National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics Advisory Board

REE Advisory Board Office
South Building Room 3901
U.S. Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave., SW
Washington, DC 20250-2255

Mailing Address:
STOP 0321
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, DC 20250-2255
Telephone: 202-720-3684
Fax: 202-720-6199

MINUTES
Executive Committee Conference Call

Friday, March 4, 2011 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. EST.

Executive Committee Members Present: Jean-Mari Peltier (Chair), Dr. Mary Wagner (Vice Chair), Dr. Carrie Castille, Dr. Nancy Childs, Dr. Nancy Cox, Dr. Steve Daley-Laursen, Dr. Dennis Heldman, and Terry Wolf

Executive Committee Members Absent: Leo Holt

NAREEE Board Staff: Robert Burk (Executive Director) and Shirley Morgan Jordan (Program Support Coordinator).

Others Present: Carol Keiser-Long and Dr. Walter Armbruster

I. Roll Call of Executive Committee Members and Attendees, and Previous Meeting Minutes

- Rob Burk conducted a roll call of the Executive Committee as members signed on to the conference call.

II. Comments and Welcome from Chair and Review of Previous Meeting Minutes

- Jean-Mari Peltier joined the conference call at a later point and did not provide welcoming remarks to the Committee.

III. Comments from the Under Secretary of Research, Education, and Economics

- Dr. Catherine Wotecki, Under Secretary was unable to attend the Executive Committee Conference Call due to a prior committment.

IV. Updates on Committee Activities and/or Reports

Renewable Energy

- Carol Keiser-Long discussed a recent conference call held by the Committee, along with the efforts to produce the annual report of the Committee. She noted the difficulty in bringing together data in a logical fashion. Carol has been talking extensively about the need to evaluate feed stock for bio-fuel.

Specialty Crop Committee

- Dr. Walter Armbruster updated the Executive Committee on the status of the Specialty Crop Committee's 2010 Annual Report.
- He noted that he is still working on setting up a meeting to be held in Michigan, however he has had difficulty in coordinating with Senator Stabenow's office. Rob Burk stated that he would work to at the very least get the Senator's staff to respond to Dr. Armbruster.

V. Updates from Work Groups/Subcommittees

Competitive Grants

- Dr. June Henton (Committee Chair) was unable to attend the meeting. There were no updates concerning the Competitive Grants Subcommittee.

March Meeting Planning

- Dr. Steven Daley-Laursen spoke regarding the agenda for the meeting and the invitees and he invited the Executive Committee members to provide questions.
- Jean Mari-Peltier indicated that she is working with Krysta Harden (Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary) to develop a list of roundtable invitees. Jean-Mari discussed a preliminary list of panelists, that she had developed, which was distributed to the Committee for review.
- Dr. Mary Wagner discussed the value in having smaller "voices" sprinkled into the discussion. Dr. Nancy Childs concurred with Dr. Wagner. Jean-Mari Peltier noted that she had contacted a few smaller "voices" but added that she was open to suggestions.
- There was discussion by the Committee about potential panelists.
- At the close of the meeting Jean-Mari Peltier distributed the list of panel groups to members of the Committee. She requested that the Committee members invite those panelists to attend and provide them with information about the meeting.
- Rob Burk discussed with the Committee that the meeting packets will be made available two weeks in advance of the meeting electronically.

October Meeting Report Status

- Rob Burk indicated that the October report is still undergoing edits.

Relevancy and Adequacy

- Dennis Heldman stated that there is no new information to report. He has received feedback from two Board members. He will incorporate those comments and generate a draft next week.

VI. Executive Director's Report

- Rob Burk went over all the upcoming open positions up for nomination that will expire September 30, 2011. The open positions are: Category B, D, E, H, J, K, and M. If you are re-applying, you must send in another Ad-755 and new nomination letters. He invited the members to nominate additional candidates to the Board, and to distribute the solicitation to their respective represented groups.

- Rob stated that there are two documents that are being worked on by REE. The two documents are: Roadmap and White Papers.

- Dr. Catherine Woteki would like to discuss the plan of response with the Board.

- Jean-Mari suggested that a work group be formed and face-to-face meetings be held prior to sitting down Dr. Woteki to discuss the Roadmap and White Papers. Denny Heldman and Nancy Childs volunteered to be on the committee.

- Jean-Mari proposed having a meeting in Washington, DC either late April or May.

- A discussion was raised regarding eXtension. Rob Burk will check into the topic to see if the Board has thoroughly discussed it in previous meetings.

- Jean-Mari Peltier discussed some of what she would like accomplished in the discussions that will take place at the March meeting. Jean-Mari Peltier indicated that one of the things that were needed was a workgroup to discuss the Roadmap upon receiving it from Dr. Woteki.

The next Executive Committee conference call will be Friday, April 1, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shirley Morgan-Jordan

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Jean-Mari Peltier	Rob Burk
Chair	Executive Director

APPROVAL BY ADVISORY BOARD: _____

Date

_____	_____
Initials	Initials
Chair	Executive Director