

Minutes of the NC-1003 Business Meeting

Number and Title of Regional Project

NC-1003, Impact Analysis and Decision Strategies for Agricultural Research

Location and Date of the Meeting

Residence Inn, Thomas Circle, Washington, DC, Saturday, March 16, 2002

Participants and Meeting Information

The 2002 meeting featured a workshop titled *Future Public Research Opportunities and Directions*, held from March 14-16. Please see attached program and list of participants. The workshop, held in conjunction with the annual business meeting, featured several invited speakers. These included:

- Dr. Rodney Brown, Deputy Under Secretary, Office of the Under Secretary for REE, USDA
- Dr. Thomas Fretz, Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland, College Park, MD
- Dr. Duane Acker, Former Dean of Agriculture, Former President of Kansas State University, Former Assistant Secretary for REE, Iowa Farmer and Start-up AgBusiness Entrepreneur, Atlantic, IA, and
- Dr. Manuel Lantin, Science Advisor, CGIAR Secretariat, World Bank, Washington, DC who discussed future opportunities and directions in agricultural research.

REE Administrators Susan Offutt (ERS), Ed Knipling (ARS, acting), Colien Hefferan (CSREES), and Ron Bosecker (NASS) participated in a panel discussion on opportunities for agricultural research.

NC-1003 members Wallace Huffman, John Miranowski, David Zilberman and Fred Buttel (moderator) also participated in a panel discussion on the role of social scientists on NAS-NRC. The moderator and panelists all recently served on NAS-NRC committees.

There were also 11 research paper presentations on topics including (a) valuing public goods (and bads) in productivity and economic growth, (b) efficient allocation of research resources, (c) intellectual property and information and (d) impacts of agricultural research on technology adopters and other stakeholders. Over 40 participants attended from 15 universities, USDA agencies, and other research organizations.

Business Meeting

The business meeting was held from 9:30 - 12:00 p.m. on March 16. Wallace Huffman, Chair of NC-1003 called the meeting to order.

Adopted Agenda

- Report by Wallace Huffman, Chair, NC-1003
- Administrative Advisor Report – Dr. Jim Venette – North Dakota State University
- Plans for 2003 meeting
 - Program
 - Location
 - Planning committee
- State Reports
- Nominations / elections of officers

Report by NC-1003 Chair

Wallace Huffman (Iowa State) introduced Loren Tauer (Cornell) as a new official member of NC-1003 and Jeremy Foltz (Connecticut) who is considering joining NC-1003. Wally noted that the NC-1003 project (formerly NC-208) was renewed following last year's review.

He then raised the issue of whether papers from this year's workshop could be published in some outlet such as a proceeding. This was followed by a general discussion of ways to post materials on the NC-1003 website and ways to create links between the NC-1003 and other websites. Some asked how easy it was to find the NC-1003 website (maintained at the U. of Arizona). George Frisvold noted that if you query "NC-1003" using the Google search engine, the NC-1003 site is the first site to come up. David Zilberman suggested that paper presenters have their Microsoft Powerpoint presentations posted on the website. Frisvold noted that staff would be available to update the website this summer. Frisvold also noted that quite a number of NC-1003 members had books on agricultural research either just coming out or forthcoming in the near future. He volunteered to create a "books link" section to the website to help advertise these publications.

Wally then introduced Dr. Jim Venette (North Dakota State) as the interim Administrative Advisor for NC-1003.

Report of Administrative Advisor

- Dr. Venette complemented the group on the workshop, noting that there was plenty of room for active discussion between participants.
- The NIMS system (National Information Management and Support System) has been activated. The NIMS system is a web-based application that will allow participants of Multi-state Research Projects and Activities to submit proposals and reports online. Interested parties, stakeholders and cooperators can also query the System for relevant and timely information. Future meeting authorization announcements will be made via this system.

- Annual reports are due with 60 days of annual meetings. In reports, Directors are looking for the integration of research and extension, multi-agency activity, and impacts for the public.
- Three NC projects did not get renewed this year. Problems identified were lack of regular committee meetings, poor attendance, and groups that were more an aggregate of individuals, lacking coherence. Dr. Venette stressed the importance of encouraging members to stay through the full meeting, including the annual business meeting.
- Dr. Venette also noted that, while NC directors would like to see multiple people from an institution participating in individual committee meetings, experiment station directors will usually fund one participant per committee.
- The ESCOP (Experiment Station Committee on Organization and Policy) publication *A Science Roadmap for Agriculture* may now be accessed from ESCOP's home page <http://www.escop.msstate.edu/draftdoc.htm>. The document identifies a set of agricultural research challenges and estimates future funding needs to address these challenges. Dr. Venette that agricultural research budget discussions for 2004 are already beginning.

Next Meeting Information

Location and Date

The 2003 meeting will be held in or around Rutgers University (New Brunswick, NJ) in late February (or possibly early March) with the timing to avoid conflicts with other regional research meetings such as SERA-IEG-31 "Economics and Management of Risk in Agriculture and Natural Resources."

Meeting Program

It was noted that ERS economists had suggested organizing the 2003 workshop around the theme of patents, including patenting by the private sector, universities and ARS. Several people noted that workshops worked better if they combined a theme topic with other work of NC-1003 members, not necessarily related narrowly to a single subject. Further discussion followed about expanding the theme of patents to include

- patents and public-private collaborative relationships
- privatization of public research
- implications of patenting and intellectual property rights for developing countries
- implications of patenting and intellectual property rights for the CGIAR system

There was also general discussion of inviting speakers from outside NC-1003. Possibilities included:

- Peter Day, Rutgers University
- staff from the Rockefeller Foundation
- IPR lawyers
- staff of university intellectual property offices
- staff of the ISAAA
- Richard Nelson, Columbia University

There was also discussion of combining the workshop with a tour of biotechnology labs or institutions near Rutgers.

Responsible Individual(s)

Carl Pray (Rutgers) offered to serve as program planning committee chair and Brian Wright (UC-Berkeley) offered to serve on the planning committee. Given ERS's stated interest in organizing some presentations around issues of patenting, it was suggested that Paul Heisey (ERS) also be asked to serve on the planning committee. It was also suggested that Phil Pardey (Minnesota / IFPRI) serve. Heisey and Pardey were not present at the 2002 business meeting and will need to be contacted.

State Reports

Arizona, California (Berkeley) Idaho, Iowa State, Michigan State, Montana State, New Jersey (Rutgers), Cornell (New York), Virginia Tech, and Wisconsin made reports. Activities discussed in State Reports are summarized in detail in the 2000 Annual Report.

Meeting / Workshop Participants

<i>Project Participants:</i>	<i>Representing:</i>
James Araji	University of Idaho
Eldon Ball	USDA, Economic Research Service
Fred Buttel	University of Wisconsin
Wojciech Florkowski	University of Georgia
George Frisvold	University of Arizona
Wallace Huffman	Iowa State University
Richard Just	University of Maryland
John Miranowski	Iowa State University
David Lambert	North Dakota State University
William Masters	Purdue University
George Norton	Virginia Tech
James Oehmke	Michigan State University
Carl Pray	Rutgers University
David Schimmelpfennig	USDA, Economic Research Service
Vincent Smith	Montana State University
Loren Tauer	Cornell University
Jim Venette	North Dakota State University
Brian Wright	University of California, Berkeley
David Zilberman	University of California, Berkeley
<i>Other Participants:</i>	<i>Representing:</i>
Kelly Day Rubenstein	USDA, Economic Research Service
Cassandra Klotz-Ingram	USDA, Economic Research Service
Robbin Shoemaker	USDA, Economic Research Service
Margriet Caswell	USDA, Economic Research Service
Jeremy Foltz	University of Connecticut
Paul Heisey	USDA, Economic Research Service
John King	USDA, Economic Research Service
Richard Nehring	USDA, Economic Research Service
Bonwoo Koo	International Food Policy Research Institute
Invited speakers / panelists listed in workshop program	

FUTURE PUBLIC RESEARCH OPPORTUNITIES AND DIRECTIONS

**NC-1003 Workshop, March 14-16, 2002
ERS Waugh Auditorium¹
Washington, DC**

Thursday, March 14, 2002

(1:00-3:30pm)

Perspectives on Future Opportunities and Directions in Agriculture Research

Invited Speakers

Dr. Thomas Fretz, Dean, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of Maryland, College Park, MD

Dr. Duane Acker, Former Dean of Agriculture, Former President of Kansas State University, Former Assistant Secretary for REE, Iowa Farmer and Start-up AgBusiness Entrepreneur, Atlantic, IA

Dr. Manuel Lantin, Science Advisor, CGIAR Secretariat, World Bank, Washington, DC

(3:30–3:45pm) Break

**(3:45–5:15pm) Valuing Public Goods (and Bads) in Productivity
and Economic Growth**

Moderator – **Robbin Shoemaker**

Eldon Ball, Rolf Fare, Shawna Grosskopf, and O. Zaim, “Accounting for Bads in the Measurement of Productivity Growth: Malmquist Cost Productivity Measure and Its Application to U.S. Agriculture.”

Margaret McMillan and William Masters, “Agricultural R&D and Economic Growth in Africa.”

David Schimmelpfennig and George W. Norton, “Valuing Agricultural Social Science Research in the Presence of Strategic Behavior and Lobbying.”

Friday, March 15, 2002

(8:15 -9:45am)

Efficient Allocation of Research Resources: Research Process Organization and Structure

Moderator – **Robbin Shoemaker**

Kelly Day Rubinstein, Paul W. Heisey, Cassandra Klotz Ingram, and George B. Frisvold, “Competitive Grants and Funding of Agricultural Research in the U.S.”

George B. Frisvold and Yu Kudo, “Have Changes in USDA Funding Methods Reallocated Funding Across Experiment Stations and Research Areas?”

Vince Smith and Phil Pardey, “Historical Evolution and Current Structure of the Economics and Agricultural Economics Research Industries.”

(9:45-10:00am) Break

(10:00-10:30pm) USDA Perspective on Future Opportunities and Directions in Agricultural Research

Invited Speaker

Dr. Rodney Brown, Deputy Under Secretary, Office of the Under Secretary for REE, USDA

John Miranowski – Introduction

(10:30-12:00pm) Social Scientists’ Role on NAS-NRC Committees: Blending Theory, Evidence, Disciplines, and Stakeholder Opinions

Panel Discussion: **Fred Buttel** - Moderator
Wallace Huffman
John Miranowski
David Zilberman

(12:00–1:00pm) Lunch

**(1:00-3:00pm) Opportunities in Agricultural Research:
Perspectives of REE Administrators**

Panel Discussion: **Susan Offutt**, Administrator, ERS, USDA
Ed Knipling, Acting Administrator, ARS, USDA
Colien Hefferan, Administrator, CSREES, USDA
Ron Bosecker, Administrator, NASS, USDA

John Miranowski - Moderator

This Panel will address a number of issues related to their respective agency's mission, focus, stakeholders, constraints, research programs, collaboration with universities and the private sector, and potential socioeconomic research opportunities. Panel members may address some of the following questions: How should we fund agricultural research? What is an appropriate balance between formula funds and competitive research grants? What reallocations are needed within the public agricultural research portfolio to better respond to existing and future needs? What should be the future roles of private and public collaboration in agricultural research in the government (e.g., CRADA's) and in the university?

(3:00-3:15pm) Break

**(3:15-5:15pm) Intellectual Property and Information: Research System, Market
Structure, and Organization**

Moderator – **Richard Just**

John King and Paul Heisey, “A Survey of Agricultural Biotechnology Patent Disclosures.”

Bonwoo Koo and Brian Wright, “Economics of Patenting a Research Tool.”

David Zilberman and Greg Graff, “Economic Impacts of Clearinghouses for Intellectual Property Rights: Agricultural Biotechnology and Medicine.”

Saturday, March 16, 2002

Residence Inn, Thomas Circle, Washington, DC

(8:30-9:30am)

Differential Impacts of Agricultural Research on Adapters and Stakeholders

Moderator – **Fred Buttel**

John Miranowski and Daniel Monchuk, “Benefits and Costs of Alternative Funding Mechanisms: Another Perspective.”

Jim Oehmke and Christopher Wolf, “The Evolution of Technology Valuation Distribution with Heterogeneous Adapters.”

(9:30-12:00pm)

NC-1003 Business Meeting

NC-1003 Chair – **Wallace Huffman**

Administrative Advisor Report – **Dr. Jim Venette** – North Dakota State University

Station Reports

Election of Officers

Adjournment

¹ **USDA/ERS/RED**

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Washington, DC 20036
(202) 694-5510

ERS is located at the corner of 18th and M. streets. You will have to sign-in downstairs in the Lobby of the South Tower of the building and then go to the 3rd. floor guards' desk to receive a visitor's pass. Let the guards know that you will be attending a meeting in the Waugh auditorium, which is also located on the 3rd floor. The guards will need a list of the people that will be attending the meeting since it's such a large group.