

UC DAVIS

AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE

College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences



AGRICULTURAL SUSTAINABILITY INSTITUTE AT UC DAVIS (ASI)

EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD ANNUAL MEETING

UC DAVIS, CA

OCTOBER 30, 2014

MEETING REPORT

Prepared by: Courtney Riggle and Thomas P. Tomich

Photos by: Aubrey White and Stephanie Macey-Gallow

Summary

The seventh annual meeting of the Agricultural Sustainability Institute's (ASI) External Advisory Board (EAB) was held October 30, 2014 in Davis, California. Seventeen of the 29 board members, twenty-five ASI staff members, and thirteen guests participated in the meeting, which was chaired by board chair Howard-Yana Shapiro.

The 2014 meeting, hosted in the center of the UC Davis campus, was comprised of introductions, overviews, and an initial (and somewhat weighty) discussion on the INFAS social justice statement followed by subsequent conversations centered around (and located at) ASI's three programmatic locations: SAREP, Student Farm, and Russell Ranch. Meeting objectives were to:

- a) Introduce Board members, ASI staff, and observers and strengthen relationships among all participants
- b) Engage Board members and observers to share their advice and perspectives as we continue to develop ASI's programs
- c) Update Board members on accomplishments, opportunities and challenges so that Board members are able to advocate for ASI
- d) Consider how to enact the Inter-institutional Network for Food, Agriculture and Sustainability (INFAS) statement on social justice within ASI
- e) Brainstorm "Big Concepts" for 8-figure campaigns for the Student Farm and Russell Ranch

Overall, staff came away feeling that board members helped significantly advance the open discussions throughout the day. In particular, it was felt that a strong endorsement was received for development of the two big concepts (Student Farm/Sustainable Living and Learning Community and Russell Ranch/Big Agroecology). Everyone seemed to engage in and appreciate the substance, and the scale of the fundraising campaigns outlined seemed to be calibrated appropriately. The Robbins Annex edible landscape, likewise, was well received and garnered a lot of positive feedback. Regarding the INFAS social justice statement, the discussion outcomes gave strong support for embracing and elevating social justice as an issue important for ASI's portfolio and internal culture. The consensus from board members was that the INFAS statement, as written, needs additional discussion on the particular wording to better reflect ASI's inclusive nature. Several board members also voiced the need for expanded framing of an ASI statement on equity in the food system. The October conversation was the start of an Institute-wide discussion and we look forward to further input and assistance from the board as we reframe and communicate ASI's values on this challenging, yet vital, subject over the coming year.

The remainder of this report will review meeting highlights and discussions.

For EAB members who were unable to participate in the October 2014 EAB meeting, we particularly invite you to review the discussion sections for the social justice and the two "big concept" topics, to be prepared to join in as we carry these conversations forward.

Participants



Board: Andrew Baskin, Renata Brillinger, Harold Goldstein, Kelly Gravuer, Christopher Greer (for Barbara Allen-Diaz), Amrith Gunasekara (for Karen Ross), Carl Johnson, Russ Lester, Joann Lo, Puon Penn, Amparo Perez-Lemus, Justin Rausa (for Michael Dimock), Judith Redmond, Rich Rominger, D'Artagnan Scorza, Howard-Yana Shapiro, Tom Turini

Guests: Jenny Bickford, Don Bransford, Dave Campbell, Carmia Feldman, Ralph Hexter, Ed Lewis, Bob Medearis, John Meek, Scott Park, Stacey Parker, Dennis Pendelton, Kathleen Socolofsky, Lina Yamashita

Staff: Raoul Adamchak, Everardo Aguilar, Sonja Brodt, Sosha Capps, Mariah Coley, Gail Feenstra, Joanna Friesner, Jason Graff, Melissa Haworth*, Israel Herrera, Carol Hillhouse, Ermias Kebreab, Luis Loza, Stephanie Macey-Gallow, Ryan Murphy, Thomas Nelson, Patrick Nolan*, Bev Ransom, Courtney Riggle, Kate Scow, Dianne Stassi, Tom Tomich, Emma Torbert, Mark Van Horn, Aubrey White

**CA&ES Dean's office development staff working directly with ASI*

Chair's Welcome (Howard Shapiro)

Howard Shapiro opened ASI's 2014 External Advisory Board Meeting with the goal for the day put forward as "Today is about celebrating the future", linked with understanding that solutions around dominant issues facing food and ag are not found in isolation – it takes a vast array of partnerships, including agriculture, science, technology, and research to solve these problems.

He reminded us that there are multiple forces for change, with science, policy, and other institutions as part of that, but noting that it is unclear whether all institutions have a forward looking view, and that farming is about constant unrelenting pressure and farmers struggling financially don't always have flexibility to make good decisions.

Key questions were raised: How do we understand shocks to the system? Unbiased solutions? Defense against hunger and malnutrition? The response being that sustainable agriculture is the solution and that dogma can't replace logic. ASI is about scientific evidence, translated into scale, to benefit humanity. The challenge for ASI will be working to change the status quo.

Discovery is easy. Translation is harder. Scalability is most difficult.

The above overview is but a rough abbreviation of Howard's eloquent opening remarks, which served to set the stage beautifully for the day's journey—a journey designed around exploring approaches for addressing translation and scalability challenges.

Introduction of the ASI Academic Advisory Committee (Ermias Kebreab)

Excerpt from ASI college review:

ASI has a well-organized external advisory group... At this point the ASI should focus on increasing faculty involvement. An advisory committee could support the ASI director on all facets, including RR, the Student Farm and to some extent, SAREP. The members of this committee should include those heavily involved in ASI activities.

Purpose and operation:

- Reviews and makes recommendations about the significance and scientific merit of ASI strategies, programs and projects.
- Assists ASI in identifying current and emerging research, outreach and teaching priorities and partners for ASI programs.
- Distinct from, and complementary to, ASI External Advisory Board.

Key Responsibilities:

- Provide advice and input in development of ASI workplans and periodic strategic plans.
- Assist ASI in identifying and assessing emerging research, outreach and teaching opportunities, assessing the suitability and feasibility of pursuing various emerging opportunities and prioritizing.
- Assist ASI in developing RFP guidelines and criteria for SAREP grants, including participating in peer review and other evaluation processes.
- Assess program effectiveness in meeting identified goals and needs.
- Identify and encourage opportunities for individual and institutional collaboration across California for ASI programs and units.



- Assist ASI in framing and coordinating its activities within broader UC efforts and other initiatives in California, seeking complementarities, synergies, and opportunities to fill key gaps.

INAUGURAL ACADEMIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS:

- **Chair:** Ermias Kebreab, ASI deputy director; Sesnon Endowed Chair, Animal Science
- **Appointed members:**
 - Kassim Al-Khatib, Director, UC Statewide IPM program, UCCE Specialist, Department of Plant Sciences, UC Davis
 - Charlotte Biltekoff, Associate Professor, American Studies and Food Science and Technology, UC Davis
 - David Copp, Distinguished Professor and Chair, Philosophy, UC Davis
 - Thomas Harter, UCCE specialist, Land, Air and Water Resources, UC Davis
 - Will Horwath, Professor and Boswell Endowed Chair, Land, Air and Water Resources, UC Davis
 - Alissa Kendall, Associate Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, UC Davis
 - Ken Tate, UCCE specialist and Rustici Endowed Chair in Rangeland Watershed Science, Plant Sciences, UC Davis
 - Cassandra Tucker, Associate Professor, Animal Science, UC Davis
 - Ann Visser, Associate Professor, Human Ecology, UC Davis
 - Andrew Waterhouse, Professor, Viticulture & Enology, UCD
 - Sheri Zidenberg-Cherr, UCCE specialist, Nutrition, UC Davis
 - David Zilberman, Professor and Robinson Endowed Chair, Agricultural and Resource Economics, UC Berkeley
- **Ex-Officio:**
 - Gail Feenstra, Deputy Director, UC SAREP
 - Kate Scow, Director, Russell Ranch Sustainable Agriculture Facility; Professor, Land Air & Water Resources, UC Davis
 - Mark Van Horn, Director, Student Farm at UC Davis

Discussion:

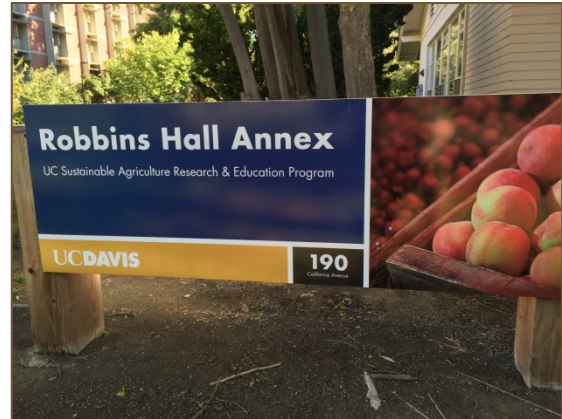
Should there be student involvement on the academic board?

ACTION: Further explore student involvement in academic board /make decision

Director's Update: 3 commitments, 4 highlights, 5 destinations (Tom Tomich)

Reporting back on ASI's 3 commitments from the 2013 External Advisory Board meeting:

1. Academic advisory committee – *established* (see overview above)
2. Communication: sharpening messages, clarifying examples, clear “asks”
3. “Place” for SAREP



Communication

Building from the feedback we received during the 2013 external advisory board meeting, ASI has worked to hone its messaging, and we now have a clear elevator speech for regular use in communications with stakeholders and collaborators:

“Our commitment is that every farm, ranch, and community in California will be healthier in the future than it is today.”

We have also been building additional communication language for our programs and projects that can effectively balance the big conceptual picture with real nuggets of information.

For example, here are some additional statements about our work:

- We *advance knowledge of how to manage water, energy, and soil* at our Century Experiment to show how *to grow more food sustainably*.
- We *work with farmers to save them money on nitrogen fertilizer* and, at the same time, *to reduce pollution*.
- We lead UC-wide efforts to understand how agricultural research, education, and extension can *improve well-being of farmworkers* and food system workers.
- We work with *small-scale and ethnic farmers to expand their markets* in California.
- We *educate the next generation of leaders* through hands on experience at our Student Farm and cutting-edge digital learning.
- We work with *the biggest food companies to ensure sustainable sources of raw materials* across the planet.

Place for SAREP

As of fall 2014, our Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SAREP), now resides in the Robbins Hall Annex, a building immediately adjacent to Robbins Hall, where ASI offices are located. SAREP is the sole occupant of this building and also serves as a communication outpost for UC ANR in the middle of the UC Davis campus. As part of this move, ASI is fortunate to gain stewardship opportunities for the grounds surrounding the Robbins Hall Annex building, and will be turning this area into an outdoor living and learning edible landscape—plans for which were featured as a discussion topic during the board discussion at SAREP.

Sharing 4 programmatic (*highly selected*) highlights from the past year:

1. Sustainable Agriculture & Food Systems Bachelor of Science at UC Davis

Students declaring the SA&FS major

- 10 in Fall 2011 (year approved)
- 20 in Fall 2012
- 30 in Fall 2013
- 100 in Fall 2014

Students receiving SA&FS degree

- 2 in 2012
- Total of 30 so far
- Potential for 30 more in 2015



2. UC SAREP and Student Farm collaboration with UCD Nutrition Department in “Shaping Healthy Choices” program

“Shaping Healthy Choices” is a multi-intervention program in Sacramento and Stanislaus Counties to prevent obesity and increase children’s wellness through procurement of regional produce, nutrition education, school gardens, and family involvement. The recently completed test case was hugely successful—and now needs broader control testing across the state to see if results are repeatable/scalable. Promising initial results show:

- BMI (body mass index) reduction for 114 of 158 elementary students in 6 classrooms
- 42 of those 114 children changed a full classification: 13 from obese to overweight; 12 from obese to normal; 17 from overweight to normal
- 40% of those students reported increased consumption of fruits and vegetables.

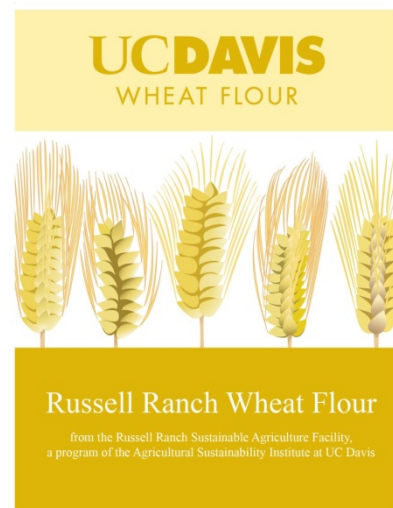
3. Sustainable Sourcing of Global Agricultural Raw Materials: “Checklist Generator”

Prototype shows that dimensionality is manageable for representing a comprehensive assessment of sustainability. We now need to do more cases. Prototype test case results:

- Impact Case 1: from 2064 to 11 indicators
- Impact Case 2: from 2064 to 13 indicators
- Vulnerability Case 1: from 2064 to 14 indicators
- Vulnerability Case 2: from 2064 to 6 indicators

4. Russell Ranch Wheat Flour

- As a complement to the dried tomatoes released previously, Russell Ranch began making and selling wheat flour for the UC Davis campus this year. Both products have become staples for the university’s dining facilities.



Outlining 5 destinations for the day’s activities:

➤ **Destination #1: Social justice and racial equity (INFAS)**

- *How should ASI approach the issue of social justice?*

➤ **Destination #2: SAREP: our UC Statewide Program**

- SAREP has a home of its own, for 1st time in its 28-year history / A sense of “place” to match other ASI units
- Location is strategically important:
 - Provides an “outpost” for UC ANR in the heart of the UC Davis campus
 - Sits amid thousands of future leaders: our students

INITIATIVE: [Edible landscape/dynamic public garden](#)

➤ **Destination #3: Our Student farm at UC Davis**

- Continuing rapid growth in student demand

INITIATIVE: [Sustainable Living and Learning Communities \(SLLC\)](#): 30 years in the making, how will we seize this historic opportunity to expand the sustainability footprint within the campus/city/region?

➤ **Destination #4: Our Russell Ranch Sustainable Agriculture Facility**

- Century Experiment going into year 22!
- More research on water and irrigation
- “Place” is an integrator of a comprehensive scientific program spanning many of our greatest sustainability challenges, water, energy and climate, but also soil health, nutrient management, ecosystems services.
- Exciting new partnerships -- NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, Stanford University, and others – create opportunities extending beyond the Century Experiment
- How can our agroecological research facility better link with SAREP and our partners to ensure the vitality of California agriculture into the 21st Century and beyond?

INITIATIVE: [How can we envision “Big Agroecology”, growing out of the place-based research facility?](#)

➤ **Destination #5: Shared sense of purpose**

ENGAGEMENT: [How do you, as board members, want to participate in these endeavors?](#) / [What would you like to do?](#) / [How can we best involve you?](#)

Discussion:

- Objectives: Do Californian’s feel they have a place at ASI? How is the institute relevant to others/what are its tangible outcomes? Esp. re: institution building, (eg: obesity trials, scalability/policy?)
- Messaging
 - Need to connect vision more concretely
 - Messaging should be broader. How to articulate, but in context of broader UC community... (WFC, UCOP, Innovation Institute for Food and Health...)?
- Budgets: ASI current budget is approx. \$3M / Need has been projected at \$6M to reach goals. Predict that this \$6M figure would meet education and information goals, but it will take a larger budget to get traction on implementation of solutions.
 - ASI has role as catalyst – not to solve all problems, but be a part of the solution
- Education: build student scholarships & support to counter barriers to access/provide opportunity?
- Is the sustainable sourcing checklist generator public? **YES** (*will be released soon...*)

DESTINATION REPORTS & DISCUSSION

I. INFAS and Social Justice (Joanna Friesner)

The discussion portion of the meeting was launched with a deep dive into questions of social justice building off of the statement on racial equity in the food system that the Inter-institutional Network for Food, Agriculture, and Sustainability (INFAS) recently released (a group for which ASI is both host and a member.)¹ The goal of this session was to elicit EAB input on the value and content of the statement for use by ASI, and, perhaps more importantly, to discuss how ASI might more deliberately act on social justice issues in its everyday research, activities, and processes.

“Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.”

Martin Luther King Jr.

“Without food, man can live at most but a few weeks; without it, all other components of social justice are meaningless.”

Norman Borlaug

Questions to the board:

1. What are the benefits/risks/drawbacks if ASI were to adopt the INFAS statement (below), or developing a statement of its own?
2. What is your feedback on:
 - a. A focus on structural racism?
 - b. A focus on other –isms? instead of/and?
3. How could/should ASI put such a statement to work?
4. Who needs to be included in this conversation?

INFAS’s Statement on Equity in the Food System²:

INFAS is a network of educators and researchers who are dedicated to food system sustainability and committed to supporting, learning from and partnering with activists in our communities. **We recognize that our food system is profoundly inequitable and institutions of higher education hold power and privilege that can be used for good or harm.** Equity in opportunity, food access and health outcomes is a non-negotiable foundational principle of a sustainable food system and a core value and commitment for us. To help build equity in the food system, **we are focusing on the barrier of structural racism as an initial entry point.** We recognize multiple forms of oppression; so

¹ Established in 2010 with an endowment from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, and hosted by ASI, the **Inter-institutional Network for Food, Agriculture and Sustainability (INFAS)** is a national network of university and college educators, researchers, and activists, currently representing 25 institutions and spanning 20 states. The network’s key objectives are to: 1) Increase the capacity of the scientific community to address the nation’s major sustainability challenges; 2) Increase the scientific underpinnings of sustainability debates; and 3) Raise the visibility of challenges posed by current food systems.

² See “Preamble to Vision and Racial Equity Statements” on pages 8-9 of [ASI Strategic Snapshot, Oct. 2014](#) for a better framing of this issue.

we also will focus on **gender and class oppression**, and the **intersections among race, class, and gender** that shape barriers and opportunities to equity. We make a commitment to **collaborate with communities of practice and place ...** to better understand, communicate and find solutions to how food system disparities affect the experiences of those most affected by systemic inequities. We will strive to **work with and respect community members** as leaders, co-creators of knowledge, co-formulators of questions and co-facilitators in building solutions as we endeavor to **create a more just food system for all people**.

INFAS, September 2014

Discussion:

There was general support for elevating the focus of social justice issues within the institution. However, EAB consensus was that the INFAS statement is too conceptual, too divisive, and would not be useful for ASI to adopt as written. The feeling emerged that the statement is largely useful as a tool for higher education institutions to communicate among themselves, and not the broader public. Below are threads and comments from the engaged discussion, which largely focused on better defining goals and crafting clear messaging around social justice. *We appreciate the board's willingness to dive into this challenging subject with us to launch the day!*

Framing

- What is the intended use of the statement? Internal? External? What is the value of a statement? Should we be looking for specific actions?
 - General goal is to be intentional in how ASI acts regarding justice and equity in our programming and actions.
 - Interested to explore how social justice can be included/articulated as part of other work streams.
- How does it change the system? How is it going to be communicated? Implemented?
 - Do we need to upgrade ASI's operational principles?
 - **Adopting strategy needs to include a communication plan.*
- Racial equity framing is divisive – not helpful for addressing the justice/equity problems within the food system.
 - Why not focus on health and nutrition?
 - It's a multifaceted problem, will require multi-facet solutions, (including race).
 - *Would rather focus on the problem.*
- "Sustainable food system" vs "sustainable nutrition system"
 - Need to work on nutrition in food system... Suggest change to "sustainable nutrition system"
 - Goes beyond "nutrition"--eg: for farmers it leads to immigration reform
- Can we explicitly think about different areas (economic, social, environment) as part of every decision process?
- Is the food system inequitable, or the economic system inequitable?

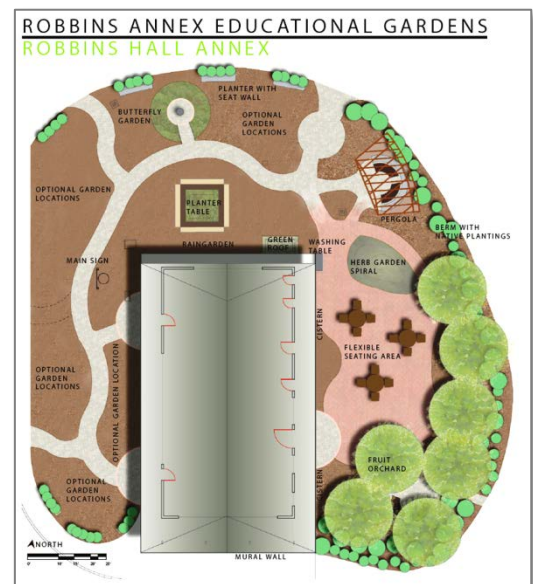
Messaging

- Need simple articulation of core values.
- Focus on closing disparities... but need “for all” framing to make traction.
- Start with end in mind: all want equity to access in opportunity and health outcomes.
 - Articulate facets of the problem, including structural racism, but lead with goal.
 - Use statistics to illustrate problem / examples / stories.
 - Include hypothesis of solution areas.

ACTION: Engage EAB/subset of EAB in refinement and articulation of social justice goals

II. SAREP: Campus GATEways and introduction of Robbins Annex Edible Landscape (Kathleen Socolofsky and Stacey Parker)

EAB members were given brief tours of the ASI offices in Robbins Hall and the new SAREP offices in Robbins Hall Annex and presented with an overview of the Robbins Annex Edible Landscape design and a discussion on how the educational garden nests within the “GATEways” broader educational landscape plan the university is putting forward. UC Davis Arboretum Director Kathleen Socolofsky made the GATEways presentation. Arboretum horticulturalist Stacey Parker reviewed the Robbins Annex design. EAB response to both the SAREP-specific idea and also the broader GATEways outdoor education initiative were very positive.



III. “Big Concept 1”: Sustainable Living and Learning Communities Campaign (Mark Van Horn, Carol Hillhouse, and Patrick Nolan)

ASI’s Student Farm (SF) and students in the Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems (SA&FS) major have been playing a leading role in the visioning and planning process for the broader university to leverage and coordinate sustainability practices begun at the Student Farm, Domes, and EC Community Gardens into a broader “Sustainable Living and Learning Community” (SLLC), which would be created as part of the 2030 UC Davis institutional long range development plan (in development now).

The exploration of this concept began with a driving tour of the university components that currently are part of the SLLC conversation and additional pieces that *may* be included in an expanded SLLC, followed by a walking tour of the Student Farm. EAB members then joined with ASI staff for a lively discussion in the Student Farm shop, exploring how expanding the physical and programmatic sustainability footprint within the university and surrounding community could be designed, what different aspects might potentially be included, and also discussing how to position a fundraising campaign around the SLLC initiative. This brainstorming discussion involved a quick primer about ideas

currently on the table and then a deep dive into exploring options. Great discussion was captured from each of the break-out groups—ideas that are already being used by ASI/SF staff to develop a more nuanced and comprehensive plan for inclusion in ongoing discussions with university planners. Presented here is a brief overview of ideas that were generated through these October EAB discussions.



General threads

- Overall, people seemed to understand and like the SLLC idea. They saw many different directions that the SF/ASI work within the SLLC could take.
- Interest in more connections with various types of residences was strong.
- Interest in our developing a relationship with the Wellness Center was strong.
- Interest in development and use of a new teaching/community kitchen facility was strong.
 - Eg: Experiential extension – “culinary center”; making connection from farm to food to compost, with health/nutrition aspects.
- Interest in developing and expanding broader experiential education and leadership opportunities for both students and community members was a central theme.
- Unique outreach opportunities were identified:
 - Integrating art as part of outreach.
 - Student Farm (in general) as a unique focus for outreach/marketing.

New ideas that resonated widely

- Include domesticated animals other than chickens within the SLLC.
- Increase the audience to have wider regional as well as international impact; perhaps through increased exchange with regional farmers and using the site more fully for training visiting scholars or agriculturalists.
- SLLC provides a strong positive opportunity to engage in many of the social and food justice concepts we have committed to.

Other considerations

- Emphasis on quality not quantity (careful about growth rates).
- Is projected space a big enough footprint? Add space on other side of the freeway as well?
- How to integrate pieces together – community engagement on many levels.
- Governing structure of communities? Self-governed? Network?
- Incorporate technology into program?

ACTION: Engage EAB/subset of EAB in concept refinement and articulation of SLLC goals.

IV. “Big Concept 2”: Russell Ranch Research and Extension Campaign (Kate Scow and Melissa Haworth)

Following the SLLC discussion at the Student Farm, EAB members journeyed to the Russell Ranch Sustainable Agricultural Facility and received a detailed overview of the Century Experiment and other ongoing research activities at the facility. This driving tour with Russell Ranch staff marked the first time many board members had the opportunity to experience Russell Ranch in person, and the team was pleased for the opportunity to give this tangible introduction in the field. The research “grounding” was used to launch exploratory discussions (in the Russell Ranch barn) to map out potential paths for ASI to leverage cutting edge field research at Russell Ranch and the facility’s growing technology collaborations with NASA and other partners with our SAREP Solution Center and other pathways for our extension mission. The vision being built, tagged as “BIG AGROECOLOGY” during our discussions, would provide a vehicle for transformational change within California production systems.



Below is a brief overview of some of the key ideas and insights from our conversation:

General threads

- Need to push on ability to scale and leverage findings / outcomes / impact.
- Design for linkages & connectivity
 - Scale of research area—with Century Experiment at the center, scaling down to micro-level, up to larger plots/other farms/Central Valley.
 - System-level links—soil health connected to GHG emissions connected to water, etc. How can we make the approach to science more holistic/focused on the broader system, in general, looking at complementarity/interactions among critical pieces: water, soil, energy, etc?
- Nutritional value of food: More emphasis/research on increasing *nutrition provision*, as opposed to just production.
- Soil: emphasis on the importance of soil health as focus of on-farm decision making
- Water: equipping the station for the capacity to use drip irrigation everywhere is critical (but need to look at both drip and furrow)
 - groundwater reserves, modeling these is important
- Research design & management for sustainability
 - How to better reflect common management practices? Do we need more perennial crops?
 - Hedgerows and buffers?
 - Be a louder champion for organic production?
- Profitability: economic considerations are critical for inclusion in analyses / results need to show economic returns to farmers.
 - Economic evaluation of soil ecosystem services?

- How can social justice considerations be included in RR research portfolio? (eg: labor, health).
- Build partnerships, especially with growers as research partners/innovators, commodity groups.

Communication

- Content: We need to let people know what RR is doing and get it out there more effectively, for both practical and theoretical work, show why it is unique and complementary, and make both RR and research findings relevant to individuals/communities.
 - E.g: What results/findings are we most proud of or are most significant for RR?
- Access: How can we better connect with farmers/stakeholders/larger community? What media (video, etc) are most effective for target groups? Extension 3.0?
- Messaging: Clear, concise, and simple language to express critical information. It needs to be understandable for anyone.

Other considerations

- One goal is to attract more faculty interested in field-based research (over lab).
- We need to better inventory intellectual capital, physical capital, social capital/connectivity
- How can we build local and also international feedback loops?
- Technology can now answer many more questions – mine RR data to go back and answer them (now, and as the technological envelope continues to progress).

ACTION: Engage EAB/subset of EAB in refinement and articulation of “Big Agroecology” goals.

V. *Reflections / Continuing to build our shared sense of purpose*

ASI extends a hearty *thank you* to our board members for their engagement and valuable insights throughout the day and we look forward to continuing our conversations into their next phases with you. We also want to reiterate our welcome to the distinguished cohort of new board members joining us this year – with appreciation for your willingness to dive into tough conversations with us from the get-go.

Please stay tuned over the coming year, as we reach out for further discussion and refinement of specific topics, as noted in the outlined action items.

Looking ahead: Next year’s EAB meeting is scheduled to take place Tuesday, November 10, 2015, and will be held on the UC Davis campus.



RECAP: Action items

1. Further explore student involvement in academic board /make decision (p.) – *Tom, Ermiias*
2. Engage EAB/subset of EAB in refinement and articulation of:
 - a. Social justice goals (p. 10) – *Tom, Joanna F.*
 - b. SLLC goals (p. 11) – *Mark, Carol*
 - c. “Big Agroecology” goals (p. 13) – *Kate, Tom*

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2014 EXTERNAL ADVISORY BOARD

**Executive committee*

Current members (in alphabetical order):

Ashley Boren*, Executive Director, Sustainable Conservation, San Francisco, CA

Renata Brillinger, Executive Director California Climate & Agriculture Network (CalCAN), Sebastopol, CA

John Diener, President, Red Rock Ranch, Five Points, CA

Michael Dimock, Executive Director, Roots of Change, San Francisco, CA

John Foraker, Chief Executive Officer, Annie's Inc., Berkeley, CA

Cornelius Gallagher, Senior Vice President, Food, Agriculture and Wine Executive, Bank of America, Roseville, CA

Harold Goldstein, Executive Director, California Center for Public Health Advocacy

Martha Guzman Aceves, Deputy Legislative Affairs Secretary, Office of Governor Edmund G. Brown, Jr., Sacramento, CA

Carl Johnson, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Chief Growth Officer, Big Heart Pet Brands, San Francisco, CA

AG Kawamura*, Founding Member, Orange County Produce, Irvine, CA

Barry Kreibel, President, Sun-Maid Growers of California, Kingsburg, CA

Russ Lester, Owner, Dixon Ridge Farms, Winters, CA

Joann Lo, Executive Director, Food Chain Workers Alliance, Los Angeles, CA

Marshall McKay, Chairman, Yocah Dehe Wintun Nation, Brooks, CA

Puon Penn, Executive Vice President/Co-Head, Wells Fargo's Technology Banking Group, Palo Alto, CA

Amparo Perez-Lemus, AP Lemus & Associates Marketing and Public Relations, Davis, CA

Judith Redmond, Owner and Partner, Full Belly Farm, Guinda, CA

Richard Rominger*, Rominger Farms, Winters, CA

Karen Ross, Secretary, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Sacramento, CA

D'Artagnan Scorza, Founder and Executive Director, Social Justice Learning Institute, Los Angeles, CA

Howard-Yana Shapiro*, Chief Agricultural Officer, Mars, Inc; Senior Fellow, Plant Sciences Department, UC Davis; Distinguished Fellow, World Agroforestry Centre, Nairobi, Kenya; ASI Board Chair, Davis, CA

Rachel Surls, Sustainable Food Systems Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension Los Angeles County, Los Angeles, CA

Thomas Turini, Vegetable Crops Farm Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension Fresno County, Fresno, CA

Nita Vail, Chief Executive Officer, California Rangeland Trust, Sacramento, CA

Paul Wenger, President, California Farm Bureau Federation, and farmer, Modesto, CA

Ex officio members (in alphabetical order):

Barbara Allen-Diaz, Vice President, Agriculture and Natural Resources, University of California

Andrew Baskin, Undergraduate student representative, UC Davis Sustainable Agriculture and Food Systems major

Helene Dillard, Dean, College of Agricultural & Environmental Sciences, University of California, Davis

Kelly Gravuer, Graduate student representative, Ecology Graduate Group, Plant Sciences Department, UC Davis