The following was moved by Mary Jane Willis and seconded by Tim Cross. Motion was approved.

ECOP approves NUEL as a voluntary, regionally representative, and Director/Administrator-approved group of Extension employees who cooperate in advancing the strategic importance and long-term value of urban Extension activities by being relevant locally, responsive statewide, and recognized nationally, and organized as shown in i. and ii., below.

   i. NUEL will transition from an informal 12-member Steering Committee to a more formal 17-person Steering Committee with balanced representation from ECOP’s five regions, as well as one representative from ECOP and one representative from NIFA.

   ii. Regional Urban Extension caucuses will recommend Steering Committee representatives to Director/Administrator Associations in each region, who will select/confirm membership of the Steering Committee (3 representative per region).

Motion #2: The following was moved by Mary Jane Willis. The motion was appropriately seconded. The motion passed.


ii. Other

Review of Guidelines for Diversity/Excellence Awards for 2016. The committee agreed by common consensus to adopt the recommended changes in the Guidelines in the 10/7/15 document titled ECOP USDA Awards Process Update.
Innovation Recommendations – Mary Jane Willis reported that the ECOP Program Committee will pursue innovation by wrapping effort around 2 initiatives: urban, health

   c. Executive Committee – Michelle Rodgers
      i. ECOP 2015 Financial Report
         Provided as information.

         ii. ECOP 2016 Budget (p.8)
            Jimmy Henning made a motion to combine ECOP 5710 and 5730 accounts. Chuck Hibberd seconded the motion. The motion passed.

            Jimmy Henning made a motion that the ECOP 5730 Task Force remain together and bring forward a recommendation for a strategic plan to for then ECOP budget at the March 2016 ECOP meeting. Fred Schlutt seconded. The motion passed.

            Jimmy Henning made a motion to approve as presented except that both accounts are to be combined. Fred Schlutt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

         iii. ECOP 2016 Goals and Calendar (p.11)
            Presented as attached.

         iv. Value of Capacity Funds Document (p.14)
            Chuck Hibberd: Water security, healthy food systems/healthy people have been the past 2 big asks and would like to propose that 4-H Youth Development be next in line.

            Chuck Hibberd made a motion to assign a federal funding request for 4-H Youth development to the ECOP Budget and Legislative Committee for consideration to follow the BAA process and report back to ECOP, and to ask the ECOP 4-H National Leadership Committee to compose the white paper document. Fred Schlutt seconded the motion. The motion passed.

            Draft an initiative following the BAA Process. Friendly amendment,

         v. Other:

            Michelle Rodgers: Michelle Rodgers proposed a separate task force be formed by ECOP to include millennials. Chuck Hibberd suggests a learner engagement piece. Michelle will continue a conversation she began with Keith Smith who has expressed interest in leading this effort. The task force should meet and come back with a plan of action based on what was learned from the Innovation Inventory and NEDA experience. Chuck Hibberd made a motion as described above. Fred Schlutt provided a second. The motion was approved.

16. Executive Session – Michelle Rodgers

No Executive Session was held.

BREAK

17. Private Resource Mobilization – PowerPoint (URLs)

Susan Raymond, Changing Our World. Emphasis – There is no indication that government funding drives private philanthropy away. Possibly hire a few graduate students to begin research in the first of a 3-year process. Value proposition for institutions should be part of the plan. Have to determine how the money
counts. Immediate need to determine the extent of cohesive system (National System Task Force). Initially will be project money, later endowments and planned gifts.

Chief Administrative Officer, part-time – To define clear deliverables, plan, do solicitation of prospects, $10 million in the bank by the end of 3rd year. The going rate: $150-240K, plus benefits.

Chuck Hibberd made a motion that ECOP organize and introduction to the regions and bring back this input for further discussion at next meeting. Scott Reed seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Further action: The National Office will look into availability of the list of CARET members list. Susan Raymond will check on availability to process through Changing Our World resources.

Talking points for the conversations with regions will be handled by the Executive Committee.

18. Liaison Reports (as needed)
   a. BoHS – Linda Kirk Fox
      Engagement and Outreach awards to campus personnel will be presented at the APLU Annual Meeting. BoHS meetings in Washington DC March 8-11, 2016, theme is set: BoHS Impact & Advocacy: Expanding our Reach, Shaping the Future.

   b. CARET – Susan Crowell
   c. ESCOP – Bret Hess for Clarence Watson (see attached written report)
      Related to multi-state awards, project from North Central – Fruit tree production. Awards will be presented at APLU Annual Meeting. Mentioned – not continue the minor use animal proposal. Drugs that are not approved for major or minor species. Be aware of this change.

   d. eXtension Foundation – Dennis Calvin
      Letter to system provide accomplishments of 2015, submitted for distribution through the ECOP Monday Minute, Slides from NEDA, CFO half-time job posting, working with legal counsel to work on details of an operating framework.

      eXtension Conference March 22-24, 2016. Save the date.

   e. JCEP – Kim Gressley
      Review of past year. Update Mission statement and 3-year strategic plan will be available on the website. Conference: Leadership across generations in Orlando in February. Also in Las Vegas. PILD theme: Innovation the Story of Extension. Award for Creative Excellence is new. Blue Ribbon committee – Phase 2, Survey of 1400 professionals, summary is soon to be released. Issue-based experience will replace Galaxy Conference. Conference Booth as part of the marketing at the member conferences. Peg Ehlers will be president on Jan. 1, 2016.

   f. National 4-H Council –
      Jennifer Sirangelo – Board of Directors, 8 members relate to Cooperative Extension, Bill Hare is rotating off, Michelle Rodgers rotating on the board for Northeast. 40th birthday is in 2016. 2014 received the largest revenue ever. OJJDP $9.8 million in 2015. Relationship with Robert Wood Johnson Foundation is building. International – Lisa Lauxmann and Jennifer are working together to address this need; Korea and China are next to visit. North American partnership is being considered for the future. Working with other organizations to pilot programs how we can help partnerships by 4-H leaders in urban, “Imagine Science”. Save the date April 12-13, 2015 for the 4-H National Conference; USDA is hosting the board meeting.

   g. National 4-H Leadership Committee – Chuck Hibberd
Chuck Hibberd: The committee will meet Portland, Oregon in 2 weeks. The agenda will include an ECOP update, resource updates, a field marketing plan, will put forward the request from ECOP, and request from APLU with question of college recruitment. Process in place where if people have issues they can express concerns and issues that may be addressed by the committee or other outside resources.

Jane: The White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) is interested in increasing the “pipeline” of university students preparing for careers in food, agriculture and natural resources. The 4-H National Leadership Committee has identified Renee McKee, co-chair, Purdue University, to provide a presentation about how 4-H members, compared to their peers, are more likely to attend college. The meeting is in DC on December 1, 2015.

19. Other agenda items

ADJOURN

**ECOP Membership** (attendance is indicated with □ and ●)

**VOTING MEMBERS (8 or more establishes a quorum):**

**1890 Region**
- □ Delbert Foster, South Carolina State University
- ✔ Mark Latimore, Fort Valley State
- ✔ Celvia Stovall, Alabama Cooperative Extension System

**North Central Region**
- □ Chris Boerboom, North Dakota State University
- ✔ Beverly Durgan, University of Minnesota
- ✔ Chuck Hibberd, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

**Northeast Region**
- □ Michael O’Neill, University of Connecticut
- ✔ Michelle Rodgers, University of Delaware
- ✔ Mary Jane Willis, Rutgers University

**Southern Region**
- ✔ Tim Cross, University of Tennessee
- ✔ Jimmy Henning, University of Kentucky
- ✔ James Trapp, Oklahoma State University

**Western Region**
- ✔ Jon Boren, New Mexico State University
- ✔ Scott Reed, Oregon State University
- ✔ Fred Schlutt, University of Alaska Fairbanks

**NON-VOTING MEMBERS:**

**Ex-Officio Members**
- Dennis Calvin, *Chair, eXtension Board of Directors*
- Tim Cross, *University of Tennessee, ECOP Representative to Policy Board of Directors*
- Chris Geith, *CEO, eXtension Board of Directors*
- Robert Holland, *USDA-NIFA*
  - Rick Klemme, University of Wisconsin - Extension, *Chair, ECOP Budget and Legislative Committee*
- Jane Schuchardt, *ECOP Executive Director, Cooperative Extension*

**Liaisons**
- Susan Crowell, *Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching*
- Linda Kirk Fox, *Board on Human Sciences*
- Jennifer Sirangelo, *National 4-H Council*
- Bret Hess for Clarence Watson, *Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy*

**Executive Director and Administrator Team**
- Ron Brown, Southern Region
- Nancy Bull, Northeast Region
- Lyla Houglum, Western Region
- L. Washington Lyons, 1890 Region
- Sandy Ruble, DC Office
- Jane Schuchardt, DC Office
- Robin Shepard, North Central Region

**Guests:**
- Cynthia Gregg, *Virginia Tech, JCEP*
- Kim Gressley, *University of Arizona, JCEP*
- Darren Katz, *kglobal*
- Nick Place, *University of Florida*
- Ian Maw, *APLU*
- Susan Raymond, *Changing Our World, Inc.*
- Keith Smith, *Ohio State University*
- Jim Woodell, *APLU*
APLU Task Force on “The New Engagement”

Purpose and Charge for a Pre-Task Force Planning Team
Outreach starts with a solution, engagement ends with one.

Background
APLU believes it is appropriate timing for public and land-grant universities to dramatically expand efforts of engagement with partners in the communities they serve—members of the public, community organizations, business and industry, state and local government, and others. Fifteen years into a new century, the Kellogg Commission report Returning to Our Roots: The Engaged Institution needs renewed attention to realize its full potential. With vexing national and global problems creating immense economic, environmental, social, and psychological consequences, single entities cannot find and mobilize solutions. Instead, engagement with multiple partners is critical, and public universities can and should be conveners for such efforts.

Purpose
APLU will convene a Planning Team to recommend a process for establishing and engaging APLU members and stakeholders in a Task Force on “The New Engagement” for public higher education. The eventual Task Force will be charged with envisioning a new, broadly inclusive definition for university engagement, and also charged with making recommendations for university actions to realize this vision. Included in this purpose is a plan to fully involve the expertise of Cooperative Extension across multiple university colleges and departments.

Charge
The Planning Team will:

- **Identify engagement- and Extension-related issues** to be examined and addressed by the Task Force on The New Engagement
- **Prepare background materials** for use by the Task Force on the New Engagement
- **Develop a charge** for the Task Force on The New Engagement
- **Design a process and structure** for the Task Force that will help it to:
  - Summarize the current state of university engagement and identify gaps;
  - Recommend strategies to increase the effectiveness of university engagement
- **Organize** a presentation for the APLU 2015 Annual Meeting to learn from university presidents, provosts, dean and others about the how to frame this project for maximum effectiveness.

*Note that the Planning Team may design two or three possible processes/structures, requiring different levels of resources, recognizing that support for a Task Force has not yet been identified.

Timeline

- August – September 2015 – Planning Team co-chairs and members identified and organizational meeting occurs.
- September and October 2015– Efforts underway to address objectives.
- November 2015 through March 2016 – Recommended issues, background materials, charge, and process developed, reviewed, and finalized.
- November 2015 through January 2016 – Exploration of funding for Task Force on The New Engagement
- February 2016 – Recommendations presented to APLU President and Board of Directors for approval and “green light” to proceed with Task Force (pending funding).
Planning Team Membership

Co-Chairs
- Roy Wilson, President, Wayne State University
- Mark Hussey, Vice Chancellor and Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Texas A&M University

While the eventual Task Force will have representation from across many APLU Councils and Commissions, the Planning Team will represent four groups: the Council on Engagement and Outreach (CEO), the Commission on Innovation, Competitiveness, and Economic Prosperity (CICEP), the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP), and the Coalition of Urban Serving Universities (USU). Each of the above-named groups will be asked to nominate three to five individuals to represent the group in the planning team. APLU will select planning team members from among the nominations, and will finalize the group composition to include the broadest possible representation and diversity.

Prepared by Jane Schuchardt, Executive Director, Cooperative Extension/ECOP; Jim Woodell, APLU Assistant Vice President for Innovation and Technology Policy; Peter McPherson, APLU President and CEO, and Ian Maw, APLU Vice President for Food, Environment and Natural Resources.

Back to agenda
Introduction
The Extension Executive Consultants (EEC) are key stakeholder leaders who serve as a consultative group on matters relating to Cooperative Extension (CE) nationally. They offer advice to the Extension Committee on Organization and Policy (ECOP), as Cooperative Extension’s representative leadership and policy-making body, on how best to enhance its programs and accomplish its transformational education mission at the national level. There are several reasons for involving key stakeholders in this role, one being that philosophically and educationally, CE builds programs based on grass-roots input at the local level. Seeking advice and support from stakeholders for a national approach reinforces this principle. There are extant groups that offer assistance to Land-grant programs in securing resources, e.g., CARET, National C-FAR, but Cooperative Extension is not their primary focus. Strategically identified Extension Executive Consultants will add focus to enhancing Extension’s visibility, responsiveness, and effectiveness.

Philosophy and Purpose
The EEC, working with ECOP, builds visibility and opportunity at the national level for Cooperative Extension programs in the U.S. These non-Extension leaders (not employed by CE) will gain an understanding of Cooperative Extension’s mission and accomplishments and assist in sharing that understanding with their peers and others in various organizations. While the EEC’s purpose is not to govern, dictate or administer CE programs, it will be beneficial in raising questions and offering suggestions from an external perspective that may strengthen the ways the CE mission is accomplished. Since a strength of the CE system is its grass-roots program priority determination, it is explicitly recognized that the EEC will not determine programmatic priorities but will offer advice and make recommendations to strengthen national organizational effectiveness.

Mission
The EEC, on behalf of Cooperative Extension, works in a liaison role with current and prospective national partners and ECOP to:
- Advocate with government and national leaders
- Market program impacts
- Promote development of resources
- Enhance program success by advising on issues and opportunities

Panel Member Roles and Responsibilities
- Learn about the CE program and its impacts and ask critical questions; promote checks and balances; advise and provide counsel regarding organizational strategy at the national level; think critically of how to strengthen Extension’s future.
- Identify national issues, trends and opportunities; provide stakeholder input for Extension on a national level; advise on development of national plans of action; provide recommendations for and assist in public and private resource development.
- Identify opportunities for collaboration; help build networks and partnerships and advocate for support and improvement of CE programs.
- Share, interpret and market program impacts, results and value; promote public awareness and visibility, help the national community understand Cooperative Extension; and generate public policy support.

Membership and Meetings
Membership is expected to be around 9-15 members who have the experience and status to be influential on behalf of CE. Five to seven initial nominees will be identified and submitted, with a brief rationale for their nomination, to ECOP for approval. Thereafter, nominations, with supporting rationales, may come from the EEC members and/or from the Extension community for consideration and approval by ECOP. It is intended that the panel represent the breadth of the total CE program, however, focus will be at a national strategy/policy level rather than a programmatic one. Further, membership consideration will be given to the nature of the national groups that heavily influence CE’s funding and success as part of the Land-grant University and USDA system. Members of the EEC may serve for three-year terms, renewable no more than two times with approval of ECOP. Members’ terms will be staggered as new members are added.
Active attendance and participation of EEC members is very important and valued. It is anticipated that the panel will be called on by ECOP for a face to face meeting at least once per year with additional individual and/or subgroup meetings (face to face or electronic) to be held on an ad hoc basis as needed for advice on particular issues. The Chair of ECOP, with assistance of the EDA team, will take the lead in making and maintaining communication with the panel of consultants.

**Officers, Committees and Duties**
As an informal “panel of executive consultants” this group will not have officers or standing committees, other than an agreed-upon convener. It will be important however, to maintain a record of panel membership, communications, and notes of all meetings, whether with the total panel or a subset thereof. This will be a responsibility of the EDA team, with oversight of the ECOP Chair. A very brief report of EEC meetings and actions will be provided at the annual business meeting of the National Extension Director/Administrator meeting.

**Expenses**
The Cooperative Extension System, through ECOP, will provide for direct meeting expenses (electronic meeting technology and/or meeting space, refreshments and meals, as needed), but members of the EEC are expected to donate their time and expenses for travel when face-to-face meetings are held.

**Evaluation**
After three full years of operation and every three years thereafter, the EEC will be evaluated by ECOP to determine whether or not it should continue, and if it should continue, what improvements can be made.

**Amendments**
Amendments to these operating guidelines may be made by ECOP at any regularly scheduled meeting of ECOP with a majority vote of its membership.

Adopted on the _____ of _______________, 20__
Office of the Executive Director (5710)  
Proposed for 2016  Projected 2015

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*Amount is based on estimate from APLU CFO.
**One time purchase of 2 laptops is included.

5710 Summary:

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<td>$192,943</td>
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<tr>
<td>Projected carry over year-end</td>
<td>$279,039</td>
<td>$240,573</td>
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## Strategic Priorities and Operations Expenses (5730)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Proposed for 2016</th>
<th>Projected 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Income</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assessments (fixed)</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$199,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other Income/Interest/Meetings</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$42,250</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Income</strong></td>
<td>$212,000</td>
<td>$241,850</td>
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<td><strong>Expense</strong></td>
<td>$247,632</td>
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<td><strong>ECOP Executive Committee</strong></td>
<td>$28,000</td>
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<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Webinars</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
<td>$800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recognition of ECOP service</td>
<td>$700</td>
<td>$400</td>
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<tr>
<td>Liaison travel</td>
<td>$2,500</td>
<td>$1,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Memberships &amp; related fees</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
<td>$1,800</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous meeting support</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<td>NEDA/Face-to-face (offset by registration)</td>
<td>$12,000</td>
<td>$42,000</td>
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<td>Social Media/Centennial follow-up</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$14,500</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>AES-CES Communications and Marketing Effort</strong></td>
<td>$132,132</td>
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<tr>
<td>kglobal</td>
<td>$110,132</td>
<td>$110,132</td>
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<td>Cornerstone Government Affairs</td>
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<td><strong>National Health Implementation</strong></td>
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<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
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<td>$1,175</td>
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<td><strong>Public/Private Fund Development TBD</strong></td>
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<td><strong>4-H National Leadership Committee</strong></td>
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<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Measuring Excellence in Extension Implementation</strong></td>
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<td>Operation/maintenance of website and database</td>
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<td>Impact statement collection and reporting (TAMU)</td>
<td>$12,500</td>
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<td>Face-to-face team meeting</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>National Impacts Database Committee</strong></td>
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<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
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<tr>
<td>Summary Writing Team Expenses</td>
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**Personnel Committee**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Proposed for 2016</th>
<th>Projected 2015</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excellence in Extension awards</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration for recipients at APLU Annual Mtg</td>
<td>$1,750</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innovation Inventory with Program Committee</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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**Program Committee**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>National Diversity award</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Registration for winner at APLU Annual Meeting</td>
<td>$250</td>
<td>$250</td>
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<tr>
<td>Innovation Inventory with Personnel Committee</td>
<td>$0</td>
<td>$10,000</td>
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**Budget and Legislative Committee (Klemme)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Proposed for 2016</th>
<th>Projected 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Chair travel and committee functions</td>
<td>$3,000</td>
<td>$0</td>
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**5730 Summary:**

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Proposed for 2016</th>
<th>Projected 2015</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Income - Expense</td>
<td>($35,632)</td>
<td>($83,707)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Carry over</td>
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<tr>
<td>Balance Total</td>
<td>$75,604</td>
<td>$109,236</td>
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</table>

[Back to agenda](#)
2016 GOALS

Goal 1: Private Resource Mobilization -- Following discussion of the Changing Our World report, plan and implement strategies for private funding as a complement to public funding for Extension as a national system.

Goal 2: Urban Programming -- While maintaining rural presence, provide guidance for urban programming.

Goal 3: Innovation – Using the Extension Innovation Inventory, encourage implementation of innovation strategies.

Goal 4: Professional Development -- Provide opportunities for directors/administrators to enhance personal, organizational and system leadership skills.

Goal 5: National System – Launch a National Systems Task Force to identify Extension core values, a learner engagement description, and a national logo.

ONGOING PRIORITIES

Core Theme: Build Partnerships and Acquire Resources
- Investigate opportunities for priority programs of national significance (e.g. water security; healthy, health).
- Continue strong advocacy for federal capacity and competitive funding.
- Engage with USDA-NIFA to increase Extension’s value in the federal landscape.
- Expand involvement with national partners (e.g. NC-FAR, NACo).

Core Theme: Increase Strategic Marketing and Communications
- Continue the national strategic alliance with ESCOP.
- Engage fully in the ESS-CES-AHS Communications and Marketing Project.

Core Theme: Enhance Leadership and Professional Development
- Provide an annual conference for directors/administrators and webinars to enhance peer-to-peer learning.
- Encourage maximum participation in LEAD-21) and FSLI.
- Provide orientation for new ECOP members and welcome letters to new Directors/Administrators.

Core Theme: Strengthen Organizational Functioning
- Encourage continued excellence of the ECOP 4-H National Leadership Committee.
- Through the eXtension Foundation Board of Directors, assure eXtension is viewed as a function of Extension.
• Assure the Executive Director and Administrator (ED/A) Team collaborates effectively to achieve ECOP goals.

• Continue strong alignment of the Cooperative Extension Section with the APLU BAA.

• Provide ongoing communications to directors/administrators through the *ECOP Monday Minute* and at [www.extension.org/ecop](http://www.extension.org/ecop).
Extension Committee on Organization & Policy (ECOP)

2016 Organizational Structure
As of 9.30.15

Liaisons to ECOP
Board on Human Sciences • Council for Agricultural Research, Extension and Teaching • Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy • National 4-H Council • USDA- National Institute of Food and Agriculture

ECOP Representation in Other Organizations
Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy • Extension Disaster Education Network • Joint Council of Extension Professionals • Board on Agriculture Assembly Policy Board of Directors, Committee on Legislation and Policy and the Budget and Advocacy Committee • Journal of Extension • LEAD 21 (Leadership for the 21st Century) • NC-FAR (National Coalition for Food and Agriculture Research)
**December 2015-November 2016 ECOP Calendar as of 9.28.15**

Michelle Rodgers, Chair

*Note: Dates are subject to change or cancellation. View current versions of the calendar at [www.extension.org/ecop](http://www.extension.org/ecop). Please contact the ECOP National Office [sandy.ruble@extension.org](mailto:sandy.ruble@extension.org) for questions.*

### Monthly ECOP Calendar (All Times Eastern Except Where Noted)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>December</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>27</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>9-11</td>
<td></td>
<td>FACE-TO-FACE – ECOP, Thurs. 8AM-4PM/Fri. 8AM-Noon, University of Delaware, Newark, DE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>25</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>TBD*</td>
<td></td>
<td>FACE-TO-FACE – ECOP, Tues. 1-5PM/Wed. 1-5PM, Southern Region</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>21-22**</td>
<td></td>
<td>FACE-TO-FACE – ECOP, Wed. 1-5PM (MT) and Thurs. 8AM-Noon (MT), Moran, WY</td>
</tr>
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<td>October</td>
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<td>11 a.m.-Noon</td>
<td>ECOP Executive Committee via Zoom</td>
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<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>14</td>
<td></td>
<td>Monday Dinner at APLU Annual Meeting, Austin, TX</td>
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### National Dates of Interest

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<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>Joint CARET/AHS Meeting, Omni Shoreham, Washington, DC</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>14-17</td>
<td>EFNEP Conference, Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>22-25</td>
<td>eXtension National Conference, San Antonio, TX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>6-8</td>
<td>National Health Outreach Conference, Roanoke, VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>10-13</td>
<td>PILD, Hyatt Regency, Crystal City, VA</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>TBD*</td>
<td>Joint COPs, location TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>19-22**</td>
<td>ESS/CES-NEDA Meeting, Jackson Lake Lodge, Moran, WY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>November</td>
<td>13-15</td>
<td>APLU Annual Meeting, Austin, TX</td>
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</table>

### 2016 Regional Association Dates of Interest

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<th>Month</th>
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<th>Event Details</th>
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<tr>
<td>January</td>
<td>25-28</td>
<td>Association of Extension Administrators, location TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>March</td>
<td>29-April 1</td>
<td>WAAESD/WEDA/WRPLC Joint Meeting, New Mexico</td>
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<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>25-28</td>
<td>ASRED/SAAESD/SR-AHS/CARET, Virgin Islands, USA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June/July</td>
<td>20-23</td>
<td>1890s Region, location TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>North Central Region Mini Land-grant Meeting, Illinois</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>11-15</td>
<td>Western Region Joint Summer Meeting (WRJSM), West Yellowstone, MT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>22-26</td>
<td>AEA/ASRED/PLN Joint Meeting, Nashville, TN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>TBD</td>
<td>NCCEA Fall Conference, Indiana</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*ECOP Meets at Joint COPs Meeting  
**ECOP Meets at ESS/CES-NEDA Meeting

[Back to agenda](#)
What is Cooperative Extension? Cooperative Extension (Extension) translates science for practical applications; engages with the public by providing reliable information leading to positive action; and transforms individuals, families, communities, and businesses in both rural and urban areas. Extension operates through the nationwide land-grant university system and is a partnership among the federal government (through the USDA’s National Institute of Food and Agriculture) and state and local governments. Extension is the nation’s premier local and online educational leader for strengthening the profitability of animal and plant production systems; protecting our rich natural resources and environment; ensuring an abundant and safe food supply; preparing for and responding to economic and natural disasters; fostering greater energy independence; helping families, youth, and individuals be physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy, and enhancing workforce preparation and life skills.

How does Cooperative Extension work? Extension’s unique structure consists of university faculty members and local educators. Campus-based faculty members are disciplinary specialists with doctoral degrees whose primary responsibility is to develop curricula that translate science-based research results into language (written, verbal, and electronic) appropriate for targeted audiences. County-based educators (most of whom have graduate degrees) work with local citizens and online interest groups to determine educational needs and serve as trusted resources for information. They also bring groups together to solve problems, evaluate the effectiveness of learning tools, and collect grassroots input to prioritize future research. By living and working in communities, county educators respond to local needs, build trust, and engage effectively with citizens.

How is Cooperative Extension funded? Capacity funding from federal, state, and county appropriations is the critical foundation of Extension resources complemented by grants obtained through competitive processes. Contracts, fees and gifts also provide some support. The Extension mission - to translate, engage, and transform - along with its strong off-campus, community-based structure, makes it complementary to, though quite different from, research and requires a different funding model. For example, research scientists may address a particular question, such as developing a new, highly nutritious vegetable variety. This development may be accomplished by one or a few selected universities with results useful on a broad scale. In contrast, the Extension role of helping people understand the benefits of eating more nutritious foods, and acquiring the knowledge, skills and motivation to take positive action, must be carried out in communities in the 3,000-plus counties in the United States, and must be repeated over many years to achieve broad adoption with each new generation of learners. While a few innovators adapt research findings with ease, the majority of the population benefits from the engagement of Extension to solve problems and improve their economic and social conditions.

Education leading to positive behavioral change requires sustained capacity funding. While Cooperative Extension often is referenced as “the envy of the world” in the United States, the purchasing power of federal capacity funding, authorized in the farm bill and distributed via formula to land-grant universities to support Extension programs, has slowly eroded. Capacity funds, often leveraged three- to four-fold with other funding, enable the
persistent and trusted intervention necessary for transformational learning to take place in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community economic development. This type of continuous funding, as opposed to time-limited and location-specific competitive funds, is also necessary for Extension to be able to respond rapidly to urgent needs such as hurricanes, floods, fire, drought, crop disease or pest outbreaks, and infectious diseases.

Why is capacity funding essential for Extension?

- **To change lives.** See [www.landgrantimpacts.org](http://www.landgrantimpacts.org) for impact reports and statements of public value.
- **To provide rapid response.** The Extension Disaster Education Network [http://eden.lsu.edu](http://eden.lsu.edu) provides real-time alerts and resources so Extension educators in local communities can respond to urgent needs resulting from hurricanes, floods, oil spills, fire, drought, pest outbreaks, and human, livestock and crop infectious diseases.
- **To continually engage with the public.** Extension helps people acquire the knowledge, skills, and motivation to take positive action. In order to achieve broad adoption, education must be repeated over many years with each new generation of learners in multiple communities in the Nation’s 3,000-plus counties.
- **To leverage state and local funding.** Capacity funds, often leveraged three- to four-fold with other public funding, enable the persistent and trusted intervention necessary for transformational learning to take place in agriculture and natural resources, family and consumer sciences, 4-H youth development, and community economic development.
- **To solidify the legislated partnership with USDA-NIFA.** Extension operates through the nationwide land-grant university system and is a partnership among the federal government (through the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture) and state and local governments.
- **To operate as a national system.** National program leadership through Extension’s federal partner, USDA-NIFA, and policy guidance through the Extension Committee on Organization & Policy (ECOP) links Extension together, thus making local, state, and regional work more proactive and effective.
- **To develop partnerships.** None of the major societal issues addressed by Extension programs, such as safe food, energy independence, animal and plant production profitability, and obesity prevention can be addressed singularly. Sustained capacity funding creates the infrastructure whereby expertise can be linked with experts in federal departments in addition to USDA, non-profit organizations, foundations, and the private sector to change behaviors.
- **To compete in the federal grants environment.** In order to engage with time-limited and location-specific competitively funded projects, Extension must have university faculty members and local educators in place to understand the issues, and develop proposals together with researchers, academicians, and community leaders.
- **To inform research questions and translate science to practice.** With Extension’s local presence nationwide, faculty and educators are uniquely available to identify emerging research questions, connect with campus faculty to find answers, and take findings to the field for immediate application. While a few innovators adapt research findings with ease, the majority of the population benefits from the engagement of Extension to solve problems and improve their economic and social conditions.
- **Some examples** –
  - Sustaining agriculture and the nation’s food supply – Better pasture management practices in Missouri led to more than $100 million in new investments in dairy operations in the state, which, in turn, generally $40 million in annual milk sales and supported 1,100 new jobs.
  - Helping youth build the future – 4-H programs implemented by Extension across the nation involve nearly 6 million youth who are three times more likely to contribute to their communities and two times more likely to go to college.
  - Building economic viability in communities: The Stronger Economics Together program, operating in 28 states, leveraged nearly $12 million in resources to help communities across rural America work together on economic development blueprints that strategically build on current and emerging economics strengths of their regions.
  - Fostering better nutrition and health: Kansas State Research and Extension works with local partners to offer Walk Kansas. Annually, more than 16,000 people report improved overall health and motivation to exercise as a result of the eight-week program encouraging them to walk more than 400 miles.
Joint Council of Extension Professionals
Update Fall 2015
Kimberly Gressley, President, University of Arizona

Summary of Accomplishments

The JCEP Board has approved a new mission statement and strategic plan.

- “To elevate the awareness of Extension’s national reputation as an organization of excellence, synergistically leverage the efforts of the member associations, foster leadership and collaboration, provide professional development and scholarship opportunities, and advocate for the Extension profession.”
- The newly approved three-year strategic plan will guide us forward and can be found on the JCEP website: http://www.jcep.org

The JCEP board is comprised of the President’s Council (President-Elect-President-Past President) of each association, including: NAE4-HA, NACAA, NEAFCS, ESP, ANREP, NACDEP & NEAPSDP.

In 2016, the JCEP Leadership Conference, focused on the theme: “Leadership across Generations.” It will be held in Las Vegas for one more year, February 9-10, and then has been approved by the board to move to Orlando, Florida, for the next two years.

Update on the Blue Ribbon Committee: This committee was created to provide a new professional development opportunity for Extension Personnel.

- Phase I focused on exploring the possibility of creating a focus-based, emerging national issues learning opportunity.
- Phase II created a survey to determine perception of emerging issues and future conference structure. 1,400 individuals from across the nation responded. The committee has drafted a two-page summary of the results….soon to be released.

Update on PILD: Jeff Holland (Life member of NAE4-HA) agreed to chair this committee. The theme is Innovation: The Story of Extension. Keynote speakers are currently being negotiated with. The conference will be held at the same hotel in Crystal City, Virginia, April 10-13, 2016.

A NEW award, “The JCEP Award for Creative Excellence” has been approved and is ready for distribution through the seven associations. The new award has been specifically designed to provide recognition for creativity and innovation around emerging issues. The JCEP board hopes that this new award will be exciting for all Extension employees, especially the Millennials.

Upcoming Plans

- With the addition of the new, approved strategic plan, it is time to create Action Steps for the plan. Volunteers will be solicited to work on these steps next month.
- A new JCEP member orientation will take place in November, 2015. This will be organized by the President.
- As the current marketing team finalizes their work by December, 2015, the new marketing team will review the JCEP Marketing Plan and determine how they will further educate association members of all seven associations in the coming year. This team is chaired each year by the President-Elect.
- The President (K. Gressley) and President-Elect (C. Gregg) are honored and excited to be involved and welcomed to participate in ECOP and NEDA meetings.

ECOP agreed at the Charleston meeting in March, 2015, to lend their expertise as partners to support the execution of the first conference moving forward. We thank you for the support and will remind our Blue Ribbon Chair of this offer. Thank you!
The PILD committee will continue to lean on Dr. Lyons and Dr. Houglum for their active participation on the JCEP PILD team. We will continue to ask for their assistance with Cornerstone as we blend speakers into the program to uniform the overall message given to all PILD participants.

2015-2016 JCEP Officers
President ~ Kimberly Gressley (NAE4-HA)
President-Elect ~ Cynthia Gregg (NACAA)
Treasurer ~ Michael Darger (NACDEP) who will finish his duties in December: Peg Ehlers (NEAFCS)
Secretary ~ Ann Berry (ESP)

Back to agenda
Budget:

2016

- NIFA is currently operating in FY 2016 under a temporary Continuing Resolution that provides funds through December 11.
- Funding is provided at the annualized rate of FY 2015 less 0.2108 percent. For NIFA, this would equate to a total annual reduction of $2.729 million.
- NIFA is responding to questions regarding the 2016 budget proposals as well as conducting planning and implementation activities for 2016 programs as appropriate, including release of some program Requests for Applications.
- NIFA is examining the options to provide first quarter funds during the temporary CR for most capacity/formula programs.

2017

- The Department request is pending at the Office of Management and Budget. We continue to respond to inquiries and provide information to support the Secretary’s funding request.
- It is not clear if any of the issues pending on the Hill (including discussions about the debt ceiling, leadership changes, or appropriations actions) will have an impact on the OMB Passback timeline. We still expect to hear from OMB shortly after Thanksgiving.
- The President’s budget is scheduled to be submitted to Congress on February 1.

2018

- NIFA expects to begin planning for 2018 as early as February. Faint whispers have already been heard.

1890 Activities:
USDA FY 2016 Congressional Directive: The Department is directed to develop and submit a plan of action to the Committees on Appropriations of the House and Senate to cooperatively work with the States to meet the matching requirements for research and extension activities.

Draft Plan Submitted October 1, 2015
Met with Congressional staffers two times to provide updates on progress with the matching plan
Matching FAQs have been compiled and shared with OSEC and Congressional staffers
1890’s 125th Anniversary Centers of Excellence
Center for Innovation and Sustainable Small Farms, Ranches, and Forest Owners
Virtual Center to Motivate and Educate for Achievement
Center for Excellence for International Engagement and Development

Unliquated Obligations:
All LGUs Unliquated Obligations were at $100 million for 2010 – 2015
Exact accounting will be available after October 15.
Contact Ms. Cynthia Montgomery in OGFM should you have any questions

LGU Status:
H.R. 3022 introduced requiring that Grambling State University be eligible for 1890 LGU status
This is an evolving concern as other universities have requested information on gaining 1862 LGU status

Plan Of Work
NIFA leadership has reviewed and made comments
Expect to hear from Katelyn Sellers and Bart Hewitt soon

Travel
OMB has lifted some of NIFA’s travel restrictions
OD is addressing travel allocations in support mission critical travel

New Personnel
Dr. Jeanette Thurston has been appointed as the Science Program Analysis Office
Search underway to fill the position Director, International Programs

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ESCOP Liaison Report

October 15, 2015

Presenter: Clarence Watson

ESS Section meeting: The ESS/ARD section Meeting and Workshop took place September 28-October 1, 2015 in Charlotte, NC. Dr. Shirley Hymon-Parker (NC A&T) is the new ESCOP Chair.

Multistate Research Award for Excellence: The following regional winners were nominated for the 2014 National Multistate Research:

NC140: Improving Economic and Environmental Sustainability in Tree-Fruit Production Through Changes in Rootstock Use
NE1201: Mycobacterial Diseases of Animals
S1049: Integrated Management of Pecan Arthropod Pests in the Southern U.S.
W2128: Beneficial and Adverse Effects of Natural, Bioactive Dietary Chemicals on Human Health and Food Safety

The winner (NC140) will be recognized at the APLU meeting in Indianapolis.

ESS Excellence in Leadership Award  This award recognizes those who have served the Regional Associations, ESCOP, ESS and/or Land-grant System with exemplary distinction. Winners for 2015 are

- Dr. Alton Thompson, Provost and Exec. VP Academic Affairs, Delaware State University
- Dr. Fred Cholick, former Dean and Director (retired), Kansas State University (President and Chief Executive, Kansas State University Foundation) (retired)
- Dr. Michael P. Hoffmann, Director, Cornell Univ. AES
- Eric Young, Executive Director, SAAESD
- Dr. Ron Pardini, Professor of Biochemistry, Univ. Nevada Reno, former AES Associate Director and Interim Dean and Director

The Budget & Legislative Committee  A group from ESCOP, ECOP, the BAC and Policy Board met with Sonny Ramaswamy and Bob Holland during the Joint COPS meeting to ascertain what was needed to strengthen the Water Security Initiative. Robin Shepard and Mike Harrington worked to address the stated needs. The document was transmitted to Sonny by Policy Board Chair, Jay Akridge on August 11, 2015.

A Strategic Marketing Campaign document has been prepared as a generic template to guide future initiatives such as the Water Security Initiative. The ESCOP and ECOP Budget and Legislative Committees are also developing a process document to guide the development of new initiatives. Mike Harrington led this effort, engaging the B&L committee members.
A breakfast meeting of ESCOP and ECOP members was held during the Joint COPs meeting. Both Chairs participate in the respective committee conference calls. It was agreed that the committees should remain separate but coordinate their activities, bringing together the unique perspectives from each committee. To that end, a joint ESCOP-ECOP Budget and Legislative Committee meeting is being planned for the AHS-CARET meeting in March 2016.

**National Research Support Program:** The National Research Support Program (NRSP) provides off the top funding in support of research. For FY 2016, there are eight NRSPs funded for a total of $2.4 million. Current NRSP projects (Termination date):

- NRSP-3: The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) (2019)
- NRSP-4: Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses (2020)
- NRSP-6: The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (Solanum) Germplasm (2020)
- NRSP-7: A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs (2016)
- NRSP-10: Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research (2019)

The recommendation to terminate **NRSP-7** (Minor use Animal Drug Program) after FY 2016 was approved by ESS. The project will receive a one-year budget allocation to complete ongoing projects.

**2016 Joint ESS-CES Meeting:** The meeting is scheduled for September 19-22, 2016 at Jackson Lake Lodge, Jackson Hole, WY

**Action Requested:** Information Only