

Advisory Council Teleconference October 30, 2013

Present: Blair Sampson, Tom Samples, Caydee Savinelli, Joe LaForest, Jim VanKirk, Henry Fadamiro, Charles Allen, Herb Bolton, Michelle Samuel-Foo, Mike Weaver, Scott Stewart, Ken McPherson, Julio Bernal, Ryan Kurtz, Peter Ojiambo, Daniel Collins, Ed Jones

Friends of IPM Award

- Added evaluation criteria for graduate student awards.
- There will be 2 panels, one for each

Need input on:

- Calls for nomination—read the calls and give input
- For graduate student award, last year we asked each department to nominate one person, so the department would have input. Is that OK, or should we open up nominations completely?
- Amounts for graduate student awards: too high or too low?
- Spread word to all 1890 and 1962 institutions
- You can nominate yourself, students or colleagues for the awards
- Need help serving on selection panel

Michelle: amounts are attractive to graduate students, and they should be publicized to graduate students

Charles: leave choice of departments nominating the way it is

Several members suggested that we should keep choice to one candidate per department for each student

IPM Enhancement Grant program

- We are looking for projects that are one year. We may be able to offer no-cost extensions but we can't promise.
- RFA will look similar to last year's, but this year there will be no special priorities.
- Need input on working groups:
 - We think there is value in teamwork, so we call it team building in the RFA.
 - There are start-up costs associated with a new working group, so those are included with new working groups
 - Start-up funding is not included for continuing working groups but there is team building funding
 - Team building includes a meeting, so there will be travel costs.

- If the group wants to do a project, that is project-based funding
- Existing group MUST do a project to get any money
- Three different proposals for funding amounts

Discussion:

- Plan B forces a recognition that there will be limitations put on the project part of the effort
- Is the project premature if you haven't done the team-building? A: If a team that we haven't funded applies, technically they qualify as a new group.
- If the working group accepts the funds, can they accept funds from other sources? A: Yes, the money is seed money to apply for other funding.
- What is a reasonable amount to support team-building?
 - It depends on the number of members. For SERA-3, \$5,000 or \$10,000 would be adequate, but for a group of 35, you would need more funds.
 - If the group wants to do publications, would the grant pay for associated costs? A: Yes, that should be built into the project budget.

New Hires:

- New programmer: will redo the way we collect and store information that goes into Pest Management Strategic Plans so that information is database driven.
- Regulatory Information Network facilitator: will facilitate the RIN

National IPM Committee:

- Held on October 1-2, 2013, so none of our federal partners could join us
- Key issue was follow-up discussion to an earlier recommendation of APLU about consolidation of IPM programs.
- The recommendation was accepted by the administration and both houses of Congress, so if we ever get a federal budget, this proposal will go through.
- The group is producing a new document suggesting the way that this new structure could be put into place.
 - USDA should use IPM terminology when they name this program
 - We planned for functionality, but many of the current structures will stay in place
 - Need a national IPM Coordinator with oversight across federal agencies, along with a coordinating committee
 - We need to include urban and natural area IPM
 - Jim, Charles Allen and Scott Stewart can receive comments offline

Pesticide Surveys:

The RIN has had several requests for information, and the network has done surveys for three of them: malathion for health effects, malathion uses, and dimethoate. We have gotten responses from this region and other regions.

Atrazine is coming up.

Information that is being collected is not to be used to ban the product. The survey is to assess whether it is valuable to IPM, and what impacts and benefits it has.

NIFA Update

- They are trying to reorganize award panels that could not happen during the shutdown
- Have a CR that takes us to January 15.
- NIFA has to decide whether to move ahead on the Crop Protection program
- Congress started a Conference Committee on the budget
- Congress started a Conference Committee on the Farm Bill, but it crashed the time of the shutdown. The hold-up has to do with the direct payments and the SNAP program. Conferences started today.
- NIFA is at a constrained operational budget. There is no travel or training; all panels are remote. If the sequester is not modified in January, NIFA will take another sequester cut.

Face-to-face meeting

Proposal: sometime during the week of February 17

Will send out a Doodle poll.