

2014 Meeting Notes:

Attending members:

Gary, Troy, Francisco, Robert, Julio, Joy, Keith, Adele, Bob Daly (WV), Ron, Phillip, Dave, Aileen, Shelly, Jen, Joanne, Paul, Milo (stuck in airport),

Opening by Jen Wood (current but retiring project chair)

8.45am

Opening remarks from Gary. Likes this group. Middle of project, no renewal, report complete, lot of publication and impacts. Start thinking about impact writing. USDA use impacts for other purposes on Hill talking to staffers etc (non-scientists) – want science in impact as well as how it is interpreted into societal impact. Result not just simply the science.

Introductions by project members and guests (Penn State students here).

Housekeeping by Joy: Registration covered by Gary Thompson (Penn State). Do we need proof of attendance? Turn in report for Rachel tomorrow so the attendance notes will be on there.

Getting wireless sorted out (edu roam)

Annual reports – suggestion for efficiency was to fill out annual reports in the REEport format. No need for it to be filled out this way but easiest for **moving forward**. Easy for new members in knowing how to fill out the report, we can send a template to them - also easy for the CRIS report.

Starting on Objective B for the station reports.

Identify inter-cellular interactions between somatic cells of the ovary, somatic cells and germ cells, or somatic cells and the embryo that promote follicular growth, oocyte maturation, early embryonic development, and establishment and maintenance of pregnancy (NH, PA, NE, WI, NY, VA)

### **Order of presentations/reports**

Francisco Diaz

Paul Tsang

Joy Pate,

Dave Townson,

Troy Ott,

Julio Giordano,

Identify intracellular signaling pathways and gene expression regulatory mechanisms within the ovary, embryo, or female reproductive tract that promote oocyte growth and maturation, fertilization, early embryonic development, and establishment and maintenance of pregnancy (NY, IA, NE, WV, MA, KY, MS, VA)

**Lunch 12.15 to 1pm**

### **Order of presentations/reports**

Bob Daly,

Joanne Fortune,

Aileen Keating,

Michelle Rhoads,

Jen Wood,

Jacqelyn Hand, Jianbo Yao group,

Lei Wang, Jianbo Yao group,

Keith Inskeep,

Phillip Bridges,

Ron Butler,

### **Discussion of group project – Alu1<sup>-/-</sup> versus Alu1<sup>+/+</sup> GHR SNP and pregnancy rates**

*Six stations participating*

PSU 81 + 43

NH – 39

KY – 12

WVU – 60

CU – 230

ISU in by end of summer

Protocol for collections is at end of Butler report

5.15 pm – Adjourned to Joy Pates house for dinner

June 13, 2014

### **Meeting place and date for next year.**

New Hampshire -May 18-20

### **Adele's report**

Sent update documents to members via email

***New grant mechanisms:*** Critical Ag Research –Applied (production-based) research; product (management tools) developed by the end of the grant term. Exploratory –rolling deadline; innovative, high risk-high reward projects. \$100,00 for 1 year. Challenge areas: New water for agriculture

Questions –staggering of grant deadlines? Not likely. Movement of grant deadlines –would like to but dependent on budget by congress

Travel of program leaders will increase over the last couple of years.

**REReport comments:** Important emphases

Please make good faith effort when putting together reports because agency uses information from the REEports to justify budgets, etc...

**Impact statements are very important** –make sure they have relevance to citizens (and particularly representatives). Put into layman language; examples: increased efficiency, environmental impact.

Need to include impacts in the report –perhaps at the end of accomplishments.

**IACUC approval** –make sure the date of approval when asked; needs to be 3 years old or less; if using slaughterhouse state in your protocol so it is not a problem

**Question from Adele:** Capacity at land-grant institutions –how do we build capacity –what does that mean? Responses included people (technical staff), ability to train the next generation, equipment, animals/farms, adequate amount of money distributed to faculty, 12 month contracts, how money is used by experiment stations,

**Election of new director:** Phil Bridges nominated by Joy, seconded by Ron. Nominations closed by Joy. Ron called question and Phil was elected.