

**Minutes**  
**National Association of University Forest Resources Programs**  
**Executive Committee**  
**March 3-4, 2014**  
**Washington, D.C.**

Participants: Steve Bullard, President (Stephen F. Austin State University), Jim Allen, President-Elect (Northern Arizona University), Barry Goldfarb, Secretary-Treasurer (North Carolina State University), Red Baker, Southern Regional Chair (University of Kentucky), Phil Tappe, (University of Arkansas), Tim White, Immediate Past President (University of Florida), Kamran Abdollahi, Diversity Chair (Southern University), Mike Messina, Northeast Regional Chair (Pennsylvania State University), Joyce Berry, At Large (Colorado State University), Bob Wagner, Extension Chair (University of Maine), Janaki Alavalapati, Policy Chair (Virginia Tech University), Randy Nuckolls, NAUFRP General Counsel, Terri Bates, NAUFRP Executive Liaison, Terry Sharik, Education Chair (Michigan Tech University), Steve Tesch, (Oregon State University), Dan Robison By Conference Phone: Keith Belli, Research Chair (University of Tennessee), David Newman, (SUNY),

The agenda was reviewed. The federal government is closed March 3 due to the winter storm. Partners who cannot make it in have been invited to participate by conference phone.

The October 22, 2013 Executive Committee minutes were accepted without change.

**Treasurer's Report, Barry Goldfarb:** Barry reviewed final 2013 financial report and discussed the 2014 budget approved at the October 2013 meeting. There is a \$3,000 carryover from 2013 for the Education Clearing House that has not been set up yet. The NAUFRP webpage needs some restructuring first. The history of the webpage: it was initially hosted by Virginia Tech and later invited to be hosted at Mississippi State University at no cost. Gradually the work and sophistication of the webpage has grown and NAUFRP now pays \$2,500 annually for its maintenance. Steve asked the Executive Committee members to review the webpage and send their ideas to Terri. Dues income in 2014 is projected to be slightly down because of the sequestration. NAUFRP has two new members that have joined since October: Paul Smith's College and Salish Kootenai College. Neither receives McIntire-Stennis (McStennis) allocations so they are charged the base rate of \$750. Overall, a slight deficit is projected in 2014. There are two one-time funding projects that were approved for 2014. These are \$5,000 for the IUFRO graduate student registration scholarships and \$5,000 for an international student survey that will be conducted by Terry Sharik at the IUFRO World Congress in October at Salt Lake City (SLC). Barry projects an approximate balance of \$81,241 for the end of 2014. Steve Bullard reported that on a recent conference call related to the University of California-Berkeley Education Summit to be held in May commemorating their centennial it was learned that the Pinchot Institute education survey has not received financial support that was anticipated and they are in the red. In the past, NAUFRP has provided financial support to the UNER conference which is at Auburn University this Spring, but we have not been asked for this support this time. Steve expects Terry Sharik will discuss this further as part of his Education Committee Report and perhaps bring forward a funding proposal regarding the Pinchot. Berkeley has not formally asked for NAUFRP support but it is understood that Dean Keith Gilles will match any financial support provided to the Pinchot for the education survey. Steve noted that the Pinchot survey and analysis is directly in line with NAUFRP's work in particular the Undergraduate Education Strategic Plan and it would be good to be a sponsor. It was noted that the Berkeley meeting is by invitation and not open to all NAUFRP members. A **motion** was made by Tim White, seconded by Bob Wagner, to approve the Treasurer's Report and express appreciation to Barry Goldfarb for his service and work. **The motion passed unanimously.**

**Policy Report, Janaki Alavalapati:** Janaki reported the Farm Bill finally passed in January as a four year bill. Almost all of the provisions the Association of Public Land Grant Universities (APLU) supported were included. Most of the NIFA mandatory funding programs were continued. RREA was reauthorized. There was an effort to get 'trees' into the Beginner Farmer and Rancher Program which has mandatory funding at \$20/million annually but that did not happen.

There is a \$7 million authorization for forests and forest products under the Specialty Crops Program. And there is a new Food and Agriculture Science Learning Program authorized at \$25 million annually for the purpose of increasing broader agriculture learning. Janaki is unsure of its application to forestry. BIRDI is reauthorized at \$12 million (\$3 million annually). The Energy Title includes the biobased fuels research program which covers forestry. The Forestry in the Farm Bill Coalition was instrumental on behalf of forestry. They are now focusing on the President's Climate Action Plan which specifically supports forestry research after NAUFRP weighed in. We have agreed to formally sign on to it. Janaki invited further input as need. A final comment noted that the Native American institutions are seeking eligibility for McStennis.

**Extension Report, Bob Wagner:** Bob reviewed progress on the NAUFRP Extension Plan. He provided a written report and copies of the draft MOU he has developed. The latter was shared at last fall's meeting and focuses on four partners (American Forest Foundation, National Alliance of Forest Owners, National Woodland Owners Association and the Sustainable Forestry Initiative). These partnership agreements will need to be actively managed and partner research and extension priorities obtained and reaffirmed. The tangible output from this will be a central place that lists the research priorities of national organizations on the NAUFRP webpage. Steve Bullard expressed appreciation for all of Bob's work. We will want to try and have representatives attend partners meetings. It is important to convey the relevance of NAUFRP and research on a continuing basis. Steve noted that Red and Keith have worked to try and alternate southern NAUFRP regional meetings with the Forest Landowners Association and the Southern Group of State Foresters. Bob said he would be happy to expand the list of partners to focus on (quite a long list was developed from this group's previous input). NASF is another partner to consider starting with. Randy said some partners may have difficulty signing a MOU because of their individual processes and bureaucracy. He cited how hard it has been to get something moving with NAFO. Steve discussed the status of the NAFO survey. It was sent out last fall and a report went to the committee last Friday. The survey went to 30 tactically chosen NAFO members; 21 responses were received. The survey established long term and short term research priorities by region. The purpose of this is to build a relationship and show the relevance of university research to NAFO members. Steve noted that SFI held their annual meeting in Texas last fall and he attended. There was very good participation and he was in touch with a lot of organizations NAUFRP does not traditionally interact with. The last Deans' Tour was in early 2009 in Florida. At that time Nadine Block was with AF&PA and heavily involved with organizing it. She and Paul Trianosky are both at SFI now and are very interested in how to build a better relationship with NAUFRP. Steve has suggested a "Leadership Tour" with national partners; he would like to submit a proposal for this thru SFI's conservation grants program. A final comment urged consideration to changing this committee's name to 'Extension and Outreach'.

**Research Report, Keith Belli** (by conference phone): Keith is serving on the National Academy of Science AFRI Review panel. The Committee is currently reviewing chapters. He will send the report out when he is able to. There is a meeting scheduled tomorrow at NIFA with program leaders; Red and Kamran will go. Daniel Cassidy is back in his position. Keith feels much is coming together for realigning McStennis priorities. Keith was asked if the national program leaders are using the NAUFRP data base. He said yes and pointed out forestry has done well with AFRI in recent times. He has had a good signup response and the database is being kept current with willing, able and competent people.

**Diversity Report, Kamran Abdollahi:** Kamran provided a written report and asked Steve Bullard to discuss the Diversity Logic Model. Steve provided the background on this. It began at this time last year when NAUFRP representatives met with Cindi West (Associate Deputy, US Forest Service R&D) and SAF. Forest Service R&D was interested in putting up \$50,000 to begin the process but Steve is not sure if anything has happened yet because of year end funding issues and the government shut down last fall. Everyone is pretty supportive. The ideal is to start from scratch. We should hear more on this when we meet with SAF and FS R&D this afternoon. Kamran discussed the Multicultural Workforce Strategic Initiatives (MWSI), a FS program within USDA. There was a Task Force meeting at Southern in March with USDA Secretary Vilsack and FS Chief Tidwell. Action Items: NAUFRP Diversity Forum at the 2014 SAF Convention -- Kamran is organizing a 1890s panel; participation in the MANNRS Conference. Barry suggested talking to Jim Reaves about how to get students better access to MWSI. There was a question about the status of the Virginia Tech Diversity Conference proceedings held last summer. Janaki reported that it would be out shortly.

**Forest Research Advisory Committee (FRAC) Report:** Joyce stepped down from this committee last year due to her pending retirement and had no report. FRAC did meet recently in Washington DC. She believes Keith Gillless is still a member and that Bob Smith from Virginia Tech is now the current chair.

**Budget and Advisory Committee (BAC) Report, Tim White:** Tim reviewed the background on NAUFRP's participation in BAC. BAC engages Cornerstone to advocate for APLU supported programs. For FY14, there were seven priority funding areas supported including McStennis (RREA is on a secondary list). McStennis came out at \$34 million. The President's FY15 budget is due out tomorrow. APLU's position will be to advocate for whatever number is higher: FY14 funding levels or the President's FY15 request. Tim was asked if the 1890s are represented on BAC. Tim said yes, Carolyn Brooks is on the committee and there is an Extension representative as well. A big topic on the agriculture side is combining pest and disease into one line item; it has met with resistance. BAC and APLU are talking about more funding for water research. Tim was asked if McStennis is in danger of slipping off the BAC priority list. Tim said no but it is very important to maintain BAC membership.

**Board of Natural Resources Roadmap (BNR) Report, Tim White:** Tim reviewed the background on this. It came about after the APLU Agriculture Roadmap did not cover natural resources in any depth. The BNR effort has been in the works for 18 months and utilized the Delphi process. It is organized around challenges (i.e., water, sustainability,....). Now it is at the printers and will be out within the month. An event is being planned for its rollout. NAUFRP had an author involved in every chapter. If we like the final product we will want to put it on the NAUFRP website. Randy urged thought be given about how to use this and other products (NAFO survey) effectively. The McStennis plan needs to be updated and a part of this too.

**ATR Report, Steve Bullard:** Steve noted the ATR meeting scheduled for Wednesday (March 5) in Washington, DC. The last ATR workshop was in January 2009, before that in 2006 in conjunction with the NAUFRP annual meeting in Pittsburgh, PA. There had been discussion of having this meeting in the South to attract more 1890 representatives but the upcoming meeting ended up being planned around this NAUFRP and concurrent CARET meetings. Good attendance is expected. Key questions have been solicited from participants and worked into the agenda. The challenge will be the variability in the participants' McStennis knowledge base. An ongoing item of discussion has been the status of the McStennis Manual revision/update – this has now going to be wrapped into one agency Manual. Some universities are having issues with international travel; NIFA has deferred this to their agency legal people.

**International Report, Jim Johnson** (by conference phone): Jim provided a written report and additional handouts related to the upcoming IUFRO World Congress. At the Charleston meeting, \$5,000 was agreed upon for IUFRO registration scholarships for graduate students with stipulations (i.e. that they be presenters, one per institution). This amount would fund 33 students. The nomination process began in January. When we saw we were not going to hit the maximum number of students we can fund, we dropped the stipulation that the students be presenters and allowed for up to 3 students per institution. Still, only about 18 nominations have been received to date. The question is what to do with the remaining funds (about \$2,300): use or return to NAUFRP's Treasury. The original purpose was to encourage student participation – giving more money to the students already accepted would not increase the number of students attending. The sense of the group was that it is still early; the IUFRO registration process is open thru late April. A **motion** was made by Red Baker, seconded by Tim White, to extend the scholarship period thru the April registration deadline. Jim clarified that we are talking about using the relaxed requirements (presenting is not required and up to 3 students per NAUFRP institution). All nominations accepted to date are considered grandfathered in. Additional nominations will be accepted on a first come first serve basis up to 33. If not all the funds are utilized they will be returned to the NAUFRP Treasury. The motion passed unanimously.

**Southern Regional Report, Red Baker:** Southern NAUFRP met in Charleston, SC last fall. They will next meet with FLA in New Orleans this coming June. At the Charleston meeting, they discussed the need to better identify the research priorities of partners in the South and identified a list of organizations. This will likely include FLA, Southern Group of State Foresters, SFI, wildlife partners and TIMOs. Are there any deans on the board of FLA? There have been

academics in the past (VA Tech names: John Hausner and Harry Haney) but not now. Randy said there has been a loss of institutional memory. **Action Item:** Steve Bullard to follow-up with Scott Jones and ask about NAUFRP representation at FLA Board Meetings. Forest landowners need to understand the importance of research and students. Let Red know if there are particular groups that should be invited to the southern NAUFRP meeting in June. They will hold elections for a new chair at that time.

**Northeast Regional Report, Mike Messina:** The Northeast and North Central NAUFRP regions met jointly in Charleston, SC last fall. There was discussion about a joint meeting with State Foresters and it was noted that NASF combines these two regions as one. This might be an idea for NAUFRP to pursue. Barry Goldfarb made a **motion**, seconded by Kamran, that the NAUFRP regions of the Northeast and North Central consider combining into one region. Discussion: it was suggested that an additional at-large member be added to the Executive Committee from the combined region. David said the reason this hasn't already been done is because there are so many states involved and the issues sometimes differ between the regions. Distance is also a factor. There was consensus that the two regions need to discuss this in depth. There are opportunities at the ATR meeting to engage on this personally. The President- Elect was tasked to follow-up on this next fall. The motion was tabled. A suggested question for the ATRs to discuss on Wednesday: are you willing to support requesting NIFA to withhold McStennis funds if an institution does not have a qualified program? David noted that a number of northeast institutions do not have forestry programs.

**2014 Salt Lake City Annual Meeting:** Plans for meeting in SLC were discussed. NAUFRP meetings will be at the Marriott City Creek on October 7th (Executive Committee and President's Reception) and 8th (General Assembly). No breakout sessions are planned for the General Assembly. There was interest in inviting and trying to involve the European Deans in the NAUFRP program. Barry provided the link to their website <http://www.forestrydeans.eu/contact.html>. Perhaps schedule a special session and invite presentations on their programs and issues. A template for a panel might include asking them to address specifically who they are, how they are organized, how often they meet, educational issues, research issues,..... We will have some business that can be covered in the morning first thing then could follow with this type of program.

**Dave Tenny, National Alliance of Forest Owners** (by conference phone): NAFO's priorities remain the same: forest roads, carbon and taxes. NAFO and partners were successful in getting provisions into the Farm Bill which amend the Clean Water Act eliminating future regulations that require permits so this is no longer a threat. Another provision included in the Farm Bill was the prohibition of citizen lawsuits. Carbon counting has become the top priority for NAFO. The Supreme Court has heard arguments on this issue. A decision should be announced in June. The 'Tailoring Rule' is not a high EPA priority; EPA is focused on regulating the use of coal. EPA needs to complete work on carbon counting and NAFO's objective is to help them develop a framework. The timeframe for this will be summer. Last week, House Ways and Means Chairman David Camp released a tax reform proposal which includes provisions pertaining to timber (elimination of timber tax provisions). Even though it is not going anywhere this year, it opens the door on key issues and poses considerable cost and uncertainty. NAFO will provide further analysis. The NAUFRP Research program is moving forward. There was a 70 percent response rate which was very good. To characterize research needs, the most pressing need is for EPA to have the information they need for biomass counting. This will be a baseline to any policy going forward. Ongoing research on tax policy impacts on markets and land management is also needed. It would be helpful to catalog how this research is organized and presented to Congress. Dave is not sure any organization has tried to assemble this. Tim noted that all our faculties have economists but they have to fund their own research and there has not been much funding at the national level for tax policy impacts. Dave thinks funding will come – it will follow the bell that has been rung. Barry said a lot of economic models are state and/or regional; an issue is how to translate to the national level. Dave said he expects NAFO will develop a research aspect to their tax issues priority; he invited the group to send their thoughts to him.

**Wendy Fink, Association of Public Land Grant Universities (APLU)** (by conference phone): The BNR Roadmap is at the printers. A 'rollout' needs to be determined and coordinated. No exact date has been set – perhaps the end of this month or next. They would like the APLU public relations and government affairs people to give the BNR Roadmap attention, but this is not the best time for them. There was a question about the chapters. Biodiversity is wrapped into

sustainability. Steve said NAUFRP is looking forward to integrating this with the McStennis Strategic Plan. APLU is trying to crosswalk it with other roadmaps and other reports

**Bob Alverts (Vice-President) and Carol Redelshimer, (Louise Murgia by conference phone) Society of American Foresters:** Bob distributed a graphic depicting the age-class of SAF membership: the majority of members are 50 and up; less than 10% are in their 20s. SAF leadership is focusing on a key set of priorities of which membership is key. They are asking for help on communication tools and techniques. And they need help from NAUFRP on the student side – identify and mentor as SAF members. The kids need to know why they need SAF. It is hard to retain student members after they graduate. Over the last 20 years, SAF has lost 10,000 members. Due to the land sale, they have been able to balance their budget. The SAF budget has 3 drivers; dues (40%), convention (20%), publications (20%). The last they want to get to 25%. New and creative revenue sources need to be developed (estates, gifts, estate management, demonstration forests, codes and standards like the engineering profession). SAF has re-incorporated under DC laws. They expect to have 3 candidates for the Executive Vice President position to Council by the end of March. Their key tasks: membership, budget, convention. Louise provided a Logic Model Update. They are working on a cooperative agreement with the Forest Service which they hope will be signed by the end of the month. This includes the \$50,000. Does SAF have a development officer or planner? No, but Bob Alverts suggested NAUFRP recommend that in writing to the SAF Counsel. This is a good idea but the person in the seat is key and should have a forestry background. Joyce said her college is not very diverse and feels we need to describe ourselves differently. Bob Alverts thinks the new accreditation on natural resource management is the way to go. Steve noted the state societies are declining. Their value is continuing education and networking. He suggested a model that outlines a program for future years with practical knowledge, non-random speakers, coordinated around major challenges facing foresters in local areas and regions. Other comments: SAF should encourage student advisors; convey to students that SAF is broader than forestry; the name is limiting. Carol said there have been conversations about linking memberships to other professional societies. Bob would like to see a new publication with other resource professional societies. Carol said they could do better job of involving students in other tasks (accreditation, committee reviews).

**Nadine Block, Sustainable Forestry Initiative** (by conference phone): Paul Trianosky has joined the SFI staff as the Senior Director for Conservation Partnerships and is responsible for their conservation grants. He is also tasked with engaging the universities. A SFI member requirement is to invest and support research and this is done chiefly through the conservation grants. The 2014 grant proposal period has just closed and the review process begun; awards will be announced late spring. They have one more workshop coming up on reviewing the Standard. At last fall's conference in Texas, they had 8 students attend on scholarships. They were well received. This coming fall the conference will be in Montreal which is not too far from the US. They would like help from NAUFRP schools in spreading the word and identifying students to attend. Steve would like to discuss with Paul the topic of NAUFRP applying for a grant for a leadership tour. What does Nadine think? She says it is consistent with their grant program and SFI would see value in this. The challenge would be their capacity. They have talked a little about this. Would definitely like to explore further community grants focused on youth/teacher education.

**Jim Reaves, Cindi West, US Forest Service** (by conference phone): Jim forwarded a PowerPoint presentation. Following the PPT outline, he discussed the Forest Service focus areas, R&D funding overview, FY14 Focus areas and R&D Capacity. Steve said that Carol had briefed the Executive Committee earlier on the Cooperative Agreement they are working on that includes the Logic Model. Cindi asked if Steve was still the contact on this. He affirmed he was along with Kamran. Cindi said when the agreement is signed (likely later this week), they will convene a planning team. There was a question about FS R&D vacancies in the Washington Office. Jim said they have had 204 retirements. There is a new system for classifying positions that has caused a backlog. The Environmental Science position was abolished.

**Sonny Ramaswamy, National Institute for Food and Agriculture:** The 2015 President's budget is being released this morning (March 4<sup>th</sup>) however the details will not be released till Friday in the narratives and Explanatory Notes. Sonny thinks the Farm Bill came out "great". They sought to increase administration costs through a one percent take from AFRI but this was the one thing they did not get so they are now trying to get this through appropriations language. The Farm Bill included funding for mandatory programs. Specialty crops was increased to \$600 million over 5 years, but

BIRDI took a hit. It had been \$30 million a year previously but will now only receive \$3 million/annually for 4 years. The Farm Bill authorized a Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research. A 'kitty' of \$200 million will be established to be matched by donations from the private sector for entrepreneurial research. The timeframe for getting it up and running is 60 days. Board Members include USDA Secretary, Under Secretary for Research and the heads of NSF, ARS, NIFA; eight nominations are to come from the national academies. This is about creating innovations and jobs; they want people with demonstrable expertise in bridging academic research and?? Sonny urged NAUFRP to look at the Farm Bill language. If NAUFRP chooses to nominate someone then we should cc Katherine Wotecki and himself. The Foundation will differ from AFRI in that it will be a 501(c)(3) and thus will be outside government. Private enterprises can donate to it and gain a tax write-off. The contributions will invest in discoveries. The Foundation research will have near-term application and matching funds; it will be able to provide X-Prizes and X-Challenges. Janaki asked if the water resources RFA explicitly recognizes forestry and natural resources? Sonny was sure it does – that was the intent -- but if we don't see it, let him know. If it didn't get in, it can be revised. The Foundation grants will be scaled very differently and there will be continuation awards (better for cash flow too). CARE competition address near-term problems need to address scale \$150,000 for one year. New small grants for exploratory research, 5 pages submitted to NPL. Quick decision and checks out. NIFA is undergoing an organizational realignment. There is going to be an Associate Director of Operations which will be advertised soon and is SES. The Associate Director of Programs will be Meryl Broussard.

**Education Report, Terry Sharik:** Terry reviewed his written report. The BNR Roadmap is at the printers. The Education Chapter included outreach and extension which the Agriculture Roadmap did not. Terry is on the planning committee for the UC- Berkeley Forestry Education Summit. All NAUFRP members should have received the survey; there is still time to get it in. They've had a 60% response rate. Terry will check with Al Sample to see if we can obtain a list of those institutions who have responded so we can recruit a few more responses. Tim White made a motion, seconded by Joyce Berry to allocate \$5,000 to support the Pinchot education survey for the Berkeley Summit based on the understanding that Berkeley will match this amount. We would like NAUFRP to be recognized as co-sponsor of survey and subsequent publications. This is in line with our Undergraduate Education Strategic Plan. The motion passed unanimously. Terry is also on the IUFRO Communications subcommittee. Michigan Tech has just submitted an application for a chapter of the International Forestry Students Association (IFSA). Terry will conduct a global survey of students using the \$5,000 committed by NAUFRP. He continues to work on student enrollments trends; levels appear to be at 1980 levels. We need to get our data lined-up with FAEIS. Last fall's NAUFRP General Assembly breakout sessions looked at 'Best Practices for Improving Communications Skills in Natural Resource Majors'. The outcome of the workshops will be posted on the website and be the basis of an IUFRO poster and possibly published. Steps will be taken in the near future to revamp the NAUFRP webpage and get an Educational Clearing House setup on it.

**Jay Farrell, National Association of State Foresters:** Jay shared three handouts. NASF continues to appreciate NAUFRP support (NAUFRP co-signed letters) for federal fire funding which is a critical issue to the State Foresters. A new approach they are proposing is to treat fire funding like any federal emergency. Congress supports the concept but Jay really don't know how Paul Ryan's Budget Committee will formally come out on this. Major things were accomplished in the Farm Bill (Forest Roads language, Stewardship, ... Strategic Plan for FIA). Jay shared a copy of resolutions passed by NASF at their last meeting to illustrate their consensus on important issues. These included green building, forest certification, wildland fire funding and can be found in entirety on their webpage [www.stateforesters.org](http://www.stateforesters.org). NAUFRP should work with NASF to develop a resolution recognizing the importance of university-based forestry research, education and outreach. Scott Josiah, the Nebraska State Forester is NASF's designated liaison to NAUFRP. Gene Kodama, South Carolina State Forester represents NASF on FRAC. Terry Sharik asked if the State Foresters are having a conversation about workforce diversity? Barry pointed out Bob Wagner's efforts and our interest in sharing partner research priorities. The NASF annual meeting is this September in St. Paul. Perhaps Al Ek can participate. Randy suggested discussing a retreat with State Foresters or a National Leadership Tour along the lines of earlier Deans Tours.

**Rich Guldin (IUFRO) US Forest Service R&D:** The World Congress received 3,800 abstracts and have accepted 1,300 oral presentations; 292 are from the US of which 40% are Forest Service/federal and 60% are universities and ngos. There were 2,200 posters accepted of which 264 are from U.S. universities and 341 from Latin America. Registration is

in progress. Students who register pre-graduation may attend at the student rate. They have 40 student registrations completed and several 100 in the works. There were 19 nominees for the IUFRO World Congress Host Scientific Award. The top 3 names have been forwarded. SAF is handling a lot of business. There will be 100 plus exhibitors (this will be joint with SAF). A US pavilion will be a centerpiece in the exhibition hall representing the forestry sector. Rich will put Terri in touch with those organizing it. Rich noted NAUFRP is a \$5,000 sponsor (through the student scholarships) Student collaboration is needed. Some interesting things are being generated, for example, a 'Gender Café' for networking. Overall participation is anticipated at 3,000 from 100 countries. They need 2,500 to break even. SAF needs 1,000 to 1,200.

**Luis Tupas, Deputy Director, Institute of Bioenergy, Climate, and Environment, USDA National Institute of Food and**

**Agriculture:** Luis was just appointed to this position. They need feedback on Sec 7310 of the Farm Bill – forest product utilization research. This is moving NIFA into bio-economics -- agriculture products that are not food. Randy suggested they put together a workshop. Steve Tesch volunteered to be the point person on this. The timeframe would be for the FY16 budget being developed in the next few months (a draft goes to OMB in September) so a summer workshop would be good timing. There is a \$7 million authority. The President's Climate Action Plan is the other area Luis wants to work on. Regional USDA Climate hubs have been established to coordinate USDA activities (includes university system) with NOAA. Randy Johnson has the lead on this (he has a forestry background). Mike Rains is the FS lead. Randy asked if the FY16 budget will have funding for this? Luis says they need to develop this and will begin with existing resources. Luis says USDI and NOAA have hubs; the long-term intent is to coordinate, not duplicate. Randy asked what is important in the water RFA? Luis said it's called water resources for agriculture but is very broad to include forests and rangeland. The emphasis is on sustainability and he gave several examples. It was reaffirmed that Steve Tesch will submit a proposal to NIFA for a NAUFRP workshop on Farm Bill section on wood utilization up to \$50,000. It should be designed from authorization to an appropriation request. Luis says they need to know what the community thinks; FS R&D needs to be involved. Backing from the community is necessary for appropriations. It was suggested that the workshop be held in Madison.

*Adopted  
October 7, 2014  
Salt Lake City, Utah*

Action Items/Follow-up:

Executive Committee asked to review NAUFRP webpage and send Terri ideas/suggestions for revamping it.

Followup on proposed change of name for Extension Committee.

- BNR Road map on NAUFRP webpage
- Steve to follow-up with Scott Jones, FLA, about NAUFRP representation at their Board Meetings.
- (Terri) Obtain from IUFRO listing of Deans and Department heads: European, Canadian, Latin America,..... (Barry provided website for European Deans)
- NAUFRP Webpage Redesign and education clearinghouse
- Invite Scot Josiah, NE State Forester and liaison to NAUFRP to annual meeting
- NASF Annual meeting in St Paul in September. Al Ek participate?
- President-Elect to follow up on idea of combining NAUFRP's Northeast and North Central regions
- Steve Tesch to follow up with Luis Tupas on possible forest products utilization workshop.