

NRSP1 Written Report

April 12, 2016

NIMSS Update (Chris Hamilton, Sarah Lupis, Jeff Jacobsen)

- NIMSS seems to be finally functioning smoothly, very few error reports are being submitted and those that are, are very minor and tend to involve a formatting or display issue. Chris Hamilton and Sarah Lupis communicate regularly with the developers via email and a weekly phone call.
- NIMSS user support has returned to the respective to the regional system admins: Chris Hamilton, NC; Sarah Lupis, W; Rubie Mize, NE; Donna Pearce, S.
- The “My Proposal” tabs have been renamed and are more intuitive, tabs also match proposal statuses. Proposals are now only editable when in Draft status. Previously, proposals could be edited while under review, which was problematic for most regions. RSAs can return proposal statuses back to draft, if editors need to make revisions. Chris will be updating the NIMSS manual with these changes within the next few weeks.
- If anyone has anything on their NIMSS “wish-list”, please let Chris and Sarah know. We’ve stopped making most major changes, as needs for NIMSS vary so much from station to station and region to region. We find that a fix for one station causes problems for others. We are happy to evaluate future requests though, as time and budget allow.
- NIMSS and the upcoming NRSP1 Renewal:
 - The current version of NRSP1 is scheduled to expire on 9/30/2017. Therefore, a renewal proposal will be due to the NRSP-RC by January of 2017.
 - Chris, Jeff, and Sarah aim to speak with Clemson about a new projected, five-year NIMSS budget for the 2017-2022 NRSP1 proposal. We don’t expect the verbiage of the NRSP1 proposal to change much and will match future needs with the NIMSS budget. We’ll share this information as soon as the details are worked out.

National Impact Writing Project (Sarah Lupis)

- We have included Sara Delheimer’s 2016 first [quarter impact reporting update](#) below.
- See below also for Sara Delheimer’s [annual review summary letter](#), which includes a recommendation to increase her salary by 1.8% (this is the CSU “standard” this year and also happens to be about as much as we can feasibly squeeze out of our current budget—I don’t think any voting is needed on this since it’s not changing the overall impact writer budget and literally all reviews of Sara’s performance this year were glowingly positive).
- We’ve also attached the [impacting reporting budget summary](#). There are two main points we’d like the committee to know:
 - We are proposing a very modest increase in salary and rearranging other expenses to accommodate that to keep our budget within our \$55,000 limit.

- The impact writer portion of the NRSP-1 budget will necessarily increase at proposal renewal to accommodate compensating Sara D in a fair and equitable way that brings her more in line with comparable positions.

NRSP1 Impact Writing Budget, FY2015-FY2017

Description	FY2015		FY2016		FY2017
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual – to 3/1/2016	Budget
Personnel					
Salary	\$39,116	\$34,227	\$40,116	\$25,376	\$40,838
Fringe*	\$9,896	\$8,659	\$10,069	\$6,446	\$10,250
<i>Sub-Total</i>	\$49,012	\$42,886	\$50,185	\$31,822	\$51,088
Operating Expenses					
Office supplies	\$208	\$344	\$200	\$0	\$200
Copy/Print					
Telephone					
Mail			\$0	\$4	\$7
Equipment					
Incidental		\$91	\$300	\$0	\$300
Computer hardware/software		\$2,898			
WAAESD Support**	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<i>Operating Sub-Total</i>	\$208	\$3,333	\$500	\$4	\$507
Travel					
<i>Travel Sub-Total</i>	\$5000	\$4,529	\$4,315	\$1,054	\$3,405
Carry Over					\$2,647
TOTAL	\$55,000	\$50,763	\$55,000	32,880.24	\$57,647

*Fringe rates = FY15 25.3%, FY16 25.1%, FY17 unknown—shown as 25.1%

**WAAESD Support was initially agreed to be \$6,000 to cover part of Sarah Lupis’s salary (Ms. Delheimer reports directly to Ms. Lupis) but we are waiving it to support salary increases for Ms. Delheimer.

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Impact Reporting Update 2016 Q1 (January 1 – March 31)
Sara Delheimer, Impact Writer, NRSP-001

Impact Statements

- NC-205—layout out for review
 - NC-229—finalized
 - NE-1042—finalized
 - NE-1045—text out for review
 - NRSP-3—finalized
 - W-2004—finalized
 - W-2171—finalized
 - WERA-1015—finalized
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- Created catalog of all Impact Statements created for 2014-terminating Multistate Research Projects. The catalog can be found in the [Impact Statement Archive](#).
 - Began work on Impact Statements for 2015-terminating projects.
 - Identified priority projects and projects with insufficient reporting material. See table.

Additional Work

- Launched [Multistate Research Impacts website](#) on February 17, 2016.
 - Between February 17 and March 31, we saw a total of 170 visits to the website by 108 different users. These visitors looked at an average of 2 pages per visit and spent over two minutes on each page.
 - More than 50% of the traffic to the site has come from direct links (i.e., links included in emails). 11 visitors found the site through a search engine, 44 were referred to the site from another website (e.g., NIFA and regional association webpages), and 19 were directed to the site by social media.
 - Visits spike day of/after new Impact Statement, press release, etc is posted.
- Helped edit kglobal press release for NE-1041.
 - [“Thirteen Land-grant Universities Work Across State Lines to Improve Equine Farm Sustainability”](#)
 - 195 media hits
 - 90.5 million impressions
- Helped edit kglobal press release for NE-1201.
 - [“Thirteen Land-grant Universities Advance Fight Against Mycobacterial Diseases”](#)
 - 230 media hits
 - 89.5 million impressions
 - Project member Ken Olson shared it with 43 print and broadcast outlets as well as National Milk Producers Federation, National Cattlemen's Beef Association, National DHIA, US Animal Health Association, Farm Bureau
- Working on presentation for NERAOC 2016. Session 56: “How to Write and Leverage Strong Impact Statements” on Wednesday, April 27, 2016, from 10:15-11:30. Co-presenting with Ashley Hawn (kglobal) and Suzanne Steel (Ohio State)
- Received request from Cornell University to deliver Impact Writing Workshop

2015-Terminating Projects

Project Number	Project Title	Comments on Available Reports	Priority topic?	Impact Statement Status
NCCC-31*	Ecophysiological Aspects of Forage Management	Lots of IS listed; many are research findings, but good impact material mixed in, including numbers		
NCCC-52	Family Economics	Last report from 10/2014; few, brief IS, mostly about meeting and publications, but could extract one or two impact points		
NCCC-134	Applied Commodity Price Analysis, Forecasting, and Market Risk Management	No IS in reports—only meeting info/agenda		
NCCC-211	Cover crops to improve environmental quality in crop and biofuel production systems in the Great Lakes and Upper Mississippi basins	A few, brief, but good IS, including some numbers		
NC205	Ecology and Management of European Corn Borer and Other Lepidopteran Pests of Corn	IS list grants leveraged and some research results, but also many actual impacts, including financial benefits, policy influence		
NC-1023	Engineering for food safety and quality	Last report from 11/2014; lots of IS reported, but many are research results; can easily translate into impacts		
NC-1100	Enhancing Rural Development Technology Assessment and Adoption Through Land Grant Partnerships	2011, 2012, 205 reports; no IS in 2011; not some material to work with in 2012 accomplishments; minimal material to work with for 2015; no accomplishments or IS listed in final 2015 report		
NC-1183	Mycotoxins: Biosecurity, Food Safety and Biofuels Byproducts (NC129, NC1025)	No IS in 2015 report, 2014 has some results/jargon, but pretty good impact material. 2012, 2013 reports have good IS		
NC-1184	Molecular Mechanisms Regulating Skeletal Muscle Growth and Differentiation	Last report 12/2014, reports attached as minutes; most IS are research results, a few actual impacts listed in 2013 report; overall, some material can be translated into impacts		

NC-1186	Water Management and Quality for Ornamental Crop Production and Health	Symposiums and grants listed in 2010 report; good impacts and context in 2012 report; 2014 impacts mixed in with research results, but can extract meaningful info		
NC-1187	The Chemical and Physical Nature of Particulate Matter Affecting Air, Water and Soil Quality. (NCR174)	2010 report focuses on grants, research plans; okay IS in 2012 -2015 reports, mixed in with some research results, but can extract a few impacts		
NCERA-197	Agricultural Safety and Health Research and Extension			FINALIZED 2014 as award winner
NE-1044	Whole farm dairy and beef systems: gaseous emissions, P management, organic production, and pasture based production	2013 IS mostly research findings; could translate into impacts; no 2014 report IS; some info in 2014 minutes about "usefulness of findings"; findings and impacts in 2015 report		
NE-1045	Design, Assessment, and Management of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems: Addressing the Challenges of Climate Change	Good IS with numbers! No impacts in 2015 report		
SAC-14	Human Nutrition			
SCC-33	Cooperative Variety Testing Programs	No IS in reports; links to website; check there for more info		
SCC-80	Plant Breeding	IS in 2014; other reports have no IS listed but some info in accomplishments; no accomplishments or IS in 2015 report		
SCC-83	Quantifying the Linkages Among Soil Health, Organic Farming, and Food			
S-1049	Integrated Management of Pecan Arthropod Pests in the Southern U.S.			FINALIZED 2014 as award winner
S-1050	Assessing the Consumer Behavior, Market Coordination and Performance of the Consumer-Oriented Fruit and Vegetable Sector	No IS in 2015 report; only one, repeated IS in other reports; some accomplishments info; could go through and see if can extract impact info; one attached minutes report may have IS		
S-1051	Sustainable Practices, Economic Contributions, Consumer Behavior, and Labor Management in the U.S. Environmental Horticulture Industry	No info in reports; might be in minutes attachments, but can't open because files are corrupt		
SERA-5	Sweet Potato Collaborators Conference			FINALIZED in 2013 as award winner
SERA-15	Competitiveness and Sustainability of the Southern Dairy Industry (S-217)	No reports in NIMSS		
SERA-35	Delta Region Farm Management and Agricultural Policy Working Group	Not many accomplishments or IS reported; could maybe focus on the one IS reported		

SERA-41	Beef Cattle Production Utilizing Forages in the Southeast to Integrate Research and Extension Programs across State Boundaries	2009-2014, another one for 2014-2015		
SERA-42	Enhancement of Leadership Capacity to Address Global Issues in the Food Systems through Coalition Development	Last report from 11/2014;		
SERA-43	Southern Region Integrated Water Resources Coordinating Committee	Some info on meetings in accomplishments; no IS reported		
SERA-44	Landscapes and Gardens for Better Living	2009-2014, another one for 2014-2015		
SERA-45	Crop diversification opportunities to enhance the viability of small farms	Only a 2015 report; only a 2014-2015 report; no IS listed		
WDC-31	Locoweed and its Fungal Endophyte: Impact, Ecology, and Management			
W-2045	AGROCHEMICAL IMPACTS ON HUMAN AND ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH: MECHANISMS AND MITIGATION			FINALIZED 2014 as award winner
W-2082	Evaluating the Physical and Biological Availability of Pesticides and Contaminants in Agricultural Ecosystems	Last report 4/2013; IS listed in all reports; some results info, but some good impact		
W2150	Breeding Common Bean (<i>Phaseolus vulgaris</i> L.) for Resistance to Abiotic and Biotic Stresses, Sustainable Production, and Enhanced Nutritional	Good IS in reports, including numbers		
WERA-27	Potato Variety Development	Good IS in reports, including numbers		
WERA-39	Coordination of Sheep and Goat Research and Education Programs for the Western States	Only 2011, 2012 reports		
WERA-97	DISEASES OF CEREALS	Last report from 2013; some good IS listed among research results		
WERA-102	Climate Data and Analyses for Applications in Agriculture and Natural Resources	Last report from 12/2013; some good IS identifying specific stakeholders and numbers		
WERA-103	Nutrient Management and Water Quality	2011 IS are conference attendance and publications; good 2012 IS; repeated/weak IS in other reports		
WERA-1005	Addressing the Rural Development Concerns of the Rural West	Only 2011 report		
WERA-1016	Adaptation, Quality and Management of Sustainable Cellulosic Biofuel Crops in the West	No IS reported in 2011, 2013, 2014 report; one potential IS listed in 2012 report		
NRSP-4	Enabling Pesticide Registrations for Specialty Crops and Minor Uses	Only 2012 report		

NRSP-6	The US Potato Genebank: Acquisition, Classification, Preservation, Evaluation and Distribution of Potato (Solanum) Germplasm	Good IS; good connections to health; includes numbers		
NRSP-7	A National Agricultural Program for Minor Use Animal Drugs	One year projects 2014-2015; 2015-2016		
NRSP-9	National Animal Nutrition Program	Good impacts in minutes attachment		

*highlighted project number indicates kglobal interest in project.

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MEMO

TO: Sara Delheimer

FROM: Sarah Lupis

DATE: April 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Annual Review

Ms. Delheimer:

In compliance with university, college, and departmental policy, it is my responsibility to annually evaluate performance and prepare a written performance review. As you are aware of the appraisal exercise that was recently conducted and completed, I am writing to provide you with feedback on your work performance and document the process.

Your work on the multistate impact statements has been exemplary. Your contributions have enhanced the effectiveness of the overall communications and marketing strategy for ESCOP and ECOP. We are especially impressed with your initiative in 2015 to create a new website to showcase the Multistate program and your efforts to improve faculty reporting through the development of a workshop and handouts.

Responding to a request for performance feedback, members of the NRSP-1 Management Committee, Administrative Advisors of multistate projects that were featured in 2015, and colleagues at kglobal and NIFA expressed great satisfaction and support for your work. Here are a few of their comments:

"I can tell you that we love these Multistate project reports at NIFA. They are very well done, informative, and very useful." –Bart Hewitt, Director, PARS, USDA NIFA

"I think Sara Delheimer has done an outstanding job. The impact statements that she prepares from multistate reports are attractive and informative; they surely help us get our message out about the value of our research and extension efforts. When I speak with folks from all regions, I consistently hear positive comments about the Impacts that Sara prepares. Also, the training she has provided has helped our faculty and administrators better understand and prepare material to be used for impact statements." –Steven Loring, Associate Director, Agricultural Experiment Station, New Mexico State University, member of NRSP-1 MC and past featured project AA.

"Sarah D. continues to grow professionally and continues to expand the impact and significance of this program, well beyond what many had originally anticipated. We all greatly appreciate her performance and your input in her development." – Dan Rossi, Executive Director, Northeastern Regional Association of State Agricultural Experiment Station Directors, member of NRSP-1 MC.

"Sara Delheimer has developed an impressive, integrated and networked program that has provided quality products from terminating multistate projects. There is also a good pipeline of Impact Stories for the future. She has clearly jumped in and aggressively

responded to this national initiative of ESS. She should be complimented and encouraged.” Jeff Jacobsen, Executive Director, North Central Regional Association, Chair, NRSP-1 MC

“Sara provides AgIsAmerica most of our multistate impact stories, which we leverage for media stories, pitches, and press releases. Sara is a joy to work with, passionate about the agricultural industry, and knowledgeable of the industry and ag comms.” – Ashley Hawn, kglobal

“I have also had the opportunity to read a few of the other impact statement she has prepared. I can only say that each one is very well done. Considering the voluminous reports on some of these projects and the fact that many do not provide good impact statements, Sara has done a very good job in deciphering the information into an impact statement form. I also have used information on her website “Impact Reporting, So What, Who Cares” and have referred some of my faculty to this website to assist them in writing impact statements. Overall, Sara’s work is commendable and she is doing the land grant system a big favor in composing these impact statements and making them available on the website, to kglobal and to the National Impact Database.” David Benfield, Associate Vice President for Agricultural Administration, The Ohio State University, Administrative Advisor for a featured project

I readily agree with the comments above. You continue to update and improve the template design for summarizing the work of multistate research projects; have interacted with faculty, Directors, communications professionals, and NIFA staff and leadership with the utmost professionalism; have deftly translated complex annual reports into user-friendly briefings that have been used widely to promote the multistate program and agricultural research and extension activities and programs at land-grant universities across the country; and have provided high-quality press releases, project summaries, feature stories, and graphics to various outlets in support of the overall multistate research fund. In addition, the training materials you created have been shared with multistate committees, AES and CES faculty and specialists at several institutions, and administrative professionals at national conferences and are most certainly improving the quality of reporting in those places.

You are a joy to work with. You are a self-starter, highly motivated, organized, passionate, and have keen attention to detail. I appreciate the ease with which we collaborate, and know that others share that experience.

Based on the results of this review, a careful examination of salaries for comparable positions, and a review of our budget, I recommended that the NRSP-1 Management Committee approve a salary increase of 1.8 percent, bringing your total annual salary to \$40,838.

Sincerely,

Sarah G. Lupis

cc: NRSP-1 Management Committee