

ESCOP Budget and Legislative Committee (BLC)

Committee Members:

<p>Chair: Ernie Minton (NCRA) Past Chair: Bill Brown (SAAESD)</p> <p>Delegates: Alton Thompson (ARD) Dyremple Marsh (ARD) Gary Pierzynski (NCRA) Shawn Donkin (NCRA) Sabine O'Hara (NERA) Jon Wraith (NERA) Steve Lommel (SAAESD) Saied Mostaghimi (SAAESD) Glenda Humiston (WAAESD, Incoming Chair) Chris Pritsos (WAAESD)</p> <p>Executive Vice-Chair Jeff Jacobsen (NCRA ED) Chris Hamilton (NCRA AD; Recorder)</p>	<p>Liaisons: Jon Boren (ECOP) Katie Frazier (CARET) Doug Steele (APLU, Ex-officio) Eddie Gouge (APLU) Jim Richards (CGA) Hunt Shipman (CGA) Maggie Earle (CGA) Vernie Huber (CGA) Josh Stull (NIFA) Paula Geiger (NIFA) Glen Hoffsis (BVM) Vacant (BHS)</p>
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Regular Zoom calls are held on the fourth Tuesday monthly with notes posted on the ESCOP website <http://escop.info/committee/blc/> . In general, the Zoom calls are well attended and participatory. In particular, we would acknowledge the regular participation by APLU, CGA and NIFA. Glenda Humiston has been designated as the WAAESD member and the incoming ESCOP BLC Chair. In addition, liaisons with ECOP BLC and the ECOP representative to ESCOP BLC have been reaffirmed.

In addition to regular APLU, CGA and NIFA updates, the ESCOP BLC thematically has discussed the NIFA Reimagining effort, willingness to support efforts with climate, new legislation that would significantly grow the research enterprise of key USDA agencies, ROI on capacity funds and the continued interest to keep agriculture infrastructure on the forefront. Historically, Hill staff have asked the question, ‘With the formal need of \$8.4M and growing, how will *limited* federal funding make a difference given the magnitude of the problem?’ CGA would welcome feedback.

Recent discussions in the BAA PBD Committee on Legislation and Policy (CLP) and the Budget and Advocacy (BAC) Committees have revolved around addressing system priorities earlier in the calendar cycle, including the Unified Ask branding, and, most recently, the inclusion of a competitive Agricultural Facilities program language within the LGU system one-pager narrative to be used during CARET/AHS.