



Academic Committee on Organization and Policy Winter Meeting

Hilton Crystal City, Arlington, VA
Wednesday, March 7, 2018

Minutes- DRAFT

The meeting called to order at 12:42 pm by ACOP Chair, Tracy Hoover

Introduction of Attendees:

Gary Blair, CARET
David Buchanan, North Dakota State University
Cynda Clary, Oklahoma State University
Penny Diebel, Oregon State University
Tracy Dougher, Montana State University
Marcos Fernandez, Purdue University
Wendy Fink, APLU
William Hayslett, Tennessee State University
Tracy Hoover, Pennsylvania State University
Prasanta Kalita, University of Illinois
Ian Maw, APLU
Lona Robertson, University of Arkansas
David Shintani, University of Nevada
Elaine Turner, University of Florida

Approval of ACOP Meeting Minutes from November 11, 2017

Lona moved to approve the minutes as distributed, Penny seconded. Motion passed.

NARRU Report (Wendy Fink)

Wendy presented the report on behalf of Cindy Akers who was unable to attend. The NARRU legislative ask for FY18 is \$6 million in capacity funds. *(also had a note referencing \$10 million in capacity line funding request – need clarification on this).*

In the upcoming farm bill, requesting a more restrictive definition of what qualifies an institution as a non-land grant college of agriculture (NLGCA). This is to address the broadening of the category (USDA certified) that allowed institutions with limited land grant-related programs to be considered.

There are two exclusions in the current language: institutions cannot be both NLGCA and a Hispanic-serving Agricultural Colleges and Universities (HSACU) or a NLGCA and McIntire-Stennis Cooperating Forestry School. NARRU is requesting these exclusions be removed.

The 2018 NARRU Annual Meeting will be held on September 10-12, 2018 in Jonesboro, AR. Marcos will represent APS with Wendy.

PBD Report (Elaine Turner)

The PBD met during the APLU annual meeting in November. Since that time, have had 2 electronic votes – approve recommendations of BAC to continue with the 1-ask request and that Congress does no harm to the other budget lines. Also, a new ES representative was elected.

There has been an initial discussion regarding CMC's status within BAA. This will be further discussed at the March 21 meeting.

PBD has requested that each representative have a backup representative in case the primary cannot attend meetings. Kim Dooley will be our back-up to Dave Buchanan.

Ian added – a committee has been established to look at consolidation of USDA lines and will report out at the Joint COPS meeting in July. There has also been some discussion to examine how the One-Ask request is split between the 6 lines instead of using a historic distribution. Orlando McMeans will assume the policy board chair position completing Mark Hussey's term and then completing his own. A chair-elect will be selected at next meeting.

CLP and Lead21 Report (Susan Sumner, Penny Diebel)

Penny reported on the status of Lead21. The last session for the current class was held a week ago. Suggestions for improvement include having a larger celebration at end of the third session. This would include holding the graduation recognition during an evening session with invitations to the deans. The second session was held in Phoenix this last year. The facilities were poor, but will use the same venue for one more year and then open it up to other locations if it doesn't go well. The number of applications for Cohort 14 were down from the prior year. Eighty-five participants were selected for Cohort 14. Six full scholarships were awarded.

BAC Report (Wendy Fink, David Buchanan)

Wendy – BAC voted to continue the One-Ask request with 6 specific lines. This included a \$200 million increase for NIFA (five capacity funds with 19.5% increase, AFRI with 9.5% increase). This strategy will be evaluated more closely as mentioned in Ian's report. Wendy suggested that ACOP keep aware of what is happening with consolidation of the higher education funding lines. Ian is going to follow up on including ACOP representation on BAA subcommittee for the upcoming discussion. Marcos stressed the importance of advocating for all institutions and ensuring that funds are distributed fairly.

CMC Report (Cynda Clary)

The Communication and Marketing Committee meet on March 4. In addition to hearing updates from kglobal and Cornerstone, the committee spent most of its time discussing the committee's overall purpose and its proposal to BAA to establish a permanent structure for the CMC. There continues to be diverse opinions regarding the role of the committee and the effectiveness of its promotional efforts.

DCC Report (Cynda Clary)

The ES Diversity Catalyst Committee recently approved formal rules of operation for the committee and established a new award program (the National Experiment Station Section Diversity and Inclusion Award). *"The award recognizes research efforts that support the creation of diverse and inclusive teams at the local, state, regional or national level."* The award will be presented at the annual AES/SAES/ARD meeting.

Director's Report (Wendy Fink and Ian Maw)

Wendy Fink

Institution participation in the 2018 Employability Study was discussed. Institutions have the option to accept the approved Michigan State University IRB as it stands or are have their own IRB approved. Wendy will send the survey link and materials out to participating institution. At this time, 14 institutions have received their links (over 2000 respondents so far – expect 10,000). The survey closes May 15th. The plan is to have National results by August and individual school results by October. Gary has informed the CARET group about the upcoming survey. Cynda suggested that we include a presentation on the results at next year's CARET meeting. Wendy asked if CARET delegates would be a good source of potential participants.

Innovative Teaching Awards: Wendy will be sending out the call for proposals. Due date will be at the end of April.

CARET Packet Advocacy Materials: In the past, APS has not prepared advocacy materials for use by CARET delegates during legislative visits. Tracy suggested that we set up a committee to develop materials appropriate for

the higher ed funding lines that are utilized by APS members. Gary felt this would be helpful. Wendy asked the regional chairs to discuss this at their meetings and then provide her with the names of a few volunteers who will work on the project.

Future Winter APS Meeting Dates: The winter APS meeting has historically been scheduled around the CARET/AHS meeting. There was some discussion about potentially changing our future meeting dates (one week earlier or later) to minimize other institutional conflicts. However, given that there is no common calendar for events (such as Spring Break), it is unlikely that all conflicts could be avoided with a new meeting schedule.

Wendy discussed the Winter Meeting program agenda. Friday morning will include a presentation by AAAS talking about Trellis – a digital platform used to facilitate collaborations between institutions. David felt it might be useful for developing a more engaged community of practice. Friday's schedule also includes presentations from two NIFA national program leaders discussing grant opportunities. David Shintani will follow up that conversation with potential APS grant collaboration.

Ian Maw

Ian discussed issues around the upcoming Farm Bill. There is continued concern regarding eroding infrastructure at universities. Hope to see language placed in farm bill to address some of these needs. We had hoped that the president's infrastructure bill would have some support, but that was not included. Follow up conversations with legislators are continuing.

Issues tied to the 2 separate nutrition programs in USDA (FNEP and SnapEd) were discussed. Hoping to consolidate these programs under CES with mandatory funds to stabilize programs (FNEP is currently discretionary) and have more efficient implementation while maintaining and using existing effective partnerships that are in place.

Challenge of Change recommendations: need to find ways to bolster the work USDA/NIFA does internationally.

There are multiple groups with interest in increasing support for agricultural research (including support for Extension and education). One challenge is to find common ground where we can work together. It is important to use the budget and advocacy committee process to carefully review these opportunities for potential unintended consequences or restrictions that adversely affect other BAA priorities.

Antimicrobial Institute: Institutions are invited to submit proposals for hosting the Institute. There is a preference for institutions with a strong ag program, Veterinary School, and Med School with public health focus. Want to see established by end of 2018.

The search is ongoing for Ian's replacement with a deadline for applications in March. The goal is to have a new person in place by January 1, 2019.

Regional Updates

Western Region (Penny Diebel)

Currently accepting nominees for the Western section teaching award. The western region summer meeting will be in Guam (with CES and AES). However, the meeting will not include a teaching workshop due to low anticipated attendance.

The new chair will be Brian Warnick from Utah State University. The section is still holding monthly conference calls and will be using Zoom to connect with more member institutions at the winter APS meeting.

Penny and David were commended for their leadership in revitalizing the Western Section.

North Central Region (Prasanta Kalita)

The section is looking for opportunities to better engage section members. This includes student connections as well as APS members.

The NACTA conference will be held at Iowa State in June. The PUSH Conference (Presidents United to Solve Hunger) is being hosted by the University of Illinois on March 15-17..

Prasanta also discussed some the strategies being used to address student recruitment in Illinois. The four state institutions with agriculture programs are working together to communicate opportunities to in-state students.

Northeast Region (Tracy Hoover for Joe Sullivan)

There are several new APS members in the region. Wendy mentioned the upcoming Northeast Extension/Experiment Station meeting this summer and suggested that APS attend.

Southern Region (Lona Robertson)

Lona is on the planning committee for the southern region mini-land grant meeting that will be held in Fort Lauderdale on in March 18, 2019. In the past, the southern region has held biannual meetings in Atlanta with its APS and ES members. Tentatively, the plan is to meet in Fall 2018.

Board on Human Sciences Update (John Buckwalter, *Kansas State University*)

John was unable to provide a report as he was attending the Board on Human Sciences meeting.

CARET Update (Gary Blair)

The CARET/AHS meeting occurred earlier this week. It was well-attended and included a REE update, social issues in rural and farm communities (opioid addiction, suicide), NIFA update and discussion of upcoming legislative issues and budgets.

Gary discussed the importance of the “T” in CARET and believes that the delegates would like to be more knowledgeable about what is occurring in academic programs.

Budget (Wendy Fink)

Wendy distributed copies of the proposed (November 2017) and revised (March 2018) APS budget. The costs/reimbursements associated with the USDA Teaching Awards were moved into a separate category. Personnel and indirect cost allocations have been adjusted to reflect picking up greater percentage of Wendy’s salary (40% to 60%). Wendy’s position title has been changed to Executive Director of APS (Also - Director of Food, Ag and Natural Resources). Consequently, there will be some changes to how Ian’s replacement is funded as the new position’s responsibilities may look a bit different. There will likely be additional adjustment to Wendy’s position which may have APS budgetary impacts. Elaine asked if this should be on the policy board agenda this next month. Ian agreed with that suggestion.

David moved to approve revised budget, Marcos seconded. Motion passed.

Old Business – None

New Business

Unionization of Graduate Students

Tracy asked about unionization of graduate students. Penn State research and teaching assistants are voting during the 2nd week in April. Penny discussed the Oregon State situation and provided the link to their resource page (<http://cge6069.org/about/cba/>). Prasanta discussed the University of Illinois situation. Currently, graduate student assistants are on strike. While courses have not yet been cancelled in ACES, courses in other colleges are being cancelled. Parents and students are concerned about how this may affect graduation. Elaine discussed some related issues with faculty unionization at UFL.

Joint COPS Meeting Planning

July 16th start date (program begins around 3 pm) – dinner and cultural event, hosted by University of Guadalajara. The program focus will be on cross-collaborations. Currently looking for a keynote speaker who can address migration patterns between the US and Mexico and how this affects both countries. Panel presentations will include research, extension and teaching collaborations (looking at teacher exchanges between institutions). The meeting will end on Wednesday, 18th.

Innovative Teaching Award Funding Question

Wendy asked for suggestions on how to handle one of the innovative teaching award winners who did not ask for funds even though Wendy has followed up multiple times. The group suggested Wendy contact the associate dean before withdrawing the funds.

Group Picture

We will take a group picture in the morning session.

Upcoming ACOP Meetings

July 16-18, 2018	Guadalajara, Mexico
Nov. 11-13, 2018	New Orleans Marriott, New Orleans, LA

Move to adjourn – Penny moved, Marcos seconded. Meeting adjourned at 3:46 pm.