

Minutes of the June 8, 2007 International Committee Meeting

Attendance; John Preissing, Tom Cadwallader, Arlen Albrecht, Otto Wiegand, and Joann Hinz and Tom Syverud

Tom Cadwallader and John Preissing discussed their recent trip to Guyana as part of the Guyana Extension Service Modernization Project. Their trip report is not currently available, pending comments from Washington and Guyana. They went with the objective to learn about the country and to identify realistic partners, strategies and timetables for the overall modernization project. They had a chance to visit four regions of the country, meet with 48 agricultural and extension professionals, seven national organizations, US and Guyana government officials and present at the National Extension Conference.

Their recommendations include nine assignments within Macro-, Inter- and Micro-Institutional actions. It is recommended that multiple teams of UW Extension staff in the broad areas of Extension mission, vision and goals, skills and practices, organizational development, economic analysis, commodity-based team development, staff development and information technology be sent relatively soon. It is further recommended that each team, have staff members who have not participated in international projects previously.

The recommendation, that the first team include an Extension administrator, an agent for commodity-based team development and an agent for organizational development, was discussed and will be forwarded to the Farmer to Farmer Program for consideration. The committee hopes to proceed, with the Dean's approval, with recruitment for the Project teams.

A presentation on the Guyana Modernization Project, will be made by the International Committee at the June 27 CEAC meeting.

Submitted by Tom Syverud, Chair