Annual CEDA Meeting Minutes  
November 12, 2022

The chair convened the meeting at 4:30 pm.

Departments Present: AL, AR, CA – Riverside and Davis, ID, IL, KS, LA, OH, OK, MI, MN, NE, NC, NJ, PA, TX, VA, WA and WI.

Invited Guests: Chris Stelzig, Jessica Ware, Marianne Alleyne and Michelle Samuel-Foo

USDA NIFA Update: Program Leader Michelle Samuel-Foo updated the group an overview of NIFA’s strategic goals for 2023, the 2022 and 2023 budget, changes at NIFA and the various funding opportunities for entomological research (see attachment for details). Key changes and opportunities included a fully staffed workforce, new NIFA website, new RFA language for 2023, and a new reporting system. Funding opportunities for 2023 include AFRI grants (A1112, A1113, A1171, A1181A1701, A1712, A9201, and A1541). No-AFRI opportunities include small business Innovation grants (SBIR), urban, indoor, and emerging agriculture grants (UIE), crop protection and pest management grants (CPPM) and the minor crop pest management program (IR-4). Ms. Samuel-Foo lastly asked the group to encourage their faculty to serve on grant panels.

ESA Update – President Ware started the update by discussing “who is part of entomology.” This included non-traditional departments not currently part of CEDA where entomology research and education are going on (PUIs, MSIs, and HBCUs, see attachment for details). Incoming president Alleyne continued the update by discussing ESA’s new initiative to collect insect science data. The first step is a salary and benefits benchmarking tool that departments will be asked to provide data for by the end of 2022. This generated questions regarding sample size, who has access, cost of living adjustments, and how coarse or fined grained the data collected will be. Incoming president Alleyne then discussed the #EntSoc23 Hill Day which will occur at the end of the annual meeting in National Harbor, MD. It will have a separate registration and consist of a ½ day of training and 1 day of guided conversations on capital hill. Most thought this was a good idea but would need to be coordinated with our own institutional government relations offices. ESA Executive Director Chris Stelzig finished the updates by discussing the draft MOU developed with the help of George Hamilton. During his comments, questions regarding CEDA’s role, lack of some CEDA members not being ESA members, and how CEDA could help build support for various ESA issues faster than ESA can. At the end of the discussion, because the draft was sent to the group so close to the meeting resulting in several members not having time to review the document that any final discussion would be tabled until the 2023 CEDA meeting.

The chair then turned the meeting over to incoming chair Brian McCormack who adjourned the meeting at 5:30 pm.