**NCAC-24**

**Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resource Applied Behavioral Sciences**

**Annual Meeting**

**January 7 – 8, 2020**

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12:00 – 12:10 – Welcome and “setting the table” (Dr. Raven)

Attendees: Matt Raven, Tracy Rutherford, Kris Boone, Brian Myers, Michael Newman, Neil Knobloch, Jonathan Velez, Becki Lawver, Jessica Blythe, George Wardlow, Amy Smith, Scott Burris, Stacy Vincent, Kellie Enns, Chris Stripling, Shannon Washburn, Mark Balschweid, Mark Russell, Carl Igo, Jon Simonsen, Jason Ellis, Mike Retallick, Bobby Torres, Kasee Smith, David Rosch, Anne Mathews, John Ewing, Matt Baker, Rob Terry

12:10 – 12:30 – Scott Angle, University of Florida Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources (Dr. Myers)

J. Scott Angle is Vice President for Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Florida. As chief executive of the agriculture and environmental sciences arm (UF/IFAS) of a leading land-grant university, he champions public science as a path to improve lives and reduce human suffering. His accomplished career in government, non-profit international development, and academia informs an approach to leadership based on service, partnership, and drive for impact. An innovator who holds seven patents, Angle has successfully guided multiple organizations through budget shortfalls and other challenges. Dr. Angle leads nearly 2,300 employees who work in all 67 Florida counties. UF/IFAS encompasses the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, the Florida Cooperative Extension Service, and the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station.

Anticipated NIFA Priority Areas:

1. Climate Change
2. Sustainability
3. Food Safety/Quality/Access
4. International Programs – USAID funding boost

Anticipate a growth in 1890 funding within the land-grant system and 1994/Tribal Nations Institutions.

Multidisciplinary/Interdisciplinary teams are necessary for funding, lose points in the review process if this is missing. Our discipline needs to be in these teams from the beginning and planning stages, not added on at the last minute. Encourages a proposal to look at all NIFA proposal funding success rate based on the inclusion of our discipline at the beginning versus added on and share with other disciplines to demonstrate value/success.

Education, outreach, and impact evaluation need to be woven into all NIFA proposals, NSF, DOE and other funding agencies.

We need to more aggressive in how we approach our peers to help them understand how we can contribute. Make sure we are appropriately rewarded for our work, criticism on NIFA panels was often not enough money allocated to the work we do to actually carry out the project. Is there a standard amount (10%, 20%) of the total budget that we should consistently be asking for as a discipline? This is also an indication of the interaction of our engagement (early or late in the proposal development) in the work. We need to market what we can do to other departments/faculty.

Some big schools are looking for citation index for the journals and that is reflection of the work of the department. What journals are indexed in our discipline or where we should be redirecting our publishing. We need to pay attention to this.

International work – study abroad, global partnerships, working with USAID. This discipline is in a great place to engage in this work. However, the work we do is not reflected in the work at these international projects and NGO projects. Double down on this work in other countries around the world, emphasize education, outreach, and impact; especially in Feed the Future Countries. The FFC countries may change with the new administration. This includes opportunities to look at impact and communication as a standalone project.

Federal earmarks are coming back this summer. They disappeared 10-12 years ago, lobbyists indicate they will be coming back this summer and our institutions need to develop a list of projects that we would want political support for to move through the system. Earmarks have the ability to solve local problems in ways that federal grants can’t. Different process and expectations than the previous system.

12:30 – 1:15 – Virginia Tech panel (Drs. Niewolny, Drape and Tyler-Mackey with Dr. Rutherford as Moderator)

Kim Niewolny is the Director for the Center for Food Systems and Community Transformation ([https://foodsystems.centers.vt.edu/](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/foodsystems.centers.vt.edu/__;!!HXCxUKc!lpwu4NXZyyP570PIaU09EdneRveeWanCqjro9bl2SenJ7EDM_FGv9EqBrDkvLQ$) ) ; the PI for the HARVEST Network for Agricultural Research and Innovations ([https://www.harvestrcn.org/](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.harvestrcn.org/__;!!HXCxUKc!lpwu4NXZyyP570PIaU09EdneRveeWanCqjro9bl2SenJ7EDM_FGv9EpO3m-lYA$)); the Program Director for the VT/VSU Virginia Beginning Farmer and Rancher Coalition ([https://www.vabeginningfarmer.alce.vt.edu/index.html](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/www.vabeginningfarmer.alce.vt.edu/index.html__;!!HXCxUKc!lpwu4NXZyyP570PIaU09EdneRveeWanCqjro9bl2SenJ7EDM_FGv9Ep11bnmCg$)) and Program Director for AgrAbility Virginia ([https://agrability.alce.vt.edu/About.html](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/agrability.alce.vt.edu/About.html__;!!HXCxUKc!lpwu4NXZyyP570PIaU09EdneRveeWanCqjro9bl2SenJ7EDM_FGv9ErJxcWPqg$))

Tiffany Drape is a research assistant professor with expertise in evaluation, program assessment and capacity building. She has developed partnerships with Arcadia Center for Sustainable Food and Agriculture focused on veteran engagement and is involved developing food and cybersecurity projects across the university.  She is recognized for her work in inclusive pedagogy, including middle school STEM programming and collegiate experiential learning in sustainable agriculture for underrepresented student populations.

Crystal Tyler-Mackey is an extension specialist who is engaged in a variety of community development grant funded research programs.  She was part of a team recognized with the Excellence in Community Partner Community Engagement Award from the Engagement Scholarship Consortium.  She has been a PI or co-PI on more than $4 million in grant funding from USDA NIFA since 2016 focused on food access and opioid misuse. She has developed community partnerships with schools and religious organizations.

KN – Strongly believes in the three-way integration of her appointment to integrate her work on and off campus. Community-based participatory research methodology and in teaching role. Everything she does is a partnership or a collaboration in research and outreach. VSU partnership with the small farm outreach program. Partners on several grant projects and development of state-wide coalition. Equitable distribution of fiscal support is important in the partnership relationship. Engaging NGOs across the state as grant and outreach partners.

TD – Building relationships are 100% of research role regardless of the funding split. Connections have been created because the group “heard” about me or saw my profile and they have called. I conduct their human subjects research and evaluation for these organizations. Being open to conversations with engineering faculty have opened doors for collaborations for me and my departmental colleagues. Taking an active approach in communicating with the potential partners. Managing expectations of all members of the team; clear roles and contributions.

CTM – Food access, Opiod, Racial understanding projects. Partners at The Ohio State University in the College of Social Work on food access built from a previous project on intergenerational relationships. Keeping focus on the issues that are relevant to research focus area. Build the partnership from the front end, not after the proposal is developed. Recognizing university faculty doesn’t have to have all the expertise, partners from outside the university bring a different lens to the work we do. Value what your partners bring to the table and what their expertise is for the community. Transparency of what your needs are from the project and mutually supporting the goals of your partners.

Holistic approach to partnership development. Our field encompasses so many aspects of life, therefore we can cross many disciplines and contributions. Department leadership who value integrated work, research is for a social change outcome that can only result from integrated teams. That work is then integrated into the classroom as we train and develop students.

Clearly explaining the work, outcomes, and impacts is important in the promotion packet. Lack of integrated programming would be more detrimental than having several projects.

1:15 – 2:00 – University of Florida panel (Drs. Adesogan, Dukes, and Matthews with Dr. Myers as Moderator)

Adegbola Adesogan is a Professor of Ruminant Nutrition and the Director of the Food Systems Institute ([https://foodsystems.ifas.ufl.edu](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/foodsystems.ifas.ufl.edu__;!!HXCxUKc!mc5evtzFZbls_3W49t2pjC9rxEOT-i67YVs8a6UbFEQ3vMR90qMD-gKi5CoW3A$)) and the Feed the Future Innovation Lab for Livestock Systems ([https://livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/livestocklab.ifas.ufl.edu__;!!HXCxUKc!mc5evtzFZbls_3W49t2pjC9rxEOT-i67YVs8a6UbFEQ3vMR90qMD-gIdWqQSYw$)). His research focuses on sustainably increasing animal-source food production and consumption; improving forage production, quality and preservation; and using feed additives, forages and byproducts to sustainably improve animal production and health.

Michael Dukes is Director of the UF/IFAS Center for Landscape Conservation and Ecology ([https://clce.ifas.ufl.edu](https://urldefense.com/v3/__https:/clce.ifas.ufl.edu__;!!HXCxUKc!mc5evtzFZbls_3W49t2pjC9rxEOT-i67YVs8a6UbFEQ3vMR90qMD-gKvRgABFw$)). Dr. Dukes is a professor of irrigation and water conservation and specializes in efficient use of water in irrigated systems. His research and extension programs focus on irrigation and drainage engineering, water quantity and quality issues, crop consumptive use / evapotranspiration, and Best Management Practices to reduce nonpoint source pollution.

Anne Mathews is an Associate Professor of Food Science and Human Nutrition. Dr. Mathews’ research interests are in elucidating the relationship between adiposity, lifestyle behaviors, genetics and chronic disease. Modifying disease risk through "improvements" in nutrition and physical activity habits is a powerful treatment. Dr. Mathews’ research focuses on evaluating the effects of various approaches to enhance the adoption of healthy lifestyle behaviors and to accurately and objectively assess the physiological outcomes of these behaviors contributes to this body of work. Her previous and current work targets populations that may most benefit from improvements in lifestyle, such as those with a history of cancer and type 2 diabetes. Her projects extend to the prevention of obesity as well with a specific focus on preschool and elementary-aged children.

AA – USAID ($49 million) project required expertise in a variety of topics, social science brought capacity building, impact evaluation, extension (outreach), and behavior change. Is fundamental to what happens in the livestock lab. Realizing that interdisciplinarity is where it is at. Create an atmosphere where people are valued, respect each other, and have ownership in the project.

MD – “Over time I have learned and valued the work of social scientists”. Our system is rigged against interdisciplinary work since we are evaluated as individuals; having structures like centers are important to reach across these boundaries. Industry solves problems by combining disciplines. IFAS and UF have created a structure to provide incentives to faculty (min-grants, grad student support) to direct in ways to help create these connections.

AM – Early success to a speed-dating research experience – administrative support to create teams. Met lots of people across campus that resulted in collaboration with multiple departments. Connected with AEC through van ride to NACTA and informally chatting about research with continued interaction at the conference. Connection created by stakeholders of the project (agricultural education students, culinary students) and faculty expert in assessing the learning of high school students. Knowing your limitations, where your expertise ends. Institutional continuing programs/recurrent opportunities for seed-funding create the time to build the teams for long-term funding. Building good partnerships takes time.

Young faculty being connected to functioning teams. Make sure the multidisciplinary research is something that will pay off quickly in their career. Leaders have the responsibility to consider the productivity of the partnership (young faculty paired with seasoned researchers with a track record of funding and seeing outcomes through to publication).

Integrating teaching, research, and extension into work and planning early to get maximum benefit from the project or activity.

Many of us (outside our discipline) are ignorant to what you bring to the team. Your faculty can help develop a systems view that is much more comprehensive and create a more impactful result. Evaluating impact is a critical area that is becoming even more important.

Explain what your faculty do in a way that people outside your discipline can understand.

**January 8, 2020**

12:00 – 12:30 – Business Meeting (Drs. Raven, Myers, and Rutherford)

Mark Balschweid moved approval of the 2020 minutes, Jason Ellis seconded, motion passed

Kris Boone requested reviewers for three multi-state projects

Mark Balschweid, Jason Ellis, and Tracy Rutherford volunteered

Reviews need to be submitted by Feb 15, 2021

Motion to hold 2022 Meeting will be held in Kansas City, January 5-7, verbal vote to approve

Motion to hold 2023 Meeting at University of Florida, verbal vote to approve.

AAAE presentation will be referred to the sub-committee to appropriate plan. (co-chairs-Brian Myers and Leslie Edgar and committee members Dave Rosch, George Wardlow, Matt Raven, Rob Terry, Mark Russell) George Wardlow encourage the continued inclusion of Leslie Edgar to represent extension.

12:30 – 2:00 – Reflection and next steps toward increased interdisciplinary research (Dr. Raven)

Conversation about moving forward – get faculty to be actively engaged in these efforts

Meeting adjourned at 2:00.