**Southern Region Ag Econ Department Heads**

Hyatt Regency Riverfront Jacksonville

3rd Boardroom 1

February 4, 2018

2:00 – 4:00 p.m.

The SAC-7, Southern Region Agricultural Economics Department Heads met Sunday, February 4, 2018, 2:00 p.m. in the 3rd Floor Boardroom 1 of the Hyatt Regency Riverfront Jacksonville, Florida. Representatives from the following Institutions were in attendance.

Dr. Barry Barnett representing University of Kentucky

Dr. Michael Salassi representing Louisiana State

Dr. Michael Woods representing Oklahoma State

Dr. Keith Coble representing Mississippi State University

Dr. Parr Rosson representing Texas A&M

Dr. Octavio Ramirez representing University of Georgia

Dr. Spiro Stefanou representing University of Florida

Dr. Reuben Moore was also in attendance representing the Southern Directors.

Dr. Moore reflected on multistate projects in the Southern Region, highlighting SCC 76 and SCC 35 as exemplars. The discussion turned to potential need for a multistate projects. The discussion coalesced around the value of the multistate project framework to address the Economic Damage Assessment and Impact of Extreme Weather Events to Agriculture. Drs. Moore and Stefanou will explore the prospect of starting such a project proposal in the coming year. Dr. Moore also requested participants to check the NIMSS database and to request our respective staff to update the information on their institution’s representative to this regional committee.

The C-FARE update was presented by Dr. Rosson. He provided an update on the priority setting and strategic planning that was completed last year and how the new organizational structure intends to improve C-FARE’s performance. It was noted that three members of the SAC-7 are members of the new C-FARE Board (Drs. Rosson, Fields and Stefanou).

Dr. Barnett has volunteered to coordinate the southern regional reunion at the AAEA.

Administrative reports from the seven Department represented were reported orally. The written reports from Louisiana State University, Mississippi State University, Oklahoma State, Texas A&M University, and the University of Florida are attached.

The meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm.