



North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural
Experiment Station Directors

Spring Meeting
March 31 to April 2, 2014
Amway Grand Hotel
Grand Rapids, MI

MINUTES ([Click here to link directly to meeting notes](#))

Date/Time	Agenda Item	Topic	Presenter
Monday, March 31:			
3:00-5:00 pm		Multistate Research Committee (MRC) Meeting (for MRC members only, although others are welcome to attend if interested). We meet in the Emerald Room .	Deb Hamernik, 2014 MRC Chair
5:30-6:30 pm		<i>Welcome reception, Pearl Room (Cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres); Dinner on your own.</i>	
Tuesday, April 1:			
7:00 am	<i>Breakfast served in the Pearl Room, meeting in the Emerald Room</i>		
8:00 am	1.0	Call to Order (Emerald Room)	Ernie Minton, 2014 NCRA Chair
	2.0	Approval of September 2013 Minutes: (http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/Sept2013.pdf)	
	3.0	Adoption of the Agenda	
	4.0	Interim Actions of the Chair 4.1 Impact Database	
8:10 am	5.0	Executive Director's Report 5.1 NCRA Office Budget FY2015 5.2 Foundation Nominations 5.3 LGU Hypoxia Task Force Update	Jeff Jacobsen Chris Hamilton
8:40 am	6.0	ESCOP Budget and Legislation Committee Update	Ernie Minton, Karen Plaut
8:55 am	7.0	NIFA Update (Call-in)	Meryl Broussard
9:10 am	8.0	Cornerstone Update (Call-in)	Hunt Shipman
9:30 am	9.0	MRC Report 9.1 New/Renewal NC Projects	Deb Hamernik

		9.2 Midterm Reviews 9.3 NRSP Report 9.4 NC Nominee for Multistate Award 9.5 Other MRC Business – NC7 FY15 Budget and Business Plan	Doug Buhler
9:50 am	10.0	ARS Reports: MWA and NPA	Mickey McGuire
10:10 am	11.0	NCRCRD Update	Scott Loveridge
10:30 am	<i>Break</i>		
10:50 am	12.0	ESCOP Science & Tech Committee Update	Joe Colletti, John Baker
11:00 am	13.0	ESCOP Communications & Marketing Committee Update	Bill Ravlin
11:10 am	14.0	Nominations Committee Update	Ernie Minton
11:20 am	15.0	Executive Session	NCRA Executive Committee
12:00 noon	<i>Lunch</i>		
1:30 pm	16.0	Michigan State University Special Host Session I: The Reproductive and Developmental Sciences Cluster Hire at Michigan State University: Lessons Learned	George Smith , Professor of Animal Science, Reproductive and Developmental Sciences Program Co-Director, Michigan State University
2:30 pm	<i>Break</i>		
3:00 pm	17.0	Michigan State University Special Host Session II: Natural Resources Research, PERM and Quantitative Fisheries	Mike Jones , Professor and Chairperson, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; Co-Director, Quantitative Fisheries Center
3:45 pm	18.0	Experiences with Hatch Project Rejection: Discussion	John Baker, All

4:30 pm	19.0	Future Meetings: http://ncra.info/Organization_UpcomingMeetings.php <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NC/NE Joint Summer Session, July 13-15, 2014, The Madison Concourse Hotel, Madison, WI • Joint COPs Session, July 21-24, 2014, Sheraton Harborside, San Diego, CA • September 30-October 2, 2014, Jekyll Island Club Hotel, Jekyll Island, GA • For discussion: Location and dates for NCRA Spring Meeting 2015. 	Ernie Minton, All
4:35 pm	20.0	Other business/follow-up as needed:	All
<i>End for the day, dinner on your own.</i>			

Wednesday, April 2

7:00 am	<i>Breakfast served in the Pearl Room, meeting in the Emerald Room</i>		
8:00 am	State Reports: Focus on budgets, supporting field stations, live-stock facilities, etc.		All
10:30 am	<i>Break</i>		
10:50 am	Michigan State University Special Host Session III: Building Multi-disciplinary Teams, Presentation and Workshop		Michael O'Rourke , Professor of Philosophy and faculty in AgBioResearch at Michigan State University
12 noon	Adjourn (Boxed lunch provided)		

Michigan State University Special Host Session Speaker Biographical Information

Session I: Effective Cluster Hiring Techniques

George Smith, Professor of Animal Science and Co-Director, Reproductive and Developmental Sciences Program, Michigan State University. BS (1989) Animal Science, University of Idaho; MS (1992) Reproductive Physiology, University of Missouri; Ph.D (1992) Reproductive Physiology, University of Missouri; Postdoctoral (1996-1997) Gene Targeting, The Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA. To date, Dr. Smith has been a PI or Co-PI on 16 funded extramural grants with over \$ 9.4 million dollars in support, published 95 peer reviewed research articles and 14 invited reviews and his research group has also filed 2 patents. Dr. Smith's research program has been continuously funded by the USDA or NIH since 1998. His research is focused around investigation of fundamental mechanisms that control ovarian function and contribute to oocyte quality He has also studied local mechanisms that control ovarian function and development of a single ovulatory follicle in polytocous species such as cattle. Information to be gleaned from these studies has tangible long term potential application to improvements in fertility in dairy cattle, efficacy of assisted reproductive technologies in humans and embryo production/transfer in cattle and improvements in efficiency of animal cloning (nuclear transfer) procedures.

Session II: Natural Resources Research, PERM and Quantitative Fisheries

Mike Jones, Professor and Chairperson, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife; Co-Director, Quantitative Fisheries Center. B Sc (1977), PhD (1986), Zoology, University of British Columbia. Currently Chairperson, Department of Fisheries and Wildlife, Michigan State University, and co-Director, Quantitative Fisheries Center at MSU. My area of expertise is fish population dynamics and management, with an emphasis on modeling, risk assessment, and structured decision making. I have worked in the private sector (environmental consulting, 1980-88), government (Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, 1989-1997), and academia. I joined the MSU faculty in 1997 with a PERM (Partnership for Ecosystem Research and Management) appointment wholly funded by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission. Since coming to MSU my research has primarily focused on Great Lakes fisheries issues, including invasive species control, harvest management, and food web interactions.

Session III: Building Multi-disciplinary Teams, Presentation and Workshop

Michael O'Rourke, Professor of Philosophy and faculty in AgBioResearch at Michigan State University. Michael is Professor of Philosophy and faculty in AgBioResearch at Michigan State University. His research interests include environmental philosophy, the nature of epistemic integration and communication in collaborative, cross-disciplinary research, and the nature of linguistic communication between intelligent agents. He is Director of the Toolbox Project, an NSF-sponsored research initiative that investigates philosophical approaches to facilitating interdisciplinary research. He has published

extensively on the topics of communication, interdisciplinary theory and practice, and robotic agent design. He has been a co-principal investigator or collaborator on funded projects involving environmental science education, facilitating cross-disciplinary communication, biodiversity conservation, sustainable agriculture, resilience in environmental systems, and autonomous underwater vehicles.

MEETING MINUTES
(Action items and information not included in agenda briefs)

Attendees:

Name	Institution
Joe Colletti	Iowa State University
Doug Buhler	Michigan State University
John Baker	Michigan State University
George Smith (invited speaker)	Michigan State University
Mike Jones (invited speaker)	Michigan State University
Michael O'Rourke (invited speaker)	Michigan State University
Scott Loveridge	NCRCRD
Ernie Minton	Kansas State University
Marc Linit	University of Missouri
Rick Lindroth	University of Wisconsin - Madison
Mike Schmitt	University of Minnesota
Jeff Jacobsen	NCRA
Chris Hamilton	NCRA
David Benfield	Ohio State University
Bill Ravlin	Ohio State University
Deb Hamernik	University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Marc Linit	University of Missouri
Steven Slack	Ohio State University
Archie Clutter	University of Nebraska - Lincoln
Neal Merchen	University of Illinois
Shawn Donkin	Purdue University
Mickey McGuire	USDA-ARS-NPA
Daniel Scholl	South Dakota State University

Item #	Topic	Notes	Action Items
2.0	Approval of September 2013 Minutes		Approved.
4.1	TAMU Impact Database	More information on database rollout should be available by Joint COPs meeting in July. Will be searchable and well-formatted.	Please send Chris Hamilton at least 1-2 points of contact to associate with your station.

		Maybe needs more media opportunities, such as the ability to upload video?	
5.0	Executive Director's Report	<p>Jeff is settling in at MSU and has a to-do list with a suite of activities he will share quarterly with NCRA directors per hire letter. He has started state site visits, starting with members of the Executive Committee. Please look at his calendar (provided below,), but also be sure to let him know about any special events that might be useful for him to attend at your institutions as he plans these visits.</p> <p>He is beginning to collect and read historical information on the old NCRA strategic plan from 1999/early 2000s and will incorporate discussion of the plan with the executive committees.</p>	Jeff will discuss the potential Dairy Research (DRI) Institute partnerships further with Rick Lindroth (WI)
5.1	NCRA FY2015 Budget	FY2015 assessment is the same as last year. NCRA budget has been flat since 2010. Assessment invoices have gone out and several have been paid.	Approved during Executive Session
5.2	FFAR Board Nominations	The Board of the Foundation for Food and Agricultural Research, as created by the new Farm Bill, has 15 Board member slots, 8 from nominations to the National Academy of Sciences and 7 from industry. The NCRA office is collecting nominations (please include contact information, a brief CV/biosketch, and a justification for nomination paragraph) and will submit on behalf of ESCOP and Chair Steve Slack by April 7.	Please send any nomination materials to the NCRA office by Friday, April 4 to be included with the ESCOP nominee group, to be sent on April 7.
5.3	HTF Task Force	Mike Schmitt (MN) and Wes Burger (MS) to serve as co-AAs	For information only.

		to the new SERA.	
6.0	Budget and Legislative Update	<p>Pest Management Committee: Consolidation of a pest management line item under Research and Extension unintentionally applied an indirect cost rate to 30%, which had not applied to the previous individual parts. This increase could result in a \$3M hit, so Mike Harrington is working on a letter to waive this rate for now. The letter is still in draft format, but will be underway soon. More information by Joint COPs meeting in July.</p> <p>The Water Working Group, led by Robin Shepard (NCCEA), with Mike Harrington involved, should be well-organized by the Joint COPs meeting in July.</p> <p>A “Big Ask” survey will be on its way for comments.</p> <p>The National Assoc for the Advancement of Animal Science (NAAAS) requested the BAA sign their letter to support a \$10M expansion of Section 1433 (Animal Health and Disease) for FY15. The BAA voted to not actively join this effort.</p>	
7.0	NIFA Update	<p>The realignment in NIFA leadership led to a division of the Associate Director functions into Programs (Meryl Broussard) and Operations (vacant but recruiting).</p> <p>NIFA is recruiting for the Deputy Director of Food Production and Sustainability (was Deb Sheely)</p> <p>NIFA is busy with new Farm Bill</p>	

		<p>activities and moving forward with mandatory programs.</p> <p>Regarding the President's FY2015 budget, the House tone is positive. Includes three P-CAST Report Innovation Institutes (pollinator health, biobased products, and antimicrobial resistance) with \$25M for each over 5 years, \$125M total. Also includes \$60M for AFRI Climate Resiliency something like... Opportunity Section and Growth Initiative of \$15M for Hatch and \$5M and Evans-Allen competitive multistate activities (it's unclear if this is for new or existing multistate projects and appears to be a supplement to existing Hatch appropriations), and maintains support for AFRI and capacity programs.</p> <p>NIFA will be working on the FY2016 budget later in April.</p>	
9.0	MRC Report (General notes)	Most commonly requested revisions were: Lack of evidence of a CRIS search, no information on how Hatch funds will be leveraged, no information on who will be working on which objectives.	Chris Hamilton will update our renewal/new proposal instructions to remind committees of these proposal needs.
9.1 and 9.2	MRC Report: New/Renewal Proposals and Midterm Reviews	See details on recommendations within the MRC agenda brief	All MRC recommendations were approved.
9.3	NRSP Report	There is language in the new Farm Bill to authorize support for minor species drug use (NRSP7). Not sure yet if funds will be appropriated, though.	For information only.
9.4	NC Multistate Research Award Nominee	Only one nominee this year.	NCERA197 was approved as the NC nominee for the national award.

			For the summer meeting: The NCRA will discuss this award and further encourage submissions.
9.5	Other MRC Business	Both NC7 and NC1100 FY2015 budgets were approved. NC7 is requesting \$522,980 and NC1100 \$25,000. Both are flat from last year.	NC7 and NC1100 OTT FY2015 budgets approved. Approved: The option for both NC7 and NC1100 to submit flat five-year budgets for approval at their next renewals. Any budget increases during that five-year period will need to be approved by the NCRA. Also, if Hatch is reduced, both OTT budgets will be revisited.
10.4	ARS Report	Dr. Chavanda Jacobs-Young named as the new ARS Administrator.	For information only.
11.0	NCRCRD Report	The NCRCRD can help AES faculty improve their AFRI grant proposals by including them in their webinar series. NCRCRD meets quarterly in DC with other regional Centers and conducts Agency visits, letting them know about their national initiatives. NIFA has requested a proposal for a Rural Development Center funding increase.	Scott Loveridge will forward NCRCRD information to the NCRA directors to send on to faculty preparing grants.
12.0	ESCOP Science and Technology Committee update.	Not much activity yet this FY. A May face-to-face meeting was mentioned in the agenda brief, but this has been postponed for the time being.	For information only.
13.0	ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee	The Policy Board of Directors (PBD) requested kglobal put forward an extended proposal showing what they would do if they had more funding. Kglobal submitted a short proposal, which is currently under discussion by the CMC members. The proposal	Jeff Jacobsen will discuss the marketing effort and ECOP's commitment with Jane Schuchardt and others at the May NMCC meeting in DC.

		<p>includes: 1. Being smarter about messaging, subdividing target audiences into regional subgroups, 2. Broader focus, expand coverage to up to 30 districts, 3. More integrated, better leverage communications people in every state to engage the whole system, resulting in more buy-in. This proposed expansion would cost up to \$700,000.</p> <p>It is unclear if AHS is coming on board with the marketing effort.</p> <p>Additional funding and directions are still uncertain.</p>	
14.0	Nominations Committee		<p>Ernie Minton and Dave Benfield approved to remain as NCRA Chair and Past-Chair for a second year.</p> <p>Neal Merchen volunteered and approved to serve as the new, incoming MRC member, effective FY15 (10/1/2014). Daniel Scholl expressed interest in serving beginning in FY2016 (starts 10/1/2015)</p> <p>Marc Linit will remain as the Resolutions Committee.</p> <p>Ernie Minton will remain as the Nominations Committee.</p> <p>NRSP1 NC Member: Jeff Jacobsen will serve as our NC ED and NC rep (with Chris Hamilton) unless the NRSP1 committee and NCRA indicate a need for an additional member.</p> <p>NCRCRD Board: Neal</p>

			<p>Merchen volunteered and was approved to serve as Bill Ravlin's replacement.</p> <p>ESCOP Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC): Daniel Scholl of SDSU will replace Bill Ravlin on this committee.</p>
18.0	Hatch Project Rejection Discussion	<p>Basic science Hatch umbrella projects are being rejected despite scientist excellence and relation to ag. According to the USDA, there has been no change in policy regarding approval of these projects, but changes in NPL personnel might be causing the rejections. Many states in the NCRA have experienced these rejections. As an enhancement to proposals, WI began requiring their faculty to specifically ID their KA codes and use KA-related language in their proposals. An easy-to-use KA code database can be found here: http://daisy.uvm.edu/cris/kacs.htm</p>	<p>Jeff Jacobsen will address this issue with fellow EDs at the May NMCC meeting.</p>
19.0	Future Meetings	<p>NC/NE Joint Summer Session in Madison</p> <p>NCRA Spring Meeting 2015: Tentatively in San Antonio, TX. As of 4/4/2014, Chris Hamilton is still working on the exact hotel and meeting dates, since there is a petroleum conference during the week the NCRA originally identified. More information to come.</p>	<p>Please contact Rick Lindroth if you have names for an urban food panel. Time may also be added for a USDA Climate Hub discussion.</p>
20.0	Other Business	<p>Steve Slack: OSU is hosting the NAREEEAB Board site visit in Wooster, OH, May 5-7, 2014. Steve will discuss ESCOP and interactions/coordination of research and Extension.</p>	<p>For information only.</p>

		IA State will circulate their comments on the USDA/NIFA Federal Assistance Policy Guide. Directors are encouraged to discuss and share additional comments with the NCRA and NC Admin email lists.	Chris Hamilton will circulate IA's comments for discussion.
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Host presentation links:

George Smith:

<http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/April2014presentations/ClusterHireGSmith.pdf>

Mike Jones:

<http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/April2014presentations/PERMfisheries.pdf>

Michael O'Rourke:

http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/April2014presentations/MultidisTeams_and_tool_box.pdf

AGENDA BRIEFS

Written Only Briefs:

1. Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP): The Farm Bill or Agricultural Act of 2014 was passed by Congress and then signed by President Obama on February 7, 2014. Conference committee agreements can be accessed at <http://www.ag.senate.gov/issues/farm-bill>.
2. Via WAAESD: [Impact Reporting Update](#)

Item 5.3: Hypoxia Task Force Update
Presenters: Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton

Land-Grant Universities and the Mississippi River Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force Update:

- a. Non-Funded Cooperative Agreement has been signed (EPA, IA Dept of Ag, and Southern and NC AES and Extension EDs)
- b. Held a SERA organizing call on March 21, 2014 to plan for face-to-face meeting
- c. Will meet in Atlanta April 27-28, 2014 to develop a SERA project.
- d. [Priorities document](#) will lead into SERA objectives
- e. Co-AAs: Mike Schmitt and Wes Berger.

For information only.

Item 4.1: ESCOP TAMU Impact Database
Presenter: Ernie Minton, NCRA 2014 Chair

From: ESCOP Agenda Brief
March 3, 2014

Agenda Item: Impact Database Update

Presenters: Bill Brown and Eric Young

The ESCOP Impact Database Working Group (Bill Brown, Chair (UTIA), Cathy Gant-Hill (NC A & T), Sarah Lupis (WAAESD), Dave Benfield (OSU), and Eric Young (SAAESD)) were charged last July “to consider mechanisms, including the ECOP Strategic Opportunities and Measuring Excellence System, for collecting and making readily available to NIFA, other federal agencies, AES and CES directors, and others information on impacts of AES research”. The Working Group’s recommendation to ESCOP was that ESS joins CES in utilizing the impact database that has been developed at TAMU to make available for search and retrieval impact statements of AES research. This recommendation was unanimously approved at the Nov 11 ESCOP meeting in DC.

The estimated cost to ESS for development of the research impact portion of the database at TAMU will be \$12,500 for the first year. This will include development, testing, and implementation of the system; ESS’s share of developing a 'Land-Grant' public front-end web site; and other modifications of the current sites to reflect the whole land-grant system. This expenditure was approved by the Section in a vote conducted in mid-January. An invoice for the development work will be sent in late summer or fall of 2014. Continuing maintenance cost for ESS is expected to be approximately \$2,000 to \$2,500 total per year after the development phase is complete.

The Extension/Research impact database development is being led by Scott Cummings (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service) and his IT group at TAMU. Database development is now being guided by an integrated steering committee, the National Impact Database Committee, chaired by Tim Cross (UTIA). Other members include: Bill Brown (UTIA), Eric Young (SAAESD), Tom Coon (OSU), Jenny Nuber (kglobal), Faith Peppers (UGA), and Scott Cummings (TAMU). This group is charged with advising Scott on such aspects as web page and input screen components, URL name, categorization and tags, search capabilities, output format, etc.

The committee considered a number of URL’s and, on kglobal’s advice, decided on landgrantimpacts.org. Jenny Nuber said it was important in this case for the URL to indicate exactly what the web site is so that it will come up first on a Google-type search. This URL can be changed in the future if a better name is identified. The research impact input page is being designed to accommodate appropriate fields and cataloging options for research. A mock-up of this page is shown below.

The front end web site will have an advanced search option that allows the user to search on any of the field parameters shown in the input page (ex. research or extension, institution, state, funding source, challenge area, etc). Also on the front end will be broad integrated categories and tags under those categories that will allow a user to narrow their search by subject matter. These categories and tags were derived from an integration of the goals and objectives from the ESCOP's Science Roadmap and ECOP's Strategic Opportunities documents. The current list of categories and tags is shown below.

The quality control point for the impact statements being entered is at the CES and AES directors' level. Each director will designate one or more imputers and they will be the only ones with access to the input site. The directors are responsible for assuring their designated imputers are trained in writing impact statements. Periodically, a committee will evaluate quality of the impact statements contained in the database and give feedback to the directors and imputers.

ADD AN IMPACT STATEMENT

Institution

Texas A&M AgriLife Research

State

Texas

Region

Southern

Title

Issue: A statement of the problem or issue being addressed by the research.

(max 1,000 characters, 1,000 remaining)

Resolution: Statement of how this project or activity is contributing to finding a solution to the problem or addressing the issue and what was learned.

(max 1,000 characters, 1,000 remaining)

Impact: Statement of the impact (not outputs or outcomes) of this project or potential impact if the project is successful.

- Quantifiable difference in economic, environmental, or social quality of life
- Significant change in understanding or technology within a discipline
- Measurable benefits to those who utilize the knowledge or technology

Please check the box below if you (Scott Cummings) are the Primary Contact for this statement. Otherwise, please fill in the Primary Contact information below.

Primary Contact - Name

Primary Contact - Email

Primary Science Roadmap Challenge Area

None Selected



Secondary Science Roadmap Challenge Area

None Selected



Tags

Save

Statement Year

2013



Primary Funding Sources (choose all that apply)

Capacity Funds



Resource Links

Add Link

Statement Synopsis (130 characters)

For social media, rss, etc.

(max 130 characters, 130 remaining)

Funding Sources Drop-down List –

- Hatch Regular
- Hatch Multistate
- Evans-Allen
- 1994 Research
- Animal Health
- AFRI
- Other USDA Grant
- Non-USDA Federal Grant
- State Appropriations
- Industry Grant, Contract, or Gift
- Other Private Grant, Contract, or Gift
- Other

Challenge Area Drop-down Lists –

- Sustainability, competitiveness, & profitability of U.S. food & agricultural systems
- Adaption & mitigation of climate change impacts on food, feed, fiber, & fuel systems
- Energy security & bioeconomy from renewable natural resources
- Safe, secure, & abundant food supply for U.S. and world
- Human health, nutrition, & wellness of U.S. population
- Environmental stewardship through sustainable management practices
- Individual, family, & community development & resilience

Categories and Tags

Food Security

Productivity
Plant and Animal Improvement (breeding & genomics)
Reduced Chemical Use
Nutritional Value
Food Availability
Food Affordability
Plant and Animal Food Products
Chronic Disease Prevention and Management
Food Safety
Food Preservation
Food Supply Systems

Nutrition & Health

Human Health
Genomics
Nutrient Delivery Systems
Physical Activity
Wellness
Human Nutrition
Chronic Disease Processes
Functional Foods

Youth, Family & Communities

Economic Development
Community Development
Leadership
Technology Use
Financial Management
Entrepreneurship
STEM
Youth Development & 4H

Environmental Stewardship

Environmentally Sustainable Ag Systems
Ecosystem Services
Pest Control
Stewardship
Energy Conservation
Water Quality
Water Availability
Water Conservation
Waste Management

Agricultural Systems

- Alternative Agriculture
- Food Systems
- Fiber Systems
- Profitability & Competitiveness
- Climate Change
- Sustainability
- Crop Management
- Livestock Management
- Integrated Pest Management
- Economic Modeling
- Irrigation
- Local Foods

Energy & Bioproducts

- Bioproducts
- Biofuels
- Biomass
- Biofuel Incentives
- Energy Technologies
- Energy Efficiency & Conservation

Draft Outline for Impact Training Course, please see the last section of Item 5.2 of <http://escop.ncsu.edu/Docs/2014MarchESCOPMeetingMinutesWithBriefs.pdf>

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Item 5.1: NCRA FY2015 UW and MSU Combined Budget

NCRA FY2015 Combined UW and MSU Office Budgets

	2012-2013 (July 2012 to June 2013)		2013-2014 (July 2013 to June 2014)			2014-2015 (March 2014 to June 2015 for Jacobsen at MSU; July 2014 to June 2015 for Hamilton at UW)		
Description	Budget	Actual	Budget	Estimated Actual		Budget		
Executive Director Salary	\$ 180,284	\$ 180,284	\$ 183,890	\$ 80,468	a	\$ 185,000	b	
Fringe	\$ 81,128	\$ 73,916	\$ 51,953	\$ 27,761		\$ 44,400		
2014 March to June 2014 Jacoben MSU Salary						\$ 61,667	c	
2015 March to June 2014 Jacoben MSU Fringe						\$ 14,800		
<i>Sub-total:</i>	\$ 261,412	\$ 254,200	\$ 235,843	\$ 108,229		\$ 305,867		
Assistant Director Salary (through 3/2014)	\$ 46,453	\$ 50,935	\$ 51,953	\$ 39,480	d			
Fringe (though 3/2014)	\$ 20,904	\$ 20,883	\$ 17,924	\$ 13,621				
AD Salary UW Proposed 15% Equity Increase (start 4/2014, if approved)				\$ 15,134	e	\$ 61,141	f	
Fringe (start 4/2014, if approved)				\$ 5,221		\$ 21,399		
<i>Sub-total:</i>	\$ 67,357	\$ 71,818	\$ 69,877	\$ 73,456		\$ 82,541		
<i>Total Salaries and Benefits:</i>	\$ 328,769	\$ 326,018	\$ 305,720	\$ 181,685		\$ 388,408		
<u>Operating Expenses (UW Based):</u>								
Telephone/Teleconference	\$ 2,000	\$ 1,912	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000		
Publications and Memberships	\$ 1,000	\$ 997	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000		\$ 1,000		
AD Office/Website/Postage	\$ 2,500	\$ 1,620	\$ 2,500	\$ 2,000		\$ 2,000		
Job-Related Training	\$ 300	\$ 875	\$ 1,600	\$ 1,750		\$ 1,600		

Collaborations/Meetings/Other	\$ 3,000	\$ 2,551	\$ 2,000	\$ 3,480		\$ 2,000	
<i>UW Based Sub-total:</i>	\$ 8,800	\$ 7,955	\$ 9,100	\$ 10,230		\$ 8,600	
<u>Operating Expenses (MSU Based):</u>							
New ED Moving Costs	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 10,000	
ED Office Set-Up at MSU (Effective March 2014)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 60,000	
<i>MSU Based Sub-total:</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 70,000	
<i>Total Operating Expenses:</i>	\$ 8,800	\$ 7,955	\$ 9,100	\$ 10,230		\$ 78,600	
<u>UW Based Travel:</u>							
Leholm & Hamilton	\$ 32,000	\$ 29,203	\$ 35,000	\$ 20,000	g	\$ -	
Jacobsen				\$ 10,000	h		
Assistant Director Travel (starting July 2015)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 8,000	i
<i>UW Based Travel Sub-total:</i>	\$ 32,000	\$ 29,203	\$ 35,000	\$ 30,000		\$ 8,000	
<u>MSU Based Travel</u>							
<i>Executive Director Travel</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 35,000	j
<i>MSU Based Travel Sub-total:</i>	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 35,000	
<i>Travel Sub-total:</i>	\$ 32,000	\$ 29,203	\$ 35,000	\$ 30,000		\$ 43,000	
Expenses Sub-total	\$ 369,569	\$ 363,176	\$ 349,820	\$ 221,915		\$ 510,008	
Contingency (2%)	\$ 7,391		\$ 6,996			\$ 10,200	
Total UW Based Expenses	\$ 369,569	\$ 363,176	\$ 349,820	\$ 221,915		\$ 99,141	k
Total MSU Based Expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 410,867	l
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$ 376,960	\$ 363,176	\$ 356,816	\$ 221,915		\$ 520,208	m

Funding:							
Assessment From States	\$ 370,763	\$ 370,763	\$ 370,763	\$ 370,736	\$ 370,763	n	
UW Based Difference/Carry-over from previous year (includes contingency \$)	\$ 7,237	\$ 7,237	\$ 7,682	\$ 14,824	\$ 163,300	o	
MSU Based Difference/Carry-over from previous year	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Total Funding	\$ 378,000	\$ 378,000	\$ 378,445	\$ 385,560	\$ 534,063	p	
<i>UW Based Difference/Carry-over to next year (contingency \$ not included)</i>		\$ 14,824		\$ 163,645	\$ 64,159	q	
Comments:							
Assume 1% UW pay raise for FY15							
FY2014 Collaborations/Other included ED interview meeting expenses (\$3155) and Science Roadmap printing costs (\$325 to APLU)							
Job training is for Chris Hamilton's project management graduate certificate program with UC Berkeley							
Fringe rates:	UW FY13: 41%		UW FY14: 34.5%		FY15: UW Est: 35%; MSU: 24%	r	
Explanation of Footnotes:							
a: Leholm salary July 2011 to November 2013, includes unused vacation paydown of \$4598 (a little over 1 week)							
b: Jacobsen salary July 2014 to June 2015							
c: Jacobsen salary March 2014 through June 2014							
d: Hamilton salary July 2013 through March 2014							
e: Hamilton salary April 2014 to June 2014 with proposed equity pay increase (w/o increase, salary and fringe would be \$52,640 and \$18,162, respectively).							
f: Hamilton salary effective July 2014. Includes proposed equity increase and standard UW 1% raise (w/o equity increase, salary and fringe would be \$53,166 and \$18,608, respectively).							
g: Travel FY14 Leholm and Hamilton combined							
h: Jacobsen travel expenses paid out of UW NCRA account							
i: Hamilton travel budget effective July 2014, to be paid out of UW NCRA account.							
j: Jacobsen travel paid from MSU account. UW NCRA account will cover travel through April 2014. Amount is larger than in the past to cover state visits.							
k: Hamilton expenses to be paid out of UW NCRA account.							

l: Jacobsen expenses to be paid out of MSU NCRA account. Sixteen month budget, covers March 2014 through June 2015.

m: Sum of UW and MSU expenses, but paid out of separate accounts.

n: Total assesment dollars requested from states for FY2015

o: Estimated funds left in UW NCRA account, to be spent down. Includes Leholm FY14 salary, fringe, travel surplus.

p: Total funding for both accounts (placeholder formula for when MSU is the only NCRA account)

q: UW NCRA account estimated carryover from FY15 into FY16. When this value reaches approx. \$10,000, Hamilton will begin invoicing MSU.

r: UW fringe rates for FY15 have not been posted yet, so this value is only an estimate, based on past year rate changes.

Item 6.0: ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Report
Presenter: Ernie Minton

For information only

The committee holds regular conference calls on the last Tuesday of each month that have generally been well attended. The current B&L Committee membership is shown below.

<p>Chair: Bret Hess (WAAESD)</p> <p>Delegates: Barry Bequette (ARD) Carolyn Brooks (ED-ARD) Karen Plaut (NCRA) Ernie Minton NCRA Tim Phipps (NERA) Gary Thompson (NERA)* Bill Brown (SAAESD) Bob Shulstad (SAAESD) Jim Moyer (WAAESD) Jeff Steiner (WAAESD)</p> <p>Executive Vice-Chair Mike Harrington (WAAESD)</p>	<p>Liaisons</p> <p>Paula Geiger (NIFA) Emir Albores (NIFA) Caird Rexroad (ARS) Glen Hoffsis (APLU Vet Med) Eddie Gouge (APLU) Ian Maw (APLU) Dina Chacon-Reitzel (CARET) Cheryl Achterberg (APLU - BoHS)</p> <p>Jim Richards (Cornerstone) Hunt Shipman (Cornerstone) Vernie Hubert (Cornerstone)</p> <p>*Chair elect</p>
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The B&L Committee endorsed the recommendation that a Water Working Group be established in the vein of the Pest management Working Group with a charge of developing a set of programmatic and funding recommendations that would be returned the ECOP and ESCOP B&L Committees, the BAC and the Policy Board of Directors. This intent is to identify possible budget initiatives and provide guidance to NIFA. The committee co-chaired by Steve Slack and Jimmy Henning has been constituted, an initial description of the issues has been drafted/distributed and a larger strawman document has been prepared for release to the committee within the next week. A draft WG document is expected by the Joint COPS meeting.

The B&L Committee has held two discussions on the possibility of bringing forward a Big Ask; that is an audacious initiative, which we could all endorse. Such an initiative would necessarily have performance targets, timelines and deliverables as well as both competitive and capacity program funding. Several possibilities have been advanced including water or pest management.

The B&L Committee held a face to face meeting earlier today during which approaches to working with Extension to identify the Big Idea/Big Ask were discussed. Details from this discussion will be presented.

BAC Priorities: The BAC met by conference call on Feb 18 to finalize the system's FY 2015 appropriations requests for the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA). Unfortunately, the President's 2015 Budget had not been released prior to this discussion. President's Budget is expected March 4th.

2015 Budget Request: No changes to priorities as stated to the seven core priorities: AFRI, capacity funds for Hatch, Evans-Allen –McIntire-Stennis, Smith-Lever, 1890 Extension and 1994 Research and Extension. First priority is to lose no ground relative to 2014.. Cornerstone expects 2015 to potentially be a difficult budget year. In keeping with past practice, The BAC position is to endorse the President's Budget or our 2014 numbers whichever are higher.

Each of these priorities will be documented in a one-pager (two-sided) at www.land-grant.org/documents.html

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Item 9.0: MRC Report**Presenter: Deb Hamernik, 2014 MRC Chair****Requested Action Items:**

1. Approve MRC project renewal recommendations as listed in below MRC table.
2. Approve MRC project midterm review recommendations as listed below.
3. Approve MRC recommendation to submit [NCERA197: Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension](#) as our NC regional nominee for the ESCOP National Excellence in Multistate Research Award.
4. Vote on whether project numbers need to be changed every 5 years or if they can now keep the same number designations. At the December New Deans/Directors orientation, Bart Hewitt at NIFA state that NIFA uses their own, unique project identifiers that are not related to our NC project numbers, so we can keep the same project numbers if we wish.

For discussion: NRSP projects up for renewal and midterm review. Please refer to [Item 9.3](#), NRSP-RC Report for details.

Item	Proj Type MRC Rvwr	Current Proj # (Temp #)	Title	NCRA AA	MRC Comments	MRC Recommendations
1.00	New/Renewal Projects					
1.10	NC-Type					
	Hamernik	NC229 (NC_temp229)	Detection and Control of Porcine Reproductive and Respiratory Syndrome Virus and Emerging Viral Diseases of Swine	D. Benfield, OH (99)	This project has an excellent history (since 1999) of collaborative and productive research/extension activities as well as an outstanding record of extramural funding. More than \$20 million was received from USDA CSREES/NIFA and the NPB check-off in the last 10 years. The project also received the first ever AES Award for Excellence in Multistate Research in 2008. The current five-year plan continues to address economically important viruses of swine (e.g., PRRS, PEDV, ASFV, swine influenza virus, and emerging serotypes of swine rotaviruses). The project is consistent with the mission of the USDA NIFA. The team members are national and international experts in these areas. Overall, the five-year plan is extremely ambitious. It is not clear if “prevention” or “elimination” of these viruses from swine herds is a realistic goal or a likely outcome of the five-year project. There are some typographical and grammatical errors throughout the project description. In addition, the project description should list participating states (e.g., IA, IL, NE, etc.) rather than participating institutions (e.g., ISU, UNL, SDSU, etc.). On page 5, there are 18 states/institutions listed as contributing to the project; however, the Appendix E lists participants from only 6 US institutions. Participants from CT, GA, MD, MO, NC, OH, SD, VA, WI as well as	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.

					<p>the BARC, MARC, and NADC have not yet submitted an Appendix E (as of March 5, 2014). Overall recommendation: approval after incorporation of the requested minor revisions.</p>	
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	Colletti	NC1171 (NC_temp1171)	Interactions of individual, family, community, and policy contexts on the mental and physical health of diverse rural low-income families	K. Shirer, MN (10)	<p>A continuation of a long-standing multistate research committee that addresses a very important rural issue. The three (3) objectives are clearly stated and appropriately address the topic based on the longitudinal dataset from NC1171 and the expected next “wave” additional data. The Methods while complete in general lack information as to 1) a strong theoretical basis and 2) the working hypotheses that stem from the previous five-years’ research on this same topic. In other words it seems that there should be statements that articulate the theory-based hypothetical functional relationship among various independent variables and a clearly defined dependent variable. The project refers to “data is” when it is proper to write “data are”. It would be good if in the Milestones sections individual participants or states could be listed so as to address who is involved with each objective and research activity. A paragraph is needed that articulates how the multistate funds are to be leveraged. I recommend deferral until these key revisions are made.</p>	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.
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	Lindroth	NC1173 (NC_temp1173)	Sustainable Solutions to Problems Affecting Bee Health	M. Linit, MO (12)	<p>This project, committed to discovery and dissemination of information on solutions to problems affecting bee health, is relevant to the goals of NIFA and addresses a high-profile issue to which NIFA has allocated considerable resources. The project fits multistate and multidisciplinary requirements. Five objectives are proposed, ranging from identifying impacts of parasites and diseases on colony success to assessing how land management and pesticide exposure affect bee health. Two new objectives have been added since the previous funding period: 1) to assess effects of interactions among factors affecting bee health, and 2) development and promulgation of "best practices" for beekeepers, homeowners, and land managers. Future work of this multistate project aligns with the roadmap outlined at a USDA/EPA conference on honey bee health in 2012. The multistate group has been extraordinarily successful in securing major federal grants (USDA CAP grants) to fund bee research, thereby considerably leveraging multistate funds. The group appears to be well organized and interactive. The new project did not provide evidence of having conducted a CRIS search and did not address potential duplication with other multistate projects. Recommend deferring approval until those omissions are corrected.</p>	<p>Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.</p>
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	Colletti	NC1177 (NC_temp1177)	Agricultural and Rural Finance Markets in Transition	S. Hanson, MI (05)	<p>A continuation of a long-standing multistate research committee that addresses a very important financial issue for agriculture, farmers, lenders, and policy-makers. The four (4) objectives are clearly stated and appropriately address the topic. The Methods section provides a rather lengthy historical account of addressing the objective. There needs to be clear articulation of how the objectives will be evaluated, what is the theoretical basis and what are the working hypotheses that stem from the previous five-years' research on this same topic. Also, somewhere in the project an articulation of which states will be collaborating on which objectives is needed. The project refers to "data is" when it is proper to write "data are". Finally, a paragraph is needed that articulates how the multistate funds are to be leveraged. I recommend deferral until these revisions are made.</p>	<p>Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.</p>
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	Lindroth	NC1178 (NC_temp1178)	Impacts of Crop Residue Removal for Biofuel on Soils	G. Pierzynski, KS (09)	<p>The proposed project will improve understanding of soil quality and degradation resulting from crop residue removal in the context of biofuel production. It will also improve understanding of soil-landscape processes, with the goal of better management of soil and water resources. The proposed work is a logical next step in a progression of fine work by members of NC-17, NC-1017 and now NC-1178. Work proposed for this next iteration will:</p> <p>1) evaluate the impacts of intensifying agroecosystems (cover crops and perennial crops) on soil quality, productivity and the environment, and 2) assess effects of management practices (e.g., residue removal) on soil quality, greenhouse gas emissions, erosion and productivity. Previous work by the group was productive and appropriately detailed, and potential overlap with other related multistate projects was described. The new project did not provide evidence of having conducted a CRIS search. Recommend deferring approval until that omission is corrected.</p>	<p>Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.</p>
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	Clutter	NC1179 (NC_temp1179)	Food, Feed, Fuel, and Fiber: Security Under a Changing Climate	F.A. Ponce de Leon MN (11)	<p>This is a proposal to renew a long-standing committee that has worked on weather and climate. The present proposal would continue to leverage regional, long-term databases that exist in the member states to continue to study the effects of climate variability and change on crop and livestock systems, and develop new observational technologies and decision tools. The committee would also look to better understand how stakeholders use this information to make decisions, and educate stakeholders on the potential effects of climate change.</p> <p>There are indeed valuable databases and deep expertise represented by the committee members. The previous committees have been reasonably productive with respect to publications, but it is difficult to tell how broadly the states contributed and how much collaboration occurred. The committee appears to have met on a regular basis; however, complete sets of the minutes were not evident and it was not clear that there were broad contributions from across the member states.</p> <p>The proposed objectives of the new plan are important and should lead to significant impact. It is not clear, however, the exact nature of the work that will be done and how each of the states will contribute in a collaborative way to achieve each objective. The plan refers to the USDA Climate Hubs and proposes for the committee to engage those Hubs, but it is not clear if, or how, these members</p>	Approval deferred pending submission of requested revisions, due June 1, 2014.
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					<p>are already part of the USDA/University collaborations that are the basis for the established Climate Hubs.</p> <p>The proposal would be significantly strengthened by a concise summary (e.g. table) that shows the work/data that each station would contribute towards each (sub) objective and the collaborations that would occur.</p>	
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	Hamernik	NC1180 (NC_temp1180)	Control of Endemic, Emerging and Re-emerging Poultry Respiratory Diseases in the United States	J. LeJeune, OH (13)	<p>This project addresses economically important respiratory diseases in poultry (chickens and turkeys) in the U.S. At least 8 specific microorganisms will be studied. The project is consistent with the mission of the USDA NIFA. The project is well written and comprehensive. The metagenomics approach to understanding respiratory disease is novel and timely. Experimental details or specific, defined projects are lacking. There are a few hard returns missing on some pages, but this may be a NIMSS formatting issue. The “outputs” section has a number of formatting errors and the first bullet appears twice. The “milestones” should contain more specific, quantifiable information rather than just “increase...” (e.g., X% increase, X-fold increase, etc.). Overall, the project seems to be very ambitious. The current Appendix E lists 21 participants from 8 academic institutions, one ARS lab in Georgia, and the Southeast Poultry Research Lab. However, the project does not provide any indication of which states (or which participants) will conduct these studies. Thus, it is difficult to determine if the project can be successfully completed in the five-year timeframe. Also, it is not possible to determine if the proposed studies are collaborative or if each participant will be directly involved in the stated objectives. There is no discussion of extramural grant activities by individuals or groups of individuals listed in the Appendix E. Objectives #2 and #4 are designed to “continue to build</p>	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.
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					<p>upon..." or "continue to evaluate..." aspects of the previous five-year plan. It is not clear what new activities or approaches will be part of the new project or if specific projects will be completed. The Outreach Plan is not very innovative or ambitious. Overall recommendation: approve after incorporation of revisions.</p>	
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	Clutter	NC1181 (NC_temp1181)	Sustaining Forage-based Beef Cattle Production in a Bioenergy Environment	D. Hamernik, NE (12)	<p>This is a proposal for continuation of a long-standing committee that studies forage-based beef production systems in the sub-humid and semi-arid regions of the central great plains, and how to sustain those systems, most recently in combination with a growing bioenergy industry.</p> <p>The committee has met on a regular basis and presents complete minutes from those meetings including impact statements. The committee lists a reasonably large number of publications in each of the previous years, although it is difficult to tell if there is much inter-state collaboration represented in those publications.</p> <p>The proposed plan for the next five years would include studies of optimized use of crop residues (grazing and harvesting) in a the context of the agro/ecosystem, range and pasture management through the timing and density of stocking and with optimized species composition, and integration of annual and year-round forage systems. In addition, non-conventional use of excess feedlot space for beef cows will be explored as a way to manage variable forage availability. A variety of integrated research/extension approaches would be used to disseminate the resulting information.</p> <p>The committee presents adequate detail of the work to be completed and the participation of states on each objective, including the replication across states. Milestones with deliverables for each year are presented in adequate detail.</p>	<p>Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of minor revision, due by June 1, 2014: Under "outputs", the "Animal Science Society of America" should be deleted and replaced with "American Society of Animal Science".</p>
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		NC1182		D. Benfield, OH (11)	Wanted one-year extension, but will submit proposal by May 1, 2014, as approved by NCRA office.	reminder sent 4/15. Participation invites sent.
1.20	NCCC					
	Hamernik	NCCC9 (NCCC_temp9)	MWPS: Research and Extension Educational Materials	J. Lawrence, IA (11)	This project provides collaborative mechanisms for engineers and scientists to exchange knowledge and to cooperate in development of multi-state educational projects related to feed, food, fiber, and energy production systems. Participants collaborate with Midwest Plan Service (MWPS) publication staff to maintain educational materials for a wide variety of disciplines. Since 2009, MWPS has produced six major publications, some in conjunction with NCCC009 members, on topics related to dairy freestall housing and equipment; cattle feeding in monoslope and gable roof buildings; cow calf production; and private water systems. Participants communicate throughout the year by various mechanisms, including a quarterly webinar. Overall, the project aligns with the mission of the USDA NIFA and has generated important outputs over the years. The objectives are important and timely. Extramural funding is a goal, but few details are provided regarding specific applications, programs or timing. The project discusses “prioritized needs”, but it is not clear how priorities are set or who participates in this process. The project also mentions “new, nontraditional audiences”, but there is no description or details. There are 12	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.

					<p>scientists from 8 states listed in the Appendix E, but it is not clear who will participate on each objective; thus, the level of collaboration cannot be determined. There are several, minor formatting or typographical errors throughout the document.</p> <p>Overall recommendation: approval after incorporation of the requested minor revisions.</p>	
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	Clutter	NCCC42 (NCCC_temp42)	Committee on Swine Nutrition	N. Merchen, IL (03)	<p>Formerly NCR-42, this group has a long history of cooperation, collaboration and productivity in areas of basic to applied swine nutrition. Their interactions have resulted in coordination and in some cases effective replication of experimental designs. They hold a joint meeting with S-1044 (Nutrition and Management of Swine for Increased Reproductive Efficiency), and have a history of very strong attendance and participation.</p> <p>The organization and mode of operation allows them to be responsive to industry needs, including a system of subcommittees that function throughout the year. The Committee is very well connected to the industry (e.g., feed companies; National Pork Board). They have a very strong record of publications that represent real multistate collaborative research.</p> <p>The plans for the next term will address critical issues including use of biofuel biproducts.</p> <p>The Committee was awarded the 2013 NC Region Excellence in Multistate Research Award.</p>	Recommend approval as-is.
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	Colletti	NCCC209 (NCCC_temp209)	Agricultural Bioethics	D. Benfield, OH (08)	<p>An important NCCC that addresses a critical issue related to animal welfare and value-based ethical aspects. The objectives are clearly stated and the procedures and activities are appropriate given the coordinating nature of the committee. I was not able to find the “current web page” (it is probably my issue). Regardless the Committee is to be commended for linking its membership via a web page. The expected outcomes and impacts align with the objectives and the overarching goal of enhancing knowledge and learning about animal bioethics and communicating with scientific and non-scientific audiences. This Committee is a strong example of a Coordinating Committee.</p> <p>One minor issue is that the committee’s last minutes are from Nov. 2012. It may be that the Committee did communicate via email in crafting and resubmitting this NCCC proposal and did not believe it necessary to submit a report in 2013. No changes to this proposal are needed or recommended. I recommend approval.</p>	Recommend approval as-is.
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	Hamernik	NCCC210 (NCCC_temp210)	Regulation of Adipose Tissue Accretion in Meat-Producing Animals	J. E. Kinder, OH (01)	<p>This project has included most of the national leaders in regulation of adipose tissue in meat animals and has been very productive for more than 60 years. The goals and objectives are consistent with the mission of the USDA NIFA. The individual scientists have an excellent track record of federal funding, publications, service on peer review panels, and symposia presentations. The current project plans to continue the same format and scope. The project is timely and important. Currently, 7 scientists from 6 states are listed in the Appendix E. This seems to be a rather low number of participants compared to previous projects. Participants from Auburn (Brandebourg), University of Georgia, Iowa State University, North Carolina State University, Ohio State University, Texas, and West Virginia University are mentioned in the Statement of Issues and Justification, but are not included in the Appendix E. The NCCC131 project (described on page 1) is now the NC1184 project (formerly NC131). The USDA/NRI is now the USDA/AFRI (page 3).</p> <p>Overall recommendation: approval after incorporation of the requested minor revisions.</p>	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.
1.30	NCERA					

	Lindroth	NCERA3 (NCERA_temp3)	Soil and Landscape Assessment, Function and Interpretation	K. Olson, IL (11)	NCERA-3 is a highly functioning coordination committee, engaging in all activities related to participation in the National Cooperative Soil Survey. Previous research-related productivity of the group has been very good. The proposal outlines 6 objectives: Objective 1 continues participation in the NCSS program, Objectives 2-4 address research needs, and Objectives 5-6 emphasize education and extension needs. The extension and education activities are new with this proposal, as the predecessor project was an NCR, not NCERA, project. Workshops, training sessions, courses and online training are proposed for public, university student, and K-12 student audiences. The value and importance of this regional committee has increased, as other resources and people supporting soil research, education and extension have decreased.	Recommend approval.
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	Clutter	NCERA57 (NCERA_temp57)	Swine Reproductive Physiology	J. Baker, MI (01)	<p>Renewal is proposed of a committee aimed at reporting and coordination of research on various aspects of reproduction in the pig. In the previous five years the committee has met on a regular basis with good attendance, and reported detailed minutes including impact statements. The committee has been very well integrated with the pork industry, including the use of a focus group of swine consultants and organization and hosting of a biennial symposium. For example, one of these symposia was held at the headquarters of a large commercial pork producer and included a number of invited speakers from academia and industry research. The committee has made an effort to share not only research plans and results, but to look for opportunities to collaborate and to share reagents for new technologies. Some of the outcomes have also positively impacted undergraduate and graduate students. The committee is focused on swine, but draws on expertise from other species as well.</p> <p>The objectives in the new plan are relevant, wide-ranging (from male fertility to sow lifetime performance) and well described. The proposal includes plans for their next symposium.</p>	Recommend approval as-is.
		NCERA211		K. Grafton, ND (03)		reminder sent 4/15 and again on 9/18. Assume project will expire on 9/30/2014.

	Colletti	NCERA212 (NCERA_temp137)	Soybean Diseases	S. Slack, OH (00)	A high-functioning ERA committee addressing critical research and Extension issues related to a host of diseases affecting soybeans. A very collaborative committee with a clear capacity to identify and do applied research and deploy the information and knowledge via appropriate Extension programming. The five (5) objectives are clearly written, linked and demonstrate the integration of research and Extension. Their procedures and activities fit the objectives and the expected outcomes and impacts are appropriate. One minor issue is that the proposal would be strengthened by articulation of the leveraging of Multi-state funds inasmuch as there is a considerable amount of research done by this ERA Committee. I recommend that the Committee be asked to add a paragraph on the leveraging of Multi-state funds with grants. With that one change, I recommend approval.	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.
	n/a	NCERA213 (NCERA_temp213)	Migration and Dispersal of Agriculturally Important Biota (NCR-148)	W.F. Ravlin, OH (06)		not renewing, as of 12/19

	Clutter	NCERA214 (NCERA_temp214)	Increased Efficiency of Sheep Production	J.E. Minton, KS (10)	<p>This is a proposal for the renewal of a committee that has, over several terms, coordinated the study of the efficiency of sheep production. In the previous five years, the committee has met on a regular basis. The meetings were reasonably well attended, and detailed minutes were provided including detailed impact statements. The work on genetics and interactions with nutrition and other management factors has been productive and well communicated through publications and outreach, including for example the commercialization of marker technology for disease tolerance.</p> <p>The objectives for the next 5 years are not presented in great detail, but should address issues important to sheep production. A plan for outreach and engagement is presented in adequate detail. The history of the committee suggests there is a high likelihood of continued positive impact for the sheep industry from coordination through this committee. The committee membership includes leaders in the sheep research and extension community, but number of members has been reduced relative to previous years, partly by retirements. The committee should be encouraged to reach out to new members, perhaps in the area of genetics/genomics.</p>	Recommend approval as is, with the caveat that the AA and committee will encourage additional members to join this project.
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	Hamernik	NCERA215 (NCERA_temp215)	Contribution of 4-H Participation to the Development of Social Capital Within Communities	J. Colletti, IA (09)	<p>This project describes the first renewal of the original five-year project that was initiated in 2009. During this first, five-year project the group made some progress, including developing instruments included in a survey, interview protocol, and community mapping protocol; conducted qualitative research on how social capital forms in 4-H groups; presented and published on this work; and received funding for and piloted a social capital survey in California and Maine. Thus, it appears that the group is well organized and includes participants with the necessary expertise and experience. The project is consistent with the mission of the USDA NIFA. The current project includes 16 participants from 12 states. It appears that the participant from New Jersey is listed in the project but has not yet submitted an Appendix E. It is not clear which states will contribute to each objective; thus, it is not clear how much collaboration will take place. It is somewhat disappointing that much of the text in the current project is verbatim from the original project. In addition, the goals and objectives of the current project are virtually identical to the goals and objectives described in the original five-year project. Thus, it is not clear if the previous project was successfully completed or if the original goals and objectives were too ambitious for the personnel and timeframe. Or, were the original objectives more of an “umbrella” format for many activities? If the previous</p>	<p>Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.</p>
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					<p>objectives were not completed during the first, five-year project, it is not clear if the same team of participants will be able to successfully complete the same objectives during a second, five-year period. A discussion of progress/accomplishments relative to each of the original objectives would be helpful. The milestones seem relatively detailed and straightforward; however, the overall project may be too ambitious for the personnel and the timeframe. The team is encouraged to design objectives that can be completed in the five-year timeframe to demonstrate progress and accomplishments before moving on to a new five-year project. There are several formatting issues and minor typographical errors in the document. The USDA CSREES is now the USDA NIFA. Overall recommendation: revise and resubmit</p>	
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	Lindroth	NCERA216 (NCERA_temp216)	Latinos and Immigrants in Midwestern Communities	C. Hibberd, IN (09)	The NCERA-216 project focuses on the incorporation of Latino (especially) and other immigrants into Midwestern communities. Over the last four years, NCERA-216 has done very fine work in creating interstate research and extension working groups along five major thematic areas. This proposal builds on that foundation with even stronger research and extension/education collaborations. Three major objectives are proposed, which together will promote connections to community partners and leaders who can engage the broader public. Research, extension and education goals, activities and likely outcomes are all very good. The work of this group will advanced and complemented by the planned interaction with SERA-37.	Recommend approval.
	Colletti	NCERA217 (NCERA_temp217)	Drainage design and management practices to improve water quality	R. Kanwar, IA (04)	A strong ERA committee that addresses water quality in the agroecosystem by focusing on agricultural drainage and drainage best practices. Their approach also includes local (Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy) to regional downstream impacts (Gulf of Mexico hypoxia issue). The four (4) objectives are clearly stated and appropriate for an integrated research and Extension approach. Their procedures and activities fit the objectives and the expected outcomes and impacts are appropriate. It is not clear which entity(ies) or agency(ies) the Ag Drainage Management Systems Task Force is associated with. The Educational Plan is a bit light. It is recommended that a paragraph be added	Recommend deferring approval until after incorporation of revisions, due by June 1, 2014.

					to articulate the leveraging of multi-state funds with grants. I recommend minor revisions addressing the items listed above.	
2.00	Mid-Term Reviews					
2.10	NC-Type					
		NC1029		J. E. Minton, KS (08)		Favorable AA and NCAC reviews. High functioning committee. Recommend continuation.
		NC1030		C. Hamilton, NCRA (13)		Favorable AA review from A. Leholm. This is a high function committee that meets regularly. Recommend continuation.
		NC1034		M. Martin, IN (02)		Favorable AA review completed. Favorable NCAC12 review. AA recommends more collaborative funding efforts.

		NC1189		D. Buhler, MI (11)		Favorable AA review completed. Recommended for continuation.
		NC1190		J. Colletti, IA (11)		Favorable AA review completed. Recommended for continuation.
		NC1191		D. Buhler, MI (05)		AA review completed. Committee has lost leadership/participation recently and had not been functioning well. NCRA office approved extension to 1/15/2014 for submission of 2013 annual report. Recommend continuation to give the group another chance to pull together. Will re-evaluate at renewal time.
		NC1192		J. Baker, MI (12)		Favorable AA and NCAC reviews. Recommended for continuation.
		NC1193		D. Savaiano, IN (98)		Favorable AA review completed. Recommended for continuation.
		NC1194		V. Bralts, IN (04)		Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
		NC1195		S. Blodgett, IA (07)	Meeting regularly, progress appears good. 2012 report unreadable, but 2013's is OK	AA review not submitted, reminders sent 4/15 and 11/26 and 1/2/14

		NC1196		CY Wang, SD (05)		Favorable AA review completed. Recommended for continuation.
		NC1197		S. G. Pueppke, MI (98)		Favorable AA review completed. Favorable NCAC review, Recommended for continuation.
2.20	NCCC					
		NCCC46		S. G. Pueppke, MI (98)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
		NCCC65		R. Kean, NE (11)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
		NCCC167		W. Tracy, WI (06)	Chris sent review comments to committee on 2/18.	Meeting regularly, but attendance declining. AA review favorable; NCAC review was not, due to lack of info in annual report from 2012. Recommend continuation with the caveat that future reports will be more complete and contain project outcomes and impacts.

		NCCC170		J. Boyer, KS (04)	No AA review submitted.	Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable NCAC review. Recommend continuation.
		NCCC212		V. Baird, MI (11)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
	NCERA					
		NCERA13		K. Grafton, ND (06)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA59		R. Turco, IN (11)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review, they are beginning to put together their book. Favorable NCAC review, as well. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA101		R. S. Kanwar, IA (97)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Very favorable AA review in NIMSS. Recommend

						continuation.
		NCERA180		V. Kelley, SD (10)	No AA review submitted.	Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA200		S. Slack, OH (01)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA208		S. Slack, OH (06)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.

		NCERA218		D. Scholl, SD (12)		Only one meeting and no annual reports submitted to NIMSS since last renewal (possibly due to health issues of the Chair). Future meetings will not be approved by the AA/NCRA until past annual reports are submitted. Poor NCAC review, as well. If the committee continues to be inactive, it will be terminated early, at the request of the AA.
		NCERA219		B. Stromberg, MN (02)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA and NCAC reviews. Recommend continuation.

		NCERA220		J. S. Yaninek, IN (01)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Request committee to consolidate future reports into more manageable format (follow the format listed in NIMSS) to make it easier for our national impact writer to pull out project outcomes and impacts for her 2 page impact statement. AA Review favorable. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA221		R. Gaussoin, NE (11)	AA review needed	Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable NCAC1 review. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA222		W. Wintersteen, IA (01)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.
		NCERA223		K. Boone, KS (11)		Meeting regularly and progressing well. All reports submitted to NIMSS. Favorable AA review. Recommend continuation.

3.00	NRSP Proposals/Budgets					
		NRSP1	National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS), 2011-2016			Midterm review
		NRSP3	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP), 2009-2014			Review renewal materials and give comments to forward to NRSP-RC before May 1.
		NRSP4	Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses, 2010-2015			
		NRSP6	The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (Solanum) Germplasm, 2010-2015			
		NRSP7	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs, 2009-2014			one-year extension via one-year renewal proposal (NRSP_temp301)
		NRSP8	National Animal Genome Research Program, 2013-2018			
		NRSP9	National Animal Nutrition Program, 2010-2015			

		NRSP_temp321	Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research			New NRSP, please review and give comments to forward to NRSP-RC before May 1.
4.00	Other funding decisions					
4.10		NC7	Conservation, Management, Enhancement and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources	Wintersteen		Review annual budget and business plan at summer NCRA meeting
4.20		NC1100	Enhancing Rural Development Technology Assessment and Adoption Through Land Grant Partnerships	Lovejoy		Review annual budget and business plan at summer NCRA meeting
5.00	Other MRC Issues					
5.10	Discuss proposed peer review process. Is this something we want to move forward or is the MRC comfortable doing the reviews the way we do now? Optional peer reviews?					
5.20	Bart Hewett of NIFA said that they do not require projects to change numbers with each five year renewal. Are we comfortable keeping project numbers the same, without a letter of justification, from now on?					

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Item 9.3

NRSP Review Committee Agenda Brief

Presenter: Doug Buhler, NCRA NRSP-RC Delegate

Revised Guidelines: At the 2013 Fall ESS Business Meeting in Portsmouth, NH, the directors approved several changes to the NRSP-RC's process in an effort to streamline the NRSP review process. Since then, the EDs have been working with the NRSP RC to complete an official, revised version of the NRSP Guidelines. These revised guidelines, dated January 2014, are now available on the ESCOP website:

<http://escop.ncsu.edu/docs/Revised%20NRSP%20GUIDELINES%20FINAL%2020140124%20.pdf> .

Impact of the sequestration: The sequestration imposed a budget cut of 7.62 % on Hatch funds and the NRSP rules that have been in place for many years require that NRSPs share a proportionate cut. Based on action at the 2012 ESS meeting, Chris Hamilton communicated unchanged budgets to NIFA. The possibility of a sequestration was unknown at that time. In a follow up communication, a 7.61% cut was communicated to NIFA. Since the specified cuts had still not been made by August, Mike Harrington, NRSP-RC Vice-Chair, sent a memo to NIFA reinforcing the earlier communications. In a recent phone conversation with staff from the NIFA Award Management Division Office of Grants and Financial Management, it was clarified that no cuts were made to NRSPs in FY 2014.

New/Renewing Projects

- **NEW:** NRSP_TEMP321, "Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research," was submitted this fall. This project has submitted all required materials and will be distributed to the NRSP-RC members in March.
- **RENEWING:** NRSP_TEMP003 (NRSP-3), "The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)." This project has submitted all the required materials and is in the process of being peer reviewed. After responding to peer reviewers, the submission will be distributed to the NRSP-RC.
- **RENEWING:** NRSP_TEMP301 (NRSP-7), "A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs." This project is requesting one year of funding to explore additional and alternative funding models.

Mid-Term Reviews

- NRSP-1 will undergo a mid-term review by the project's Administrative Advisors in February. The outcome of that mid-term review will be disseminated to the NRSP-RC.

NRSP Review Committee

- Chair
 - Bret Hess_(WAAESD)

- Delegates
 - Shirley Hymon-Parker (ARD)
 - Doug Buhler (NCRA)
 - Tom Bewick (NIFA)
 - Clarence Watson (SAAESD)
 - L. Washington Lyons (Cooperative Extension)

- Executive Director
 - Eric Young (SAAESD)

- Executive Director/Executive Vice-Chair
 - Mike Harrington (WAAESD)

- Interim Delegate
 - Fred Servello (NERA)

- Representative
 - Don Latham (Stakeholder (CARET))

The NRSP-RC will meet in person in mid-June to discuss the three new/renewing projects and one mid-term review. If needed, a follow-up call will be scheduled for later in the summer.

For information only.

- A summary of NRSP budgets and projects up for review is listed below:

NRSP 2014-2015 Requests for Off-the-Top Funding

Project	Request FY2012	Authorized FY2012	Request FY2013	Authorized FY2013	Request FY2014	Authorized FY2014	†Request FY2015
NRSP-1	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000
NRSP-3	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	-
NRSP-4	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182
NRSP-6	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000
NRSP-7	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	-
NRSP-8	500,000	500,000	500,000	-	500,000	500,000	500,000
NRSP-9	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000
NRSP_temp003 (NRSP-3)							50,018
NRSP_temp301* (NRSP-7)							325,000
NRSP_temp321							398,631

†Assuming an acceptable midterm review during year three, all NRSP budgets were approved during 2012 Fall ESS Meeting for the duration of their current, five-year cycle.*Only one year of funding is being requested.

Project Number	Project Name	Project Period	Midterm Review Year
NRSP-1	National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS)	2011-2016	2014
NRSP-3	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)	2009-2014	-
NRSP-4	Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses	2010-2015	-
NRSP-6	The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (<i>Solanum</i>) Germplasm	2010-2015	-
NRSP-7	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs	2009-2014	-
NRSP-8	National Animal Genome Research Program	2008-2013	-
NRSP-9	National Animal Nutrition Program	2010-2015	-
NRSP_temp003 (NRSP-3)	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP) (NRSP-3 renewal)	2014-2019	2017
NRSP_temp301 (NRSP-7)	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs	2014-2015	-
NRSP_temp321	Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research	2014-2019	2017

Action Requested: None, for information only.

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Item 9.4:

NC Nomination for National Multistate Research Award

Nominating Region: North Central

Nominator: Marshall Martin **E-mail:** marshallmartin@purdue.edu

Project or Committee Number and Title: NCERA197: Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension

Technical Committee Chair: Aaron Yoder **E-mail:** aaron.yoder@unmc.edu

Administrative Advisor: Marshall Martin **E-mail:** marshallmartin@purdue.edu

Summary of Significant Accomplishments: Below

2014 Experiment Station Award for Excellence in Multistate Research Nomination of NCERA197: Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension

INTRODUCTION

The Issue: The most hazardous industry in the U.S. is Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing with a work death rate that is eight times higher than the all-industry average. The Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries database suggests that production agriculture accounts for over 75% (447) of the 585 work deaths attributed to the Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing industry in 2007. State-level data suggest that the actual number of deaths associated with farming is higher because youth, who may be as young as two years old, that are fatally injured from exposure to farm work hazards are not counted in national statistics.

Background: Initiated in 2000, the NCR197 committee developed a strategy to utilize the Land Grant System's research and extension capacity in cooperation with the experience of those who live and work in agriculture to reduce work-related injuries, illness, and death. This group produced a National Land Grant Research and Extension Agenda for Agricultural Safety and Health: National Agenda for Action document. This national agenda provides a prioritized list of 12 research and extension areas with 115 individual topics relating to agricultural safety and health in which research or extension gaps exist. This historical document marks the first agricultural safety and health agenda for action by the land grant system since 1943 when the first cooperative extension specialist for farm safety was appointed in Wisconsin. The national agenda document has been used by the Agriculture, Forestry & Fishing (AgFF) Sector Council of the National Institute of Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) as a resource document for their National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) plans, and the Agricultural Safety & Health Council of America (ASHCA) as a resource document. Additionally, the Canadian government used this document as the foundation for their agricultural safety strategic plan.

In 2005, the NCR 197 committee was re-appointed under the revised name North Central Education/Extension Research Activity Committee (NCERA) 197. This committee selected Agricultural Equipment on Public Roads, one of the 12 priorities in the national land grant research and extension agenda for agricultural safety and health, and produced a 48 page white paper to: a) help identify research, policy and extension/outreach priorities for the U.S. Departments of Agriculture and Transportation, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, state departments of agriculture, transportation and law enforcement, county governments, and production agriculture based organizations; and b) identify possible design and practice standards, goals, or guidelines for farm equipment manufacturers, standard setting organizations, and government agencies. This document has been distributed widely across the U.S and Canada, featured at a major conference on crashes between motor vehicles and farm equipment and has been used as a reference by a legislative task force.

In 2009, NCERA-197 has selected to next focus on the topics of *agricultural confined spaces*. Based upon activities related to the development of the original NCERA-197 research and extension agenda, it was determined that there existed significant research gaps with respect to needed engineering, educational, and

legislative controls designed to reduce the frequency and severity of confined spaces-related incidents in agricultural workplaces.

Objectives: The overall objective of the committee is to reduce the number of fatal and nonfatal injuries in and around agriculture. In the current project cycle NCERA-197 will: a) summarize the research literature, engineering needs and outreach opportunities related to agricultural safety and health; b) encourage more research and outreach to reduce hazards and risks of agriculture; and c) encourage increased standards activity to reduce hazards and risks of agriculture.

SIGNIFICANT ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Outputs, Outcomes and Impacts

In addition to the outputs, outcomes and impacts that were mentioned in the Background section above, the following outputs and outcomes have been realized during this project cycle:

A Summary of Agricultural Confined Space Hazards and Risks: A summary of the research literature, engineering needs and outreach opportunities related to agricultural confined space hazards and risks has been produced and will be distributed to: a) help identify research, policy and extension/outreach priorities for the U.S. Departments of Agriculture, the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, state departments of agriculture, and production agriculture based organizations; and b) identify possible design and practice standards, goals, or guidelines for manufacturers, standard setting organizations, and government agencies. This document will be distributed widely across the U.S and Canada, it already has been featured at a major conference on agricultural confined spaces and has been used as a reference by a legislative task force.

National Conferences: Several members of the committee assisted with organizing and participated in conferences that were well attended by various stakeholders, including producers and community members, as well as other safety professionals, most recent examples are: the 2013 Midwest Rural Agricultural Safety and Health conference in Ames, IA; the 2013 Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America conference in Minneapolis, MN; and the 2013 International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health conference in Sandusky, OH.

Research, Standards and Educational programs: Research is ongoing at several of the committee members' institutions and has led to the development of a consensus standard for manure pit safety and a working group for a consensus standard on grain bin safety.

Mechanisms to Increase Infrastructure: The committee continues to increase the infrastructure for agricultural safety and health efforts. Committee members were instrumental in the inclusion of agricultural safety and health in the USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative's Foundational Program. The committee also created the Farm and Ranch eXtension in Safety and Health (FReSH) Community of Practice at eXtension.org, and several of the committee members have leadership roles in FReSH.

A Recognized Leader in the Scientific Community: In the past three years of the project, the committee has published over 15 peer-reviewed papers. Committee members have also received several grants and donations related to the current topics of the committee including confined spaces in agriculture and eXtension.org totaling over \$1.2 million.

Impact on Rural Communities: Several members of the committee have created and implemented First Responder/EMT training programs that prepare emergency responders to handle life threatening situations in and around productions agriculture, including grain bin entrapments, manure pit suffocations, and agricultural vehicle crashes and overturns. Many of these programs have resulted in feedback where lives were saved due to the training.

Institutional and Disciplinary Participation

Robert Aherin IL	- University of Illinois	Ag Engineering
Connie Baggett	PA - Pennsylvania State	Ag Econ, Soc, and Ed
James Carrabba	OTHER - NY Center for Ag Research and Health	
Linda M Fetzer	PA - Pennsylvania State	Ag and Bio Engineering
William Field	IN - Purdue University	Ag and Bio Engineering
Karen Funkenbusch	MO - University of Missouri	Ag Sys Management
Bobby Grisso	VA – VA Tech and State University	Bio Sys Engineering
Marcel L Hacault	OTHER - Canadian Agricultural Safety Association	
Kitty Hendricks	OTHER - NIOSH	Research Health Scientist
Dee Jepsen	OH - Ohio State University	Food, Ag and Bio Engineering
Bruce I Johnson	OTHER - Farm and Ranch Safety and Health Assoc (Canada)	
Dennis Murphy	PA - Pennsylvania State	Ag and Bio Engineering
John R Myers	OTHER - NIOSH	Research Health Scientist
Jactone A. Ogejo	VA – VA Tech and State University	Bio Sys Engineering
Larry G Olsen	MI - Michigan State University	Entomology
Michael L Pate	UT - Utah State University	Ag Sys Tech and Ed
Mark A Purschwitz	KY - University of Kentucky	Biosystems and Ag Engineering
Glen Rains	GA - University of Georgia	Bio and Ag Engineering
C. Schwab	IA - Iowa State University	Ag and Biosystems Engineering
Cheryl A Skjolaas	WI - University of Wisconsin	Bio Sys Engineering
John Slocombe	KS - Kansas State University	Bio and Ag Engineering
Aaron M Yoder	NE - University of Nebraska	Env, Ag and Occ Health

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Item 9.5 FY15 NC7 Budget Request and FY14 Budget Narrative

NC-7 Budget Narrative: The Agricultural Experiment Directors of the North Central Regional provide substantial Hatch funding to Multi-State Project NC-7 (\$522,980 in FY 2013) and Iowa State University provides additional, substantial in-kind and direct support. In these difficult financial times, we especially appreciate the commitment of the NCR SAES Directors.

Personnel: NC-7 Hatch funds provide a substantial portion of the personnel and operating expenses of the North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station, responsible for plant genetic resource and information management. Nine ISU Agronomy Department personnel are dedicated to the NCRPIS and supported by Hatch and ISU resources: Larry Lockhart, Program Manager II; Kathleen Reitsma and Laura Marek, Curator III; David Brenner, Curator II; Cindy Clark, Sam Flomo, and Brady North, Agricultural Research Specialists: Brian Buzzell, Farm Equipment Mechanic; Lloyd Crim, Farm Equipment Operator III; and 3 mo. Effort from John Reinhart, Farm Equipment Operator II. Iowa State University College of Agriculture & Life Sciences provides the benefits for these staff members, and retired ISU/NCRPIS personnel. Hatch resources are used to support short-term student hires, usually for six weeks while they are converted to Federal student positions. Since 2006, vacant ISU positions have not been refilled, and one support position was eliminated due to constraints.

In FY2014, NC-7 funds will substantially provide for additional student labor to accomplish curatorial objectives (~\$43 K). This will reduce any funds carryover substantially and stabilize recent yearly variances.

Travel: Each Curator and the Program Manager are allocated travel funds for at least one professional meeting annually. Additional travel expenditures are related to plant germplasm collection and regeneration plot care or data collection.

Equipment and Supplies: Expenditures that cannot be covered using ARS funds.

Contract Services: FY 2015 will include metering costs for irrigation water, refuse and other services.

Repair and Maintenance: In FY 2014 the NCRPIS utilized a planned carryover of NC7 funds to complete the greenhouse recovering project (~\$36 K), which was badly needed, and to re-roof the dwelling of the ISU Program manager (~\$20 K). Working with ISU Facilities Planning and Management, Program Manager Larry Lockhart received cost estimates for selected materials and the work was completed. In FY14 to date, primary expenses have been to repair water lines on Agricultural Experiment Station land.

ARS funds are used to cover R&M needs for facilities covered by lease agreements and ARS equipment; the major expenditure in FY2014 was \$77 K for replacement of gas-fired dryers damaged in a fire during fall 2012 (expense included in the equipment and supply line).

ARS Resources: In FY2013 the PI CRIS was reduced 7.7% due to sequestration and permanent rescissions in. Three vacant technical positions were eliminated. Net to location allocation was reduced to \$2,112,616 from the previous \$2,288,999, and GEM CRIS was heavily leveraged to support all station operations. FY2014 funding was flat; FY2015 ARS budget estimate not provided as there is no final appropriation, flat expected.

FY15: No major R&M expenses are planned. If funds are available, land improvements should be made to improve drainage, reduce loss of plantings due to excessive rains, and generally improve the quality of the fields for research. Any funding reductions will impact projected expenditures, which would significantly impact our ability to accomplish the mission of the North Central Regional Plant Introduction Station, conservation and utilization of plant genetic resources and information management.

Submitted February 2013, 2014

NC7 Project FY2015 Budget Request and Projections

Basic Budget	NC7 FY06	NC7 FY14 Budget Submitted¹	NC7 FY14 Budget Projected²	NC7 FY15 Budget	USDA- ARS FY12 Proj	USDA- ARS FY13 Proj³	USDA-ARS FY13⁴	USDA- ARS FY14 Proj⁵
Personnel: salaried	434,000	492,275	485,200	499,756	1,654,230	1,654,230	1,346,530	1,516,242
Personnel: hourly	10,000	4,500	33,240	4,500	225,300	303,800	303,252	246,712
Utilities & Telecom	0	0	4,500	4,500	118,000	118,000	124,400	124,000
Travel	24,000	7,000	11,760	7,000	25,000	25,000	23,542	24,000
Equipment & Supplies	55,762	4,000	46,100	4,707	92,700	92,700	162,758	85,758
Research Support Agreement	0	0	0	0	12,000	12,000	43,320	43,320
Specific Coop Agreements	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Contracts & other Services	4,500	500	7,500	4,500	0	0	12,675	12,675
Repair & Maintenance	0	10,000	5,000	5,000	42,314	77,000	69,644	45,000
Indirect Research Costs	0	0	0	0	166,905	179,875	26,495	26,495
Other	0	0	640	600	0	0	0	0
Leveraged funds- other sources	0	0	0	0	47,450	195,289	195,289	50,000
Total Expenditures	528,262	518,275	593,940	530,563	2,383,899	2,657,894	2,307,905	2,174,202

Base Funds	528,262	522,980	522,980	522,980	2,288,999	2,112,616	2,112,616	2,112,616
Prior FY Carryover	0	81,503	81,503	10,543	0	0	0	0
Total Funds	528,262	604,483	604,483	533,523	2,288,999	2,112,616	2,112,616	2,112,616

¹ FY14: Reflects staffing of 9 of 12 authorized NC-7 funded positions, 1.5% salary increase;

² FY14: Reflects full staffing of 9.33 permanent positions (12 authorized), salary increase of 1.5%, and completion of greenhouse recovering projects (\$36K), and re-roofing Proj Mngr's dwelling (\$20 K); carryover funds will be utilized to provide additional student labor

³ FY13: Sequestration reduced CRIS by \$168,928; two vacant permanent positions abolished; Operations leveraged with GEM CRIS cooperation, other vacant positions.

⁴ FY13: Not all project objectives achievable with base funding. Leveraged with other CRIS cooperation, and 3 vacant permanent positions; special equip cost of \$77K to replace dryers.

⁵ FY14: No appropriation yet; assumes all vacant positions filled. Not all project objectives achievable with base funding. Leveraged with other CRIS cooperation.

Iowa State University Contributions to NCRPIS

Items	FY04	FY05	FY06	FY07	FY08	FY09	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14 Est.
Salaries	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Benefits ¹	135,733	156,720	161,421	166,264	180,220	194,306	186,101	205,066	192,213	201,159	207,194
Facilities off-campus ²	81,488	83,933	86,451	89,045	91,716	94,467	97,301	100,220	103,227	106,323	109,513
Facilities on-campus ²	114,943	118,391	121,943	125,601	129,369	133,250	137,248	141,365	145,606	149,974	154,473
Farm Residence ²	13,600	14,008	14,428	14,861	15,307	15,766	16,239	16,726	17,228	17,745	18,277
Totals	345,764	373,052	384,243	395,771	416,612	437,789	436,889	463,377	458,273	475,201	489,457

¹ Actual benefits may vary from annual estimate depending on personnel changes, benefit cost increases, and personal choices from cafeteria benefit plan.

² Incremented 3% annually.

Item 10: ARS Report

USDA Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
Report to NCRA State Agriculture Experiment Station Directors

April 2014

Area Leadership

Northern Plains Area

Area Director: Larry Chandler

Associate Area Director: Michael (Mickey) McGuire

Colorado, **Kansas**, Montana, **Nebraska**, **North Dakota**, **South Dakota**, Utah, Wyoming

Midwest Area

Area Director: Robert Matteri

Associate Area Director: J.L. Willett

Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Wisconsin

Budget Information

FY 2014 Appropriations

- ARS Salaries and Expenses:
 - \$1,122,482,000
 - Represents an increase of \$105 million over the FY 2013 spending level
- ARS Buildings and Facilities:
 - No funding provided

FY2015 President's Budget for ARS

- ARS Salaries and Expenses:
 - \$1,104,403,000
 - Represents a decrease of \$18 million from the FY 2014 appropriation
 - Increases
 - Pay Cost (1%) \$7,120,000
 - Decentralized GSA Payments 4,670,000
 - Program Increases
 - ✓ Climate Resilient Land Crop, Grazing, and Livestock Production Systems 44,000,000
 - ✓ Crop and Livestock Genetic Improvements and Translational Breeding 25,900,000
 - ✓ Pollinator Health 4,000,000
 - Decreases
 - Proposed Redirections (69,900,000)
 - Proposed Terminations (33,869,000)

- ARS Buildings and Facilities:
 - No funding provided
- Opportunity, Growth, and Security Initiative
 - \$197,220,000
 - Salaries and Expenses
 - Integrated Research for Land, Crop, Grazing, and Livestock Production Systems 11,000,000
 - Advance Genetics 11,100,000
 - Earth Sciences 2,500,000
 - Food Safety Alternatives to Antibiotics 2,620,000
 - Other Research Priorities 15,000,000
 - Buildings and Facilities
 - Biocontainment and Poultry Research Facility in Athens, Georgia 155,000,000

FY 2015 House Budget Hearing (ARS) – March 26, 2014

FY 2015 Senate Budget Hearing (REE) – April 10, 2014

New Leadership and Vacancies

Midwest Area (MWA)

- Illinois
 - National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research (Peoria)
 - Plant Polymer Research Unit (vacant, Gordon Selling, Acting RL)
- Iowa
 - National Animal Disease Center (Ames)
 - New Center Director, Marcus Kehrli
 - Virus and Prion Research Unit (vacant, Susan Brockmeier, Acting RL)
 - National Laboratory for Agriculture and the Environment (Ames)
 - Soil, Water and Air Research Unit (vacant, Tim Parkin, Acting RL)
- Minnesota
 - Cereal Disease Laboratory (St. Paul)
 - New RL, Shahryar Kianian
 - Plant Science Research Unit (vacant, Debby Samac, Acting RL)
- Wisconsin
 - Dairy Forage Research Center (Madison)
 - Center Director: (vacant, Ron Hatfield, Acting CD)

Northern Plains Area (NPA)

- Kansas
 - Center for Grain and Animal Health Research (Manhattan)

- Stored Product Insect Research Unit, Vacant (Frank Arthur, Acting RL).
- Nebraska
 - U.S. Meat Animal Research Center (Clay Center)
 - New Unit: Nutrition and Environmental Management Research Unit, Harvey Freetly, RL
 - New Unit: Genetics, Breeding and Animal Health Research Unit, Gary Bennett, RL
 - Lincoln
 - Grain Forage and Bioenergy Research Unit, Ken Vogel retired, Robert Graybosch, new RL
- North Dakota
 - Red River Valley Agricultural Research Center (Fargo)
 - Insect Genetics and Biochemistry Research Unit, Vacant (Bill Kemp, Acting RL)

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Item 12.0

Agenda Brief: ESCOP Science and Technology Committee

Date: March 3, 2014

Presenter: Joe Colletti/John Baker

Background Information:

1. Committee Membership:

- Chair
 - John Russin (SAAESD)
- Delegates
 - Marakis Alvarez (ARD, Vice-Chair)
 - Teferi Tsegaye (ARD)
 - Joe Colletti (NCRA)
 - John Baker (NCRA)
 - Tom Burr (NERA)
 - Cameron Faustman (NERA)
 - John Liu (SAAESD)
 - Nathan McKinney (SAAESD)
 - Larry Curtis (WAAESD)
 - David Thompson (WAAESD)
- Executive Vice-Chair
 - Dan Rossi (NERA, Executive Director)
- NIFA Representative
 - Muquarrab Qureshi
- Social Science Subcommittee Representative
 - Scott Loveridge
- Pest Management Strategies Subcommittee Representative
 - Frank Zalom

2. ESS Excellence in Multistate Research Award – The announcement for the 2014 Multistate Research Award has been forwarded to the Directors. Nominations were due by February 28, 2014 to the regional association offices. The regional associations will select regional winners and these will be forwarded to the Committee for its review and recommendation for the national winner. The Committee will meet in May and forward its recommendation to the ESCOP Executive Committee.

3. ESS Leadership Excellence Awards – The announcement for the five regional 2014 Leadership Excellence Awards has been forwarded to the Directors. Nominations were due by February 1, 2014 to the regional association offices.

4. Science Roadmap – Copies of the Science Roadmap brochure have been distributed to various individuals and organizations. CARET members will receive copies at their March meeting.

5. Next Meeting – A face-to-face meeting is being scheduled for May 2014.

Action Requested: For information only.

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Item 13.0**Agenda Brief:** AES/CES Communications and Marketing Committee**Date:** March 3, 2014**Presenter:** Bill Ravlin**Background Information:**6. Committee Membership:

Wendy	Wintersteen	AHS
Ian	Maw	APLU Representative to CMC
Hunt	Shipman	Cornerstone Government Affairs
Nancy	Cox	ESCOP CMC Representative to NC-FAR; CMC ESCOP Co-Chair
Steve	Slack	ESCOP Chair, FY2014
Michael	Harrington	ESCOP ED
Mary	Duryea	Southern Region ESCOP
Ronald	Pardini	Western Region ESCOP
Jenny	Nuber	kglobal
Bill	Ravlin	North Central Region ESCOP
Robin	Shepard	ECOP ED&A Point Person
Jane	Schuchardt	ECOP ED&A Point Person
Carolyn	Brooks	1890s Region ESCOP; ESCOP ED&A Team
Kirk	Pomper	1890s Region ARD
William	Hare	Northeast Region ECOP
Tom	Coon	North Central Region ECOP
Gina	Eubanks	1890s Region ECOP
Darren	Katz	kglobal
Tony	Windham	Southern Region ECOP
Daniel	Rossi	ESCOP ED&A and Point Person
Connie	Pelton Kays	CARET
Jimmy	Henning	ECOP Chair, FY2014
Richard	Rhodes	NERA ESCOP
Scott	Reed	CMC ECOP Co-Chair
Faith	Peppers	ACE Representative to CMC
Linda	Martin	ACOP Representative to CMC

7. Meetings – A face-to-face meeting was held on March 2, 2014. The Committee will meet quarterly by conference calls starting in May 2014.

8. Update:

- The Directors voted at the Fall ESS meeting to commit another three years of support for the AES/CES Communication and Marketing Project. We are into the second year of a two year partnership with ECOP to support the Project. ECOP has not yet made a decision to extend the partnership.

- The Committee continues to provide guidance and feedback to kglobal and Cornerstone on various educational initiatives.
- The Committee is monitoring and providing input into the development of the ESCOP-ECOP Impacts Training program.
- There has been no action on a BAA PBD proposal to expand the scope of the project.
- The agenda for the March 2 meeting:
 - Review/reflection on the past year's CMC activities
 - Cornerstone (Hunt Shipman)
 - kglobal (Darren Katz)
 - ECOP/ESCOP (Scott Reed/Nancy Cox)
 - Current issues
 - Update from Cornerstone (Hunt Shipman)
 - Update from kglobal (Darren Katz)
 - Is the system both supporting and using kglobal in an optimum way?
 - Going forward
 - Handling of kglobal reports
 - Future scale and partners in the Communications and Marketing Program
 - Themes for the coming year
 - Other Business

Action Requested: For information only.

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Item 14.0: Nominations Report

Presenter: Ernie Minton, Nominations Committee

Please review our FY2015 NCRA Officers List below.

Actions Requested:

1. When Joe Kokini stepped down, we lost our MRC Chair that year and also our incoming Chair Elect. Ernie Minton moved directly from MRC Chair to NCRA Chair. To remedy this issue for the future, we ask for approval for Ernie Minton and Dave Benfield to serve addition terms as NCRA Chair and Past Chair, respectively. Deb Hamernik will become Chair Elect effective 10/1/2014 for FY2015.
2. We need volunteers to serve in the following NCRA positions, effective 10/1/2014:
 - a. New MRC member, 3 year term (FY15 to FY18)
 - b. New Resolutions Committee member, 3 year term (FY15 to FY18)
 - c. New Nominations Committee member, two year term (FY15 to FY17)

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NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS

2015 Officers and Committee Members
(Fiscal Year 2015 begins **October 1, 2014**)
Last Updated: 3/20/2014

Officers:

E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (14 and 15) (eminton@ksu.edu)
D. Benfield, OH, Past Chair (14 and 15) (benfield.2@osu.edu)

Executive Committee:

D. Benfield, OH, Past Chair (13) (benfield.2@osu.edu)
E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (14 and 15) (eminton@ksu.edu)
D. Hamernik, NE, Chair-Elect (14) (dhamernik2@unl.edu)
J. Jacobsen, NCRA, Exec. Vice Chair (Perm) (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

Multistate Research Committee (3-year term):

Archie Clutter, NE, MRC Chair (15) (aclutter2@unl.edu)
J. Colletti, IA, (13-16) (colletti@iastate.edu)
R. Lindroth, WI, (14-17) (lindroth@wisc.edu)
Need new MRC member volunteer (15-18)
J. Jacobsen, Ex-Officio (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

Resolutions Committee (3-year term):

M. Linit, MO, (11-14) (linit@missouri.edu)
Need new Resolutions Committee member

Nominating Committee (2-year term):

Ernie Minton, KS (12-14) (eminton@ksu.edu)
Need new Nominating Committee member

Committee on Legislation and Policy

S. Slack, OH (Effective 7/2013) (Oardc@osu.edu)
J. Jacobsen, Ex-Officio (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

NRSP Review Committee Representative (4-year term):

Doug Buhler, MI (14-18) (buhler@msu.edu)

ESCOPE (3-year term):

E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (eminton@ksu.edu)
D. Benfield, OH, NCRA Past Chair (benfield.2@osu.edu)
Jeff Jacobsen, NCRA (Perm Alt) (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

ESCOPE Executive Committee:

E. Minton, KS, NCRA Chair (eminton@ksu.edu)
Jeff Jacobsen, NCRA (Perm Alt) (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

ESCOPE Chair's Advisory Committee:

Jeff Jacobsen, NCRA (Perm Alt) (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

ESCOPE Budget and Legislative Committee:

J. E. Minton, KS (eminton@ksu.edu)
Karen Plaut, IN (klplaut@purdue.edu)

ESCOPE Communications and Marketing Committee:

W. Wintersteen, IA (agdean@iastate.edu)
W. Ravlin, IN (ravlin.1@osu.edu)
Jeff Jacobsen, NCRA (Perm Alt) (jjacobsn@msu.edu)

ESCOPE Science and Technology Committee:

J. Colletti, IA, (colletti@iastate.edu)
J. Baker, MI, (baker@anr.msu.edu)

ESCOPE Science and Technology Committee Social Science Sub-Committee (3-year term):

Abigail Borron, IN (13) (aborron@purdue.edu) - Ag Communications
Scott Loveridge, MI (13) (loverid2@anr.msu.edu) – Ag Econ (Joe Colletti will replace when Scott steps down)
Mike Retallick, IA (13) (msr@iastate.edu) – Ag Education
Soyeon Shim, WI (13) (sshim7@wisc.edu) – Human Sciences
Linda Lobao, OH (14) (lobao.1@osu.edu)– Rural Sociology

ESCOPE NIMSS Oversight Committee/NRSP1:

J. Colletti, IA (colletti@iastate.edu)
F.W. Ravlin, OH (ravlin.1@osu.edu)

Other Appointments

North Central Rural Development Center Board (2-year term):

J. Baker, MI (perm, MSU rep), (baker@anr.msu.edu)

F.W. Ravlin, OH, (14-16), (Ravlin.1@osu.edu)

CY Wang, SD, (14-16) (cy.wang@sdstate.edu)

North Central Bioeconomy Consortium

NCBEC Vice President, J. Colletti, IA (colletti@iastate.edu)

North Central Regional Aquaculture Center

NCRA Representative, J.E. Minton, KS (eminton@ksu.edu)

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Impact Reporting Update (Written Brief Only)

****NCRA Impact Reporting Page:** http://ncra.info/Impstate_Home.php. Contains links to all impact publications so far, the impact reporting presentation, and handout.

Since October 1, 2013, NRSP-1 has supported 0.875 FTE (35 hours per week) for the Impact Communications Specialist. The following report tracks progress for this effort since October 1, 2013.

Impact Summaries

- Completed 7 Impact Summaries for 2012-terminating projects since October 1, 2013
 - Grand total: 69 total Impact Summaries
 - 31 Impact Summaries finalized for 2011-terminating projects
 - 31 Impact Summaries finalized for 2012-terminating projects
 - 5 Impact Summaries finalized for 2013 Excellence in Multistate Research Award winners
 - 1 Impact Summary finalized for National Research Support Project
- Began working on Impact Summaries for 2013-terminating projects
 - 1 Impact Summary finalized for 2013-terminating project
 - 1 Impact Summary out for review

Impact Summary Visibility & Reach

- Created booklet sharing the accomplishments of the National MRF Impact Writing Project including all Impact Summaries to date
 - Hard copy booklet distributed at 2013 Fall ESS meeting
 - Additional hard copies sent out on request
 - Provided PDF version to regional associations to distribute if requested
- Created catalogues of all Impact Summaries for 2011-terminating projects and all Impact Summaries for 2012-terminating projects
 - PDF version posted on regional association websites
- 17 Impact Summaries added to Ag Is America website since October 1, 2013
 - Grand total: 69
 - ~50 views/Impact Summary story
 - 3rd most visited page on website
- Each of the Impact Summaries added to Ag Is America website shared as a facebook post
 - Reaches ~8,000 followers
 - ~655 views/post
- Each of the Impact Summaries added to Ag Is America website shared in a series of tweets
 - Reaches ~25,700 followers
 - Impact Summaries are tracked using hashtag #AgImpact
- 4 Impact Summaries featured as research spotlight in “Why Ag Matters” weekly e-newsletter
 - Reaches 364 subscribers

- **kglobal stopped issuing this newsletter as of January 2013 in order to revise its content and distribution**
- Each finalized Impact Summary has been uploaded to NIMSS “Impacts” page
- Each finalized Impact Summary has been uploaded on the corresponding regional website

Additional Communications Efforts

- 1 story pitch accepted: University of Alaska, Fairbanks, involvement in WERA-1016, “Adaptation, Quality and Management of Sustainable Cellulosic Biofuel Crops in the West”
 - Story published in UAF Division of Agriculture newsletter, November issue
- Worked with kglobal to identify 7 projects for special media attention in 2014
 - Currently working to provide kglobal with summaries and participant lists and coordinate media strategy with kglobal
- 1 press release in progress: 2014 Western Regional Excellence in Multistate Research Award nominee
- Redesigned Impact Summary content and layout
 - Improvements to content/text: less jargon, story-like flow, stronger focus on impacts, more informative section headings, removed unnecessary information, refined links, contacts, and other information provided in “Want to know more?” section
 - Improvements to layout: moved “Impacts” section on first page for added emphasis, easier to accommodate varying amounts of text and photos, less crowded
- Developing Impact Reporting Training Materials
 - Created a Prezi that communicates 1) why reporting matters, 2) tips and guidelines for writing good reports, and 3) and how to use reports.
 - Currently making revisions based on edits/comments from regional EDs and other reviewers
 - At minimum, distribution of the final product will include:
 - Presentation of the link at the upcoming AHS/CARET meeting in March
 - Posting the link on regional association web sites
 - Providing the link to all multistate administrative advisors to share with committees during annual meetings

NCRA Impact Statements: http://ncra.info/Impstate_Home.php

Full Impact Statement Catalogues

2011: <http://www.waesd.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/2011-Impact-Statement-Catalogue.pdf>

2012: <http://www.waesd.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/2012-Impact-Statement-Catalogue.pdf>

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**Land-Grant Universities and the
Mississippi River Gulf of Mexico Watershed Nutrient Task Force:
Opportunities for Collaboration
The Depot Renaissance, Minneapolis, MN
September 23-24, 2013
Summary of Land-grant Priorities DRAFT**

University Delegates: Wes Burger, Mississippi State University; George Czapar, University of Illinois; Fabian Fernandez, University of Minnesota; Jane Frankenberger, Purdue University; Ken Genskow, University of Wisconsin; Amanda Gumbert, University of Kentucky; Jack Jones, University of Missouri; John Lawrence, Iowa State University; Andy Londo, the Ohio State University; Rebecca Power, University of Wisconsin; John Russin, Louisiana State University; David Shaw, Mississippi State University

Research Priorities

1. Tools for evaluating the impacts of practices
 - a. Farm level or multi-state
 - b. More information/discussion about existing tools - what is working, what is not working
 - c. Development of new tools
2. Economics of practice adoption, all aspects – from government to farm to consumer
3. Social dimensions of change and adoption of new practices, and integration of social dimensions with agronomics, biophysical aspects of nutrient management

Extension Priorities

1. Have Extension on the front end developing research programs and questions, i.e. have research programs be driven by the needs of the people making land and water management decisions
2. Actively engage industry and professional farm management folks that are working with farmers. These professionals can complement the role Extension educators play in working with farmers.
3. Each participating state will develop a short power point presentation, with slides addressing the following points:
 - a. What is hypoxia
 - b. How do N and P come out of system
 - c. Opportunities and constraints – economics, societal impacts
 - d. Why is it important to engage

Working With Agriculture Priorities

1. Work within the university to develop more consistent messaging across disciplines/specialists. A specific proposal is to convene livestock and crop specialists to discuss how they can help work with farmers on nutrient management
2. Locate early adopters (farmers and advisors) and expand awareness and understanding of their approaches
3. Expand Extension's role as a convener across interests – agriculture, environment, CCAs, agencies, local governments, etc.

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