

Minutes  
ASABE EOPD 210, NCAC16, and SAC5 Meeting

**Meeting was held on February 10, 2020 in Phoenix, AZ.**

**Attendees:**

1. Peter Livingston
2. John March
3. Juming Tang
4. Scott Shearer
5. Nate Moser
6. Paul Heinneman
7. Oladiran Fasina
8. Steve Mickelson
9. Steve Searcy
10. David Jones
11. Dwayne Edwards
12. Joe Harner
13. Kitt Farrell-Poe
14. Bruce Miller
15. John Veenstra
16. Gary Sands
17. Slava Adamchuk
18. Mike Montross
19. Kati Migliaccio
20. Julie Carrier
21. Garey Fox

**Minutes of the 2019 meeting were approved.**

**University/Department Updates**

Cal Poly

Peter Livingston  
AgE, (35) Ag systems management (35)  
Considering a name change of ASM  
Pursuing ABET accreditation for ASM  
Considering Ecological Engineering  
Strong job.  
Some down trend in applications

Cornell

John March  
2 open positions  
Smart Ag  
FEWS interface  
Student interest in Ag/Food is increasing  
Students from Ag and Engineering.  
13 faculty (would like to be to 20).

#### Washington State

Yuming Tang  
19 graduate students  
Faculty are winning grants from NSF and DOE  
Focusing on agri technology

#### Ohio State

Scott Shearer  
22 TT Faculty  
22 non-TT  
Moved to common first year engineering experience  
CSM  
    Good job prospects  
ASM  
    100 students  
    Digital ag  
5 new faculty this year  
2/3 of teaching load delivered by non-TT.  
½ engineering students are biological engineering

#### Arizona

Kitt Farrell-Poe  
New program 'Biosystems Analytics & Technology'  
Career track for PoP

#### Utah State

Bruce Miller  
Technology programs only  
Enrollment is up  
Full UAS minor  
AST – 5 faculty  
Tech Systems – 8 faculty

#### Oklahoma State

John Veenstra  
Ag Systems Management program to start in Fall 2020  
    Focus on precision ag  
    Working with plant and soil science  
Students are being routing through common 1<sup>st</sup> year.  
16 faculty  
115 UG, 40 grads

#### U of Kentucky

Mike Montross  
17 faculty  
3 open positions  
Slightly down in student numbers  
COE is pushing for an engineering technology program  
    ABET accredited

#### McGill

Slava Adamchuk  
12 faculty + 2 lecturers  
Record number of grad students  
    Non-research masters  
Enrollment is up  
2 new positions are open

#### Minnesota

Gary Sands  
Bioproducts and bio-engineering (engineering) 200 students  
Sustainable systems management (ag college) 100 students  
Enrollment is flat but will rise in SSM.

#### Penn State

Paul Heineman  
Department Head search  
22 TT faculty + 7 nonTT  
60 senior undergraduates  
48 junior undergraduates  
Biorenewable Systems BS  
    Business and science  
2 years in new building

#### Purdue

Nate Moser  
38 faculty  
Data science space is growing  
    120 ASM  
Engineering degrees  
    AgEng 120 students  
    Bioengineering 165  
    Accredited separately  
Professional masters program partnering with pharm manufacturing  
    185 students  
    Merck  
    Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation  
New building starting Jan 1 2021  
Digital ag certificate program will be delivered through Purdue Global

#### Auburn

12 TT Faculty  
Staff positions are growing  
Technology program started in fall 2019  
    Biological and Agricultural Technology Management (BATMan)  
Attempting to fill new positions  
30-35 grad students

#### Iowa State

Steve Mickelson  
Admin staff support moved to upper administration  
Addressing diversity and inclusion  
    Survey of students  
    2 faculty retreats each year

Agenda item for external advisory committee

750 UG

300 engineers

450 management

300 Industrial Technology

250 AST

85 grad students (50-50 MS-PhD)

42 faculty (34 TT + 8 non-TT)

3 open positions

Precision ag

Animal precision ag

Manufacturing

TAMU

Steve Searcy

150-160 (Soph-Senior) Engineers

COE has started an Environmental Engineering degree

ASM – 140 students

21 TT with TAMU

11 TT with Extension

Beginning to offer non-thesis MS in engineering

Career connection event.

Promoted by external advisory council

Friday before football game

Distance delivered MS in Food Engineering (and Food Technology)

Numbers are low

Students pay full freight

Targeted for working professionals

U of Florida

Kati Migliaccio

5 new faculty

40 TT faculty

3 non-TT

Certificate programs

Smart ag

Packaging

Modeling

All will go online

Mix of UG and Grad courses

In- lieu of minors

Recruiting

Heavy communication with accepted students

Facebook live

Including job/career prospects

High Schooler visits to department (Cohorts)

Engineering REU

First- and second-year programs routing through engineering education department

Push for diversity

New diversity officer

Departmental diversity committee

New hire advocate

U of Tennessee

Julie Carrier  
27 faculty  
Xx engineering  
Yy in msym  
Zz in construction  
38 grad students  
4 faculty retirements  
Institute is starting Post-Tenure Review  
RCM

NCSU

Garey Foxx  
10 faculty in the previous 3 years  
29 faculty (26 TT faculty)  
New chaired position in digital ag (proposed)  
200 UG engineers  
45-50 seniors  
Biological and Agricultural Engineering Technology program is growing.  
36 freshmen  
Name change  
Successful with communication person

KSU

Joe Harner  
State legislature dictates that there will be no carry-over.  
Environmental Engineering program will start in Fall 2020  
Housed in BSE  
Be wise about common name for technology program name.  
12 faculty  
120 engineering students  
Becoming named department  
No cash, but land gift  
\$50-75K per year  
30 Grad students

Virginia Tech

Dwayne Edwards  
2 open faculty positions  
21 faculty  
1 nonTT  
Performance based budgeting  
200 UG students (Soph-Senior)  
Expected to increase (270 or so)  
40 grads (50/50 ms/phd)  
Smart Farm Innovation initiative  
Centennial Celebration upcoming

UNL

David Jones  
36 TT  
6 Affiliated  
6 admin types

6 non-TT  
70 AGEN (17)  
200 BSEN (49)  
85 MSYM  
75 Grads  
RCM

### **ABET Discussion**

Purdue and Minnesota went through a visit.

### **Ecological Engineering**

Share documents related to ecological engineering via EOPD-210 forums

Course syllabi

Curricula

NRES-28 Ecological Engineering (ASABE Committee)

### **NCAC16 2020 project reviews**

#### **Review Assignments - New/Renewal Proposals:**

John March, Mike Montross

NC1023 (NC\_temp1023), Engineering for food safety and quality,

<https://www.nimss.org/projects/18685>

#### **Comments**

The project renews an existing project that has been a highly successful multistate effort. The project is likely to continue to have success. The objectives of the project are appropriate and are: 1. Characterize physical, chemical, and biological properties of raw and processed foods, by-products, and packaging materials. 2. Develop advanced and sustainable processing and packaging technologies to transform raw materials into safe, high quality, health-promoting, and value-added foods. 3. Develop mechanistic and data-driven mathematical models to enhance understanding and optimization of processes and products that will ensure sustainable and agile food manufacturing for safe, high quality, and health-promoting foods. 4. Adapt pedagogical strategies involving novel educational approaches to enhance and assess student learning of food engineering. The project participants are involved in a meaningful way in the objectives. The project is both multistate and multidisciplinary but given nature of the project is dominated by various engineering disciplines and food scientists. Participants throughout the country are involved in the project. The project has been reviewed. The project has specific outcomes and impacts that it plans to attain with specific outcomes for various years identified in the proposal. The identification of the outcomes were identified from a range of inputs. The project that precedes this one was successful in leveraging resources from a range of sources to accomplish the objectives. The project is well aligned with NIFA goals.

***The committee approved the recommendation.***

Scott Shearer

NC\_temp1210, Frontiers in On-Farm Experimentation, <https://www.nimss.org/projects/18712>

(New project for NC)

### General Comments

- Agronomic researchers recognize value and capabilities of on-farm investigations using GNSS-controlled field machinery to implement more complex investigations (25 years after the introduction of this equipment).
- Authors recognize value in extending structured N field investigations to multiple geographic regions and crops.
- Recognize need to collect data to describe  $y=f(x, c, z)$  where  $x$  is a vectors containing “managed input variables,”  $c$  is a vector containing “unmanaged field characteristics,” and  $z$  is a vector of “unmanaged and temporally stochastic variables – primarily weather.”
- Follows from an existing NIFA funded project led by David Bullock – Data-Intensive Farm Management (DIFM).
- Coined new term - On-Farm Precision Experimentation (OFPE).
- Some overlap with NCERA 180, SERA 17, SERA 46, NC 1195, S 1069 and W 3009; although more focused on the methodology for conducting on-farm research and analyzing data. I do not see a conflict.
- Proposal strong on developing process. Many elements are long-term. However, authors do define success at the conclusion of the 5-year proposal period.

### Concerns/Suggestions

- Proposal is strong on use of web-based technologies and data analytics for designing, collecting, cleaning, and analyzing data. Partnership with private sector is referenced – laudable. How will project engage computer science expertise?
- Proposal implies data quality/integrity but focuses more on cleaning/pre-processing than solving problems up front via calibration.
- Proposal does not address limitations of equipment used to conduct field investigations.
- Project would benefit from integrations of more computer science and engineering participants.
- Long-term potential is significant given opportunities for industry engagement and re-envisioning of the role of Cooperative Extension.
- Recommend approval with minor modifications.
- Research Data Alliance – international
- Interest Group on Agricultural Data (FAO)

***The committee approved the recommendation.***

Paul Heinemann

NCERA197 (NCERA\_temp197), Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension,  
<https://www.nimss.org/projects/18703>

### Comments

This is a small but very important community. Considering that safety and health in agricultural production and other related industries continues to be hazardous, and the fact that there are so few organizations and individuals addressing this, this project will continue to be a key in helping to coordinate activities between institutions. The proposal captures the essence of the group's intentions for the next five years. Right now, it seems that there should be more people involved; The project it is replacing has 25 individuals listed, so I assume that more participants will be added as the project gets confirmed. The narrative states that 1862, 1890, and 1994 land grant institutions will be

encouraged to participate, so the key people in the committee should reach out to ensure that all of these are represented, if possible.

***The committee approved the recommendation.***

Review Assignments - Midterm Reviews:

Steve Mickelson

NC170, Personal Protective Technologies for Current and Emerging Occupational and Environmental Hazards, <https://www.nimss.org/projects/18359>

The committee has been successful in holding annual meetings, either face-to-face or through teleconferencing. Participation in the annual meetings was strong. They are actively pursuing projects at each university to address the project objectives and have been successful in creating strong collaborations with industry and other organizations. They are in the early stages of their research and product development related to PPE. Overall, progress has been made in each objective area.

The committee member has each made progress in their own areas of study. Collaboration with firefighter agencies and technology industries was reported. Although the technical committee is sharing their individual study findings, there is little evidence of collaborative research and working together on projects. Nine member universities developed and piloted methods for a national 3D anthropometric survey of firefighters. There is also no evidence of working with other multistate programs. Efforts should be made to begin delivering accomplishments to peer groups and stakeholders moving forward.

There is little to no evidence of external funding from federal or state agencies. Most of the support is coming from local agencies. There seems to be interest by the technical members in using early data to pursue national research funding, but no documentation was provided. It appears that from the current impacts that the members are positioned to obtain external funding moving forward.

The committee has been very successful in publishing peer-reviewed journal papers and scientific/outreach presentations. More efforts should be placed on delivering results of their research to industry, organization, and other stakeholders. More collaboration between institutions would strengthen the plans and accomplishments.

***The committee approved the recommendation.***