

**Western Association of  
Agricultural Experiment Station Directors**

**Fall ESS/SAES/ARD Meeting  
Agendas & Agenda Briefs**



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

**Jekyll Island Club  
Jekyll Island, GA  
September 30-October 3, 2014**

**Agenda Item 2.0:** Adoption of Agenda, Approval of minutes of July 2013 meeting

**Presenter:** Dave Thompson

**Action Requested:** Approve agenda, minutes of July 2013 meeting.

**Background:**

### Agenda

- 1.0 Introductions and Announcements (5 min) .....Dave Thompson
- 2.0 Adoption of Agenda, Approval of Minutes of July 2013 Meeting (5 min) .....Dave Thompson
- 3.0 Interim Actions of Chair (5 min) .....Dave Thompson
- 4.0 Treasurer’s Report (10 min) .....Glen Duff
- 5.0 NRSP RC Recommendations and Ballot Distribution (15 min) .....Bret Hess
- 6.0 NIFA Leadership Awards-Western Region Nominations (5 min) .....Sarah Lupis
- 7.0 WGA information request (10 min)..... Mike Harrington
- 8.0 Future Meetings (10 min):
  - Joint Spring Meeting 2015 ..... Larry Curtis
  - Joint Summer Meeting 2015 ..... Jeff Steiner/Craig Beyrouy
- 9.0 Resolutions (10 min)..... Rachel Leon-Gurrereo/Sarah Lupis
- 10.0 Changing of the Guard (10 min) .....Dave Thompson

### Consent Agenda Items (written reports)

- Executive Director’s Report ..... Mike Harrington
- Assistant Director’s Report .....Sarah Lupis

Minutes from July 2013 meeting in South Lake Tahoe, NV: [http://www.waaesd.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/WAAESDSummerMeeting2014\\_MINUTES\\_DRAFT\\_20140908.pdf](http://www.waaesd.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/09/WAAESDSummerMeeting2014_MINUTES_DRAFT_20140908.pdf)

**Agenda Item 3.0:** Interim Actions of Chair

**Presenter:** Dave Thompson

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

Chair Thompson communicated reinstatement of status as “members in good standing” to Patricia Coleman, Interim Dean and Director, Northern Marianas College, Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service (NMC-CREES) following payment in full of outstanding assessments. The letter is attached.



# Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors

## Office of the Executive Director

September 18, 2014

To: Patricia Coleman  
Interim Dean-Director  
Northern Marianas College  
Cooperative Research, Extension, and Education Service (NMC-CREES)

From: David Thompson  
Chairman, WAAESD  
Associate Director and Dean  
New Mexico State University,  
Agricultural Experiment Station

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Thompson".

Subject: Member on good standing

I am pleased to inform you that with the payment of outstanding assessments, your institution is now a member in good standing in the WAAESD according to Section 4 the association bylaws.

#### Section 4. Reinstatement

Any member institution removed for failure to pay assessments as indicated above, may, at any time, request, in writing, to be readmitted as a member on good standing. This request must be accompanied by payment of all outstanding assessments that were due at the time of removal.

We look forward to you and your institution again becoming an active member of the WAAESD.

Cc: WAAESD Directors  
Dr. Sharon Hart, President Northern Marianas College  
Via email: [president@nmcnet.edu](mailto:president@nmcnet.edu)

H. Michael Harrington  
Executive Director  
[wdal@lamar.colostate.edu](mailto:wdal@lamar.colostate.edu)  
Phone: 970-491-7457

4040 Campus Delivery  
Colorado State  
University  
Ft Collins, CO 80523  
<http://www.waaesd.org>

**Agenda Item 4.0: Treasurer's Report**

**Presenter:** Glenn Duff

**Action Requested:** For Information

**Background:**

**WESTERN DIRECTOR EXPERIMENT STATION  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2015**

23-Sep-14

<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>FY 15 Assessments</b>	<b>Outstanding Assessments</b>	<b>Payment Received</b>	<b>Refund of Overpayment <sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Balance Due</b>
Alaska	\$ 11,308.19		\$ 12,134.86	\$ 826.67	\$ -
Am Samoa	\$ 600.00	600.00			\$ 1,200.00
Arizona	\$ 19,716.89				\$ 19,716.89
California	\$ 32,312.94		34,675.14	2,362.20	\$ -
Colorado	\$ 23,583.43		17,507.47	1,724.04	\$ 7,800.00
CSU Rent	\$ (7,800.00)				\$ (7,800.00)
Guam	\$ 11,026.25		11,832.31	806.06	\$ -
Hawaii	\$ 14,605.46		14,605.46		\$ -
Idaho	\$ 17,522.78		18,803.77	1,280.99	\$ -
Micronesia	\$ 600.00		600.00		\$ -
Montana	\$ 18,503.37		18,503.37		\$ -
Nevada	\$ 14,360.33		15,410.13	1,049.80	\$ -
New Mexico	\$ 14,862.87		14,862.87		\$ -
Northern Marianas	\$ 600.00	1,800.00	1,800.00		\$ 600.00
Oregon	\$ 22,315.50		23,946.85	1,631.35	\$ -
Utah	\$ 19,449.03		20,870.83	1,421.80	\$ -
Washington	\$ 25,495.13		27,358.92	1,863.79	\$ -
Wyoming	\$ 16,652.47		16,652.47		\$ -
<b>Assessment Total</b>	<b>\$ 255,714.64</b>	<b>\$ 2,400.00</b>	<b>\$ 249,564.45</b>	<b>\$ 12,966.70</b>	<b>\$ 21,516.89</b>

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Transaction</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Balance</b>
7/1/14	Balance forward			\$ 137,745.75
	YTD Assessments Received	\$ 236,597.75		374,343.50
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	July	18.34		374,361.84
	August	16.13		374,377.97
	September			374,377.97
	October			374,377.97
	November			374,377.97
	December			374,377.97
	January			374,377.97
	February			374,377.97
	March			374,377.97
	April			374,377.97
	May			374,377.97
	June			374,377.97
7/1/14	MT Accounting Fee		\$ 3,500.00	370,877.97
7/30/14	Non-employee travel		\$ 359.34	370,518.63
				370,518.63
	<u>CSU Payments</u>			
7/31/14	FY14 Fourth Quarter		63,873.10	306,645.53
	First Quarter			306,645.53
	Second Quarter			306,645.53
	Third Quarter			306,645.53
	Fourth Quarter			306,645.53
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 236,632.22</b>	<b>\$ 67,732.44</b>	<b>\$ 306,645.53</b>

1. Initial FY15 assessment invoices were incorrect resulting in overpayments. These excess funds were refunded to each respective school.

**WESTERN DIRECTOR SPECIAL ACCOUNT  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2015**

23-Sep-14

<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	<b>FY 15 Assessments</b>	<b>Outstanding Assessments</b>	<b>Payment Received</b>	<b>Balance Due</b>
Alaska				\$ -
Am Samoa				-
Arizona				-
California				-
Colorado				-
CSU Rent				-
Guam				-
Hawaii				-
Idaho				-
Micronesia				-
Montana				-
Nevada				-
New Mexico				-
Northern Marianas				-
Oregon				-
Utah				-
Washington				-
Wyoming				-
<b>Assessment Total</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ -</b>

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Transaction</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expense</b>	<b>Balance</b>
7/1/14	Balance forward			\$ 21,738.06
	YTD Assessments Received			21,738.06
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	July	2.06		21,740.12
	August	1.21		21,741.33
	September			21,741.33
	October			21,741.33
	November			21,741.33
	December			21,741.33
	January			21,741.33
	February			21,741.33
	March			21,741.33
	April			21,741.33
	May			21,741.33
	June			21,741.33
				21,741.33
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$ 3.27</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$ 21,741.33</b>

NOTE: 2008 Grant workshop net from regional workshop plus interest (\$7476.29)

**WESTERN DIRECTOR ACADEMIC PROGRAMS  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2015**

23-Sep-14

<b>ASSESSMENTS</b>	FY 15 Assessments	Outstanding Assessments	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	\$ 1,323.71		\$ 1,323.71	\$ -
Am Samoa	\$ 200.00	200.00		400.00
Arizona	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
California	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Colorado	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Guam	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Hawaii	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Idaho	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Micronesia	\$ 200.00	200.00		400.00
Montana	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Nevada	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
New Mexico	\$ 1,323.71			1,323.71
Northern Marianas	\$ 200.00	1,200.00		1,400.00
Oregon	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Utah	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Washington	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
Wyoming	\$ 1,323.71		1,323.71	-
<b>Assessment Total</b>	<b>\$19,132.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,600.00</b>	<b>\$17,208.23</b>	<b>\$ 3,523.71</b>

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
7/1/14	Balance forward			\$13,448.29
	YTD Assessments Received	\$17,208.23		30,656.52
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	July	1.05		30,657.57
	August	1.33		30,658.90
	September			30,658.90
	October			30,658.90
	November			30,658.90
	December			30,658.90
	January			30,658.90
	February			30,658.90
	March			30,658.90
	April			30,658.90
	May			30,658.90
	June			30,658.90
	<u>CSU Payments</u>			
7/31/14	FY14 Fourth Quarter		4,783.00	25,875.90
	First Quarter			25,875.90
	Second Quarter			25,875.90
	Third Quarter			25,875.90
	Fourth Quarter			25,875.90
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$17,210.61</b>	<b>\$ 4,783.00</b>	<b>\$25,875.90</b>

**WESTERN DIRECTOR JOINT SUMMER MEETING SPECIAL ASSESSMENT  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT  
FY2015**

23-Sep-14

ASSESSMENTS	FY 15 Assessments	Outstanding Assessments	Payment Received	Balance Due
Alaska	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	\$ -
Am Samoa	\$ 250.00			250.00
Arizona	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
California	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Colorado	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Guam	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Hawaii	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Idaho	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Micronesia	\$ 250.00		250.00	-
Montana	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Nevada	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
New Mexico	\$ 1,400.00			1,400.00
Northern Marianas	\$ -			-
Oregon	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Utah	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Washington	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
Wyoming	\$ 1,400.00		\$ 1,400.00	-
<b>Assessment Total</b>	<b>\$20,100.00</b>	<b>\$ -</b>	<b>\$18,450.00</b>	<b>\$ 1,650.00</b>

**INCOME / EXPENSE**

Date	Transaction	Income	Expense	Balance
7/1/14	Balance forward			\$ -
	YTD Assessments Received	\$18,450.00		18,450.00
	<u>Interest Earned</u>			
	July			18,450.00
	August	0.57		18,450.57
	September			18,450.57
	October			18,450.57
	November			18,450.57
	December			18,450.57
	January			18,450.57
	February			18,450.57
	March			18,450.57
	April			18,450.57
	May			18,450.57
	June			18,450.57
9/16/14	Univ of Nevada pmt		19,072.59	(622.02)
<b>Total</b>		<b>\$18,450.57</b>	<b>\$19,072.59</b>	<b>\$ (622.02)</b>



**Agenda Item 5.0: NRSP Review Committee Update**

**Presenter:** Bret Hess

**Action Requested:** For action/vote

**NRSP Review Committee Members**

<p>Bret Hess, Chair (WAAESD)</p> <p>Delegates:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shirley Hymon-Parker (ARD)</li><li>• Doug Buhler (NCRA)</li><li>• Tom Bewick (NIFA)</li><li>• Clarence Watson (SAAESD)</li><li>• L. Washington Lyons (Cooperative Extension)</li></ul>	<p>Executive Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Eric Young (SAAESD)</li><li>• Mike Harrington, Executive Vice-Chair (WAAESD)</li></ul> <p>Interim Delegate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tim Phipps (NERA)</li></ul> <p>Stakeholder Representative:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Don Latham (CARET)</li></ul>
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**Background:**

The NRSP Review Committee (NRSP-RC) met in Denver, CO on June 17, 2014 for its annual meeting and held a follow up conference call on August 18<sup>th</sup> to discuss resources needed for the NRSP-1/NIMSS revision (see attached proposal and update) and remaining questions on the NRSP\_temp321 proposal.

**The following actions were taken by the NRSP-RC:**

*(Note: These actions are seconded motions that require a majority vote of the Directors to overturn. If this occurs there will be an alternative motion put forward for consideration.)*

- **Guidelines Changes:**

Motion and second and unanimous approval of the following recommendation for substantive changes to the NRSP Guidelines:

- **Section III. A. General:** Change bullet four under delegated authority to “delegate authority to the NRSP-RC to invest up to 1% of total Hatch Funding in NRSPs.”
- **Section IV. B Management and Business Plan:** Add the following “For the multistate program, including NRSPs; leveraging shall mean funding brought to bear on the project objectives regardless of source, not including in-kind support from host institution(s).”

- **Funding recommendations:**

A summary of the NRSP portfolio, including NRSP-RC actions, is below.

## NRSP 2014-2015

### Requests for Off-the-Top Funding

Project	Request FY2012	Authorized FY2012	Request FY2013	Authorized FY2013	Request FY2014	Approved FY2014	†Request FY2015	NRSP Review Committee Recommendation
NRSP1 <sup>1</sup>	50,000	50,000	75,000	75,000	75,000	75,000		
NRSP3	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	<i>see below</i>	
NRSP4	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	481,182	
NRSP6	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	150,000	
NRSP7	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	325,000	<i>see below</i>	
NRSP8	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	500,000	
NRSP9	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	175,000	
NRSP_TEMP001 (NRSP1)							300,000	Approve 3-year budget <sup>1</sup>
NRSP_TEMP003 (NRSP3)							50,000	Approve 5-year budget
NRSP_TEMP301 (NRSP7)							325,000	Approve 1-year budget <sup>2</sup>
NRSP_TEMP321							398,631	Approve 5-year budget <sup>3</sup>

†Assuming an acceptable midterm review, all NRSP budgets were approved during 2012 Fall ESS Meeting for the duration of their current, five-year cycles.

<sup>1</sup>NRSP-1 plans to terminate on September 30, 2014. NRSP\_TEMP001 is requesting approval of a new 3-year proposal and budget to facilitate an overhaul of the NIMSS and maintenance of the new system through a 3-year contract with Clemson University; the impact communications component of the project is ongoing. The 3-year budget is:

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
<b>MRF Funding</b>	300,000	183,500	183,500

<sup>2</sup>NRSP7 must demonstrate that they have secured new (not in-kind) funds that are equal to or more than 2x the off-the-top funding requested prior to submitting a renewal proposal.

<sup>3</sup>Unlike other NRSPs, the NRSP\_temp321 MRF budget varies. The 5-year budget is as follows (please reference NIMSS for complete budget details):

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
<b>MRF Funding</b>	398,631	370,165	381,834	433,969	406,591
<b>Other Funding</b>	597,354	732,278	359,245	239,837	238,238
<b>Total Project Budget</b>	<b>995,985</b>	<b>1,102,443</b>	<b>741,079</b>	<b>673,806</b>	<b>644,829</b>

**Summary of NRSPs**

<b>Project Number</b>	<b>Project Name</b>	<b>Project Period</b>	<b>Midterm Review Year</b>
<b>NRSP-1</b>	National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS)	2011-2014	2014
<b>NRSP-1 (NRSP_TEMP001)</b>	National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS)	2014-2017	2016
<b>NRSP-3 (NRSP_TEMP003)</b>	The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)	2014-2019	2017
<b>NRSP-4</b>	Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses	2010-2015	2013
<b>NRSP-6</b>	The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (Solanum) Germplasm	2010-2015	2013
<b>NRSP-7 (NRSP_TEMP301)</b>	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs	2014-2015	-
<b>NRSP-8</b>	National Animal Genome Research Program	2013-2018	2016
<b>NRSP-9</b>	National Animal Nutrition Program	2010-2015	2013
<b>NRSP_temp321</b>	Database Resources for Crop Genomics, Genetics and Breeding Research	2014-2019	2017

**Project Number:** NRSP-1

**Project Title:** Multistate Research Information Management and Impact Communications Program

**Requested Duration:** October 1, 2014 through September 30, 2017

**Administrative Advisors:** William Brown, Jeff Jacobsen, Steve Loring, Adel Shirmohammadi

**NIFA Representative:** Bart Hewitt

## **STATEMENT OF ISSUES AND JUSTIFICATION**

NRSP-1 serves two critical functions for the State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) System. First, it supports the National Information Management and Support System (NIMSS). NIMSS was designed to facilitate the management of multistate research and Extension activities supported by the Hatch Multistate Research Fund (MRF), from conception of the proposal to project termination. NIMSS is a web-based application allowing: (1) online submission of proposals, peer reviews and progress reports, and (2) ready access to this information. An automated e-mail notification function prompts users to take action and sends out notifications for meetings and report deadlines. Researchers, Extension educators, stakeholders and other cooperators can search NIMSS for relevant and timely information related to multistate research projects. In addition, the public has access to research project outlines and impacts. NIMSS is now serving all of the 1862 and 1890 Land-grant institutions, allowing them to manage, in a totally paperless system, their multistate research portfolios. The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) also uses NIMSS to download and integrate data into its management dashboard and pre-populate federal forms.

The second important function that NRSP-1 serves is the communication of impacts of multistate research and Extension activities. The impact communications component of NRSP-1 enhances the visibility of Land-grant institutions and the success of the multistate research projects. Impact statements are prepared by a communications specialist at the termination of every project (approximately 60 per year) and are sent to: Administrative Advisors, Regional Executive Directors and their assistants, NIFA representatives and the ESCOP marketing agency kglobal. Administrative Advisors share the statements with project participants, partner trade associations, regulatory organizations, and other stakeholders. The impact statements are posted on the Regional Association websites and are also entered into the National Land-grants Impact Database (<http://www.landgrantimpacts.org>). They are used by NIFA staff in the preparation of reports and responses to Congressional and other inquiries. kglobal features the impact statements on the Ag Is America website (<http://agisamerica.org/>), and on the Ag Is America Twitter feed (reaching over 26,000 users) and Facebook page with about 4,000 followers. This relatively new component of NRSP-1 has been extremely effective and very well received within the Land-grant University system, its public and private partners, its stakeholders and the public in general. Collectively, the NIMSS database system and the impact communications program provide for open and transparent systems that enhance compliance and accountability for SAES.

The Experiment Station Section is entering into a three-year contract with Clemson University to redesign, host and maintain NIMSS. The first year will be focused on the redesign of NIMSS, while the

following two years will provide ongoing maintenance and the opportunity to further enhance NIMSS. The NIMSS redesign will provide substantial direct benefits to administrators and staff of SAES, participating scientists, federal agencies, and many others utilizing this system. There will also be indirect benefits to the public through increased access to current activities and outcomes from the Multistate Research portfolio.

The contract with Clemson will be for the period October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2017. The NRSP-1 Management Committee requests that the current NRSP-1 be terminated effective September 30, 2014 and that this new project be approved for a three year period, October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2017, to correspond to the contract with Clemson. Approval of this request will allow the project to continue to provide critical research support services to the SAES system during the three year contract with Clemson. During the final year of this project, a new five year NRSP-1 project proposal will be developed to support the enhanced NIMSS and the impact communications programs.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

### **Objectives and Projected Outcomes**

**Objective 1:** Maintain and enhance the effectiveness and functionality of NIMSS and access and utilization of the NIMSS database.

**Objective 2:** More effectively document and communicate impacts of the multistate research activities

#### **Outcomes:**

At any given time, there are about 300 active multistate research projects and activities recorded in NIMSS. At its peak period, NIMSS gets 28,000 hits per day, and an average of 15,000 hits per day during normal operations. Data transferred varied from 2GB to 4GB per day, during slow to heavy periods. New users register daily and the number of registered active, frequent users are recorded at over 11,000. NIMSS will continue to serve this clientele and the public during the project period, allowing for timely submission of proposals and reports, conduct of peer reviews, meeting notifications, participation and access to information in real time.

In addition, new functionalities will be introduced in NIMSS to enhance access to and quality of information available to users. It is anticipated that participation will continue to be expanded to include those outside the Land-grant system, and will include additional federal and state partners, producers, commodity groups, foundations and foreign scientists. NIMSS will serve as an effective communication tool to share research data and hence, ease the application of new discoveries and technology transfer.

Since its inception in 2002, NIMSS has been used to collect and store information on hundreds of scientists working in multistate projects in specific Knowledge Areas (KAs), Subject of Investigation (SOI) and Field of Science (FOS). NIMSS serves as a national repository of experts and their specializations. This capability will be explored further to build programs to analyze where expertise can be tapped to address national and regional priorities and to solve emerging problems.

NIMSS will be transformed into an even more effective tool in reporting the accomplishments and impacts of agricultural research carried out by Land-grant institutions. This impact information will be used to prepare more effective impact statements from multistate research activities. The Impacts Communication Specialist will continue to refine and enhance the impact statements. More effective ways to communicate impacts will be developed to reach a broader audience. Timely and relevant impact stories will continue to be identified and targeted to popular press outlets such as newspapers (local and national), university publications, industry magazines, agriculture magazines and online news sites. These efforts will greatly enhance the visibility of the Land-grant universities and specifically demonstrate the return in public investment in the multistate research system.

### **Management Budget and Business Plan**

General oversight, policy development, proposal preparation and budget recommendation will be provided by a Management Committee composed of: four Administrative Advisors, representing each of the four SAES regions; an ARD Director; a Cooperative Extension Director; the NIMSS Manager; the four Regional System Administrators; two director's administrative assistants who use NIMSS routinely; and two communicators/writers to advise the impact reporting program. The Administrative Advisors will elect one of their representatives to be the Lead Advisor and Chair of the Committee. NIFA will assign one or more non-voting representatives to the Committee.

NIMSS is managed by each of the Regional Associations serving the SAES. The Regional System Administrators handle the day-to-day tasks related to maintaining the system and answer queries from their users.

The WAAESD Office (WDO) provides coordination, editorial oversight, and physical space to the impact communications component of NRSP-1. The WDO also provides coordination between this effort and the ongoing efforts of ESCOP and ECOP (i.e., with kglobal, Cornerstone, the ESCOP/ECOP Communications and Marketing Committee, and the National Land-grant Impacts Database Project).

Funding for NRSP-1 will be provided through an off-the-top allocation from the Hatch Multistate Research Fund. NRSP-1 will provide important administrative support services to research administrators and staff, project participants and other users of NIMSS and the impact communication efforts. Funding for NRSP-1 is seen as an administrative expense and alternative sources of funding are not anticipated.

### **Integration and Documentation of Budget Support**

NRSP-1 was developed to facilitate the management and communication of the impacts of integrated research and Extension activities supported by the Hatch Multistate Research Fund. It supports all 1862 and 1890 Experiment Station and Cooperative Extension participants. The program can also accommodate integrated education activities as the need arises.

### **Outreach, Communications and Assessment**

Input from SAES administrators and scientists on issues of policy, planning, and management of NRSP-1 is essential element in sustaining it as an effective support system. The approval of this NRSP provides

the mechanism to support the representation of user interests and provide a forum to assess the effectiveness of the outreach of the NRSP-1 programs.

The Regional System Administrators will serve as the primary contacts and source of information and training for university administrators, program managers, investigators, business officers, and station staff using NIMSS. The WDO will serve as the primary contact and source of information on the impact communications component. The NRSP-1 Management Committee will serve as stakeholder representatives in addressing assessment issues and to help evaluate the effectiveness of outreach efforts. The representatives will be responsible for collecting information from the institutions in their respective regions or associations to reflect the effectiveness of the NIMSS and the impact communications programs in meeting their needs and objectives. The Committee will provide an annual report outlining the accomplishments of the previous year in support of the objectives at the ESS fall meeting. A copy of the report will accompany the annual budget request.

**PROJECT PARTICIPATION:** All 1862 and 1890 Land-grant Institutions

**LITERATURE CITED:** N/A

<b>BUDGET:</b>	<u>2014-15</u>	<u>2015-16</u>	<u>2016-17</u>
NIMSS:	\$245,000 <sup>1</sup>	\$128,500 <sup>2</sup>	\$128,500 <sup>2</sup>
Impact Communications Project:	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000
TOTAL	\$300,000	\$183,500	\$183,500

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<sup>1</sup> The 2014-15 NIMSS budget request of \$245,000 corresponds to the first redesign cost of \$265,000 proposed by Clemson minus \$20,000 in carry-over NRSP-1 funds residing at Rutgers.

<sup>2</sup> The 2015-16 and 2016-17 NIMSS budget requests of \$128,500 reflect the on-going operations and maintenance cost proposed by Clemson.

## **NIMSS Update (9/2014)**

**Presenters:** Jeff Jacobsen, Dan Rossi

Current NIMSS - NIMSS had undergone two transfers in 2014. The first involved moving the system from the Univ. of Maryland to an external server, and the second to a Rutgers' Amazon Web Service account. The transfer to the Rutgers' server account was completed on August 27. Coding adjustments are underway to correct glitches due to a software upgrade (to ColdFusion ver.11) related to the second migration. Data entry is working and upload to the NIFA REEport has been restored. Approval letters and meeting authorizations are not automatically sent yet, but can be copied and pasted to committees as needed. At this time, the current system will be maintained and used until the newly re-designed NIMSS is ready for rollout. Maintenance of the current system is planned for the remainder of CY2014 and CY2015.

Future "NIMSS"- A subcommittee of NRSP1 [Jeff Jacobsen (chair), Bill Brown, Steve Loring, Adel Shirmohammadi, Shirley Hyman-Parker, Chris Hamilton] reviewed the responses to a national solicitation for a redesign of NIMSS. Available members of this group and two IT professionals (Robert Ridenour UTIA; John Chamberlain NMSU) participated in a conference call with Clemson's Youth Learning Institute Information Technology Team (ITT) to respond to provided questions and offer additional insights. Several follow-on calls were made to clarify residual questions. In addition, two other IT professionals reviewed this proposal with favorable recommendations. These details were provided to NRSP1 electronically and discussed in conference calls.

NRSP1 recommends developing a contract with Clemson's ITT for the redesign, operations and maintenance of the new system. The one-time cost of the redesign is \$265,000 and the on-going cost of operations/maintenance is \$128,500. This would require: 1) termination of NRSP1 on September 30, 2014, and renewal with a 3-year proposal and budget and 2) a contract for service with ITT.

Our discussion has been to develop a 3-year contract. One year of redesign and two years of operations/maintenance with the new system. This would result in a redesign that is responsive, operational and optimally tested by the national system over the following two years.

### **Recommended ESS Actions for NIMSS:**

NRSP1 recommends that the new, 3-year NRSP1 budget for NIMSS be:

- \$245,000 one-time NIMSS redesign (\$265,000 - \$20,000 in carry-over funds) for FY2015
- \$128,500 on-going NIMSS operations/maintenance for FY2016
- \$128,500 on-going NIMSS operations/maintenance for FY2017
- The new 3-year budget would also include an increase the budget for the Impact Communications Specialist to \$55,000 (from \$53,410) for FY2015, FY2016, and FY2017 to accommodate variable fringe benefit rates.
- The total request for NRSP1 is \$300,000 [FY2015], \$183,500 [FY2016] and \$183,500 [FY2017] as presented in three-year NRSP1 proposal [FY2014-17].



A proposed NIMSS redesign team composed of: four regional NIMSS System Administrators (Chris Hamilton, Sarah Lupis, Rubie Mize, Donna Pearce), one Executive Director (Jeff Jacobsen), Director (Steve Loring), four State staff regional representatives (Shelley Whitworth [NC], Tammy Heil [S], Angie Dangerfield [W], Rachel Unger [NE]), NIFA representative (Katelyn Sellers). In addition, ITT recommends that 1-2 people become the day-to-day contacts for their programmers. Chris and Sarah have volunteered to be these contacts.

**Agenda Item 6.0:** ESS Leadership Awards-Western Region Nominations, Process

**Presenter:** Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

The 2014 ESS Leadership Award for the Western Region will be awarded to Dr. Colin Kaltenbach (Univ. Arizona, retired) on November 2, 2014 at the APLU Annual Meeting in Orlando, FL.

Nominations for the 2015 ESS Leadership Award should be sent to Sarah Lupis ([sarah.lupis@colostate.edu](mailto:sarah.lupis@colostate.edu)) no later than February 1, 2015. Nominations can be made by any member of the WAAESD and do not require consensus or a vote. Nomination requirements are presented in the attached notice.

Selection of a winner will be made by a review committee that includes the two at-large members (Don Snyder—UT and Jim Moyer—WA) and the incoming Chair (Jeff Steiner—CO); either the ED (Mike Harrington) or the AD (Sarah Lupis) will also participate on the committee. Discussion will be conducted during the spring meeting.

## **Experiment Station Section Awards for Excellence in Leadership**

### **Purpose**

To recognize those who have served the Regional Associations, the Experiment Station Section (ESS) and/or the national Land-Grant System with exemplary distinction. Through this person's leadership, he/she shall have personified the highest level of excellence by enhancing the cause and performance of the Regional Associations and ESS in achieving their missions and the Land-Grant ideal.

### **Award and Presentation**

Up to five awards, one from each ESS region, will be presented each year. The awards shall be signified by the creation of a suitably inscribed piece approved by the Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy (ESCOP) Executive Committee and presented to the recipient or his/her proxy at the Association of Public and Land Grant Universities (APLU) annual meeting and will be further memorialized by a resolution to be read during the ESS fall meeting. The home institution shall be made aware of the recognition by formal letter from the ESCOP Chair to the Chief Executive Officer of the institution and its governing body (Board of Trustees, Board of Regents, etc.) with others copied as appropriate. The expense of the of the actual award recognition will be borne by the Regional Association while the expenses associated with travel of the winners to the APLU meeting will be borne by the Associations and/or home institutions.

### **Eligibility**

Eligible for this award are former or current Directors or Associate Directors, who have provided service in a State Agricultural Experiment Station (SAES) as assistant director, associate director, director, or as chief operating officers with equivalent but variant titles (e.g. vice chancellor, associate vice chancellor, associate vice president, dean for research) and/or as a regional executive director. This award is distinctive in its expectations and not necessarily coincident with retirement, election to specific office or any other specific professional benchmark.

### **Nominations**

Nominations shall include a statement of accomplishments prepared by the nominator(s) unbeknownst to the candidate and supported by letters from three (3) to five (5) former or current members of the ESS. Other letters of support from the home and other institutions may be submitted with the discretion of the nominator(s). Nominations shall address the contributions of the nominee to the land-grant ideal through service to include offices held, committee assignments, other service and, in particular special and extraordinary service activities. Such service should include for example: active participation in affairs of the Regional Association and/or ESCOP; regional, national and/or international special assignments with distinctive

performance that has advanced the mission of the ESS and the land-grant ideal; and research in the sciences related to agriculture. Specific examples of contributions may include the enhancement of cooperation across institutions, creation of model administrative systems useable by other institutions, and development of new strategic directions for the Regional Associations or the ESS. Although testimony as to the nominee's contributions to his/her home state and institution are welcomed, they are not pivotal to assessing the contributions to the section and related activities.

### **Submission and Review**

Nominations for the recognition should be submitted to the Regional Associations by February 1 of each year. The Regional Associations will review the nominations and will select one regional winner. The Associations will submit the winners to the ESCOP Chair and APLU by July 1. The winners will be announced at the fall ESS meeting and the awards will be presented at the APLU annual meeting.

**Agenda Item 7.0: WGA Information Request****Presenter:** Mike Harrington**Action Requested:** Discussion**Background:**

On Friday, September 12, 2014, Lyla Hoglum and Mike Harrington participated in a conference call with a group from the Western Governors Association (WGA) including Jim Ogsbury, Executive Director, Katie Kalinowski, Tim Macklin, Holly Propst, and Zack Bodain. The purpose of the call was to follow up on our Joint summer meeting and to explore collaborative opportunities between the WGA and Western Land Grant Universities on joint priorities; in particular invasive species, and drought. There was also interest in our efforts to bring forward the “Western Agenda.”

**REQUESTS:**

Regarding invasive species, WGA is looking for:

- information and data on the economics of various invasive species; they'd like fiscal impact in particular but other impacts would also be useful; they would like to talk with economics faculty and/or others who work in this area.
- critical habitat assessment tools

Regarding drought WGA would like:

- case studies on drought that they could use at forums
- best practices for drought mitigation to add to their resource library
- decision making tools

**For Discussion:**

- The attached lists are based on the information Western Directors provided with some additional follow-up. There may be many more people who might be added these lists but for now we are looking for one or two good contacts from each Western institution for each of these two issues—invasive species and drought. What is the best to gather this information?
- Recognizing that faculty are fully engaged with current responsibilities, is there a need develop some process by which Western Region faculty work with the WGA?
- Is it desirable to form new multistate committees to look into one or more of these issues, and in particular economics of invasive species? Also attached is a listing of our current multistate portfolio activities that are germane to these topics.

## Western AES-Extension Invasive Species Contacts:

### Alaska:

- Gino Graziano  
Invasive Plant Instructor  
1675 C Street Suite 100  
Anchorage, AK 99501-5133  
[gagraziano@alaska.edu](mailto:gagraziano@alaska.edu)  
907-786-6315

### Arizona:

- Geroge Frizovod
- Tom DeGomez (Forested ecosystems)  
Area Agent and Regional Specialist, Coconino County - Flagstaff  
Mohave County - Kingman,  
School of Natural Resources and the Environment  
928-523-8385  
[degomez@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:degomez@ag.arizona.edu)
- Larry Howery (Range ecosystems)  
Noxious weeds/Range Management Specialist  
School of Natural Resources and the Environment  
520-621-7277  
[lhowery@cals.arizona.edu](mailto:lhowery@cals.arizona.edu)

### Guam:

Has an island-wide committee whose membership consist of officials from our local departments of agriculture, commerce, customs and quarantine, airport and seaport authorities as well as Extension faculty members, that concentrate in designing programs and projects to combat the entry as well as eradication of invasive species. Currently, UOG Cooperative Extension is the principal leader of our island's on-going efforts with the eradication of an introduced deleterious pest known as CRB or Coconut Rhinoceros Beetle (*Oryctes rhinoceros*). Below is the list of individuals that work on our invasive species program:

- Dr. Aubrey Moore, Associate Professor and Extension Entomologist, has overall charge over our CRB program including research projects.  
E-mail: [amoore@uguam.uog.edu](mailto:amoore@uguam.uog.edu)  
Tel.: 671-735-208
- Mr. Roland Quitugua, Extension Agent II, directs our eradication field work and whose academic background also include plant pathology.  
E-mail: [rolandq@uguam.uog.edu](mailto:rolandq@uguam.uog.edu)  
Tel.: 671-735-2092

- Dr. Robert L. Schlub, Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist, IPM and RREA.  
E-mail: [rlschlub@uog.edu](mailto:rlschlub@uog.edu)  
Tel.: 671-735-208

**Idaho:**

- Tim Prather, Extension Weed Specialist  
Invasive plants  
(208) 885-9246  
[tprather@uidaho.edu](mailto:tprather@uidaho.edu)

**Montana:**

- Jane Mangold (Land Resources and Environmental Sciences)  
Extension Rangeland Weed Specialist  
711 Leon Johnson Hall  
Montana State University  
P.O. Box 173120  
Bozeman, MT 59717-3120  
(406) 994-5513  
[jane.mangold@montana.edu](mailto:jane.mangold@montana.edu)

**New Mexico:**

- Natalie Goldberg  
Department Head for Extension Plant Sciences  
575-646-1621  
[ngoldber@nmsu.edu](mailto:ngoldber@nmsu.edu)
- Jerry Hawkes  
Department Head for Extension Animal Sciences and Natural Resources  
575-646-2322  
[hawks@nmsu.edu](mailto:hawks@nmsu.edu)
- Nick Ashcroft,  
Range Specialist  
[nashcrof@nmsu.edu](mailto:nashcrof@nmsu.edu)
- Mark Anderson, Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology,  
Mathematical and statistical modeling in conservation biology  
[manderse@nmsu.edu](mailto:manderse@nmsu.edu)
- Gary Roemer, Professor, Department of Fish, Wildlife and Conservation Ecology,  
Impacts of invasive vertebrates  
[groemer@nmsu.edu](mailto:groemer@nmsu.edu)
- Brian Schutte, Assistant Professor,  
Department of Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Weed Science, Weed invasives  
[bschutte@nmsu.edu](mailto:bschutte@nmsu.edu)

- Scott Bundy, Professor,  
Department of Entomology, Plant Pathology, and Weed Science, Insect invasives  
[cbundy@ad.nmsu.edu](mailto:cbundy@ad.nmsu.edu)

**Oregon:**

- Sam Chan, aquatic invasive species  
Watershed Health Specialist  
541-679-4828  
[Samuel.chan@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Samuel.chan@oregonstate.edu)
- Sergio Arispe, Malheur County Extension  
Livestock and Natural Resources  
541-881-1417  
[Sergio.arispe@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Sergio.arispe@oregonstate.edu)
- Dustin Johnson, Harney County Extension  
Agriculture  
541-573-8933  
[Dustin.johnson@oregonstate.edu](mailto:Dustin.johnson@oregonstate.edu)

**Washington:**

- Tim Miller (weeds)  
WSU Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center  
16650 State Route 536  
Mount Vernon, WA 98273-9761  
Phone 360-848-6138  
[twmiller@wsu.edu](mailto:twmiller@wsu.edu)
- Todd Murray (insects)  
PO Box 369  
Stevenson, WA 98648-0790  
**Phone:** (509) 427-3931  
**Email:** [tmurray@wsu.edu](mailto:tmurray@wsu.edu)

**Wyoming:**

- Dr. Brian Mealor, Expertise is in wildland ecology and control of invasive plants.  
Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist, Plant Sciences;  
(307) 766-6484  
[bamealor@uwyo.edu](mailto:bamealor@uwyo.edu)
- Dr. Thijs Kelleners, Soil Physics,  
Department of Ecosystem Science and Management, University of Wyoming,  
(307) 766-4279  
[tkellene@uwyo.edu](mailto:tkellene@uwyo.edu)



## Western Region Multistate Research Projects and Coordinating Committees

### Water

<a href="#">W2128</a>	Microirrigation for sustainable water use AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, NM, OR, WA, WY	09/30/2014	Active
<a href="#">W2170</a>	Soil-Based Use of Residuals, Wastewater and Reclaimed Water CA, CO, HI, NM, WA	09/30/2014	Active
<a href="#">W2190</a>	Water Policy and Management Challenges in the West AZ, CA, HI, NV, NM, UT, WA, WY	09/30/2014	Active
<a href="#">W3128</a>	Scaling Microirrigation Technologies to Address the Global Water Challenge AZ, CA, CO, ID, OR, WA, WY	09/30/2019	Active
<a href="#">W3170</a>	Beneficial Reuse of Residuals and Reclaimed Water: Impact on Soil Ecosystem and Human Health (formerly W2170) AZ, CO, NM, WA	09/30/2019	Active
<a href="#">W3188</a>	Soil, Water, and Environmental Physics Across Scales AZ, CA, ID, NV, NM, UT, WA, WY	09/30/2019	Active
<a href="#">W3190</a>	Management and Policy Challenges in a Water-Scarce World AZ, CA, HI, NV, NM, UT, WA, WY	09/30/2019	Active
<a href="#">WERA103</a>	Nutrient Management and Water Quality AZ, CA, CO, HI, ID, MT, NM, OR, WA, WY	09/30/2015	Active
<a href="#">WERA1020</a>	Western Region Multistate Coordinating Committee on Water Resources AK, AZ, CA, CO, HI, MT, NV, NM, UT, WA, WY	09/30/2017	Active
<a href="#">WERA1022</a>	Meteorological and Climate Data to Support ET-Based Irrigation Scheduling, Water Conservation, and Water Resources Management (from WDC18) AZ, CO, OR, UT, WA	09/30/2017	Active

## Invasives and Pest management

<a href="#">WDC029</a>	Management of Emerging Invasive Viticulture Pests (working title)	09/30/2014	Active
<a href="#">WERA077</a>	Managing Invasive Weeds in Wheat	09/30/2019	Active
<a href="#">W3185</a>	Biological Control in Pest Management Systems of Plants	09/30/2017	Active
<a href="#">WDC029</a>	Management of Emerging Invasive Viticulture Pests (working title)	09/30/2014	Active
<a href="#">WERA060</a>	Management of Pesticide Resistance	09/30/2017	Active
<a href="#">WERA066</a>	Integrated Management of Russian Wheat Aphid and Other Cereal Arthropod Pests.	09/30/2016	Active
<a href="#">WERA1017</a>	Coordination of Integrated Pest Management Research and Extension/Educational Programs for the Western States and Pacific Basin Territories	09/30/2016	Active

## No fire projects

**Agenda Item 8.0:** Future Meetings

**Presenters:** Sarah Lupis, Larry Curtis and Jeff Steiner

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

- **2014 APLU Annual Meeting:** November 2-4, 2014 at the Bonnet Creek Resort, Orlando, FL.
- **2015 Joint CARET/AHS Meeting:** March 2-5, 2015 at the Omni Shoreham Hotel, Washington, DC
- **2015 WAAESD=WEDA-WRPLC Joint Spring Meeting:** April 28-May 1, 2015 at the Embassy Suites Portland Downtown, Portland, OR. Oregon State University, hosting.
- **2015 Western Region Joint Summer Meeting:** July 6-9, 2015 at the DoubleTree by Hilton, Breckenridge, CO. Colorado State University, hosting.

**Agenda Item 9.0: Resolutions**

**Presenter:** Rachael Leon Guererro & Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** Approve resolutions

**Background:**

**RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Glenn Duff, Treasurer of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAAESD) has provided selfless and committed leadership and keen oversight to enhance the Association; and

**WHEREAS**, under Dr. Glenn Duff's leadership and support, the priorities of the WAAESD have been greatly enhanced and have achieved significant accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Glenn Duff has provided outstanding leadership in the area of financial oversight, planning, and reporting for the WAAESD; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Glenn Duff has been visionary and timely in conducting WAAESD financial business,

**LET IT BE KNOWN**, that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors recognizes Dr. Duff for his invaluable contributions and service as WAAESD Treasurer, and

**THEREFORE**, on this day of October 1, 2014, the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors resolves to extend its sincere gratitude for his commitment, service, and leadership in making the Association more effective in addressing current and future needs, challenges and opportunities in agricultural research, and

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

## **RESOLUTION OF APPRECIATION**

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Dave Thompson, 2013/2014 Chairman of the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors (WAAESD) has provided selfless and committed leadership and keen oversight to enhance the Association; and

**WHEREAS**, under Dr. Dave Thompson's leadership and support, the priorities of the WAAESD have been greatly enhanced and have achieved significant accomplishments; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Dave Thompson has provided outstanding leadership in the area of planning and building relationships with other research, extension and academic units throughout the region and the nation; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Dave Thompson has been visionary and timely in conducting WAAESD business,

**LET IT BE KNOWN**, that the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors recognizes Dr. Thompson invaluable contributions and service as WAAESD Chair, and

**THEREFORE**, on this day of October 1, 2014, the Western Association of Agricultural Experiment Station Directors resolves to extend its sincere gratitude for his commitment, service, and leadership in making the Association more effective in addressing current and future needs, challenges and opportunities in agricultural research, and

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

**Agenda Brief 11.1:** Executive Director Report: July -September, 2014 (Consent)

**Presenter:** H. Michael Harrington

**Action Requested:** For information

**Background:**

## I. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### WAAESD

**Executive Committee:** Participate in monthly conference calls to address immediate business of the association.

#### **Meeting Support and Logistics**

- **Joint WAAESD- WEDA Meeting:** Bret Hess and Executive Committee to finalize agenda. Worked with Bret Hess, Bill Frost, Sarah Lupis and Lyla Houglum to develop agenda for combined session.
- **Joint Summer Meeting:** Worked with Chair and Executive Committee to finalize WAAESD agenda. With Sarah, identified a facilitation team for the workshop. Worked with Bill Payne, Ron Pardini and Melissa Glenn to address logistics including facilitators and overall agenda. Invited Western Governors Association and Western Council of State Governments speakers for panel discussion. Developed and coordinated the “Ask” for support for the summer meeting due to low registration number failing to meet projected costs. This included logistics, a management plan and subsequent distribution of invoices. Approved UNR request for payment.
- **Building Strength in Unity:** Writing Production Systems white paper. Collected background data on production from the NASS
- **Northern Marianas Assessments:** Worked with Patty Coleman (NMC) to collect all back assessments.
- **Fall Meeting:** Worked with Dave Thompson and Executive Committee to develop the WAAESD meeting agenda.

#### Committee Activities

- **Western SARE Administrative Council:** I serve as the Western Directors’ representative on this committee. I assumed committee chairmanship in August. Worked with Utah State officials to approve an evaluation procedure for the W-SARE Director that reflects the change in time commitment. Provided reviews for 12 Chapter 1 R&E program preproposals and reviewed/ranked 13 graduate student proposals. Attended AC meeting in Boise, ID Aug 4-7.
- **Western Rural Development Center Board:** I represent the Western Directors on this activity. Serve as the recruiting chairman responsible to identifying new board members.
- **Western IPM Center:** I serve as the Western Directors’ representative on this committee.
- **Southern Rockies LCC:** Serve on the Science Committee and participated in several calls to rank priorities. Distribute relevant information on RFAs, etc. to Directors.

#### Western Academic Program Directors

- Met with WAPD members at the Joint Summer Meeting to present priorities survey results

## II. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES

### ESCOP

#### Assistance to Steve Slack ESCOP Chair

- Work with Steve Slack and Bret Hess (B&L Chair) to facilitate discussions of joint budget initiatives with Extension.
- Developed ESCOP response to questions from OMB: “What is the appropriate ration of competitive to formula funds” and, “What can be done to improve performance on individual formula funded projects?” (See attached)
- Participate in “Strategic Alliance” call with Steve S, Jeff J, Jimmy Henning and others

**ESS Annual Meeting 2014:** Worked with the other EDs to develop the all meeting agendas and the ESS workshop agenda. Secured participation of Kelley Eversole and Dr. Jan Leach who will speak on Phytobioime research in one of the workshops.

**ESS Annual Meeting 2016:** Sarah and I are working with Bret Hess and his staff on initial planning for the 2016 meeting to be held in Jackson Hole WY

#### Committee Activities

- **Chair’s Advisory Committee:** Participate in monthly conference calls
- **ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee:** Support Chairman Bret Hess (Wyoming) as the Executive Vice Chair on this important committee. Organize monthly conference calls.
  - Led development of the Big Audacious Ask concept
  - Continue to track 2014, ‘15 budgets
  - Developed and deployed survey to determine how Directors were using the Science Roadmap
  - Work with Bret Hess Steve Slack, Rick Klemme Robin Shepard and Jimmy Henning on joint budget initiatives with Extension.
- **BAA-Budget and Advocacy Committee:** Participate in monthly conference calls
- **BAA-BAC Crop Protection Working Group**
  - With Robin Shepard, Jeff Jacobsen and representatives from the IPM Community to developed Rules of Operation for the National IPM Coordinating Council which will be a Subcommittee of the ESCOP Science and Technology Committee.
  - Working with Cornerstone to seek legislative solution for 2015 addressing the budget problems that have resulted from how NIFA implemented the Pest Management Program
  - Attended committee organization meeting Sept 22-24.
- **BAA-BAC Water Quality Working Group**
  - Working with Steve Slack, Jimmy Henning and Robin Shepard to facilitate activities of the Water Quality Working Group. An initial draft overview, approved by ESCOP, ECOP, BAC and PBD, was presented to NIFA and others in REE. A final document was presented at the Joint COPS meeting and approved by the above BAA parties.

- **NIMSS:** Continue to work with the other EDs, Assistants and Management Committee to address problems as the NIMSS is being revamped
- **Communications and Marketing Committee:** I serve as back up to Dan Rossi and also participate on the Joint Committee with Extension
- **Committee on Legislation and Policy:** I am serving on this committee which is developing recommendations for the Farm Bill.
- **NRSP Review Committee:** Our office has assumed leadership for this committee with Bret Hess serving as Chair. Participated in a conference call in August to finalize recommendations for FY 2015.

#### **Summary of Travel, July –September 2014**

- July 7-11: Western Region Joint Summer Meeting, Lake Tahoe
- July 21-24: Joint COPS Meeting, San Diego.
- Aug. 4-7: SARE Administrative Council Meeting, Boise
- Sept 23-24: National IPM Coordinating Committee, Washington DC
- Sept 29-Oct 3: ESS Annual Meeting Jekyll Island GA



### **The Land Grant system - Meeting Current and future challenges**

The history of the land grant colleges is generally well known, from first the Land-grant Morrill Act (1862) providing for practical higher education in agriculture and the mechanical arts to the second Morrill Act, ( 1890) which provided Land-grant status to the historically black institutions. Later on, other colleges including University of the District of Columbia and the "1994 Land-grant colleges" for Native Americans were also awarded "Land-grant" status. The Hatch Act of 1887 provided federal funds to states to establish agricultural experiment stations with a mission of developing new information (i.e. conduct research). The outreach mission included in the Smith-Lever Act of 1914, creating the Cooperative Extension Service, which placed agents into rural areas to bring the results of research to the end users. Each Land-grant college receives an annual Federal appropriation for research and extension work on the condition that those funds are at least matched 1:1 by state or local funds.

Today's Land-grant University is a very comprehensive institution and Colleges of Agriculture (or expanded title) therein have multiple departments with research and teaching faculty serving more than 160,000 undergraduate and some 30,000 graduate students each year and through Extension, maintain outreach efforts in more than 3,400 counties in the U.S.

The chain from research to adoption in support of the food, agriculture and natural resource enterprises are often viewed as linear. In reality, real innovation occurs in a circular, iterative fashion. Research questions flow from where Extension professionals live and work as well as through citizen advisory groups to the University. In the laboratory, scientists find answers, often involving stakeholders. Research results get to producers and consumers through Extension programs designed to translate research to practical application, engage learners to apply answers to vexing problems, and transform individuals, families, communities and business in rural and urban areas.

The Nation's Agriculture Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension work hand-in-hand within the circle to assure community-based engagement informs relevant science, research results get generated in a timely fashion, so that practices can be improved. This iterative process is where true innovation occurs and requires both competitive and capacity funding for rapid responses and long-term research and education. Research and Extension have national representative leadership committees on organization and policy that define national priorities. See [www.nera.umd.edu](http://www.nera.umd.edu) for ESCOP's *A Science Roadmap for Food and Agriculture* and <https://www.aplu.org/document.doc?id=4096> for ECOP's *Cooperative Extension Strategic Opportunities*. Underscoring the strong alignment of research and Extension at state and local levels, the two documents, developed through separate processes, show a striking alignment.

**Funding for ~~or~~ Capacity Programs has declined:** These funds, are now termed capacity funds because they provide critical infrastructure at State Agriculture Experiment Stations and for Cooperative Extension that facilitate the success of the U.S. agriculture system. While there have been small increases in the competitive funding area, according to USDA-NIFA data, capacity fund programs have lost as much as 40% in buying power over the last 20 years (Figure 1). Simply put the same or new innovation services cannot be provided with fewer funds.

The top federal funding priority for State Agricultural Experiment Stations and Cooperative Extension organizations is maintaining steady increases in capacity funds, ideally at least recovering lost buying power. There are few other federal programs where limited funds have been leveraged at least five to six times with state funds annually over a period of decades, in this case to yield ongoing positive impacts on the nation's food and fiber system, as well as related issues such as alternative fuels, environmental sustainability, economic development, and health and well-being of our citizens in both urban and rural settings.

Relative to competitive funding, the most recent AFRI Annual Synopsis for 2010 indicates that there were over \$2.6 billion in highly meritorious proposals that would have been awarded if funds were available. Unfortunately, only 403 proposals could be funded from the available \$232,649,478. Inadequate funding of NIFA competitive and capacity programs jeopardizes the world's most productive and successful Agricultural Research and Cooperative Extension system.

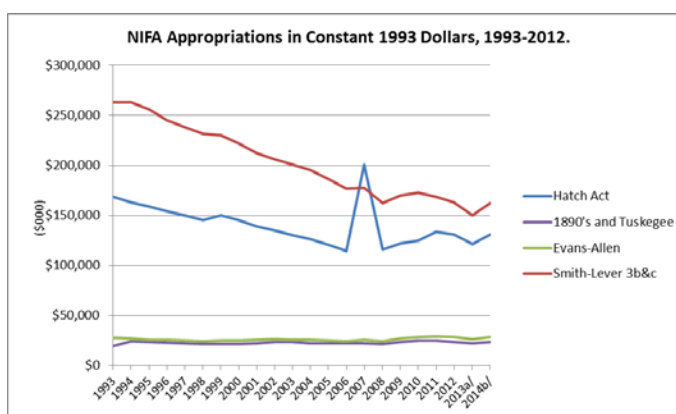


Figure 1 (Data provided by NIFA, constant 1993 dollars)

The value of the capacity funding mechanism has been questioned by the Administration, through the Office of Management and Budget and others who assert that, *"The best science results from externally funded competitive programs."* This premise assumes that competitive programs provide the best outcomes, but there is little hard evidence to support this statement. For example, Huffman and Evenson in their paper, *"New Economic Evidence on Agricultural Total Factor Productivity Determinants: Impact of Funding Compositions,"* October 2004, observed that as increases occur in the share of State Agricultural Experiment Station funding from federal contracts, grants, and cooperative agreements (not limited to USDA), the impact of public sector agricultural research on state agricultural productivity declines. Huffington and Evenson, 2006, noted that "each unit of Hatch formula funding of SAES research had a larger impact on local agricultural productivity than a similar unit of federal competitive funding." The authors maintain that between 1970 and 2004 the marginal real rate of return was approximately 50% annually on Hatch and Smith Lever formula funds. (Huffman, Norton et al. Investing in a Better Future through Public Agricultural Research. CAST Commentary QTA 2011-1, March). More conservative estimates lace this return at 20%.

**Project Review:** All projects funded with capacity funds are peer reviewed, then reviewed again by the Dean/Director. Once approved and funded, annual progress reports for capacity projects are filed with, and reviewed by, NIFA. In addition, each faculty member undergoes an

annual performance/progress review in his/her Department and College. Finally, all publications resulting from capacity funded projects are peer reviewed by journals.

**Program Outcomes:** Significant efforts have been made to collect information on project and programs outcomes via federally required State Plan of Work that integrate experiment station and Extension activities and state annual reports thereon. Individual faculty members must also report on Hatch projects as well. Newly initiated efforts are collecting specific information on individual project and program outcomes.

#### **CAPACITY FUND INVESTMENTS IN THE MULTISTATE RESEARCH PROGRAM**

The Agriculture Experiment Stations support nearly 300 multistate projects ([See NIMSS](#)) many of which are integrated with Extension and academic programs. In addition to providing critical support for faculty and technicians, many of these projects also support both graduate and undergraduate students. These peer reviewed projects typically involve scientists from all regions, ARS, ERS, etc. and are consistent with the USDA Goals as well as ESCOP's Science Roadmap for Agriculture. Support for these projects comes primarily from Hatch Multistate but also includes Hatch, McIntire Stennis, State Matching and, where appropriate, Evans-Allen Research as well as Smith-Lever and other Extension capacity funding when integrated with Extension (ERA designation). The State Agricultural Experiment Stations also support peer reviewed [National Research Support Projects](#) (NRSPs) that provide crucial data which enables/facilitates research by agricultural and other scientists nationwide. The Agriculture Experiment Stations currently invest \$1.231 million in 7 NRSPs that have leveraged over \$30.6 million in other funding.

Together these projects result in savings of several hundreds of million dollars annually to the \$225 Billion U.S. agriculture industry as well as significant leveraging of capacity and state dollars in the form of grants and contracts from the USDA-NIFA Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), NIH, NSF, DOE, DOD, NASA, commodity groups, foundations and other sources.

#### **SELECTED EXAMPLES OF SPECIFIC OUTCOMES FROM MULTISTATE RESEARCH**

Additional impacts can be found in the Impact Reports on multistate projects that are assimilated at the end of the project period. (See: [2011 Impact Statement Catalogue](#), and [2012 Impact Statement Catalogue](#) )

**Rural Population Change (W-2001)** has provided data and insights on demographic trends in rural areas that are essential for plans, programs, and policies that support sustainable rural communities and promote residents' quality of life. This research has helped public policy makers and rural residents design or modify programs, so that they address important issues and are adapted to current and projected rural population trends. Federal, state, and local decision-makers have been empowered to compare situations and learn from each other's experiences.

**Personal Protective Technologies (NC-170)** has evaluated and improved textiles and personal protective garments (PPE) for workers in hazardous occupations, leading to better safety and job performance. Specific outcomes include: improved protection from dangerous chemicals and pathogens by developing self-decontaminating materials for industrial workers, first responders, public health workers, and military personnel (the design of body armor that has been adopted by

the U.S. Marine Corps) and ensure a baseline level of protection for workers by setting standard performance specifications for PPE sold in the U.S. This national project has improved tools and methods for testing PPE performance.

**Preventing Obesity in High Risk Families (W1005)** has advanced the science of child obesity prevention, particularly about parenting, energy dynamics, and lifestyle factors. By focusing on these factors, child obesity prevention programs can be more effective in family and community settings.

**Management of Small Grain Diseases (NCERA-184)** has improved monitoring and management of diseases in small grains, thus preventing millions of dollars in losses due to poor grain yield and quality and assuring an ample supply of grain for consumption and other uses in the U.S. and with U.S. commodities traded globally. Research results have provided information about Fusarium Head Blight to thousands of farmers in 30 states, helping prevent serious outbreaks resulting in savings of \$47 million per year.

**Emerging Soybean Rust Threat (NCERA-208)** alerted the soybean industry when and where soybean rust (SBR as detected, thus saving North American soybean producers over \$600 million in unnecessary fungicide costs), reducing chemical exposure to the environment and food supply, and diminishing apprehension among the soybean industry.

**Regulating Photosynthesis (NC-1168)** has made significant strides in identifying genetic mechanisms that increase resistance to salt, heat and water stress, reducing crop loss and costs and advancing strategies to maintain plant yields under climate change. They have also discovered ways to regulate gene expression during photosynthesis, enabling scientists to modify crop genetics without introducing foreign genes, thus relieving many consumer concerns about genetically engineered plants.

**Bioactive Dietary Chemicals (W-2122)** advanced our understanding of bioactive dietary chemicals that can be either beneficial or harmful to human health, thus identifying ways to improve food safety, prevent common diseases, and ensure that consumers have a healthy food supply. Research results have helped consumers make more informed, healthier choices about whether to take dietary supplements. For example, researchers found that the estrogen-like compounds (isoflavones) in some soy supplements can stimulate growth of estrogen-dependent breast cancer and can negate the effectiveness of breast cancer therapies. In addition, outcomes have improved food safety by identifying how to prevent contamination from food-borne toxins during processing, preparation, and other post-harvest activities

**Nutrient Analyses (SERA-006) of plant and soil** has promoted accurate, unbiased procedures for nutrient analyses, facilitating better nutrient management that ensures the sustainability of agricultural production and natural resource stewardship in the southern U.S. The project also reduced over application of nutrients, saving producers tens of millions of dollars and protecting surface waters and groundwater from potential contamination.

**Biological Control of Pests in Plant Systems (W2185)** provided successful, cost effective, and sustainable pest control in agricultural and natural settings by releasing, manipulating, and conserving the predators, parasites, and pathogens that attack harmful insect and weed pests.

From 2007 through 2010, property owners/managers in the northwestern U.S. saved an estimated \$500,000; in 2011 alone, they saved \$250,000 by biologically controlling weeds. Over the last 16 years, an IPM program that incorporates natural enemy conservation saved Arizona cotton growers \$388 million by reducing crop loss and chemical pesticide use.

**Biological Improvement of Chestnut (NE1333)** has focused on the important goal of restoring the American chestnut, previously one of the most valuable trees in eastern North American forests. Some of the many outcomes of this project has been the development of (1) new blight resistant chestnut cultivars as both timber crops and orchard trees for nuts; (2) new strategies for planting chestnuts in harvested and disturbed ecosystems; (3) biocontrol viruses that provide more options for controlling pests and diseases of chestnut trees; and (4) an aggressive program to reintroduce domestically grown chestnuts as a diversely used food source for common consumption.

**Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses (NRSP4 or IR-4)** has been the primary entity in the United States to facilitate registrations of conventional pesticides and biopesticides on specialty food crops (fruits, vegetables, nuts, herbs, spices) and non-food ornamental horticulture crops (greenhouse flowers, nursery, landscape plants, and Christmas trees). The IR-4 Project has made a substantial impact on U.S. agriculture over the past 50 years. Its research data has been used to garner nearly 16,000 food crop registrations and an additional 160 product registrations impacting nearly 31,000 ornamental crop uses. IR-4 contributes an estimated \$7.2 billion to U.S. Gross Domestic Product and the Program supports nearly 105,600 jobs<sup>1</sup>. Without IR-4 intervention, it is anticipated that many specialty crops would enter the food supply with illegal pesticide residues and in many crops there would be significant crop losses which would make these healthy foods extremely expensive and in some cases, unavailable for consumers.

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<sup>1</sup> Miller, S.R. and A. Leschewski (2011). Economic Impacts of the IR-4 Project and IR-4 Project Programs. East Lansing, MI: Michigan State University's Center for Economic Analysis.

### **Case Study – Cornell University: [Science for Life: A Decade of Federal Formula Grants in New York](#)**

Recently the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University examined the impact and value of formula funds of a 10 year period.

Significant findings included:

- The U.S. Department of Agriculture’s National Institute for Food and Agriculture is a critically important source of competitive and formula-based grant funding for the applied research and extension programs at Cornell University. The federal formula grant programs include: Smith-Lever funding which supports Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), ensuring that new science-based knowledge is put into practice in the real world; Hatch and McIntire-Stennis funds, which support a broad range of applied research, including forestry; and Hatch Multistate funds, which support applied research across broad geographic areas that require a coordinated team approach.
- Federal formula grant funds from the USDA’s National Institute for Food and Agriculture provide a critical funding source that tackles widespread problems across a range of disciplines and allows Cornell to leverage additional funding. Cornell’s stakeholder-driven allocation system ensures Hatch, Smith-Lever and related federal formula funds support research and extension that targets real-world problems, impacts broad swaths of society, protects the environment, and enhances the economy. The Cornell survey showed the degree to which formula grant research funds have supported cutting-edge applied research. The reliability of these funds has enabled the Cornell University Agricultural Experiment Station and the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, in close partnership with Cornell Cooperative Extension, to support many agricultural, environmental, health and rural development programs that underpin the New York economy, and to respond to emerging problems facing our nation
- At Cornell, Hatch funds are primarily used to support well-defined applied research projects of two to five-year duration, with an average allocation of \$25,000/year. This means that at any one time, there are up to 200 active projects of value to diverse stakeholder groups, from farms, to businesses, to the underserved. Projects can be directed strictly at research questions or combined with Smith-Lever funding to ensure the integration of the research and extension functions.
- The federal formula grants program provides a strong underpinning of research and extension that allows America to continue to be an economic force while addressing such pressing challenges as nutrition and childhood obesity, food safety and security, climate change and bioenergy. It ensures advancements at home and U.S. competitiveness abroad.
- Formula/Capacity funds provide a diversity of funding opportunities for projects in response to emerging local or national issues, as well as reliable resources that enable the continuity of long-term research ventures, such as developing new plant varieties.
- Specific examples in New York include: 13 new varieties of disease-resistant potatoes, inexpensive hand-held sensors for detecting foodborne pathogens, a 20% reduction in phosphorous runoff from dairy farms, and trials for bioenergy crops specifically bred for Northeast climates and soils. These advances, and hundreds more, would not have been achieved without federal formula grants.
- Faculty use the initial formula grant support to help attract additional funding for more in-depth research, sometimes involving additional collaborations and the application of results through extension programs. The initial funding and knowledge gained through that support helped provide them a competitive edge when seeking additional funding.
- Of the \$16.3 million in funded projects over the ten-year time frame, an additional \$91.5 million in funding was subsequently secured from other sources, including private foundations, corporations, the

NIH, NSF and several USDA competitive grants programs. If considering only the group that reported leveraging additional funds, the ratio of formula grant funding to leveraged dollars was approximately 1:9.

- One Cornell nutritionist who received a \$30,000 per year Hatch grant to conduct studies of a human genetic variation affecting the metabolism of the vitamin folate was able to successfully secure an additional \$5 million from the National Institutes of Health, which led to the discovery of genes and diets that affect birth defects and colon cancer risk in humans.
- A food safety scientist used a Hatch grant to develop an assessment tool for the potentially lethal Listeria bacteria, which led to an additional \$2.9 million grant from the National Institutes of Health and other federal agencies to develop methods to minimize Listeria's ability to multiply in foods.

**Agenda Item 11.2:** Assistant to Director’s Report, July—September, 2014 (Consent)

**Presenter:** Sarah Lupis

**Action Requested:** For information (Consent)

**Background:**

## 1. REGIONAL ACTIVITIES

### WAAESD

- Served as the Recording Secretary of the WAAESD; produced minutes of meetings and conference calls.
- Maintained the WAAESD web site and continue to improve functionality and usefulness
- Maintain electronic mail lists for various groups
- Develop, maintain, and reconcile WAAESD budget and expenditures
- Created and processed financial and travel documents in support WAAESD transactions and activities
- Created and continue to maintain WAAESD Twitter account, posting relevant stories about AES research, news, etc. and leveraging stories to national attention. Twitter account has 151 followers (up from 143 in July 2014), including several association colleges and universities, national organizations, government partners, and others.
- Helped to coordinate the hosting of the 2015 WAAESD-WEDA Joint Spring Meeting in Portland, OR. Worked with WEDA and host institution Oregon State Univ. to develop a schedule for this meeting and arrange for Joint Session speakers.
- Participated in planning for the 2015 Western Region Joint Summer Meeting, reviewing contract details, helping to develop a schedule of events, and recruiting workshop leaders in cooperation with Colorado State University staff.
- Coordinated administration of regional ESS Leadership Award.
- Continued to coordinate the Western Agenda initiative. In this quarter, created secure webpages dedicated to the five Focus Areas and provided Focus Area writing teams with information and resources to complete white paper assignments. Fielded phone calls and provided guidance on white paper completion.
- Helped to plan the 2015 Western Region Admin. Officers Conference in Tucson, AZ by arranging for speakers, resolving agenda concerns.
- Attended first of five “Inclusive Excellence Training” workshops with other CSU College of Agriculture staff.

### Western Region Multistate Research Portfolio

**Regular Support:** Regularly provide support to Administrative Advisors and SAES staff on navigating the NIMSS and interpretation of national and regional multistate guidelines. In this quarter, I have fielded questions and provided information regarding the transfer of NIMSS to a new server and the resulting breaks in functionality.



**2015 Renewing Projects:** Started the renewal process for 11 MRF Western Region MRF projects. Communicated the results of 2014 new/renewing projects to NIFA.

**ESS Award:** Coordinated nominations for the Excellence in Multistate Research award. Coordinated with award winning project AA and committee (W2128) regarding travel to WRJSM and APLU meeting in November.

## **2. NATIONAL ACTIVITIES**

**NRSP001:** Serve on the national Management Committee that oversees NIMSS implementation. Participated in several conference calls this quarter to decide on issues related to the fixing and updating of the NIMSS. Helped to develop a proposal for NRSP-1 renewal. I volunteered to be one of two main contacts with the NIMSS programmers at Clemson (assuming the NRSP-1 renewal and 3-year budget are approved) and am a member of the NIMSS Redesign Team, helping to facilitate the development of a new and improved system.

**National Impact Reporting Project:** Have been responsible for implementing the National Impact Reporting Strategy, including developing, maintaining, and reconciling the NRSP-1 Impact Communication effort budget and expenditures and supervising the Impact Communication Specialist (Sara Delheimer). In this quarter, we began developing a new “feature” of the program—a workshop for faculty to improve reporting efforts. This workshop will be piloted at the University of Wyoming in October and at Colorado State University in January/February before being offered nationwide (for cost of travel expenses). Also in this quarter, worked closely with Sara Delheimer, Ashley Hawn (kglobal), and Steve Loring to write and coordinate media coverage (press releases, social media) about the Western Regional MRF Excellence Award that was given to W2128. Advised kglobal on the development of a media strategy for the National Award for W2128 and helped to write a press release and find human interest material and op-ed writers for additional media coverage.

**NRSP-RC:** Coordinate NRSP Review Committee activities. In this quarter, helped Bret Hess (NRSP-RC Chair) and Mike Harrington finalize the NRSP-RC brief for the ESS meeting, ballots for each region, and coordinated a late vote on the NRSP-1 renewal proposal.

### **NERAOC**

Serve as the ESCOP representative to the National Conference Planning Committee. Participated in planning for the 2015 meeting in San Diego as a member of the host planning committee and the National Planning Committee. Responsible for social media outreach for the 2015 meeting. Working with Tim Nesbit (NMSU) to address Planning Committee concerns about NIFA participation and overall communication/process. Will be co-presenting a session on NIMSS at the 2015 meeting and am responsible for coordinating another session on Impact Reporting (Sara Delheimer and Daniel Robison to present).

### **ESCOP**

**Budget and Legislative Affairs Committee:** Serve as the recording secretary.

**AES/CES Communications and Marketing Committee (CMC):** Member of this committee; also serve as the recording secretary for the full committee and the Executive Committee. In this quarter, participated on Executive Committee and full committee conference calls, and helped Dan Rossi to write revised operational guidelines.

**2016 AES/CES Joint Meeting:** Played a lead role in coordinating the upcoming 2016 AES/CES Joint Meeting. Facilitated communication between ESCOP and ECOP leadership regarding meeting needs, collected information on past meeting attendance and costs, researched multiple venues in the Jackson Hole, WY area, conducted a site visit with Univ. of Wyoming staff (Joanne Newcomb) to investigate venue options, summarized venue research findings and created draft budgets, presented findings to key decision makers.

### **3. TRAVEL SUMMARY**

**July 7-10, 2014:** Western Region Joint Summer Meeting, Lake Tahoe, NV

**July 22-23, 2014:** NERAOC Planning Meeting, San Diego, CA

**August 17-20, 2014:** 2016 AES/CES venue research, Jackson Hole, WY

**August 28, 2014:** Presentation of 2016 AES/CES venue research, Laramie, WY

**September 29-October 3, 2014:** Fall ESS/SAES/ARD Meeting, Jekyll Island Club, GA

### **4. NOTICE OF UPCOMING LEAVE**

Starting approximately November 20<sup>th</sup>, I will begin 3-months of non-continuous maternity leave. My intention is to begin working part-time, from home, approximately 0.5-1 days a week (not necessarily contiguous) around December 8<sup>th</sup> to address critical WDO/position functions, including:

- NIMSS Redesign
- Western Region MRF project renewals (“Routine” NIMSS questions will be directed to other Regional System Administrators.)
- Listserv maintenance
- Website maintenance
- Spring meeting planning
- Processing of travel and purchasing documents