

W-APS
22 June 2023
Zoom and Richland Washington
2:00-4:00 Mountain (Standard Time)

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85087880327?pwd=SE5DaTFQRE41MVZ3dmRQUVRkK2VMdz09>

Meeting ID: 850 8788 0327
Passcode: 583852

1. **Welcome** — Don welcomed members.
2. **Attendance:** Don Conner, Kate Moots, Tracy Deringer, Claus Tittiger, Nancy Deringer, Ann Marie De Lay, Ricardo Mata Gonzalez.
3. **Minutes from 5 May 2023**— to be approved at the next meeting.



W-APS%20Minutes
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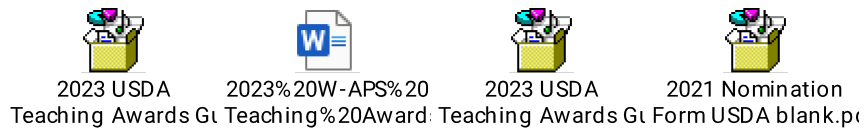
4. **Old Business**

- a. **Mental Health for Administrators, Faculty, Staff and Students (Support animals, etc.)**— Found on [WAAESD Website](#).
- b. **Next Generation Grant** — Awards have been announced. Guam, Washington, Montana, New Mexico, Alaska Northern Marianas are all recipients. A full list is available on NIFA's website. <https://www.nifa.usda.gov/about-nifa/press-releases/usda-announces-inaugural-learning-leading-cultivating-next-generation>
- c. **Rangeland Science Classes**— Currently with the Federal partners.
- d. **Expanding Membership Discussion**— Where do we go now? Development of strategies. Ricardo suggested each member select 1-2 schools to reach out to regarding membership which would reduce the time commitment on one person. Many of the current members are only members because their predecessor encouraged the attendance. Don and Ricardo are going to develop the list for the next meeting.
- e. Tracy and Nancy both agree with the strategy of reaching out.
- f. Kate notes that there are numerous colleges that could be members, such as tribal colleges or in the islands. However, the issue is the timing of meetings for the islanders.
- g. Claus recommends listing representatives on website from each institution. That might create a sense of accountability.
- h. Ann recommends including the purpose of this meeting because it took her several people to track down to find information. Tracy shared that we have a Box Account for W-APS with information about the committee including an organizational diagram.
- i. **Impact of new technologies and curricular changes**— Don shared that his conversations at NACTA have included positive conversations. Nancy is working with extension for a Fire Science Academy to do micro-credentialing and stacking. There will not be an option CEU just academic credits. This will be all online and the first time we have ever tried stackable credits.

5. **New Business**

- a. **Monthly Meeting Schedule**- Thursday at 4 pm MT on the first Thursday of the month. The group agreed that the next meeting will be August 3rd at 4 pm Mountain Time, 3 pm Pacific Time.
- b. **Teaching Awards**- Several members will be working on tweaking our call for teaching awards. There will also be an addition of a DEI category. Many universities have internal DEI teaching

awards and we thought this would provide a mechanism to help advance DEI efforts in our classrooms.



- c. **Nominations for incoming chair-** We need a nomination for an incoming chair at the November meeting.

6. Institutional Updates—

- a. **Nancy-** WSU is up by 25% for enrollment, we are still down from 2019 numbers. Morale is down because of a 6% budget cut.
- b. **Tracy-** Enrollment is also up. Trying to get a precision ag degree up and running. Had our first orientation under the new advising structure.
- c. **Claus-** finally looking for last advisor to become fully staffed. Working on a program in collaboration with two-year college. UNR has a USDA certified meat processing plant and a mobile meat packing plant that can provide hands on experiences. Hopefully, some students will transition to a four-year degree.
- d. **Ricardo-** establishing the new core curriculum starting 2025. This is taking time and training. We just had an advising review and some of the suggestions will be applied which includes a ladder for advancement for professional development. There is difficulty in keeping advisors on campus. Montana is also following that model of advancement. We host a SACNES chapter. We will have the national diversity in STEM conference, which is the largest diversity conference. The college is trying to college \$200,000 to be the primary supporting institution.
- e. **Ann-** had about sixty-eight new hires. It is great to have more people on board. There are several large projects including rebuilding the station that burned down. Also working on transitioning to a semester-based system from quarters. Just started summer break on Monday. There is a new building opening this fall, faculty are moving in now. Our dean is retiring this December. Working on enrollment growth and getting creative on how to welcome students. Tracy recommends FSLI program, it is a two-year program.
- f. **Kate-** Guam is still recovering from the typhoon. The island is working on restoring power and water. Summer sessions were started two weeks late, and we need space for students to get online. Staff members lost houses. Our dean is retiring at the end of September, and Kate is going to apply. Guam has a new president, starting in August.
- g. **Don-** NACTA is currently meeting. About 5 years ago NMSU went to a central advising session. The new provost is hearing a lot about advising from faculty and students. Next semester we are going to be advising our Animal Science majors with supervision. This might be the new model. Staff member is retiring. Have an interim chancellor.

7. **Next W-APS meetings—** August 3rd, 4 pm mountain time.

8. **Adjourn**

Calendar of Events and Important Notices

Event	Date	Notes
2023 Joint Committees on Organization and Policy (COPs) Summer Meeting	18-20 July 2023	Kansas City
APS Mini Sabbatical Application	August 2023	
APLU Degree Completion Award	September 2023	
APS Innovative Teaching Award	03 October 2023	The APS Innovative Teaching Awards happen twice a year, with deadlines on Oct. 3 and April 3.
FALCON Conference	13-15 October 2023	Invited by John Phillips. Denver, Colorado LINK
APLU Annual Conference	12-14 November 2023	Seattle Washington