

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF
THE WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF
AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION
DIRECTORS**

**ALASKA
AMERICAN SAMOA
ARIZONA
CALIFORNIA
COLORADO
GUAM
HAWAII
IDAHO
MICRONESIA
MONTANA
NEVADA
NEW MEXICO
NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OREGON
UTAH
WASHINGTON
WYOMING**



**ASTON WAILEA RESORT
KIHEI-MAUI, HAWAII
JULY 13-16, 1997**

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

1.	Approved the agenda as amended	1
2.	Approved the minutes of the March 13-14, 1997 meeting as circulated	1
3.	Approved an increase of 5.0 percent for the Executive Director salary	2
4.	Adopted the concept of multifunctional, coordinated programming	4
5.	Approved the motion that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors form a subcommittee on GPRA consisting of Paul Rasmussen and Lee Sommers to work with representatives of CSREES and Directors from other regions as appropriate to recommend improvements and/or alternatives in and to the GPRA performance framework	5
6.	Approved the motion that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors instruct the Executive Director Heil to invite two representatives from the other regions to work with the WAAESD subcommittee and CSREES representatives to recommend improvements and/or alternatives in and for the GPRA performance framework	5
7.	Approved the motion to close nominations for officers and committees	5
8.	Approved the slate of nominees for officers and committees	5
9.	Approved two resolutions	5
10.	Approved the motion to hold the Spring WDA meeting on March 18-20, 1998	7
11.	Approved the motion to adjourn the meeting.	7
12.	Approved extension of W-166 "Evaluation and Improvement of Barley for Feed and Food" for one year, from October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999	38
13.	Approved extension of W-175 "Human Physiological and Perceptual Relationships to the Textile-Skin Interface" for one year, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998	38
14.	Approved one-year extension of NRSP-001, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998	38
15.	Approved the revision of NRSP-006 "Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002	38
16.	Approved the revision of W-122 "Improve Food Safety Through Discovery and Control of Natural and Induced Toxicants and Antitoxicants" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002	39
17.	Approved the revision of W-133 "Benefits and Costs of Resource Policies Affecting Public and Private Land" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002	39
18.	Approved the revision of W-143 "Nutrient Bioavailability - A Key to Human Nutrition" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002	39

19.	Approved the revision of W-177 “Enhancing the Global Competitiveness of U.S. Red Meat” for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002	39
20.	Approved the revision of W-185 “Biological Control in the Pest Management Systems of Plants” for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002	40
21.	Approved the establishment of ad hoc W- “Housing in the Nonmetropolitan West” for one year, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998	40
22.	Approved the extension of WCC-001 “Beef Cattle Breeding Research in Western Region” for one year, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998	40
23.	Approved the renewal of WCC-027 “Potato Variety Development” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	40
24.	Approved the renewal of WCC-076 “The Impact of Immigration on Rural America” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	41
25.	Approved the renewal of WCC-081 “Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	41
26.	Rejected the renewal of WCC-098 “Research Coordination in Human Sciences	41
27.	Conditionally approved the renewal of WCC-099 “Broodstock Management, Genetics and Breeding Programs for Molluscan Shellfish” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	41
28.	Approved the renewal of WCC-100 “Implementation and Strategies for National Beef Cattle Evaluation” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	42
29.	Conditionally approved the renewal of WCC-101 “Assessing the Chinese Market for U.S. Agricultural Products” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	42
30.	Approved the establishment of WCC-107 “ Adding Value to Western U.S. Agricultural Exports” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	42
31.	Established WCC-108 “ Protecting the Safety of Food” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000	43
32.	Deferred the establishment of WCC- “Seafood Marketing and the Management of Marine and Aquacultural Resources in a Global Economy.”	43
33.	Disapproved the establishment of WCC- “Research and Outreach Coordination in Gerontology.”	43

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Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
Aston Wailea Resort
Kihei-Maui, Hawaii
July 13-16, 1997
MINUTES

ATTENDANCE:

ARIZONA	Colin Kaltenbach	OREGON	L. J. (Kelvin) Koong
CALIFORNIA	Henry J. Vaux	UTAH	Paul Rasmussen
	Philip Roberts		H. Grant Vest
COLORADO	Lee Sommers	WASHINGTON	James R. Carlson
HAWAII	H. Michael Harrington	WYOMING	Jim Jacobs
IDAHO	Richard Heimsch	ARS	Bob Reginato
MICRONESIA	James Simms		Art Schipper
NEVADA	Ronald Pardini	CSREES	E. M. (Ted) Wilson
	George Taylor	U.S. FOREST SERVICE	Dick Krebill
NORTHERN MARIANAS	Joaquin Tenorio	EXECUTIVE DIR.	Bob Heil
		OFFICE-EXEC. DIR.	Harriet Sykes

1.0 Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pardini.

2.0 Introduction and Announcements

The attendees introduced themselves.

3.0 Adoption of Agenda

The motion was made, and seconded to approve the agenda as amended. MOTION CARRIED. The agenda is attached as Appendix A, pp. 8-10.

4.0 Approval of Minutes of March 1997 Meeting

The motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the March 13-14, 1997 meeting as circulated. MOTION CARRIED.

5.0 Interim Actions of the Chair

Pardini reported that he had signed a five-year extension of the Western Executive Director contract.

6.0 Executive Committee Report

The Executive Committee reviewed the Executive Director's office budget. The assessment for the Executive Director office budget would be the same if there were no salary increases for either the Executive Director or the Administrative Analyst. There will be no salary increase for the Administrative Analyst for FY1997-98. The assessment will increase if a salary increase is approved for the Executive Director.

The average raise of the Directors from the Western Region equaled 2.8 percent at \$106,000. A 5.0 percent raise would increase the Executive Director salary to \$108,700. The Executive Directors from the other regions earn: NE - \$117,500; NC - \$120,000; S - \$115,000, the mean of which would amount to a 7.5 percent increase. The Executive Committee recommends an increase of 5.0 percent for the Executive Director salary. MOTION CARRIED BY A MAJORITY OF VOTING MEMBERS.

A proposal for taking \$12,000 off-the-top from regional funds to develop a paperless regional research management system has been presented by D. R. MacKenzie, NE-Executive Director. The Executive Committee felt that the project should be supported by CSREES, and should be collaborated with CSREES.

A request has been made by Ralph Otto (CSREES) to consider combining IPM and water quality programs and develop a joint RFP. His thought was that it might enhance the accountability of both programs. The Executive Committee felt that the two programs might be a mismatch.

The Executive Committee presented the following slate of nominations for the election of officers and appointments to committees (Agenda Item 14.0):

Chair	J. R. Carlson (WA)
Chair-Elect	R. C. Heimsch (ID)
Secretary	P. A. Roberts (CA-R)
Treasurer	T. J. McCoy (MT)
Executive Committee Member-at-Large	H. P. Rasmussen (UT)
	V. A. McCracken (WA)
RIC	L. E. Sommers (CO)
Resolutions Committee	L. J. (Kelvin) Koong (OR)
ESCOP Budget Subcommittee	H. J. Vaux (CA-S)

7.0 Treasurer's Report

The Treasurer's Report was distributed in the absence of the Treasurer. The motion was made and seconded to approve the Treasurer's Report as distributed. MOTION CARRIED. The Treasurer's Report is included as Appendix B, pp. 11-12.

8.0 Reports from Liaison Representatives

8.1 Forest Service Report

Krebill presented the Forest Service Report, included as Appendix C, pp. 13-14.

8.2 ARS Report

Schipper reported on activities of the ARS. Many of the items reported at the 1997 Spring Meeting in Napa, CA have not changed.

There are many acting administrators in ARS. It is hoped that the acting positions will be filled in the near future.

ARS is in the process of recruiting for a laboratory director for the Hilo, HI laboratory.

Lloyd Elliot has announced his retirement from the Grass and Forage Research Unit at Corvallis, OR.

John Gorham at Pullman, WA is retiring after 50 years as a scientist.

The draft House Appropriations Bill Report appears good for the Pacific West Area. Many of the sites scheduled for closure and reduction will remain open and/or restored.

Construction funds of \$23 million for the Parlier, CA center and \$1.3 million for planning at the Western Human Nutrition Center for a new facility at Davis, CA have been appropriated.

8.3 CSREES

Wilson presented the CSREES Report, included as Appendix D, pp. 15-22.

9.0 Reports from Regional and National Committees

9.1 ESCOP Executive Committee

Kaltenbach presented the ESCOP Executive Committee Report, included as Appendix E, pp. 23-28. A copy of status report of the Interagency Working Group on Plant Genomes that was initiated by the corn growers is also included in Appendix K. It has moved from a corn genome initiative to a food genome initiative.

9.2 ESCOP FY98 & FY99 Budget Subcommittee

McHugh presented the ESCOP FY98 & FY99 Budget Subcommittee Report, included as Appendix F, pp. 29-31.

9.3 IPM Report

A draft of an RFP for a new host institution for the IPM program, provided by T. J. McCoy, is included as Appendix G, pp. 32-34.

9.4 Regional Impact Assessment Committee

Pardini commented that ESCOP/ECOP had approved the develop of a regional approach for impact reporting. The proposal was to include all states, particularly the communication offices in each of the states. The idea was to develop a comprehensive database on impacts and accomplishments that reflect the entire system, link it to GPRA in a positive way that could meet some of the needs of GPRA. States would voluntarily support costs and could use regional research money in support of the plan. The primary focus would be on the Land-grant/CSREES partnership, even though some others are in existence. As an interim action, a Joint Regional Impact Assessment Coordinating Committee was created with three Administrative Advisors, who are the chairs of their respective affiliations: L. Luft (Extension), R. Abernethy (Academics), and R. Pardini (Experiment Station). Approximately 10 people have been selected to serve who will develop science and education impact statements for use at the state and national level and will involve base programs, national research competitive grants programs, special grants and regional research program.

10.0 RIC Report

A proposal submitted by the ad hoc Task Force on Regional Coordination of Research, Extension and Education was provided by Pardini on behalf of V. McCracken, Chair of the Task Force, and is included as Appendix H, pp. 35-36. After discussion, the motion was made and seconded to adopt the concept of multifunctional, coordinated programming. MOTION CARRIED. Details of the program will need to be worked out.

The RIC Report with related WDA actions is attached as Appendix I, pp. 37-47.

11.0 Executive Directors Report

Heil presented the Executive Directors Report, included as Appendix J, pp. 48-49.

12.0 Regional Research 50th Anniversary

Heil requested input from the Directors regarding a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the Regional Research Program and the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors. An appropriate time for the meeting would be during the 1998 Spring Meeting and could include an afternoon panel discussion involving former members of the Association. The Directors instructed Heil to proceed with plans for the anniversary celebration.

13.0 Wrap-up of Summer Meeting (Discussion)

The current GPRA reporting framework and concerns were discussed.

The motion was made and seconded that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors form a subcommittee on GPRA consisting of Paul Rasmussen and Lee Sommers to work with representatives of CSREES and Directors from other regions as appropriate to recommend improvements and/or alternatives in and to the GPRA performance framework. MOTION CARRIED.

The motion was made and seconded that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors instruct the Executive Director Heil to invite two representatives from the other regions to work with the WAAESD subcommittee and CSREES representatives to recommend improvements and/or alternatives in and for the GPRA performance framework. MOTION CARRIED.

A Program Committee of Vest and Heil were appointed to evaluate the format of the joint portion of the Summer meeting. The format might be to talk about issues in common with a larger group of people in order to get more interaction with the different groups. For example: the first group meeting with Teaching and Extension had a six item agenda that we got half-way through. We could have benefitted by having more time for discussion.

14.0 Election of Officers, Appointments

The motion was made and seconded to close nominations for officers and committees. MOTION CARRIED.

The nominees for offices and committees are:

Chair	J. R. Carlson (WA)
Chair-Elect	R. C. Heimsch (ID)
Secretary	P. A. Roberts (CA-R)
Treasurer	T. J. McCoy (MT)
Executive Committee Member-at-Large	H. P. Rasmussen (UT)
	V. A. McCracken (WA)
RIC	L. E. Sommers (CO)
Resolutions Committee	L. J. (Kelvin) Koong (OR)
ESCOP Budget Subcommittee	H. J. Vaux (CA-S)

The motion was made, seconded and CARRIED to approve the slate of nominees for officers and committees.

15.0 State Reports (written)

Nevada - Appendix K, pp. 50-51.

16.0 Resolutions

The motion was made, seconded and unanimously carried to approved the following two resolutions:

Resolution #1;

WHEREAS, Dr. Robert J. Reginato served in a distinguished manner as a soil physicist and water management specialist from 1959-1989 at the USDA-ARS Water Conservation Laboratory in Phoenix, AZ, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reginato demonstrated superior leadership qualities and dedication to agricultural research while serving as Associate Director (1989-1991) then Area Director of the USDA-ARS Pacific West Area (1991-1996) and more recently as Associate Administrator of USDA-ARS (1996-present), and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reginato set the standard for cooperation with the State Agricultural Experiment Station System for which the System is greatly appreciative, and

WHEREAS, Dr. Reginato has indicated his desire to retire effective November, 1997,

BE IT RESOLVED, that the members of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors at their meeting in Maui, Hawaii on July 16, 1997 express their fullest appreciation to Dr. Robert J. Reginato as a friend and colleague for his distinguished service to American agriculture and as one who believed in and practiced true partnership, be it further

RESOLVED that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors extends best wishes to Dr. Reginato and his wife Donna as they pursue new duties as retirees, and be it further

RESOLVED that the original of this resolution be sent to Dr. Reginato with copies provided to Dr. Ed Knipling, Acting Administrator, USDA-ARS and the minutes of this meeting.

Resolution #2;

WHEREAS The Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors met in Kihei-Maui, Hawaii July 13-16, 1997 as a part of the Western Region Joint Summer Meeting, and

WHEREAS All in attendance were educated through meetings, invited speakers, joint sessions and also field trips to get a sense of the potential for diversified agriculture in the islands, and

WHEREAS Those attending were exposed to the agriculture, culture and tradition of the Hawaiian Islands through the opening reception, the visit to and meal at the Tropical Plantation, Maui's No Ke Oi Luau, golfing, HC&S Sugar Company and Maui Pineapple Company tours, the visit to the Ulupalakua Ranch, the Kula Community Center for the Taste of Maui meal, and

WHEREAS The 1997 Annual Summer Meeting resulted in effective exchanges and discussions of accomplishments and current agricultural and administrative issues, be it therefore

RESOLVED that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors expresses its appreciation to Dr. Charles Laughlin, Dean, College of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, University of Hawaii and Dr. Michael Harrington, Interim Director, Hawaii Institute of Tropical Agriculture and Human Resources, and all others involved in the meeting, for their hospitality and planning that contributed to the success of the Annual Meeting, and be it further

RESOLVED that this resolution be provided to Drs. Laughlin and Harrington and a copy be filed as a part of the official minutes of this meeting.

17.0 Future Meetings

The Fall Meeting of the Western Directors Association will be November 18, 1997 in Washington, DC in conjunction with the annual NASULGC meeting.

The 1998 Spring Meeting of the Western Directors Association will be the week of March 15, 1998 somewhere on the coast of Oregon. The motion was made and seconded to hold the Spring WDA meeting on March 18-20, 1998. MOTION CARRIED.

The 1998 Joint Summer Meeting will be held July 8-11, 1998 at the Yarrow Hotel in Park City, UT.

18.0 Adjourn

The motion was made, seconded and UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED to adjourn the meeting.

APPENDIX A: Agenda

AGENDA
 WESTERN ASSOCIATION OF AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENT STATION DIRECTORS
 1997 Western Region Joint Summer Meeting
 Aston Wailea Resort
 Kihei-Maui, Hawaii
 July 13-16, 1997

SUNDAY, JULY 13, 1997

8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. RIC Meeting
 4:00 p.m.- 5:00 p.m. WAAESD Executive Committee
 12:00 noon - 6:00 p.m. Registration
 6:00 p.m.- 8:00 p.m. Opening Reception

MONDAY, July 14, 1997

Morning Session

6:30 - 7:40 Continental Breakfast
 7:00 - 8:00 Registration
 7:45 - 12:15 Plenary Session (all groups together) Theme: Diversified Agriculture:
 Surfing the Wave of the Future

Afternoon Session

12:30 - 1:45 Lunch

2:00 WAAESD Business Meeting

2:00 1.0 Call to Order R. S. Pardini
 2.0 Introduction and Announcements R. S. Pardini
 3.0 Adoption of agenda R. S. Pardini
 4.0 Approval of Minutes of March 1997 Meeting R. S. Pardini
 5.0 Interim Actions of the Chair R. S. Pardini
 6.0 Executive Committee Report R. S. Pardini
 2:20 7.0 Treasurer's Report T. J. McCoy
 8.0 Reports from Liaison Representatives

2:30 8.1 Forest Service Report D. Burns/R. Krebill
 2:45 8.2 ARS Report J. Van Schilfgaarde

3:00 Break

3:15 8.3 CSREES E.M. Wilson
 9.0 Reports from Regional and National Committees

3:30 9.1 ESCOP Exec. Committee H. P. Rasmussen/C. Kaltenbach
 3:45 9.2 ESCOP FY98 & FY99 Budget Subcommittee H. F. McHugh/J. Carlson
 4:00 9.3 IPM Report T. J. McCoy

4:10	9.4	Regional Impact Assessment Committee	R.S. Pardini
4:20	10.0	RIC Report	J. Jacobs
5:00		Adjourn for Day	

TUESDAY, July 15, 1997

Morning Session

6:30 - 7:30	Continental Breakfast	
7:30 - 8:00	AESOP Report	T. Nipp
8:00 - 8:30	REEIS Update	T. R. Dutson
8:30 - 9:30	Rotating Group Meetings	
	Group I: WAHS, WIADA, W-CARET	
	Group II: WAAESD, WED, WAPS	

9:30 Break

9:45 - 10:45	Rotating Group Meetings	
	Group I: W-CARET, WAAESD, WED	
	Group II: WAHS, WIADA, WAPS	

Lunch on your own

Afternoon Session

OPTIONAL TOURS

6:00 Maui's No Ka Oi Luau

WEDNESDAY, July 16, 1997

Morning Session

6:30 - 7:40	Continental Breakfast	
7:45 - 8:45	Resume Rotating Group Meetings	
	Group I: W-CARET, WAPS	
	Group II: WAHS, WAAESD, WIADA, WED	
8:45 - 9:45	Individual Group Meetings	

Resume WAAESD Business Meeting

8:45	11.0	Executive Directors Report	R. D. Heil
9:00	12.0	Regional Research 50th Anniversary	R. S. Pardini
9:05	13.0	Wrap-up of Summer Meeting (Discussion)	R. S. Pardini
9:25	14.0	Election of Officers, Appointments	
9:30	15.0	State Reports (written)	
9:35	16.0	Resolutions	G. Vest/A. Mitchell

9:40 17.0 Future Meetings R. S. Pardini
9:45 18.0 Adjourn

9:45 BREAK

10:05 - 11:00 Wrap-up Plenary Session
 Report on National Research, Extension and Dan Dooley
 Education Advisory Board

 Status Report on Regional Policy Research Center A. Torrel

11:15 Depart for Field Tour

APPENDIX B: Treasurer's Report

WESTERN DIRECTOR AT LARGE ACCOUNT
FINANCIAL REPORT
FY 1997
07-Jul-97

ASSESSMENTS

Item	Assessment	Payment	Balance due
AM.SAMOA	\$600.00	\$0.00	\$600.00
MICRONESIA	600.00	600.00	0.00
NORTHERN MARIANAS	600.00	0.00	600.00
ALASKA	7,054.71	7,054.71	0.00
ARIZONA	12,161.39	12,161.39	0.00
CALIFORNIA	18,845.73	18,845.73	0.00
COLORADO	14,976.42	14,976.42	0.00
GUAM	6,883.50	6,883.50	0.00
HAWAII	9,057.17	9,057.17	0.00
IDAHO	10,828.89	10,828.89	0.00
MONTANA	11,424.40	11,424.40	0.00
NEVADA	8,908.30	8,908.30	0.00
NEW MEXICO	9,213.52	9,213.52	0.00
OREGON	13,739.56	13,739.56	0.00
UTAH	12,361.01	12,361.01	0.00
WASHINGTON	18,427.03	18,427.02	0.00
WYOMING	10,300.37	10,300.37	0.00
 SUB TOTAL	 165,981.99	 164,781.99	 1,200.00
COLORADO RENT (7,800.00)	(7,800.00)		
 TOTAL	 158,181.99	 158,181.99	 1,200.00

Income and Expenses

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
07/01/96	June 30, 1996	\$	\$	\$43,518.78
YTD	FY 1996 Assessments Received	156,981.99		200,500.77
07/01/96	Adjustment from FY96 to balance with Univ reports		0.01	200,500.77
07/01/96	Montana AES for accounting expenses		1,500.00	199,000.76
07/23/96	Transfer of funds to CSU-Jul-Sept		14,500.00	184,500.76
08/07/96	University of Wyoming-Heil Salary/Benefit Apr-June 96		30,402.18	154,098.58
09/23/96	Transfer of funds to CSU-Oct-Dec		14,500.00	139,598.58
10/22/96	University of Wyoming-Heil Salary/Benefit Jul-Sept 96		30,464.43	109,134.15
11/21/96	Montana AES for accounting expenses (increase)		1,000.00	108,134.15
12/27/96	Transfer of funds to CSU-Jan-Mar		14,500.00	93,634.15
01/21/97	University of Wyoming-Heil Salary/Benefit Oct-Dec 96		29,692.89	63,941.26
04/02/97	Transfer of funds to CSU-Mar-Jun		14,500.00	49,441.26
04/23/97	University of Wyoming-Heil Salary/Benefit Jan-Mar 97		31,297.51	18,143.76
 08/31/96	July Interest	199.12		18,342.87
09/30/96	August Interest	103.83		18,446.80
10/31/96	September Interest	10.06		18,456.86
11/30/96	October Interest	90.60		18,547.46
12/31/96	November Interest	281.82		18,829.28
01/31/97	December Interest	365.49		19,194.77
02/28/97	January Interest	351.24		19,546.01
03/31/97	February Interest	233.33		19,779.34
04/30/97	March Interest	249.27		20,028.61
05/31/97	April Interest	228.97		20,257.58
06/30/97	May Interest	109.50		20,367.08
 Total		 \$159,205.32	 \$182,357.02	 20,367.08

WESTERN DIRECTORS' SPECIAL ACCOUNT
FINANCIAL STATEMENT

FYI 997
07-Jul-97

ASSESSMENTS

Item	Assessment	Payment	Balance Due
ALASKA	\$310.79	\$310.79	\$0.00
ARIZONA	535.77	535.77	0.00
CALIFORNIA	830.24	830.24	0.00
COLORADO	669.78	659.78	0.00
GUAM	303.25	303.25	0.00
HAWAII	399.01	399.01	0.00
IDAHO	477.06	477.06	0.00
MONTANA 503.30	503.30	0.00	0.00
NEVADA	392.45	392.45	0.00
NEW MEXICO	405.90	406.90	0.00
OREGON	605.29	605.29	0.00
UTAH	544.56	544.56	0.00
WASHINGTON	811.80	811.80	0.00
WYOMING 453.78	453.78	0.00	0.00
Total	\$7,232.98	\$7,232.98	0.00

INCOME AND EXPENSES

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
07/01/96	June 30, 1996 Balance	\$	\$	\$19,623.69
YTD	FY1996 Assessments Received	7,232.98		269,856.67
08/14/96	Kaltenbach-ESCOP/ ECOP Bar Harbor ME		1,787.40	25,069.27
08/14/96	Rasmussen-ESCOP/ ECOP Bar Harbor ME		1,842.76	23,226.51
10/14/96	Kaltenbach-USDA/CSREES Washington D.C. (Partnership Office)		777.35	22,449.16
10/22/96	Rasmussen-ECOP Leadership Mtg Washington, DC		821.44	21,627.72
10/22/96	Rasmussen-Nat'l Synthesis Conf Washington, DC		1,078.57	20,549.15
11/19/96	Sykes ESCOP Bar Harbor ME		1,632.30	18,916.85
11/27/96	Rasmussen-NASULGC San Diego CA		1,107.45	17,809.40
12/27/96	Kaltenbach-NASULGC/ESCOP Board on Ag Washington DC		934.22	16,875.18
03/06/97	Kaltenbach-ESCOP/CARET/AHS Washington DC		1,738.27	15,136.91
04/17/97	Kaltenbach-ESCOP Executive Committee mtg Denver, CO		600.14	14,536.77
04/17/97	Regents of CA. NAPA spring mtg expense		1,000.00	13,536.77
08/31/96	July Interest	88.25		13,625.02
09/30/96	August Interest	90.31		13,715.33
10/30/96	September Interest	65.53		13,780.86
11/30/96	October Interest	81.67		13,862.53
12/31/96	November Interest	78.27		13,940.80
01/31/97	December Interest	65.44		14,006.24
02/28/97	January Interest	66.36		14,071.80
03/31/97	February Interest	68.92		14,140.42
04/30/97	March Interest	65.23		14,205.65
05/31/97	April Interest	59.35		14,265.00
06/30/97	May Interest	66.65		14,331.65
Total		\$8,027.86	\$13,319.90	\$14,331.65

APPENDIX C: Forest Service Report

Forest Service Report to Western Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

Maui, Hawaii, July 1997

by

Richard Krebill, USFS, RMRS, Ogden, UT, for Denver Burns

Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas retired this past winter to become the Boone and Crockett chaired professor at the University of Montana. Jack will probably be noted for bringing the Forest Service beyond the talking stages into the actual doing of ecosystem management. Jack was succeeded by Mike Dombeck, a native of Wisconsin, a former fishing guide, a fisheries biologist with the Forest Service, and Acting Director for Bureau of Land Management. Mike came within a "whisker" of joining Forest Service Research in Boise but opted instead for a BLM position that brought him to national prominence. Upon becoming Chief, Mike quickly added Francis Pandolfi as "Chief of Staff," a position new to the Forest Service, and he is in the process of replacing several top executive positions of the Forest Service staff in DC. One position which is completed is the move of Robert Lewis from Station Director of Northeastern Forest Experiment Station to the position of Deputy Chief for Research. Robert had his graduate training at Texas A&M in forest pathology, and he has always maintained a keen interest in science.

Our Chief, Mike Dombeck, has expressed a vision for improving the health of the land while achieving true sustainability. His immediate objectives are to fulfill the Department's objectives for civil rights, improve our record of fiscal integrity, and restore public confidence in the Forest Service. He has repeatedly expressed his longer range priorities as improving water quality, restoring riparian areas, restoring forest and rangeland health, providing quality recreation, and strengthening partnerships. With Mike, we expect the Forest Service to build upon good relations with the Land Grant colleges and other universities, and to continue a strong reliance on science to underpin the management of forests and rangelands. Budgets for Forest Service Research are expected to remain stable or perhaps even grow slightly over the next few years. Research to support forest and rangeland monitoring is an area of potential enhancement being requested by National Forest managers. Modest program shifts within existing budgets to meet the Chief's priorities may occur in the fairly near future where agreeable with Congress.

In May 1997, Secretary Glickman gave the go-ahead to merge the old Intermountain Research Station with the Rocky Mountain Forest and Range Experiment Station. The new Station, the "Rocky Mountain Research Station," is headquartered in Fort Collins, Colorado, with Denver Burns as Station Director. The new consolidated station is third in size among Forest Service Research Stations based on research locations, numbers of employees, and appropriated funding; and it serves an area which includes over half of the public lands and an area of immense resource values. The Station territory includes all of the Rockies from

Canada to Mexico, the Great Plains and Black Hills, the Southwestern deserts, the Great Basin, and a large part of the interior Columbia River Basin. We're at the origin of many of our nation's major rivers; we're in an area abounding with wildness and natural beauty; we're in an area where local communities often depend upon recreation, grazing, timber, and mineral resources for their viability; and we're in an area of considerable biodiversity, including species of strong national interest. With a staff of nearly 400 pfts and many terms and temporaries, we operate fourteen science laboratories in ten states and manage eleven experimental forests/ranges. An advantage of the consolidation is the ability we now have to better coordinate the research of similar research units of the Station and the capability to make longer term changes in our program to provide a better balance of research expertise at a time of scarce resources. With the increased size and scope of the Station, we have a greater responsibility for natural resources research leadership and a strong need for a closer partnership with the Land Grant colleges.

Some of the major happenings in our Station are:

a. Successful progress in our five competitive ecosystem management research projects -- central Nevada riparian, Bitterroot landscape, Borderlands partnership, Rio Grande corridor, and Front Range urban interface. These all will be reviewed in the coming year, with a potential for continuation.

b. Completion of several of our scientists' involvement in the Interior Columbia River Basin Assessment. This is said to be the most intensive look at a regional area from the point of view of the status and potential of its resources, ever. The public agencies will use this work as they develop future plans for resource management, preferring to restore the lands to a higher level of sustainability.

c. Contract bids for the new Natural Resources Conservation Center in Fort Collins, Colorado, are expected by GSA by late this month.

d. Reduction of forest fuels through both harvesting and prescribed burning is receiving considerable attention, both from research and from management. The prime goal is to reduce the potential for continuing catastrophic wildfires, especially in the urban-wildland interface.

e. There is increasing interest in rangeland/grassland research, with everything from monitoring through preventing weed expansions and maintaining biodiversity to range economics. For the Southwest, this is summarized in our recent document RM-GTR-291, coordinated by Keith Evans.

APPENDIX D: CSREES Report

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting: July 13-16, 1997
 Agenda Item: 8.3
 Presenter: Edward M. Wilson
 Agenda Item Title: USDA Civil Rights Implementation Update

The process Secretary Glickman put in place to assure the 92 recommendations of the USDA Civil Rights Action Team (CRAT) are fully implemented is operational and making good progress. Thirty-three teams have been formed, each charged to assure that 1 to 5 or 6 of the recommendations are implemented and institutionalized. The goal is to have all recommendations that are under the control of the Department implemented by September 30, 1997 and to have those that require legislation dealt with by this Congress. CSREES staff are serving on several of the teams and are chairing four teams. Chairs include, Colien Hefferan, Ted Wilson, Alma Hobbs, and A. J. Dye. John Bottum is serving on the overall implementation team coordinating the eight outreach teams.

The CRAT report grew out of twelve listening sessions held throughout the country in January and analysis of many previous civil rights studies and reports. Copies have been distributed to all state and county office of the land-grant institutions. The overriding theme of the report is that "Every customer and every employee of USDA to be treated fairly and equitably, and with dignity and respect."

Several of the recommendations affect our research and education programs and our partner institutions. Research agencies and land-grant universities are being asked to give higher priority to identifying and meeting the specific needs of the socially disadvantaged and limited resource farmers and ranchers. Each land-grant institution, CSREES, and other USDA research education, and technical assistance agencies is being asked to name an individual who will assure the research, management, and educational needs of socially disadvantaged, limited resource farmers and ranchers are identified and given priority. Agencies are also being asked to increase involvement of small and limited resource farmers and ranchers in demonstration farms, forests, and watershed projects.

Other actions that relate to land-grant programs is the establishment of a new Office of Outreach and state outreach councils. Also, a small farms commission is being named to recommend small farm and ranch policy; and a farm worker initiative is being sculled-out. Another team is addressing issues related to more equitable funding of the land-grant institutions (1862s, 1890s, and 1994s). Most of the Civil Rights Implementation teams will have completed their work by the end of September. By that time the CRAT recommendations should have been handed off to the agencies and institutionalized.

Action Requested:

Action Taken:

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting: July 13-16, 1997
Agenda Item: 8.3
Presenter: Edward M. Wilson
Agenda Item Title: CSREES Update: Natural Resources and Environment Unit

Regional Workshops on Agricultural and Forest Productivity and Natural Resource Conservation: CSREES and the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) are working with the Riley Memorial Foundation to sponsor a series of regional workshops to explore partnerships by looking at case studies of model programs from the System. A request has gone out to the System for nominations of exemplary programs that can be used to develop appropriate case studies.

The regional meetings are scheduled as follows:

October 9-10, 1997 Atlanta, GA
November 4-7, 1997 Reno, NV
November 12-14, 1997 St. Louis, MO
November 19-21, 1997 College Park, MD

Water Quality: For 7 years, CSREES and its predecessor agencies have played an active role in the Department's water quality initiative. At a recent national planning meeting, extension workers in water quality developed a mission statement, goals and objectives, and an implementation strategy. They also laid the framework for a shared leadership model that includes a 5-member advisory committee (one each from the 4 geographic regions and one from the 1890s) composed of program leaders and water quality coordinators. This committee, named by the Directors of Extension, would work very closely with the staff of NRE to guide the System on water quality and natural resource issues.

A writing team is refining the workshop ideas and preparing a more complete plan for review. Mid-June is the target date for completion of this draft. Implementation of this new plan which is built around seven major objectives (including a focus on hypoxia) would start in Oct 1997.

Hypoxia: An area of approximately 7,000 square miles in the Gulf of Mexico adjacent to the Mississippi delta suffers from a big-oxygen deficit each summer, and becomes a "dead zone" with virtually no plant or animal life. This is in the heart of a region that supports very large, rich, and productive shrimp and menhaden fisheries.

Paradoxically, fertilizer and animal waste from agricultural practices is suspected of contributing to both the fertility of existing fisheries as well as the hypoxic condition of the "dead zone." Although there are no conclusive findings that agricultural practices are responsible for the hypoxic zone, there is compelling evidence that agriculture is contributing heavily to the nitrogen loading of the Mississippi river system.

CSREES supports the USDA position that we can do a better job of reducing the amounts of fertilizer and manure entering the nation's surface waters. For our purposes, it is not important to demonstrate causality between agricultural practices and hypoxia in the Gulf: it is sufficient to recognize that levels of agricultural nitrogen in the Mississippi River system are too high.

This issue is of sufficient importance to be under consideration as a departmental budget initiative for FY 1999.

SUNEI: SAES-USDA/CSREES National Environmental Initiative: Dr. Charles "Chuck" Krueger, Pennsylvania State University, has been selected to serve as the Senior Environmental Liaison with the SUNEI. SUNEI is a joint effort of CSREES and ESCOP designed to identify new opportunities in environmental research. Dr. Krueger will continue to have responsibilities at Penn State but is expected to be able spend about half his time working with SUNEI.

Action Requested:

Action Taken:

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting: July 13-16, 1997
Agenda Item: 8.3
Presenter: Edward M. Wilson
Agenda Item Title: News from the National Research Initiative

The National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program (NRICGP) is concluding its FY 1997 funding cycle with one program red to complete review of applications. For FY 1997, over 3,000 applications for funding were received and it is anticipated that over 700 proposals will be awarded.

The FY 1997 appropriation reduced the NRI budget by 3% from the previous year to \$94 million. The FY 1998 President's Budget Proposal requests a 38% increase in funding for the NRI to \$130 million. The increases are designated towards key research areas in environmental quality, food safety and plant genetic enhancement.

A legislative bill, HR 725, will change emphasis of the NRI to precision farming and expand the NRI to research, education and extension activities in precision farming. The President and the USDA are on record as opposing the Bill because it reduces the flexibility of the NRI and because of the precedent set by earmarking the NRI program.

The NRI is participating in a planning process to map major plant commodities. The NRI Chief Scientist, Dr. Ron Phillips, is serving as chair to a OSTP committee that is charged to make recommendations based on the state of the science in plant genetics. These recommendations will be used by the USDA in collaboration with NSF, NIH and DOE, for development of a coordinated Federal effort in genomics.

The NRI participated in the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers. This new award, conferred by the White House, recognizes the finest scientists and engineers who, while early in their research careers, show exceptional potential for leadership at the frontiers of scientific knowledge during the twenty-first century. Dr. Kenton Rodgers, of NDSU, and Dr. Barbara Gartner, of Oregon State University were recipients of the 1996 award.

The NRI continues to strive to fund the highest quality science that will provide the knowledge base necessary to solve today's and future agricultural problems, and to encourage the most talented scientists to pursue research in agriculture.

Visit the NRI home page at: <http://www.reeusda.gov/new/nri/nricgp.htm>.

Action Requested:

Action Taken:

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting: July 13-16, 1997
Agenda Item: 8.3
Presenter: Edward M. Wilson
Agenda Item Title: Fund for Rural America

The startup activities of the Fund for Rural America (Fund) organization has not been much unlike any new program start. It has been exciting and challenging all at the same time. The unique part of the "work" for the Fund has been handling the review and selection of the Planning Grants while simultaneously developing the review for the Project Grants.

Current Funding Status of the Fund

The total funding level for the 1997 Request for Proposal (REP) is \$33.3 million for the Research, Education, Extension fund plus the addition of 12.8 million directed by Secretary Glickman to be managed by Research, Education, and Extension for specific priorities in livestock concentration, food safety, phytonutrients, gleaning, and telecommunications. Additional information about the goals and objectives of the RFP can be found at <http://www.usda.gov/funding/fund1.htm#legislative>.

The 1997 Emergency Supplemental Appropriations Act includes a recession of \$20 million in funding for the Fund for Rural America. This recession will reduce the overall funding available for projects over the life of the program.

Progress on the Planning Grant Application and Review

* The fund's initial Request for Proposals was issued on January 27, 1997, and required submission by May 24, 1997. While the office received close to 600 applications initially, closer examination regarding multiple submissions left 464 complete Planning Grant applications.

* The review process for the Planning Grant Applications is modeled on the NRI's peer panel review process. Panels of peer experts chaired by a manager drawn from the university community meet and consider each proposal's scientific (physical, biological, and/or social science) merit and relevance. The NRI process has been modified for the Fund to include a wider definition of peer, a broader range of evaluation factors and a second level of review following panel deliberation. If the subject matter warrants, some proposals (10%) are assigned to two panels to insure full consideration of the diverse merits presented.

* The definition of "peers" includes panel membership from government and the private sector as well as the university community so that a complete mix of research, education, and extension specialists are involved. Although the main emphasis is the traditional merit and relevance criteria, the Fund calls for panels to consider the goals of short to

intermediate term practical problem solving, integrated research, education and extension, and development of interdisciplinary and cross-institutional teams that include clients as well as collaborators.

* Unlike the NRI, the Fund does not specify spending by subject category. For this reason an "Overview Panel" will integrate results from the first-level panel to help achieve the Fund's mandate to allocate grants across agricultural, environmental, and rural development initiatives on the bases of merit rather than a predetermined share.

* To date 9 of the 10 panels have met and recommended 15% of the proposals suitable for funding. The final Planning Grant Overview Panel made up of the subject matter panel managers and 3 members "without portfolio" will meet in mid July. Announcement of selected and non-selected nominees should occur shortly after that meeting. Those selected will have up to six months to complete the planning activities and submit their center proposal for consideration.

Progress on the Standard Grants

* The same general design and review process used in the Planning Grant program will be used for the Standard Grant program.

* The Funds initial request for proposal was issued on January 27, 1997 and required submission by April 28, 1997. There are roughly 1100 Standard Grant Applications with much the same pattern of institutions and geography as the Planning Grants.

* Panel meetings will be heavily concentrated from late August through early October. The Overview Panel is anticipating that awards may be released in November.

Next years RFP is planned for release in early to mid January 1998.

Action Requested:

Action Taken:

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting: July 13-16, 1997
 Agenda Item: 8.3
 Presenter: Edward M. Wilson
 Agenda Item Title: News of the National Agricultural Pesticide Impact Assessment Program (NAPIAP) related to WDA

The following CSREES/NAPIAP activities are items of high relevance in the western region.

* The USDA is in the process of initiating an assessment to update the economic impact analysis of the loss of methyl bromide. NAPIAP will be strongly involved in this process in conjunction with scientists and economists from the Agricultural Research Service (ARS), the Economic Research Service (ERS), Agricultural Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and CSREES in conjunction with our Land-Grant partners. The first phase of the study will focus on pre-plant soil fumigation for fresh market tomatoes, strawberries, bell peppers, cucumbers and melons in CA, FL, GA, SC and NC. The second phase will expand to include pre-plant fumigation for additional vegetables, orchard crops, and nursery crops. In addition post harvest uses (quarantine required by import countries plus non-quarantine) will be evaluated for the U.S. This study will compare methyl bromide with registered alternatives and promising new chemicals as well as non-chemical approaches.

* The following NAPIAP Assessments address commodities of importance in the western region: Recently Completed - 1) Biologic and Economic Agent of Pest Management Options in Tomato Production (Chair: Mike Davis, UC-Davis); 2) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Strawberry Production (Chair: Ken Sorenson, NCSU); 3) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Asparagus Production (Chair: Al Schreiber, WSI-TriCities); Nearing Completion - 1) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Citrus Production (Chair: Joe Knapp, UFL); 2) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Potato Production (Chair: Morrie Wiess, UID); 3) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Apple Production (Chair: Al Schreiher, WSI-Tri-Cities); Recently Initiated - 1) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Carrot Production (Chair: Mike Davis, UC-Davis); 2) Biologic and Economic Assessment of Pest Management Options in Sugar Production (Chair: Barry Jacobsen, Montana SU).

* The Request for Proposals for the FY 1998 NAPIAP State Allocation funds was mailed to your offices June 18, 1997. Barring any unforeseen budget problems, NAPIAP allocation funding will be at the same level as in FY 1997. The August 1, 1997 deadline will allow time to panel each STATE'S proposal and bring the CSREES/NAPIAP funding process for acceptable proposals in October. In an effort to move program finding more rapidly to the

states, this program over the past 2 years, has accelerated its allocation distribution nine months forward on the fiscal calendar.

* The Western NAPIAP Regional Coordinator's office will host a national meeting of NAPIAP/SLR in the Spring of 1998. The site selected for the meeting is Sacramento, CA. The previous national meeting was held in 1992 at Raleigh, NC. Issues driving the need for a 1998 NAPIAP national meeting are participation in FQPA, GPRA, Pest Management Information Decision Support System, and the need for a NAPIAP database.

* NAPIAP wishes to serve a role in the development of a Pacific Pest Management initiative. NAPIAP encourages its state/territory liaisons to utilize resources and time to cooperatively work in conjunction with other CSREES programs pursuant to identifying opportunities in the American Pacific for new program development, enhancement, and accountability.

Action Requested:

Action Taken:

APPENDIX E: ESCOP Executive Committee Report

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting: July 13-16, 1997
Agenda Item: 9.1
Presenter: C. C. Kaltenbach
Agenda Item Title: ESCOP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

The ESCOP Executive Committee met in Denver, CO, April 8-9, 1997. Progress reports and suggested actions were received from the following subcommittees: Budget, Impact and Accomplishments, Environmental Affairs, Strategic Planning, and Pest Management. Other topics discussed included Title 8, GPRA, regional research issues, international programs, NAWIS, genome initiative, CRIS enhancement, special grants taxonomy and the CROPS Initiative. Reports were also given by the usual liaison representatives from AESOP, CSREES and NASULGC followed by appropriate discussion.

Specific actions taken included: authorized Budget Subcommittee to conduct a system wide survey using a "paired comparison analysis" to assist in determining budget priorities for the coming year; charged AESOP, NASULGC, the Impact Assessment Subcommittee and the ED's to develop a specific distribution plan for the impact statements; endorsed the concept of a National Agricultural and Food Summit; authorized restructuring of the Pest Management Strategies Subcommittee; adopted a document clarifying the respective roles of NASULGC and AESOP; accepted proposed changes to Title XII; agreed to appoint a representative to the CROPS Initiative workshop committee; and did appoint an ESCOP Regional Research Coordination Subcommittee comprised of the 5 ED's, a member from ECOP, and a liaison representative from CSREES--chaired by Bob Heil.

ACTION REQUESTED:

None requested.

Attached status report on Plant Genomes from AESOP Enterprises follows:

Interagency Working Group on Plant Genomes
Status Report
June 30, 1997

The increasing industrial interest in plant biotechnology and genomics reaffirms the wisdom of the federal government's investment in fundamental plant biology research, plant molecular biology research and in the development of molecular tools to study the complete genetic attributes of an organism. These investments now offer new opportunities to understand and modify plant systems by relating a plant gene to a specific biological function or specific trait. The universality of the genetic code now permits the use of molecular biology to transfer genes among different organisms. The applications of this technology to plants is particularly important since they provide the foundation of our food supply and are the dominant matrix that stabilizes our natural ecosystems through recycling nutrients, carbon dioxide, oxygen and the cycle of water through land and atmosphere.

Similarly, the economic value derived from plant products is seen in practically all food, fiber and wood products and can play an increasing role in supplying renewable fuels and chemical feedstocks. The major challenges facing humankind in the 21st century include the need for increased food production, a cleaner environment and renewable chemical and energy resources. An understanding of plant genes, their capabilities and their structure will have a major impact on the ability of the U.S. to meet these challenges.

The Interagency Working Group (IWG) for Plant Genomes was appointed on May 16, 1997, by Dr. John Gibbons, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, in response to a request from the Senate VA, HUD and Independent Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee. The charge was to identify science-based priorities for a plant genome initiative and to plan for a comprehensive effort on expanding our knowledge of plant genomes, especially those plants that contribute significantly to our nation's agricultural sector. The National Science and Technology Council's Committee on Fundamental Science was requested to provide oversight to the deliberations of the IWG. The IWG consists of representatives from the Department of Agriculture (USDA), National Science Foundation (NSF), National Institutes of Health (NIH), Department of Energy (DOE), Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and the Office of Management and Budget (OMB).

The IWG was fortunate to be able to draw on the deliberations of four recent scientific meetings related to plant genome research (see discussion of these meetings in following Background section). These meetings with scientists in the field of plant genomics research provided invaluable insights that will aid the IWG in responding to its charge. In addition to the scientific input garnered from the above meetings, the IWG is in the process of synthesizing information on the current status of plant genome mapping and related activities including bioinformatics, infrastructure and other resources.

The introduction of plant genomics is transforming plant biology. The quality of the science, the new discoveries and the applications are at an all time high.

Experience in a number of academic and industry laboratories has shown that there is considerable homology among many genes from various plant and animal genera. Because of this, the Human Genome Project, the *Drosophila* Genome Project, the *Arabidopsis* Genome Project and several others provide insights on how to identify and prioritize the logical next steps needed to understand the genomics of plants. Many of the molecular genetic and bioinformatic tools in those programs can either be adopted directly or be modified for crop plants. The expectation now exists that within only a few years, essentially all genes critical to plant development and function will be known for plants—coming first from *Arabidopsis*, a small mustard plant serving as the model due to its small genome size and rapid generation time.

The value of the *Arabidopsis* information to understanding genes of other plants is clearly documented. Knowledge of the complete DNA sequence will provide information on all the genes and their control for that species. This information will be of great assistance in maximizing the return on the investment for crop plant genomics. Close working ties with the *Arabidopsis* Genome Project will be advantageous. Research efforts on gene structure and function in *Arabidopsis* are having considerable payoffs in crop species ranging from corn to soybean and cotton. It is believed that the vast majority of genes present in *Arabidopsis* will also be present in all other crop species. The international effort to sequence the genome of *Arabidopsis* has been underway for nine months; it is expected that it will take another six or seven years to complete. This sequencing effort is the culmination of six years of resource development, technology development and planning. Thus far, the project is proceeding more rapidly than expected, and additional sequencing capacity is available to reach completion well ahead of schedule should more resources be provided.

The *Arabidopsis* sequencing project is also showing that sequencing *per se* is only part of the answer. The early data suggest that it is not possible to even guess at the biological function of forty percent of the genes found in this plant. There must be a balance between sequence/structure determination and analysis of the biological roles of the genes. Both aspects are required if the nation is to maintain leadership in areas relating to plant biotechnology. Among the lessons that have been learned thus far from the *Arabidopsis* project is the critical need for improved bioinformatics capabilities. The data generated are so vast and complex that improved methods for computational analysis and mechanisms for visualizing or conceptualizing these data are limiting.

A new paradigm has become obvious based on the extensive similarities among the world's food cereals—and other grasses—in terms of chromosomal gene content and gene order. Recent findings show that a gene on the chromosome of one species in a family can be anticipated to be present in a predicted location on a specific chromosome of a number of other species within the same plant family. These striking relationships have been shown most extensively in plants among the grasses, which include the world's major food cereals of rice, wheat, and corn, and has led the plant genetics community to view the grass family as a single genetic system.

Recognition of these relationships has resulted in the exciting prospect of gaining sufficient genomic information from one species to understand much of the genetics of a broad array of plant species. Identifying genes controlling important biological pathways such as those conferring insect resistance, isolating genes of various types, locating useful genes from exotic sources, making decisions on biodiversity conservation, and many other applications in plant breeding will be easier due to the heightened understanding of genetic relationships at the DNA level. Because the job is so huge, and so many agriculturally important species would benefit from enhanced genomics research, the community believes an international effort is necessary.

The recent announcement of an extensive program in Japan to sequence the genome of rice implies that a significant amount of data relating to all grasses will be available in the near future (rice having a smaller genome size in comparison to other well studied grass species). The U.S. should participate in this effort to facilitate completion of the rice genome project and to ensure access to the information. That information is expected to provide the basic genomic structure for a cereal species and form the basis for comparison with other species.

The suggestion has been made that the U.S. initiate a sequencing effort on the major cereal crop: corn. Although the plant genomics community supports an emphasis on corn as the ultimate goal, the total genomic sequencing of corn does not appear to be reasonable from a cost/benefit consideration at this time. This is because at the current rate of sequencing in the *Arabidopsis* sequencing project, it is estimated that it would take 138 years to completely sequence the corn genome (see Table 1.). Thus, the total sequencing of corn is not recommended at this time, although work should proceed to develop the resources necessary to construct a corn genome physical map.

Principles for Program Structure

The ultimate goal of the Plant Genome Initiative is to know the genic sequences of all plant species of agricultural importance. There must be considerable focus, however, in this early, enabling phase of the program.

- The Plant Genome Initiative should be a multiagency activity with USDA as the lead agency with NSF and DOE as participants. The NIH will continue to invest in the underlying critical technologies through its Human Genome Project. The USDA is considering the concept of a Food Genome Initiative including agriculturally important plants, animals and microbes; the Plant Genome Initiative is envisioned as encompassing the USDA goals for plants.
- A private/public coalition of some type is appropriate, given both parties' investment. The IWG will consult with private sector representatives to explore this aspect.

- Resources including data, software, germplasm and other biological materials should be openly accessible to all.
- All awards should be made on a competitive basis with peer review.
- International partnerships should be investigated with each country financing its own program.

Preliminary Recommendations

The interagency Working Group for Plant Genomes recommends the following activities be supported to the extent possible within available resources:

- Initiate a series of workshops and planning meetings, including representatives from industry and academia, to determine the most effective balance between structural and functional studies of plant genomes as well as their applications. These efforts would include identification of limitations in utilizing the knowledge gained to the fullest extent.
- Initiate projects to generate Expressed Sequence Tags for corn and a broad array of other crop plants after discussions with agricultural industries to effectively utilize the resources and knowledge available in both the public and private sectors.
- Support the development of the requisite technologies and strategies to create a physical map of the corn genome.
- Provide the resources needed to maximize the effort to sequence the genome of *Arabidopsis*.
- Support genome community infrastructure needs including bioinformatics (curation, distribution, and software development), stock centers and related germplasm repositories.
- Support studies and technology development in the area of functional genomics.
- Actively partner with the Japanese and other interested parties to sequence the genome of rice to ensure that the data generated are available to U.S. industry, cereal breeders and research scientists.

It is anticipated that further recommendations will result from the discussions with the industrial sector and the planning activities described above.

Background

Membership of the IWG consists of Ronald L. Phillips (Chair), Chief Scientist of USDA's National Research Initiative and Regents' Professor, University of Minnesota; Mary Clutter, Director, Biology Directorate, NSF; Francis Collins (Elke Jordan as representative), Director, National Human Genome Research Institute, NIH; Patricia Dehmer (Greg Dilworth as representative), Associate Director of the Office of Energy Research, DOE; Catherine E. Woteki, Acting Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, USDA; Rachel E. Levinson, Assistant Director, Life Sciences, OSTP; and Adrienne Erbach, Program Examiner, OMB.

Meetings used to gain scientific insight:

The first was organized by the National Academy of Sciences (NAS) Board on Agriculture and Board on Biology at the request of USDA. The meeting entitled, "Designing an Agricultural Genome Program," was held at the National Academy of Sciences (NAS), Washington, DC on April 29, 1997, and attended by about 60 invited participants. Four members of the IWG were in attendance. The conclusions of the meeting are enclosed. The second meeting was a NAS Colloquium, "Protecting Our Food Supply: The Value of Plant Genome Initiatives." This meeting was held in Irvine, California, on June 2-5, 1997. Approximately 85 attended the meeting (including two IWG members) and included many of the world's top scientists in plant genomics. A report of that meeting will be forthcoming. The third meeting was the Gordon Research Conference on Plant Cell Genetics and Development in Henniker, NH, on June 8-13, 1997. This meeting had many of the same scientists present as speakers, including Ronald Phillips, who reviewed the history and potential of funding a plant genome program. A subgroup at the meeting was assembled by the Conference Chair, Jo Messing, Director, Waksman Institute, Rutgers University. Others attending were the leader of the Rice Genome Program in Japan, Takuji Sasaki, Tsukuba; the leader of the *Arabidopsis* Genome sequencing projects of Japan, Satoshi Tabata, Kazusa DNA Research Institute, Chiba Prefecture; a leader of the American Arabidopsis Genome Sequencing Project, Joe Ecker, University of Pennsylvania; the leader of the International Triticeae (wheat, barley, oats, rye, etc.) Mapping Initiative, Michael Gale, John Innes Center, Norwich, UK; and the Chair of the International Grass Genome Initiative (funded by USDA, NSF, and DOE), Jeff Bennetzen of Purdue University. This group discussed the idea of an international consortium. The fourth meeting of direct benefit was between the IWG and the NSF Panel reviewing the NSF, USDA, and DOE *Arabidopsis* Genome Sequencing Project.

Table 1. Plant genome comparisons to illustrate relative degrees of difficulty in sequencing species other than rice and *Arabidopsis*

Relative Genome Sizes (compared to rice)	Relative Genome Sizes (compared to Arab.)	No. Years to Sequence (at Arab. rate)
Arabidopsis 0.34	Arabidopsis 1.00	8
Rice 1.00	Rice 2.97	24

Sorghum	1.74	Sorghum	5.17	41
Tomato	2.21	Tomato	6.55	52
Corn	5.81	Corn	17.24	138
Barley	11.40	Barley	33.79	270
Wheat	37.22	Wheat	110.34	883

APPENDIX F: ESCOP FY98 and FY99 Budget Subcommittee Report

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting Date: July 13 through 16, 1997
 Agenda Item: 9.2
 Presenter: Helen J. McHugh and Jim Carlson
 Agenda Item Title: ESCOP FY98 and FY99 Budget Subcommittee

(Helen prepared this brief; Jim Carlson who has been an excellent collaborator, will present the latest available Information at the meeting.)

Background Information:

FY98 Budget.

Our only source of information is AESOP's "News from the Hill." Rather than duplicate that information, we ask that you consult various issues of that communication, especially Volume 6, No. 44, dated July 2, 1997.

We hope you have responded to Terry Nipp's periodic suggestions for contact with your state's Congressional delegations.

FY99 Budget.

The ESCOP FY99 Budget Subcommittee continues to await directions from the Board on Agriculture and its Budget Committee for FY99. The Chair of ESCOP's Budget Subcommittee has become frustrated by lack of communication from BOA as well as from the Chair of the ECOP Budget Subcommittee which last year had worked so closely with the ESCOP Chair in developing strategies. The ESCOP and ECOP Subcommittees had met together last year to develop the numbers. No interaction has occurred this year.

Tom Payne, Chair of the ESCOP Budget Subcommittee, made an unexpected stop in Fort Collins recently. His comments and explanations were reassuring despite the frustrations he has encountered this year. But we have yet to receive definitive information for distribution and discussion.

Jim Carlson and I have been communicating with each other before making any responses to the ESCOP group. Our hope is that Jim will have received specific information that can be shared by the time you meet in Hawaii. If information comes to me between now and the meetings, I will make sure that the same information has reached Jim.

See House Appropriations Committee Budget on following two pages.

Action Requested: Discussion and comment to guide subsequent deliberations.

Action Taken:

HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE RELEASES ITS NUMBERS FOR FY98**TABLE 1: RESEARCH FUNDS (IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)**

	FY98 FY97 CONF	FY98 President REQUEST	FY98 NASULGC RECOMMEND	HOUSE TO-DATE
BASE PROGRAMS				
Hatch Act	168,734	168,734	178,015	168,734
Mcintire-Stennis	20,497	20,497	21,625	20,497
Evans-Allen (1890)	27,735	27,735	29,261	27,735
Animal Health	4,775	4,775	5,038	4,500
SUBTOTAL	221,741	221,741	233,939	221,466
RESEARCH GRANTS -- P. L 89-106				
COMPETITIVE GRANTS (Sec.2b) (National Research Initiative)				
Plant Systems	36.044	47,000	39,000	37,044
Animal Systems	23,104	29,500	25,500	24,854
Nutr., Food Qual. & Health	7,209	11,000	10,000	9,000
Natural Resources & Env.	17,194	27,000	22,000	17,194
Processing & New Products	6,755	9,000	9,000	6,755
Mkts., Trade & Rural Dev	3,897	6,500	8,000	3,897
Biotech Consortiums	----	----	----	4,000
Genomics	----	----	----	3,000
Citrus Tristeza	----	----	----	1,000
SUBTOTAL	94.203	130,000	113,500	106,744
SPECIAL RESEARCH GRANTS (Sec. 2C)				
NATIONAL PROGRAMS				
Managing Change in Ag/Animal Systems	0	0	2,000	0
Food Safety	0	2,000	3,000	0
Pest Control Strategies				
Critical Issues	200	200	200	500
Expert IPM Decision Support	177	300	300	300
Emerging Pest & Disease Issues	1,623	4,200	4,200	2,000
Integrated Pest. Mgt/Biocontrol	2,731	8,000	11,000	4,210
Pesticide Clearance(IR-4)	5,711	10,711	10,711	8,990
Pesticide Impact Assessment	1,327	1,327	1,327	1,327
Minor Use Animal Drugs	550	550	550	550
National Biological Impact Assess	254	254	0	254
Rural Development Centers	423	423	1,595	423
Tropical & Subtropical	2,724	0	2,724	2,500
Water Quality	2,757	2,757	4,500	2,500
Global Change	1,567	1,567	2,567	0
Rural Econ. & Social Dev	0	0	2,000	0
Soil Quality Initiative	0	0	2,500	0
SUBTOTAL	20.044	32,289	49,174	23,554
OTHER RESEARCH GRANTS				
Rangeland Res.Grants(Sec.1480)	475	0	1475	0
Aquaculture Centers (Sec.1475)	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Alternative Crops	650	650	650	650
Low-Input Agriculture	8,000	8,000	8,100	8,000
Critical Ag. Materials Act	500	0	0	500
SUBTOTAL	13,625	12,650	14,225	13,150
Fed Admin. Direct	10,249	2,662	2,662	8,081

GRAND TOTAL RESEARCH	389,585	399,342	413,500	374,266
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TABLE 2: EXTENSION FUNDS (IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	FY97 CONF	FY98 President REQUEST	FY98 NASULGC RECOMMEND	FY98 HOUSE TO-DATE
BASE PROGRAMS				
Smith-Lever	268,493	268,493	283,260	268,493
1890 Colleges & Tuskegee	25,090	25,090	26,470	25,090
SUBTOTAL	293,583	293,583	309,730	293,583
NATIONAL PRIORITIES				
Water Quality	10,733	9,061	10,733	9,061
Food Safety	2,365	4,365	4,365	2,365
Sustainable	3,309	3,309	4,000	3,309
Children, Youth & Families at Risk	9,554	11,700	11,700	9,554
SUBTOTAL	25,961	28,435	30,798	24,289
SPECIFIED PROGRAMS				
Food & Nutrition Education (EFNEP)	58,695	58,695	60,000	58,695
Rural Development Centers	908	908	1,000	908
Integrated Pest Mgt.	10,783	15,000	15,000	10,783
Pesticide Impact Assess.	3,214	3,313	3,300	3,214
Pesticide Applicator Training	0	1,500	1,500	0
Farm Safety/AgrAbility	2,855	0	2,855	2,855
Indian Reservation Agents	1,672	1,672	1,724	1,672
1890 Facilities Grants	7,549	7,549	7,549	7,549
Renewable Resources Extension Act	3,192	0	3,368	3,192
Agnc. Telecommun.	1,167	0	1,167	0
Rural Health & Safety Educ.	2,628	0	2,628	0
Extension Services at the 1994 Inst 1862/1994 Inst. Comp.	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000
Coop Agreement	0	0	0	0
Managing Change In Agric.	0	0	4,000	0
SUBTOTAL	94,663	90,637	106,091	90,868
Federal Admin. Direct	12,066	5,156	5,102	6,370
GRAND TOTAL EXTENSION	426,273	417,811	451,721	415,110

TABLE 3: HIGHER EDUCATION (IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS)

	FY97 CONF	FY98 President REQUEST	FY98 NASULGC RECOMMEND	FY98 HOUSE TO-DATE
NATIONAL NEEDS COMPETITIVE GRANTS				
Instit. Challenge Grants	4,000	4,350	5,350	4,350
Multicultural Scholars Program	1,000	1,000	2,000	1,000
1890 Capacity Bldg. Grants	9,200	9,200	10,000	9,200
Hispanic Serving Instit.	1,500	1,500	1,500	2,500
1994 Instit. Capacity Bldg.	0	0	1,700	0
Pynt to 1994 Institutions	1,450	1,450	1,450	1,450
Grad. Fellowship Grants	3,000	3,000	4,000	3,000
GRAND TOTAL				
HIGHER EDUCATION	20,150	20,500	26,000	21,500
**Native Amer. Endow. Fund	4,600	4,600	4,600	4,600

**The Endowment Funds are not included in the total appropriation

Above are tables for the House Appropriations FY98 following the full committee mark-up. These numbers are still subject to change pending the minority's allotted 3-day review period and House floor action. However, as we mentioned in an earlier NFH, this is the best mark-up from the House we have had in several years

APPENDIX G: IPM Report

DRAFT
**WESTERN REGION IPM ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL
 ANNOUNCES THIS
 CALL FOR PROPOSALS TO SERVE AS HOST INSTITUTION
 FOR
 INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT (IPM) PROGRAM**

Institutions/Organizations¹ headquartered in the Western Region of the United States² are invited to submit proposals to serve as the Host Institution for the USDA/CSREES³ Integrated Pest Management Program. The Western IPM program budget totals about \$_____ per year including funds designated for administration. Funding is through Cooperative Agreements with CSREES for IPM.

The Host Institution/Organization provides a Coordinator who is responsible for regional program coordination under the direction of the Administrative Council. The Administrative Council and CSREES must approve the selection of the Host Institution and Coordinator and any changes that may be proposed. The Coordinator is responsible for the distribution of the Call for Proposals, the review process and notifications of successful applicants, the development, payment, and monitoring of contracts with the successful applicants, the maintenance of necessary database as well as responding to numerous informational calls relating to the program. This program reports through the USDA/CRIS system and the Host is responsible to ensure that this and congressional reporting requirements are met. A summary of the current operational structure of the Western Region IPM Coordinators office is found in Attachment 1.

IPM proposals are received from State and Federal Institutions or Agencies, private non-profit organizations, private for-profit organizations, as well as all aspects of the public sector from individual farmers to business enterprises. From time to time the National IPM program may fund certain of its activities through the Regional Coordinator's Office in the Host Institution, above the base funding.

The Administrative Council has established a search committee to review and rank qualified Host Institutions. The criteria for selection are included in this call for proposals. The Administrative Council will select a Host Institution from the search committee's list and forward its recommendations to CSREES. Proposals should not exceed 12 pages and must be received at the address below by 5:00 P. M., INSERT DATE. The Council will review the search committee's recommendation in (**January, 1998?**) and identify the successful Host, with the expectation that the new Host will be involved in the FY98 review process scheduled for mid-January.

Please mail one original and eight (8) additional copies of the application to:

Dr. Robert Heil, Chair of the Search Committee
 Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors
 16 Administration Building
 Colorado State University
 Fort Collins, CO 80523-3001

¹Eligible entities are public institutions, non-profit organizations and for-profit organizations.

²Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Guam, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming¹ and the Island Protectorates

³Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES)

CRITERIA FOR SELECTION OF THE HOST INSTITUTION/ORGANIZATION

The criteria to be used in selecting the Host are listed below. Proposals should address each criterion fully under the appropriate heading. Proposals should be based on the current level of funding (approximately), with the understanding that increases in funding for the IPM program will result in additional administrative costs which can be negotiated with the Administrative Council and approved by CSREES (Institutions/Organizations contemplating submitting proposals should request copies of the Operational Guidelines from _____). The following criteria are presented in order of priority.

COORDINATOR: Provide details of the qualifications of the Coordinator, such as current roles and/or experience in Integrated Pest Management, administrative experience, experience in grant management and contracts, titles of pertinent publications (including position papers, status reports, etc). These may be requested at a later date. (A single page statement of philosophy by the identified Coordinator may be included as an attachment.) Direct linkage with the Experiment Station and Extension Directors is desirable, but not essential.

INSTITUTIONAL/ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITMENT: This section should certify the Host's commitment to managing the IPM program a minimum of five years in accordance with the Operational Guidelines. This section should also contain a discussion of non-federal matching funds. Typically, the Host Institution has chosen to provide matching support. Examples of matching include office space and equipment, partial support of salary and benefits for IPM personnel. Offers of matching should be identified in the budget portion of the application.

INSTITUTIONAL/ORGANIZATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS: This section should discuss the scope and role of the institution/organization in integrated pest management research and education activities, including linkages with state, regional and national integrated pest management agriculture and related programs. Include a history and description of current integrated pest management agriculture and related programs, and a statement about the institution's ability and commitment to incorporate integrated pest management agriculture concepts into mainstream agriculture.

INSTITUTIONAL/ORGANIZATIONAL CAPABILITIES: This section should discuss the Host's familiarity and ability to administer the financial aspects of the program including preparation of Work Plans and Cooperative Agreements, contracts and subcontracts, payment systems for program grants, a system for paying and accounting for program operating expenses, and a record-keeping system capable of meeting federal audit requirements. Programmatic reporting to the USDA Current Research Information System (CRIS) is required as well.

LOGISTIC AND PHYSICAL CHARACTERISTICS OF INSTITUTION/ ORGANIZATION:

This section should discuss the facilities available for the administrative aspects of the program, including airport and travel accessibility, etc.

BUDGET: Details of the management structure should be provided, including a detailed budget that identifies the administrative costs for each component. This includes the salary and benefits for the coordinator, the salary and benefits for support staff, the general support costs (telephone, fax, supplies, equipment, etc.) and other direct costs to the Host, including travel by the Coordinator's office. At the present funding level and meeting schedule, the costs of the technical reviews committee and the costs for one to two Council meetings per year, etc., are known from experience and essentially fixed and may be used as shown in Attachment 2. Overhead costs are not allowed.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE: The information below is provided as a guide to help applicants in determining the size and demands of this program. It is not presented as a guide to be followed, as there are most certainly a number of management possibilities. The other three regional Coordinator offices follow this general structure, but each has its own special characteristics.

The Coordinator oversees the Western IPM program and currently spends approximately half time on this program. The current Coordinator has _____.

ATTACHMENT 2.

BUDGET FOR REVIEW PANELS AND ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL TRAVEL

	Fiscal _____ Estimated	_____ Actual Expend
Technical review panel (One meeting, about 20 people)	_____	_____
Administrative Council (One meeting, of 15 people)	_____	_____
Strategic Planning Meeting	_____	_____
Site Reviews	_____	_____
Total	_____	_____

This budget is determined by the number of meetings held and Council policy with respect to Site reviews. The Administrative Council is now examining site review policy and this may change. The Strategic Planning expenses are not yet in, but are expected to be less than budgeted.

APPENDIX H: Report of the ad hoc Task Force on Regional Coordination of
Research, Extension and Education

7/14/97

Proposal to Institute Multifunctional, Coordinated
Programming for the Western Region

Submitted by the ad hoc Task Force on Regional
Coordination of Research, Extension and Education,
Vicki McCracken, Chair

Increasingly, the critical issues facing citizens in the Western Region require comprehensive approaches to adequately address their inherent complexity. These approaches often require the involvement of university personnel representing a broad range of skills, expertise, and experience. At the present time the organizational structure to stimulate, review, and provide oversight for increased regional programming across the boundaries of research, extension education, academic and international programs is essentially nonexistent. To correct this void we are proposing the implementation of a Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee(RCIC) that will provide leadership and oversight for all program coordination. This comprehensive responsibility **will not** include the leadership, review and oversight of regional research. Regional research projects will continue to be processed through the Research Implementation Committee and approved by Western Experiment Station Directors.

The formation of the RCIC and the attendant procedures and processes will adhere to the following organizational concepts:

1. The process will give formal approval, recognition, and visibility to comprehensive regional programming. Programs may involve one or more functional areas, i.e., research, resident teaching, extension, or international programs.
2. The approval process will include a rigorous review to ensure the highest possible potential for success.
3. Individual faculty participation will be reviewed and approved by State Directors or Deans during the proposal formation process, prior to the Regional review.
4. Proposed projects may originate from any source including the ranks of faculty or the Regional Committee itself.
5. Members of the Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee will be appointed by State Directors and Deans.
6. The Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee will recommend disposition of program proposals to State Directors who will reserve authority for final approval.
7. The Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee will recommend the assignment of administrative advisors.

8. The Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee will review and provide oversight for all coordinated programs with the exception of Regional Research Projects which will continue to be processed through the Research Implementation Committee.
9. The Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee will develop a procedure to provide a coordinated and rapid response to critical, crisis situations that have broad impacts throughout the Western Region.
10. Oversight and review of approved projects will include regular progress reports and statements of impact.
11. Funding to support faculty involvement in approved Regional programs must be provided by the faculty member's institution.

The proposed composition of the Regional Coordination and Implementation Committee is:

Experiment Stations	3 members
Cooperative Extension	3 members
Academic Programs	3 members
International Programs	1 member
USDA	1 member

It is envisioned that procedures to handle proposal development, project membership, proposal revisions and approval, evaluation, and project disposition would be very similar to those now in place for the Western Regional Coordinating Committees processed through the Regional Research Implementation Committee(RIC) and the Experiment Station Directors. The outcome of a successful proposal would be the formation of a Regional Research, Education, Extension Coordinating Committee(RREECC). Establishment of the Regional Coordination and Implementation committee would replace the RIC review and approval of Regional Coordinating Committees(WCC's).

An Example:

The potential for application of Geographic Information System(GIS) technology in agriculture, food and natural resources has barely been tapped. A RREECC drawing on multiple state expertise could be entitled; "Enhanced Use/Application of GIS Technology in the Western Regional Food System." Such a RREECC might involve development of formal courses that could be offered via long distance teaching throughout the West. Expanded research could include undergraduate learning experiences. Research results would also be delivered via extension delivery methods to users both in the USA as well as internationally.

APPENDIX I: RIC Report

RESEARCH IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE
REPORT
July 13, 1997

RIC met Sunday, July 13, 1997 at the Aston Wailea Resort, Kihei, Maui, Hawaii. Members present were: J. J. Jacobs, Chair (WY), R. Krebill (FS-UT), E. L. Miller (ES-NV), P. Roberts (CA-R), A. Schipper (ARS-CA), H. G. Vest (UT) and E. M. Wilson (CSREES). Others participating were: R. D. Heil (ED), R. C. Heimsch (ID), L. Makus (ID), H. Sykes (Office of ED), and G. Taylor (NV).

1.0 THE FOLLOWING REGIONAL RESEARCH PROJECTS AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES ARE CURRENTLY SCHEDULED TO TERMINATE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1997. THOSE MARKED WITH **U** WERE CONSIDERED BY RIC (SEE RECOMMENDATIONS BELOW). THOSE MARKED WITH **V** ARE SCHEDULED TO TERMINATE ON SEPTEMBER 30, 1997.

U	NRSP-001	Research Information Using the Current Research Information System (CRIS) (see 3.1)
U	NRSP-006	Introduction, Preservation, Classification, Distribution and Evaluation of Solanum Species (see 3.2)
U	W-122	Improve Food Safety Through Discovery and Control of Natural and Induced Toxicants and Antitoxicants (see 3.3)
U	W-133	Benefits and Costs Transfer in Natural Resource Planning (see 3.4)
U	W-143	Nutrient Bioavailability--A Key to Human Nutrition (see 3.5)
U	W-175	Human Physiological and Perceptual Relationships to the Textile-Skin Interface (see 2.2)
V	W-176	Housing Transitions of the Maturing Population: Consequences for Rural/Nonmetro. Communities.....
U	W-177	Domestic and International Marketing Strategies for U.S. Beef (see 3.6)
U	W-185	Biological Control in Pest Management Systems of Plants (see 3.7)
U	WCC-001	Beef Cattle Breeding Research in Western Region (see 6.1)
U	WCC-027	Potato Variety Development (see 6.2)
V	WCC-051	Application Technology Related to Plant Protection and Pest Management
U	WCC-076	Immigration and U.S. Agriculture (see 6.3)
U	WCC-081	Systems to Improve End-use of Small Grains (see 6.4)
UV	WCC-098	Research Coordination in Nutrition, Family, and Consumer Sciences (see 6.5)
U	WCC-099	Broodstock Management, Genetics and Breeding Programs for Molluscan Shellfish (see 6.6)
U	WCC-100	Statistical and Computer Strategies for National Cattle Evaluation (see 6.7)
U	WCC-101	Assessing the Chinese Market for U.S. Agricultural Products (see 6.8)
UV	WCC-	Gerontology (see 7.4)

2.0 REQUESTS FOR PROJECT EXTENSIONS

2.1 W-166 Evaluation and Improvement of Barley for Feed and Food

A request for a one-year extension of W-166 was received from Administrative Advisor T. R. Dutson (OR).

RIC recommends approval of the extension of W-166 "Evaluation and Improvement of Barley for Feed and Food" for one year, from October 1, 1998 to September 30, 1999.

(Action of WDA: **One-Year Extension Approved**)

- 2.2 W-175 Human Physiological and Perceptual Relationships to the Textile-Skin Interface

A request for a one-year extension of W-175 was received from Administrative Advisor H. F. McHugh (CO)

RIC recommends approval of the extension of W-175 "Human Physiological and Perceptual Relationships to the Textile-Skin Interface" for one year, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998. RIC comments that no further extensions will be granted and that, if there are further delays in testing of garments, the testing will need to be done with other than regional research funds or under the research conducted by a revised project outline.

(Action of WDA: **One-Year Extension Approved**)

3.0 REQUESTS FOR PROJECT REVISIONS

- 3.1 NRSP-001 Research Planning Using the Current Research Information System (CRIS)

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisor C. C. Kaltenbach (AZ).

RIC recommends deferral of the revision of NRSP-001 "Research Planning Using the Current Research Information System (CRIS)." RIC recommends a one-year extension of NRSP-001, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998, to enable the committee to continue to address the current objectives and procedures and to incorporate the forthcoming recommendations of the CRIS Enhancement Steering Committee Report into a project outline for resubmission to RIC.

(Action of WDA: **One-Year Extension Approved**)

- 3.2 NRSP-006 Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisor M. J. Burke (OR).

RIC recommends approval of the revision of NRSP-006 "Inter-Regional Potato Introduction Project" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002.

(Action of WDA: **Revision Approved**)

- 3.3 W-122 Improve Food Safety Through Discovery and Control of Natural and Induced Toxicants and Antitoxicants

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisor R. C. Heimsch (ID).

RIC recommends approval of the revision of W-122 "Improve Food Safety Through Discovery and Control of Natural and Induced Toxicants and Antitoxicants" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002. The committee is encouraged to disseminate the information to users and seek expertise of food scientists and extension specialists.

(Action of WDA: **Revision Approved**)

- 3.4 W-133 Benefits and Costs of Resource Policies Affecting Public and Private Land

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisors E. Bell (FS-CA) and H. J. Vaux (CA-S).

RIC recommends approval of the revision of W-133 "Benefits and Costs of Resource Policies Affecting Public and Private Land" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002. RIC suggests that the committee coordinate their work with W-192 "Rural Communities and Public Lands in the West: Impacts and Alternatives" and address dissemination of research results to clientele.

(Action of WDA: **Revision Approved**)

- 3.5 W-143 Nutrient Bioavailability--A Key to Human Nutrition

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisor R. J. Brown (UT).

RIC recommends approval of the revision of W-143 "Nutrient Bioavailability - A Key to Human Nutrition" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002.

(Action of WDA: **Revision Approved**)

- 3.6 W-177 Enhancing the Global Competitiveness of U.S. Red Meat

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisor T. R. Dutson (OR).

RIC recommends approval of the revision of W-177 "Enhancing the Global Competitiveness of U.S. Red Meat" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002. RIC notes that, at the third-year review, the committee must provide significant detail on (1) the level of cooperation and interdependence between animal scientists and economists; and (2) the red meats other than beef being addressed. RIC suggests that the committee consider adding participation by the USDA-ARS Sheep Experiment Station in Dubois, ID.

(Action of WDA: **Revision Approved**)

3.7 W-185 Biological Control in the Pest Management Systems of Plants

A project outline with the above title was received from Administrative Advisor C. W. Laughlin (HI).

RIC recommends approval of the revision of W-185 "Biological Control in the Pest Management Systems of Plants" for five years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2002. RIC recommends that the committee designate a subject leader/coordinator for each goal area. The committee is also encouraged to seek Forest Service involvement.

(Action of WDA: **Revision Approved**)

4.0 REQUESTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW PROJECTS

None

5.0 REQUESTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF AD HOC TECHNICAL COMMITTEES

5.1 W- Housing in the Nonmetropolitan West

A request for establishment of an ad hoc W- project was received from Directors J. R. Carlson (WA) and H. P. Rasmussen (UT).

RIC recommends approval of the establishment of ad hoc W- "Housing in the Nonmetropolitan West" for one year, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998.

(Action of WDA: **Establishment Approved**)

6.0 REQUESTS FOR WCC RENEWALS OR EXTENSIONS

6.1 WCC-001 Beef Cattle Breeding Research in Western Region

A request for a one-year extension of WCC-001 was received from Administrative Advisor R. G. Sasser (ID).

RIC recommends approval of the extension of WCC-001 "Beef Cattle Breeding Research in Western Region" for one year, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 1998.

(Action of WDA: **One-Year Extension Approved**)

6.2 WCC-027 Potato Variety Development

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-027 was received from Administrative Advisor H. P. Rasmussen (UT).

RIC recommends approval of the renewal of WCC-027 “Potato Variety Development” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000. RIC encourages the committee to invite more representatives from ARS and California.

(Action of WDA: **Renewal Approved**)

6.3 WCC-076 The Impact of Immigration on Rural America

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-076 was received from Administrative Advisor V. A. McCracken (WA).

RIC recommends approval of the renewal of WCC-076 “The Impact of Immigration on Rural America” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000.

(Action of WDA: **Renewal Approved**)

6.4 WCC-081 Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-081 was received from Administrative Advisor R. E. Witters (OR).

RIC recommends approval of the renewal of WCC-081 “Systems to Improve End-use Quality of Wheat” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000. The committee is encouraged to continue and enhance coordination with the processing industry. It is also recommended that the committee include economists on the project.

(Action of WDA: **Renewal Approved**)

6.5 WCC-098 Research Coordination in Human Sciences

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-098 was received from Administrative Advisor S. H. Helmick (OR).

RIC recommends rejection of the renewal of WCC-098 “Research Coordination in Human Sciences.” RIC notes that the educational plan is not adequate; there is no organizational plan and the way leadership is provided is not clear. RIC appointed a subcommittee to study the formation, purpose, and operational guidelines for coordinating committees established for research coordination in departmental disciplines. The subcommittee [E. Miller (Chair), R. C. Heimsch (ID), S. H. Helmick (OR), and J. R. Carlson(WA)] is to present a report to RIC at the 1998 Spring meeting and a subsequent report to the Western Directors.

(Action of WDA: **Rejection Approved**)

6.6 WCC-099 Broodstock Management, Genetics and Breeding Programs for Molluscan Shellfish

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-099 was received from Administrative Advisors L. J. Weber and L. J. Koong (OR).

RIC recommends conditional approval of the renewal of WCC-099 “Broodstock Management, Genetics and Breeding Programs for Molluscan Shellfish” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000. The committee is to improve the educational plan to concentrate on industry, rather than students and clarify the role of the participants. The revised petition must be submitted to RIC no later than September 30, 1997. RIC notes that it not in the purview of the committee to direct how funding for travel is to be allocated. That responsibility lies with the respective AES directors.

(Action of WDA: **Conditional Renewal Approved**)

6.7 WCC-100 Implementation and Strategies for National Beef Cattle Evaluation

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-100 was received from Administrative Advisors D. R. Ames and H. F. McHugh (CO).

RIC recommends approval of the renewal of WCC-100 “Implementation and Strategies for National Beef Cattle Evaluation” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000.

(Action of WDA: **Renewal Approved**)

6.8 WCC-101 Assessing the Chinese Market for U.S. Agricultural Products

A petition for a three-year renewal of WCC-101 was received from Administrative Advisor V. A. McCracken (WA).

RIC recommends conditional approval of the renewal of WCC-101 “Assessing the Chinese Market for U.S. Agricultural Products” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000. The objectives in the submitted petition were the same as the previous petition. The committee is to revise the objectives, include plans for communication and operation between meetings, and invite the Forest Service and the island AES to participate. The revised petition must be submitted no later than September 30, 1997.

(Action of WDA: **Conditional Renewal Approved**)

7.0 REQUESTS FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW OR AD HOC WCC’ S

7.1 WCC- Adding Value to Western U.S. Agricultural Exports

A request for establishment of WCC- “Adding Value to Western U.S. Agricultural Exports” was submitted by J. R. Carlson (WA), Chair of the Value Added Task Force.

RIC recommends conditional approval of the establishment of WCC-107 “ Adding Value to Western U.S. Agricultural Exports” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000. RIC recommends that the committee resubmit the petition no later than September 30, 1997 addressing the following conditions: (1) include language that indicates that a subcommittee will be formed to more adequately

address the education and communication plan; and (2) make and report additional efforts to include members representing our Federal partners.

(Action of WDA: **Conditional Establishment Approved**)

7.2 WCC- Protecting the Safety of Food

A request for establishment of WCC- “Protecting the Safety of Food” was submitted by J. R. Carlson (WA) and R. C. Heimsch (ID).

RIC recommends approval of establishment of WCC-108 “Protecting the Safety of Food” for three years, from October 1, 1997 to September 30, 2000. The committee is encouraged to invite ARS participation.

(Action of WDA: **Establishment Approved**)

7.3 WCC- Seafood Marketing and the Management of Marine and Aquacultural Resources in a Global Economy

A request for establishment of WCC- “Seafood Marketing and the Management of Marine and Aquacultural Resources in a Global Economy” was submitted by R. E. Witters (OR).

RIC recommends deferral of the establishment of WCC- “Seafood Marketing and the Management of Marine and Aquacultural Resources in a Global Economy.” The broad title is not supported by the participants' list, e.g., Hawaii, Guam, National Marine Fisheries, etc. The committee is to define the scope of work and resubmit with additional support of a second AES director.

(Action of WDA: **Deferral Approved**)

7.4 WCC- Research and Outreach Coordination in Gerontology

A petition for establishment of WCC- “Research and Outreach Coordination in Gerontology” was received from Administrative Advisor S. H. Helmick (OR) on behalf of the ad hoc WCC bearing the same title.

RIC recommends disapproval of the establishment of WCC- “Research and Outreach Coordination in Gerontology.” The subject is a critical issue that is not adequately addressed in the petition.

(Action of WDA: **Disapproval Approved**)

8.0 FOLLOW-UP OF AD HOC TECHNICAL AND COORDINATING COMMITTEES

8.1 ad hoc WCC- Gerontology (see 7.4 above)

9.0 ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR ASSIGNMENTS

The following administrative advisor assignments are made, effective immediately:

- 9.1 ad hoc W- "Housing in the Nonmetropolitan West" - H. P. Rasmussen (UT).
- 9.2 WCC-066 "Integrated Management of Russian Wheat Aphid and Other Cereal Aphids" - T. Holtzer and L. E. Sommers (CO) to replace L. E. O'Keefe and R. C. Heimsch (ID).
- 9.3 WCC-103 "Soil, Water and Plant Analysis for Improved Nutrient Management and Water Quality" - L. E. Sommers (CO) to replace R. C. Heimsch (ID).
- 9.4 WCC-107 "Adding Value to Western U.S. Agricultural Exports" - D. O'Rourke and J. R. Carlson (WA).
- 9.5 WCC-108 "Protecting the Safety of Food" - R. C. Heimsch (ID).

10.0 FOURTH-YEAR REVIEWS OF REGIONAL PROJECTS

The following projects and coordinating committees appear to be progressing satisfactorily with good publication records, adequate resources and/or participation, and the committees are following their stated objectives:

FOURTH YEAR REVIEWS			
NO.	TITLE	ADVISOR	REVIEWER
NRSP-004	A National Agricultural Program: Clearances of Chemicals and Biologics for Minor or Special Uses	A. Lauchli (CA-D)	E. Miller
NRSP-008	National Animal Genome Research Program	G. P. Moberg (CA-D)	V. McCracken
W-130	Freeze Damage and Protection of Fruit and Nut Crops	M. H. Jensen (AZ)	H. G. Vest
W-147	Managing Plant Microbe Interactions in Soil to Promote Sustainable Agriculture	T. J. McCoy (MT)	A. Shipper
W-166	Evaluation and Improvement of Barley for Food and Feed	T. R. Dutson (OR)	P. Roberts
W-168	Seed Biology and Technology Investigation	R. C. Heimsch (ID)	H. G. Vest
W-186	Genetic Variability in the Cyst and Root-Knot Nematodes	C. W. Laughlin (HI)	P. Roberts

FOURTH YEAR REVIEWS			
NO.	TITLE	ADVISOR	REVIEWER

RIC HAS SPECIFIC COMMENTS TO MAKE CONCERNING THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS

FOURTH YEAR REVIEWS (specific comments)			
NO.	TITLE	ADVISOR	REVIEWER
NRSP-007	A National Agricultural Program to Approve Animal Drugs for Minor Species and Uses	R. G. Sasser (ID)	J. J. Jacobs
There are no minutes submitted since FY94, no annual reports since 1994 and no publications shown for 1994, 1995 or 1996. Based on the data provided, this project needs to be revitalized both in terms of participation and outcomes resulting from the project.			
W-187	Interactions Among Bark Beetles, Pathogens, and Conifers in North American Forests	G. L. Cunningham (NM)	R. Krebill
No minutes were submitted for 1995 and 1996, no annual reports for 1996, and no Administrative Advisor evaluations for 1994-96. Continuation of the project is in jeopardy if required reports are not submitted.			

10.0 OTHER BUSINESS

10.1 Development of Rapid Response Research Mechanism for Western Directors Association.

After considerable discussion, RIC determined that, in a true emergency, RIC and the Western Directors Association have the capacity of acting more rapidly than the Regional Research Manual suggests. In addition, ARS and FS have a system in place to respond rapidly to research needs and then involve the SAES in their activities.

10.2 Structure of RIC with the abolishment of the Committee of Nine.

RIC discussed restructuring with the abolishment of the Committee of Nine and decided that it was premature to consider any change until the report of the Task Force on Replacement of the Committee of Nine is finished and distributed.

10.3 Delinquent Reports

RIC discussed how to react to Administrative Advisors and the CSREES Regional Research Office concerning the issue of delinquent reports. Training for Administrative Advisors is one method that might develop awareness of the importance of submitting minutes, annual reports and evaluations of regional projects and coordinating committees.

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR ASSIGNMENTS (effective 7/14/97)										
Administrative Advisor	Projects					Western Coordinating Committees				
	Western Regional			NRSP/IR						
PP Ames, D. (CO)						WCC-100+				
P Bell, E. (FS-CA)	W-133+									
PP Brown, J. (WA)						WCC-043+				
Brown, R. J. (UT)	W-143									
Burke, M. (OR)	W-128				NRSP-6±					
Carlson, J. R. (WA)	W-006				NRSP-5±	WCC-043±	WCC-058±	WCC-092	WCC-094	WCC-107±
PP Child, D. R. (CO)						WCC-021+				
Cunningham, G. (NM)	W-187	W-190	W-192			WCC-093±	WCC-105±	WCC-106±		
PP Daugherty, L. A. (NM)						WCC-093+	WCC-105+			
Dutson, T. R. (OR)	W-166	W-177								
PP Gonzales, I. M. (NM)						WCC-106+				
P Erickson, E. H. (ARS-AZ)	W-180+					WCC-037+				
Heil, R. D. (W-ED)	W-082									
Heimsch, R. C. (ID)	W-122	W-168				WCC-055±		WCC-089	WCC-108	
Helmick, S. H. (OR)	W-167	W-176				WCC-098	WCC-Gerontology			
PP Holtzer, T. O. (CO)						WCC-060+	WCC-066+			
Jacobs, J. J. (WY)						WCC-040	WCC-067	WCC-072		
Jensen, M. (AZ)	W-130					WCC-020±				
PP Johnson, C. R. (WA)						WCC-058+				
Kaltenbach, C. C. (AZ)	W-112	W-173	W-180±		NRSP-1±	WCC-037±	WCC-059	WCC-102±		
Koong, L. J. (OR)	W-171					WCC-099±	WCC-104			
Lauchli, A. (CA-D)					NRSP-4/IR-4±					
Laughlin, C. W. (HI)	W-185	W-186				WCC-069				
PP Mathre, D. E. (MT)						WCC-097+				
McCoy, T. J. (MT)	W-147					WCC-097±				
McCracken, V. (WA)	W-183					WCC-023±	WCC-076	WCC-084	WCC-101	
Miller, E. L. (NV)	W-193+									
McHugh, H. F. (CO)	W-175	W-191				WCC-011±	WCC-100±			
Mitchell, G. A. (AK)	W-188					WCC-091				
Moberg, G. (CA-D)					NRSP-8±	WCC-039±				
P Nave, W. R. (ARS-CA)	W-184+					WCC-051+				
PP Nelson, M. R. (AZ)						WCC-020+				

P USDA research administrators

PP Other research administrators

+ Lead-Administrative Advisor in a project/committee with Co-Administrative Advisor

± Co-Administrative Advisor in a project/committee with Lead-Administrative Advisor

ADMINISTRATIVE ADVISOR ASSIGNMENTS (effective 7/14/97)										
Administrative Advisor	Projects					Western Coordinating Committees				
	Western Regional				NRSP/IR					
PP Nelson, J. R. (ID)						WCC-055+				
PP O'Rourke, D. (WA)						WCC-107+				
Pardini, R. S. (NV)	W-045	W-106	W-181	W-189	W-193±					
PP Price, E. (CA-D)						WCC-039+				
Rasmussen, H. P. (UT)	W-150	ad hoc W- Housing				WCC-027	WCC-086			
Sasser, R. G. (ID)	W-102				NRSP-7±	WCC-001				
Sommers, L. (CO)	W-170				NRSP-3±	WCC-060±	WCC-066±	WCC-077	WCC-103	
PP Thompson, J. (WA)						WCC-023+				
Vaux, H. J. (CA-R)	W-133±					WCC-087				
Vest, H. G. (UT)						WCC-095				
PP Wallner, S. (CO)						WCC-011+				
PP Weber, L. (OR)						WCC-099+				
PP Wierenga, P. (AZ)						WCC-102+				
PP Witters, R. (OR)						WCC-081+				

P USDA research administrators

PP Other research administrators

+ Lead-Administrative Advisor in a project/committee with Co-Administrative Advisor

± Co-Administrative Advisor in a project/committee with Lead-Administrative Advisor

APPENDIX J: Executive Director Report

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting Date: July 13-16, 1997
 Agenda Item: 11.0
 Presenter: Robert D. Heil
 Agenda Item Title: Executive Director Report
 Background Information:

Summary of Activities:

ESCOP Executive Vice Chair
 ESCOP
 ESCOP Executive Subcommittee
 ESCOP Chair Advisory Committee

- ESCOP Regional Research Coordinating Subcommittee - Chair
 This is a new subcommittee established by ESCOP in April, 1997. The charge given to the subcommittee is shown in Attachment 1. The subcommittee has met twice since being formed and currently is working on a revision of the Regional Research Manual and the development of a plan to "electronically manage" regional research. Revision of the manual is slated for completion before October 1, 1997. Dr. Dave MacKenzie has offered to take the lead for making regional research management electronically operational by July 1, 1998.
- ESCOP Strategic Planning Subcommittee
 The subcommittee has developed a "draft" plan. The goal is to have a draft plan for presentation at the full ESCOP meeting in Lake Tahoe on July 28, 1997.
- SARE Administrative Council
 This program is being very well administered under the leadership of Dr. Phil Rasmussen at Utah State University. The Council is attempting to maintain a diversified approach to sustainable agriculture. My sense is the program is evolving from a mind set of sustainable versus conventional to one of trying to identify practices that make agriculture economically stable, environmentally sustainable and socially acceptable.
- ARI Board of Directors (term expires October, 1997)
 ARI has developed a "white paper" focusing on the need for greatly enhancing the federal investment in agricultural research. Discussions among ARI, CARET and ESCOP have taken place to determine what collaboration among various constituencies might be possible to place this issue on the table of high level

decision makers at the federal level. ARI is considering developing a coalition for moving this effort forward.

- PBAG Administrative Council
- Riley Foundation/ NRCS/CSREES Regional Workshop Planning Committee (Attachment 2) The ESCOP Chair has asked me to serve on the planning committee for this activity.
- ESCOP/ACOP Leadership Development
I continue to serve on the ESCOP/ACOP Leadership Development Subcommittee. Vicki McCracken and I will be making a joint presentation of this program at the AES Directors Workshop in Washington, DC in September.
- NASULGC Title VIII Coordinating Committee
- Western Region Impact Assessment Committee
Drs. Ron Pardini, AES; LeRoy Luft, CES; and Rollin Abernethy, APS; have agreed to serve as co-advisors of this newly formed committee. I am assisting these folks in the organization of this group.
- PMIDSS Review Team (Pest Management Information Decision Support System);
Chaired the review team for the CSREES review of this program June 23-25 in Washington, DC.
- ARS Germplasm Focus Group (National Seed Storage Lab Support Group)
This group has been formed to serve in an advisory role for the National Seed Storage Lab. The group has been meeting once a year.

TRAVEL FOR THIS PERIOD:

Mar. 16-20 - PBAG Administrative Council - Honolulu, HI
 April 2-3 - IPM Tech. Review Committee - Denver, CO
 April 8-9 - ESCOP Executive Subcommittee - Denver, CO
 April 27-May 1 - SARE Administrative Council - Salt Lake City, UT
 May 2 - GPRA Regional Meeting - Denver, CO
 May 15-16 - ESCOP Strategic Planning Subcommittee - Washington, DC
 May 19-20 - ARI Board of Directors - Bethesda, MD
 May 20-22 - National Impact Assessment Committee - Purdue University
 June 2-6 - ESCOP/ACOP Leadership Workshop - Washington, DC
 June 21-26 - PMIDSS/CSREES Review and ESCOP Regional Coordination Committee

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 Washington, DC

Action Requested:

Action Taken:

APPENDIX K: State Report(s)

WDA AGENDA BRIEF

Meeting Date: July 13-16, 1997
 Agenda Item: 15.0
 Presenter: R. S. Pardini
 Agenda Item Title: Nevada State Report
 Background Information:

BUDGET UPDATE

The State Legislature has allocated an overall increase of 2.7% in our legislatively authorized budget for FY 97-98. This includes a 3% cost of living salary increase plus 2.5% for the merit pool for faculty.

MAIN STATION FARM

We have repaired the damage caused by the January flood. We have upgraded the facility with new perimeter fence and replaced irrigation ditches with underground pipe. In addition we have implemented privatization of the operation of our main field lab which includes 1000 acres in eastern Reno/Sparks. The private rancher provides all of the labor and equipment for maintaining our field lab and supplies livestock for our large animal teaching and research programs. This has resulted in a more cost effective field lab operation.

JOINT EXPERIMENT STATION/EXTENSION PROJECTS

We have jointly funded 4 experiment station/extension projects that support teams to address high priority state issues. The projects were selected by a review process that involved research, extension, appropriate agencies and citizens. Each team prepared a 5 page proposal that was reviewed by a panel that included faculty, outside professionals, and citizens. The teams also presented their ideas to the panel and engaged in dialog with the panel. The panel recommendations have been implemented, and we have funded the following projects equally from extension and research:

1. Community Based Non-toxic Bark Beetle Management: Education, Research, and Implementation in the Tahoe Basin.
2. Effects of Prescribed Burning on Nutrient Cycling, Biodiversity and Public Perception as a Best Management Practice for Range and Forested Watersheds at the Urban Wildland Interface.
3. Wildfire Threat Reduction Along the Sierra Front

4. The Family Storyteller: An Educational and Research Family Literacy Project for At-Risk Families

Each project has campus based research faculty and community based extension faculty as part of the team. We have specifically funded teams, not PI's. In addition several projects have included BLM, FS, Lake Tahoe Fire Chiefs and a representative from the Sierra Front Wildfire Cooperators.

We feel that we have enhanced the partnership in Nevada by providing a structure for interdisciplinary teams to address high impact areas in the state. We have been encouraged by the early excitement that these joint projects have generated and we are monitoring the progress of these projects very closely.

Action Requested:

Action Taken: