

**Board on Agriculture Assembly**  
**\_\_Experiment Station Section\_\_ Report to Policy Board of Directors**

**PBD Member** Steve Slack      **Reporting Period** Nov '14 – Mar '15      **Section Chair** Bob Shulstad

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

<b>BAA Section Activities</b> (Briefly describe activities since previous reporting period)	<b>*Goals</b>	<b>Emerging Issues and Future Directions</b>	<b>Resource Advocacy</b>	<b>Farm Bill and Legislative Action</b>	<b>System Integration</b>
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 web site.		X			X
ESCOP continues to support Lead 21 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 2016 budget priorities have been determined and FY 2017 priorities are being discussed.		X	X		X
ESCOP Budget & Legislative, Communication & Marketing Committees and the Executive Directors continue to assist Cornerstone in developing appropriate communication vehicles to promote federal budget priorities.		X	X	X	X
The Executive Directors work to keep ESS members informed of progress and issues related to implementation of the new Farm Bill.		X	X	X	X
ESCOP continues to interact with NIFA on REEport, CIS, POW, and Annual Report. The region's representatives on POW/AR Review panel will transmit suggestions from AES directors and business officers to assist NIFA in improving the POW and Annual Report.		X			X
ESCOP has selected its sixth multistate project for the Excellence in Multistate Research national award, W-2128, Microirrigation for sustainable water use.		X			X
ESCOP is a member of NC-FAR with Nancy Cox as the representative to their Board. Dr. Cox also is Past Chair of the Communication & Marketing Committee and, along with Hunt Shipman, acts as a link between the marketing effort and NC-FAR.		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			

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

<p align="center"><b>BAA Section Planned and New Activities</b> (Briefly describe any new activities planned for next year. Do not include continuing activities)</p>	<p align="center"><b>*Goals</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Emerging Issues and Future Directions</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Resource Advocacy</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>Farm Bill and Legislative Action</b></p>	<p align="center"><b>System Integration</b></p>
<p>The Administrative Heads have joined the ESCOP/ECOP Communications and Marketing initiative and their Rules of Operations have been changed accordingly. Kglobal has done message testing over the past few months to determine what type of message resonates most clearly with decision makers and the general public.</p>		X	X		X
<p>Kglobal and numerous institutions did press releases announcing the public opening of the ECOP/ESCOP Impact Database and Public Search Site at landgrantimpacts.org on March 2.</p>		X	X	X	X
<p>At NIFA's request, ESCOP is leading an effort to inventory the Land-grant institutions infrastructure repair and renovation needs. Sightlines' survey has been distributed and they've held two instructional webinars. Survey analysis is expected by mid-summer.</p>			X	X	
<p>A joint BAA/BoHS Steering Committee has been appointed on Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People. ESCOP has two representatives on this committee and one Executive Director support person. The Steering Committee has recently asked for nominations to set up a subgroup to determine knowledge gaps and research priorities in this broad area.</p>		X	X	X	X
<p>The ESCOP Science &amp; Technology Committee is developing a response to the National Research Council's AFRI review and recommendations. Their next effort is to make comments and recommendations to USDA/REE on the recently released document outlining agency plans for public access to publications and data sets.</p>		X		X	
<p>ESCOP proposed a system-wide futuring effort and a small steering committee, chaired by Mike Hoffmann, with representatives from the five BAA Sections. The PBD has approved funding for this initiative and the committee is having discussions with various futuring groups for potential professional facilitation.</p>		X			X

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