

February 12 (and 13-16), 2009
Winter meeting of NCAC-15

**North-Central Administrative Committee of
Entomology Department Administrators**

Present: Lee Solter (Chair, Univ. Illinois), Steve Yaninek (Purdue), Mark Ascerno (Univ. Minnesota), Tom Phillips (Chair-elect, Kansas State), Jim Miller (Michigan State)

1. Lee Solter opened the meeting at 9:00 AM in a comfortable classroom on the campus of CATIE, the Tropical Agricultural Research and Higher Education Center, near Turrialba, Costa Rica.
2. Lee relayed information from Tom Payne, who had been attending NASULGC meeting in Washington, DC. Tom reported that there may be an extra \$50 million in funding for agriculture and food research programs but no specific funding allocations have been decided.
3. The primary business for the group was to review two new Multi-state Project proposals and four project renewal and midterm reviews. Of the five members attending, each was assigned a project to review, with Lee graciously reviewing an extra project. New project proposals reviewed were NCERA-148 and NC-508. Midterm reviews included NC-1035, NCCC-046, NCERA-200 and NCERA-201.
4. In a short break from reviewing Hatch projects, the committee heard a report from the Coordinator of Cooperative Study Abroad Program of CATIE, Elaina Florian. Elaina has a B.S. in ecology from Tulane University and then studied in ecology at the Univ. Sao Paulo, Brazil; she received her M.S. from CATIE in Agro-Forestry. The program runs about 20 different strategic courses. They develop some courses in collaboration with other institutions. e.g., there is currently a forestry technician course for Japan being held this week (JIACA); they have a set of courses that build on each other, ending with courses at the home institutions.

Elaina provided our group with some useful background on CATIE. CATIE is a regional center established in 1943 by Henry Wallace, U. S. Vice President with FDR, but later a founder of the Organization of American States. The main focus of the institute was the agricultural sciences. Previously, the institute was called the Inter-American Institute of Agricultural Sciences. Since 1942 a research and postgraduate school have been established, the oldest in Latin America. Over 2000 students have graduated from CATIE, primarily in Agricultural Sciences. CATIE is now a consortium with about 13 member countries. Part of funding comes from individual country memberships; other funds come from individual projects. There are technical offices in 7 countries from among the 13 members. Members include all countries located geographically from Mexico to Panama, Argentina, Bolivia, Dominican Republic and Spain. The U.S. does not make direct contributions, but there are several funded projects (e.g. USDA) that

bring in money. The local economy is now feeling the effects of the current global problem due to a drop in tourism (e.g., hotels are now only at 70% capacity compared to recent years.)

CATIE is governed by a council of representative countries plus a Board of Directors composed of researchers from private and public sectors. The Board dictates the strategic plan of objectives for CATIE. There are many demands from countries in the region to generate skills and tools needed in the region. CATIE has now diversified to other topics: 1. Agricultural management and agro-ecological aspects of specific crops (coffee, cacao, bananas, vegetables, ornamental plants, environmental livestock management; new research on bio-fuels). 2. Natural Resource Management of tropical forests and biodiversity; biological corridors; watershed management; evaluation of environmental services (practices that enhance the environment), with strong socio-economic services. 3. Developing training in value-added products. 4. Watershed Management. The two major research areas at CATIE are Traditional Agriculture and Tropical Agro-Forestry and Natural Resources.

The three mission areas of CATIE are Education, Research, and Training programs for outreach.

The CATIE Study Abroad program can provide opportunities for students from many universities. The program coordinates visits by specific groups, e.g., a group from Univ. of Guelph in Canada is on campus now. Programs are not just on campus, but may include research and studies in the local countryside, or may take place in other countries. A new course in protected area management was recently developed.

The postgraduate program at CATIE is a 2-year intensive program beginning in January and ending in December 24 months later. Each year about 60 students are enrolled toward completion of a Master of Science degree. More recently there is a Ph.D. program has been established. CATIE has partnered with the University of Idaho and also the University of Bangor (Wales, U.K.) to do these degrees.

5. The NCAC-15 Committee and companions were treated to a lunch-time tour of the CATIE Botanical Gardens led by Mr. Paul Voelker. The gardens serve as a germplasm reserve for cacao and other agriculturally important species.

6. Reports on Department News:

Each participating committee member has or will be submitting department reports to Lee Solter for the record. A brief summary of some department news follows. Mark Ascerno will be retiring from the University of Minnesota effective July 1, 2009. He will remain in the Twin Cities area. Mark's dedication and continued service to NCAC-15 was duly noted by the group. Minnesota, Michigan State and Purdue have faculty positions open: a Forest Entomologist at UMN, Vegetable Crops Entomologist at MSU and a Specialty Crops Entomologist at Purdue. MSU will also recruit for a nematologist and ecologist in the future. K-State was able to fill vacancies in vector biology and field crops IPM last year, but gave up an open position in livestock entomology due to expected budget cuts. Lee Solter reported that the Entomology section at the Illinois Natural History Survey is in a precarious administrative state after the entire Survey was

merged with the University of Illinois. All departments reported some level of impact from the current economic problems of the U.S. and individual states, but none of the committee members could predict the exact impacts to their own departments prior to state budgets for FY-2010 being finalized.

7. Special Recognition:

The attending members of the NCAC-15 Committee express their sincere and deep appreciation to Dr. Tamara Benjamin for her excellent organization and hosting of the Committee at CATIE. Tamar's position is partially funded by Purdue University, and thus the committee thanks Steve Yaninek and Purdue for facilitating Tamara's work with NCAC-15. Dr. Benjamin saw to every detail of the group's comfort and during our stay in Costa Rica, the planning and preparation beginning several months in advance. Tamara's family and colleagues are also thanked for sharing her time with us. We are grateful to Tamara for facilitating this meeting and our introduction as a Committee to CATIE and Costa Rica.

8. NCAC-15 Plans for 2010:

By consensus of the committee and agreement of Jim Miller for his department, the Chair-Elect for year 2010 will be the representative from Michigan State University, but confirmation will come only after Ernest Delfosse agrees. (Note added in proof: Delfosse accepted as of March 16, 2009.) Tom Phillips of Kansas State University moves from Chair-elect to Chair for 2010. Venues and dates for the 2010 meeting were discussed. Lee had some indication from NIMSS that project reports for 2010 may be due by Feb. 1, perhaps precipitating a meeting in mid to late January might be necessitated. Concerns were raised that travel in January or February to locations in the upper mid-west can be threatened by weather delays or cancellations. One suggestion is to meet in mid-January 2010 in or near Annapolis, MD just prior to the USDA Interagency Invasive Species Forum. Alternative venues discussed for a mid-winter meeting in potentially warmer climates that also may have significant Agricultural Experiment Station or other higher education connections, included: The Archbold Biological Station near Lake Placid, FL; Death Valley, CA (Calif. State University research center); A New Mexico venue associated with either UNM or NMSU (e.g., Taos, NM or Las Cruces); K-State in Manhattan, KS (a field location such as the Konza Prairie Biological Station or the Rock Springs 4-H Camp). Tom Phillips will confer with NCAC-15 members to select a date and location for the 2010 meeting by early March. AC-12 officers will be contacted regarding a potential joint meeting.

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2009 University University of Illinois/INHS Dept. Admin. Lee Solter
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1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R _____ To _____ E _____
tal _____

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 4.0 T _____ E _____

No. vacant faculty positions 0

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?
Yes _____ No ✓

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):

No. Post Doc 1
No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 1

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS _____ PhD _____ No. International: MS _____ PhD _____

Undergraduate enrollment _____ (If applicable) Name of UG program _____

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

Reporting line at INHS will go flat after incorporation into the University of Illinois. Fate of sections (Section of Ecological Entomology) unknown at the current time.

4. BUDGET

12% budget cut on entry to University of Illinois; loss of 3 additional positions in Entomology by attrition. Currently 4 entomology programs in Section of Ecological Entomology and 2 in Section of Biodiversity. Sections are being eliminated and all program leaders will report directly to the INHS director.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

**NCA-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2008-09 University Purdue Dept. Admin. Steve Yaninek
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E-Mail Address yaninek@purdue.edu

1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 13.94 T 5.93 E 5.13

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 2.0 T E

No. vacant faculty positions 3

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?
Yes 1 No

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):
6

No. Post Doc 5
No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 2

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)
1. Krupke, Field crops 65%Ext, 35% Res
2.
3.

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 14 PhD 21 No. International: MS 0 PhD 12

Undergraduate enrollment 35 (If applicable) Name of UG program ENT, Urban PM

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

- None

4. BUDGET

- \$3,314,974 in extramural support in 2007-08
- \$2,865,972 (flat funding) from state in 2008-09
- 1% internal rescission 2008-09
- state funding projections: 1% cut in 09-10, 2-3% in 10-11

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

(see back page for additional information)

Areas of Progress in 2008

1. Arthropod Genomics:
 - Tick: *Ixodes scapularis* - deer tick – NIAID-funded (\$19 mio) and Purdue led initiative (C. Hill) to sequence the first chelicerate arthropod genome; 6X sequencing coverage completed, assembly and annotation underway; sequence and annotation publications expected in 2009.
 - Hessian fly: *Mayetiola destructor* - NRI-funded project to sequence genome - Purdue co-leads initiative (Jeff Stuart with Stephen Richards from Baylor Univ.); first time a eukaryote genome of this size to be sequenced using 454 Life Sciences technology; sequencing and assembly should be completed in 2009.
2. Honey Bee Colony Collapse Disease - Greg Hunt and 19 collaborating scientists from around the country received a \$4.1 million CAPS grant to launch an in-depth study of bees' behavior, lives, illnesses and deaths to define the syndrome known as colony collapse disorder (CCD). The investigators' goal is to find ways to restore bee colonies and keep them safe.
3. Cowpea Post-Harvest Pest Management in West Africa - Larry Murdock and Barry Pittendrigh along with other colleagues in the COA are currently demonstrating the Gates Foundation-funded (\$11.4 mio) post-harvest pest control technology in hundreds of villages in several countries in West Africa.
4. Midwest Soybean Aphid Research Consortium - Purdue continued to lead a regional consortium with funding from (NCSRP, NRI, ISA). Major accomplishments this season include continuing the consortium and research program led by Bob O'Neil until his untimely death this spring, the second season of releases of an introduced natural enemy (a parasitic wasp) from China against the soybean aphid, and continued supervision of two graduate students still part of the soybean aphid program. In anticipation of a faculty hire in biological control, the department joined a new regional proposal submitted to NCSRP for funding over the next 3 years. In addition, the department will request continuing support from ISA for work on soybean aphids in 2009.
5. Indiana Invasive Species Council - Purdue (Steve Yaninek) played a key role in developing findings and recommendations for the Natural Resource Study Committee of the Indiana Legislature. This committee drafted new legislation for the next legislative session which includes a prominent role for Purdue as convener of the new invasive species council.
6. Kabul University Rehabilitation – Entomology is leading the plant protection component of the multi-university consortium (along with Cornell and UC Davis) to rehabilitate the agricultural capacity of Kabul University. The plant protection curriculum is under revision, and targeted training is underway to rebuild their human capital.
7. Filled the field crops entomology position (rehired Christian Krupke)
8. Filled an open research faculty assistant professor position in urban entomology (Kurt Saltzmann).
9. Currently recruiting a research position in specialty crops entomology as part of a COA cluster hire is specialty crops.
10. Special recognitions:
 - Chris Oseto received the 2008 regional USDA Food and Agriculture Sciences Excellence in Teaching Award. Chris Oseto was also selected to be included in the Purdue University's Book of Great Teachers.
 - Tom Turpin was recognized as the 2008 Honorary Master Farmer in recognition of “a combination of farming skills, community activities and public service” at the 2008 Master Farmer Awards Presentation hosted by Indiana Prairie Farmer and Purdue University.

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2008 University Kentucky Dept. Admin. John J. Obrycki
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1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 10.7 To 1.9 E 4.0
tal

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R T E

No. vacant faculty positions 0

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?
Yes No

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):
3

No. Post Doc 11
No. PhD Rsch Assoc.

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)
1. Jen White 80 % R 20 % E
2. James Harwood 80 % R 20% T
3. Xuguo Zhao 80 % R 20 % T

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 12 PhD 26 No. International: MS 2 PhD 7

Undergraduate enrollment 1 (If applicable) Name of UG program

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

4. BUDGET

Budget Cut of 2 %; allowed to hire three new faculty members.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

Reddy Palli received College of Ag award for research; Stephen Dobson received College of Ag award for grantsmanship; Dan Potter recognized as ESA Fellow.

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2009 University Michigan State Dept. Admin. Dr. Ernest Delfosse
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1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 6.8 T 7.22 E 4.52

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 2.0 T 1.5 E 1.5

No. vacant faculty positions 4

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?

Yes No

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):
22

No. Post Doc 0

No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 16

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 19 PhD 21 No. International: MS 2 PhD 4

Undergraduate enrollment 14 (If applicable) Name of UG program _____

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

The department is in the process of requesting a minor in Entomology as part of the B.S. degree.

4. BUDGET

Received a 1.25% General Fund budget reduction, all other funding lines remained consistent.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2008 University Of Minnesota Dept. Admin. Mark E. Ascerno
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E-Mail Address mascerno@umn.edu

1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 10.85 T 4.72 E 3.43

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 0 T 0 E 1.00

No. vacant faculty positions 1

Forest Entomologist

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?

Yes X No _____

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):

8

No. Post Doc 4

No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 3

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 6 PhD 18 No. International: MS 0 PhD 3

Undergraduate enrollment NA (If applicable) Name of UG program NA

3. PROGRAM CHANGES: I will be retiring on 1 July 2009. A national search for a new department head will begin this spring. In the meantime, an interim head will be appointed by the Dean based on faculty input.

Ted Radcliffe is retiring after 40+ years. His position will be redirected to Forest Entomology. A search for a Forest Entomologist will begin once budget issues are settled.

4. BUDGET The College received a \$1.5M one-time cut in the current fiscal year from Central administration. Entomology's share will be ca. \$22,000. Recurring cuts of a much larger scale are expected in the next biennium as the State deals with the budget crisis. Salary freezes for 1-2 years and layoffs are expected.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary) I have maintained the master CEDA list for many years. Someone should be identified to take over when I retire.

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2008 University Missouri Dept. Admin. Michael Collins
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E-Mail Address collinsmic@missouri.edu

1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 17.7 T 6.6 E 6.7

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 5.2 T 1 E 4.0

No. vacant faculty positions 5

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?
Yes ? No

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):

No. Post Doc 13
No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 0

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

1. Xi Xiong, Turf, 60%:40%:0
2. _____
3. _____

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 28 PhD 53 No. International: MS 7 PhD 27

Undergraduate enrollment 85 (If applicable) Name of UG program Plant Sciences

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

4. BUDGET

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

NCA-15

DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT

Year **2009** University **Nebraska** Dept. Admin. **Gary J. Brewer**
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E-Mail Address **GBREWER2@unl.edu**

1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 6.45 T 3.30 E 2.55

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R .40 T .50 E 1.10

No. vacant faculty positions 1

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?

Yes XX No _____

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA): 17

No. Post Doc 2

No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 2

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

1. Dr. Roberto Cortinas, Veterinary Program, 70%R, 30%T

2. _____

3. _____

We are currently searching for a field crops entomologist who will be stationed at the Panhandle Research and Extension Center, Scottsbluff, NE. We hope to open a position in Insect Molecular Biology/ Physiology.

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 78* PhD 18 No. International: MS 1 PhD 8

**Enrollment includes 66 M.S. Distance Ed students (non-thesis degree)*

Undergraduate enrollment 21 Insect Science
 32 Applied Science**
 70 Forensic Science**

***Entomology is the administrative home for the major*

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

- 2008 Graduates: 3 MS; 6 PhD; 14 Master's in Distance Ed; 3 Insect Science; and 10 Diversified Agriculture
- A multi-disciplinary Doctorate of Plant Health (non-research) degree started in the spring of 2009.
- Applied Science (previous Diversified Agriculture) has incorporated an on-line degree option.

4. BUDGET

- Budget is stable for this cycle but cuts are anticipated beginning the next fiscal year.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2008 University NDSU Dept. Admin. Marion Harris
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1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 4.45 T 0.65 E 0.90

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 0 T 0 E 0

No. vacant faculty positions 1

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?

Yes X No

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):

13

No. Post Doc 4

No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 1

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

1. Deirdre Prischmann-Voldseth (IPM, .80
R, .20 T)

2.

3.

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 6 PhD 8 No. International: MS 2 PhD 5

Undergraduate enrollment 0 (If applicable) Name of UG program

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

The Department of Entomology is now part of the School of Natural Resource Sciences, along with Soil Science, Range Science, and Natural Resource Management. Each of the four departments in the School has a Program Leader. The leaders work with Don Kirby who is the Director of the School. Marion Harris is the Program Leader of Entomology.

4. BUDGET

FY 2008-2009

Appropriated: \$35,000

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2008-09 University SD State University Dept. Admin. Sue Blodgett, Dept. Head
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1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R 20.01 To 6.25 E 4.73
tal _____

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 2.0 T _____ E 2.0

No. vacant faculty positions 3

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?

Yes X No _____

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):
17

No. Post Doc 2
No. PhD Rsch Assoc. 3

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

1. W. A. Berzonsky, Winter Wheat Breeding & Genetics; .90R, .10T
2. **See below
3. L. E. Osborne, Ext. Plant Pathologist; .75E, .25R

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 21 PhD 20 No. International: MS 6 PhD 13

Undergraduate enrollment 144 (If applicable) Name of UG program Agronomy

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

Beginning with Fall Semester 2008, the Department implemented a new undergraduate curriculum policy. In addition to the 2.5 minimum GPA requirement, students must maintain a minimum of a 'C' grade in all the Agronomy program CORE courses to be eligible for graduation in the major.

4. BUDGET

In FY 2009, the Department of Plant Science completed the third year of a three-year cycle of 25% annual AES salary budget reductions for Support and Technical staff.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

**The SDSU College of Ag-Bio Sciences will complete the hiring process for a team of six new Genomics faculty by June 1, 2009. Three of these positions will be housed with the Plant Science Department and the remaining three team members will be associated with the Biology-

Microbiology Department. Plant Science has identified two individuals from within its current faculty to assume two of the Genomics positions, and Dr. Senthil Subramanian of the Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis, MO, will be joining our department in April to fill the third position.

**NCAC-15
DEPARTMENT STATUS REPORT**

Year 2009 University Wisconsin Dept. Admin. Walter G Goodman
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1. FACULTY

Faculty FTEs (Tenured or Tenure-Track)
R _____ Total 14 E _____

No. Adjunct Faculty (including USDA):
_____ 7

Faculty FTEs (non Tenure-Track)
R 0 T _____ E _____

No. Post Doc _____ 12
No. PhD Rsch Assoc. _____ 0

No. vacant faculty positions 1

New faculty (name, area, % R-T-E)

Will the vacant position(s) be filled?

Yes _____ X _____ No _____

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

2. STUDENT ENROLLMENT

Graduate enrollment: MS 41 PhD 25 No. International: MS 5 PhD _____

Undergraduate enrollment 15 (If applicable) Name of UG program Entomology

3. PROGRAM CHANGES

Administration of three departments, Plant Pathology, Forestry and Wildlife Ecology, and Entomology merged to form a single administrative unit. The departments are still governed by 3 chairs and have their own majors, research program and instruction.

4. BUDGET

Administrative changes have been looked on favorably by the dean. We have been able to fill all administrative posts within our new unit.

5. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION (use back of page if necessary)

