WERA-1013: Intermountain Regional Evaluation and Introduction of Native Plants

2023 Annual Meeting

Zoom link:

[Meeting Link HERE](https://www.google.com/url?q=https://umn.zoom.us/j/99845295093?pwd%3DOCtIeFJJc3FkMkkzbTNIaDQrMWxSQT09&sa=D&source=calendar&ust=1701549357183830&usg=AOvVaw2PIWoJFPt715iWYKSW9RF_)

December 8, 2023

12PM to 3PM Central Time (8AM-11AM Hawaii Time)

**Business Meeting**

12PM Central Time

* Welcome and brief introductions from members and new members
* Revision and approval of minutes from 2022
  + Dr. Klett moves to approve
  + Dr. Sun second the motion
* NIFA update (Vance Owens)
* Review of renewal of WERA1013 (Orville Baldos)
  + **Western Region Evaluation and Introduction of Native Plants**
* Updates on collaborative research, education, and grant activities
  + Updates on USDA SCRI planning grant ‘Growing a U.S. Native Plant Nursery Network to Sustainably Meet the Demand for Native Plants in Ornamental Landscapes’ (Gail Langellotto or Orville Baldos)
  + Esther will coordinate communications for other opportunities
  + Don M. suggested a multi state effort that envelops Native American cultural aspects with native plants
  + Education: Orville suggested webinar programming from this group. Are there grants that could fund this opportunity to support native plant education.
* Planning for a Hawaii meeting on Sept 2024 - latter part of fiscal 2023-2024, in line with ASHS Meeting in Honolulu (Esther McGinnis)
  + [ASHS](https://ashs.org/page/ASHSAnnualConference) Sept. 23-27, 2024 in Hawaii
  + Should we plan separate tours that differentiate from the ASHS schedule?
  + The ASHS meeting will be located close to Orville’s station.
  + M-F Arboretum availability
  + If the last day is a half day schedule, we could meet the latter half of that day
* Nomination and election of incoming Chair-elect and Secretary
* Incoming Chair is Esther McGinnis from North Dakota State University
  + We need Jennifer to add Esther as an editor to the NIMSS webpage.
  + Election of Chair-elect: Don Merhaut (to be chair in 2025, tentatively October in Southern California)
    - Dr. Klett moves to elect Don Merhaout as chair elect
    - Dr. McGinnis seconds the motion
  + Election of Secretary: tabling discussion
* Administrative Advisor discussion (previously Tracy Dougher) – Next steps?
  + Jennifer Horton ([jennifer.tippetts@waaesd.org](mailto:jennifer.tippetts@waaesd.org)) is our administrative manager.
  + Dr. Klett recalls previously the experiment station would nominate an administrative manager. Perhaps this is still the case?
  + Do any states have an experiment station director with a connection to ornamental plants? We should suggest that focus.
* Host for the mailing list
  + Utah State hosts the list
  + Youping will determine why there were bounceback issues with their IT
  + [NIMSS](https://www.nimss.org/projects/view/mrp/outline/19023)
  + We need clarification on the communication process
* Recruitment efforts:
  + Industry
  + National Seed Strategy
    - Nevada offers an online strategy
    - Wyoming and Northern Great Plains under development
* *Please send Brandon Miller (bmmiller@umn.edu) your station report as soon as possible (within 60 days).*

**Break 1PM-1:15PM**

**Station Reports** (\*Graduate student)

1:15PM Central Time

*Each station will have a total of 15 minutes for the presentation (12 minutes for talk and 3 minutes for Q&A)*

1:15 Asmita Paudel Utah State University

1:30 Orville Baldos University of Hawaii at Manoa

1:45 Brandon Miller University of Minnesota

2:00 Esther McGinnis North Dakota State University

2:15 Donald Merhaut University of California Riverside

Motions to adjourn the meeting:

James Klett

Don M.