**WEDA Western Program & Organizational Leadership Committee (WPOLC)**

**January 1, 2023-December 31, 2023**

**Annual Plan of Work**

**WPOLC Committee Membership**:

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| **Member Name** | **Institution** |
| Alda Norris | Alaska |
| Ethan Orr | Arizona |
| Keith Nathanial | California |
| Missy Gable | California |
| Peter Barcinas | Guam |
| Jeff Goodwin | Hawaii |
| Jim Lindstrom | Idaho |
| Carrie Ashe | Montana |
| Eric Killian | Nevado |
| Tom Dean | New Mexico |
| Wiley Thompson | Oregon |
| Kris Elliott | Oregon |
| Michael Gaffney | Washington |
| Amanda Marney | Wyoming |

**Committee Membership Mission/Purpose:**

The WPOLC shall be comprised of one person from each WEDA member institution who is able to represent all Extension administrative and program functions of their institution. The committee initiates and collaborates with the WEDA to identify, coordinate, and provide leadership for advancing WEDA regional and multi-state initiatives, exploring extramural funding opportunities to support those initiatives, and address operational and organizational issues of importance to member institutions. The WPOLC may appoint special committees and/or task forces with membership internal and external to the WPOLC to assist and help coordinate Extension initiatives, programs, and operational and organizational work. The WPOLC will report to and meet jointly with the WEDA at least annually to discuss activities and outcomes of the past year, and to initiate and discuss priorities for the future. WPOLC also conducts the selection process for the Western Extension Awards of Excellence, and the Western Extension Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Award.

Extension program leader groups and Regional Centers like the Western Center for Metropolitan Extension and Research (WCMER), the Western Rural Development Center (WRDC) and others, will coordinate and collaborate, as is useful, with WPOLC.

**2022 Accomplishments**

* The Western Region Mental Health steering committee was formed, and the group completed a literature review and environmental scan. The group submitted an LOI to NIFA and was encouraged to submit a full proposal. The group subsequently submitted a conference planning grant proposal to NIFA in August, 2022 and are awaiting news of possible funding for a 2023 conference to begin this network formally.
* WPOLC membership created a new member welcome guide along with a description of member roles and duties for internal use.
* The WEDA DEI award winner webinar was offered in the Summer of 2022 to all Western Region Extension contacts, showcasing the work of Oregon’s Juntos en Colaboración: Working together to build community resilience.
* WPOLC has ensured western state membership on the three priority ECOP Program Action Teams: Climate, Workforce Development, and Health Equity.
* WPOLC has continued to engage in conversations with WRDC group working on professional development but has not determined next steps yet for collaboration with this group.

**Taking into account WEDA’s long-term goals and intended outcomes, what are the committee’s major goals & ongoing strategies/activities?**

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| Strategy/Activity | Metrics | Who | Timeline | Accomplishments |
| Western Region Network for Mental Health | -Finalize planning for conference  -Convene full network  -Transition leadership to full network  (Activities contingent upon receipt of Conference Grant submitted August 2022) | Mandy Marney,  Carrie Ashe, network | -Winter 2023  -Spring 2023  -Spring 2023 | -Conference is held  -Network forms and capacity is built  -Network leaders move initiative forward and report regularly to WPOLC |
| ECOP Priority PAT Communication to Western States | -Secure direct (or state proxy) representation and participation on 3 priority PATs  -Regular Updates  -Same for remaining 5 PATs | Mike Gaffney,  Tom Dean, Eric Killian | -January 2023  -At each WPOLC meeting  -June 2023 | -Active representation of Western positions on 3 PATs, two-way communication on activities  -Enhanced awareness and input  -Western representation on all PATs & communication back to West |
| Highlight Western Region DEI Work through Award Winner Video Clips | -request short video (YouTube) from DEI award winner  -contact 2022 winner and make request  -request video is hosted on WEDA award website as current/past recipient | Missy Gable,  Eric Killian | ASAP/before solicitation of nominations | -sharable videos are created that can encourage participation in the awards program, inspire replication of DEI projects, raise awareness of impactful DEI work |
| Continued Development of Resources and Collaborations related to Onboarding and Professional Development | -Conduct an environmental scan of existing onboarding resources from Western States  -Prioritize topics for onboarding videos (redoing or revamping as asynchronous trainings)  -Seek funding as needed for completion of video project  -Carry out video project  -Continue connecting with other groups focused on professional development for Extension to explore other opportunities for collaboration (WRDC) | Mike Gaffney, Carrie Ashe, All members | -Winter 2023  -Winter 2023  -Spring 2023  -Summer 2023  Continuous | -New/updated resources available for Western States to use in onboarding and professional development of Extension faculty |
| WEDA Awards Process Alignment and Promotion | Align the WEDA awards with the National ECOP awards  Promote the WEDA awards to member institutions | Carrie Ashe, Kris Elliott, Mike Gaffney | -Mid January  -Mid to late January | -WEDA awards process is aligned with National ECOP awards process moving forward  -Award proposals from the West increase in number |

**Additional Priority Strategies/Activities and timeline for 2023:**

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| Strategy/Activity | Metrics | Who | Timeline | Accomplishments |
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