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OREGON WHEAT COMMISSION

Annual Research Review Minutes February 12, 2024

Call to Order:

Pursuant to notice made by press release to newspapers of general and local circulation throughout the state and e-mailed to persons on the mailing list of the Commission, a Wheat Industry Advisory Committee meeting and Annual Research Review was held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Corvallis, OR with video/phone conference available. Commissioners present for all or part of the meeting included Dana Tuckness – Chair, Tyler Hansell – Vice Chair, David Brewer - Secretary/Treasurer, Darren Padget, Jason Middleton, Jerry Marguth, David Prybylowski and Rob Rye. Staff members present were Amanda Hoey, CEO, Tana Simpson, Associate Administrator, and Corey Shrader, Office and Project Coordinator.

Chair Tuckness called the Research Review to order at 9:00 a.m.

Introduction of Visitors

In addition to the above listed Commissioners and staff, the following guests were in attendance for all or part of the meeting: Staci Simonich, Shawn Donkin, Kris Elliot, Sam Birikorang, Francisco Calderon, Tom Chastain, Joey Spatafora, Margaret Krause, Chris Mundt, Andrew Ross, Teepakorn Kongraksawech, Scott Fisk, Christina Hagerty, Judit Barroso, Ryan Graebner, Xianming Chen, Alecia Kiszonas, Pete Berry, Jacob Powell, Stuart Reitz, Tajamul Hussain, Ruijun Qin, Jason Flowers, Nathalia Moretti, Amber Moore, Hilary Gunn, Adam Heesacker, Hayley Park, Melissa Vergara and Everaldo McLennon.

Wheat Industry Advisory Committee

Tom Chastain updated the Commission on the activities of the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences. They are in the interview process on the Mid and North Valley Assistant Professor of Practice positions. The Weeds Extension position and Department Head positions are in the search phase. Tom confirmed that he is scheduled to retire on June 30th. They are also hiring two new Professor of Practice positions supporting organic grains and pulses and organic soil management.

The Department of Crop and Soil Sciences is experiencing a significant increase in enrollment thanks to the new e-campus programs. Field days are coming up soon. The Hyslop farm field day will be held May 22nd.

Two changes have recently affected the wheat breeding program. The first change is that the Department of Crop and Soil Sciences has returned the FRA funding from the 1999 legislation back to the original distribution. This decreases the FRA support in the wheat breeding program from 2.25 FTE to 1.75 FTE. The other change is the College's new reserve carryover policy, stating that no program can carryover more than 20% of their annual budget. For the breeding program, this issue caused a transfer of funds and use of the endowment. Given the timing of the royalty distribution, typically May or June, this is a longer-term issue that Associate Dean Donkin committed to investigating further.

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Margaret Krause outlined the details of her plans to manage her 9-month appointment, supervising the Barley Breeding Program, her reallocation of funds to avoid the carryover sweep and how she is targeting her startup funds toward additional technology in the program with the hopes of speeding up variety development.

Dean Simonich reported that the College of Agricultural Sciences is excited to have Dr. Krause on board. She stated that they have started a national search to fill the Department Chair of Crop and Soil Sciences position and are currently in process for the Cereal Pathology position search. OSU is currently the #2 ranked college for students studying agriculture and the College is proud to have staff embedded in small communities around the state.

Dean Simonich reported that the University was pleased to receive a restoration of statewide funds to their continuing service level in the last legislative session. The base increase allows them to backfill critical positions, 31 positions in total with 13 outside of Corvallis, OR.

Francisco Calderon reported on the Columbia Basin Agricultural Research Center (CBARC). With the departure of Kyle Bender from the Sherman station, Kyle Harrison with the Pendleton station has accepted a position change that would have him managing both the Pendleton and Moro stations. OSU is in the process of developing a position for a person who will be based in Moro, OR and work under his direction. He will share the position description with CEO Hoey and any interested Commissioners.

Dr. Calderon state that CBARC is looking forward to making some improvements to their main greenhouse which was built in 1991. The variety testing, weeds and pathology programs are all hoping to use the greenhouse once the improvements are made. He reported that they have received a University grant of \$58,000 toward the repairs which are estimated to be between \$125,000-\$150,000. A contractor has been hired to make the improvements to the paneling, water system and lighting in the fall. CBARC currently has \$60,000 in unused funds from the block grant that they are requesting be reallocated toward the greenhouse project.

Bakery Tour

The WIAC meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am. The group toured the recently renovated Cereal Bake Lab and returned to the Hilton Garden Inn.

Research Proposal Presentations

The annual research review convened at 12:30 pm. It included presentations and discussion pertaining to the following 2024-2025 funding requests:

- Margaret Krause
 - Developing Improved Winter Wheat Cultivars for Oregon
 - Gene Editing for Developing New and Improved OSU Wheat Varieties
- Scott Fisk– Oregon Barley Variety Development and Deployment
- Andrew Ross and Teepakorn Kongraksawech –Cereal Quality Testing
- Ryan Graebner
 - Wheat and Spring Barley Variety Testing in Oregon

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- Hard Red Spring Breeding
- Christina Hagerty - Seed Care Evaluation
- Judit Barroso – Improving Weed Management in Oregon Wheat Production Systems
- Pete Berry – Oregon Wheat Weed Management
- Jacob Powell
 - Nitrogen fertility in wheat with biofertilizers
 - Additive Effects of Foliar Nitrogen with Fungicides in Winter Wheat
- Hayley Park and Melissa Vergara – FFAR Fellowship Program Request
- Stuart Reitz – How Significant of a Pest is the Cereal Leaf Beetle at Present?
- Alecia Kiszonas
 - Advanced Wheat Grain Quality at OSU
 - ‘G&E’ Study
 - Miag pilot flour milling the PNW Wheat Quality Council Samples
- Xianming Chen: Improving Control of Stripe Rust
- Tajamul Hussain & Ruijun Qin: Investigating Effects of Irrigation and Nitrogen Management on Wheat Productivity and Soil Water Quality

Adjournment

Chairman Tuckness adjourned the meeting at 4:21 p.m.

Approved



Dana Tuckness, Chair

Prepared and submitted by Associate Administrator, Tana Simpson.