

Southern Administrative Heads Meeting
Southern Mini Land-grant
March 19 – 21, 2019
Ft. Lauderdale, FL

NOTES

S-AHS & S-CARET Joint Session
Tuesday, March 19

Participants

Paul Patterson, Auburn	Gary Blair, MS State CARET
Keith Belli, Clemson	Reuben Moore, MS State
Buck Vandersteen, LSU CARET	Delmer Stamps, Alcorn State CARET
Claud Evans, OSU CARET	Larry Holmes, VA State
Rodd Moesel, OSU CARET	Faith Peppers, UGA
Louise Beaman, Purdue CARET	Frankie Gould, LSU
Nolan Ramsey, NCSU CARET	Leslie Oliver, UKY
Katie Frazer, VA Tech CARET	Archie Tucker, USDA, ARS
Eddie Gouge, APLU	Tom Coon, OK State
Madeline Mellinger, UFL CARET	Dick Crowder, VA Tech CARET
Nancy Dawson, KY State CARET	Luis Tupas, USDA, NIFA
Oscar Taylor, Prairie View A&M CARET	Ray McKinney, VA State
Tim Cross, UTN	Jack Payne, UFL
Jim Richards, Cornerstone	Mark Cochran, UArk
Lynda Danos, LSU CARET	Nancy Cox, UKY

1. Welcome and Introductions – Paul Patterson, S-AHS Chair
 - Call to order at 1:36 pm
2. FY '19 & '20 Budget Updates – Jim Richards, Cornerstone (*Jim's powerpoint*)
 - Budget Control Act sets limits on budgets through FY 2026

	<u>FY 2019</u>	<u>FY 2020 proposed</u>	<u>Change</u>	
Defense Cap	\$716 B	\$750 B	+ \$34 B	+ 5%
Non-Defense	\$597 B	\$543 B	- \$54 B	- 9%
Total	\$1,336 B	\$1,316 B	- \$20 B	- 4%

- NIFA Results FY 2019 FY 2020 proposed
 \$1,471,351 \$1,391,686
- Requests - \$500 M for AFRI (\$85 M over FY2019) and flat level for Capacity
- Also, \$50 M competitive program for research facilities and \$9.5 M for relocation of NIFA
- Budget request will be “One Ask” approach, ie one number for one account for NIFA, then splits to different lines will be done in Report Language

- NIFA Budget Results (Millions) -

Priority Line	FY 2019 enacted	FY 2019 requested	Difference	FY 2020 requested
Mc-Stennis	36.0	40.572	2.039	41.0
1890 Extension	48.62	54.500	3.000	57.0
Evans-Allen	58.0	64.732	3.815	67.0
Hatch	259.0	291.138	15.299	292.0
Smith-Lever	315.0	358.396	15.000	359.0
AFRI	415.0	418.129	15.000	440.0

- Payne – SoAR and NCFAR have proposed \$445 M for AFRI
- SoAR is Support for Agricultural Research, with ~20 LGU's involved, started by Danforth, Tom Grumbley is the Executive Director

3. Budget Realignment – Jim Richards

- Budget realignment summary and supporting materials
- Proposal goes back to the original intent of CREATE-21 in the 2008 Farm Bill
- Tries to treat NIFA's budget more like NIH
 - Move to a single line appropriation like NIH, with report language containing the details of allocations to difference NIFA programs
- FY 2019 Omnibus: Instructions to NIFA to answer question about statutory redundancy in NIFA – Are the six priority lines sufficient to authorize all of NIFA work?
- Mark Hussey charged the realignment TF to develop a budget realignment system that focuses on the biggest impacts
- Goal – increased funding by unified advocacy for one budget line
- Patterson – the recommendation of the TF in November had three lines – research, Extension, and education. This doesn't really answer the charge to NIFA in the omnibus budget bill.
- Why is NIH so successful?
 - Have just one budget line to request
 - Effective political influence by Jed Manocherian, new member of the Board of Directors for the MD Anderson Cancer Center at U. Texas Houston
 - Use advocacy language like “cure cancer” or “cure Alzheimer's”
- Crowder – I like the proposal. What is political influence needed? CARET connecting with key members? Making a “sexy”, compelling case?
- Blair – CARET delegates going to DC once per year will not be sufficient. Need to use CARET more often than we currently do.
- Taylor – Our three delegates are going to make more trips on their own, but it's difficult for the 1890's to trust the proposal.
- Clarify the six authorizations, who decides the split in the increase across the six lines
- Sending request forms to appropriations committees.
- Payne – World Health is tied to Food
- Stamps – How would the allocations to the 1890's change under the two approaches?
- Evans – Which funds need to be matched? All but AFRI.
- Farm bill of 2018 did away with requiring the 1 to 1 match for 1890's.

4. Comments and BAA Initiatives Updates – Doug Steele, Vice President for Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources, APLU
 - Praise to this group as the thought & program leadership for the nation!
 - We need to act and prioritize as a system
 - Need to be able to answer the question “Why is more funding needed for this?”, e.g. what will \$85 M do to improve agriculture?
 - We have got to be better in our marketing and communications efforts and create a national brand promise
 - NIFA Marketing & Communications Director position has been vacant too long and needs to be filled asap
 - There are many opportunities for CARET to make key visits, such as responding to NIFA request for input in funding
 - I want to be accountable for how assessments are made and what they are used for.
 - I see my role as “connecting the dots” between all the different entities impacting the LGU system and to help us “act like a system”
5. NIFA Update – Luis Tupas, Deputy Director for Bioenergy, Climate and Environment, USDA/NIFA; also serving as Acting Deputy Director for Food Safety & Nutrition
 - Where are we going to be? NIFA relocation is the big question. The Secretary’s office is still working down the reduced list of potential offers to host NIFA, but the agency is preparing to move.
 - Will still carry out business as usual during the transition
 - RFA’s are going out for FY 2019 funding soon, programs were delayed due to furloughs during the government shutdown.
 - Current staffing is greatly reduced due to resignations and difficulty in hiring with the uncertainty of the move
 - Federal Employment Viewpoint Survey was sent recently – NIFA was rated poorly: 17th of 18
 - Crowder – The letter opposing NIFA move also included opposition to move ERS to the Chief Economist’s office. I agree with opposing NIFA move, but agree with moving ERS to the Chief Economist.
 - “Stay-go” memo to NIFA and ERS personnel indicated a small group of NIFA and ERS administrators and scientists will stay in DC, while all other positions will be moved
 - Timeline has original plan to be moved and settled in the new location by beginning of FY 2020 (Oct 1, 2019)
 - Stanford Bishop chairs House Appropriations Subcommittee for Agriculture, is from Georgia and served on GA legislature with Sectary Perdue
 - Subcommittee will hold a hearing in April with Gale Buchanan and Cathy Wotecki testifying
 - Business Managers & Administrative Officers Conference will be held in Denver on April 14 – 17; theme is “Learning to do it the NIFA Way”
 - NIFA listening sessions – four were held in 2018, careful qualitative analysis shows trends in needs
 - Not talking about increasing production without considering sustainability and environmental & natural resources concerns

- Working with NRCS to develop new soil analysis protocols, LGU's have also been brought into this effort
- Luis is liaison to the Southern and Western regions, but institutions should interact with state liaisons also.
- Deputy Undersecretary Hutchins has laid out five areas of focus
 - Sustainable agricultural intensification
 - Agricultural climate adaptation
 - Food and nutrition tradition
 - Value added agriculture
 - Agriculture science policy leadership
- FAQ's on hemp will be available by early April
- NIFA budget – Sonny had tried to get \$300 M in mandatory funding and \$550 discretionary for AFRI
- Message to Hutchins and Angle on budget is very important
- Final comment – Healthy people depend on a healthy food system!

S-AHS Session

Tuesday, March 19

1. AHS Executive Committee Report – Tim Cross
 - New Committee for Legislation and Policy Chair will be Marshall Stewart, Univ of MO
2. Discussion – **Industrial Hemp Policies & Programs** – All
 - Oliver - Kentucky has the Department of Agriculture in the lead
 - \$57.5 M in sales in 2018, only \$16.7 M in 2017
 - \$17.75 M paid to farmers in KY in 2018
 - \$23 M spent by processors in 2018, employed 459 people
 - Most of the market is in the oil, less in fiber and food
 - Cannabidiol will be a Schedule 5 drug, which requires a prescription; only one is approved: Epidylax, used primarily to control epilepsy
 - No studies on use for animal feed yet, but there is a hemp feed coalition
 - Peppers – GA is working on a listing of each states' policies by the end of the current academic year
 - Payne – FL is looking into the invasiveness as a weed
 - Agronomic and economic studies are underway, including production budgets
 - S1084 is a new multistate project that is looking at all aspects of hemp production
 - No pesticides or herbicides are currently registered for hemp, but IR-4 is working on that
 - Medical schools are working with FDA to authorize medical use
 - Transportation of seeds across state lines still needs to be worked out due to different state laws
 - Looking at controlled environment production also
 - Banks are not lending funds for hemp production yet; cannot deposit revenues
 - Fungal diseases are a major problem
 - October **Science** Meeting being planned by UKY in Lexington

S-AHS Session

Thursday, March 21

Participants

Keith Belli, Clemson
Tim Cross, UTK
Nancy Cox, UKY
Reuben Moore, MS State
Mark Cochran, UArk
Paul Patterson, Auburn

Sam Pardue, UGA
Faith Peppers, UGA
Jack Payne, UFL
Tom Coon, OK State
Robert Taylor, FAMU
and others

1. Select S-AHS Secretary Nominee (to be elected at 2020 winter meeting) – Paul Patterson
 - Robert Taylor is currently the Secretary and will move to Chair-elect after the winter meeting during the SAAS Conference.
 - A new Secretary will be nominated by the end of this summer and voted on at the winter meeting.
2. Contract Renewal for S-AHS ED (current contract expires June 30, 2019) – Mark Cochran
 - Original Southern AHS support proposal
 - Renewal of contract with Eric Young as ED for the Southern AHS
 - Cost shared by 1862 Southern AHS
 - \$20,000 per year compensation
 - \$5,000 per year operating
 - Currently UArk is the banker for this contract and is on a calendar year basis, propose to switch to a FT basis for contractual services
 - Coon moved to renew contract, Payne seconded, approved unanimously
 - Payne moved to invoice 1862 S-AHS for 18 months to align with change to FY basis, Pardue seconded, approved unanimously
 - Cochran moved to increase operating funds to \$8,000 per year, Payne seconded, approved unanimously
 - Cox moved to increase compensation by 3% to \$20,600, Coon seconded, approved unanimously
 - Patterson and Cochran will talk with Eric and Cochran's office will proceed with arranging the new contract
3. Discussion – **Deferred Maintenance** – All
 - Deferred maintenance strategy proposal
 - Research Facilities Act changes
 - Coon described changes in the Farm Bill including the Administration's proposed budget line for \$50 M for Research Facilities improvements as per the Research Facilities Act
 - Some discussion of the possibility of this being appropriated
 - States have handled deferred maintenance in various ways
 - FL – on a project basis with philanthropy, currently building a blueberry facility using royalties from breeding program
 - KY – must raise 30% thru philanthropy

- OK – no state legislature support, but can get bonds from Regents
- GA - \$6.2 M in recurring funds for facilities maintenance and operations
- MS - \$12 - \$15 M per year bonds for agriculture, veterinary medicine, and forestry; state pays off the bonds and there's no match required
- AR – agriculture college cannot issue bonds, but university can, however savings (carry forward) for building projects are threatened by state

4. Discussion – **Relationship Between SoAR and the BAA** – All

- Breakthroughs 2030 Research Goals
- SoAR AFRI letter
- Patterson – recounted steps in getting to BAC recommendations, there are discrepancies in AFRI ask, should we align with others on our request?
- Payne – gave some background on history of SoAR
- Patterson – BAA needs to be more assertive, reaching out to other partners, industry, professional societies, NCFAR, SoAR, etc.

5. Discussion – **Natural Disaster Impact & Recovery** - All

- Concern about our own faculty and staff recovery
- Assist our public agencies in response and recovery
- Need to check on consistency among economists as to damage assessment protocols

6. Home Institution Reports – All

- Items of Interest from Southern AHS Colleges and Institutions handout
- UArk
 - Combining Plant Pathology and Entomology departments
 - Combining financial information systems
 - New poultry facility with support from industry
 - Rice Board investing in a new research farm, ~\$20 M investment
 - Performed property inventory and obtained permission to sell surplus
 - Building a \$10 M endowment to support operation of outlying research stations
- Clemson
 - Land Grant Press – supports peer review of Extension publications, sharing reviews across states and a central repository for Extension materials in the region
- FAMU
 - Land given to them by ARS will be used for cattle, but no operating funds
 - Duke Energy is looking into putting a solar farm on the land
 - Licensed to grow hemp with three companies, had seven letters of intent originally
- UGA
 - Looking at 12 month to 9 month appointment conversions
- UFL
 - Offered 12 to 9 month conversions with salaries remaining the same, but no raises for 3 years; 1/3 of faculty chose this option
 - Ernst Shay – Solutions from the Land author, former county district director
 - Working with growers on climate change impacts
- Auburn

- Cotton blue disease is in AL, TN, GA, MS, and FL; vector-borne virus by aphids, 80% yield loss
- Similar to Cotton Leaf Roll virus

7. Next Meeting During SAAS Conference, Louisville, KY, Feb 3, 2020

- A Southern AHS conference call will be scheduled for August since we don't meet again until next February
- Young will send out a poll to schedule the call