



Research, Education, and Economics (REE)
National Agricultural Research, Extension, Education, and Economics (NAREEE) Advisory Board

National Genetic Resources Advisory Council (NGRAC) – Oct 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes

National Genetics Resources Council Committee Members Present: Dr. Terrence Tiersch (Chair), Dr. John Buchanan, Dr. David Butruille, Dr. Paul Gepts, Mr. Preston Hardison, Dr. Stephen Kresovich, Dr. Sarada Krishnan, Dr. Jim McFerson, and Dr. Margaret Smith

Members Absent : Dr. Chad Dechow, Dr. Amir Ibrahim, Dr. Steven Kerns and Dr. Katherine Rainey

NAREEE Board Staff Present: Kate Lewis, Executive Director and Shirley Morgan-Jordan, Program Support Coordinator

Ex-Officio(s) Present: Dr. Peter Bretting

Ex-Officio(s) Absent: Dr. Harvey Blackburn, Paul Wester

I. Welcome and Roll of Council Members, Ex-Officio Members and Other Attendees, and Quorum Check

- Roll Call of Council members, *ex-officio* members and other attendees, and quorum check

Shirley Morgan-Jordan did a roll call, and a quorum was established amongst the NGRAC.

- Welcome new and re-appointed members

Kate Lewis welcomed all NGRAC Members on the call. She stated to the NGRAC Members that the group would be discussing about the NPGS Plan for most of the call.

- Approval of January 2021 meeting minutes

The NGRAC approved the minutes by quorum of vote. The minutes will be moved forward for approval to the Executive Committee and then to the full Board for final approval.

II. Remarks from the NGRAC Chair

Dr. Tiersch provided some brief remarks to the NGRAC members and stated that we will review the status of NGRAC reports at a future meeting due to the time that has passed since the last correspondence and halt of the Council activities. He stated that Dr. Bretting has been working



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diligently on the NPGS Plan, and review by the NGRAC is necessary as part of the approval process for the document. Therefore, it will be the first priority as we renew our activities.

III. Overview of NPGS plan; explanation of the Council’s role, and discussion of timeline for review and feedback

Dr. Bretting thanked Dr. Tiersch and the committee for allowing him to share the NPGS plan for review to the NGRAC. Dr. Bretting showed a presentation to the NGRAC members entitled “The National Strategic Germplasm and Cultivar Collection Assessment and Utilization Plan” as described in the 2018 Farm Bill in Sec. 7205 (the slides will be sent to the committee for review).

The objective of reviewing the NPGS by the NGRAC members is to help provide input to Dr. Bretting for submission of comments as was congressionally mandated in the 2018 Farm Bill.

Dr. Tiersch and Dr. Bretting thanked everyone in advance for their time. After the NGRAC members have made their suggestions, Dr. Tiersch and Dr. Bretting will consolidate the suggestions for incorporation in the NPGS plan. A provisional decision was made that the NGRAC members will provide input within 2 weeks (Tues, Nov 9) to Dr. Tiersch and Dr. Bretting for consolidation of all remarks. More time may be required for review, but that will be determined after the Council members have had a chance to see the full two-part document.

Ms. Lewis or Ms. Morgan-Jordan will schedule another meeting for NGRAC if discussion is needed; otherwise email will be sufficient.

IV. Update on documents: past and future

Dr. Tiersch stated that the Council will revisit all NGRAC recommendation documents and formulate a plan to move forward.

V. Next Steps and Adjournment

Ms. Lewis and Ms. Shirley Morgan-Jordan will be working on finalizing some dates for recurring conference calls for the Council for the future.

Meeting adjourned at 4:00 pm