



**Southern Region Program Leadership Committee Meeting**  
**July 18, 2019**  
**Minutes**

Participants:

- ANR – No representatives
- COM – ChaNae Bradley and Lisa Stearns
- CRD –Mark Waller
- FCS – Leslie Speller-Henderson
- 4-H Youth Development—Mitzi Downing
- IT – No representatives
- MM –Lonnie Johnson, Jr.
- PSD – Celeste Allgood and Meredith Weinstein

AEA: Carolyn Williams, Vonda Richardson

ASRED: Ron Brown, Robert Burns

SRDC/MSU: Samantha Clardy, Rachel Welborn

1. Mitzi Downing opened the meeting. The agenda was approved as presented and June minutes were approved with corrections to the notes about Southern University welcome.
2. Update from AEA – Vonda Richardson and Carolyn Williams
  - AEA met last June in Orlando at the site of next year’s System Wide Conference scheduled for June 21-25.
  - At this year’s meeting, 4-H specialist and program leaders joined us for a discussion of enhancing relationships with National 4-H and NIFA. Jennifer Sirangelo joined the meeting with her staff. A plan will be revealed at the 2020 meeting to guide 1890 efforts in helping to meet the national goal of adding 10 million more 4-H’ers.
3. Update from ASRED – Ron Brown and Robert Burns

Plans are underway to initiate a search for a new Executive Director for ECOP.

  - ECOP has ended the contract with K-Global. ECOP is exploring next steps. Karla Trautman, South Dakota Extension Director, has been appointed to the Communications and Marketing committee, chaired by Steve Loring, NMSU, overseeing that work. The intent is to consider how we communicate as a system. Doug Steele is very interested in this effort also.
  - Strategic budget realignment work is continuing and will be discussed further next week at the Joint COPS meeting. Currently, plans are to consolidate approximately 50 budget lines into around 12-13. Theoretically, this will make advocacy simpler.
  - The Opioid work group, led by Mark Skidmore, has now become the National Behavioral Health Extension network (NBH-eNet), and will be led by Mark Skidmore and Richard Spoth.



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- Question to ASRED - NIFA Plan of Work system is not ready yet, but initial comments indicated funding would be delayed if reporting wasn't in place. Dr. Brown indicated he had not heard any updates.
4. 2019 PLN Conference – *Unmasking Our Potential: Building Resilient Communities*
- Conference registration & website materials - Registration is open and currently at 220. [http://srpln.msstate.edu/pln/2019\\_srpln\\_conference.html](http://srpln.msstate.edu/pln/2019_srpln_conference.html)
  - Review of assigned tasks for conference
    - Ignite sessions:
      - Terence, Emily –Emily emailed yesterday stating their committee was working on an option.
      - Meredith, Celeste, Randy, Rachel/Russ –Presenters have been selected and notified.
    - Ron Brown, Albert Essel, Vonda Richardson –Discussion Panel – all presenters are ready.
    - Mitzi, Leslie, Manola, Laura, Russ/Rachel –Newcomer Orientation – Presenters are ready.
    - Terrence, Gerald, ChaNae, Emily, Russ/Rachel –Committee Chair Training (Zoom session) was held on June 4<sup>th</sup> with 12 attendees.
    - ChaNae, Lisa, Celeste –Pre Conference – Only 38 are registered. PLC members are encouraged to help spread the word about registering.
    - Mark, Meredith (work with Scott Cummings) –Evaluation questions have been revised and Mark is looking through the final edits.
    - Vicki, Rachel, Russ –PLN Participation Matrix - complete
5. Program Committee Reports
- ANR – No participants
  - COM – ChaNae Bradley and Lisa Stearns – Committee meets today. Plan of Work includes identifying best practices for communicating relevance for use by agents and specialists, complying with section 508 on accessibility, and developing a response template for crisis communication. The marketing communication curriculum, a joint effort with PSD, will be finalized at PLN.
  - CRD –Mark Waller – CRD met yesterday. Brent Elrod (NIFA) is planning to make the move to Kansas City. NACDEP is working to solicit a western location for its 2021 conference. The call focused on progress on the Plan of Work including CRD indicators, joint work with FCS, and potential CRD training.
  - FCS – Leslie Speller-Henderson– FCS is working on strengthen multi-state collaboration such as through a NIFA grant on diabetes prevention.
  - 4-H Youth Development—Mitzi Downing – Doug Swanson is the interim program leader for 4-H at NIFA. Defining and refining reporting efforts was a significant part of the conversation.
  - IT – No representatives
  - MM –Lonnie Johnson, Jr. – MM met last week, continuing to work on PLN Plan of Work and agenda. Examples include exploring best practices for middle managers and discussions on support for urban extension.
  - PSD – Celeste Allgood and Meredith Weinstein – The committee met yesterday. Efforts included succession planning, a survey, and virtual summer school which is going on this week. The committee also discussed usage of eXtension, the NERAOC meeting, and plans for the PLN meeting.