

CoFARM Annual Activity Report
For January 1, 2005 through December 31, 2005

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 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 2005

- January 11 at the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC;
- February 8 at the American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC;
- March 8 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- April 12 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- May 10 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- June 14 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- July 12, American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- August - None
- September 13 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- October 11 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- November 8 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- December 15 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC

Coalition Actions:

February 23 – CoFARM Ad thanking Congressman Bonilla. The ad which was placed in today's San Antonio Express News, thanking Rep. Bonilla for his support of ag research

SETWG Congressional Visits Day – March 9-10, 2005

Background

Science, Engineering and Technology Congressional Visits Day (SET CVD) is an annual two-day 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 SET CVD is coordinated by coalitions of companies, professional societies and educational institutions and it is

open to all who believe that science and technology are the cornerstone of our Nation's future. The two-day event consists of a series of briefings and meetings highlighted with visits by scientists to their Congressional delegations.

The objective of SET CVD is to raise awareness of the long-term importance of science, engineering and technology to the Nation through face-to-face meetings with Members of Congress, congressional staff, key Administration officials and other decision-makers. The core messages participants are asked to deliver are:

- * Balanced federal investment in Science, Engineering and Technology is fundamental to the future of our Nation's prosperity.
- * Science, Engineering and Technology partnerships between government, universities, and industries mean progress, economic growth and jobs for our Nation.

Congressional Visits Day Fall 2005-On September 13-14, 2005 CoFARM, together with the Coalition for National Science Funding, carried out a Fall Congressional Visits Day activity. The purpose of the Fall CVD was to communicate directly with legislators and deliver the core message about the importance of federally funded R&D.

Many members of the Coalition participated in the CNSF Congressional Visits Day to be held on September 13-14, 2005. There were seven scientists and four CoFARM staff participating in the CVD. The event began with a joint CoFARM/Biological and Ecological Sciences Coalition (BESC) luncheon located near NSF. The members met with leadership from NSF for an overview of the program areas. After the luncheon the scientists attended the overall CNSF CVD briefing in the Rayburn House Office Building. Immediately following the briefing all staff and participants were invited to a reception in Rayburn. The second day of events began with a breakfast at USDA in the Secretary's Dining Room. On September 14 the participants conducted multi-disciplinary Congressional Visits with a lunch for all CoFARM scientists to be held at the Monocle. The guest speaker was Galen Fountain from the Senate Agriculture Appropriations Subcommittee – Minority staff.

CoFARM Sends Letters to House and Senate Appropriations Committees

- March 1, 2005, CoFARM sent letters of support for establishing a National Institute for Food and Agriculture within the NSF to Senator Bond and Congressman Gutknecht
- April 2005, CoFARM submitted written testimony for House and Senate ag. appropriations
- June 17, 2005, CoFARM sent letters of support for the NRI to House and Senate Appropriation Committee members.
- December 30, 2005, CoFARM submitted written comments for the 2007 Farm Bill

Partnerships with Other Organizations

As part of the Science, Engineering and Technology Working Group, CoFARM helped sponsor the March, 2005 **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 continue to collaborate with 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 2006 budget as well as submitting testimony to the Interior appropriations subcommittee supporting funding for the USGS in FY 2006. Each September, the USGS Coalition sponsors a reception promoting USGS science for Congressional staff.

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.

CoFARM continues to participate in the **National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR)**. CoFARM member representative Tamara Wagester (CFARE) continues to direct the development of research accomplishment one-pagers which are periodically mailed to all House and Senate Agriculture Legislative Assistants. <http://www.ncfar.org>.

2005 Meetings with Ag Research Leaders and Organizations

- January 11, Cliff Gabriel, Deputy to the Associate Director for Science, White House Office of Science and Technology Policy
- February 8, Noah Engleberg, Program Examiner, White House Office of Management and Budget presented an overview of the President's 2006 budget request.
- March 8 Dr. Anna Palmisano, Deputy Administrator, Competitive Programs, USDA-CSREES
- July 12 Walt Smith, Congressman Henry Bonilla's Office
- September 13 American Society for Microbiology in Washington, DC
- October 11 Rob Hedberg, CSREES, Science Policy and Legislative Affairs Advisor
- November 8 Presentation via conference call by Dr. Daryl Lund, North Central Region Association, on proposal from NASULGC on CREATE 21 (Creating Research, Extension and Teaching Excellence for the 21st Century). This is just getting off the ground, but goal is introduction of legislation in March 2006. Strategy is to move away from "formula funds" to "base funds" similar in nature to LTERs

and Clinical programs in NSF and NIH, respectively. The details and what would be included from the current programs in USDA in the proposed National Institute needs to be determined. Ted C. distributed the Power Point presentation.

Support of the National Coalition on Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR)

CoFARM continues membership to the National Coalition on Food and Agricultural Research (National C-FAR), as a National Organization Member, maintaining a seat on the Board of Directors, for four years. CoFARM Steering Committee Chair, Ted Cartwright, continued to represent CoFARM on the National C-FAR Board of Directors during 2005.

The National C-FAR Research Committee, led by Chair Karl Glasener, continued to meet during 2005. Tamara Wagester 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 to all members of Congress and select Administration officials.

CoFARM representatives continued to participate in National C-FAR Board Meeting Conference and all messages from National C-FAR were forwarded by Ted Cartwright to the CoFARM Steering Committee.

CoFARM Brochure Developed and Distributed CoFARM developed the FY 2006 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 and can be viewed at the website.

CoFARM Web Site The web site operations proceeded forward. CoFARM continues to contract with ASA's webmaster who continues site renovations and maintenance of 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.

Financial FY 2005

1/7/05	IEEE-USA Membership dues for 2005 (Congressional Visits Day activities) CoFARM Check Number: 1090 (dated 12/23/2004)	-\$300	\$20,450.12
1/6/05	National C-FAR Membership Renewal for 2005 CoFARM Check Number: 1091 (dated 12/23/2005)	-\$1,000.00	\$19,450.12
1/26/05	Elizabeth Tucker, Added CVD04, Joe Jen photos, updates from Daisy Check Number: 1101 (dated 1/21/2005)	-\$45.00	\$19,405.12
1/20/05	Imprinted Checks	-\$27.14	\$19,377.98
1/31/05	Interest	+\$1.67	\$19,379.65
2/18/05	Voided Check Number 1102		

2/18/05	Boarders Gift Card for Jack Cooper. Check Number: 1103 (-\$50.00 dated 2/18/2005)	-\$50.00	\$19,329.65
2/24/05	CoFARM lunch for planning purposes. Check Number: 1105 (-\$71.79 dated 2/18/2005)	-\$71.79	\$19,257.86
2/28/05	Tracy Lawless Administrative Services (Thank you letters). Check Number: 1104 (-\$226.15 dated 2/18/2005)	-\$226.15	\$19,031.71
2/28/05	Interest	+\$1.49	\$19,033.20
3/16/05	Thank you Ad in Newspaper for Rep. Bonilla. Check Number: 1106 (-\$4257.54 dated 3/16/2005)	-\$4,257.54	\$14,775.66
3/31/05	Interest	+\$1.62	\$14,777.28
4/25/05	IEEE-USA CVD contribution Check Number: 1107	-\$200.00	\$14,577.28
4/25/05	Voided Check Number 1108		
4/30/05	Interest	+\$1.34	\$14,578.62
5/31/05	Interest	+\$1.25	\$14,579.87
6/10/05	Elizabeth Tucker web site work Check Number: 1109	-\$45.00	\$14,534.87
7/13/05	CoFARM Congressional Luncheon briefing 6/17/2004 (-\$2,029.43); CoFARM CVD September 2004 Congressional Awards Reception (-\$2486.12); CoFARM Luncheon at Monocle (-\$329.88). Check Number 1111 (-\$4,886.75 dated 7/13/2005)	-\$4,886.75	\$9,648.12
7/13/05	CoFARM Spring 2005 CVD Breakfast at Bullfeathers (-\$320.85) and Lunch at Aria (-\$246.80). Check Number: 1112 (-\$567.65 dated 7/13/2005)	-\$567.65	\$9,080.47
7/13/05	Expenses Blue Point Graphics to design and print 2000 CVD folders. Check Number: 1113 (-\$2,326.08 dated 7/13/2005)	-\$2,326.08	\$6,754.39
7/13/05	CoFARM annual report printing, mailing and invoice writing Tamara Wagester. Check Number: 1114 (-\$129.00 dated 7/13/2005)	-\$129.00	\$6,625.39
7/13/05	CoFARM Spring 2005 CVD Expenses. Copying of CoFARM Brochure (-\$160.92); Recognition pens (-\$56.70); USDA Breakfast (-\$309.00); CoFARM Lunch at Monocle (-\$400.65). Check Number 1115 (-\$927.27)	-\$927.27	\$5,698.12
7/25/05	Deposit (13 2005 CoFARM membership renewals)	+\$6,500	\$12,198.12
7/29/05	Interest	+\$1.14	\$12,199.26
8/10/05	CoFARM party for Karl Glasener (Check # 1116, -\$245.19)	-\$245.19	\$11,954.07
8/18/05	Suntrust Account Analysis Fee	-\$5.00	\$11,949.07
8/29/05	CoFARM plague for Karl Glasener (Check # 1117, -\$94.05)	-\$94.05	\$11,855.02
8/31/05	Interest	+\$1.02	\$11,856.04
9/7/05	Deposit (4 2005 CoFARM membership renewals)	+\$2,000	\$13,856.04
9/14/05	CoFARM web site work (Beth Tucker) (Check #	-\$22.50	\$13,833.54

	1118, -\$22.50)		
9/26/05	CoFARM NSF Hill Day luncheon at Monocle (Check #1119, -\$326.00)	-\$326.00	\$13,507.40
9/30/05	Interest	+\$1.10	\$13,508.64
10/14/05	Deposits (2 2005 CoFARM membership renewals)	+\$1,000.00	\$14,508.64
10/31/05	Interest	+\$1.17	\$14,509.81
11/21/05	Reimbursement C-FARE for CNSF-CVD Breakfast at USDA and CNSF lunch with NSF program officers (Check #1121)	-\$644.87	
11/30/05	Interest	+\$1.18	\$13,866.12

Several CoFARM members provided support for CoFARM work and activities at their own expense, including the Institute of Food Technologists and the American Society for Microbiology, provided complimentary meeting rooms and refreshments for meetings held there. In addition, the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America and Soil Science Society of America, along with IFT paid for conference calls, photocopying, mailings and provided in-kind 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, www.adsa.org, represented by Lou Armentano, learment@facstaff.wisc.edu
- * American Institute of Biological Sciences, www.aibs.org, represented by Director of Public Policy, Robert Gropp, rgropp@aibs.org
- * American Phytopathological Society, www.apsnet.org, represented by APS Staff Member, John Sherwood, sherwood@uga.edu
- * American Society of Agricultural Engineers, www.asae.org, represented by Public Relations staff member, Dolores Landeck, landeck@asae.org
- * American Society of Agronomy, www.agronomy.org, represented by ASA Staff Member, Karl Glasener, KGlaser@agronomy.org who served as CoFARM Treasurer
- * American Society of Animal Science, www.asas.org, represented by ASAS Executive Director, Jerry Baker, jerry.baker@assoqh.org.
- * American Society for Horticultural Science, www.ashs.org, represented by ASHS member Bruno Quebedeaux from the University of Maryland, bquebede@umd.edu
- * American Society for Microbiology, www.asmusa.org, represented by ASM Staff Member Whitney Tull, wtull@asmusa.org
- * American Nutritional Society, www.nutrition.org, represented by Bernadette M. Marriott, bmarriott@rti.org
- * American Society of Plant Biologists, www.aspb.org, represented by ASPB Staff Member, Brian Hyps bhyyps@aspb.org
- * Botanical Society of America, www.botany.org, represented by Executive Director, Bill Dahl, wdahl@botany.org.

- * Council of Entomology Department Administrators, www.CEDA-group.org, represented by Rick Meyer of USDACSREES, hmeyer@csrees.usda.gov
- * Council on Food, Agricultural and Resource Economics, www.cfare.org, represented by CFARE Staff Member, Tamara Wagester tamarawagester@cfare.org
- * Crop Science Society of America, www.crops.org, represented by CSSA Staff Member, Karl Glasener, KGlaser@agronomy.org who served as CoFARM Treasurer
- * Federation of Animal Science Societies, www.fass.org, represented by Jerry Baker, jerry.baker@assoqh.org
- * Genetics Society of America, www.faseb.org/genetics/gsa, represented by Elaine Strass, estrass@genetics.faseb.org
- * Institute of Food Technologists, www.ift.org, represented by IFT staff members, Ted Cartwright, ttcartwright@ift.org, who served as chair
- * Poultry Science Association, www.poultryscience.org, represented by Mary Ann Ottinger, maottinger@umd.edu
- * Society of Nematologists, www.nematologists.org, represented by Society Member, David Chitwood, chitwood@ba.ars.usda.gov
- * Soil Science Society of America, www.soils.org, represented by SSSA Staff Member, Karl Glasener, KGlaser@agronomy.org who served as CoFARM Treasurer
- * Weed Science Society of America, www.wssa.net, represented by WSSA Staff Member, Lee Van Wychen, Lee.VanWychen@WeedScienceOrgs.com

CoFARM Officers

CoFARM Officers were elected January 2004 and served through 2005:

Chair—Ted Cartwright, Institute of Food Technologists (Elected April 14, 2005)

Treasurer—Karl Glasener, American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, Soil Science Society of America

Secretary—John Sherwood, American Phytopathological Society

CoFARM Associate Members

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

Other Participants in CoFARM work and activities

- * Council of Scientific Society Presidents, Marty Apple
- * Cornell University Government Affairs

Questions about CoFARM Programs and Activities may be directed to the CoFARM Chair 2006, Ted Cartwright, at 202-466-5980-- E-Mail: ttcartwright@ift.org

Questions about CoFARM Financial Matters may be directed to the CoFARM Treasurer, Karl Glasener at (202) 408-5382—E-mail: kglasener@agronomy.org