

W-45 Technical Meeting Minutes

Beltsville, MD USDA-ARS, June 3-5, 2001

Present: Cathleen Hapeman, Ron Pardini, Li Ou, Steve Aust, Sharon Papiernik, Linda Lee, Ann Lemley, Kevin Armbrust, Jeff Jenkins

The group was welcomed by Associate Director of USDA-ARS, Beltsville Area, Ron Kocak. There was a lively discussion of the ARS research in the Beltsville area.

Administrative Advisor, Ron Pardini, spoke about the renewal of the project and the need to coordinate with W-82. There are new guidelines for regional/multistate projects; they are listed on the Western regional web site. This was demonstrated via a web connection. The new reporting requirements are streamlined. The Western region approach is to look at extension, research and teaching in an integrated way even in administration.

Pardini serves on an ESCOP committee that looks at an Impact data base from all the states and writes a national Impact statement. It is important for each land grant to use their own Impact sheets to show Congress what is happening. The Western directors wrote their own Best of the West Impact statements. Several of these sheets were circulated as examples of impact sheets. Thus far, there has not been good reporting of the collective impacts of the regional projects. It is suggested that in the future W-45 add a discussion of impacts at the business meeting on the second day.

After looking at examples of websites from various regional groups, W-45 agreed to set up a basic web site. Sharon Papiernik agreed to use our Annual Report as a base for the web site for W-45.

The group discussed collaboration and a joint meeting with W-82. It was suggested that there might be a joint meeting with individual meetings as per usual for each group and then a joint meeting with poster sessions. There could also be breakout groups around specific topics later in the day such that multidisciplinary groups representing both committees could meet. It was suggested that the meeting be in June, 2003 at UNR in Reno, NV or possibly at Tahoe. Ron Pardini will check out a Tahoe venue that another western group is using later in June and see if it is appropriate.

The group presented and critiqued technical reports as per usual.

The group met on Tuesday morning, June 5, 2001 to continue the business meeting. The meeting will be at Riverside next year jointly hosted by Sharon Papiernik and Bob Krieger. The meeting itself will be at the salinity lab facilities. The dates will be June 9-11, 2002.

The motion was made and seconded to ask Kevin Armbrust (U of Georgia) and Linda Lee (Purdue) to join W-45. The group voted unanimously in favor of the motion.

The motion was made to eliminate the office of Vice Chair and have only two officers, Chair and Secretary for two years. The motion was seconded and there was a unanimous vote in favor. For 2002 and 2003 the officers will be Chair, Chris Pritsos and Secretary, Qing Li.

A motion was made to thank Cathleen Hapeman and Bill Thomas for the lovely dinner on Monday night. The motion was seconded and there was a unanimous vote in favor.

The group discussed writing impact statements that capture that the group aspect of W-45, the interdependence of the group, has had a positive effect on US citizens. Several examples were given and the group will send written statements to the chair showing specific examples. Indiana and Georgia will collaborate on pharmaceuticals in animals; ARS Beltsville and Georgia will collaborate on PRZM/EXAMS modeling of pesticide fate in surface and groundwater; UC Davis and Oregon State will continue to collaborate on analytical methods for cholinesterase; Cornell faculty are collaborating on pesticide risks to children, including outreach efforts; Cornell is using methods learned from a retired member from UC Davis as a basis for new research on competitive kinetics that will help degrade pesticide residues in wastewater.

There was a presentation by Betsy Behl, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Fate and Effects Division. The talk was about estimating water exposure from pesticides and what EPA-OPP does in this realm. It was a broad, yet detailed presentation that was extremely interesting to the W-45 participants. There was considerable discussion throughout the presentation, which ended with areas where EPA needs further research to be done.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 AM.