

Minutes: Western Academic Program Director (WAPD) Business Meeting, November 16, 2003 held at the Marriot Hotel New Orleans, Louisiana

Attendees: Members -- Marlene Hapai (University of Hawaii- Manoa), Dave Cox (University of Arizona), John Hammel (University of Idaho), Roger Lewis (University of Nevada-Reno), Erik Fritzell (Oregon State University); Mike Harrington (Western Executive Director); Guests – Marcia Hollandsworth (CARET Liaison), Jeff Gilmore (CSREES), Brad Fenwick (CSREES), Tim Mack (Virginia Tech, FAEIS coordinator).

Chair Hapai called the meeting to order at 3:35 PM, November 16, 2003. The minutes of the last meeting were adopted following a correction of a date noted by Mike Harrington.

Harrington reported on the status of the Regional Needs Analysis, an effort used to inform the development and administration of Multistate Projects in the West. He expressed how education considerations may be included. The potential for education activity relating to biotechnology issues was discussed.

Conversation ensued regarding how effectiveness of resident instruction and extension education are assessed, in particular the integration of the 3 land grant functions. The sharing of knowledge between resident instruction and Extension emerged as a topic. In that light, we discussed: a) ways of developing programs, b) ways of evaluating programs, c) ways of involving students in extension activities, and d) ways of incorporating “Extension-identified” problems into the resident instruction classroom, and e) ways to incorporate students into “real world” research and extension activities.

The regional Teaching Workshop held in Bozeman, Montana September, 19-20, 2003. Approximately 100 participants were treated to excellent sessions. The historical rotation of hosts for the workshop was discussed. Colorado would be the next host. Harrington will talk to CSU administrators regarding their willingness and ability to host the workshop.

The election of the Secretary/Chair-elect was discussed. One member was nominated, however, he had not been contacted about his willingness and ability to serve. Members present acclaimed support of him for the office. Fritzell will contact him following the meeting.

Jeff Gilmore and Tim Mack discussed the status of the FAEIS database and invited feedback from the membership. Soon one will be able to conduct comparative analyses with the database. They have CD’s with the current data available for distribution.

Fritzell reported that the ACOP leadership admonished the Western Section for its relatively few nominees for the Teaching Awards program. We need to make special efforts to generate nominations this coming year.

The next meeting of WAPD will be held in association with the Joint Western Director's meeting June 21-24, 2003 in Guam. Possible special topics for the meeting might be "institutional program exchanges" and/or student exchange programs.

Members shared institutional reports and briefly described highlights and major changes on their campuses.

The meeting adjourned at 5.15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Erik Fritzell