

NCAC-024
2014 Committee Meeting Minutes
Tucson, Arizona
January 9-10, 2014

Chair

George Wardlow, University of Arkansas

Vice-Chair

Rob Terry, Oklahoma State University

Administrative Advisor

Karen Plaut, Purdue University

Secretary

Mark Balschweid, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

Members in Attendance:

Anna Ball – University of Missouri; **Mark Balschweid** – University of Nebraska-Lincoln; **J. C. Bunch** – Louisiana State University; **Tracy Dougher** – Montana State University; **Jack Elliot** – Texas A & M University; **Kellie Enns** – Colorado State University; **John Ewing** – Penn State University; **Bryan Hains** – University of Kentucky; **Steve Harbstreit** – Kansas State University; **Kay Kelsey** – University of Georgia; **Bruce Miller** – Utah State University; **Wade Miller** – Iowa State University; **Michael Newman** – Mississippi State University; **Ed Osborne** – University of Florida; **Matt Raven** – Michigan State University; **Rob Terry** – Oklahoma State University; **Erica Thieman** – University of Illinois; **Greg Thompson** – Oregon State University; **Roger Tormoehlen** – Purdue University; **Robert Torres** – University of Arizona; **George Wardlow** – University of Arkansas,

Guests: **Shane Burgess** UA Vice Provost and Dean, Agriculture and Life Sciences; **Neil Knobloch** – Purdue University;

Call to Order: Chair Wardlow called the meeting to order at 8:30 am in the Tucson Room of the Student Union on the campus of University of Arizona.

Introductions: Participants and guests introduced themselves.

Welcome: Wardlow welcomed participants and introduced Bobby Torres, who in turn introduced UA Vice Provost and Dean of Agriculture and Life Sciences at the University of Arizona Dr. Shane Burgess.

Approval of Minutes: Wardlow presented minutes of the 2013 meeting. Minutes were approved as presented. Wardlow instructed Balschweid to post the approved 2013 minutes to the NIMSS website.

Charge: NCAC024 Administrator Plaut typically delivers the meeting charge to the committee. However, she was unable to attend the meeting this year.

In lieu of Plaut's charge Wardlow gave a brief overview of the background and mission of this committee. Wardlow initiated discussion by presenting the following statements:

- **What is the potential for impact of our research?**
- **What should it be?**
- **Should we expand our research productivity to meet the needs of our society?**
- **Should we promote inter-institutional and inter-disciplinary research as a means to address the current state of our research?**
- **What are effective strategies to initiate and sustain multi-institutional research?**
- **What are strategies to enhance our research capacity?**
- **What are strategies to promote interdisciplinary research?**
- **What are strategies to enhance the perceived value of our research?**
- **What are strategies to quantify our successes? Our impacts?**
- **What other questions should we address?**

Discussion around the next steps continued. Osborne reminded the group that we've typically held this meeting in Washington D. C. on a rotation and met with administrators of USDA, USDOE, and other agencies. We've been invited to submit position papers to those administrators to help guide future funding areas, but we've historically been unable to deliver. Kelsey asked the group to consider the social issues that we are uniquely qualified to address.

To continue the momentum forward Balschweid suggested meeting at the annual AAAE national research conference for a pre- or post-conference meeting of NCAC024 for more than the currently scheduled 90 minute meeting. This meeting would allow for member checking/updates/accountability as well as continuing the momentum until the next NCAC024 meeting.

Wardlow presented the following questions:

- What's the problem?**
- What is our goal?**
- What is our action plan?**
- What are our implementation strategies?**
- Who is charged with follow-through?**

Lunch Break: Prior to lunch, the group was led on a tour of the UA campus and given information related to the University of Arizona's history, academic programs and students.

After lunch, Wardlow asked those present to summarize their perceptions of the morning discussion. He tasked the group with developing an action plan for moving the agricultural education research enterprise forward through identifying critical steps forward.

Addressing Research Priorities:

Discussion followed regarding the ultimate goal being the submission for a development committee to NIMSS. The group identified the following tasks to accomplish the purpose of aligning individuals to lead each NRA priority area:

- Identify a leader for each research priority area
- Identify an individual from NCAC024 to serve as ex-officio
- Conduct a webinar open to the profession providing initial information for the priority area
- Use interest from the webinar to assemble a team interested in the priority area
- Hold a meeting (apart from regional and national AAAE meetings) with interested faculty

Discussion followed on a plan to implement research teams around priority research focus areas from the 2011-15 *Agricultural Education National Research Agenda Priorities, Key Outcomes, and Major Research Teams*. The strategies generated for moving forward included:

Host a single webinar for all six research priorities

Request AAAE members to self-select

Announce the six research priorities at the annual AAAE research conference

Allow time on the AAAE Conference agenda for all six groups to convene

Members will be asked to self-select and participate in these six groups. After brief introductions of names and research interests time will be allowed for groups to identify similar interests and potential research projects.

The draft AAAE 2014 conference schedule has NCAC024 meeting on Wednesday, May 21, 2014 from 7:00 – 8:30 a.m. for debriefing the larger group meeting and updates from the January 2014 assignments. **Osborne will lead the effort to organize the large group activity at the AAAE conference. It was proposed to meet from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20 of the conference for the purpose of facilitating the collaborative research teams aligned with the six research priority areas. The group approved meeting during this time.**

It was determined that in place of a webinar, **a 3-5 minute video message be produced by Terry to be sent to the AAAE listserv inviting members of the profession to the annual AAAE research conference. The video message will be archived on the AAAE website as well.**

Osborne stated that the importance of these teams is not necessarily a particular project or outcome, but that ongoing dialogue and conversation around the research topics is taking place. The specific outcomes (multi-state projects, grants submitted, research studies launched, etc.) will flow from the meetings that occur.

Adjourn for the day: The meeting was adjourned for the day at 4:00 pm.

FRIDAY, JANUARY 10

Members and Guests in Attendance: All present from the previous day were in attendance, except Burgess, Hains and Knobloch.

Call to order: Chair Wardlow called the meeting to order at 8:15 a. m. in the Tucson Room of the Student Union on the campus of University of Arizona.

Wardlow initiated the conversation regarding the *Coalition for Social Science Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources* created by a committee of Osborne, Thompson and Travis Park. Harbstreit moved to adopt the *Coalition for Social Science Research in Agriculture and Natural Resources* document. Newman seconded. Discussion followed regarding if the document was truly all social sciences within agriculture and natural resources or only agricultural education. Motion failed.

Osborne moved that NCAC024 recommend to the AAAE Executive Board (for consideration at the May 2014 AAAE Conference) to pursue membership in COSSA and that the representative be a member of NCAC024. Tormoehlen seconded. Discussion followed. Motion passed.

Update of Goals and Action Items: Wardlow split the group into three separate sub-groups in order to brainstorm new goals and update progress for current goals. The group reconvened to create and update the *NCAC024 Goals and Action Items 2014* document.

Update of Goals and Action Items: Terry will update committee goals and action items contained in *NCAC024 Goals and Action Items** and submit to Balschweid for uploading on the AAAE website.

Wardlow appointed a group to create a white paper consisting of Tormoehlen, Elliot, Knobloch, and Kelsey (chair) to initiate the conversation around what matters in agricultural education research. The reaction group will be Raven, Balschweid, Wardlow, and Dougher. The first group will send their white paper to the second group for reaction. Further activity related to this will be communicated via the NCAC024 listserv.

Tormoehlen will create a listserv for the NCAC024 group that is different than the current AAAE Administrator's listserv currently on the AAAE website. Balschweid will send Tormoehlen a list of attendees from the past two years to be included on the NCAC024 listserv.

Reports

The following individuals provided updates for activities in 2013 that they participated in for the respective organizations:

- Torres - ESCOP
- Dougher - NACTA
- Balschweid - AAAE

New Business:

Tormoehlen moved to hold the NCAC024 in 2015 on January 7-9, 2015 in Washington D. C. Ewing seconded. Motion passed.

Newman moved to continue the rotation of current officers. Harbstreit seconded. Motion passed. As a result, Terry is elected chair and Balschweid vice-chair for the next two years.

Osborne nominated Newman as secretary. No other nominations were offered. **Motion to accept Newman as NCAC024 Secretary was made and seconded. Motion passed.** Newman will serve as secretary for the next two years.

Other Business:

Wardlow moved to have Newman compose a letter of commendation to Torres thanking him for his efforts in hosting the 2014 NCAC024 meeting and copied to his Dean. Motion was seconded. Motion passed.

Adjourn: The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

*Available upon request