

ESCOP Chair's Advisory Committee
Conference Call
December 12, 2000
11:00 - 12:30 EST

Participants: McArthur Floyd, Richard Heimsch, Sam Donald, T.J. Helms, Dick Lower, Dave MacKenzie, Tom Payne, Colin Kaltenbach, Randy Woodson, D. C. Coston, Terry Nipp, Jim Fischer, P.S. Benepal, Ida Mbye, Anna Marie Rasberry.

1. Meeting called to order by McArthur Floyd. The scheduled **January CAC conference call will be moved to January 16** at 11:00 EST.

2. **CSREES Civil Rights Task Team** - Dr. Hefferan requested that ESCOP provide a few representatives to assist CSREES in addressing the issue of planning and reporting accomplishments in Civil Rights. The group will work with Rodney Foil and Curt Deville to clarify and interpret federal requirements in this matter. Suggestions for ESCOP representation are Paul Rasmussen as chair, with Bob Heil and John Whitcomb (Cornell). Dr. MacKenzie will ask Dr. Whitcomb to serve; Dr. Floyd will contact Rasmussen and Heil.

3. **Value-Added Implementation** - Based on the document available in the ESCOP Workroom, each recommendation was addressed with disposition suggested as follows:

1. No action needed
2. The paperless management effort currently being addressed satisfies this recommendation.
3. The newly organized National Multistate Coordinating Committee, which involves the Executive Directors, George Cooper, and Myron Johnsrud, will meet three times per year to discuss areas of mutual concern.
4. Dr. Floyd will work with Richard Jones and Richard Heimsch to determine the best method of determining how NASULGC assessments are being spent to insure cost-effectiveness.
5. The ESCOP chair in 2003 should convene a task force to prepare a regional association assessment for 2005.
6. Dr. Floyd will correspond with the regional association chairs encouraging them to have their Executive Committees meet with those of other regions to exchange information on issues that transcend regional boundaries.
7. Dr. Floyd will contact Eric Young, Chair of the ESCOP Planning Committee, to provide his committee's input into program planning for September workshop.

8. After the BOA vote in January, Dr. Floyd will set a meeting with Dr. Neufville to insure that ag research and the regional associations' issues are well represented at NASULGC.

9. The NASULGC Annual Meeting program will be a topic of discussion in the meeting referenced in item #8.

10. Further action will be postponed until after release of the Plan of Work Advisory Committee's report is released.

11. No additional action necessary at this time. The Partnership Workshop in February may address these concerns.

12. Executive Directors are working on this item.

13. The National Multistate Coordinating Committee is planning to hold regular meetings, which includes George Cooper. The first meeting will be scheduled for late February or early March.

14. Discussion of this item will be postponed until the January CAC conference call.

4. Paperless Management - Dr. MacKenzie presented several options for moving forward with nationalization of a multistate research management information system (MR-MIS). Dr. Helms has spoken with Phil Dopkowski with REEIS, who offered to add the MR-MIS as a program in the REEIS database. (CRIS is one of approximately 40 REEIS databases already existing.) The CAC consensus was that regions should centralize as quickly as possible and move nationally to the next generation of an electronic process. It was recommended that ESCOP leadership talk with Dr. Hefferan, expressing the importance, the costs, the benefits, etc. of this plan. A concerted effort on behalf of the entire system should be made to bring this item to a speedy resolution. Drs. Donald and Helms will work with Dr. Floyd to draft a letter to Dr. Hefferan.

5. Status of ED assignments and committees - Dr. Lower presented information about assignments of Executive Directors to the various core committees, and the assignment of Fred Cholick as ESCOP representative to the ECOP Budget Committee. Other activities needing attention are: 1) Science Roadmap Task Force and 2) Genetic Resources Subcommittee:

1) **Science Roadmap Task Force** - Colin Kaltenbach will visit with Randy Woodson and let Dr. Floyd know of their decisions about how to move this effort along. Dr. Lower will send Kaltenbach, Woodson, and MacKenzie a list of nominees for the Task Force.

2) **Genetic Resources Subcommittee** - Someone to replace Dick Lower as chair of this effort needs to be named. Dr. Donald and Dr. Helms were asked to make recommendations to Dr. Floyd.

6. Deputy Administrator position at CSREES - It was agreed that the system needs an

orchestrated effort to recommend someone for this position. No one has received official notification calling for nominees, giving deadlines, etc. Dr. Floyd will find out what is being planned in this regard. In the meanwhile, Dr. MacKenzie will visit with potential nominees regarding their wishes to become a nominee, and will let Dr. Floyd know the outcome of those discussions.

7. Partnership Workshop - The task force planning the February workshop is meeting later this week to develop the agenda, which will be released in early January.

8. February ESCOP meeting agenda - no action is being taken at this time.

9. Plans for summer and fall 2001 meetings - Dr. Heimsch reported that hotel arrangements are being finalized for the September 24-27 in Couer d'Alene, ID.

10. Status of ESCOP appointments; replacements for Dr. Lower - The ESCOP website has been updated with all committee assignments. A few slots are still vacant such as liaison roles, such as ACOP appointments to committees. Anna Marie will construct a list of appointments currently held by Dr. Lower to ensure that all those assignments can be transitioned to someone else.

11. New Western ED - Michael Harrington has been selected to become Dr. Heil's replacement effective July, 2001.

12. US-European Union meeting in Netherlands - Dr. MacKenzie provided an update on recent meetings and reported that dates for the next round of discussions is April 4-7. Three topics for the April meeting have been identified: 1) Distance education - Dean Sutphin; 2) student/faculty exchanges; and 3) research: Conference on Land Use and Foreign Policy - Dave MacKenzie and others.

13. SUNEI status - Dr. MacKenzie reported the need to move existing SUNEI funds from NERA accounts, but unsure where the funds should go. And should the invoices for the 2001 assessments go out as planned in mid January even though a program is not in place that specifies how the next assessment would be used? Additionally, he reported that the Environmental Initiative Task Force presented its Executive Summary in San Antonio, but received no response or direction as a result of the report. (Dr. Nipp will forward a copy of the full report for posting in the ESCOP Workroom.) It was suggested that Dr. Floyd send a letter to the task force expressing appreciation for a job-well-done, and asking the members to remain on the task force to study implementation methods. (David MacKenzie will draft a letter for this purpose.) AESOP will draft a plan to move forward. Dr. Floyd will discuss these issues with Dr. Ortman and decisions will be made quickly so that subsequent decisions concerning a 2001 assessment can be made in a timely fashion.

Respectfully submitted,
Anna Marie Raspberry