

EXTENSION COMMITTEE ON ORGANIZATION AND POLICY

Please contact us [at www.extension.org/ecop](http://www.extension.org/ecop)

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

Extension Committee on Organization & Policy (ECOP)
According to Article IV of the [RULES OF OPERATION Cooperative Extension Section](#)

Legend:
 - - - - - : Advisory relationship
 - - - - - : Extension System Program Resource
 - - - - - : Development MOU

Extension Committee on Organization and Policy
 Executive Directors and Administrator (EDA) Team

ECOP Executive Committee

- Annual NEDA Planning Committee.
- Collaboration with other sections.

Program Action Teams (PATs)

- Resilient Communities and Lands
- Workforce Development
- Broadband Infrastructure
- Sustainable Urban Food Systems
- Artificial Intelligence

ECOP BLC Farm Bill Committee and Nutrition Program Working Groups

ECOP BLC Subcommittee on 4-H

ECOP Program Committee

ECOP Professional Development Committee

ECOP Budget and Legislative

ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee
 3-Partner MOU

ECOP Health Leadership Committee

Extension Foundation

National 4-H Council

A1: The ECOP membership assessment is billed through the Association of Public and Land-grant Universities (APLU). That assessment supports national initiatives and the ECOP Executive Director and staff.

Q: What is the Cooperative Extension/ECOP Section assessment used for, and how is the budget determined?

- While zero-based budgeting is a widely used financial method, creative staffing models and shifts in strategic priorities have produced gains and losses over the past decade.
- The current ECOP Budget is available at www.extension.org/ecop.

Q: How are the 1994 Land Grant Colleges and Universities supported by a national administrator?

A1: Carrie Schumacher serves as the Executive Director of the First Americans Land-Grant Consortium (FALCON) and is the primary point of contact. FALCON is a nonprofit professional association, sanctioned by a motion of the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC) Board of Directors, representing administrators, faculty, and staff at 1994 Land-Grant Institutions (Tribal Colleges and Universities).

A2: Brian Kowalkowski, Dean of Continuing Education at the College of Menominee Nation, is currently appointed by FALCON to attend ECOP meetings.

Q: What's the CLP/BAC?

A1: The [Committee on Legislation and Policy](#) (CLP) is responsible for tracking and providing input on Farm Bill legislation and other legislative and/or regulatory activities of interest to the Board on Agriculture Assembly (BAA).

A2: The [Budget and Advocacy Committee](#) (BAC) prepares an annual budget recommendation covering agriculture and other areas of special concern to the member institutions and coordinates the timely presentation of these recommendations to the BAA Board of Directors (BD).

A3: ECOP is represented on the CLP by ECOP appointment, on the BAC via the ECOP Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC) Chair, and on the BD by BAA election.

Q: As a member of the Cooperative Extension Section, how can I become directly engaged in national work?

A1: Be aware of the services, products, and offerings:

- The ECOP Monday Minute keeps you updated with timely information and ECOP priorities.
- Communicate your institution's impacts through the National Impact Database.
- ECOP has an open-door policy for attending national meetings (e.g., Zoom connections are available for most ECOP and subcommittee meetings).
- Calendars and contact information are available at www.extension.org/ecop.

A2: Attend events and meetings:

- The Annual NEDA Conference and CES Business Meeting occur every fall. Track the dates by reading the [ECOP Monday Minute](#).
- Participate in First Friday of the month calls with the ECOP Chair.
- ECOP sponsors regular (bimonthly) Learning-for-Leaders events. These sessions (Zoom) address topics that Directors and their administrative teams can apply to pressing issues of the day. Many of the topics and speakers are Deans/Directors who share lessons learned and ideas for addressing leadership challenges.

A3: Contribute to the conversation:

- Complete ECOP or System surveys.
- Respond to federal funding advocacy "Calls to Action."
- Provide feedback and comments through your Regional ECOP Representatives and/or your regional Executive Director or Administrator.
- Volunteer for committees and task forces. Your Regional ECOP Representatives and/or your regional Executive Director or Administrator can help you identify opportunities.
- Participate in national activities and by-elections to ECOP and related APLU committees.