**Minutes – ASRED Spring Meeting**

In conjunction with

**Southern Region Mini Land-Grant Meeting**

(https://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/landgrant2019/index.html)

**Coral Springs, FL**

**March 18 – 21, 2019**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Minutes** | | |
| ***Monday, March 18*** | | |
| **4:00 – 6:00 pm** | | **Registration – Palm Foyer** |
| ***Tuesday, March 19*** | | |
| **6:00 – 4:30 pm** | | **Registration – Palm Foyer** |
| **6:30 – 8:00 am** | | **Group Breakfast – Breezes Terrace** |
| **8:00 – 10:00 am** | | **Joint ASRED and SAAESD Session – Orchid Room** |
| 8:00 – 8:10 | J1 | Welcome and Introductions – Nick Place, ASRED Chair, and Steve Lommel, SAAESD Chair |  |
| 8:10 – 8:30 | J2 | NIFA Update – Luis Tupas, Deputy Director for Bioenergy, Climate and Environment, USDA/NIFA   * ~7% increase in 2019 NIFA budget * Need to read NIFA 2019 explanatory notes to know what NIFA is doing with funding * Farmer Stress System Network – new Extension program; $2million * FAQ on hemp being planned * Farm Bill – provides some new provisions, in addition to mandatory programs. Currently determining intent of new language. * RFAs being published as rapidly as possible * Scott Hutchins – Under Secretary, still to be confirmed * Scott Angle – Director of NIFA since October 2018 * Soon to hire directors of Communications and Planning * Working to hire Director of Food Safety and Nutrition * POW deadline moved from April to June deadline |  |
| 8:30 – 9:15 | J3 | Budget [Update](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/J3-jim-richards-budget-presentation.pptx) and Realignment Discussion – Jim Richards, Cornerstone Government Affairs   * 77% of NIFA budget goes to our 6 key lines * For FY20, we are asking for $125M increase (to complete the $200M increase we asked for last year). * In FY20 President’s budget request, there is one paragraph for NIFA instead of three – in other words one program instead of three (Research and Education, Extension and Integrated). * Both Senate and House are using online requests for program priorities. * Need to work Congress harder. |  |
| 9:15 – 9:35 | J4 | Southern Rural Development Center [Update](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/J4-steve-turners-srdc-presentation.pptx) – Steve Turner, Director |  |
| 9:35 – 10:00 | J5 | Comments and BAA Initiatives Updates – Doug Steele, Vice President for Food, Agriculture and Natural Resources, APLU |  |
| **10:00 – 10:30 am** | | **Break – Grand Floridian Foyer** |  |
| **10:30 – 5:00 pm** | | **ASRED Session – Egret / Sandpiper Room** |  |
| 10:30 – noon | 1 | Incoming ASRED Chair Nick Place called the meeting to order.  Introductions were made to include CARET members in attendance. Louise Beaman (IN), Charles Vandersteen (LA), and Richard Crowder (VA).  Nick Place presented a plaque of appreciation to Gary Lemme for his service as 2018-2019 ASRED Chair.  Outgoing ASRED Chair, Gary Lemme passed the gavel to Nick Place, 2019-2020 ASRED Chair.  Attendees: Gary Lemme (AL), Paul Brown (AL), Martha Ray (AR), Nick Place (FL), Laura Johnson (GA), Gary Palmer (KY), Gina Eubanks (LA), Tom Melton (NC), Damona Doye (OK), Tom Dobbins (SC), Brian Callahan (SC), Robert Burns (TN), Laura Stephenson (TN), Michael Buschermohle (TN), Ed Jones (VA), Bob Whitson (TX), Gary Jackson (MS), Steve Martin (MS), Paula Threadgill (MS), Steve Turner (SRDC), Ron Brown (ASRED), Elvin Roman, (Puerto Rico).     1. Cornerstone Follow Up – Jim Richards (See Realignment [Summary](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/1a-strategic-realignment-summary-supporting-materials.pdf))  Note: There were a number of questions and much discussion with Jim Richards regarding the proposed federal ‘one-ask’ relative to the six primary NIFA lines. 2. Appoint Nominating committee – will serve beginning this meeting and serve until the next spring meeting (one senior, one mid-tenure and one new Director) - (See list of Vacancies [HERE](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/1b-vacancies-asred_03-19.pdf)). Appointees: Laura Johnson, Chair; Damona Doye; and Gary Jackson      1. Appoint Resolutions committee for 2019-2020 Appointees: Gary Palmer, Chair; Robert Burns; and Martha Ray Sartor 2. Appoint committee to evaluate ED and review Accomplishments/POW [HERE](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/1d1-accomplishments-2018_goals-2019.pdf) and Budget [HERE](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/1d2-fy20-asred-budget.pdf) (include ASRED Chair, Clemson Director and 2-3 other Directors). Appointees: Nick Place, Chair; Tom Dobbins; Gary Lemme; Robert Burns; and Ed Jones 3. Approve [Minutes](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/1e-asred-minutes-8-2018-final.pdf) of August 2018 meeting Note: Tom Dobbins made motion to approve the minutes of the August 2018 meeting. Ed Jones seconded the motion. Approved 4. Review agenda Note: Agenda for March 2019 meeting approved. No additions. |  |
|  | 2 | State Updates – All  Individual documents: [Alabama](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-al-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Arkansas](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-ar-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Florida](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-fl-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Georgia](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-ga-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Kentucky](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-ky-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Louisiana](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-la-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Mississippi](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-ms-state-update_03-19.pdf), [North Carolina](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-nc-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Oklahoma](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-ok-state-report_03-19.pdf), Puerto Rico, [South Carolina](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-sc-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Tennessee](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-tn-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Texas](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/2-tx-state-update_03-19.pdf), [Virginia](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2017_04/2_VA_State_Update.pdf), Virgin Islands  *Print Consolidated State Updates document* [*HERE*](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/2-state-updates/state-updates-all-4-1-19.pdf) *or print individual documents above.* |  |
| **12:00 – 1:30 pm** | | **Lunch – Breezes Terrace** |  |
| 1:30 – 3:00 pm | 2 | State Updates (continued)  VA – Bobby Grisso replaced by Dan Gorlic; got about $600K increase and 2.75% salary increase; Reviewed all volunteer programs in terms of demographics, 4H volunteers good, Master Gardeners needed help; new Provost was former Dean of Vet Medicine.  TX – Legislative session just started (two year budget), not expecting cuts; Path to the Plate program connecting ag and nutrition and health; experimenting with new staffing in Panhandle area, focusing on disciplinary focus. Putting specialists in 3 county area who each work the 3 counties in their area of specialty; looking for new director with search process underway; focus on impacts of programs from economic standpoint;  TN – big change in legislature, biggest since Civil War; Governor is a farmer; legislature is meeting and expects good results; seeking $8.2M for new building; conducting an external 4H program review;  SC – good budget year last year, $6.8M to update building; seeking big water request this year, flooding, drought; 4H Leadership Program (Senator Pinkney) growing: 7 new Rural Health agents, along with previous four, working with Boeing and Medical College of SC, hiring rural health agents, coordinating with EFNEP and school gardening; budget looking favorable for this year. Mothers’ Milk collection centers.  PR – Levin Roman, acting director for a year; still working to overcome hurricane damage; PR Oversight Board called for budget cuts over a 5 year period; reduced from 56 to 44 Extension offices to accommodate budget cuts;  OK – Legislative session started Feb 1; request 7.5% increase for higher education; State has recommended a flat budget, which if passed will cause a decrease in staffing levels; hired evaluation specialist; will hold community engagement listening sessions around the state in 20 locations; raising funds to build new Ag Hall; looking at industrial hemp program.  NC – New structuring for County Agents, raising salary to $40K with BS, $45 MS, and $50 for Ph.D., and using a formula to increase current employees who may be impacted. Ag agents concerned about mental health of farmers; calls have increased from about 3 per month to 1-3 per day. Getting training for agents for this mental first aid type work.  MS – recovering from 3 years of reductions; 95% of budget tied up in salaries and benefits; tenure has helped recruiting; hiring Plant and Soil Science head, Forestry head; seeking 6.5% increase this year; need to fill 25 agent position; looking at reallocation based on program priorities; Thad Cochran Ag Leadership program is doing well; hiring community wellness agents in 18 counties; external funding was good, about $29M last year; 4H restructuring of foundation; got $1.4 M grant to work on mental health.  LA – Value Health Plan, AETNA funded education for cooking camps; celebrating 50th anniversary of EFNEP; Health conference in partnership with church  KY – took benefits cut of >$1 in 2017, another $2.6M to pay for all benefits, and now asking counties to increase contributions by 23% to cover other benefits costs; installing structure to be accountable for increased county contributions; POW needs assessment process revised; Director interviews next week.  GA – new Provost from Michigan; all district directors filled; new financial and human capital management system; new governor supportive of LGU; $5M greenhouse, $750K from Education committee for security for 4H; benefits costs run up to 74%; new evaluation specialist to show impacts; departmental productivity process; standardized questions for impact; eXtension Designathon teams; Rural Health summit last summer. “The butts you are kicking today will be the ones you will be kissing tomorrow.”  AR – No budget cuts and got some one-time money but no addition to base; going to a unified database system; big blackberry field day; big Day at the Capital, green day; Diabetes Prevention Program with volunteers, working with a health clinic; Opioid grant.  AL – New website (aces.edu); 43% increase in number of 4H clubs in schools; 73% increase in volunteers, increase in minority percentages; launched a civil rights desk audit app for youth and adults; Expressed appreciation for prayers and other help as a follow up to the tornado in Lee county; doing ROI; involved in university health initiative.  FL – hiring 500 new faculty to improve teacher/student ration; new Associate Provost overseeing tenure procedures, supportive of LGU operations; working with College of Medicine to host a meeting on Health and Extension Community Connection; working on harmful algae bloom, e.g., red tide, blue green algae, put together a taskforce to address this; hurricane Michael damage is still being addressed, $140M ag damage, over 1$B forestry damage. |  |
| 3 | Staffing Comparisons, Update March 2019 – Damona Doye  Note: Damona presented the final report of this SE region staffing comparison. (See attachments [3a](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/3a-asred-2018-staffing-comparisons_03-19.xlsx), [3b](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/3b-asred-staffing-comparisons_03-19.pdf) and [3c](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/3c-asred-part-2.pdf))  Another helpful comparison, would be a SE region comparison of source of funding to include federal-capacity, state, county, grants and contracts, user-fess, and donations. States will need to provide data in a consistent format. Damona, Nick and Paul will take lead on developing a protocol for collecting and summarizing information for comparison. |  |
| 4 | Survey Requests to Agents – Gary Palmer  Note: Discussion of number of surveys coming to Extension from graduate students doing research cross the nation - Some states require requests to come through the Director’s Office, discussion about value to organization, and access to results. IRB approval should be submitted with requests to evaluate appropriateness. Gary will share KY written [policy](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/4-kentucky-survey-guidelines-ces-admin.pdf) on matter. |  |
| 5 | Administrative Boot Camp, [Description](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/5-administrative-boot-camp.pdf) – Ron Brown  Note: NC Region Administrative Management Boot Camp – Plans are being made for a Tuesday noon to Thursday noon workshop in mid- to late-June (likely June 25-27) in an accessible location, possibly Kansas City, for 20-25 participants. Research and Extension in SE region are allocated 4-8 slots. Institutional decision. Directors need to provide recommended names to Ron Brown. ASRED Executive Committee will pare-down names if needed. |  |
| **3:00 – 3:30 pm** | | **Break – Grand Floridian Foyer** |  |
| 3:30 – 5:00 pm | 6 | 4-H Grows: The Engagement Campaign – Jennifer McIver  Note: 4-H Grows program update – marketing and capacity building program -- National 4-H Council. Eight SE region states currently participate. (See [4-H Grows](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/6a-4h-grows-for-aea-asred.pptx) and [Fundraising Trends](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/6b-fundraising-trends-4h-congress_6-30-15.pdf))  Points of discussion:  1. Why Being Unified Works (i.e., branding)  2. Milestones to monitor progress FY18 to FY25  3. A transformational brand is a demand brand (i.e., respected, known, and donors seek to become involved)  4. ROI: 5:1 ($56.9 collective media value: $12.5 4-H brand investment).  5. ROI is high in SE region (likely due to level of state participation, plus major media markets in region)  6. Strategies to be a ‘Brand Champion’  7. New: Outdoor Advertising Association of America partnership – Inspire Kids to Do Out of Home Campaign – Fall 2019.  8. Reviewed campaign service and support levels  Also, National 4-H Congress was discussed in terms of National  4-H Council funding assistance. Essentially, the ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee has established other major funding priorities that focus on specific outcomes that donors are interested in today. |  |
| 7 | National 4-H Congress [Report](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/7-national-congress-report_03-19.pdf) – Laura Johnson  Note: New structure has been implemented. The Board has adopted a budget for 2019 of ~$524,000. This budget expects 825 participants at $535 and contributions of $55,000. It is the Board’s hope that National Council will once again secure Joann’s or a similar donor. (See [4-H Congress Donors](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/7b-4h-congress-donors-2019.xlsx))  The National Congress Board of Directors is now fully staffed based on the structure adopted with the new Charter in 2018. There are two Extension Directors on the Board, one from the state in which the event is hosted and one appointed by the 4-H ECOP Committee. Laura Johnson is serving as the Board Chair and the Director from the state in which the event is hosted and Gregg Hadley from Kansas State is the Director appointed by ECOP.  The hotel contract is up after the 2019 event and the Board is receiving bids from 4 venues in Atlanta for a 2 year contract (2020 and 2021). Susan Stewart’s contract to manage the event was extended for 2 more years as well, ending in 2021. 2020 is the 100th Anniversary of National 4-H Congress. Steve Beck, State 4-H Leader from New Mexico State University is the Program Chair for 2019. Decisions as to time of year and state to host the event will not be made until the review study is completed. |  |
| 8 | ECOP 4-H Leadership Committee – Ed Jones  Note: Items shared include:  1. NIFA, ECOP, and National 4-H Council relationship is currently very strong. Name and emblem issues are nearer to being solved.  2. Working with a group of vendors to develop consistency in 4-H management and reporting systems.  3. Plans are being discussed to update the Tufts study at a much lower cost than the original work.  4. Seeking clarity on Civil Rights reporting requirements for USDA ‘directed’ vs. ‘assisted’ programs. USDA-assisted programs fall under Title 6; USDA-directed programs fall under Title 9. This means different rules concerning diversity.  5. Designation of NIFA National Headquarters for 4-H has been discontinued because program leadership is provided by the states. This action takes out a layer of bureaucracy so Directors can collaborate directly without NIFA having to provide oversight. NIFA is asking what their role is and should be for the future. They would like to move away from a regulatory partner and serve more as collaborative partner. NIFA can and should be a connector for 4-H at the national level (i.e., in Washington, DC). |  |
| 9 | ECOP Actions and Discussion – Ed Jones, Tom Dobbins and Gary Jackson  Note: Topics:  1. Strategic Realignment has been a big issue in terms of NIFA budget requests.  2. ECOP (Ed Jones) and ESCOP (Deb Hammernik) having regular and positive conversations with NIFA Director Scott Angle.  3. Conversation about future of Extension – 4-H, health, etc.  4. The BAA has been asked to make a decision regarding CMC and its purpose.  5. Ongoing conversations with NRCS regarding Soil Health and other issues.  6. Extension Futuring will be considered at the upcoming ECOP meeting.  7. Report forthcoming in April on resource development for new initiatives.  8. NEDA will be in Nashville in September 23-26, 2019.  9. Tom reported on Extension Professional Resource Development. Molena Health Care donated $20K to study options for resource development. Changing Our World was hired and has led an effort to identify low hanging fruit in Water, Community Development, Health and Youth Development.  10. Nick reported from standpoint of BLC and Strategic Realignment and gave a status update.  11. Tom Dobbins reported from the Journal of Extension and has some concerns about the direction the board wants to take, which is to make it a scientific journal that supports tenure and promotion. It takes very long for an article to be published, which is now between one and two years. The acceptance rate is 17%. |  |
| **6:00 – 9:00 pm** | | **Welcome Reception – Breezes Terrace** |  |
| ***Wednesday, March 20*** | | |
| **6:30 – 8:00 am** | | **Breakfast – Breezes Terrace** |
| 8:00 – 9:45 am | | **Welcome and Joint Session Objectives** – Jack Payne (UFL)  **Joint Mini Land-Grant Sessions – Grand Cypress/Royal Poinciana**  (https://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/landgrant2019/agenda.html) |
| **Institution to Institution Partnerships** – Moderator: Lona Robertson (UArk); Presenters – Tim Cross (UTK), [Jeff Kuehny](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/jeff-kuehny.pdf) (LSU), [Lloyd Walker](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/lloyd-walker.pdf) (AL A&M)  Brief Description: Program redundancy among institutions in the same state, or neighboring states, is not cost effective and may create questions during accreditation visits, state governing bodies’ assessments or other inquiries. This session will present examples of partnerships and collaborations that are working and their benefits. One program that the session may highlight is the Alliance for Cooperative Course Exchange in the Plant Sciences (ACCEPTS).  Goals and Expected Outcomes: To encourage collaboration among the Southern Region Land-Grant institutions to reduce redundancy and share resources (e.g. faculty and programs). |
| **9:45 – 10:15 am** | | **Break – Grand Floridian Foyer** |
| 10:15 – noon | | **Enhancing Public/Private Partnerships** – Moderator, Saied Mostaghimi (VA Tech); Presenters: [Walter Hill](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/walter-hill.pdf) (Tuskegee), [Steve Lommel](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/steve-lommel.pdf) (NCSU), [Robin Safley](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/robin-safley.pdf) (Executive Director, Feeding Florida)  Brief Description: This session is designed to highlight success factors and best practices of public-private partnerships along with a discussion of roles, expectations, and responsibilities of each partner. There will be an opportunity to hear from a panel of four leaders/professionals representing various types of public-private partnerships. The panelists will also share skills and assets and identify mutual benefits of sustaining partnerships.  Goals and Expected Outcomes:  •Participants will have a greater understanding of what are considered “best practices” in the development of public-private partnerships  •Participants will have a greater understanding of the risks and benefits potential  •Participants will identify potential partners and/or improve existing partnerships or collaborations |
| **12:00 – 1:30 pm** | | **Lunch – Cypress/Royal Room**  **Awards Presentations**  Dr. Doug Steele was recognized with the ASRED Distinguished Leadership Award for his contributions to Extension in the region and nationally. |
| 1:30 – 3:00 pm | | **Welcome Back –** Robert Taylor (FAMU) |
| **Joint Mini Land-Grant Sessions – Grand Cypress/Royal Poinciana**  (https://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/landgrant2019/agenda.html)  **Rural-Urban Connections** – Moderator: Nancy Cox (UKY); Presenters: Patrick Stover (TAMU), [Steven Turner](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/steve-turner.pdf) (SRDC), [John Dole](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/john-dole.pdf) (NCSU), [Stephan Goetz](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/stephan-goetz.pdf) (NE Center for Rural Development)  Brief Description: Despite media attempts to portray urban and rural areas as hopelessly disconnected, the reality is that the social, economic, and environmental health of both types of communities, and all those in between, are linked and interdependent on one another. Efforts are underway across the country to address common concerns, better understand interconnections, and strengthen collaborations across communities.  Goals and Expected Outcomes: Participants should walk away with knowledge of what is currently being done in some areas to strengthen linkages and increase collaboration between urban and rural entities. Participants may decide that more attention is needed on this topic and perhaps there could be a Southern focus to the topic. |
| **3:00 – 3:30 pm** | | **Break – Grand Floridian Foyer** |
| 3:30 – 5:00 pm | | ***NOTE: Bring Computer or iPad***  **Communicating Impacts of Your Programs** – Moderator: Rodd Mosel (CARET)  Presenters: [Faith Peppers](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/general-session/faith-peppers.pdf) (UGA), Sarah Lupis (WAAESD), Frankie Gould (LSU), Scott Cummings (TAMU), Ruth Borger (UFL)  Brief Description: The National Impacts Database has a revised platform and new guidelines have been established to elevate the quality of impact statements for the LGU system. This session will provide an overview of the new system and how it can best be used to inform stakeholders of LGU impacts.  Goals and Expected Outcomes: Participants will have a greater understanding of the tools available through the improved database and ideas for using them to enhance current institutional efforts. Successful completion of this session will provide certification for site administrators. |
| **6:00 – 9:00** | | **Banquet – Breezes Terrace** |
| ***Thursday, March 21*** | | |
| **6:30 – 8:00 am** | | **Breakfast – Breezes Terrace** |
| **8:00 – 10:00** | | **ASRED Session – Egret / Sandpiper Room** |
| 8:00 – 10:00 am | 10 | Southern Region Forestry – Laura Johnson (See [SREF Report](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/10a-asred-forestry-committee-report_03-19.pdf), [FY18 Budget](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/10b-fy18-sref-budget.pdf), [SREF Restructure Draft](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/10c-sref-restructure-draft_1_2019.pdf),  [FY19 Proposed Budget](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/10d-fy19-sref-proposed-budget.pdf), and [US Forest Service Email](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/10e-usfs-southern-region-extension-forestry.pdf))  Note: Tom Dobbins made motion to have Ron Brown craft a positive statement that will be sent to the Forestry Deans and Directors. Robert Burns seconded. Approved.  DRAFT MEMO:  ASRED discussed the revised forestry proposal for the Southern Region Extension Forestry (SREF) program. We appreciate the importance of forestry and forestry Extension and research, as well as the cooperation of multi-agency forestry entities. Over the years, the SREF initiative has helped to build significantly the Extension forestry capacity in the states of the southern region and the project has met the key objectives of the initiative. It is important to continue to encourage cooperation among the forestry community in the region and believe that a Southern Research and Extension Activity (SERA) is an appropriate mechanism for continuing our joint efforts (see https://saaesd.org/southern-extension-research-activities/).  ASRED is willing to provide assistance in developing a Forestry SERA which will “bring together researchers and extension specialists sharing a common problem, issue, or disciplinary interest. The general objective is to provide a functionally integrated forum to coordinate joint activities to address stakeholder needs.” We are authorizing Dr. Laura Johnson to extend this response and look forward to your consideration of working together to develop a productive and continuing SERA. |  |
| 11 | General Update and Discussion on Glyphosate and Dicamba – All  Note: All states in SE region have ramped-up Auxin training efforts to help producers obtain needed certification. |  |
| 12 | How Extension Contributes to University Rankings and Metrics – Laura Johnson  Note: Discussion with no action taken. There are concerns about how Extension metrics fit in the various university ranking protocols. |  |
| 13 | Fiscal Year vs Academic Year: How this works for heavy Extension appointments – Damona Doye and Laura Johnson  Note: Discussion with no action taken. Nick Place asked Directors to share policies with Ron for distribution to ASRED members. |  |
| **10:00 – 10:30 am** | | **Break – Grand Floridian Foyer** |  |
| 10:30 – Noon | 14 | Nominating Committee Report/Action  Note: Laura Johnson, Chair, Damona Doye and Gary Jackson reporting.  SR Excellence in Extension Review Committee -- ECOP Personnel Committee Member is Tom Dobbins, and other members are Gary Palmer, Robert Burns, and Adrienne Duke (Extension Specialist representative from Auburn University).  Administrative Advisor SERA 03, Southern Region Information Exchange Group for IPM (replacing Tom Melton; indefinite assignment) – Rick Cartwright    Administrative Advisor SERA 05, Sweet Potato Collaborators Conference (replacing Tom Melton; indefinite assignment) – Steve Martin  Tom Dobbins made motion to approve nominating committee report. Gary Palmer seconded the motion. Approved. |  |
| 15 | Resolutions Committee Report/Action  Note: Gary Palmer, Chair; Robert Burns; and Martha Ray Sartor reporting.  Resolutions were presented for [Dr. Doug Steele](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/15a-doug-steele-resolution-final_03-19.pdf), [Dr. Tom Melton](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/15b-tom-melton-resolution-final_03-19.pdf) and the [University of Florida.](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/15c-uf-resolution-final_03-19.pdf)  Damona Doye made motion to approve March 2019 ASRED resolutions. Laura Johnson seconded the motion. Approved. |  |
| 16 | ED Evaluation Committee Report/Action  Note: Nick Place called an Executive session to discuss ED evaluation committee results. Report by Nick Place, Chair, Tom Dobbins, Gary Lemme, Robert Burns and Ed Jones: Ron Brown is a top performer and receives a 6 on Clemson’s 1 to 6 performance rating system. Ron has the Director’s backs and has been a great help to Ed Jones as ECOP Chair.  Gary Lemme made the motion to authorize ASRED Chair to write a letter outlining Ron Brown’s top performance and to recommend Clemson’s maximum allowable merit and COLA FY2020 pay increases. The letter will be sent to Clemson administration. Tom Dobbins seconded the motion. Approved. |  |
| 17 | June ASRED Webinar – All  In August 2014, ASRED members agreed to hold three webinars (December, February and June) per year and determine the topics and hosts during the August meeting. The June 2019 slot was held vacant for review in April. Is this something that we want to continue?  Note: The group decided to discontinue the regular ASRED webinars and to meet as needed. Mornings are best; not on Friday afternoons. Webinars need to be scheduled well in advance. |  |
| 18 | Upcoming Meeting Plans   1. Joint ASRED/AEA/PLN Meeting, August 19-22, 2019 New Orleans 2. 2019 Fall AES/CES Joint Meeting, September 23-26, 2019 Nashville, TN 3. 2020 Spring ASRED Meeting – Laura Johnson ([Attachment](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/18-spring-2020-asred-meeting_site-date.pdf))   Note: Location options for 2020 Spring ASRED meeting were discussed. Laura Johnson will consider all input and prepare a tentative itinerary. |  |
| 19 | Other Items   1. ANR Program Leaders - Laura Johnson (written [report](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/19a-anr-aa-report_03-19.pdf)) 2. Excellence in Extension and Diversity Awards – due May 1; EiE Regional Review Committee (for work May 1 – June 23; get name to Sandy) 3. Vacancies – CMC and PBD Alternate (~1 year completing Michelle Rogers’ term; meet April, July, and November) 4. National Impacts Database Update (written [report](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/19d-nidb-update_03-19.pdf)) 5. Middle Manager Leaders – Rick Cartwright (written [report](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/19e-middle-managers-report.pdf)) 6. Southern Region Aquaculture Center Report – Rick Cartwright (written [report](http://asred.msstate.edu/directors/minutes/attach_2019_03/19f-srac-report_03-19.pdf)) 7. Journal of Extension – Tom Dobbins 8. Prison labor – Nick Place   Note: Tom Dobbins provided a brief report on Journal of Extension. Discussion topics focused on acceptance rate (17%), acceptance process (backlog of two-years), strong scientific focus, and editorial process. Directors provide support through membership fee and national jobs database. Tom will report back on Journal of Extension concerns.  Nick Place will provide name of organization that is advocating against the use of prison labor.  Items for August meeting:  1. Alabama offered to share their automated county civil-rights planning, reporting, and annual desk-audit review process.  2. Tom Dobbins will report back on Journal of Extension concerns. |  |
| **Noon** | | **Adjourn** |