

## **2022 NCAC1 Annual Meeting**

Thursday January 13

Meeting began at 8:30 AM CST

8:30 AM – 11:30 (CST)

Order of business will include:

Identifying a meeting secretary to keep the minutes of the meeting

Identify the host of the 2023 NCAC1 meeting

Begin review of the 13 Projects assigned to NCAC1

Noon – 1:00 PM (CST) NIFA update

1:30 – 5:00 PM (CST)

Complete review of projects assigned to NCAC1

State reports

Update from Jeff Jacobsen

### Attendees

Person	Institution
Richard Horsley	North Dakota State University
David Wright	South Dakota State University
Doug Karcher	Hort and Crop Science Ohio
Kendall Lamkey	Iowa State University
Steve Anderson	University of Missouri
Brian Horgan	Michigan State
Adam Davis	Illinois
Jeff Jacobson	Committee Administrative Adviser (North Central Regional Association of State AES Directors)
Rolston St. Hilaire	New Mexico State
Ahmad Fakhoury	Southern Illinois University
John Lindquist	Nebraska
Gary Muehlbaur	U of MN
Brian Slater	Ohio State
Raj Khosia	Kansas State University
Carl Rosen	U of Minnesota
Heike Buecking	University of Missouri

## 2022 Assigned NCAC1 Reviews

----- Reviewer -----			Project # (Renewal #)	Title	Review type	Recommendation	1st	2nd
1°	2°	3°						
St. Hilaire	Davis	Karcher	NC7 (NC temp7)	Conservation, Management, Enhancement and Utilization of Plant Genetic Resources	Renewal	<a href="#">Approve with revisions</a>	Rolston St. Hilaire	Adam Davis
Karcher	Meuhlbauer	Horgan	NC1200 (NC temp1200)	Regulation of Photosynthetic Processes	Renewal	<a href="#">Renew and approve with revisions</a>	Doug Archer	Gary Muehlbauer
Lamkey	Horsley	Karcher	NCCC215 (NCCC temp215)	Potato Breeding and Genetics Technical Committee	Renewal	<a href="#">Approve with normal revisions</a>	KendallLamkey	Brian Horgan
Slater	Davis	Slater	NCERA103 (NCERA temp103)	Specialized Soil Amendments and Products, Growth Stimulants and Soil Fertility Management Programs	Renewal	<a href="#">Approve with normal revision</a>	Brian Slater	Adam Davis
Horsley	Rosen	Slater	NCERA180 (NCERA temp180)	Precision Agriculture Technologies for Food, Fiber, and Energy Production	Renewal	<a href="#">Approve with normal revision</a>	Rich Horsley	Brian Slater
Davis	Lindquist	Meuhlbauer	NCERA184 (NCERA temp184)	Management of Small Grain Diseases	Renewal	<a href="#">Approve with revision</a>	Adam Davis	Gary Muehlbauer
Slater	Rosen	St. Hilaire	NC1178	Impacts of Crop Residue Removal for Biofuel on Soils	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve to continue</a>	Brian Slater	Rolston
Muehlbauer	Horgan	Lamkey	NC1181	Sustaining Forage-based Beef Cattle Production in a Bioenergy Environment	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve with normal revision</a>	Gary Muehlbauer	Brian Horgan

----- Reviewer -----			Project # (Renewal #)	Title	Review type	Recommendation	1st	2nd
1°	2°	3°						
Horgan	Rosen	Lindquist	NC1182	Nitrogen Cycling, Loading, and Use Efficiency in Forage-Based Livestock Production Systems	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve with revision</a>	Brian Horgan	Carl Rosen
St. Hilaire	Meuhlbauer	Lamkey	NC1208	Biology, Etiology, and Management of Dollar Spot in Turfgrasses	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve/continue with normal revision</a>	Rolston St. Hilaire	Gary Muehlbauer
Rosen	Karcher	Lindquist	NCERA3	Soil and Landscape Assessment, Function and Interpretation	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve/continue with normal revision</a>	Carl Rosen	Doug Karcher
Horsley	Lamkey	Davis	NCERA137	Soybean Diseases	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve/continue with normal revision</a>	Rich Horsley	Kendall Lamkey
Lindquist	Horgan	St. Hilaire	NCERA217	Drainage design and management practices to improve water quality	Midterm	<a href="#">Approve/continue with normal revision</a>	John Lindquist	Rollston

Comment from Jeff Jacobson on the review process:

*With all of the written reviews and evaluations that you are doing, particularly for the renewals, the NCRA AES directors review your comments, integrate with their own independent review and then present to the NCRA Multistate Review Committee (MRC), a subset of the NCRA. They also make recommendations that must be seconded and will be presented to the entire NCRA for action. If there is follow up (revisions), Chris Hamilton and I iteratively work with the writing team/individuals to improve the project. Hope this answer on how the NCACI activities fit into the bigger picture. Lastly, depending upon the nature of the project, other NCAC might also review which would be combined with NCACI review.*

### USDA-NIFA Update

- Mat Ngauajo - National Science Liaison with NIFA (one of six) Plant production, plant protection, and organic farming. Been with NIFA for nine year
- Vance Owens from SDSU with NIFA about a year. SARE, alfalfa NIFA, National
- NIFA had to hire nearly 75% of its staff that did not make the move to KC.
- Program Leader KC
- Chairs introduced themselves
- Mat reminded the group of a new site where faculty can sign up to be panelists on grant review panels.
- Questions from heads/chairs
  - Adam Davis, how has the move changed moral. Mat said moral is much improved due to the new hires that filled many of the vacant positions. Mat said NIFA is back.
  - Carl Rosen asked when the new system for reporting would be up and running. Mat said soon.

### State Reports

- Adam Davis (University of Illinois): talked about COVID protocols at UI. Need to increase undergraduate recruitment to help alleviate funding issues. Adding a new agronomy major in fall 2022. Their ratio of student to faculty is ~4, which is way below what upper administration want to see. Illinois Extension is in a new renaissance according to Adam. They are now hiring an Extension agronomist for the first time in seven years. Nine faculty are eligible to retire now or soon. Adam is wondering how many of those positions he will be allowed to refill. Gone to an “Umbrella Hatch Project” for the department. Adam wrote a single project for the department. This reduces reporting burden according to administration.
- Ahmad Fakhoury (Southern Illinois University): SIU is going through a reorganization of units across campus.
- Kendall Lamkey (Iowa State University): Iowa State is having in-person classes. Faculty need permission to teach virtually. Dropped from 36,000 in 2016 to < 30,000 now. Since July has had 10 tenure-track faculty retire or leave and have hired only one. Only has two assistant professors at this time, the rest are tenured.

- Raj Khosia (Kansas State University): KSU president is leaving. Hiring Richard Litton from NCSU. New president as a strong background in agriculture (food science). Kansas has a K-board Prosperity Plan to raise private donations. Digital Ag is one of the area. Over the last three years have seen a 15% budget cut. College is hiring 30 new faculty lines, probably six or so for Agronomy. Department has lost six positions over the last three years.
- Brian Horgan (Michigan State University): College admin is changing over quite a bit. Doug Buehler moved up to VP office. Started in September 2019. Jim Kells retiring in 2022. Will have 7 faculty that have either retired or will retire in 2022. 54 faculty. Sequencing over a dozen weed species.
- Gary Muehlbauer (University of Minnesota, Agronomy & Plant Genetics): Reorganization or reallignment of departments into schools. Each school will have an associate dean-like position. Departments will have chairs, not heads so the positions will rotate. Departments have been unable to do hiring because of the uncertainty in the final plans for the reorganization. Most of the recent hires have been determined by outside stakeholder groups. Most of the positions are research/extension positions because they are grower directed. Teaching suffers. U of MN thinks its budget problems are finally structurally solved. U of MN had 1.5% fixed salary increase for everyone.
- Carl Rosen (University of Minnesota, Soil, Water, and Climate): Added onto Gary's comments. Department is mostly in the environmental areas. Have ~350 undergrads and 40 graduate students.
- Steve Anderson: University of Missouri (School of Natural Resources): Report for Pat Market. No masking requirements due to COVID on campus, even classes. Reorganizations occurring on campus, including elimination of a college.
- Heike Buecking: University of Missouri (Division of Plant Science & Technology) Been at the University for about eight months. Ag Systems Technology (AST) was merged into the Division, so it was renamed Division of Plant Science & Technology.
- John Lindquist: (University of Nebraska Lincoln) New major called Plant and Landscape Systems. Consolidates Agronomy, Horticulture, and Turf majors into a single major. Protects low enrollment majors, such as turf.
- Rolston St. Hilaire: (New Mexico State University) Leads two environments. Plants and Environmental Sciences. Six majors, combining horticulture and turf into a single major.
- Doug Karcher: (The Ohio State University) Vaccine mandate at OSU. Doug has been department head for about five months. Hiring an urban foods research/extension position. Sustainable Plant System major, which is too confusing for people to understand. Want to change title to something like Horticulture and Plant Science. Current university president has a 10-year goal for OSU students to graduate debt free.

They have a program where donors donations are matched 1:1 up to \$100,000. \$30 million Controlled Environment Growth Facility will open this spring. Has four full sized growth rooms plus teaching facilities. New facility is somewhat due to a new power facility that was built near existing greenhouses that shaded this facility.

- Brian Slater: (The Ohio State University) Brian's undergraduate programs have nearly tripled since he started. This increase has occurred without any active recruiting. The growth is an issue.
- David Wright: (South Dakota State University) Are mandated that they can't have a hybrid teaching system. Indicated that they are losing two positions for everyone they gain.

Jeff Jacobson's Comments:

- Infrastructure: 2015 all AES and non-land grant colleges hired a consultant to look at research infrastructure (on and off campuses). It was determined it would take \$11.5 billion to bring infrastructure up to date. The group hoped that this would be funded through the "infrastructure" bill, but this did not happen. There was \$3.5 billion in BBB, but the 1862 institutions were eliminated through language. Funding was designated for the underserved institutions.
- Educating new employees at NIFA: Worked with the grant and funding group with seminars. Includes staff at universities to rebuild the NIFA/land-grant cooperation system. LGTU

A recommendation was made that we bring back to our annual meeting a section where one or two special topics of interest to the group are discussed.

Meeting adjourned at 4:15 PM CST