

NAUFRP Executive Committee
October 26, 2010
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Participants: Hal Salwasser, President (Oregon State University), Tim White, President-Elect (University of Florida), George Hopper, Past President (Mississippi State University), Peg Gale, Secretary/Treasurer (Michigan Tech University), Pat Layton, Education Chair (Clemson University), Joe McNeel, Extension Chair (West Virginia University), Al Ek, At-Large (University of Minnesota), Rob Swihart, North Central Chair (Purdue University), Steve Bullard, Research Chair (Stephen F. Austin State University), Keith Belli, Southern Chair (University of Tennessee), Jim Allen, At-large (Northern Arizona University), Janaki Alavalapati, Policy Chair (Virginia Tech University), Dick Brinker, BAC/FRAC Rep (Auburn University), Barry Goldfarb, International Chair (North Carolina State University), Perry Brown, ATR Liaison (University of Montana), Jo Ellen Force, Western Chair (University of Idaho)

Guests: Terry Sharik (Utah State University); John Houghton (University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point); Ken Fulgham (Humboldt University); Frank Boteler, Assistant Director, Institute of Bioenergy, Climate and Environment, NIFA; Daniel Cassidy (NIFA), Karen Grubb (NIFA), Rich Guldin, Director (USFS R&D)

Hal Salwasser opened the meeting with introductions and welcome. The agenda was reviewed; no changes were made.

The minutes from the March 1-3, 2010 NAUFRP Executive Committee were reviewed. A **motion** was made by Perry Brown to approve and seconded by Peg Gale. There were no changes or discussion. The motion passed unanimously.

President's Report, Hal Salwasser: The PowerPoint presentation to be presented tomorrow at the General Assembly constitutes the President's Report. The accomplishments speak for themselves.

Treasurer's Report, Peg Gale: The CY09 final treasury report and year to date (Sept. 30, 2010) were reviewed (handouts). A 2011 proposed budget was presented. Next year's SAF Convention will be in Hawaii – is this an issue for NAUFRP? Agreement to discuss this later. A **motion** to approve the treasury report and a budget for 2011 was made by Pat Layton; seconded by Joe McNeel. The motion passed unanimously without further discussion.

Research Report, Steve Bullard: Steve reviewed the history of meeting (Steve, Tim White and Keith Belli) regularly with NIFA National Program Leaders. NAUFRP has created a searchable data base that is on the webpage that includes about 200 names. They are being contacted by NIFA; approximately 20 have served on panels. NAUFRP will continue to monitor and populate the list. Daniel Cassidy has been very helpful in setting up meetings with the NPLs. The NPLs are increasingly finding the webpage easy to use. In March, the group met with Colien Hefferan and Jim Spurling of NIFA to discuss the 50th Anniversary of the McIntire Stennis (McS) program. The SAF Journal of Forestry has accepted a manuscript on the McS program authored by Steve, Perry Brown, Dick Brinker and Don Thompson. This is the foundation for the 50th celebration. Steve highlighted several steps of sustained effort by the Research Committee: the NAUFRP webpage data base; regular visits with NPLs; McS 50th Anniversary Celebration. Steve urged NAUFRP members to encourage their faculty to submit high quality proposals and attend grant writing workshops. Plans are to post 'success' stories on the webpage; it will be useful to see the depth and variety of successful proposals. Note that AFRI grants are increasingly larger scale and multi-institutional. Steve, Keith and Tim plan a trip to DC in early December. This will probably be Tim's last visit as part of the group in order to transition in a new person. Meetings will also be held in conjunction with the March Executive Committee meeting. Frank Boteler comments: he notes NIFA and AFRI changes. There is now a Science Council consisting of 10 members. Frank suggests visiting the Senior Scientist. Pay attention to stakeholder input into the AFRI development process: it is important. The RFAs are team developed and they must evaluate the input -- example given is a detailed letter from the Society of Range Management. Expect the FY11 RFAs to be released at the end of this calendar year, possibly early December.

Frank believes input a month or so after the release would be good and timely (Feb.-March). Again, he urges formal stakeholder input. There was a public stakeholder session last July. Randy acknowledges that NAUFRP needs to map out an annual calendar for this process. Joe McNeel suggests tying input to the mandated State Forest Assessments. Pat suggests that NASF could write as a stakeholder and note the need for integrating the assessments. It was clarified that McS is housed in Frank's institute. Hatch is split. Steve notes that NIFA Director Roger Beechy talks about bringing focus to formula funds. Franks says Beechy has urged the Experiment Station Directors to address national priorities. Barry Goldfarb suggested approaching NAUFRP partners to develop a joint stakeholder (consensus) letter; it would be good to use with Congressional visits. Agreement that this should be an **Action Item**.

George Hopper: In a new university role George has been attending meetings of the agriculture experiment station directors. They have a committee that has, over the last year, developed a Science Road Map for the future. It is mostly related to research and has 7 challenges (equating to 7 chapters). It is very comprehensive and impressive dealing with animal and plant systems, biotech, human sciences, etc... For the most part natural resource systems are not covered. Ian Maw encouraged NAUFRP to take the lead on addressing this separately; others have said the Board of Natural Resources should do it (George is currently chair of the BNR.) Note that Orlando Means from West Virginia State University is the incoming chair for the Board on Agriculture. Tim believes the Ag Road Map started back in 2009 with a Delphi Process that some NAUFRP members were originally included in. **Action Item:** Need to determine how to respond to the Ag Road Map and perhaps develop a Natural Resource Road Map to serve as a companion.

ATR Liaison, Perry Brown: The McS Administrative Manual is still in the works. Catalino Blanch and Eric Norland have developed a series of stakeholder questions; these have been submitted to the NIFA policy people for approval. The FY12 Agriculture Appropriations Bill will not be marked-up till after next week's elections; the outlook is not positive.

Extension, Joe McNeel: RREA needs to be reauthorized in the next Farm Bill. NAUFRP continues to push for increased appropriations for RREA. Joe discussed distribution of National Focus Funds. Bill Hubbard has taken the lead on developing a new strategic plan for RREA. Discussion on the question that arose earlier in the year concerning eligibility for the Family Forests Education Award (eg. non-universities). **Action Item:** the Extension Chair in cooperation with the NWOA will bring a proposal to next March's Executive Committee.

Policy, Janaki Alavalapati: Janaki distributed three handouts related to the development of the 2012 Farm Bill. He described the APLU process and the items he has submitted on behalf of NAUFRP. Further discussion and decisions on the APLU position will be at their November meeting with finalization next March. Jankai is engaged with the 'Forests in the Farm Bill' Coalition and has provided more favorable 'research' language for a platform statement. The Coalition plans to finalize a position by February. Discussion about putting more energy into the BNR. The forestry and water sections are very organized; not so much the others. In the past, the NAUFRP President has served as the BNR Chair, but George agreed to do so when Hal became president. **Motion** by Pat Layton, seconded by Hal Salwasser to have the NAUFRP Past President take on the duties as the representative to the BNR. Motion passed unanimously.

Other discussion: Randy noted that the integration that is happening at NIFA is not happening at APLU. We have literally bought a seat at the table to have a voice. Hal says NAUFRP/BNR should write the Road Map for Natural Resources so they can say it is there. Pat has heard that a large number of the Agriculture Experiment Station directors will retire next year. If this occurs, NAUFRP needs to work within our own universities. Frank notes that the Ag Exp Directors are very well organized; extension not so. Perry reviewed the history of the BNR. The BNR has tried in the past to act as a co-equal but this takes resources. Perry supports a separate BNR Roadmap. Peg would like to see us out in front on this. George says we inspired them after the Shepherdstown meeting when NAUFRP began developing a McStennis Strategic Plan. Rob asked if we know the structure of the BAA and links to the universities? We can be the grassroots. Hal has done an inventory of where the BAAs. Dick said this was helpful when they tried to excommunicate us last year.

BAC/FRAC Reports, Dick Brinker: Dick handed out a list of budget priorities that BAC is considering. They have consistently tried to pare down the number of priorities that go to the Hill. Discussion about BAC options. Randy says McS does not need reauthorization in the Farm Bill; RREA does. Dick handed out a written FRAC report.

International, Barry Goldfarb: Barry reported on a meeting he attended in Romania in early October where the European deans are trying to organize. Present were 23 university partners from 19 countries. Notably missing were representatives from Scandinavia and France. They are still working out their goals. Final resolutions will be posted on their website. Many European forestry programs are 5-6 years – somewhere between a bachelor and masters degree. The Bolognese Accords (e.g. educational goals) which were passed 2-3 years ago are expressly trying to make European programs look like those in the US. They are struggling to adapt. There are certain parallels with NAUFRP. The Europeans feel they are absent from the European Union table that sets research priorities. Barry invited them to attend our meeting next year. Because of the way they traditionally handle such invitations/meetings, NAUFRP may need to pick up some expenses (hotel, meals,...).

Western Chair, Jo Ellen Force: Western NAUFRP did not have a spring meeting. They will meet here tomorrow afternoon. There has been a lot of turnover in the West including at the Universities of Idaho, Washington and Montana.

Southern Chair, Keith Belli: Southern NAUFRP met with the Southern Group of State Foresters last Spring. It was a great meeting. Keith encouraged the other NAUFRP regions to try and meet with their counter regional groups of State Foresters. Barry Goldfarb is the incoming Southern Chair. Keith also noted that the Forest Service coordinates a Southern Leadership Tour; it meets every other year and is very valuable.

North Central Chair, Rob Swihart: The North Central NAUFRP Region met jointly with Northeastern NAUFRP last Spring in Philadelphia. They spent half a day with Michael Rains, Director, USFS Northeastern Research Station in discussion, strategic planning and influence mapping. The North Central has initiated a collection of survey data and are also developing one pagers for each state/university and linking them to state assessments.

NAUFWP Coordination, Keith Belli: Keith has been working with the National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs as they try to re-establish themselves. They held a recent meeting in Salt Lake City. A number of NAUFRP institutions wear both ‘hats’ and were represented. Their executive body will meet jointly with the NAUFRP Executive Committee in March. Randy Nuckolls also represents them now. John Hayes from the University of Florida is their President-elect.

IUFRO 2014, Perry Brown: The International Union of Forestry Research Organizations will meet in Salt Lake City in September 2014 (normally it would be 2015 but that is when the World Forestry Congress will meet). NAUFRP was a co-proposer of the meeting with the Forest Service to have it in the U.S. Anticipate 3,000 scientists from more than 100 countries. Rich Guldin will coordinate for the FS. NAUFRP should be a full partner. Want student and heavy university involvement. NAUFRP should designate a representative.

Washington Report, Randy Nuckolls: Randy reviewed the potential political scenarios that might unfold next week with the national elections. There will be new Republicans on both the House and Senate Appropriations Committees. Congress’ ‘to do’ list: Estate Tax (existing provisions are due to expire at the end of the calendar year) and Appropriations bills. No one has been willing to do anything other than a CR before the elections. McS is at \$29.5 in the House and \$29.0 million in the Senate. A conference could go below either bill; a lot of new members will press to make a statement immediately.

Discussion of next year’s annual meeting. SAF is in Honolulu beginning on November. NAUFRP will plan to meet at that time and decide in March about meeting with NAUFWP who will be meeting at about the same time but on a different island.

Next March’s Executive Committee will be March 7-9.

McStennis 50th Anniversary: Colien Hefferan indicated that NIFA might be able to provide some funding for this. Need to identify the right people to work on this. **Action:** An Ad-Hoc Committee was designed to work on this: Steve Bullard, Keith Belli, Janaki Alavaparti, Daniel Cassidy (NIFA) and Randy Nuckolls.

Tim White reviewed the NAUFRP One-Pager (handout) that was developed last March for appropriations in anticipation of next year. Comments: better photos are needed; the funding request will change; the actual 50th McS anniversary is 2012; need to work 'jobs' into the text somehow; topics that resonate with people are needed; change "U.S." to "America's). **Action:** comments back to Tim. He will try and finalize by December 1.

Guiding Principles: Hal noted that NAUFRP has signed onto a number of letters the last two years (e.g. climate change, farm bill, appropriations). With each, he has tried to determine whether it is clearly policy advocacy where faculty might have differences or if it speaks clearly to the benefits of forests, forest use, use of science,..... **Action:** Hal will articulate his criteria in writing. A catalog of letters NAUFRP has signed will be posted on the website.

Education Committee, Pat Layton: Pat reviewed the "NAUFRP Undergraduate Education Strategy" draft that has been developed by her committee. They received funding from NIFA (\$25,000) and FS (\$5,000); of which \$25,000 came thru Clemson. Terry Sharik reviewed "Forestry and Related Natural Resource Degrees' data. **Action:** Link NAUFRP webpage to Biennial University Education in Natural Resources. Share Best Practices. Utilize NAUFRP website to showcase Best Practices; makes sense for SAF to share. Goal 3 is missing partners like SRM, ISA. Frank said that \$150 million went for educational grants in FY10; Greg Smith is the contact on this. NIFA has had a dialogue with ACOP who has developed a white paper on building human capacity. **Action:** Send the draft to the full NAUFRP membership and ask for their review and comments by November 24th. Identify other groups. Intend to get survey out in December.

Terry Sharik reviewed a proposal to move the survey on enrollment trends to a web-based survey. This would come with costs: an estimated total for developing and getting it up would be \$8800 and \$1500/annually. This might be a special fund initiative. There is no gender or diversity data in this survey. FAEIS does include the latter. NAUFRP's regional groups are all now collecting data. Terry also attended/represented NAUFRP at the International Symposium on Forestry Education in Canada last May. The US was not well represented. Terry has made a contact with the Forest Service Human Resources Office to view their employee hiring data. A meeting is scheduled on Friday and Terry invited others to come; Peg Gale agreed to accompany Terry. Terry is developing a bibliographic reference website at Utah State. The question is who should have access to it? Terry is tending towards a Wikipedia-like model. Terry is the NAUFRP representative on the SAF committee considering a Terrestrial Ecosystem accreditation; Greg Brown is the chair. It meets tomorrow. Questions were: who wants this? (Duke, Univ. of MI) Why? This lead to a discussion of the value of forest accreditation and recognition. Will continue this with Michael Georgen later in the day.

Southern NAUFRP Recruitment Efforts, Keith Belli: Keith reviewed the history of this continuing survey. The plan in the long-run is to expand the survey to the other regions and disciplines. It is a good survey instrument and they want to get it out. The FS has supported. Preliminary results are that high school students listen to family and friends first about career choices and not to counselors and teachers. There are two points/ages where they make career decisions: 1)11th and 12th grades and 2) after they have entered college. **Action:** Send Executive Summary and survey to the NAUFRP listserve.

Frank Boteler, NIFA: NIFA Director Roger Beachy's emphasis is to focus dollars towards 5 priorities . He is influenced by the NRC Report on New Biology which calls on science to address major societal problems. This is a major change: focus, scale and impact. There is a lot of tug of war/dialogue but its about asking how can forestry address major (identified) societal problems. Comment that there are more opportunities for forestry to address these than other ag sectors. Frank says forestry transcends the other sectors – it is interdisciplinary. In the letter Hal sent to Roger Beachy earlier this year he noted that one-third of the country is in forest cover and two-thirds of that is privately owned, yet there is no federal agenda. NAUFRP was not satisfied with Beachy's response. Frank reviewed NIFA's organization into four institutes. One of the biggest shifts is away from one NPL to team NPLs and rotation within them. Frank reports to Meryl Broussand the Deputy Administrator.

Policy decisions are made by Roger Beachy or the Under Secretary. Mark Poth reports to Frank. In FY10, \$720 million in AFRI funds were awarded; they were multi-year grants which is a risk with the appropriations process. Climate Change was funded at \$50-\$60 million. Currently they are trying to complete the FY11 RFA's by the end of the each. Each of the four institutes has co-leaders (management and principle scientists). The principle scientists are not full time federal employees but IPAs of 1-2 years; the intention is to foster out of the box thinking. The USDA Under Secretary overseeing NIFA is Catherine Wotaski (also oversees ERS and ARS). It has yet to be determined if Beachy will report to this Under Secretary or the USDA Secretary. Ann Bartuska, the new Deputy Under Secretary, will not necessarily handle policy issues. Last item, there will be an ATR meeting in 2011.

Michael Goergen, Society of American Foresters, Executive Vice-President: Michael reported on the new SAF 'Rings' program and plans to hold graduation Ring Ceremonies. Every graduating student who is a SAF member will be given a ring. The hope is this will help membership retention. This is first year since 1996 that SAF has shown some growth in membership. Last year they were at 12,000; this year it looks like it will be 14,000-15,000. Michael wants to talk to NAUFRP in the near future about accreditation. Michael was questioned about the Terrestrial Ecosystem process – where did it come from? The push is from schools and employers. The committee is evaluating this proposal and may or may not bring it forward to Council. There are pros and cons. Michael will make sure that the NAUFRP Executive Committee is well aware of what is forwarded to Council in advance. **Action:** remind Michael to keep the Executive Committee updated especially in advance of SAF Council consideration.

Rich Gulden, USDA Forest Service: Plans right now are to hold the IUFRO meeting in conjunction with the 2014 SAF Convention October 5-11 in Salt Lake City, UT. Principle organization will be under the Scientific Committee and the Organizing Committee; Rich heads the latter. Sam Foster has agreed to chair the Strategic Planning Committee. Rich will meet tomorrow with Western NAUFRP and go into more detail.

Bill Richardson, FAEIS: Pat Layton represents NAUFRP on a FAEIS peer review panel. FAEIS is willing to take on NAUFRP's enrollment survey work if requested and include historical data. Terry Sharik encouraged that this be explored. Barry commented on how we've been talking about all the different data needs – maybe we need to give thought to what we want. What are the data needs? ??? something about Education Committee -- maybe set up an Ad Hoc group to the Education Committee to explore what and why do we want certain data. **Action:** Hal and Tim will determine who will join the Education Committee as an Ad Hoc Group to explore this. Hal says we need to be tracking graduates (FAEIS does).

Adjourned.

*Approved March 7, 2011
Washington, D.C.*

ACTION ITEMS:

Action: Develop a stakeholder letter with partner support/sign-on to submit on AFRI RFAs.

Action: Determine how to respond to the ACOP Science Road Map.

Action: the Extension Chair, in cooperation with the NWOA, will bring a proposal to next March's Executive Committee regarding eligibility criteria for the Family Forest Education Award.

Action: Next March's Executive Committee will meet March 7-9.

Action: An Ad-Hoc Committee was designed to work on the McStennis 50th Anniversary: Steve Bullard, Keith Belli, Janaki Alavaparti, Daniel Cassidy (NIFA) and Randy Nuckolls.

Action: Provide comments on the NAUFRP one-page back to Tim White by ?? (date).

Action: Hal will articulate in writing his criteria "Guiding Principles" for signing on to 'partner' letters. A catalog of letters NAUFRP has signed over the last two years will be posted on the website.

Action: Education Committee's draft Undergraduate Education Strategy to be sent to full membership for review and comment by November 24th. Identify other groups to review/comment. Survey out in December Final draft to Ex Com for March Meeting

Action: Link NAUFRP webpage to Biennial University Education in Natural Resources.

Action: Send SNAUFRP Recruiting Survey and Executive Summary to the NAUFRP listserve.

Action: Hal and Tim will determine who will join the Education Committee as an Ad Hoc Group to explore turning enrollment data survey over to FAEIS as well as address questions of what other data is desired and for what purpose.

Action: Remind Michael Goergen to keep the Executive Committee updated on the SAF committee recommendation concerning terrestrial ecology accreditation – especially before the SAF Council consideration.

MOTIONS APPROVED:

- March 2010 Executive Committee Minutes
- 2009 and (ytd) 2010 Treasury Reports and Proposed 2011 Budget
- NAUFRP Past President take on the duties as the representative to the BNR

NOTE: Executive Committee Meeting Date: March 7-9, 2011