

Agenda item: Policy Board of Directors Report

Presenter: Eric Young

The Policy Board of Directors met in San Juan, PR on March 11-12, 2014. Steve Slack (Ohio State) represented the Experiment Station Section. Below are notes from discussions on the various agenda items.

1. Assessments

- Invoices were sent out and payments are coming in
- Reminders will be sent in May
- There are still a lot of questions on how assessments are calculated and used, Ian will write one-pager explanation that will be sent with future invoices

2. Cornerstone

- New three-year contract was approved and in force now
- Contract ends next year, BAC will have to decide if we continue with cornerstone or put out a bid request for an open search
- ICOP is concerned that funding for international ag is not being advocated for as strongly as needed, this is done primarily thru APLU rather than BAA

3. Budget and Advocacy Committee

- Budget priorities for 2015 are already approved
- Need a strategy to advocate for increased Evans-Allen and 1890 Extension to cover Central State University's eligibility for funds starting in 2016
- Need a position statement on how Congress should respond to any future requests from an institution to become a Land-grant

4. Futuring Task Force

- Mike Hoffman is chair, Daryl Buchholz- ECOP, Joe Broder- ACOP, John Ferrick- ICOP, Craig Berouty – AHS, Dan Rossi – ED
- Currently collecting existing documents and looking for a facilitator to guide the process
- Group needs to decide focus of futuring effort to make sure it doesn't get too broad
- Facilitation of this process could be done by internal expert, an external expert may increase credibility however the cost would probably be significantly higher

5. Committee on Legislation and Policy

- Farm Bill completed, no other activity currently
- Greg Bohach has agreed to take over as CLP chair now that Farm Bill has passed

6. FSLI & LEAD21

- LEAD21 just concluded last cohort
- LEAD21 on tract to pay off loan two years early
- FSLI recruiting new cohort
- LEAD21 Board will decide if they want to rebid management contract or stay with University of Georgia

7. Facilities Survey Task Force

- Sonny has requested a facilities repair and renovation survey to assess the need across the system
- A private firm, Sightlines, has done this for some Land-grant Universities
- Task Force recommends contracting with Sightlines, but how to pay for it is a problem
- Task Force outlined six reasons that it would be difficult for the institutions to pay individually

8. Non-payment of Assessments

- ECOP has set policy for non-payment of Cooperative Extension System assessments
- Consequences of not paying the BAA imposed assessments has not changed

9. NIFA Report – Sonny Ramaswamy

- \$8.5 Million increase in AFRI
- Innovation Institutes \$25 Million per year for five years for three institutes, first three will be in the following areas
 - Pollination and pollinator health
 - Anti-microbial resistance
 - Manufacturing innovation in bio products and bioprocessing
- NIFA will have to start paying rent and security for Waterfront Center
- Non-land grant capacity funds were zeroed out in President's budget, but they have never been in President budget, Congress has always put them in
- Opportunity Growth Initiative
 - Presidential initiative that's in his budget as a separate line for lots of agencies
 - ~ \$56 Billion total in President budget
 - NIFA would receive \$60 Million to incorporate into AFRI
 - \$15 Million for Hatch and \$5 Million for Evans-Allen, which will be competitive
- New Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research
 - Eight members named by NAS and seven members named by industry
 - NAS is seeking nominations now
- Facilities survey
 - Scope of survey that Sonny proposed was focused on research, but if System wants to broaden it to all functions, that's fine
 - ARS survey has been done periodically to help guide reallocation
 - ARS requested \$150 Million to build new poultry facility, but was not funded
 - If System doesn't want to fund it, then it can just not be done

10. Facility Survey

- Funding is key question remaining
- Sonny is getting details on facilities authorization language to see how funds can be used if they're appropriated
- Bruce and Ian will talk to Sonny about funding options
- Question tabled until July

11. Communication Marketing Committee

- If we enhance the marketing effort what would we do and how would we pay for it?
- Kglobal has proposed three additional areas for expansion
- Total additional cost would be \$300,000 per year and an additional \$100 K only needed in one year
- Cooperative Extension Section will have to add a new assessment after this year, if AHS join they'd have to add a new assessment also
- Ask Communication Marketing Committee to rank the options from Kglobal
- Decision on expansion will have to wait until CES and AHS make decisions on whether or not to join the effort

12. Canadian & Mexican Members

- Seven Canadian and four Mexicans have joined APLU and paid dues
- Five Canadian and three Mexican institutions have outstanding invitations
- Sections are encouraged to invite each new member institution to send representatives to the next Section meeting, Ian will send institutional contacts to PBD members

13. Rules of Operation Change

- Amendment to require 2/3 of those voting to change bylaws (rather than 2/3 of all voters) provided more than 50% of eligible voters actually vote.