



**CoFARM Annual Activity Report
for
January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003**

February 25, 2004

CoFARM Strategic Plan for 2000 – 2005 (<http://www.cofarm.org>)

CoFARM Strategic Plan Goal

- *“To achieve a substantial increase in federal funding directed to agricultural research.*

CoFARM Strategic Plan Objectives

- *“Convene a One-Voice Coalition;”*
- *“Make a Strong Case For Emerging Needs for Agricultural Research Funding,” where “CoFARM will identify key issues affecting agricultural production, distribution and consumption in a pamphlet intended for wide distribution;”*
- *“Document Agricultural Research Benefits,” where CoFARM will “Summarize summaries of the benefits of agricultural research and condense them into a coherent message; and Develop talking points and documents that express the essentiality of agricultural research to society;” and*
- *“Activate, Train, and Target Scientist Communicators.”*

CoFARM Steering Committee Meetings in 2003 The CoFARM Steering Committee met on January 16 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; February 18 at the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC; March 12 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; April 24 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; May 6 biosecurity meeting at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; May 28 at the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC; June 24 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; July 17 biosecurity briefing at the Department of Homeland Security, Fort Detrick, MD; July 22 at the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC; September 16 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; October 20 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; November 25 at the Institute of Food Technologists in Washington, DC; and December 5 with Noah Engleberg of the Office of Management and Budget.

Questions about CoFARM Programs and Activities may be directed to the CoFARM Chair for 2003, Karl Glasener, at 202-408-5382 --- Fax: 202-408-5385 --- E-Mail: Karlglasener@cs.com

Questions about CoFARM Financial Matters may be directed to the CoFARM Treasurer, Jack Cooper at 301 384 8287 --- Fax: 301 384 8340 --- E-Mail: JLC@fien.com

CoFARM Legislative Activities

- **Congressional Visits Day**-CoFARM participated in the 8th Annual Science-Engineering-Technology "Congressional Visits Day" (CVD), April 2-3, 2003, in Washington, DC. CoFARM member societies participating included Agronomy, Crop and Soil Science Societies (Dr. Jim Shroyer); American Phytopathological Society (Dr. John Sherwood); American Society for Microbiology (Dr. Anne Vidaver); Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics (Dr. Dave Schweikhardt); and Federation of Animal Science Societies (Dr. Robert Norton). The CVD is a two-day annual event that brings scientists, engineers, researchers, educators, and technology executives to Washington to raise visibility and support for science, engineering, and technology. Uniquely multi-sector and multi-disciplinary, the CVD is coordinated by coalitions of companies, professional societies and educational institutions and it is open to all people who believe that science and technology comprise the cornerstone of our Nation's future. The objective of CVD is to underscore the long-term importance of science, engineering, and technology to the Nation through meetings with congressional decision makers. Specifically participants convey to Congress the need for an increased and balanced federal investment in research and development that is essential to U.S. global leadership. In visiting Congressional office these scientists highlight that research should be viewed as an investment, not as an expense. More information about CVD can be seen at <http://www.agiweb.org/cvd> and <http://www.cofarm.org/03cvd.html>.
- **CoFARM Bio-Security Briefings**
Within the framework of the overall CVD, CoFARM developed its own “ag” agenda kicking off the two-day event on April 2 with a series of educational briefings for key policy makers concerning agriculture security issues. Scientists representing agricultural economics, animal science, crop science, plant pathology, and, microbiology met with the White House Office of Management and Budget and the White House Homeland Security Council as well as House (House Select Committee on Homeland Security) and Senate staff. Tamara Wagester, Karl Glasener, and Ted Cartwright were instrumental in CoFARM’s participation. Distributed to administration and congressional staffers at the briefings, and currently viewable on the CoFARM web site, at <http://www.cofarm.org/03cvd.html>, was a one-pager titled “Protecting Agriculture, Protecting America” developed under the leadership of Tamara Wagester, which identified the threats to US agriculture and food systems, the defenses recommended to address these threats, and the support needed to implement. Additionally, five one-pagers concerning biosecurity needs, by discipline, were developed for the biosecurity briefings and are also accessible at the CoFARM web page. CoFARM also developed a one-pager emphasizing the need for increased agricultural research for the CVD Briefing Book and a one-pager concerning the , which was carried to the Hill and delivered to congressional staffers visited by CoFARM member scientists. All of these documents can be viewed at: <http://www.cofarm.org/03cvd.html>.
- **Awards Breakfast for Congressman Nick Smith (R-MI)**—April 4, CoFARM and the Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition presented an award to Congressman Nick Smith (R-MI) recognizing his long-time support of research both at USDA and

the National Science Foundation. A photograph of Congressman Smith receiving the award can be seen at: <http://www.cofarm.org/03cvd.html>.

- **Visits to Capitol Hill** The afternoon of April 3, 2003 CoFARM member society representatives and constituent scientists visited Congressional members and their staff to discuss the importance of agriculture research in filling many voids in addressing other issues associated with our national security, food supply, and the nation's health. Left behind at these meetings was the CoFARM FY 2005 brochure with funding recommendations and the one-pager, "Agricultural Research: A Critical Foundation for a Health Economy," which makes the argument for increased federal investment in agricultural research as a driver of the economy. This document can be viewed at: <http://www.cofarm.org/03cvd.html> as can the photos of briefing participants.

Member offices visited included:

Senate: Senators Charles Schumer (D-NY), Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Thad Cochran (R-MS), Pat Roberts (R-KS), Sam Brownback (R-KS), Saxby Chambliss (R-GA), Herb Kohl (D-WI), Chuck Hagel (R-NE), Ben Nelson (D-NE), Jeff Sessions (R-AL), Richard Shelby (R-AL), Mike DeWine (R-OH), Zel Miller (D-GA).

House: Representatives Jerry Moran (R-1st KS), Jack Kingston (R-1st GA), Marcy Kaptur (D-9th OH), David Obey (D-7th WI), David Price (D-4th NC), Charles Pickering (R-3rd MS), Roger Wicker (R-1st MS), Robert Aderholt (R-4th AL), John Boehner (R-8th OH), Tom Osborne (R-3rd NE), Jim Marshall (D-3rd GA), Sanford Bishop (D-2nd GA), Maurice Hinchey (D-22nd NY), Doug Bereuter (R-1st NE), Robert Cramer (D-5th AL).

- April 24, 2003, CoFARM held a lunch with the leadership of the American Phytopathological Society (APS) to discuss how to increase collaboration in the science policy arena.
- March 2003, CoFARM sent a letter to all members of the House and Senate Agriculture Appropriations Committees supporting the President's FY 2004 proposal of \$240 million for the National Research Initiative (NRI) as the Committees began work on the FY 2004 agriculture appropriations bills. <http://www.cofarm.org/statlet.html>
- May 6, 2003, CoFARM met with member society representatives; Brad Fenwick, Chief Science Advisor, Competitive Grants Programs, USDA-Cooperative ; Phil Schwab, Science Policy and Legislative Affairs, USDA-CSREES;
- July 3, 2003, more than 100 CoFARM member scientists sent letters to the House and Senate Appropriations Committees urging members to support increased funding for the USDA's National Research Initiative Competitive Grants Program (NRI) for FY 2004 by supporting the President's proposal of \$240 million. The Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee subsequently set funding for the NRI at \$180 million, a \$14 million increase over fiscal year 2003, a very positive result given the large decreases given to many of the other programs funded through USDA.
- July 14, 2003, CoFARM participated in a agriculture biosecurity briefing for the Department of Homeland Security in Ft. Detrick, MD. Participating in the briefing were CoFARM member scientists from the Federation of Animal Science Societies, American Phytopathological Society,

American Society for Microbiology, Agronomy/Crop/Soil Science Societies, Council on Food, Agricultural & Resource Economics.

- July 15, 2003, CoFARM member scientists from Utah met with staff of Congressmen Bishop (R-1st) and Matheson (D-2nd). At both meetings scientists discussed the research, extension, and education activities funded by USDA that they were involved in. These Utah scientists also met with Senator Robert Bennett (R-UT), chair of the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, and his staff, to thank him for his support for agriculture research, education and extension and to urge continued support.
- October 29-30, 2003, CoFARM sent a letter to all members of the Senate Appropriations Committee urging members to support the Senate Agriculture Committees FY 2004 mark which set funding for the NRI at \$180 million, a \$14 million increase over fiscal year 2003.
- November 3, 2003, CoFARM placed ads in the two main Wisconsin newspapers, thanking Senator Herb Kohl (D-WI), ranking member, Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee, for his support for research funding.

Partnerships with Other Organizations

- As part of the Science, Engineering and Technology Working Group, CoFARM helped sponsor the April 2, 2003 **Congressional Visits Day Reception** for congressional leaders.
- CoFARM continues to collaborate with the **Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC)**, an alliance of organizations united by a concern for every aspect of the biology of the natural world, from agricultural systems to zoology. BESC supports the goal of increasing the nation's investment in the non-biomedical biological sciences across all federal agencies including NSF, USDA, EPA, NOAA, USGS, DOE and NASA.
- CoFARM member societies have joined the U.S. Geological Survey Coalition which supports funding for research at USGS. Activities include meetings with officials at the Department of Interior to discuss FY 2005 budget as well as submitting testimony to the Interior appropriations subcommittee supporting funding for the USGS in FY 2004. The USGS Coalition also drafts testimony concerning the FY 2005 budget.
- CoFARM members continued participation in the activities of the **Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF)**, an alliance of organizations united by a concern for the future vitality of the national science, mathematics, and engineering enterprise, which supports the goal of increasing the national investment in the National Science Foundation's research and education programs in response to the unprecedented scientific, technological, and economic opportunities facing the United States. CNSF was instrumental in achieving a significant increase in funding for NSF in FY 2004.

Meetings with Ag Research Leaders and Organizations

- February 13, 2003, CoFARM meeting with National Association of State Universities and Land Grant Colleges-Experiment Station Committee on Policy representatives Tom Payne and Fred Cholick to discuss how NASUGLC and CoFARM can improve collaboration in budget and appropriations issues.
- March 12, 2003, CoFARM met with USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) Chief Science Advisor, Brad Fenwick, and Phil Schwab, Science Policy and Legislative Affairs to discuss competitive research programs at USDA.
- May 20, 2003, CoFARM meeting and participation in the annual meeting of the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR).
- May 28, 2003, CoFARM meeting with Richard Dunkle, Deputy Administrator, USDA-APHIS-PPQ and Gordon Gordh, Director, APHIS-PPQ-CPHST to discuss APHIS programs and impact of creation of Department of Homeland Security on APHIS.
- December 5, 2003, CoFARM met with Noah Engleberg of the White House Office of Management and Budget to discuss FY 2005 and 2006 budgets for agricultural research, extension and education at USDA.
- June 24, 2003, CoFARM met with USDA-Cooperative State Research, Education and Extension Service (CSREES) Chief Science Advisor, Brad Fenwick to discuss new structure of NRI competitive grants program.
- Wednesday July 22, 2003, CoFARM meeting with Cathann A. Kress, Director, Youth Development Families, 4-H & Nutrition, USDA-CSREES and Phil Schwab, Science Policy and Legislative Affairs, USDA-CSREES to discuss “4-H Science and Technology Outreach and Youth”
- September 16, 2003, CoFARM meeting with Mark Rokala, Vice President, Cornerstone Government Affairs to discuss strategies for achieving significant increases in funding for agricultural research and how CoFARM and NASULGC-ESCAP/ECOP can work better together.
- October 20, 2003, CoFARM meeting with Adrienne Froelich, Director of Public Policy, American Institute of Biological Sciences to discuss proposed database, “Trends in Biological Research Funding: A Proposal for a Federal Grants Database” and possible CoFARM subscription.
- November 25, 2003, CoFARM meeting with Brad Fenwick, Chief Science Advisory, Competitive Programs, USDA-CSREES to discuss NRI RFA and its new look.

CoFARM Activities Jan – Dec 2003

- **Support of the National Coalition on Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR)**
 - CoFARM has been a member of the National Coalition on Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR), as a National Organization Member, securing a seat on the Board of Directors, for two years. CoFARM Steering Committee Chair, Karl M. Glasener, continued to represent CoFARM on the National C-FAR Board of Directors during 2003.
 - Karl Glasener continued his appointment as CoFARM member representative to the board and participated in Board of Directors meetings and conference calls.
 - The National C-FAR Research Committee, led by Chair Tamara Wagester, continued to meet during 2003. Committee members Tamara Wagester, Karl Glasener and Rob Hedberg continued soliciting Research Success Stories from CoFARM member societies. During the year, the

Committee worked with a professional science writer to assist in the development of lay terminology versions of Research Success Stories.

- The four Research Success Stories produced in 2002, which can be viewed at <http://www.ncfar.org>, were distributed to all members of Congress and select committees and select Administration officials. Additional research success stories will be distributed to Congress and the Administration.
- CoFARM representatives participated in National C-FAR Board Meeting Conference and all messages from National C-FAR were forwarded by Karl M. Glasener to the CoFARM Steering Committee.

CoFARM Brochure Developed and Distributed CoFARM developed the FY 2004 one-page double-sided CoFARM brochure, which provides information about CoFARM members, and the need to increase agricultural research funding. The brochure is provided, as needed or upon request, to individuals and organizations interested in CoFARM activities.

CoFARM Web Site The web site operations, transferred in 2002 successfully from the American Phytopathological Society to the American Society of Agronomy, proceeded forward. CoFARM contracted with ASA's webmaster who renovated and maintained the CoFARM web page. The current web page, which can be viewed at <http://www.cofarm.org>, contains CoFARM reports, testimony and letters and activities.

Support of the Congressional Science Fellowship Program

- CoFARM Chair Karl Glasener and IFT representative Jennifer MacAulay with some assistance from the American Veterinary Medical Association planned the annual AVMA/CoFARM Congressional Science Fellow Orientation Session held August 26-28, 2003 at the offices of congressional and regulatory leaders and allied organizations.

Financial

CoFARM started the year with \$14,478.25 and ended with \$15,376.87 in its bank checking account - Membership dues were received in the amount of \$9,000 with additional income from checking account interest.

A copy of the CoFARM Treasurers report, which includes income and expenses for the time period of January 1, 1998 through the current time period is available from the CoFARM Treasurer, Jack Cooper by e-mail at JLC@fien.com.

CoFARM expenses from January 1, 2003 through December 31, 2003 were for:

- Web site design and maintenance (\$518);
- Congressional Visits Day awards breakfast and lunch with Scientists (\$646);
- Biosecurity briefings (\$376);
- CoFARM FY 2004 brochure design and printing (\$975);
- Agriculture Science Funding Flyer design and printing (\$1444);
- Membership in the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (\$1,000);
- Thank you ad (two Wisconsin newspapers) recognizing Senator Herb Kohl's (D-WI) support for research (\$1432);
- Financial support for the AVMA/CoFARM Congressional Science Fellows Orientation, including meal functions (\$1,667); and
- Miscellaneous (report editing, administration and recognition) (\$114)

Several CoFARM members provided support for CoFARM work and activities at their own expense, including Institute of Food Technologists, which supported the participation of the CoFARM Treasurer on the Steering Committee and assisted with planning and execution of AVMA-CoFARM Congressional Science Fellows Orientation. Several societies, especially, the Institute of Food Technologists and the American Society for Microbiology provided complimentary meeting rooms and refreshments for meetings held there, and copying and staff support.

CoFARM Steering Committee Members - The CoFARM Steering Committee meetings were normally attended by representatives of the following CoFARM member organizations:

* American Dairy Science Association, represented by Lou Armentano, learment@facstaff.wisc.edu

* American Institute of Biological Sciences, represented by Director of Public Policy, Adrienne Froelich, afroelich@aib

- * American Phytopathological Society, represented by APS Staff Member, John Sherwood, sherwood@ARCHES.UGA.EDU
- * American Society of Agricultural Engineers, represented by Public Relations staff member, Dolores Landeck, landeck@asae.org
- * American Society of Agronomy, represented by ASA Staff Member, Karl Glasener KarlGlasener@cs.com who served as CoFARM Chair
- * American Society of Animal Science, represented by ASAS Executive Director, Terry Etherton, Tetherton@psu.edu
- * American Society for Horticultural Science, represented by ASHS member Bruno Quebedeaux from the University of Maryland, bquebede@umd.edu
- * American Society for Microbiology, represented by ASM Staff Member Whitney Tull, wtull@asmusa.org
- * American Society for Nutritional Sciences, represented by Tracy Lawless tlawless@faseb.org
- * American Society of Plant Biologists, represented by ASPB Staff Member, Brian Hyps bhyvs@aspb.org
- * Council of Entomology Department Administrators, represented by Rick Meyer of USDA-CSREES, hmeyer@csrees.usda.gov
- * Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, represented by CFARE Staff Member, Tamara Wagester tamarawagester@cfare.org
- * Crop Science Society of America, represented by CSS Staff Member, Karl Glasener, KarlGlasener@cs.com who served as CoFARM Chair
- * Federation of Animal Science Societies, represented by FASS Staff Member Amy Tamasco, atomasco@faseb.org
- * Genetics Society of America, represented by Elaine Strass, estrass@genetics.faseb.org
- * Institute of Food Technologists, represented by IFT staff members, Ted Cartwright, ttcartwright@ift.org and Jack Cooper JLC@fien.com who served as Treasurer
- * Poultry Society of America, represented by William Saylor, bsaylor@udel.edu
- * Rural Sociological Society, represented by RSS Member, Pat Hipple, phipple@intranet.reeusda.gov
- * Society of Nematologists, Represented by Society Member, David Chitwood chitwood@ba.ars.usda.gov

* Soil Science Society of America, represented by SSSA Staff Member, Karl Glasener, KarlGlasener@cs.com who served as CoFARM Chair

* Weed Science Society of America, represented by WSSA Staff Member, Rob Hedberg robhedberg@erols.com

CoFARM Officers

CoFARM Officers were elected January 2003 and served through 2003:

- Chair—Karl Glasener, American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America
- Treasurer—Jack Cooper, Institute of Food Technologists
- Secretary—John Sherwood, American Phytopathological Society

CoFARM Associate Members

University of Georgia, represented by John Sherwood, sherwood@arches.uga.edu

Other Participants in CoFARM work and activities

- * Council for Agricultural Science and Technology, represented by Richard Herrett
- * Council of Scientific Society Presidents, Marty Apple
- * Cornell University Government Affairs, Liz LaPolt

End

Questions about CoFARM Programs and Activities may be directed to the CoFARM Chair for 2003, Karl Glasener, at 202-408-5382 --- Fax: 202-408-5385 --- E-Mail: KarlGlasener@cs.com

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