



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

National Institute  
of Food and  
Agriculture

Wednesday, May 06, 2015

TO: Steven Slack, Director  
Keith Smith, Director

FROM: Katelyn Sellers, POW Administrative Leader /s/  
Office of Planning and Accountability

SUBJECT: FY2016-2020 Plan of Work Update Review

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture has reviewed the Fiscal Year 2016-2020 Ohio State University Combined Research and Extension Plan of Work Update as required under the Agricultural, Research, Extension and Education Reform Act of 1998. The Plan of Work Update (POW) is accepted. We appreciate your efforts in submitting the POW, which we will use in support of the planning, leadership, and evaluation of NIFA programs.

The review of your POW was completed by your NIFA State liaison Anne Lichens-Park, National Program Leader, and the Planning, Accountability, and Reporting Staff. The review was based on the criteria published in the Federal Register notice dated January 25, 2006, with additional guidance and on-line training on the POW published on the NIFA AREERA Plan of Work Website (<http://www.nifa.usda.gov/business/reporting/planrept/plansofwork.html>), and the "2015-2019 Plan of Work Review Checklist and Review Summary" you received last year.

The "2016-2020 Plan of Work Review Checklist and Review Summary" from the National Program Leader who reviewed your POW is attached. We hope you find these comments useful and suggest you read them carefully for recommendations and requirements needed to help you in preparing your FY 2017-2021 Plan of Work Update, which will come due by April 1, 2016.

You will receive a separate communication from the Office of Grants and Financial Management, concerning any requirement for the submission of the Multistate Extension and Integrated Research and Extension funds, sections 105 and 204 of the Agricultural Research, Extension, and Education Reform Act of 1998.

We appreciate you working with us to improve our reporting and accountability system as we continue to improve the web-based Plan of Work and Annual Report as part of the overall Research, Education and Extension Reporting System.

If you have questions following your review of our comments, please contact Katelyn Sellers, POW Administrative Leader, by E-mail at [POW@nifa.usda.gov](mailto:POW@nifa.usda.gov) or by phone at 202-401-5482.

Attachment

cc: NIFA Office of Grants and Financial Management  
NIFA State Reviewer