



**North Central Regional Association of State Agriculture  
Experiment Station Directors**

**NCRA**

**198th Meeting  
Hilton Easton, Columbus, OH  
8-10 am, September 25, 2013**

**Final AGENDA**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Item #</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Presenter</i>
8:00 am	1.0	Call to Order	Dave Benfield, NCRA Chair 2013
	2.0	Approval of Summer 2013 Minutes, see: <a href="http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/July2013.pdf">http://ncra.info/docs/Historical/Minutes/July2013.pdf</a>	
	3.0	Adoption of the Agenda	
	4.0	Interim Actions of the Chair 4.1 ED search update 4.2 Animal Advocacy Issue	
8:10 am	5.0	Executive Director's Report 5.1 Battelle Survey Update 5.2 <a href="#">NIFA Proposed 4% Service Fee</a> 5.3 <a href="#">Marketing Committee Update</a> 5.4 Regional Water Quality Center 5.5 USDA Climate Hubs Update 5.6 NIMSS Update	Arlen Leholm      Chris Hamilton
8:30 am	<a href="#">6.0</a>	Nominations Committee Update	Ernie Minton
8:35 am	7.0	ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee Update	Ernie Minton, Karen Plaut
8:40 am	<a href="#">8.0</a>	REEport Issues and state spending of MRF on ERAs, CCs, and DCs	Doug Buhler, Chris Hamilton, All
8:50 am	<a href="#">9.0</a>	NRSP Update	Chris Hamilton
8:55 am	10.0	NC Organics Meeting Update	Steve Slack
9:00 am	11.0	Hypoxia on the Mississippi	John Lawrence, IA State (Call-in)
9:15 am	12.0	State Reports: Budgets and other issues of concern	All
9:50 am	<a href="#">13.0</a>	Resolutions	Marc Linit
9:55 am	14.0	Other Business	All
		Future Meetings: <a href="http://ncra.info/Organization_UpcomingMeetings.php">http://ncra.info/Organization_UpcomingMeetings.php</a>	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• APLU Annual Meeting, November 10-12, 2013, Marriott Wardman Park, Washington, DC</li> <li>• New Dean/Director/Administrator/NPL Orientation, December 3-5, 2013, Location TBD</li> <li>• Joint CARET/AHS Meeting, Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC, March</li> <li>• 2014 NCRA Spring Meeting, March 31-April 2, 2013, Amway Grand Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI</li> <li>• Joint NC/NE CARET/AHS Meeting, Madison, WI, July 20-22? More info to come</li> </ul>	
10:00 am	<i>Changing of the guard: Transfer of leadership to FY2014 NCRA Chair, Ernie Minton, and Adjourn</i>		

MEETING NOTES/MINUTES  
9/25/13

Item #	Notes (Not in briefs)	Actions
2.0, 3.0	Call executive committee in place of state reports to discuss ED search	Summer minutes approved, fall agenda adopted
4.3	Impact reporting committee, started by Mike Hoffman, ECOP has a website avail, if ESCOP does anything, they should partner with ECOP, talks to come, more info hopefully at March NCRA meeting.	Info only
5.1	Policies set at Univ Pres/VP level, need to bring them into the discussion for future interactions. Discuss how Southern region collaborates maybe at future meeting	Info only
5.2	Sonny Ramaswamy no longer pursuing the 4% increase, non-starter.	Info only
5.3	Marketing, voting on resolution by ESCOP to continue as \$300,000 for 3 years	Info only, will be voted on during ESS Business meeting later in the day
6.0	NC1030 looking internally, NCAC10 and 25, John Baker will serve as NCRA rep to ESCOP S&T; NCRCRD board rep needed	NCAC10 and 25, Doug Buhler and Marc Linit will discuss leadership with their Natural Resources dept heads; John Baker will serve as NCRA rep to ESCOP S&T; Bill Ravlin volunteered for NCRCRD board; NC Aquaculture nominees already submitted from SU and WI, met our NCRA obligations.
7.0	Priorities survey, farm bill, operations tax (off the board), FY2013 federal allocation inconsistencies across institutions discussed. More info to be discussed during ESS	
8.0	<p>REEport Issues and spending MRF on ERAs and CCs. Important things in CRIS no longer in REEport, accuracy problems, many issues. REEport staff has been helpful moving things forward. Marshall Martin at Purdue is a good contact for many REEport concerns.</p> <p>Use Chris at NCRA as a contact for issues, she will share at distribute to admin group, national level, and communicate with NIFA, as needed</p>	Info only
10.0	Upcoming NC Organics Meeting, one-day session fly in to MSP or Chicago, 6-8 reps from companies, NC communications vehicle. Feb or March, program around idea that there is a capacity study of what each of us does, gaps and concerns in systems, climate change session and effects on business model, Farm Bill(?) Programs, issues, RFAs. More info to come.	Encourage NC state level director participation
11.0	MOU to formally invite LGUs to participate in MS	

River Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia task force, goal of 45% reduction in P to Gulf of Mexico, present strategy by 2014, value of research and science behind strategy, localized, connection with LGUs, Extension, develop implementation – how to get it on the ground? MOU is formal request that LGUs participate in process. Not funded, non committal, “photo op” that we are working together, modeled after Chesapeake Bay. 1. LGUs will work around goals, 2. LGUs will work with agencies in their own state, 3. Engage Ag in strategies. Who will join, reps from 12 NC states, quarterly conference call as starting point, will propose EPA, USDA support annual conference for AES and EXT to get together around goals of conference, continue to meet. NIFA putting together water focus area, envision putting together hypoxia team. Context of MOU: 1 year ago, IA hosted Hypoxia Task force, April meeting they invited in LGU on panel to talk about science of hypoxia, decided to formally engage LGUs. Called small working group together, N and S states, how to start this process, came up with idea to model it after Chesapeake Bay MOU. Notes and next steps from Rebecca Power of WI EXT, will forward out to AES. John Lawrence will send on MOU to AES, white paper with more background. List of attendees to be included as well, so we know who from each state attended. Encourage directors to visit with their attendees. Recommend 2 people from each state on list.

**4.1**

ED Search, Executive Committee session

- Initial interviews via Skype/airport fly-in (mid-October), narrow down to 2-3 candidates
- Final, in person interviews late October, early November (at APLU meeting is an option)
- Final decision by Thanksgiving
- Want to find a date that at least one rep from each state can attend
- Salary range, start with highest current ED level
- Motion for full-time position approved, not part-time.
- Must be located in NC region
- Consider moving expenses
- Diversity and inclusion
- Search committee will develop a set of standardized questions, for review and

Approved need for full-time ED, not part-time.

Archie Clutter will send on slides for behavior-based interview (Done, 9/25/2013)

comment by full NCRA directors.

- Archie will send on behavior-based interview slide show

## AGENDA BRIEFS

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### **Item 5.3: Marketing Committee Update**

**Contains confidential material, please contact NCRA office to view this information.**

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**Item 6.0: Nominations Committee Report**  
**Presenter: Ernie Minton**

The NCRA Nominations Committee is looking to fill the following roles:

1. NCRA Representative to the NC Aquaculture Board
  - a. [Request letter/description of Board responsibilities](#)
  - b. [NC Aquaculture Center description](#)
2. NCAC10: Forestry and Forest Products (no NIMSS activity in 5 years, probably a very easy committee to lead)
3. NCAC25: Fisheries and Wildlife (also no NIMSS activity in 5 years)
4. NC1030: Family Firms and Policy in Times of Disruption? Working on seeking their own AA.
5. Replacement for Abel on NCRCRD board
6. Replacement for Abel on ESCOP Science and Tech Committee

**Action Requested: We need volunteers to take over these open roles.**

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**Item 8.0: REEport Issues and state spending of MRF on ERAs, CCs, and DCs**  
**Presenters: Doug Buhler, Chris Hamilton**

**State level spending of MRF on ERAs, CCs, and DCs:**

Since REEport will no longer allow Hatch MRF to be spent for ERAs, CCs, or DCs (even for travel), states will need to set up their own version of NC100, our regional administrative project which can be used to support multistate projects. Your business office can use the text in NIMSS under NC100's profile to set up a state level Hatch project. For NC100, the station director should be listed as the participant on the Appendix E. States should aim to set up a state-level NC100 by January 1 or sooner. NIFA is requesting this change so that they can better keep track of our multistate spending.

Also, NIFA proposes a 20% MRF spending limit for ERAs, CCs, and DCs. Exceptions to this limit will be addressed on a case-by-case basis. Very few states spend more than 10%, so this should be an easy rule to follow.

**Action Requested: Please share the above information with your REEport site admins. Chris will also send this information out to the regional NC admin list after the meeting.**

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## **Item 9.0: NRSP-RC Report**

**Presenter: Chris Hamilton (for Abel Ponce de León, NRSP Chair, 2013)**

1. The NRSP-RC met by phone on June 3 and made the following project recommendations for the full ESCOP vote at the Fall ESS Meeting:
  - **NRSP-1 budget increase, as proposed by WAAESD office:** 4/3 against increasing the project's budget to support a full-time impact writer. A vote of YES supports the NRSP-RC recommendation to NOT increase the NRSP1 budget; a vote of NO supports increasing the NRSP1 budget.
  - **NRSP\_temp281:** Budget and business plan reviews were favorable and the proposal is recommended for approval/renewal as-is. A vote of YES supports the NRSP-RC's recommendation to renew NRSP\_temp281 (NRSP8) with their requested budget (see below table)
2. In addition, the group evaluated the midterm review forms for NRSP4, 6, and 9. All midterm reviews were favorable and the three committees were recommended to continue as-is.
3. Also included on the NRSP ballot is the vote to approve the FY14 budget of \$15,000 for Excellence in Multistate Research Award to: SERA005 - Sweet Potato Collaborators Conference, as recommended by the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee.
4. Updated NRSP Guidelines, rev. 2012, have been uploaded to the ESCOP webpage here: <http://escop.ncsu.edu/EZcontainer.cfm?pg=guidelines.htm>
5. Bret Hess (Western Region, WY) is the incoming NRSP-RC Chair for FY2014, effective 10/1/2013

## NRSP 2013-2014 Summary

Project	Request FY2011	Authorized FY2011	Request FY2012	Authorized FY2012	Request FY2013	Authorized FY2013	Final/Revised FY2013 funding amounts based on sequestration cuts (7.62%)	†Request FY2014 (assuming a return to FY12 levels)
NRSP1	0	0	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	46,190	75,000
NRSP3	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	46,190	50,000
NRSP4	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	444,516	481,182
NRSP6	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	138,570	150,000
NRSP7	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	300,235	325,000
NRSP8	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	461,900	-
NRSP9	350,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	161,665	175,000
NRSP_temp281							-	500,000

†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.

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

**NRSP\_temp281** National Animal Genome Research Program (NRSP8  
renewal)

2013-2018

2016

**Action requested: Vote on NRSP-RC's recommendations for NRSP1's budget and NRSP\_temp281's renewal proposal and 5-year budget.**

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**Item 13.0: NCRA Resolutions**

**Presenter: Marc Linit, Resolutions Committee**

**A Resolution of Appreciation to**

**Dr. Allen Levine**

Dean of the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences at the University of Minnesota and Director of the Agriculture Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota

**WHEREAS**, Allen Levine has recently moved from his position as Dean of the Agricultural Research Division and Director of the Agriculture Experiment Station at the University of Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, Al has had a distinguished career and is recognized for multiple contributions to the Land Grant System including serving as Head of the Department of Food Science and as Associate Director of Research and a Senior Career Scientist at the Minneapolis VA Medical Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Levine serves as Director of the Minnesota Obesity Center, a National Institutes of Health funded collaborative research group of over 55 federally funded investigators from the University, the Mayo Clinic, the Minneapolis VA Medical Center, Health Partners, and Hennepin County Medical Center; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Levine is a Professor in the Departments of Food Science and Nutrition, Psychiatry, Neuroscience, Medicine, and is a member of the nutrition, food science, and the neuroscience graduate faculties at the University of Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, Al Levine has written the most effective OP ED articles for our land grant system in support of increasing federal funding for agricultural research, and he has leveraged his articles through social media outlets including prolific use of twitter, and Al is a major success factor in the ESCOP marketing effort; and

**WHEREAS**, He has published nearly 300 scientific papers and over 100 review articles, editorials and book reviews. He has received four major awards for his research efforts: one from the American Institute of Nutrition (Mead Johnson Award) one from the American College of Nutrition (Grace A. Goldsmith Award), one from AAAS (Fellow), and elected to Sigma Xi Society; and

**FURTHER**, Al displayed a witty sense of humor and spoke infrequently but when he did speak it was always with wisdom and great impact; and

**THEREFORE**, the NCRA hereby expresses its appreciation, respect and sincere thanks to Al Levine for his dedication, leadership, and his major impact on advancing all the Land Grant University missions.

**A Resolution of Appreciation to  
Dr. Abel Ponce de León  
University of Minnesota**

**WHEREAS** Abel Ponce de León has recently left his position as Senior Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs in the College of Food, Agricultural and Natural Resource Sciences and as Deputy Director of the Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station, including Chief Financial Officer; and

**WHEREAS**, Abel has had a distinguished career as scholar and administrator including his role as Professor and Head of the Department of Animal Science at the University of Minnesota; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ponce de León's area of expertise is in Animal Molecular Genetics and Cytogenetics where he has made numerous important contributions, including authoring 120 journal articles in genetics, gene mapping, molecular cytogenetics and utilization of germinal and somatic cells for animal cloning; and

**WHEREAS**, Abel is co-inventor in five patents, and the knowledge and experience he gained with his own patents was very valuable in increasing collaboration among the NCRA region's technology managers, the private sector, and venture capitalists; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Ponce de León has consulted with many international bodies, most notably the University of Lisbon and the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation in Agriculture, and Abel is a member of the Editorial Board of the Journal of Animal Biotechnology and has been an ad hoc reviewer, panel member and panel manager for the Animal Genome and Genetic Mechanisms section of the USDA-NRI competitive grants program; and

**WHEREAS**, In 1999, Dr. Ponce de León was elected Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS); and

**WHEREAS**, Abel's role as research leader and administrator at the University of Minnesota advanced research capacities at Minnesota and beyond, and his leadership in NCRA was exemplary; and

**FURTHER**, Abel Ponce de León has a calm engaging personality and his intellectual capacity is complemented with a high level of emotional intelligence which means he not only is academically bright, he understands and values people; and

**THEREFORE**, the NCRA hereby expresses its appreciation, respect and sincere thanks to Abel for his dedication, leadership, and impact on advancing research that has improved the lives of people throughout the world.

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