

NAUFRP Executive Committee Minutes

October 27, 2020

Via Zoom

Executive Committee Members: David Newman, President (SUNY); Janaki Alavalapati, President-Elect (Auburn University); Red Baker, Communications Chair (University of Florida); Dale Greene, Policy Chair (University of Georgia); Katy Kavanagh, Secretary-Treasurer (Oregon State University); Robert Burns, Northeast Region Chair, (West Virginia University); Andrew Storer, Education Chair, (Michigan Tech University); Bob Wagner, Research Chair, (Purdue University); Rich Kobe, North Central Chair, (Michigan State University); Adrian Leighton, Diversity Chair, (Salish Kootenai); Steve Shaler, International Chair, (University of Maine); Keith Bell, Immediate Past Chair, (Clemson University); Linda Nagel, BNR/BAC Representative, (Colorado State University); Hans Williams, Southern Region Chair, (Stephen F. Austin University); Charles Goebel, Western Region Chair, (University of Idaho); Jeff Stringer, Extension Chair, (University of Kentucky); Randy Nuckolls (Washington General Counsel), Terri Bates Executive Liaison

NAUFRP Representatives Participating: Jurgen Schwartz (University Maryland, Eastern Shore), Karen Mock (Utah State University), Steven Dinsmore (Iowa State University), Wes Burger (Mississippi State University), Dan Brown (University of Washington), Myron Floyd (North Carolina State University)

Guests: Buck Vandersteen(LFA and CARET Liaison), Sue Robinson (Auburn University), Lisette Waits , President, National Association of University Fisheries and Wildlife Programs (University of Idaho), Daniel Cassidy (NIFA), Timothy Conner (NIFA), Eric Norland (NIFA), John Parrotta (IUFRO President), Terry Baker (Society of American Foresters), Tammy Cushing (SAF President)

Welcome and Introductions. The agenda was reviewed; no changes were made.

Meetings Minutes, March 2-3,2020. These were circulated and a link provided. Linda Nagel provided several edits directly to Terri. David asked if there were any additional changes. Hearing none he called the minutes approved.

President's Report, David Newman: This has been a challenging time because of COVID. The summer and early fall have been particularly stressful trying to get the campuses ready to go. At the March meeting we interfaced with various leaders of agencies and organizations and made visits to House appropriations leaders with Randy Nuckolls. We worked with the National Alliance of Forest Owners (NAFO) to develop an op-ed piece of Biomass neutrality. That was not published but will be if the biomass rule comes up again. Janaki represented NAUFRP on a panel discussion hosted by Resources for the Future (RFF) on the role of forests in climate mitigation and markets. NAUFRP was well represented at the 2020 Biennial Conference on Undergraduate Education in Natural Resources (UENR) hosted by the University of Montana in March. It had a special focus on diversity. Linda Nagel represents NAUFRP on the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU) Board of Natural Resources (BNR) and the Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC). We are engaged with the Forest Carbon Working Group and have developed a Forest Health proposal. NAUFRP has co-signed letters to Congress supporting appropriations for and the REPLANT legislation. A discussion was facilitated through the NAUFRP listserve about how member institutions were handling education, research and

extension activities during COVID. We were represented at the IUFRO meeting in Brazil. A final template for the McIntire-Stennis impact statements has been posted and will be discussed later in this meeting. Not surprisingly, many activities were curtailed but this challenging time also points to the need for NAUFRP as an organization and group to share ideas.

Treasurer's Report, Katy Kavanagh: Katy reviewed the close out of the 2019 budget. Income exceeded expenses by \$3,800. Expenses were consistent with previous year. Not all schools are adding the administration fee for credit card dues payments; please try to oversee that. Over \$118,000 was carried forward to 2020. Katy projected a \$20,000 surplus om 2020 because we are not going to have any additional travel or meeting expenses. Dues for 2020 are on tract with what was budgeted. It was noted that NAUFRP purchased a new computer for Terri. Katy wants to discuss how to budget in 2021 in these uncertain times. We have built one based on 2020 for now. NAUFRP is also accumulating a large balance and Katy asked if we should we do something about it. After discussion there was a consensus to carry approximately a year's budget as back up. When we come out of the pandemic there may be opportunities to support certain things that will benefit the membership. David noted that in March we discussed possibly investing in CDs and asked if this was done. It was not because the Executive Committee thought more liquidity was needed. David noted that NAUFRP now has a monthly Zoom subscription that can be used for NAUFRP functions. The webpage budget was discussed. This was amended in March for two purposes: build out the webpage for the McStennis Communications piece and rebuild a reviewer data base. Work has been completed on the former but not yet billed. Katy wants to be sure to carry over some of this budget (@\$750) into next year for the latter project. Janaki asked Bob Wagner if there will be any expenses for NAUFRP related to the R&D Capacity Summit. Bob believes it is all covered by the AFRI grant and the Endowment unless there is a specific request from NAUFRP for something not covered in the grant. Katy made a motion, seconded by Dale Greene, to give Terri a three percent COL increase. Discussion was called for; there was none. David asked for a show of hands and the motion passed. There was consensus to keep the 2021 budget has it is proposed. David said a motion is not needed but called for approval by show of hands. The proposed 2021 budget passed. He acknowledged NAUFRP's appreciation for Katy's work as Treasurer and on the revised By-Laws. She will be stepping into the President-elect's position next year.

Washington Report, Randy Nuckolls: Randy noted the election is just a week away and that the new Supreme Court Justice is being sworn in today. Currently the government is operating under a Continuing Resolution (CR) through December. The House has approved all appropriations bills and in the Agriculture Appropriations bill specifically, McStennis would be increased by \$2 million (from \$36 to \$38 million) and the NIFA competitive grants program increased by \$10 million (from \$425 million to \$435). Other programs like Hatch, Smith Lever, RREA remain at current levels. In the House Interior Appropriations bill the coop research units would receive a \$1 million increase (from \$24 to \$25 million). We will have to wait and see what the mood and will of Congress will be after the election as to whether they will extend the CR, pass individual appropriations bills or group them into omnibus bills. Also waiting to see if Congress and the White House can come to agreement to pass another COVID relief bill. Randy discussed the House and Senate races. Myron Floyd asked about a recent Executive Order (EO) pertaining to race and sexism and if APLU had a statement on it. Randy says APLU has released a statement opposing it. This EO has raised a lot of concerns in a lot of places including the land-grant community. Randy assumes if Biden is elected this would be repealed early on. David Newman expressed concerned with another EO pertaining to Schedule F appointments and the Civil Service and

feels NAUFRP might want to step forward on this. Randy is looking at this; it has been roundly condemned by leaders in Congress responsible for the civil service system and federal bureaucracy. He believes it would not take effect if Biden is elected and if Trump is re-elected it might be significantly modified. The use of EOs has greatly accelerated since President George Bush's tenure. Randy said political appointees are Schedule C's and have no protection to stay in government beyond the administration that appointed them. He thinks there is general agreement that there should be flexibility to take some action against under performing employees but there needs to be a process. The fundamental issue is whether you can remove people because they have a different political view. David and Randy will discuss this further.

Communications Report, Red Baker: A new 'Research' section has been added to the NAUFRP webpage for the purpose of posting the McStennis one-page impact statements. These were viewed online. There are individual project impacts and university wide statements. In doing this, we have created the opportunity to work and communicate to our partners and stakeholders in telling the successes of the McStennis program and how important it is to each of our institutions and the forest research enterprise. Red showed where the templates are found at the bottom of the page <http://naufrp.org>. These are in the Adobe InDesign program. He noted the example of University of Florida's McStennis funding being handled by the Research Dean's office so not all McStennis projects are in his school. He has reached out to that Dean to get him to throw some energy behind this effort and to create an institution level one-pager for all of University of Florida. Red also pointed out what Bob Wagner has done at Purdue University where he has created a McStennis webpage featuring the program and projects using the template which ensures consistency with our 'branding'. See [McIntireStennis \(purdue.edu\)](http://McIntireStennis.purdue.edu). Red had planned pulling the committee together pre-Covid and still hopes to get it convened. He would like to explore adding brief videos to the webpage similar to what Oregon State has previously created.

Diversity Report, Adrian Leighton: Adrian and David welcomed Lisette Waits to the meeting. She is the President of the National Association of University Fish and Wildlife Programs (NAUFWP) and a faculty member at the University of Idaho. NAUFWP has been working on developing a diversity and inclusion statement and a survey and would like to discuss NAUFRP's interest in partnering with them on this. Randy noted he works for both associations and NAUFWP has done a lot of work the last two years with strategic planning and organizing their committees. Nancy Matthews, Dean at the University of Vermont, chairs their Diversity Committee. Drafting on the statement and survey is underway; Adrian would like to participate in this effort. The NAUFRP Diversity Committee discussed developing a statement back in July during the social unrest period but did not reach a conclusion based in part because APLU and SAF had done this. Adrian believes the time is right to take a hard look and craft a statement. Lisette provided a link to their Diversity webpage (www.naufwp.org) where materials aimed at students including the APLU Statement and a rubric Nancy Matthews uses at UVT to evaluate how students are understanding diversity and inclusion topics. Adrian would like to distribute the draft statement and survey for feedback from the Executive Committee. And he would also like to see some additional questions about how we use grants such as multi-cultural scholars and others to enhance diversity. David Newman agrees and urged Adrian to work with Terri to get something out and would be happy to have a follow-up conversation with him on this.

Research Report, Bob Wagner: (PowerPoint posted on NAUFRP webpage) The Research Committee has been focusing on two things: 1) the U.S. Forest and Forest Products Research & Development Capacity

Summit and Trends in Forest Research Expertise. A grant proposal for \$37,000 was submitted to AFRI for a conference last November. The leads are Bob, Red and Michael Goergen (US Endowment for Forestry and Communities). The goal is to seek better ways for federal, state, private organizations and universities to cooperatively identify, coordinate and advocate for US forests and forest products research and capacity funding. We all currently argue for these in our own separate 'silos' and it is not effective. The grant funding was approved in June: they have one year to complete the objectives. Keith Gillless volunteered to help as he stepped away from Berkeley and has joined the team. With the advent of COVID they had to rethink their plan. They took a great idea away from the March Executive Committee and shifted their approach and now plan to pre-survey individual stakeholders. The Summit is going to be a series of focus groups with stakeholders. These have been identified including university leaders and questions are being developed with a script for each group around forests and forest products research. It became clear they needed a professional facilitator/social scientist and after a search advertised through the NAUFRP listserve they hired Emily Huff of Michigan State University and have been meeting with her almost weekly. They have a complete script of questions and are about to hold their first focus group with the State Foresters. This will be done with other stakeholders in late fall and winter. They plan to have a preliminary report for the March 2021 Executive Committee and a final written report. They will be coming back to the Executive Committee for advice and to discuss next steps. The second effort they are working on is more internally based at Purdue. "Trends in Forest Research Expertise Over Four Decades" reflects Bob's personal interest in how forestry research expertise is changing over time. They started looking at PhD dissertations and identified over 11,000 through ProQuest and library venues between 1955 to 2019 but data was more reliable from the 1970's onwards using key words. They have analyzed the dissertations by topic and qualitatively assigned 20 topic areas to four themes: forest management, silviculture/ecology, wildlife, and supporting sciences. Bob has been pleased with the trends and patterns they have been able to tease out. Terri will post to the website; Bob said it is fine to distribute this broadly.

Policy Report, Dale Greene: Dale has been participating in weekly meetings of the Forest Carbon Working Group (FCWG). There are a lot of things being 'teed' up for after the election around this topic. APLU has started discussions around the next Farm Bill. He has slides which will be included in Janaki's presentation tomorrow.

International Report, Steve Shaler: There have been no meetings in the last six months. Everyone has gotten multiple emails from Terry Sharik about the international student survey. John Parotta, President of IUFRO, will be joining a little later.

Extension Report, Jeff Stringer: The Extension Committee focuses on two things. The first is interaction with regional extension groups. Jeff will be involved in meetings of the Northern, Southern and North Central groups in the coming month. Second, is the joint Family Forest Education Award which is jointly sponsored with the National Woodland Owners Association. The annual announcement usually goes out early in the year but by mid-March Jeff thought it best to postpone the nomination process to next year.

Education Report, Andrew Storer: Andrew provided a written report. A report from K-12 outreach workshop at NAUFRP General Assembly (Louisville: October 2019) will available in next few weeks. The Biennial Conference on Undergraduate Education in Natural Resource Education was held at the University of Montana in March. NAUFRP institutions were well represented. At the March Executive

Committee meeting there was discussion about revisions to the Society of American Foresters (SAF) accreditation standards and how they were being developed. SAF was requested to include the NAUFRP Education Chair in these discussions. Terry Baker seemed receptive but nothing has happened since then. Andrew plans to bring this up with Carol Redelsheimer later this week. There was also discussion about putting together a forum on COVID impacts. He and Katy held a Zoom meeting but shortly afterwards there was an email exchange begun among the schools about experiences and plans for instruction during the pandemic; 25 institutions participated. This was very useful and much appreciation goes to Charles Goebel (Univ ID) for collating them. If this group feels it would be beneficial to summarize around themes the committee could do that. The US is represented by Terry Sharik, previous NAUFRP education chair, in a global study of forest-related education that includes surveys that span primary, secondary, and tertiary education, and involves teachers and administrators, students, and external organizations. The surveys are part of a project led by the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the International Tropical Timber Organization (ITTO), and the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO), in cooperation with regional representatives like me, and funded by the Government of Germany. Terry requested that NAUFRP institutions circulate the survey, and responses were understandably mixed given the number of requests for people's time as they adjusted to the pandemic. Some institutions were willing to circulate the survey, while others suggested delaying it. Responses received prior to the end of October will be included in a report to FAO, but the survey will remain open beyond that date. As of October 30, four institutions have submitted responses while the survey has been circulated at an additional four institutions. An upcoming publication: Sharik TL, AJ Storer, TL Bal, D. Abbas. 2020. Education as a driver of change in U.S. forests and the forest sector. In: Dockry MJ, DN Bengston, LM comps. Drivers of change for U.S. forests and forestry over the next 20 years. Gen. Tech. Rep. NRS-P-197. USDA FS, Northern Research Station. Members of the Education Committee include Gwendolyn D. L. Boyd (Alcorn State University), Keith Gillless, Dean Emeritus and Professor, Rausser College of Natural Resources, UC Berkeley. If anyone is interested in joining the committee, please contact storer@mtu.edu.

Board of Natural Resources (BNR), Linda Nagel: (slides) Linda provided an overview of what is happening at the Association of Public Land-Grant Universities (APLU); she is NAUFRP's representative. NAUFRP holds a seat on the Budget and Advocacy Committee (BAC) which is part of the Board of Agricultural Assembly (BAA) which has 15-16 members. Susan White heads the BNR; Linda and Lisette Waits are alternates. The Commission on Food, Environment Renewable Resources (CFERR) is a collection of five boards. The Executive Committee met yesterday. This group held a webinar in October on Mental Health and Well Being. See [Mental Health and Well-Being: A National Resource Summit for CFERR Members and their Stakeholders \(aplu.org\)](#) APLU has reinstated/created the Strategic Realignment Implementation Committee and would like a BNR Representative to serve on it. It is working on unified budget recommendations. APLU's annual meeting will be held virtually Nov. 9-11; Linda plans to attend as much as she can. She showed a slide of what a proposed unified budget might look like. It depicted 17 NIFA budget lines condensed to 6 lines. The first meeting on this was October 14th. The proposal would role McStennis into the line of 1862 Research and Extension. Linda offered to serve in the role of BNR representative. Doug Steele from APLU joined the meeting. He thinks McStennis will continue to be a budget priority. The next couple of years of federal budgets are going to be intense and we need compelling reasons for capacity funds. They have continued to hear that it is hard to advocate for 48 budget lines. If this all is collapsed to 6 lines they would use report language to protect all the lines important to us. They are going to be aggressive about McStennis. He wants to better understand the

agricultural-forestry dynamic by working with Linda and Randy. He sees some opportunity for RREA; there appears to be a renewed interest in it. Randy noted that NAUFRP has a great working relationship with Doug. We have had some initial discussion but need to have more about this budget stream lining effort. We have concerns about being subsumed into the bigger line with agriculture. Randy is not sure this group will support that. We need to discuss and be very active within APLU on this matter.

Regional Chairs:

Northeast, Robert Burns: Enrollments are up at the Universities of Maine, Vermont, SUNY. Anthony Davis (formerly at OR State) is the new Dean at the University of New Hampshire. West Virginia has three new faculty hire and grants are up. More information will be in Janaki's presentation tomorrow.

North Central, Rich Kobe: Submitted slides to Janaki. Trying to re-establish good communications and collaboration among the North Central Institutions. Had a couple of Zoom meetings focused on sharing Best Practices for diversity, equity and inclusion, Best Practices in messaging, student recruitment, and dealing with financial challenges.

West, Charles Goebel: The summer meeting scheduled for Corvallis was canceled because of COVID. Plan to meet in person in 2021. Topics of interest: enrollment, especially due to COVID, student expectation in the future considering adaptations made to curriculum delivery in response to COVID.

Hans Williams, Southern Region: The Southern region did not do a whole lot this year because of COVID. All efforts were focused on campus. He hopes to get the region reengaged early in the new year.

Forest Health Initiative: David asked Linda and Doug if there has been any movement on the Forest Health Initiative (FHI) developed by John Hayes and APLU support. Linda believes it has stalled because of COVID. Doug agrees and said we need to see how to move it forward. The Commission of Food, Environment and Renewable Resources is talking about a major initiative on climate. NAUFRP needs to be a big part of that if it moves forward. There is an interest in wildfire prevention and defensible space. Maybe convene the natural resource chairs to see if opportunities are being missed, not just for education outreach but potential funding. Doug will circle back around. David emphasized that we do not want to lose what's been invested in the FHI.

Next Executive Committee date was discussed and determined for March 8-9, 2021 as a virtual meeting.

John Parrotta, President, International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO President): (PowerPoint posted to webpage) John provided an overview of IUFRO and its current activities with some focus on recent initiatives related to forest education. The network is global in scope for cooperation in forest science and education. There are over 600 member organizations from 127 countries; 50 in the U.S. The IUFRO structure was reviewed; waiting to hear back from NAUFRP on a representative to the International Council (all countries are represented). In the past it has been the USFS but it needs to be sorted out between NAUFRP and the Forest Service R&D Deputy Chief Alex Friend. IUFRO's five research priority themes which guide their work were discussed. Typically they have 70-90 physical meetings annually. With COVID they are seeing the advantages of virtual meetings; this allows for more inclusion. There is a very large initiative on forest landscape restoration. And there is a research group that focuses on education. Two division coordinators are from U.S. universities: Don Hodges (Univ TN) and ?? IUFRO has a small headquarters in Vienna, Austria funded by the Austrian

government. Most of the work is done by the coordinators. Two documents were circulated before this meeting: one on gender equality and other on Forest Education. Both are posted on the NAUFRP webpage under the International and Diversity Committees. There is a 'Green Jobs' project/program in collaboration with IFSA and EFI assessing how prepared recent graduate are to fulfil workplace requirements. And also new Global Forest Education Project which is a collaboration with FAO and ITTO (International Tropical Timber Organization). The objective of the latter is to overcome deficiencies in forestry education in many parts of the world. It is very broad in scope -- primary through tertiary and technical/vocational training. IUFRO's role is focused on universities. The expected output is creation of a global platform for forest education. This online platform will offer teaching materials, education and training courses and interactive chats with experts. John Parrotta would like to know how IUFRO can better serve NAUFRP needs and individual members and suggestions for how IUFRO can reach and appeal to our larger membership. He is surprised at the relative small proportion of NAUFRP's membership involved with IUFRO. Steve Shaler says currently the NAUFRP President and International Chair are the official U.S. representatives to IUFRO. At last March's meeting we discussed the history of that participation. Steve has talked to John about the FS R&D having one of those two seats. At some point it was thought the FS could not have a seat. Steve has been in communication with Alex Friend. If FS policy will allow it, it makes sense for them to have a representative given their size and NAUFRP have the other seat. John does not think there are any restrictions on FS. They have been a member for over 100 years and there is no problem with his serving as IUFRO President. David said from NAUFRP's perspective IUFRO representation is a responsibility of the International Chair. Katy wants this to be a future agenda item for discussion – why more U.S. colleges/departments are not IUFRO members and what are the barriers? Janaki asked about the on-line PhD and Masters courses that are to be offered on-line: are they to be for credit or offered as training courses? John said they will be at all levels ultimately but does not know the details or arrangements if they are to be for credit. Don Hodges said some of these courses will be aimed at younger faculty who typically do not have funds to travel. This is a big reason to have an institutional membership. They are doing this at Univ. TN and have already had a couple of young faculty become officers in IUFRO. There are increasing advantages to being a member. Katy notes another reason is the decline in foreign students and thinks this educational link could be valuable. John believes just being a part of a network like this enables greater contact with universities worldwide especially in recruiting graduate students.

USDA National Institute for Food and Agriculture

Eric Norland, National Science Liaison: All hiring is taking place in Kansas City where they are preparing to move into the new building. About 35-40 employees remain in DC and are moving into the Whitten Bldg. Following Ali Mohamad's retirement in October, Tim Conner is the Acting Director, Institute of Biomass, Climate and Environment. Eric thinks/believes there is diminished capacity and interest in natural resources and the environment within the agency. When Eric's old position is filled there will be four NPLs in the Institute. Previously they had three division directors and 7-10 NPLs; they do plan to hire a soil scientist but that will be the extent of the institute. A person was hired for rangelands but placed in another institute. They do have a number of new program specialists with masters and PhDs so they do have some science capacity. Daniel is the new RREA program manager. Eric discussed his role as a national science liaison. Randy suggested that we work with Daniel and Eric to set up a Zoom meeting with the new people with Executive Committee representation so we can better understand NIFA's natural resource priorities and learn who the new folks are and get to know each other better;

we need to evaluate the landscape as we move into a new presidential term. Eric is happy to facilitate this. David agrees; the Executive Committee makeup is changing and there is a need for other people to engage. We hope to have a new directory database of Reviewers in the new year.

Daniel Cassidy thanked all for taking care of the children (his) that are coming on campus in the COVID environment. He is currently teleworking from home in Virginia (vs KC). The McStennis reports are where they should be; the impact statements are so much better than outcomes. He would like to work with Bob Wagner to make his Purdue webpage a template for others. Daniel has taken on the RREA program in the last five months working with Rodney Strong. He is pushing within NIFA to look at the workforce development aspect of AFRI grants. Last March he committed to this group to look at AFRI grants to identify where forestry is. He is still working on this and will share. He is also working on small business and innovation research grants (forests and forest products) and has found it very interesting. They are different from AFRI and capacity grants but they have done very well for forestry. Eight grants have been funded and they cover innovative forest products issues. NAUFRP's Reviewer database is going to be so helpful; you are not going to get forestry proposals funded if you don't get a forester on the review board. It's that simple. Daniel is available for site visits. David asked if there are any plans for an ATR meeting? Daniel said that's been a stop and start thing; he is not sure who he is really reporting to (Tim is acting). Randy says this is another good reason to have a January meeting. Daniel thinks that is a great idea and is willing to host; he thinks an ATR meeting is not as desperately needed as it was a year or two ago. He has been able to connect with more ATRs and identify the problems that needed to be cleaned up but there still needs to be a meeting at some point. Randy agrees – a meeting to talk about Best Practices, draw downs, funding,... Adrian says that as a new institution it would be helpful for him and the other 1994. Daniel says if there are any problems at an institution let him know and he can try and push funds through as fast as possible.

Society of American Foresters (SAF)

Tammy Cushing, SAF President: Tammy appreciates being invited and involved in this meeting. She wants to touch base on the matter discussed at last year's meeting regarding the integration of the Certified Forester (CF) Program. Some NAUFRP members were interested in it, others did not understand the need. A lot of information was gathered and it came back to the SAF Board. Ultimately they felt there were other ways to accomplish the same goal if the goal was to get more certified foresters or make the opportunity available. The Board tabled the idea recognizing if a university/institution is interested in strengthening its connection to the test or preparing students in a different way there are methods to that end. Tammy talked about the challenges to students in COVID world and the need for community; they will be doing some things at the virtual convention that emphasize community.

Terry Baker, SAF CEO: NAUFRP's March meeting was probably the last in person he was at in DC. To follow up more on CF program, they discussed with the staff and Board whether there are other things they can do to grow the CF program. If any school is interested they are happy to have that conversation. The Accreditation Standards Review group has started meeting and hoping to get a lot of work done and draft standards out early next year. Terry has had the opportunity to engage with various schools and some faculty. His last trip was to UGA in March. He is happy to guest lecture to local student chapters or special leadership groups. They have begun to locate to their new office space in downtown DC. Most of the staff continue to work virtually. The new edition of the College Guide will

be out in a few days. It is being sent to STEM teachers and guidance counselors across the country. The green jobs curriculum that came out last year is supported by SAF. SFI was very proud to put that out. SAF has done quite a bit of hiring of new staff for the national office. SAF will be engaging in work around an urban forestry credential. They have been looking at this for awhile and want to have a conversation about what that looks like. Andrew Storer referenced the March Executive Committee meeting; we talked about NAUFRP's interest in being more involved in the accreditation standards and that perhaps he as Education Chair could participate in meetings but he has not heard anything further. Can Terry update us on that? Terry apologized and said he did have a conversation with Carol Redelsheimer back then and will check in on this with her. Andrew said for his part he had expected to attend the Missoula meeting where this probably would have been discussed but had to cancel because of COVID. Adrian would also like to be involved in these conversations particularly as they affect diversity. Daniel Cassidy is interested in urban forestry and for any material SAF has to share; he will push it up within the agency. Terry said about 1,200 have registered for this week's virtual convention; student registrations are just now coming in at a fast rate. They generally have 1,400-1,600 attendees and in peak locations they may have 1,800 to 2,000. Buck asked if the CF program is paying for itself and if there are any plans to try and bring in/recruit older foresters. Terry said CF operates at a bit of loss; they are looking at the program overall. They did have a 'grandfather period' some years ago that brought in about 2,000.

David asked if there was any further business. Hearing none, Dale Greene made a motion for adjournment.

Meeting Adjourned.

***Minutes Approved
March 8, 2021***

Discussion followed between Linda, David and Janaki about representation from NAUFRP on the APLU Budget Realignment Committee. It was determined that Linda would provide this. She will communicate with David, Janaki and cc Randy and Terri Bates.