

Western Region Joint Summer Meeting, Coeur d'Alene Idaho

WAPD meeting minutes

Tuesday July 16, 2013

Attendance: Nora Smith, Chair (Montana State University)
David Shintani (University of Nevada-Reno)
Janet Anderson (University of Utah)
Larry Makus (University of Idaho)
Penny Diebel (Oregon State University)
Charles Boyer (Fresno State)
Nancy Irlbeck (Colorado State University)
Donna Brown (University of Wyoming)

The meeting called to order by WAPD chair, Nora Smith at 3:30 pm.

Shintani was elected (unanimous vote) as the MRC representative. Brown was elected (unanimous vote) as the secretary.

Irlbeck and Boyer explained the meeting schedule and expected attendance to the newer members of the group. They also explained that the chair is expected to attend the Joint COPs meeting. Irlbeck agreed to attend the upcoming meeting in Smith's place. Discussion also occurred regarding typical meeting format, use of agendas etc.

Irlbeck indicated that there should be two major topics for discussion for the joint meeting with WAAESD on Wednesday.

1. P-cast report – discussion of 3 related items that Irlbeck would forward. In response to the P-cast report the group discussed the need for youth scholarships, fellowships etc. that should be a discussion item with WAAESD.
2. The planned move of the Higher Ed Challenge grants program, etc. to NSF. What can the WAPD and WAAESD groups do to prevent this merge?

In response to item #1, members discussed what they do at their institutions for youth development and scholarships.

Irlbeck: Discussed the need for experiential hands-on learning for youth at the agricultural Experiment Stations. CSU plans to link graduate students to the Experiment Stations and then link undergraduates to these graduate students. The goal is also to bring in high school students to the Experiment Stations.

- Diebel: The OSU Experiment Station was given funds to become more integrated into campus via internships, etc. Discussions are currently underway on how to achieve this goal. Smith and Shintani asked questions and also shared ideas.
- Shintani: UN Reno has a community partner “Urban Roots” that works with high school groups.
- Boyer: Fresno still has a student farm on campus. Boyer raised a question about how to get students out when they are not part of a land grant institution. In response, Irlbeck raised a question about the development of a program where institutions could share interns at our different Experiment Stations and student farm locations. Shintani also mentioned sharing and/or multi-state teaching around different areas which led to discussion of programs such as AgIdea and others. Irlbeck discussed the recently developed Wyoming/CSU exchange and how it could be used to model a multi-state range education program.
- Diebel: Mentioned that another pipeline for students would be experiment stations partnering with community colleges. Brown discussed the program in Wyoming partnering with Sheridan College to offer a 3 + 1 degree option in Agroecology.

In response to item #2, Irlbeck asked what the Academic Programs section could do to prevent the Higher Ed Challenge Grants from being moved to NSF as well as other national needs/fellowship programs. Smith suggested preparing a series of impactful stories. But who would we tell/report these to? This would require marketing not just agriculture, but specific academic programs. This led to the discussion of student organizations and programs within the different colleges at each home institution.

There being no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 5:20 pm.

Wednesday July 17, 2013

Attendance: Nora Smith, Chair (Montana State University)
Donna Brown, Secretary (University of Wyoming)
David Shintani, MRC (University of Nevada-Reno)
Janet Anderson (University of Utah)
Larry Makus (University of Idaho)
Penny Diebel (Oregon State University)
Nancy Irlbeck (Colorado State University)

The meeting called to order by WAPD chair, Nora Smith at 1:40 pm

Brown provided details on the upcoming Western Region Teaching Symposium, scheduled September 13 – 14 in Laramie Wyoming. This year Wyoming has partnered with UW’s Outreach School and their eVolution conference as both groups are focusing their conferences on distance education at the same time of year. This has allowed the conference registration to be free to all participants. This conference will also be held in conjunction with UW’s Ag. Appreciation weekend, allowing registered participants

the opportunity to join in some of the weekend's events such as the Dean's Dinner which recognizes outstanding partners, donors and alumni, as well as the Ag. Day BBQ. This year's conference theme is "Finding the Balance: Technology and the Future of Education." Information may be found at: <http://www.wyoforum.org>.

Smith indicated that the next National Academic Summit will be held in conjunction with, and directly preceding, the 2014 NACTA conference in Montana.

Smith initiated a discussion on the workload policy question from Kinoshita (University of Hawaii). She asked if anyone knew if he had collated the results and/or made a report. She described related issues at Montana. Smith will follow up with Kinoshita for more information. Diebel described the changes in job categories at OSU. Smith referred to several resources on workload, including information from the Carnegie Foundation.

Irlbeck gave a brief overview of what the Academic Programs Section does and indicated that information defining the APS role had been sent out after the November 2012 meeting. WAPD is a sub-group of APS. Irlbeck indicated that an area of great concern for the Western Region Academic Programs group is the poor representation of candidates from the region for the national teaching awards program – it appears that faculty perception in the region is that teaching is not recognized or rewarded. This is further hampered by the lesser recognition of the WAPD group at the Western Joint Summer meeting. Shintani indicated that he will encourage a greater level of engagement for WAPD in the program for the Western Joint Summer Meeting next year. In terms of the national teaching award, Anderson indicated that at Utah she automatically moves the college teaching award winner forward as a candidate for the national teaching award the following year

The group discussed all the functions of WAPD and national APS. Concern was raised that WAPD does not recognize a teaching award recipient at the Western Joint Summer Meeting, although research and extension award recipients are recognized. Discussion ensued about possible ways to achieve such recognition. It was agreed that this should be a teaching program award, rather than an individual faculty award, much like the research and extension recognitions. This could be awarded based on a specific programmatic theme each year. Several programmatic themes were developed:

- Assessment
- Recruitment
- Retention
- Internships
- Service Learning
- Internationalization/globalization
- Interdisciplinarity
- Multi-culturalism/diversity
- Leadership development
- Living/learning communities

- Partnerships
- Communications

Given that the theme of the current Western Joint Summer Meeting was “Partnership: Public and Private”, it was decided that the first Western Region Academic Programs award (2014) should be focused on successful partnerships. The group discussed details that will need to be determined, such as resources to support the award, travel funds to support the winners attending the Western Joint Summer Meeting, who would review proposals, award criteria, deadlines for submission of award candidates, etc. Irlbeck indicated that she would discuss several of these details with Sarah Lupis and respond to the group with information.

There being no further business, the chair declared the meeting adjourned at 3:00 pm.

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