

Item: ED Report – 2016/17 Regional and National Activities

Presenter: Eric Young

On-Going Goals:

- Manage the SAAESD Multistate Project Portfolio, Activities, and Other Association Business
- Facilitate Inter-institutional Collaboration within the Southern Region and Nationwide
- Enhance Integration of Research with Extension and Academic Programs
- Identify and Communicate Emerging Issues and Opportunities
- Provide Data and Information to Assist the Southern Region Directors in AES Management
- Promote the Southern Region to Decision Makers and other Stakeholders
- Represent the Southern Region Directors with Regional and National Groups
- Work within APLU and with USDA’s NIFA and ARS to Promote Favorable Federal Policies and Improve the Southern Region’s Research Capacity
- Collaborate with other Regional Research and Extension ED’s on National Issues and Other Activities
- Carryout Other Tasks as Requested by SAAESD Directors and Their Chair

<p align="center">2016/17 Activities (Activity priority: 1=high, 2=medium, 3=low)</p>	<p align="center">Manage Business</p>	<p align="center">Facilitate Collaboration</p>	<p align="center">Enhance Integration</p>	<p align="center">Identify Issues & Opportunities</p>	<p align="center">Provide Data & Information</p>	<p align="center">Promote Southern Region</p>	<p align="center">Represent Directors</p>	<p align="center">Work with APLU & USDA</p>	<p align="center">Collaborate with Regional ED’s</p>	<p align="center">Carryout Other Tasks</p>
<p>Major and New Activities (Regional and National)</p>										
<p>Cotton Winter Nursery Relocation ¹ – The CWN has been relocated to northern Costa Rica with Alfonso Palafax as the nursery manager. We have leased land for the nursery plantings outside of Liberia, CR. The land also has a large building that has been slightly modified to serve as the facilities for ginning & de-linting, small equipment & supplies storage, mechanical workshop, and office. I visited the CWN on Jan 23 – 25 with Don Jones of Cotton Inc. to meet with the manager and observe the plantings and new facilities.</p>		<p align="center">X</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>		<p align="center">X</p>	<p align="center">X</p>		

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Cotton Winter Nursery Long-term Funding ¹ – I've been working with Don Jones (Cotton, Inc) and Richard Percy (ARS, Cotton Germplasm Collection manager) to secure sources of base funding for the CWN beyond the ARS 5-year grant of \$500,000. We met with ARS leadership and other cotton stakeholders in DC on July 28 to discuss various possible funding mechanisms.		X		X	X		X	X		
Unmanned Aircraft in Agriculture ¹ – The planning and proposal development process for this new S project was begun during a meeting in Atlanta Mar 1 – 2, 2016. Twenty seven faculty representing 14 southern institutions attended and formed writing groups to finalize the four objectives chosen, along with supporting information. The proposal was developed over the next four months through a series of conference calls and submitted to the MRC. The new project started Oct 1, 2016, as S-1069, Research and Extension for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Applications in U.S. Agriculture and Natural Resources. The first project meeting was held at NCSU in Raleigh on Mar 21 – 22.		X	X	X						X
Southern Local Foods Initiative ¹ – Rachel Welborn (SRDC), Ed Jones (CES, VA Tech), and I worked with a group of faculty last spring and summer to develop a SERA proposal on southern local foods. This proposal was approved beginning Oct 1, 2016 as SERA47; Strengthening the Southern Region Extension and Research System to Support Local & Regional Foods Needs and Priorities, with Ed and I as AA's. The project's first official meeting was Nov 29 – 30, 2016, in Atlanta.	X	X	X	X		X	X			
Infrastructure Deferred Maintenance Study ¹ – As a follow up to the Sightlines infrastructure deferred maintenance study, the PBD appointed a Deferred Facilities Maintenance Strategies Committee with Tom Coon (OK State) as chair. I was asked to be one of the support ED's for that committee. The committee met on May 25, 2016, in DC to begin work on funding strategies. The committee's report was developed over the following six months and presented to the PBD in Nov, 2016.		X		X	X			X	X	

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<p>Healthy Food Systems, Healthy People Implementation Committee ¹ –This committee was charged by the PBD with taking the Healthy Food Systems/Healthy People Report and developing an implementation strategy, which includes a budget for the proposed work, and a funding/advocacy strategy. I was asked to be one of the ED supports for this committee. The committee had multiple conference calls beginning March, 2016, and submitted their final report to the PBD on Feb 24, 2017.</p>		X	X	X			X	X	X	
<p>New ESCOP Web Site ¹ – Jeff Jacobsen (North Central ED) and I are leading the effort to develop a completely redesigned ESCOP web site. We are working with the other ED's and their assistants with Clemson ITT to design a site that will be better organized, easier to use, and informational for stakeholders outside of ESCOP. We have had numerous conference calls beginning Nov 21 and hope to have the new site available by July.</p>	X				X	X				X
<p>New SAAESD Web Site ¹ – Donna and I have initiative work on redesigning the SAAESD web site. We met with the NCSU Extension Information Technology director and one of their web designers and programmers. They estimate the development cost to be approximately \$4,290 and the annual fee for maintenance, security, and server space to be approximately \$1,000. The new web site should be available sometime mid-summer.</p>	X				X	X				X
<p>LEAD 21 Board ¹ – In March, 2016, I was appointed as a new ESCOP representative on the LEAD 21 Board of Directors, taking Dan Rossi's place. This is the governing Board for the LEAD 21 program and makes all the final decisions on financial and personnel matters. I met with the Board at their regular meetings on Jun 24, 2016, in Minneapolis and on Feb 24, 2017, in DC. I also substituted for the Program Chair, who attends each session, during Session II Oct 3 – 6, 2016, in Phoenix. My term is four years.</p>		X	X	X			X			

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Regional Assignments and Other Continuing Regional Activities										
Southern Region Multistate Projects ¹ – With my Administrative Assistant, Donna Pearce, and the MRC, one replacement and two new S projects were approved to begin Oct 1 along with one new SCC and one new SERA.	X	X	X	X	X			X		
NRSP-8, National Animal Genome Research Program, Lead Administrative Advisor ¹ – This project has a \$2.5 million five-year budget that is divided among six species groups plus bioinformatics and managed by 11 Coordinators and Co-coordinators. I provide administrative advice to these Coordinators as well as the project's overall chair and chair-elect plus the six species groups' chairs and chairs-elect. I met with this project group Jan 14 – 15.	X	X				X	X			
S-1062, The Importance of US Food and Agricultural Trade in a New Global Market Environment, Administrative Advisor ¹ – The current project began Oct 1, 2014. I met with this project group in Savannah on May 12 – 14 and in Fort Collins on Oct 26 – 28.	X	X		X			X			
SERA 45, Crop Diversification Opportunities to Enhance Viability of Small Farms, Administrative Advisor ¹ – I assisted a group at the Univ of Kentucky, along with faculty from six other institutions, in establishing this new SERA project focused on crop diversification for small farms, which began Oct 1, 2014. I served as AA through their meeting in Ohio on Oct 21, 2016. This project has been reassigned to Leslie Oliver.	X	X	X	X			X			
Hypoxia SERA 46 ¹ – Along with Robin Shepard (Extension ED, NC Region) I continue to serve as the Administrative Adviser for SERA 46, a multistate project to coordinate the research and extension efforts in the 12 Mississippi River states who signed the Non-funded Cooperative Agreement with the federal Hypoxia Task Force in fall '13. I attended the SERA 46 meeting and subsequent HTF meeting in New Orleans on Dec 5 – 7.	X	X	X	X		X	X		X	

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<p>SCC-80, Plant Breeding ¹ – This “top-down” project was initiated by Ann Marie Thro (NIFA) and myself in 2007 to bring together public and private plant breeders. In 2009, this project group established the National Association of Plant Breeders (NAPB), a professional association representing all plant breeders. SCC-80 was renewed October 2015, I met with this project group during the NAPB conference in Raleigh on Aug 15 – 17.</p>	X	X		X	X		X			
<p>AC-13, Forestry, Administrative Advisor ¹ – This AC had been inactive relative to SAAESD until 2010 when I reconnected with them through the Southern NAUFAP group. I now try to meet with them annually, either at their spring or fall meetings. I was not able to meet with this group in 2016 due to conflicts with both NAUFAP meetings, but should be able to attend their meeting this coming Nov.</p>	X			X	X		X			
<p>SERA Review Committee Member ¹ – This research/extension committee reviewed one new proposal and made recommendations to ASRED and SAAESD on approval of that project. This committee meets by conference call in early August.</p>	X	X	X				X		X	
<p>Joint Cotton Breeding Advisory Committee ¹ – I serve as an advisor for this Cotton Council committee that meet annually at the Beltwide Cotton Conference. I met with the Joint Cotton Breeding Advisory Committee on Jan 5 during the Beltwide Conference in Dallas.</p>		X		X			X	X		
<p>Association of Southern Region Extension Directors Liaison ¹ – I met with ASRED on Aug 23 – 26 in Nashville.</p>		X	X	X	X		X		X	
<p>Southern Region Administrative Heads ² – I now work 10% of my time as a consultant ED for this group to assist with their winter meeting during the SAAS conference and the summer joint S-AHS/CARET meeting, and other projects as needed. In this role, I also report on SAAESD activities and act as a liaison between the two groups. Travel to their two meetings is now covered under my consulting contract.</p>		X	X	X	X		X		X	

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Southern Association of Business Officers ¹ – I interact with this group on issues usually related to national or regional reporting. I meet with them once a year, either at their regional meeting in fall or the NIFA business officers' conference in spring, however I was not able to meet with them in 2016. I should be able to attend their regional meeting this October in Lexington.				X	X		X			
Joint Southern Region Academic Programs and SAAESD Meeting ¹ – I arranged for the fourth joint meeting of S-APS and SAAESD directors in Atlanta on Sep 7 – 8. Discussion topics included non-tenure track faculty in teaching & research, ensuring diversity, on-boarding into joint appointments, and student professional development.		X	X	X	X					
Joint Southern Mini Land-grant Meeting ¹ – I have been asked by the S-AHS to lead an effort to reestablish a southern mini Land-grant meeting in spring 2019. This meeting will involve the 1862 and 1890 AHS, research, Extension, and academic programs directors, as well as the region's CARET delegates. UFL will host the meeting somewhere in FL. An initial logistics planning committee has been appointed consisting of the ED's of each group meeting along with UFL's Vice President, FAMU's Dean, and a representative from UFL's conferences office. The group's first conference call was Mar 20.	X	X	X	X	X					
ESCOPE Assignments and Continuing National Activities										
ESCOPE ¹ – I support the three southern region members of ESCOP, our ESCOP Executive Committee member, and am a member of the ESCOP Chair's Advisory Committee, as well as work on various tasks with other EDs as assigned by the ESCOP Chair. I met with ESCOP or ESCOP Exec on July 19 – 21, Nov 14, and Mar 6. The ESCOP CAC has monthly conference calls.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Experiment Station Section ¹ – In addition to ESCOP, I represent the Southern Region overall in the Experiment Station Section (ESS). ESS meets annually in September and in 2016, held the first joint meeting with the Cooperative Extension Section in Jackson Hole on Sep 19 – 22.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

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BAA Policy Board of Directors ¹ – I support the ESCOP representative on this BAA governing body, currently Gary Thompson. I met with the PBD on July 20 in San Antonio, Nov 15 in Austin, and Apr 4 – 5 in Indianapolis.	X		X	X	X		X	X	X	
National Plant Germplasm Coordinating Committee ¹ - I serve as the Executive Vice-Chair of this committee, which meets once per. I support the Chair, currently Jim Moyer (Washington State Univ) and facilitate committee activity. I met with the NPGCC on June 14 – 15 in Fort Collins and attended the ASTA (liaison from NPGCC) conference in Portland on June 19 – 21.		X		X	X		X	X		
BAA Committee on Legislation and Policy ¹ – All the EDs support this committee, which was formerly the Farm Bill Committee. I met with CLP on Nov 15 in Austin.		X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
NRSP Review Committee ¹ – I am currently the Executive Vice Chair of the NRSP Review Committee supporting Clarence Watson as chair. The NRSP-RC reviews renewal and new proposals for National Research Support Projects and makes recommendations to the Experiment Station Section on proposal and budget approval. I arranged the meeting and met with this committee in Atlanta on May 31.	X	X		X	X		X		X	
Association of Official Seed Certifying Agencies Advisory Committee ¹ – I represent all agricultural experiment station directors on this committee. I met with AOSCA and the Advisory Committee on June 26 – 29 in Park City.		X		X	X		X			
National Multistate Coordinating Committee ¹ – This committee includes all the regional and national executive directors, or their equivalent, for research, extension, and academic programs. I met with this group in DC on May 25 – 26.	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	X	
National Impact Database Steering Committee ¹ – Along with Ron Brown, I support the NIDST which oversees and advises the programming group at TAMU who manages the ECOP/ESCOP impacts database and search site. This group meets quarterly by conference call.	X		X		X		X	X	X	