ACOP Winter - Meeting Wednesday February 29, 2012

**Welcome & Introductions – Josef Broder**

Joe Broder, Nancy Irlbeck, Linda Martin, Wendy Fink, Cameron Faustman, John, Foltz, Don Boggs, Charles Boyer, Jay Bell, Don Marshall, Dale Gallenberg, Ian Maw

**Approval of Minutes: November 12, 2011 Nancy Irlbeck (past secretary)**

Mintues distributed for review and approval. Minor typographical errors noted.

Approved as corrected –

**Executive Director/Vice President’s Report – Ian Maw (see 2012 Winter Mtg Executive Director’s Report)**

Met two weeks ago to review budget request – few surprises. Budget is a good one from our perspective. BAC endorsed proposed changes.

Proposed increase in AFRI reflects administration’s commitment to research. See Appropriations request handout for details.

Efforts ongoing to communicate importance of these appropriations to those on the hill. Good reports on early visits, but it’s a tough budget year, difficult to predict outcome.

Super Committee set budget cap, but how that is apportioned needs to be determined. Could see a 10% cut next year if government operates under a continuing resolution and sequestration kicks in. Defense is attempting to get exempt from sequestration – this could have a profound impact on other agencies, resulting in potential cuts as high as 20%.

Higher Ed lines were broken out again this year, and restored what was lost in last year’s budget.

Committee on Legislation & Policy – recommendations adopted at Fall meeting have been forwarded to Hill for consideration if and when a new farm bill is introduced. Staff in the hill seem to indicate that there will be a farm bill. Matching fund and indirect cost issues are a concern. Universities would like to see full negotiated rate, but APLU advocates staying near current 30%. Will continue watching the Farm Bill. USDA-REE talked to APLU about potential components of the farm bill, including formation of a foundation to support research within USDA. This would allow non-federal funds to move into the research foundation to be used for research. NIH has a research foundation.

Cameron Faustman pointed out that USDA allows overhead charge on full amount (direct & indirect) on subwards. In other words charging indirect on indirects. USDA could expand research awards if they have a cap on this practice.

Cornerstone Government Affairs – contract is up in December. APLU has been authorized by BAC to negotiate a new 3 year contract.

Lead-21 –Fanning Institute contract was terminated and deficit was covered through a loan from the Policy Board to Lead-21. RFP process used to solicit management proposals. University of Minn will manage the program for a year. University of Georgia was awarded the new contract. 80 applicants for the next class

FSLI – continues to be a viable program. Filling every class remains an issue however.

No update to November Budget report at this time. Will provide report next time we meet.

Salary Survey – provides a resource to universities for budget planning and establishing salary levels. In past years ~60 institutions replied. This past year, only 32 responses. Should APLU continue the survey? Discussion on cause of low response rate and what can be done. Significant number of interim deans and turnover at associate dean level may play a role. Could ask support of regional chairs in sending the message that data are important. Several attendees commented that they have successfully used these data to advocate for competitive salaries.

Meeting Attendance – current meeting has lowest meeting attendance in years (44 people registered, half are ASCAARR). Discussion on timing, budget constraints, value of National Meeting for APS members, role of Dean in promoting attendance by Associate Deans. Will bring this up at APS business meeting to continue the conversation.

AHS Meeting – Proposal to change voting privilege procedures. Would not disenfranchise anyone, rather would provide vote to chairs who report and participate, but don’t currently vote – CLP and Budget advocacy, AHS would end up with 4 votes because Deans occupy those seats.

Seats on the Policy Board

Insular islands

Non land grants

All COPS, ACOP, ECOP, ICOP…

1890s

1994s

AHS

Request for feedback from ACOP – official position requested.

Proposal to support CAST through assessment – BAA would support Cast at $150,000 through an additional $150 assessment. This was referred to committee. Would give full access to all publications, Friday Notes…

**Policy Board of Directors meeting - Linda Martin**

Concern about HE grants being rolled into AFRI and importance of FAEIS data. Congress had rolled 3 programs into AFRI and reduced the allocation. FAEIS was affected due to fee drawn on AFRI allocation. The President’s budget restores this as separate items.

Drafted resolution - Need copy for minutes.

**Budget & Advocacy Committee Report – Don Marshall**

Wanted to make sure that funded programs remain active and visible whether or not the associated lines are rolled into AFRI. Congress wants to consolidate USDA lines – too many individual lines. Administrative costs on each line are a concern.

Need to have a clear understanding of how much funding is going to APS initiatives over the past several years.

Need to make sure AHS is fully aware of the ACOP priorities.

**Report from CARET – Louise Beaman**

Visiting congressional staff to communicate importance of programs. Need to have faculty in place in order to do competitive grants. Need both research and education.

Need all three legs of the stool to keep agriculture strong – teaching, research and extension.

Left packet of materials with congressional staffers. Tried to make sure they understand the need for all three pieces.

Special thank you from ACOP to Louise for her work as CARET Liaison

**Committee on Legislation & Policy Report – Cameron Faustman**

Ian covered it all!

Early September meeting – two main topics - indirect costs and matching funds, and the consolidation of lines. Research reps favor more competitive funding, extension members do not favor more competitive funding.

**NIFA/HEP Report – Jermelina Tupas**

Focus on education programs in the President’s budget

NIFA – still don’t have NIFA director announced.

New Asst Director for Food safety.

Still waiting for Asst Direct for Community and Family

Stakeholder meeting/listening session for all AFRI programs on Feb 22nd. Focus on feedback for 2013 RFAs.

Next stakeholder meeting/listening session 3/26 for NIFA – deadline for comments 3/19.

Will work on RFAs after all feedback is received.

4/10 – 4/26 – Listening session for NIFA programs

Non-Land Grant Universities Capacity Building Grants – no funding written in for 2013. Might be because it’s in the 2012 Farm Bill and might be included in a new farm bill.

Community and Education – several program director meetings. Meeting at NIFA well attended, shows programs are valued. Helped to fully communicate range of programs.

USA Science & Engineering Festival 4/26-4/29. USDA is going to participate this year – 12 booths representing range of programs. Targets K-12 students and their parents. Will highlight USDA STEM priorities.

Is agriculture part of STEM? USDA says yes, NSF says no. Need to consider how research is described and target description to funding agency.

NIFA has most of education program focused on STEM. Inventory would classify different types of STEM investment. GAO and OSTP inventories are different. Inventory is used for strategic planning and the budget process. Some programs that weren’t identified in STEM were cut. Going to start looking at impact outcomes and programs that don’t meet minimum criteria for success may be shifted or eliminated.

NSF will be talking about transforming BIO undergrad education. They will have a meeting sometime in 2013 about supporting this. Want USDA to be part of this because BIO is a foundation topic for agriculture.

**Board on Human Sciences Report – Pamela White**

Not present – no report

**AASCARR Report – Dale Gallenberg**

Nothing to add to Jermalina and Ian’s reports.

AASCARR annual meeting 10/8-10/10 2012.

Capacity grants – working on recommendations. Received funding one year, not next year. Restoring capacity grants is a priority. It is a competitive program.

Greg Smith is the program leader for NLGUCBG – direct questions and comments to him.

**Lead 21 - Cary Green**

Not present – Ian Maw presented update as part of director’s report.

**AG\*IDEA – Don Boggs**

Friday morning annual meeting – all welcome to attend.

Program continues to grow, but facing a potential cash shortfall as program grows faster than revenues.

Has been some concern as a non-land grant joined. May have a probationary membership to provide opportunities. Ag Ed – new program coming online. Plant breeding, Ag Law, coming along.

Will take some time to break even financially.

Some of the funding is coming from Challenge grants.

Looking at how to deal with higher tuition institutions. Some institutions are unable to participate due to the lower tuition coming from the program.

How can this be publicized?

**APS Programs Winter Meeting – Wendy FInk**

10:30 – Federal graduate programs presentation

Afternoon –overview of NSF, with breakout sessions. Regional Meetings

**APS Summit – Nancy Irlbeck**

Going to be the best ever.

Shaping Culture of Teaching and Advising – Dale Whitaker, Purdue, keynote speaker

Look at status of teaching and advising

How do we bring about culture change in universities that are resistant to change

Braking down the barriers

Using science to teach science

Teaching and advising in challenging economic times

Strategic Partnerships – industry, international partners, community colleges

How do we measure the impact of teaching?

How do we market that value on campus and off-campus?

Professional Organizations will be invited.

Question: could increasing diversity in agriculture be included, teaching a diverse student body, establishing a campus culture that reflects cultural diversity

**Future Summits/Regional Workshops Meeting Attendance – Ian Maw & Wendy Fink**

Most regional meetings are teaching workshops. National Summit is a different focus. National summit this year is targeting heads, assoc, dean, and deans – people in decision-making positions and people who are functional leaders and likely future administrators.

National summit competes with the regional summit for attendance, but more faculty and graduate students can go to regional summits.

National Summit allows us to pool resources. This has also built momentum over the past few years.

Support expressed for an alternate year schedule for the National Summit. Would allow more time for planning and eliminate competition with regional meeting. Would allow time to target sponsors to alleviate financial impact on APS.

Some regions join forces to offer joint workshops (teaching, staff) between regions.

Motion (Boggs) Move to alternate year program Second (Irlbeck). No discussion. Unanimous vote for approval.

**Future Winter Meetings - Ian Maw & Wendy Fink**

See above

**Salary Survey - Ian Maw & Wendy Fink**

See above

**International – Ian Maw**

Malcolm Butler, new VP for International. Looking into how to re-invigorate international ag program. Might be able to link Commission on International Program and International Ag. New program called Commission on International initiatives. Bobby Moser (The Ohio State University) with be the first chair of this Commission.

ICA Meeting – Banff – October 2012. European colleagues –ICA – European universities of life sciences working with Canadian agricultural Colleges, planning a conference on Bio-Economy. Making a big push to get graduate students to that meeting. APS will propose that we match the $15,000 Canadian fund to support graduate student travel. Awards will be competitive. Expected conference attendance is about 200.

**New Business – Josef Broder**

Wendy Fink – Solicitation upcoming for CEFFR Plenary. APS might consider a teaching topic.

Motion (Boggs): Appoint a committee to investigate possible topics. Second: Gallenberg.

Don Boggs, ask APS group for additional volunteers.

Don Boggs – Latinos in Agriculture Conference. Interesting addressed some topics: recruiting employment. Great speakers. Planning a second summit, encourage participation.

Jermalina Tupas– SACNAS offering summer leadership program for postdocs and other professionals. Must be SACNAS member and hold a PhD. ARS also has a lot of research internship opportunities.

**Adjourn 4:35**

**Announcements**

Upcoming Meeting Dates

7/22-7/26/2012 - joint COP last 2 days are joint COPS, Savannah. Savannah Marriot Riverfront.

11/10-11/13.2012 - APLU Annual meeting - 11/10/2012 ACOP – 11-13 Rest of Meeting in Denver, CO

2/27- 3/1/2013, Hilton Alexandria Old Town, 2013 ACOP Winter Meeting