



Southern Region Program Leadership Committee Meeting  
February 17  
Minutes

**Participants**

ANR	Joan Dusky	Nelson Daniels
COM	Robin Adams	Bob Reynolds
CRD	<i>no representatives</i>	
FCS	<i>no representatives</i>	
4-H	Dorothy Wilson	Chris Boleman
IT	Lalit Rainey	Jim Seger
MM	Martha Ray Sartor	
PSD	Scott Cummings	
ASRED	Tony Windham	Paul Coreil
AEA	Gina Eubanks	
Ex-Officio:	Ron Brown	
SRDC:	Vicki Vaughn	Rachel Welborn

1. December meeting minutes were approved as presented
2. Update from ASRED - Ron Brown, Tony Windham, Paul Coreil
  - a. Congress has proposed a FY 2011 Continuing Resolution. With about half of the year gone, this means that any approved reductions will be especially difficult to manage. Details of the House version of the CR include:
    - i. Hatch Act (Experiment Stations), McIntire/Stennis (forestry research) and Evans/Allen (1890 research) – small increase.
    - ii. AFRI (research) and Special Grants (research) – significant decreases; \$34.6 and \$89M reductions, respectively.
    - iii. Smith-Lever 3b and c (1862 Extension) reduced \$29.8M and 1890 Extension level funding.
    - iv. Most 406 Programs were cut including funding to the Regional Rural Development Centers and Food Safety
    - v. Over 500 amendments have been filed, working to turn this situation around.
    - vi. This situation presents a very real threat to Land Grant Universities. As earmarks are reduced, these Formula Funds become increasingly important.

- 
- vii. (Since this report, the House passed the CR early Saturday morning. The work now shifts to the Senate and the conference committee, where chances of restoration of Extension funding increase significantly).
  - b. FY 2012 President's Budget calls for:
    - i. Increases in AFRI (25%), Hispanic-serving institutions, 1890 Capacity Building, 1994 Institutions, Indian reservation agents, and Sustainable Agriculture
    - ii. Reductions in Smith Lever (1862 Extension), Hatch (research), and McIntire/Stennis (forestry), and several smaller lines. The President's budget zeros some section 406 lines, but maintains others including RRDCs.
    - iii. Level funding for EFNEP and 1890 Extension

Extension Directors/Administrators, along with Cornerstone have mounted a campaign to try to restore Extension funding. The current focus is in the House, but efforts will continue with the Senate and the conference committee, where success is more likely.

### 3. Conference Planning: Sub-committee reports

- a. Welcome from Texas – Chris Boleman and Nelson Daniels will help identify someone from their respective institutions to offer a welcome at PLN.
- b. Keynote presentation and mini-sessions (Brown, Boleman, Reynolds, Johnson, Welborn) – Elizabeth Gregory-North agreed to present the keynote session at PLN. However, she has since taken a new position that may change her ability to do the presentation. Chris will check with her to see if she is still available. On mini-sessions, the committee received 12 submissions and selected three (Chris Boleman, Charlie Vavrina, Ann Adrian). The hotel is open to hosting a poster session on the opening day (Tuesday). Rachel will find out how many spaces can be arranged. First slots will be offered to those that submitted proposals to the initial request. If those do not fill all available spots, the opportunity will be extended back to the whole group for additional submissions.
- c. Cross committee sessions (Dusky, Daniels, Cyrus, Rainey, Segers) – The committee has not met since December but Joan will arrange a conference call over the next few days to finalize plans.
- d. Evaluation tools (Boleman, Sarter, Dusky, Welborn) – The committee recommends that the PLN Accomplishment Report be discontinued, but with added emphasis given the updating the Plan of Work as a record of each committee's accomplishments. Further discussion regarding incorporating the work of regional indicators into the work of PLN was tabled until after the national meeting on the subject. Scott Cummings is planning to attend that meeting and will touch base with this committee afterwards to share relevant information.
- e. Newcomer orientation (Dusky, Boleman, Welborn) – Joan asked all PLC members to review both the Newcomer Orientation and Committee Officer Training

PowerPoints posted to the PLN website and make recommendations back to her within two weeks.

- f. Committee officer training (Dusky, Welborn) (See “e” above)
- g. Urban Task Force plans – The Urban Task Force pre-conference theme will be: Designing Our Future – Urban Innovations. Joan Jacobsen is coordinating the event which will take place at the County Extension Office in downtown Fort Worth.

#### 4. Program Committee Reports

- a. ANR – Nelson Daniels and Joan Dusky: The southern ANR committee had a call last week with the North Central ANR committee. Discussions centered on (1) planning a joint meeting in Washington set for May 31 – June 2 with national program leaders in ANR. National indicators – nc is pushing on with national indicators and wanted to know what South was doing. Concerns about budget cuts discussed.
- b. COM – Robin Adams and Bob Reynolds: The COMS committee had to cancel the last call and have not rescheduled yet.
- c. CRD – Rachel Welborn – NACDEP conference is coming up the first week of March.
- d. FCS – no representatives on the call
- e. 4-H Youth– Chris Boleman and Dorothy Wilson: 4H is still working on the IRS plans. We continue to meet and work together nationally on this issue. Some states are looking at a partial cost-recovery system. Feb 28-March 3rd is the Program Leaders meeting in Washington, DC.
- f. IT – Jim Segers and Lalit Rainey: The committee is planning to have a conference call with eXtension to gain a better understanding of the reporting system.
- g. MM – Martha Sartor: Middle Managers are gearing up for their annual conference on April 5-8 in Arlington, TX.
- h. PSD –Scott Cummings: PSD had a conference call about 2 weeks ago during which they began preplanning for the August conference. There is now a National Association of Extension Program & Staff Development Professionals, initiated by the Southern region.

#### 5. Other Business

- a. July call date: Please note that the July 21 will be moved to Friday, July 22<sup>nd</sup> at the same time.
- b. PLN 2013 Update – The quotes received from Memphis locations for PLN 2013 were all too high. PLC approved looking in Nashville instead.

**REMINDER – The next conference call will be held Thursday, April 21, 2011 at 9:00 Central. The call-in number will be 605-475-4860. Participant code 235023#.**