

Southern Extension Research Activity -19 (SERA-19)
March 18-19, 2003 -- Nashville, Tennessee

Agenda: <http://srdc.msstate.edu/sera19/03agenda.htm>

Business Meeting:

Vice-Chair Bobbi Clarke presided over the meeting in the absence of Peggy Hickman who was unable to attend.

Advisors were unable to attend. In fact, it was learned that Jim Moran who represented Research Directors from the University of Tennessee had taken a new position and had resigned his position as advisor to SERA-19. Rick Maurer who represented Extension Directors indicated that he had served his three-year term and thought someone else was appointed to represent Extension Directors. There was some discussion regarding the future of the SERA system. However, since no formal information had been received by any members of the group, members present continued discussed for future SERA activities.

Rural Health Institute: There was a great deal of discuss regarding the future of the Health Institute and the need to survey those participants who had been through the week-long training. Bonnie noted that the SRDC has tried to survey students in the past with limited success. The group decided that they would be more supportive and help with the surveying. Bonnie is to send the draft survey to the group for input and then all will survey students who have participated from their respective states. The hope is to determine future directions. Some indicated an interest in re-gathering former students, other were interested in continuation with modification. Timeline for completing the survey was set for mid-September.

During the conversation, it was mentioned that in addition to surveying former students, that administrators and directors or state leaders should be surveyed to determine needs of their staff in the area of health training.

Also discussed was the importance of Certification to Extension professionals (i.e., Certified Health Education Specialist). It was pointed out that Western Kentucky University has a Certified Health Educator credentially program. Also, Cornell has a program.

Healthy People/Health Communities: Members of the CSREES National Initiative (Kathleen, Julia and Mary) brought forward a proposal to seek support for continuation of activities of the National Initiative through the SERA-19. Discussions continued with Anna Mae Kobbe and Bo Beaulieu during the second morning of the meeting. Bo provided some guidance to the group and indicated continued support by the SRDC and indicated that he would visit with personnel from the North Central Regional Center for Rural Development. He did indicate that the Center does not have financial resources to contribute to ongoing efforts. Other opportunities might be appropriate between CSREES and the SRDC.

Non-Participating States: The group decided to make personal contact with those states who currently did not participate in SERA-19. Individuals volunteered as follows:

Louisiana-Bobbi
Arkansas-Gerald (Wayne Miller)
Texas-Linda
Florida-Rachel
Georgia-Kathleen
Virginia-Barbara
South Carolina-Barbara (Marian Chapman)

Election of Officers:

Chair-Bobbi Clarke
Co-Vice Chairs: Tracy Carter / Vivian Lasley
Program Committee for 2004: Gerald Doeksen, Val Schott, Tracy Carter, Bobbi Clarke, Vivian Lasley, Bonnie Teater

Next Meeting: It was decided that the group would meet by conference call on September 9 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern / 10:00 a.m. Central with specific agenda items as follows: (1) to determine next phase of the Rural Health Institute and (2) to determine results of conference calls to non-participating states. Also, it was decided to convene a face-to-face meeting next Spring in March, 2004.

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