



# Current and Emerging Issues Western Region

Summer 2012

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# Responses, Demographics

- 101 visits
- 41 completed surveys from 13 states, 3 territories
  - 9 Administrative Heads
  - 5 Academic Program Directors
  - 8 AES Directors
  - 12 CES Directors
  - 7 CARET members

## Question 5: In your opinion, currently what are the top five issues impacting your university/unit?

	Ranking				
	AHS	AES	APS	CES	CARET
Recruiting, Retention, RIFs, Vacancies, Salaries, Start up	1	2	1	2	2
State/Federal Budgets	2	1	1	1	1
Enrollment, Tuition	3	3	3	4	✓
Infrastructure, IT needs	4	3		3	
Lack of understanding, appreciation for unit	✓	2			
Limited grant opportunities, misalignment with needs	✓	3			✓
Communications			2		
Micromanagement by higher administration, Reorganizations		3			3
Increasing stakeholder communities and demand for practical research				4	✓
Misalignment of USDA Grand Challenges with real needs					4
Intercampus competition for resources					✓

✓ indicates mention

## Question 6: Based on your experience working with stakeholders, currently what are the top five issues impacting agriculture and natural resources in your state?

	Ranking				
	AHS	AES	APS	CES	CARET
Water, drought	1	1	2		1
Plant and animal diseases, invasive , endangered species	2	3	2		2
Wildfire – range, forest	2				✓
Skilled workforce, labor, aging workforce	2	✓	2		✓
Lack of appreciation of unit, understanding of food system	2			✓	✓
Economy, state, federal budgets	3			1	✓
Climate change, variability, Environment	3		1		
Food Safety	3	✓			
High cost of production	3				✓
Urban encroachment		4	2		
Policy, land use, gov't regulations, EPA		2	2		1
Rising energy costs		3			✓
Recruiting, Retention, RIFs, Vacancies, Salaries, Start up				2	
Infrastructure, IT, web presence			3	3	
Competition by stakeholders for resources, programs, growing learner population, demand for practical research				3	
Student recruitment, lack of interest in STEM				4	

✓ indicates inclusion

## Question 7: Based on your experience working with stakeholders, currently what are the top five issues impacting families and communities in your state?

	Ranking				
	AHS	AES	APS	CES	CARET
Family dynamics, structure, finances	1			1	
Support for K-12, voc ed, higher ed	1	2	1		✓
Jobs, unemployment, workforce	2	1	2	3	1
Nutrition, health, obesity	2			1	
Rural economy, budgets	3		✓	2	2
Affordable housing			1		
Energy, fuel costs, transportation		3		4	2
Rural health care		1			✓
Increasing food prices		3		4	2
Food safety, security				4	
Federal, state regulations					2
Taxes and policy					2

✓ indicates mention

## Question 8: In your opinion, what are likely to be the five most important issues impacting your state in the next five years?

	Ranking				
	AHS	AES	APS	CES	CARET
Economic growth, development, jobs, workforce development	1	2		1	1
Health Care	2			3	
Water quality, quantity and use	3	3	1	2	2
Food Safety, security	4			5	
K-12, higher ed funding		1	1	✓	✓
Affordable housing			1		
Nexus of environment, energy and ag., transmission infrastructure			1	4	
Public Infrastructure, transportation		3			✓
Rising energy costs		4		✓	2
Climate change				5	
<i>Federal, state policy</i>					1

✓ indicates mention

## Question 9: In your opinion, what are likely to be the five most important issues impacting your university/unit in the next five years?

	Ranking				
	AHS	AES	APS	CES	CARET
Federal, state budgets, economy	1	1	1	1	1
Recruiting, Retention, RIFs, Vacancies, Salaries, Start up	2	2	2	2	2
Enrollments, smart growth, tuition	3	3	2	✓	2
Facilities, infrastructure	4	4	3	✓	
Poor perception, understanding, support of LGU mission, ag.	5			3	✓
Relevance of competitive grant programs	5	5			
Partnerships with new clientele groups, agencies			3	✓	
Distance education		✓	3	✓	
Uncertainty with upper administration		5			
Grants and contracts		5		3	
Internal competition for resources				3	
Maintaining critical mass for core programs				3	
Remaining relevant, meeting state needs					2

✓ indicates mention

# Crop Protection Program Consolidation

- BAA and BAC supported 'in principle' formation of Integrated Crop Protection
- Current \$31.7M; proposed \$29.1M
- Programs eliminated in past 2 years
  - Crops at Risk \$1.4M
  - Risk Avoidance and Mitigation Program \$4.4M



# Potential Components

- IR-4 - \$11.913M
- Regional IPM Centers - \$4M
- Extension IPM Program - \$9.918M
- Integrated Pest Management Information Platform for Extension - \$0.115M
- National Plant Diagnostic Network \$5M
- Competitive Grants Program - \$12.1M
- Community IPM - \$NA

# Guiding Principles

- Protect/maintain the funding for E- IPM, Regional IPM Centers, and IR-4 programs of the Land Grant Universities This includes local capacity as well as competitive support for important programs and projects
- Consolidate budget lines where it makes sense, doing no harm
- Maintain intent (functionally equivalent) of programs (e.g., integrated activities regardless of where the budget resides within the USDA/NIFA Budget)
- Expand our ability to integrate research, education, and Extension functions of the nation's Land Grant Universities in local and multistate problem solving
- Ensure regional multistate collaboration focused on sharing and cooperating among Land Grant Universities and NIFA
- Acceptable to those directly affected and supported by the COPs, BAC and PBD
- Acceptable to appropriators.

# Working Group

- Mike Hoffman (Cornell) and Daryl Bucholz (KSU) co-chairs
- Diverse reps – AES, CES, IPM, ARS, Stakeholders
- Draft plan presented at Joint COPs in Savannah

# Matching Requirements

- House Farm Bill provision requiring matching funds for competitive grants that involve applied research or extension that are either commodity or state specific. Programs included but not limited to;
  - Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)
  - Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program (BFRDP)
  - IPM Extension
  - Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI)
  - Organic Transitions Integrated Research Program (ORG), and
  - Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI)
  - Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE)
  - Tribal and 1994 Extension