

Southern Administrative Heads Winter Meeting

Birmingham, AL

Monday, February 4, 2019, 11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Minutes

Attending: Tim Cross (UTK), Paul Patterson (AU), Alan Grant (VT), Nancy Cox (UKY), Faith Peppers (UGA), Gary Lemme (AU), Keith Belli (Clemson), Mark Cochran (UArk), Rich Linton (NCSU), Tom Coon (OK State), Mohamed Ahmedua (NCAT), Parr Rosen (TAMU), Eric Young

1. Update on Federal Budget Realignment – Alan Grant
 - Timeline for feedback has been sent out by Eddie Gouge
 - Proposal is for one NIFA budget line with three broad categories; education/learning, extension/engagement, research/discovery
 - Initial feedback from Sections due by early April in time for the PBD meeting on April 9
 - Biggest change will be to move budget lines from bill language to report language
 - Hopefully this change will help with a more consistent message
 - System will have to watch distribution method of small lines as well as the amount
 - NIFA & ERS move
 - Language in appropriations bills in House and Senate to slow down plans to move agencies and conduct detailed study on the advantages/disadvantages
2. Issues from Sunday's SAAS Board meeting and items for Tuesday's meeting – Tom Coon
 - Last year's conference lost approximately \$30,000, leaving ~\$50,000 in reserves.
 - Conference was in Jacksonville, FL and attendance was down about 20%
 - Lower attendance may have been due to location not being drivable for most students and the concern over impact of a recent hurricane on the area.
 - This year's attendance seems to be back to the normal level, so budget should be ok.
 - Some groups are still considering leaving the conference like Animal Science did, Ag Education is discussing this possibility, but will definitely attend next year.
 - 2020 conference will be at the Omni Hotel in Louisville, KY
 - S-AHS need to consider how to transition coordination of SAAS when Mark Legendre steps out of his role
3. Responding to Cornerstone's Call to Action – All
 - UKY, VT, AU, and UTK all have federal liaisons that can act on a request without contacting their university government affairs office
 - TAMU AgriLife's federal person has an office in DC with the Texas System government affairs director and can decide if that person is consulted or not before taking action
 - Sometimes the federal liaisons decide that a request to sign on or write a letter to Congress is not the best way to proceed on a particular issue and take a different approach.

- The college government affairs people should receive the call-to-action emails in addition to the AHS.
 - Eric will check with Jim Richards and Eddie Gouge about adding that person to the email list at the individual AHS's request
 - Eric will check with Jim Richards about the possibility of a meeting of the college government affairs people and Cornerstone.
4. Spring 2019 Southern Mini Land-grant meeting update – Eric Young
 - Total registration is currently at 120 and still have a few coming in
 - Attendance seems to be fairly normal for all groups except S-CARET
 - S-AHS is at 10 from 1862's and 3 from 1890's, but some of the 1890 AHS are registered with ARD or AEA
 - Draft agenda for S-AHS separate meeting was reviewed and no comments made
 5. S-AHS March agenda topic suggestions – Paul Patterson and Eric Young
 - S-AHS agenda has two slots for discussion topics
 - Topics suggested were:
 - Industrial Hemp Policies & Programs - Farm Bill changes, state regulations, university policies, oversight responsibility, research and Extension programming considerations, funding sources, etc.
 - Deferred Maintenance - Federal funding future possibilities, state & private support, creative financing, unique partnerships, new construction vs modernization, etc.
 - Natural Disaster Impact & Recovery - Hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, drought, fire, etc. impacts, early response & assistance, long-term recovery, data collection & documentation, federal/state/local/university roles & coordination, etc.
 6. Election of New S-AHS Secretary – Tom Coon
 - Robert Taylor, Florida A&M University, (nominee from summer meeting) was unanimously elected S-AHS Secretary for 2019
 - Paul Patterson took over as Chair and Tim Cross as Chair-elect at the end of this meeting
 - Paul and Tim will be the new S-AHS delegates to the national AHS Executive Committee
 7. Next Southern AHS Meetings – Eric Young
 - Southern AHS/CARET summer meeting will be held during the Southern Mini Land-grant meeting in Ft. Lauderdale, FL, on March 18 – 21, 2019
 - The 2020 S-AHS winter meeting will be held on February 3, 2020, at the Omni Hotel in Louisville, KY, from 11:00 to 3:00
 - In 2020, the summer meeting was tentatively scheduled for July 31 – Aug 2, and will be hosted by Clemson and South Carolina State Univ.
 - Eric will send Keith Belli the programs for the past few “normal” summer meetings
 8. Updates on current situation at home institutions (if time allows) – All
 - Those in attendance shared some significant accomplishments, events, construction, issues from their colleges and institutions.