

Board on Agriculture Assembly
__Experiment Station Section__ Report to Policy Board of Directors

PBD Member __Gary Thompson__

Reporting Period __Nov '16 – Apr '17__

Section Chair __Bret Hess__

(Please check the BAA-PBD Goals that each activity directly addresses.)

BAA Section Activities (Briefly describe activities since previous reporting period)	*Goals	Emerging Issues and Future Directions	Resource Advocacy	Farm Bill and Legislative Action	System Integration
ESCOP, regional associations, Executive Directors work to assure that all Directors, especially those in new positions, are informed of developments.		X	X	X	X
All ESCOP and ESS documents, agendas, presentations, etc. are found on the website. There is a direct link from the ESCOP site to the Policy Board website.		X			X
ESCOP continues to support LEAD21 and the Food Systems Leadership Institute.		X			X
ESCOP participates as a partner in the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee with NIFA and ARS to advise on managing the national plant germplasm repositories.		X			X
ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee members work to identify initiatives from the research community and advance them for incorporation into the System's advocacy effort. FY 2018 budget priorities are tentatively set and discussion is beginning on FY 2019.		X	X		X
ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee and the Communication & Marketing Committee and Executive Directors continue to assist Cornerstone and kglobal in developing appropriate communication vehicles to promote federal budget priorities.		X	X	X	X
The ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee have identified potential items for the next Farm Bill. Our representative, Bill Brown, and the Executive Directors are working with the Committee for Legislation and Policy to identify and define Farm Bill changes.		X	X	X	X
ESCOP's regional representatives from the POW/AR Review Panel are working with NIFA to implement recommendations for improving the POW and Annual Report.		X			X
ESCOP is a member of NC-FAR with Ernie Minton as the representative to their Board.		X	X	X	X
ESCOP Excellence in Leadership Award was established to recognize individuals who have served the Regional Associations, ESCOP, ESS, and the Land-Grant System with exemplary distinction. Regions choose an awardee that is recognized at the APLU awards ceremony.		X			
The ESCOP and ECOP Chairs continue their strategic alliance by having regular conference calls and meetings with key decision makers in NIFA, other federal agencies and offices.		X	X	X	X

(Please check the BAA-PBD Goals that each new activity will directly address.)

BAA Section Planned and New Activities (Briefly describe any new activities planned for next year. Do not include continuing activities)	*Goals	Emerging Issues and Future Directions	Resource Advocacy	Farm Bill and Legislative Action	System Integration
ESCOP will continue to support the Water Security Initiative as advanced by the Water Working Group and approved by all Sections, the BAC and the PBD.		X	X	X	X
ESCOP will continue to support the joint BAA/BoHS Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People initiative by working to assist in implementing the multi-agency funding strategy developed by the follow-up committee.		X	X	X	X
The ESCOP Budget & Legislative Committee had another joint meeting with the ECOP B&L during the CARET/AHS meeting in March to discuss budget issues of mutual interests.		X	X	X	X
The ESCOP Diversity Catalyst Committee is implementing recommendations from the report to supplement institutional, regional and national diversity and inclusion efforts. Three diversity training sessions were held for ESCOP and NIFA personnel, and others, during the CARET/AHS meeting in March. Another sessions will be part of the ESS Workshop in Sep.		X			X
The National IPM Coordinating Committee (NIPMCC), a subcommittee of the ESCOP Science & Technology Committee, has developed their Rules of Operations to guide coordination of national IPM efforts.		X	X	X	X
ESCOP is a partner in the Communication and Marketing Committee and is working on the shift of focus for the Ag Is America project from “building” to “engagement” through a new content-creation strategy focusing on the BAA priority areas, streamlined internal communications and an emphasis on robust interactions within our digital communities.			X	X	X
The EDs and ADs are working with Clemson ITT to redo the ESCOP web site with a contemporary look and feel, more efficient and logical organization, and some content of interest to external users.					X

*Please see the attached 2007-2012 BAA-PBD Plan of Work Goals and Actions for more information on goals.