

NCA-1 Meeting
Argonne National Laboratory
Argonne, IL
January 23-24, 2003

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Stephen H. Anderson	University of Missouri
Craig A. Beyroudy	Purdue University
Will Bleam	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Douglas D. Buhler	Michigan State University
Kenneth G. Cassman	University of Nebraska
Donald J. Eckert	The Ohio State University
Steven L. Fales	Iowa State University
Dale J. Gallenberg	South Dakota State University
Burle G. Gengenbach	University of Minnesota
Gary H. Heichel	University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Ray Knighton	USDA-CSREES/NRE
Birl Lowery	University of Wisconsin-Madison
Stephen C. Myers	The Ohio State University
Edward A. Nater	University of Minnesota
Darrell W. Nelson	University of Nebraska-Lincoln
Jimmie L. Richardson	North Dakota State University
John S. Russin	Southern Illinois University
Albert A. Schneiter	North Dakota State University
Robert E. Sharp	University of Missouri-Columbia

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Bill Lowery at approximately 8:15 a.m. Introductions were made. The minutes from the previous years meeting at Washington D.C. were approved without any changes.

The nominating committee recommended Dave Mengel for secretary next year and to serve as chair the following year. A motion was made, seconded and unanimously approved to accept the committee's recommendation.

A welcome to and a presentation about the Advanced Photon Source was made by Dr. Dennis Miller. The laboratory in Argonne which employs 3200 people is operated by the University of Chicago for the U.S. Department of Energy. Another unit called Argonne West is located in Arco, Idaho. There are three more similar research units located in the U.S. at Brookhaven, MA, Stanford and Berkley, CA. The major focus is on engineering research, basic science, especially chemistry, physics and material sciences. Additional research is conducted in biomedical and environmental science and technology. Following Dr. Miller's presentation the group adjourned for a tour of the facilities.

After the tour, Dr. Ray Knighton the USDA/CSREES representative gave an update. At the time of the meeting they still had no budget. Increased funding had been proposed in both the house and senate versions. An increase in NRI funds had also been proposed. He indicated everything was on the table. Dr. Knighton also indicated CSREES must do a better job of post award management. He indicated input was being sought from other USDA agencies. He also discussed the importance of the CRIS reports. Dr. Knighton listed Natural Resources and Environmental Quality as high priority emerging issues. Air quality was the number one priority.

Dr. Darrell Nelson the Administrative Advisor provided comments and a report. He indicated the National Resource Council was decreasing emphasis on production research and increasing emphasis on social and environmental research. He also provided a brief history of the Land Grant System. He also briefly discussed NASULGC. A brief discussion was held about inviting chairs from the 1890 schools to our meeting. There is only one school located at Lincoln, MO in the North Central region.

Dr. Nelson also discussed Multi-state Research. Included in his discussion were descriptions of different types of projects: NCR, NRSP, NCT, NCS, etc. He also mentioned NIMSS a web-based component which allows participants to seek and submit information on line. The website is <http://www.lgu.umd.edu>.

The group adjourned for lunch after which the primary work of NCA-1, reviewing projects began. Prior to this meeting chairs had been assigned for indepth review of specific projects. Participants were reminded to submit reviews to the chair. A total of ten project/activities were due for consideration. Two of the ten projects (NCT186 and NRSP1) requested extensions.

NC174 (NC temp 921): Carbon, nitrogen, and phosphorus in eroded soil landscapes. The primary reviewers were Richardson and Jarrell. Richardson asked if the focus of the project should be changed. The committee felt the success was good but that the productivity and potential impact was low. After some discussion it was moved/seconded by Lowery/Eckert to Disapprove/Terminate the project. This was approved unanimously by the committee.

NC189: Forage protein characterization and utilization for cattle. The primary reviewer on this project was Schneider. Comments about the committee and activities. The project has a strong collaborative effort. The committee voted unanimously to approve to continue the project.

NC213 (NC temp661): Marketing and Delivery of Quality Cereals and Oilseeds. The primary reviewers were Gallenberg and Sharp. Reviews were generally good but the need to determine accountability was a concern. After some discussion the project was unanimously approved upon revision and approval by NCA-1.

NC224 (NC-temp761): Competitiveness and Value-Added in the U.S. Grain and Oilseed Industry. Primary reviewers were Heichel and Myers. The reviewers and the committee ranked the project good in scientific approach and potential for significant production, good-poor on overall

technical merit. The project was ranked poor in achievable goals and unacceptable in the scope of activity to accomplish the objective. The committee unanimously recommended to disapprove/terminate the project.

NCT190(NC temp742): Potato research and Extension Program.

Buhler and Gengenbach were the primary reviewers of this project. The project has assembled a solid and appropriate group of researchers. Some need to coordinate and actively cooperate was discussed. Gengenbach/Schneider moved/seconded to request a revision. This was unanimously approved by the committee.

NRSP3 (nrsp temp001): The National Atmospheric Deposition Program (NADP)

Primary reviewers were Cassman and Beyrouy. The reviewers and the committee felt this was an excellent project and recommended approval. The committee approved the project unanimously.

NRSP1: Research Planning Using the Current Research Information System.

One year extension was unanimously approved following a motion/second by Richardson/Gallenberg.

NC202: Characterizing weed population variability for improved weed management decision support systems to reduce herbicide use.

Primary reviewers were Anderson and Lowery. The reviewers and the committee felt this was an excellent project. Cassman/Rossin moved/seconded the project be approved. The committee unanimously approved the project.

NC205: Ecology and Management of European Corn Borer and Other Stalk-Boring Lepidoptera.

Primary reviewers were Russin and Fales. The project was rated good-poor on the progress report and linkages. Not enough data was provided to evaluate funding therefore that aspect was deemed unacceptable. The information and technology transfer was rated excellent. The committee recommended unanimously to approve the project with revision.

This completed the review of the project.

The committee then broke for dinner and regrouped at 7 p.m. to hear a presentation by Will Bleam from the University of Wisconsin. The topic discussed was the potential for Advancement of Soil and Plant Sciences via High Energy Research.

Thirteen new projects plus those that were delayed until next year will need to be evaluated in 2004. The general consensus was to hold next years meeting January 22 and 23 (#1 choice) or January 29 and 30th (#2 choice). It was also suggested a discussion be arranged evening of January 21st or 28th. Topics will be solicited from the chairs to determine topics of interest. Some discussion was held about contacting the Departmental Chairman of the 1890 college located in the N.C. region and inviting them to attend. Dr. Schneider indicated he will make the contact. The general consensus was that the meeting be held in Florida or Arizona. A decision on the site will be made this fall.

State report materials were distributed and comments made from around the table from each state representative present. Heichel/Gallenberg moved and seconded the following resolution: "Be it resolved that the members of multi-state committee NCA-1 hereby recognize the leadership and organizational skills of Birl Lowery as Chair of NCA-1 during 2002-2003. We commend his choice of venue and programmatic development for the 2002 meeting." Motion carried unanimously with much applause.

The meeting adjourned at noon.

Albert A. Schneiter
Chair NCA-1

Darrell Nelson
Administrative Advisor NCA-1