



# North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

220<sup>th</sup> Meeting

Monday, August 2, 2021

2:15 to 4:15 pm CDT, Via Zoom

Meeting AGENDA, [MINUTES below](#)

Time (CT)	Agenda Item	Topic	Presenter(s)	Action Requested
2:15 pm	1.0	Call to Order and Roll Call	George Smith, NCRA 2021 Chair	
	2.0	Approval of Spring 2021 Minutes: ( <a href="https://www.ncra-saes.org/agendas-minutes">https://www.ncra-saes.org/agendas-minutes</a> )	George Smith	Approval
	3.0	Adoption of the Agenda	George Smith	Approval
2:25 pm	<a href="#">4.0</a>	Reading of the Resolutions	Shawn Donkin	Approval
2:40 pm	5.0	Interim Actions of the Chair	George Smith	For information
2:50 pm	<a href="#">6.0</a>	NC Climate/Emerging Issues RFA	Shibu Jose, Frank Casey	Discussion/Approval
3:15 pm	<i>Break – 10 min</i>			
3:25 pm	7.0	NC Multistate Project Expectations and MRC Role	George, Hector	Discussion
3:40 pm	<a href="#">8.0</a>	Communications Update – National Effort and NC’s Role	Greg Cuomo	For Information/Discussion on possible NC path forward
4:00 pm	9.0	NCRA Nominations – AAs and Officers Needed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCRA Resolutions</li> <li>• MRC Member</li> <li>• ESCOP NPGCC and STC reps</li> </ul>	Marty Draper, Chris Hamilton	Volunteers needed to fill vacant positions

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AAs for NC1198, NC1190</li> </ul>		
4:05 pm	10.0	Fall NCRA Meeting Planning (9 to 11:30 am PT, Tuesday, September 28)	George Smith, Jeff Jacobsen, Chris Hamilton	Discussion of Agenda Items
4:10 pm	11.0	Other Business, as needed	All	Discussion
4:15 pm	<i>Adjourn</i>			

**Future Meetings/Events of Note:**

- Fall ESS Meeting, September 27-30, 2021, SV Alpine Meadows Resort, Olympic Valley, CA: <http://escop.info/event/ess-2021/>
- LAND-GRAB UNIVERSITIES: OWNING THE TRUTH AND SHARING THE PATH TO MAKING AMENDS, October 6, 2021, 12-2 pm ET. Register here: <https://u.osu.edu/landgranttruth/speaker-series/>
- APLU Annual Meeting, November 14-16, 2021, Virtual
- Joint CARET/AHS Sessions, Dates in 2022 TBA, Washington, DC
- NCRA Spring Meeting 2022, March 28-30, Marriott Suites Oldtown Scottsdale, AZ

**Written Reports:**

- [2021 Joint COPs Policy Board of Directors' Meeting Notes](#)

## Meeting MINUTES

**Attendees:** George Smith (MSU), Shawn Donkin (Purdue), Frank Casey (NDSU), Jeri Barak (UW-Madison), Marty Draper (KSU), Gary Pierzynski (OSU), Archie Clutter (UNL), Hector Santiago (UNL), Anne Dorrance (OSU), Bill Gibbons (SDSU), German Bollero (UIUC), Greg Cuomo (UMN), Bernie Engel (Purdue), Shibu Jose (MU), Ruth MacDonald (ISU), Bill Barker (UW-Madison, retired), Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA), Chris Hamilton (NCRA, recorder).

Agenda Item	Topic	Notes	Action Taken
1.0	Call to Order and Roll Call	Chair George Smith welcomed everyone to the meeting and led group introductions.	Done, see attendees list above.
2.0	Approval of Spring 2021 Minutes: ( <a href="https://www.ncra-saes.org/agendas-minutes">https://www.ncra-saes.org/agendas-minutes</a> )		Approved as distributed.
3.0	Adoption of the Agenda		Approved as distributed.
<a href="#">4.0</a>	Reading of the Resolutions	Shawn Donkin read retirement resolutions of appreciation for Bill Barker UW-Madison, and Joe Colletti, IA State University.	Approved as read.
5.0	Interim Actions of the Chair	Chris informed the group that she is working with UW-Madison on a remote work agreement to make her current telework more official.	None, for information only.
<a href="#">6.0</a>	NC Climate/Emerging Issues RFA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>George and others thanked Frank, Bill, and Shibu for finalizing this RFA.</li> <li>Q: How does this relate to existing multistate projects - will they be leveraged and connected to this RFA? Proposals must show true integration of states working together collaboratively. Also, this is up to a 2-year project, not 5-year like other multistate projects. Outcomes/impacts must be convincing and obtainable within this time frame.</li> <li>Do we want to include a statement of applicants' successful existing multistate</li> </ul>	Marty made a motion to approve the distributed RFA with the additions of the modifications noted during discussion. Motion seconded by Gary. Motion approved unanimously by group show of hands on the Zoom screen.

		<p>activities? Maybe applicants could just reference ways multistate projects could be used to enhance success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Don't want to be too prescriptive; want to see creative approaches.</li> <li>• Need a more clear, formal no-indirect-cost-statement, ideally at the top of the document and beyond the "in line with federal Hatch multistate guidelines." Also, allowed and non-allowable expenses should perhaps be flushed out more.</li> <li>• Objectives need to be more explicit and clearer, reads almost as if this would be part of an existing multistate project.</li> <li>• Encourage partnerships with external, non-AES local and regional partners, so that applicants can maximize potential for success. Must avoid a pay-to-play scenario though.</li> </ul>	
7.0	NC Multistate Project Expectations and MRC Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• We want to keep the conversation going regarding raising the bar for our multistate projects, making sure that renewals really are functioning collaboratively and are following the mission of the USDA NIFA Hatch Multistate program.</li> <li>• NIFA approval no longer needed for NIMSS projects – formal memo on this is under development.</li> <li>• Firm submission deadline now in place for NIMSS project renewals.</li> </ul>	For information.
<a href="#">8.0</a>	Communications Update – National Effort and NC's Role	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greg reviewed the CMC update from the summer ESCOP meeting. Please refer to</li> </ul>	For information, Jeff will obtain information on the S and NE regional efforts and also share the original NC

		<p><a href="#">Item 8.0 agenda brief</a> below for a summary and link.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• If CMC becomes a standing BAA committee, assessments may change, moving forward.</li> <li>• Do we want work as a region on strengthening our communication efforts and the interactions between communicators?</li> <li>• Jeff will obtain models of what the S and NE regions are doing to help inform our discussions and perhaps better facilitate interactions, along with the original white paper outlining NC communications ideas.</li> <li>• We could leverage activities, such as offering communications training for faculty/staff.</li> <li>• Create regional communicator network?</li> <li>• NCRA EC will discuss and provide more information for discussion at the fall NCRA meeting.</li> </ul>	<p>communications white paper with the group to help facilitate further discussions during our fall NCRA meeting.</p>
9.0	<p>NCRA Nominations – AAs and Officers Needed</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NCRA Resolutions</li> <li>• MRC Member</li> <li>• ESCOP NPGCC and STC reps</li> <li>• AAs for NC1198, NC1190</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greg Cuomo agreed to take over our resolution committee.</li> <li>• Bill Gibbons volunteered for the MRC.</li> <li>• Shibu Jose will serve as the new NCRA STC rep and AA to NC1190.</li> <li>• NPGCC – will wait for new IA State Associate Dean to start. Ruth felt this person would probably be a good fit.</li> <li>• NC1198 – immediately after the meeting, Frank Casey reached out to William Nganje at NDSU who agreed to be the new NC1198 AA.</li> </ul>	<p>All appointments approved.</p>

10.0	Fall NCRA Meeting Planning (9 to 11:30 am PT, Tuesday, September 28)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• NC Communications</li> <li>• Info on ESS voting items</li> <li>• Other discussion items, BPs, etc.</li> <li>• Executive Session, as needed</li> <li>• Resolutions</li> <li>• Nominations for committees, AA openings</li> </ul>	For information. Please send additional topics to Chris and Jeff for inclusion in the fall NCRA agenda.
11.0	Other Business, as needed	Shawn Donkin announced that he'll be moving to Oregon SU as the Assoc Dean for research at the end of August. He thanked the group for the friendship, knowledge, and camaraderie over the years. The group expressed appreciation to Shawn, as well.	For information. NOTE: This will create a need for an additional ESCOP BLC member to replace Shawn Donkin.

**Meeting adjourned at 3:27 pm CT.**

**Item 4.0: Reading of the Resolutions**

**Presenter: Shawn Donkin**

**NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS**

**WHEREAS** William (Bill) Barker Ph.D., associate dean for research and graduate programs in the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, retired on June 30, 2021, after completing 30 years of outstanding service with UW–Madison,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Barker earned a B.Sc. in Zoology and Ph.D. in Geology from The University of Georgia-Athens in 1979 and 1988 respectively,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Barker began his career as the Senior Geologist and Manager, Electron Microscopy, Roy F. Weston, Inc. in Auburn, Alabama then as Director of Analytical Services, Cavin Analytical Consultants, Inc., in Stone Mountain, Georgia and then moved to a position as Instrument Innovator for Research in the Department of Geology and Geophysics at the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1991,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Barker led innovative research using electron microscopy resulting in several key publications around microstructure and functional relationships in the area of geomicrobiology,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Barker has held several positions since locating to UW-Madison including Director, University of Wisconsin Microscopy Resource; positions in the College of Letters and Science as Assistant Director for University-Industry Relations; Assistant Dean for Research and Technology Transfer; Associate Dean for Regulatory Compliance; Director of the Office of Industrial Partnerships; Director of the Office of Research Policy; and appointments within The Office of the Vice Chancellor for Graduate Research and Education as Director of Office of Industrial Partnerships; Director of the Office of Research Policy and Interim Director of the Research Animal Resource Center, all positions that finely honed his administrative skills culminating in the appointment in 2017 to Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Programs in The College of Agriculture and Life Sciences and Associate Director, Wisconsin Agricultural Research Station where we have come to know him as part of NCRA

**WHEREAS** Dr. Barker served not only the university community through active participation on many committees and boards, and represented the NCRA on the ESCOP Diversity Catalyst Committee 2019-2021, the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee 2019-2021 and Multistate Review Committee 2018-2021 but also served his local community with leadership related to city parks, nature preserves, and community garden development,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Barker is a strong advocate for diversity, with substantial engagement in fostering relationships with Native Nations.

**WHEREAS** Bill is a thoughtful, intelligent, kind, generous, appreciative, thought provoking, caring individual, and has many other quality characteristics too numerous to mention, all which have led him to be an outstanding person and leader,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED** on this day of August 2, 2021, the NCRA does hereby extend their sincere gratitude for his many years of friendship and invaluable contributions to the North Central Region, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that an original of this resolution be provided to Dr. Bill Barker and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

**NORTH CENTRAL REGIONAL ASSOCIATION OF  
STATE AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS**

**WHEREAS** Joe Colletti, Ph.D., senior associate dean for the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Iowa State University and, the associate director of the Iowa Agriculture and Home Economics Experiment Station retired June 30, 2021, after completing many years of outstanding research, teaching, and administrative service,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Colletti earned a BS in Forestry in 1972 from Humboldt State University in California and MS and PhD degrees in Forest Economics in 1974 and 1978 respectively from the University of Wisconsin –Madison,

**WHEREAS** after serving for a short period of time as a course instructor at UW-Madison and then later at Iowa State University Dr. Colletti began his faculty career as an assistant professor in the Department of Forestry at Iowa State University in 1978, then moving through the ranks to Professor of Forest and Natural Resource Economics in 2004.

**WHEREAS** Dr. Colletti's scholarship in research, teaching, and extension has led to many refereed journal papers, non-refereed publications, research reports, abstracts, invited presentations and workshops on many topics related to agroforestry systems,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Colletti helped to establish the BioCentury Research Farm at Iowa State University, a unique facility that combines biomass feedstock production, harvesting, storing, transporting and biorefinery processing into a complete system to develop the next generation of biofuels and biobased products,

**WHEREAS** Dr. Colletti has led critical NSF sponsored efforts for the Digital Agriculture Spoke of the Midwest Big Data Hub, a focused effort to organize academic, industrial, and governmental sectors around the development of policies and best practices for data science and Big Data applications in agriculture,



**WHEREAS** Dr. Colletti participated actively and provided excellent leadership to the NCRA since 2006, having served as chair for two terms in 2018 and 2019, served on the MRC committee, helped to streamline the processes of establishing new multi-state committees and their renewal, was a member of the Science and Tech Committee of ESCOP, contributed to re-development of Science Roadmap themes, served as a member of the National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee, served as AA for NC1190, NC1198, NCERA215 and served as interim AA for NC-7,

**WHEREAS** Joe is a thoughtful, intelligent, kind, approachable, witty, caring individual and has many other quality characteristics too numerous to mention, all which have led him to be an outstanding person and leader,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE RESOLVED** on this day of August 2, 2021, the NCRA does hereby extend their sincere gratitude for his many years of friendship and invaluable contribution to the North Central Region, and,

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be provided to Dr. Joe Colletti and that a copy be filed as part of the official minutes of this meeting.

[Back to Top](#)

**Item 6.0: NC Climate/Emerging Issues RFA**  
**Presenters: Shibu Jose, Frank Casey**  
**Action Requested: Discussion and approval**

### **NCRA OPTIONS TO ENHANCE THE MULTISTATE RESEARCH PORTFOLIO**

The 12-state North Central Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (NCRA) manages a portfolio of multistate research (Extension and teaching) projects with diverse priority areas that stimulate collaborative, value-added, coordinated, synergistic research-led projects. Once operational, these 5-year projects methodically and incrementally advance science and education across NC and participating states. Faculty-led projects with other institutions, state and federal agencies, countries, and the private sector. Most projects submit multiple project renewals.

To further increase national impact and stimulate a higher level of collaborative research across institutions, NCRA directors have agreed, as a pilot, to have a focused, high quality, and action-oriented research project that will have immediate impact within two years. In addition, projects must have true collaborations that synergize activities across participating states rather than independent efforts that are merely compiled. The existing 500-series of multistate projects would be efficient and appropriate for this application given the use of Hatch Multistate Funds. The thematic focus for this current round is on **climate change**, but directors' priorities may change future foci. Proposals will be funded up to \$60,000 per year with a maximum of two years for a single project provided from NC Hatch Multistate funds. In addition, proposals must integrate a DEI (diversity, equity, inclusion) component from inception such as with a partner from an 1890 and/or 1994 Land-grant institution. At the end of the two-year project, a formal project presentation will be given to NC directors. Deliverables are expected to be multi-institutional, multi-disciplinary, and include action-oriented items such as a planning grant leading to successful team competitive grant submissions; development of new technologies and SBIR proposals. Project requirements will include:

- 1) Proposal not to exceed four pages.
- 2) Direct involvement of at least four North Central region states (and potential other entities).
- 3) Proposal format
  - a. Title
  - b. Project Directors/co-directors and NC state affiliations
  - c. Challenges to be Addressed and Project Justification
  - d. Collaborative Approaches
  - e. DEI integration
  - f. Action-oriented Results and Impacts
  - g. Detailed budget and justification
  - h. Additional participants (not counted in four-page limit)

**NOTE:** Budget expenditures would align with federal Hatch Multistate practices. After expending NCRA reserves for the first one-two years, NCRA would need to decide the future of this program and what the assessment mechanism would be. NCRA members would be equal partners in this endeavor at \$10,000 per year (total of \$120,000), with the number of projects

determined by the 'up to' amount and duration. Ideally, this program would create staggered projects with 1-3 active per year at any one time. Funds would initially be from the NCRA account at MSU, given the 'pandemic-induced' reserves, then if continued, would be part of the regional off-the-top calculation. Overall management will be from the NCRA Executive Director office at MSU.

[Back to Top](#)

## Item 8.0: Communications Update

Presenter: Greg Cuomo

Action Requested:

- For information
- Group Discussion on NCRA next steps for regional communications efforts

Detailed ESCOP 7/20/2021 CMC Report: [http://escop.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ESCOP\\_AGENDA\\_MATERIALS\\_20210720.pdf](http://escop.info/wp-content/uploads/2021/07/ESCOP_AGENDA_MATERIALS_20210720.pdf)

### Summary:

CMC conducted an external review that resulted in two main outcomes:

- A strategic communications Roadmap
- Election of an Assistant VP of Communications and Partnerships

Strategic Communications Roadmap – there will be a monthly update/calendar shared with all institutional communicators and provides suggestions for engagement in the strategic communications roadmap bringing value to the system and to each institution.

New APLU/FANR AVP Andrea Putnam. Part of her goals are to build relationships with State Communication Directors.

- CMC is looking for Directors to encourage Communication Directors to participate
- Contract with Forbes Tate Partnership was extended through August to facilitate on boarding and initiating the strategic plan.
- There will be a vote to move the CMC to a Standing Committee of the BAA. Goal is information in October and vote will be in November
- They are also suggesting changes to the composition of the CMC. Fewer Directors, more communicators (one from each of the five regions)
- Related communications topic - National Impacts Database to become a subcommittee of the Communications and Marketing Committee – Approved

[Back to Top](#)

**2021 Joint COPs Virtual Meeting – PBD Meeting Notes**  
**Thursday, July 22, 2021**  
**3:00 – 5:00pm**

**AGENDA**

**Presiding: Thomas (Tom) Coon, Chair, BAA Policy Board of Directors and Vice President of Agricultural Programs, Oklahoma State University**

Welcome to Members and Guests

Review of the Agenda – no additions or modifications

Approval of ([February 19, 2021 Minutes](#)) – no discussion and approved

**Policy Board Update (10 minutes) Tom Coon**

NIFA External Advisory Committee

- Discussion with Carrie Castille to continue relationship between BAA and NIFA
- No longer a need but will be replaced by a blue ribbon panel to review NIFA procedures
- NAS forming and staffing the BR panel review process

Strategic Realignment Recommendation

- Recommendations incorporated in BAC
- In bill language, incorporate the three current appropriations accounts (research and education, extension, and integrated) into one NIFA agency account described in a single streamlined paragraph
- BAC preparing a request to House and Senate Ag Appropriations subcommittees to incorporate bill language next year or possibly into Farm Bill
- Single line of appropriations similar to NIH or NSF with bill language spelling out details
- No prioritization of any given line and does not change the authorizations or amounts to lines but cleaner advocacy process

Advocacy RFP

- Underway with Mike Boehm incoming BAC chair and chairing this committee
- Contract with Cornerstone ending in the calendar year
- RFP to serve roll currently conducted by Cornerstone
- RFP call for proposals early next week – middle September to start review
- RFP committee will initially screen then recommend best proposals to PBD
- Goals - What do we want to see accomplish in the RFP?
  - BAA is viewed as a key strategic partner by USDA partners in co-creating and advancing next generation science, education, and outreach agenda to advance agriculture, natural resources, rural and community prosperity
  - Funding levels for key existing USDA programs are increased.
  - Identifying new initiatives or opportunities in the Farm Bill.
  - Development of a multi-year strategy.
  - Initiatives beyond USDA in other agencies.

**Communications and Marketing Karla Trautman and Rick Rhodes**

- Update progress and seek assistance
- Executive Committee meeting biweekly with
- Work with FTP to one goal – create strategic communications plan for system

- Strategic roadmap – comm strategies and implementation
- Launching monthly calendar of events – suggestions for engagement – weekly social media for monthly theme to get things moving across the system
- Communicators are engaging and monitoring listserv 140-150 communicators
- Momentum across LGUs for pushout of monthly calendar and toolkit (plug and play content)
- Meetings this week with leadership show excitement
- Assist VP Communications and External Partnerships – Andrea Putman
  - Previous service at SoAR – 6.5 years
  - Started one week ago
  - FTP contract extended through August to assist Andrea

#### **Vision**

- Standing BAA committee (add to BAC and CLP)
- Change rules of operation in October for November
- Change composition of committee – more communicators and fewer administrators
  - 5 new regional communicators plus ACE, APS, NIDB, NIFA, ex officio
  - 18 – 15 voting and 3 ex officio --- remove several of current members
  - International representation?
  - NIBD subcommittee of CMC is proposed - ECOP and ESCOP approve this change

#### **CARET Update Tom Coon and Caron Gala**

- Strategic planning process this year – Paul Patterson (chair BAC) webinars AHS and CARET delegates
- Role of AHS with CARET delegates – making the most of their efforts
- CARET meeting tomorrow afternoon
- Focusing on relationship of AHS – selection and coordination of CARET delegates – strengthening accountability – strong connections with members of Congress (>75%)
- March 6-9, 2022 - Omni Shoreham CARET-AHS in person meeting is being planned
- Executive Director for CARET is Caron Gala replacing Eddie Gouge
- Caron slide deck – strategic plan update
  - Presentation of final plan at CARET-AHS
  - Interview questions developed by outside facilitator
  - CGA and CARET BAA and CARET AHS and CARETS
  - 6 external forces (budget, DEI, political environment, understanding REE, LGU relevance, emergent topics (i.e., pandemic)
  - Four initiatives for next 4 years
    - Greater accountability
    - Coalition building
    - Communication
    - Training

#### **FY23 Advocacy Priorities Process Doug Steele**

- CLP requesting topical input for next 2024 Farm Bill
- BAC FY23 seeking input – Paul Patterson - each section advocacy for existing lines (more money) and justification from section...impact of increases...increased funding will help address this challenge
- Plan for priorities done before end of calendar year – adjust before Hill visits
- 85% budget out of 6 top lines

- The proposal needs to include (guiding outline only...not approved by BAC):
  - I. BAA Section or Council
  - II. Name/Title of Individual Submitting the Request
  - III. Current NIFA/Farm Bill Funding Line and Amount
  - IV. Amount Increase Requested (or New Funding Line)
  - V. Background on Current Funding Line (Purpose, Legislative Language, Eligibility)
  - VI. Justification for Increase/New Request
  - VII. Stakeholders
  - VIII. Closing Comments
- Nov PBD meeting – 1<sup>st</sup> draft of priorities will be discussed
- Marty Draper: For future discussion - May I suggest we adopt a strategy where we first support our core programs, but also include a "secondary" program or two each year also. We will NEVER grow those programs and we will continue to lose programming power over time.

#### **Action Items from Joint COPs Session Tom Coon**

- none

#### **Section Reports**

Karen L. Jones, Non-Land-Grant Universities *Southern Illinois University at Carbondale*

- Not present

Stephen R. Yanni, 1994 Tribal Colleges and Universities *Bay Mills Community College*

- 7 tribal colleges are involved in outreach through the Native American Fund, AmeriCorps and VISTA to increase capacity
- Oct 2-24 FALCON conference hybrid in KC contact John Phillips for more information – good way to connect with tribal colleges or to connect with folks at FALCON
- AHEC working with water-related working groups with WAAESD and other groups
- FALCON has a communication list that is available
- Budget and planning – leadership move away from One Ask and take advantage of larger ask

Mark McGuire, Experiment Station Section *University of Idaho*

- Involved in ARIA - approve a NIDB merger with CMC
- Climate Change - capacity survey and one pager being developed – STC future opportunities – Session at ESS meeting
- LGU2U initiative – LGUs and NIFA relationships
- DCC – DEI integration into ESS – 4 challenges areas – Call to Action 2021
- ESS Annual meeting

Susan Sumner, Academic Programs Section *Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University*

- FY23 budget request submitted to NIFA
- Employability skills data coming out
- Investment in mini-grants is continuing – to date 155 PIs \$167K for innovative teaching support
- Monthly peer coaching sessions – zoom increased participation discussing campus challenges
- Priorities – DEI series and events
- Emerging issues – course sharing and collaborations – long term impact of pandemics on campus – High school student decreasing numbers impacts on institutions

Michelle Rodgers, Cooperative Extension Section *University of Delaware*

- Listening sessions with NIFA input
- New toolkit for consistent advocacy messaging and education with priority language to align messages as a system - <https://advocacy.extension.org/>
- New priority action teams to work under program committee to align goals and programmatic work across ECOP priority areas: Climate – Economy and workforce – DEI - 4-H and youth development - health and community education...etc.
- New strategic framework for Health and Well-being – report approved today – Health Equity and Social Determinants of Health coalitions and community partnerships will be on website too
- Health arena – COVID issues – interagency agreement NIFA and CDC with funding of \$9.9M
- 72 – 1-year proposals around covid immunization (across all of LGUs)
- EXCITE - 24 additional projects \$200k each on adult barriers to immunization
- One more project to be funded RFA for LGU hesitancy around immunization (ID barriers)
- ECOP Annual meeting will be virtual Oct 12-14

Carolyn J. Williams, 1890 Land-Grant Universities *Prairie View A&M University*

- EXCITE is providing joint partnerships to write proposals together
- Digital divide in rural counties – funding through National 4-H Council involving 8 1890s with funding through industry sponsors
- AFRI Grant \$1M SARS/COVID Rapid Response Project
- E-extension and Fort Valley - 1890 Leadership Academy (Extension professionals) 2 cohorts completed with 3<sup>rd</sup> cohort beginning Sept 1<sup>st</sup>
- 2022 System Wide Conference – July 30-August 4 Orlando FL (information on website)

Lee Yudin, Insular/Territorial Institutions *University of Guam*

- Extension health issues beneficial in these vulnerable areas
  - closed borders and closed down in Pacific areas
- Some travel between Guam and N Marianas if vaccinated (100 miles apart)
- How to handle new pandemics in the insular areas? Guam brought in military medical personnel – 80% herd immunity in Guam – vaccination hesitancy is not a problem
- Tom Zimmerman – interim associate director UVI – COVID spreading – mandatory vaccination policy at the university with staff reluctant – PR numbers are growing as well

John Vreyens, International Agriculture Section *University of Minnesota Extension*

- Finalizing membership list across the LGU system
- Strategic plan written by November
- Major initiatives – opportunities across the system –
  - Accepted conference proposal IAS – NIFA and Center for International Programs asking how to rebuild international programs in NIFA- anticipated late September or early October
  - FAS discussions – USAID, WH, State Dept – flow of migrants from northern tier countries – role of LGU to stem the tide – 2<sup>nd</sup> week of Aug with cultural attaches from 3 countries
  - IAS approached by FAS and State with new policy with Cuba – role of LGUs interest and experience – will be spearheaded by Cuban-Americans
- FY23 funding - proposal request seek appropriations to \$10M authorized in Farm Bill for international REE programs presented to BAC this week

Other Business



- Annual APLU Hybrid Meeting – Philly Nov 14-16 with limited numbers – BAA activities virtual the week before Nov 8-12
- **Next PBD meeting scheduled for November 11 from 3:00-4:30 ET** – voting on advocacy priorities – adoption of contract advocacy firm – budgets 2022 FANR and CARET – discussion on BAA assessments
- In person CARET-AHS March 6-9 – new CARET strategic plan

Adjourn

[Back to Top](#)