

Science and Technology Committee (STC)

Committee Members:

<p>Chair: Jody Jellison (NERA) Past Chair: Laura Lavine (WAAESD)</p> <p>Delegates: Alton Thompson (ARD) John Yang (ARD) Joe Colletti (NCRA) Bill Barker (NCRA) Indrajeet Chaubey (NERA) Mark Hutton (NERA) Susan Duncan (SAAESD) Nathan McKinney (SAAESD) Gene Kelly (WAAESD) Chris Davies (WAAESD)</p> <p>Executive Vice Chair: Bret Hess (WAAESD ED) Saige Zespy (WAAESD Recorder)</p>	<p>Liaisons: Wendy Powers (ECOP) Ann Hazelrigg/Danesha Carley (NIPMCC; ; Pest Mgmt Subc) Kristina Hains (SSSC; Social Sci Subc) Parag Chitnis and/or Tim Conner (NIFA) Robert Matteri (USDA ARS)</p>
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ESCOP Web: <http://escop.info/committee/scitech/>

<http://escop.info/committee/national-integrated-pest-management-coordinating-committee-nipmcc/>

<http://escop.info/committee/social-sciences-subcommittee-sssc/>

S&T Committee (STC)

Regular STC business encompasses reviews, reactions, and feedback to relevant national-level reports and findings. Most recently, STC began determining how well the State Agricultural Experiment Station's portfolio of multistate research aligns with the five main themes outlined in the report of the National Academy of Sciences Science titled "Breakthroughs 2030: A Strategy for Food and Agricultural Research." The microbiome was selected as the first topic to explore. The search function of NIMSS revealed that 20 multistate research projects include the term "microbiome" in their project outline. A comparison of these multistate research projects with NIFA's current RFA revealed that most of the multistate research projects do not align with NIFA 2020 RFA b. Agricultural Microbiomes Program Area Priority Code: A1402; only four multistate research projects address the main areas described in the RFA. Consequently, STC intends to learn about NIFA's impressions of the report to help guide future efforts.

It was brought to STC's attention that a one-page, double-side "leave-behind" could be developed to help describe what the collective body of State Agricultural Experiment Stations do. Members of STC were uncomfortable taking on the task without the assistance of a professional communicator. Thanks to Rick Rhodes, Faith Peppers and Sara Delheimer have agreed to develop the one-pager drawing from information presented in the 8 Grand Challenges documents published by

STC and available at [A Science Roadmap For Food & Agriculture – Briefs \(Text version\)](#).

Members of STC look forward to reviewing regional nominations for the Excellence in Multistate Research Award.

National Integrated Pest Management Coordinating Committee (NIPMCC)

The NIPMCC held a meeting an in-person meeting in at APLU Washington, DC October 22-23, 2019. In addition to a presentation on the State of IPM Report and annual regional reports, NIPMCC continued discussing ways to integrate priorities and national activities and advocacy efforts. Attendees decided to meet in Washington, DC the third week of October 2020. Planning for the October 2020 has been initiated by coordinating with regional IMP Center directors.

Social Sciences Subcommittee (SSSC)

The traditional February ESCOP SSSC meeting in Washington, DC was postponed. The subcommittee is exploring the possibility of returning to Washington, DC the second week of May 2020. In addition to several organizations speaking to SCCC, the SCCC Executive Committee is interested in having a work session with presenters and NIFA leaders who remained in Washington, DC. The purpose of the work session would be to advance the development of products describing the importance of social and behavioral sciences in agriculture that are in various stages of development since last year's work sessions. Attendees of the upcoming meeting also expect to review membership and discipline team status with assignments made for recruitment and appointment. When these are complete, they will be sent to the STC Executive Vice-Chair for formal ESCOP appointment to SSSC. Lastly, updating the SCCC Rules of Operation remains on the SCCC radar.