

# 2013 INFAS Executive Committee Meeting Report and Action Items

## During the Agriculture, Food, and Human Values Society meeting

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### Meeting Report

#### Action Items

1. Molly Anderson agreed to serve as chair-elect for FY 13-14, and chair for FY 14-15
2. *Revised*- Tom Tomich will work further to develop work-plan further before sending to EC/Network to focus on deepening network connections
3. Friesner to set up conference call with Tom Kelly to start Network Design Process
4. Friesner to facilitate EC process for two new members over next FY to start FY 14
5. Friesner to contact Robbin Shoemaker (USDA AFRI) to tell him we're not submitting the workshop proposal (*his response: next year they may not have workshops in their RFA*)
6. Friesner to follow up with Frantz and RFC about potential webinars/young scholar network- YSN; also follow-up with INFAS members to give webinars; technical issues for webinars
7. Friesner to look into USDA Education challenge grants for webinars, YSN

#### Present

- Chair: Patricia Allen; Notes: Joanna Friesner
- Shorlette Ammons, Joanna Friesner, Tom Tomich, Paul Thompson, Molly Anderson, Alex Frantz, John O'Sullivan, Casey Hoy, Kate Clancy
- Observers: Gail Imig, Ricardo Salvador, Linda Jo Doctor, Emily Burruel

#### Discussion Topics- review of FY 12-13 work plan and assessment, and FY 13-14 proposal

In last FY, the model INFAS has been testing is developing an identity through collaborating on projects, e.g. write-shop writing process; developing grant proposals.

1. Anderson: Research Subcommittee write-shop process
  - i. Current Q's: what is the RSC going to do to wrap up the effort and get document out and how is the document connected to other INFAS projects?
    - i. RSC needs clear indications of who will do what and when it will be completed.
    - ii. Tomich: AGree concept note- early exploration on how AGree/INFAS might collaborate on reforming U.S. research and agriculture.
2. Friesner/Hoy/Anderson/Tomich: USDA AFRI Workshop grant proposal
  - i. The intent was to submit this on July 17<sup>th</sup>. We concluded to wait for a future cycle.
3. Hoy- SESYNC.org: Analogous to Santa Barbara group that sets up small workshops for about 40 people to work on data. It was recommended to Casey for INFAS.

- i. Hoy- INFAS isn't at this stage yet but hoping we can target this group for future engagement/future workshop.
  - ii. Anderson- the resources they have for convening new people are fantastic.
- 4. Thompson: Partnering with the Integrated Network for Social Sustainability
  - i. <http://eng-resources.uncc.edu/inss/>; Funded by NSF RCN grant
  - ii. Focus on social sustainability; interested in Agriculture and Food, with little expertise
- 5. Hoy- EU Network for environmental and social responsibility
  - i. Hoy sent meeting update (July 8): Michel Pimbert, who very recently joined the Centre for Agroecology and Food Security at Coventry University as Director, volunteered to lead a COST network proposal for the group on an EU agroecology network, due approximately late September. The potential for linkage with INFAS and leverage with an eventual NSF RCN was clearly recognized and Casey offered our willingness to support the EU effort where feasible and helpful.
- 6. Friesner- INFAS Webinars and Young Scholars Network
  - i. Frantz- RFC would be interested to participate, including giving webinars if appropriate
  - ii. Tomich- Consider a collaborative effort between INFAS and RFC
  - iii. O'Sullivan- Propose- lightning rounds given by undergrads/grads to provide short input
  - iv. Tomich- look into next round of USDA higher education challenge grants

### Work plan Priority-Setting

1. Develop Network understanding of members
  - i. Better understanding of what brings people to INFAS
  - ii. Better understanding of group's passions
2. Develop Network understanding of
  - i. what we mean by 'community'
  - ii. 'engagement in issues of poverty'
  - iii. 'structural racism'
  - iv. 'latent tensions simmering under the surface'
  - v. How to share understanding and framing of issues across regions
  - vi. Raising up local voices in the national level framing
3. Consensus to explicitly work on Network Design for the next year approximately
  - i. Develop a core team; a Network Design Team (NDT), with a facilitator and evaluator
  - ii. Hold a series of working sessions addressing the context, current reality, desired state(s) over the next 1, 5, 10 years.
  - iii. Thompson- nominates his Native American MSU colleague
  - iv. **Revised:** Tomich to work on fleshing out the work-plan to focus on deepening network connections. Send the work-plan to the EC and then to the Network.