Meeting was called to order at 1:15 pm by ACOP Chair, Marcos Fernandez, Purdue University. Other meeting attendees are listed below:

Jean Bertrand, Clemson University
Gary Blair, Mississippi State, CARET Representative
William Brown, Texas Tech University (for Cindy Akers)
David Buchanan, North Dakota State University
Cynda Clary, Oklahoma State University
Penny Diebel, Oregon State University
Tracy Dougher, Montana State University
Marcos Fernandez, Purdue, ACOP Chair
Wendy Fink, APLU
Kelly Millenbah, Michigan State University
Lona Robertson, University of Arkansas
Elaine Turner, University of Florida
Brian Warnick, Utah State University

ACOP Introductions
Marcos Fernandez, Purdue University

Approval of Minutes
Penny Diebel, Oregon State University
Motion for Approval Elaine. Seconded Lona. Approved as submitted

Director’s Report
Wendy Fink, APLU
Report on 1994 Land Grants
ACOP approved travel scholarships for four 1994 representatives to attend this meeting. Wendy Fink reached out to several different contacts with no reply. Wendy will touch base with Jim Hafer of Chief Dull Knife College, who is attending these meetings. She will also locate another Tribal College member may be coming who is here for the forestry meeting, Adrian Leighton. ACOP remains supportive of the two travel scholarships. Wendy’s hope is that they will rotate the scholarships through the 1994 membership.

Action Item: Wendy Fink will seek out contacts and ask Jim Hafer to write up his experience and share with other 1994 representatives.

Strategic Realignment
APLU hosted two webinars of 30 to 40 people and eight stakeholders sessions. It is unclear at this time where the Strategic Realignment is headed. There are a myriad of issues.
- Lack of trust in the agency to follow the report language for distribution from the major lines. Report language is not the law.
- Unclear where/how funding increases or decreases will be distributed within lines. Not the charge of the current committee. BAA needs to have that conversation not just the BAC.
- How will new lines be fit into this model?
- Authorizing through appropriations. Many uncomfortable with that. The authorizations are hidden, like MSP etc.

**Timeline for Strategic Alignment**
- April: Update to Policy Board
- July: Policy Board will make a decision.
- March 22nd: final comments.

**Action Item:** ACOP will submit a written statement of position to present at APS meeting Friday. Wendy Fink will work on this.

**FFAR Undergraduate Fellowships**
Wendy is visiting with John Blair, who has been successful working with industry for the FFAR Graduate Fellowships. As part of the program, graduate students from across the U.S. gathered at North Carolina State University for a weeklong training course designed to prepare them for successful careers in food and agriculture science. Wendy Fink will ask John to make a presentation for ACOPs November meeting. There was discussion about the need/cost to be a participant in the industry consortium for full student benefits.

**Action Item:** FFAR Graduate Fellowship report at Nov. meeting, Wendy Fink.

**APS Survey Update**
There is still a chance to be part of the survey. Wendy Fink will relay names of institutions who want to participate.

**Timeline:**
- **End of May 2019:** A summary of quantitative data (excluding late participants) and one of the four qualitative question completed.
- **June 2019:** Individual institutional data summaries (excluding late participants). Oral presentation at NACTA Conference.
- **June 2020:** Proposed Workshop at NACTA on all four qualitative data questions; and panel of different disciplines that have instilled soft skills into their courses; share best practices and how to act on data results. Wendy Fink and Pat Crawford have submitted a small grant proposal to Bringing Theory to Practice. $8000 for the workshop. If grant not funded will ACOP support? NACTA is on board to assist.

**Budget** *(Attached)*
For 2018:
- Revenue was higher than expected. Recovered some USDA Teaching Awards costs. Expenditures a little less than estimated. Carryover $490,864. Dropped a bit.

For 2019:
- Estimated carryover at end of 2019 $596,318, primarily due to Ian’s salary savings.
- How do we reduce the carryover? Related discussions of assessments and personnel lines follows.

**Motion for approval of budget** by Brian Warnick. Seconded by Kelly Millenbah. Discussion (see following Assessment and Role as ED notes). Call to Question by Elaine Turner. Seconded by David Buchanan. Approved as presented.

**Motion for creation of an ACOP subcommittee to review and evaluate personnel/staffing, carryover and assessment by Kelly Millenbah. Seconded by David Buchanan. Approved. Subcommittee will be Elaine Turner, David Buchanan, and Kelly Millenbah.**

**APS Assessments**
Attach Handout
2012-2018 Last change in assessment was in 2012. Currently based on total college enrollment, for every 250 students.
A review of assessments shows several anomalies.
- Non-Land Grants (the “Big 6” primarily) pay APS assessments that are 100% of BAA payments. There are some LGUs whose APS assessment is 15% or higher of their total BAA (6 lines of assessment are Ext, AES, BAA, SNAP-Ed, APS, CARET) due to high enforcement and less activity in extension and research. Other assessments are based on AFRI funds or Formula Funding. The higher APS assessments are regionally centered in the North East and Western regions.

In particular, the NE is paying high APS assessments but not participating in APS. Membership engagement issue. ACOP wants to research the cause and possible solutions to low APS participation.

Discussion considered visiting the NE campuses, as suggested by Cynda Clary. “What values from APS membership do they need for participation?” Many of the NE Region institutions are not traditional colleges of agriculture, but Cynda noted that all APS members are focused on student success. Penny Diebel added that APS does not focus just on traditional majors/programs. Marcos posed the question: “Are they so successful in other areas or getting support from other areas, that they do not need APS? Can APS show the value for membership as a legacy of support and participate?” Elaine Turner posed the following, “Is there another organization providing support in the NE providing this support that might collaborate with APS?” David Buchanan asked, “Are their programs being combined with non-ag majors that have no connection to APS but increase their college enrollments, such as biology?” And Lona Roberston added, “If they have lost touch with APS, perhaps they do not know what we are focusing on?”

Wendy Fink would also like APS to address the slow submission of Total Enrollment Form Membership. Enrollment numbers are due December 1st for assessment purposes and Wendy has difficulty getting them submitted on time. Kelly Millenbah asked, “Can APS provide her [Wendy] with a penalty for late submission? Should we be assessing based on something other than student enrollment?” because we are not going back to traditional names.

**Action Item.** Marcos Fernandez will request a subcommittee of APS to work on Member Engagement. Cynda Clary and Marcos will be Co-Chair. They will first meet with Wendy to formulate the specific mission of subcommittee, before including any APS members.

Refer to Budget Section of Minutes for related Motion for creation of an ACOP subcommittee to review and evaluate personnel/staffing, carryover and assessment.

**Wendy Fink’s Role as Executive Director of ACOP**
Wendy will be submitting a proposal to APLU’s Doug Steele for 80% of her funding and time to be APS; 20% to APLU.

Expectation is that BAA will be hiring additional staffing in other areas to begin covering activities. How does ACOP/APS advocate for more of Wendy’s time? Discussion of writing a letter of support to Doug for no less than 80% of Wendy’s effort funded from APS, that the other 20% of Wendy’s effort to efforts that are more closely aligned with APS interest and focused. Should we be hiring another APS assistant position that would reduce what Wendy does?

Kelly Millenbah asked for Wendy’s Position Description. ESCOP and ECOP have Executive Directors. APS does not (William). An Executive Director may facilitate more connection to Cornerstone.

**Motion** to prepare a letter to Doug Steele requesting at least 80% of Wendy Fink’s effort or time for ACOP/APS by Kelly Millenbah. Seconded by David Buchanan. Approved.

Marcos Fernandez will take the lead on drafting letter to submit by end of March.

Refer to Budget Section of Minutes for related Motion for creation of an ACOP
subcommittee to review and evaluate personnel/staffing, carryover and assessment.

PBD Report
Elaine Turner, University of Florida

November meeting focused on Strategic Realignment. Also, request to encourage our membership to participate in balloting for Policy Board Delegates. APS had the lowest participation (47.5%) in voting for new PBD. Discussion of the Voting Delegate for each institution. The percentage above may be incorrect based on the case that a single voting delegate may complete all voting. Find out who your institutions voting delegate is and ask them to vote. Elaine will talk to Eddie Gouge about the percentage. Since the November meeting PB has voted to accept the BAC recommendation for 2020 appropriations of increased budgets. PB currently voting on new Director and Alternate from the 1994 institutions. PB Approved CARET liaison to the Board on Human Sciences. Next meeting; April.

BAC Report
David Buchanan, North Dakota State University

Discussion of Farm Bill and appropriations. Made recommendation to Policy Board for budget appropriations. New Administration has new priorities; government shutdown closed NIFA and it is unclear whether the fiscal 2020 budget will be released on time (already late). Additional discussion of whether we ask for same increase as last time or added completion of past increase requests. Cornerstone, BAC, PBD created a straw proposal that thanks the legislature for past increase; and request consideration of our total increase ask from last year and complete the task.

CLP Update
Wendy Fink, APLU

Memberships on this Committee is for 5 years. Susan Summer (VT) is the rotating off APS representative. Need someone who can serve the length of term with interest in the research/extension aspects.

Action Item. Marcos Fernandez will ask for interest in position from APS during the APS Business Meeting tomorrow. Cindy Akers, Texas Tech University and NARRU Rep., is not present but might be interested.

Action Item. ACOP needs a new Lead 21 liaison.

Action Item. ECOP has requested a Liaison from ACOP. During tomorrow’s APS Business Meeting, Marcos Fernandez will ask for interest in position from APS.

DCC & CMC Report
Cynda Clary, Oklahoma State University

Diversity Catalyst Committee (DCC). Developed diversity award recognition, second year in place. Currently considering how to incorporate this topic at other meetings. Cynda relayed that the DCC highlights a program/best practices in each of their conference calls. DCC would like to sponsor a session at Joint COPS but no resolution yet.

Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC). Committee is reviewing and reflecting on the background, the mission, and direction of the committee in relationship to other committees, and the role of global.

- Intent of committee is to educate and advocate for the Land-Grant System. Inform and influence decision makers through different projects. Direction was to come from BAA. The CMC would like to be able to put the “human face” on many of the things we do (research, extension, academics). Focus has been the larger funding line but individual stories are very important. Currently pull their stories from the Impact Database. There are not enough stories about academics. Need more to supplement their stories. “How can we assist in providing those stories? What should be metrics of impact? Are we requiring things that are obstacles to getting what we need?”

NARRU Report
Cindy Akers, APLU
Absent
NARRU Meeting Oct 21-23. Cynda will attend as Chair Elect.

Regional Bylaws
Everyone
All regions need to create bylaws. The Western region will share theirs with others. Wendy Fink will be a repository for those.

Action Item. Each Regional will create bylaws by Jan 1 2020.

Regional Updates
North Central Region: Kelly Millenbah, Michigan State University
Working on bylaws and communication plan. Planning have a Mini-Land Grant Conference (Kansas State University, July 28-30, 2019). Reviewing FAEIS data.

Southern Region: Lona Robertson, University of Arkansas
Planning a Mini Land Grant Conference. Potential topics: funding opportunities for multi-institutional proposals; teaching workshops; virtual graduate student recruitment fair. The virtual fair is focused on expanding the graduate school opportunities for undergraduates at other southern institutions (engaging 1890s partners), and provide guidance on how to contact people and preparation.

Northeast Region: Joe Sullivan, University of Maryland
Absent

Western Region: Brian Warnick, Utah State University
W-APS Teaching award call, recognized at W-APS Joint Summer Meeting (Albuquerque, July 8-10). Providing a half-day preconference workshop workforce development.

Board on Human Sciences Update: John Buckwalter, Kansas State University
Absent

CARET
Gary Blair, ACOP CARET Representative
Teaching Award Recipient - Ben Ward presented and was very well received by CARET/AHS.

Cornell has been bringing a student CARET/AHS delegate, along with their usual delegate. Other institutions should consider a student delegate, combining meeting with a trip to the Hill and other professional development opportunities.

This is Gary’s last year as our CARET Liaison. ACOP thank him for being an advocate for APS.

Old Business
New Business

4:45 Motion to Adjourn by Elaine Turner, Seconded by Kelly Millenbah. Adjourned.

Add to your Calendar the upcoming ACOP meetings:
Joint COPs Meeting in Park City, Utah – July 22-24