

**Southern Region Program Leadership Committee Meeting  
February 16, 2017**

Participants:

ANR: Louie Rivers  
COM: Elizabeth Gregory North and ChaNae Bradley  
CRD: No representatives  
FCS: Laura Stephenson and Jacqueline White  
4-H: Pam Ardern  
IT: No representatives  
MM: Gerald Jones  
PSD: Celeste Allgood

ASRED: Ron Brown, Paul Brown, Ed Jones

AEA: Carolyn Williams

MSU-ES/SRDC liaisons: Rachel Welborn, Vicki Vaughn

Meeting was opened by Elizabeth Gregory North, PLC Chair.

The group reviewed the December minutes. There were no additions or corrections. Carolyn Williams moved for approval. Laura Stephenson second. Approved unanimously.

The agenda was reviewed and no changes made.

**REPORTS:**

**AEA Report** Carolyn Williams shared an update from AEA: AEA had a successful winter meeting in Houston, including a visit to the Prairie View A&M University campus. Dr. Holland and Dr. Lewis, NIFA, gave updates on NIFA plans and transitions. The AEA members discussed their support for the collaborative budget request. The membership is still contemplating having a system wide conference in 2018 – decision will be finalized in the next few months. Next AEA meeting will be in West Virginia in June.

**ASRED Report** Ron Brown reported the following:

Jimmy Henning has left his role at UK. Gary Palmer will serve as Interim Director. Ed Jones will be taking Jimmy Henning's place in the ECOP Executive Committee.

The national one-number budget request as discussed in the last meeting is moving forward to include six top priorities. The funds will be requested as one increase currently set for \$200 million. If received, the funds would be distributed according to the percentage allocation of current lines. The one exception would be for the 1890s, which would receive an extra 2% off the top of the total allocation for Extension and 2% for research to support the addition of the newest 1890 (Central State University in Ohio) given that additional funding was not received at the time Central State received 1890 land grant status.

The final report of the study of capacity funds report has not been released yet, but is anticipated by March.

ASRED and SAAESD joint spring meeting will be in New Orleans in April. A proposal from the Southern Region Water Network is expected.

Civil Discourse – Rachel Welborn is providing excellent leadership for the national effort to examine Extension’s role in civil discourse focused on racism. More than 150 people have been involved in the project. Rachel will report to ECOP in April.

Administrative heads of the Southern Region are considering a mini Land-Grant meeting in 2019 to bring together teaching, Extension, research, and international programs. This was done in the South about 10 years ago; some regions do this every year.

Ed Jones reported that Rick Klemme will serve as Interim Executive Director of ECOP following Jane Schuchardt’s retirement.

There is interest among youth-serving organizations about including funding for youth agricultural leadership in the 2018 Farm Bill. Ed is working with leaders to make sure that this does not conflict with our other requests supporting 4-H within the Farm Bill. He has talked with MANRRS, FFA, etc., who are included in this process.

***SRPLN CONFERENCE PLANNING:***

Theme: Engaging Communities: Worth Doing Together

***Our priorities:***

- Promote multi-state cooperation
- Anticipate emerging issues
- Implement actions to address these issues
- Promoting cross committee work

The draft agenda:

***Opening General Session***

- 8:00 Introductions and Welcome
- 8:15 Charge: Carolyn Williams, related to theme, keynote, and PLN
- 8:30 Keynote Presentation & Interaction: Rich Harwood
- 10:00 Break
- 10:30 Committee Time Begins
- 11:45 Lunch (with 4 Ignite Sessions)

Rich Harwood will be keynote. Paul Brown and Elizabeth will work with him to plan his presentation. Elizabeth will reach out to Iris and Dave to add one more person to this keynote working group and work out the details to talk with Harwood. How do we carry the keynote theme through the rest of conference? Paul and ChaNae suggested talking with Harwood to plan activities/ideas to engage the program committees during the meeting. Also, Pam suggested that there be questions that could be

sent ahead of the meeting to the committees to discuss to prepare for the meeting, or questions provided at the meeting for each committee to discuss at the beginning of each day's work.

**Design/refine Newcomer Orientation** (Iris, ChaNae, Dave, Rich, Elizabeth) – Elizabeth will work with the group to set a date to begin plans.

**Design/refine Program Committee Chair Training** (Laura, Celeste, Elizabeth, Rachel) – After the agenda is set and discussions with Rich Harwood are complete, Elizabeth will set up a date for the committee to meet.

**Ignite Sessions (Rachel, Iris, Celeste, Tom, Rhonda).** The RFP for the Ignite Sessions has been sent out. Rachel stated that we did not include suggested topics in the RFP. She suggested that, once the proposals are received, the group review for topics. Elizabeth suggested that we also considering inviting people to present on specific topics if we feel there is a missing topic that would be vital.

**Pre-Conference Session** – Rachel provided data on the survey. The highest-ranked topics were leadership development in others, marketing and communications, and improving education through technology and innovation. Rachel suggested that we reach out to a group who has conducted an environmental scan on the leadership development topic. Celeste will discuss with the PSD group to get their recollections and input. They make take the lead on planning such a preconference session.

#### **Future Joint Meeting Site Plans – Vicki Vaughn**

- 2017: Fort Worth, Fort Worth Hilton, August 22-26
- 2018: Orlando
- 2019: To be determined (five hotel requests are pending)

#### **Program Committee Reports**

- ANR –Tom Melton and Louie Rivers

Met in February – Shared the results of the survey: 1. The group was not willing to reduce the program committee time. 2. Felt that the advisors needed to be there at the first and last, 3. Felt that the institutions should send enough representatives to attend all committees. They are working on a collaborative meeting with North Central region in DC in June.

- COM – Elizabeth Gregory-North and ChaNae Bradley

Updated the progress on the development of the Communication curriculum – 5 subcommittees focused on five competencies. In the rough draft stage. Hope to complete draft in next two months to plan a training.

- CRD – no representative on the call
- FCS – Laura Stephenson and Jacqueline White

Debbie Murray, GA, is working with the Health specialists in the region as a follow up to the SRPLN meeting. Hopefully this will increase the collaborations within the south and result in more funding and collective impact. This will also support the potential interest and strong proposals for the RWJF funding recently announced.

- 4-H Youth Dev – Wanda Burke and Pam Ardern

Last week of the month will participate in the national program leaders meeting and a sub meeting of Southern Region will be held then

- IT – no representative on the call
- MM – Gerald Jones and Lonnie Johnson

Feb 9 Middle Managers met with 12 representatives from 8 states. Doug Steele, shared with the group: 1. that when Caret meets in March ASRED and AEA will meet with those groups, 2. Health and Wellness and youth component are considerations in farm bill – specifically urban agriculture and relationship to health. 50 participants registered in the upcoming middle managers meeting. The Middle Managers discussed the survey and reported that the entire conference would have to be reformatted to reduce committee time. Some committees are more productive because of their work throughout the year. It is a long week for Extension Directors and potentially time could be reduced with committees.

- PSD –Celeste Allgood

Celeste reported that this is the third year for the virtual summer school that includes webinars and online trainings. The group is reviewing competencies for their area. Additionally they are interested in cataloging the skills and expertise of those in the group to be able to encourage internal collaboration and networking. Tyrone Miller has taken another position and the committee has not identified a PLC representative yet.

***OTHER BUSINESS:***

***Future PLN Agenda Study Group:*** Paul Brown, Ron Brown, L. Washington Lyons, Vonda Richardson, Iris Crosby, Tom Melton, Pam Ardern, Celeste Allgood, Terrence Wolfork, and Laura Stephenson. Charge to this group is to study the PLN suggestions from other meetings and the survey questions from the committees. Look at the overall agenda, framework and structure for maximum effectiveness. Consider the meeting to start at noon on Tuesday and end on noon on Thursday. Send all comments to Paul Brown and Elizabeth North from the committees ASAP so that this committee can begin to meet and make plans.

**REMINDER – The next conference call will be held Thursday, April 20, 2017 at 9:00 Central.**

**Please call 641-715-3276 and enter participant code 1068380#**