

W2002 Multistate Research Meeting

**Oklahoma State University
Stillwater, Oklahoma**

March 4-5, 2010

Present: Hosts – Edralin Lucas and Barbara Stoecker (Oklahoma State), Administrative Advisor -Tammy Bray (Oregon State), Richard Bruno (U Connecticut-Storrs), Karen Chapman-Novakofski (U Illinois), Andy Clifford (U California-Davis), Emily Ho (Oregon State), Norman Hord (Michigan State), Barry Shane (U California-Berkeley), Cynthia Thomson (U Arizona), Jairam Vanamala (Colorado State), Janos Zemleni (U Nebraska-Lincoln)

Absent: Eric Decker (U Massachusetts), Mark Failla (Ohio State), Elvira Gonzalez de Mejia (U Illinois), Sung Koo (U Connecticut-Storrs), Dennis Medeiros (Kansas State), Etta Saltos (AFRI), Connie Weaver (Purdue), Joy Winzerling (U Arizona)

The meeting was called to order at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions:

Participants were welcomed by Oklahoma State University Administrators: Nancy Betts, Head, Department of Nutritional Sciences; Clarence Watson, Associate Director, Division of Agricultural Sciences & Natural Resources; Stephan Wilson, Dean, College of Human Environmental Sciences; and Christine Johnson, Associate Dean for Research and Graduate Studies, College of Human Environmental Sciences .

Dr. Watson shared insights from a meeting the prior week in Washington D.C. on priorities and budget issues affecting research and extension programs for the upcoming fiscal year.

Investigators introduced themselves and their programs prior to start of the AFRI Webinar which had been arranged by Dr. Etta Saltos, National Program Leader, Human Nutrition at 2:00 p.m.

Report on Webinar:

The Webinar outlined the creation of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA), which replaced the former CSREES, effective October 1, 2009. Under NIFA is the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) which supersedes the National Research Initiative (NRI) and the Initiative for Future Agriculture and Food Systems (IFAFS). Dr. Roger Beachy is the current director of NIFA.

Current focus for AFRI is the following five societal challenge areas:

- Keep American agriculture competitive while ending world hunger
- Improve nutrition and end child obesity
- Improve food safety for all Americans
- Secure America's energy future through renewable biofuels
- Mitigate and adapt agriculture to variations in climate

In the reorganization of CSREES to address these societal challenges, several institutes have been organized. The institute closest to the W2002 project seems to be the Institute of Food Safety and Nutrition. Goals are:

- Ensuring a safe food supply
- Improving citizen's health through nutrition
- Reducing childhood obesity
- Improving food quality

Of importance to scientists submitting grants are stipulations in the AFRI budget authorization:

- No less than 30% of the budget will be made available for integrated programs
- Of funds allocated for research, 40% for applied and 60% for fundamental research
- Indirect costs are capped at 22%

Definitions of types of AFRI Projects were provided:

- ❖ Fundamental research
 - Increases understanding of fundamental aspects of phenomena and has the potential for broad application
 - Has an effect on agriculture, food, nutrition, or the environment
- ❖ Applied Research
 - Expansion of findings of fundamental research to find ways to benefit individuals & society
- ❖ Education
 - Formal classroom or laboratory instruction or practicums in food & agricultural sciences
 - Related activities, e.g., faculty development, student recruitment/services, curriculum development, instructional materials & equipment, innovative teaching methodologies
- ❖ Extension
 - Informal education program conducted in the States
 - Delivery of science-based programs to allow people to make decisions
- ❖ Integrated Projects
 - Bringing together the three components----research, education, extension----around a problem or activity
- ❖ Coordinated Agricultural Projects (CAP)
 - Large-scale projects to promote collaboration and reduce duplication of effort
 - May be research CAP or integrated CAP

Scientists should expect seven separate RFAs from AFRI: One for each societal challenge area, one for foundational research programs and one for NIFA Fellows.

Following the webinar, W2002 participants discussed the change in emphasis at NIFA and the reduced emphasis for funding on bioactive food components.

Presentation of station reports began following a break and continued on Friday:

Dr. Janos Zempleni – University of Nebraska – JZEMPLENI2@unl.edu

Roles of Holocarboxylase Synthetase in Histone Biotinylation

Dr. Karen Chapman-Novakofski – University of Illinois – KMC@illinois.edu

Effective Interventions Targeting Diet and Lifestlyle Change May Include Online Interactive Education

Dr. Cindy Thomson – University of Arizona – cthomson@email.arizona.edu

Evaluation of Vegetable Dose in Reducing Oxidative Stress and Inflammation among Overweight Women

Dr. Richard Bruno – University of Connecticut – Richard.bruno@uconn.edu

Green tea Decreases Hepatic Inflammation By Inhibiting NFkB Activation In A Dietary-Induced Obese Model of NASH

Dr. Barry Shane – University of California – Berkeley – bandie@berkeley.edu

Metabolic - genetic control of folate and vitamin B12 metabolism: deficiency symptoms and excess?

Dr. Emily Ho – Oregon State University – Emily.ho@oregonstate.edu

Influence of zinc on oxidative stress, DNA integrity and cancer risk

Dr. Norman Hord – Michigan State University – hord@msu.edu

Dietary Nitrate and Nitrite: Physiological Determinants of Health Implications

Dr. Jairam Vanamala – Colorado State University – vanamala@cahs.colostate.edu

Health Promotion: Functional Foods, Bioactives, Processing Trilemma

Dr. Andy Clifford – University of California – Davis – ajclifford@davis.edu

Quantifying bioavailability of β -carotene and its metabolites in humans using ^{14}C -accelerator mass spectrometry, genotyping and modeling.

Dr. Edralin Lucas – Oklahoma State University - Edralin.a.lucas@okstate.edu

Effects of Mango on Glucose and Lipid in Mice Fed High Fat Diet

Dr. Barbara Stoecker – Oklahoma State University – Barbara.Stoecker@okstate.edu

Evaluation of Effects of Dietary Components on Bone Quality

Discussion on building collaborations continued after the station reports with particular emphasis on ways that our research focus on bioactive food components might be adjusted to accommodate the new NIFA focus areas without losing our competitive scientific advantage.

Plans for 2011 were made to meet before the Experimental Biology Meeting (April 4-8, 2011) in Washington, D.C. Etta Saltos has reserved a room at NIFA. Richard Bruno will co-ordinate the meeting.

Tammy Bray made final comments on ways that multi-state research collaborations may enhance our competitiveness for AFRI funding.

Meeting was adjourned.