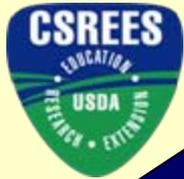


Last Nationwide Formula Grants Teleconference

**Sponsored by the Office of Extramural
Programs, CSREES/USDA
Wednesday, September 24, 2008
3:00 pm to 4:30 pm Eastern Time**



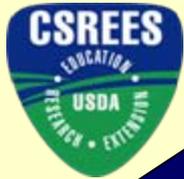
Welcome and Introductions

CSREES/USDA Attendees:

Office of Extramural Programs

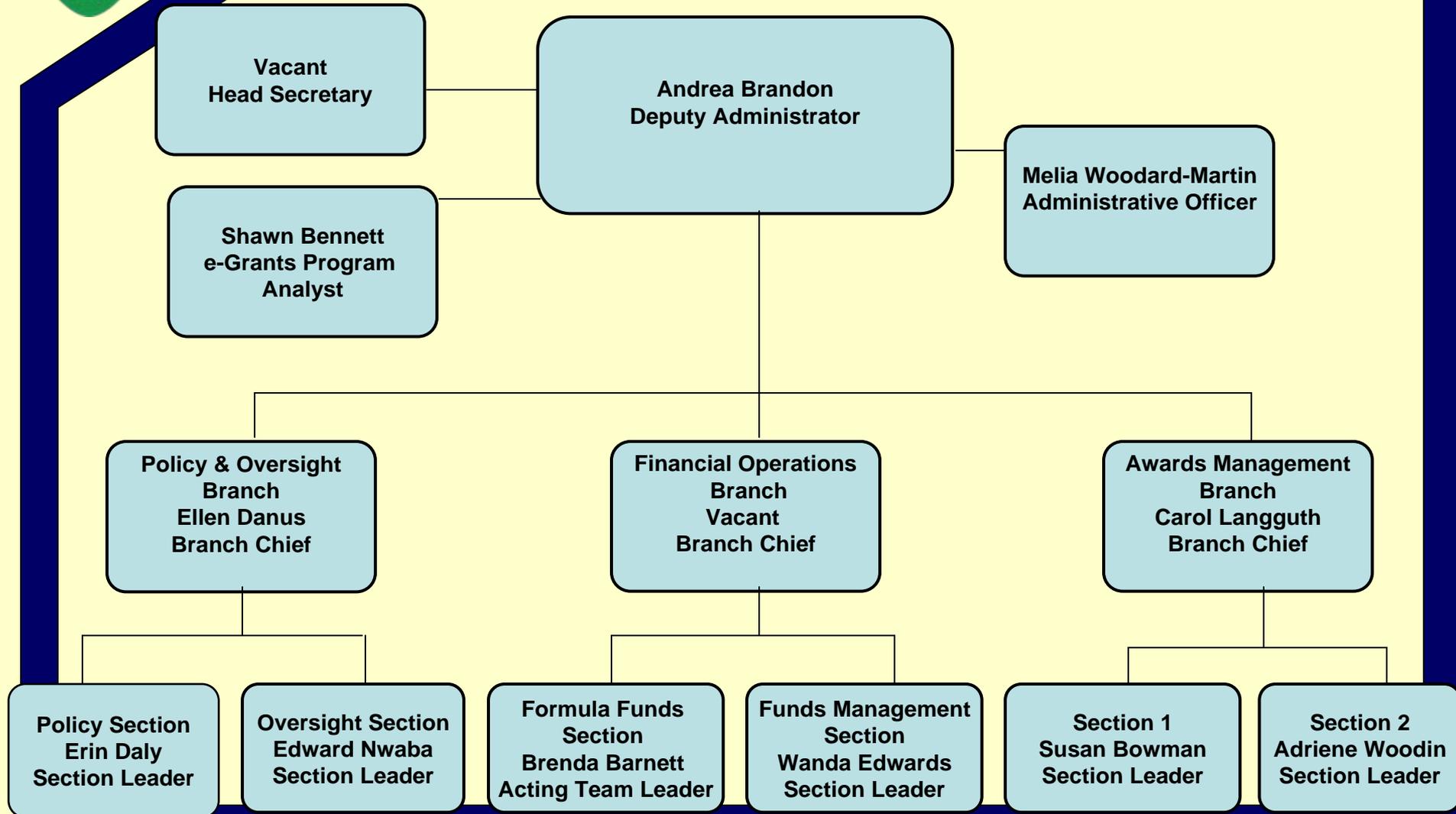
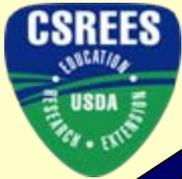
**Tonya Johnson, Chief, Financial
Operations Branch**

**Ellen Danus, Chief, Policy and
Oversight Branch**



Welcome and Introductions

- **Send questions to:**
formulagrantsquestions@csrees.usda.gov



OEP Restructure 2008



Agenda Topics

- **Financial Operations Branch**
 - **Formula Grants Section**
 - Organization and Responsibilities
 - Status of FY 2008 Allocation Letters (PSEP, CSRS, and FERS)
 - Status of FY 2008 FGO Announcements
 - Status of FY 2008 Formula Grant Applications (SF 424M)
 - Status of FY 2008 Matching Waivers
 - Formula Grant Questions



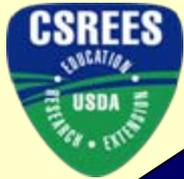
New OEP Organizational Chart

Andrea Brandon
Deputy Administrator

Financial Operations Branch
Tonya Johnson
Branch Chief

Formula Grants Section
Brenda Barnett
Acting Team Leader

Funds Management Section
Wanda Walker
Section Leader



Formula Grants Section

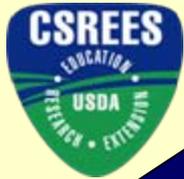
Brenda Barnett
Acting Team Leader
(202) 401-6520
bbarnett@csrees.usda.gov

Vacant
Grants and Agreements Specialist
(202) 205-0453
vacant@csrees.usda.gov

Arnita Cross
Staff Accountant
(202) 401-8982
across@csrees.usda.gov

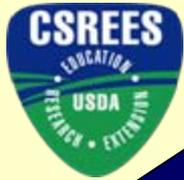
Khaliah Whittington
Budget and Accounting Technician
(202) 401 - 6309
kwhittington@csrees.usda.gov

Jillian Worthen
Student Intern
(202) 401 - 4248
jworthen@csrees.usda.gov



Duties and Responsibilities - Formula Grants Section

- Compute annual formula allocations and produce the allocation letter and CSREES-1088.
 - Review matching waiver requests. If acceptable, forward to the Deputy Administrator of SERD. If not, work with the grantee to complete them.
 - Review SF-424M packages.
 - Administration of Formula Grants:
 - Monitor the formulagrants@csrees.usda.gov mailbox.
 - Respond to formula grant related questions from the grantees.



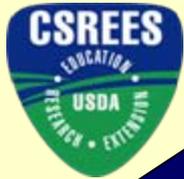
Duties and Responsibilities – Formula Grants Section

- Schedule and coordinate the National Administrative Officers' Conferences
- Determine whether all documents have been received and accepted in order to release funds. If not, contact grantees.
- Obligate funds in C-REEMS and authorize their distribution in HHS-PMS.
 - Review SF-269s. If acceptable, update CSREES records and archive the form. If not, contact the grantee to revise it.
 - Track the status of grantee-reported use of funds and matching.



Policy on Formula Grant Questions

- Complicated/complex Questions
 - OEP will provide a target response date.
- Urgent Request
 - Please state urgency and requested response date.

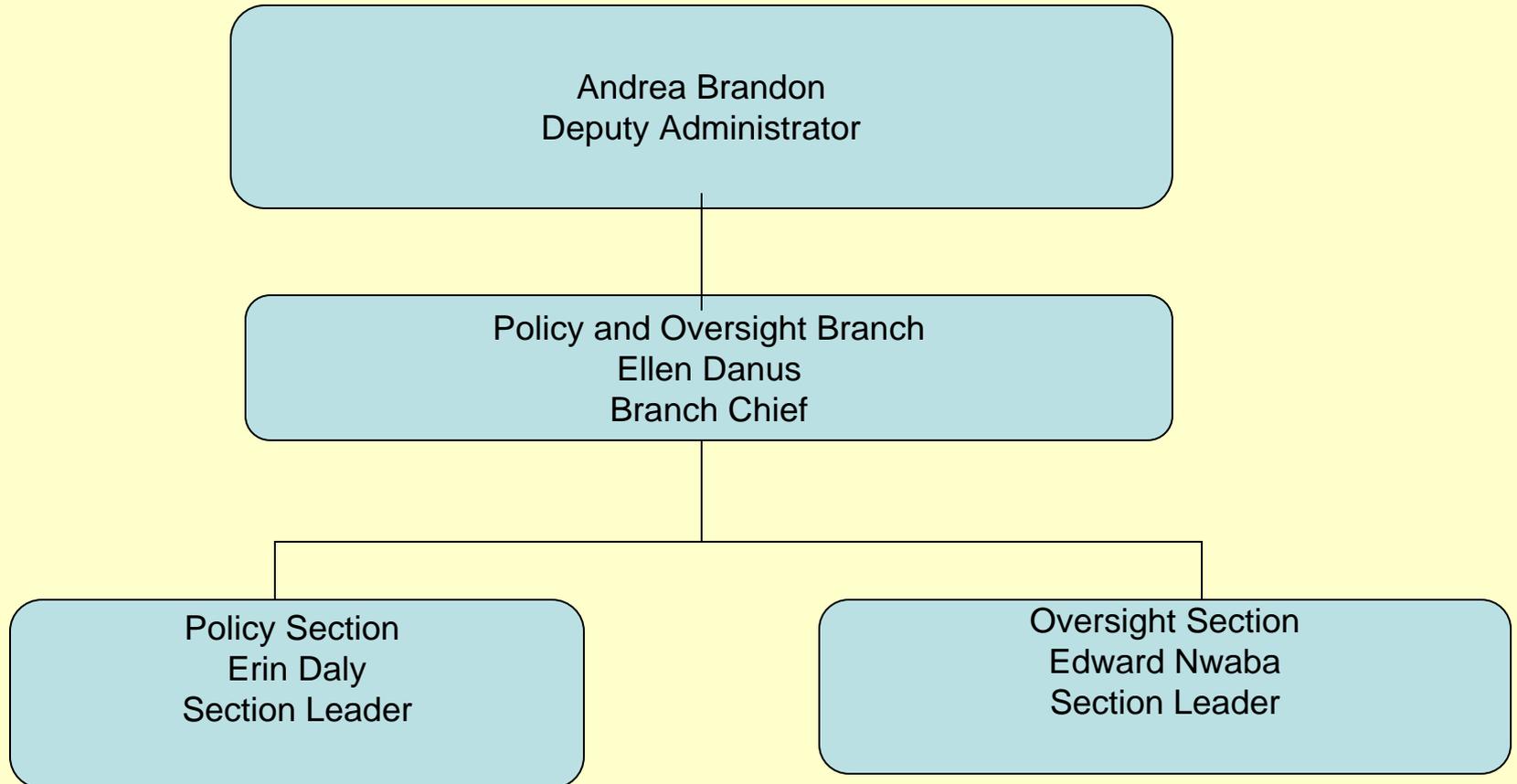


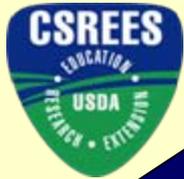
Policy and Oversight Branch

- **Policy Section**
 - Organization and Responsibilities
 - 2008 Farm Bill Updates
 - FY 2009 FGO Process
 - Revised Administrative Guidance
 - Other Formula Grant Regulations and Policies
 - AREERA Waiver Request



New OEP Organizational Chart





Policy Section

Erin Daly
Section Leader
(202) 401-3319
edaly@csrees.usda.gov

Melanie Krizmanich
Senior Policy Specialist
(202) 401-1762
mkrizmanich@csrees.usda.gov

Joanna Moore
Policy Specialist
(202) 690-6011
jmoore@csrees.usda.gov

John Jefferies
Policy Specialist
(202) 401- 5061
jjefferies@csrees.usda.gov

Ruth Dunmore
Policy Specialist
(202) 401-5057
rdunmore@csrees.usda.gov



Policy Section Responsibilities

- Clearance of FGOs and posting to Grants.gov
- Regulations (i.e., 7 CFR 34XX)
- Administrative Manuals
- Policies and Procedures for Applicants and Grantees
- AREERA Waiver requests



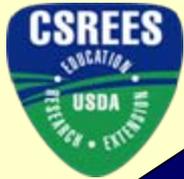
2008 Farm Bill Updates

- Elimination of the Governor's Report
- No Change to the Multistate Extension and Integrated Requirements
- Change in Matching Requirements for UDC



2008 Farm Bill Updates

- McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program
- Impact on Smith-Lever Act Section 3(d) Programs
 - Competition requirement
 - 1890s and UDC eligible at all appropriated levels



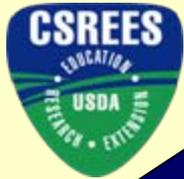
FY 2009 FGO Process

- **No Budget information required except for EFNEP**
- **Initial and Final**
- **Looking for ways to streamline and consolidate process**
- **Comments maybe submitted to formulagrantsquestions@csrees.usda.gov**
- **FY 2009 Schedule of FGO (Posted for initial by 10/10/2008)**



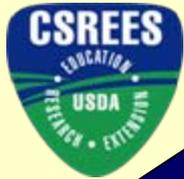
Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

- **Provides policies and procedures for implementation AREERA section 105 and 204 for the multistate and integrated requirements.**
- **Applies to 1862s and the 50 States (and District of Columbia for Hatch Integrated).**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

- Original Time Line (Pre-Farm Bill)**
- Comment Period (5/1/2008 – 6/30/2008)**
- Release Date (7/15/2008)**
- Due Dates for Reconfirmation/Reset Target Percentages (9/1/2008)**
- Implementation Date (10/1/2008)**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

Significant Changes

- **Reset Target Percentages for 1862s selecting Options C or D in FY 2000**
- **Use Form CSREES-TARG (rev. 04/08) and Form CSREES-BASE (2/00) for resetting targets**
- **Reconfirm Target Percentages for 1862s selecting Options A or B in FY 2000**
 - **Via memo to Formula Grants Section**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

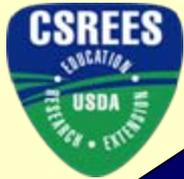
Significant Changes

- Submit Form CSREES-PLAN (2/00) and Form CSREES-REPT (Rev. 09/04) including brief summaries with the Annual Report of Accomplishments and Results**
- Allocations Considered:**
 - Integrated (Hatch)**
 - Regular Hatch allocation and Hatch MRF (use required MRF matching requirement)**
 - Multistate Extension and Integrated**
 - Regular 3b&c allocation**



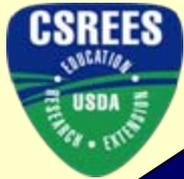
Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

- **Waiver request process clearly identified**
 - **Institutions must submit a formal request to the CSREES Administrator and signed by the appropriate university official (i.e., dean or director)**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

- **Waiver request must include the following:**
 1. **A request for a waiver by grant (i.e., Hatch or Smith-Lever (SL))**
 2. **A statement of the FY for which the waiver is requested**
 3. **A statement of the amount of the waiver being requested by FY and how the amount was computed**
 4. **A statement of why the waiver is required**
 5. **Documentation supporting the need for a waiver**
 6. **The university's efforts to meet the AREERA 105 and 204 requirements in the future**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

- CSREES will approve or disapprove waiver requests within 30 days of receipt
- Waiver requests will be considered for
 - Hardship;
 - Infeasibility; or
 - Other circumstances beyond the control of the States



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

Why Now?

AREERA Audit needs to be resolved and closed-out:

- **Identified in the Annual USDA Performance and Accountability Report (PAR)**
- **2007 USDA OIG Report on Management Challenges: Timely Close-out of USDA OIG Audits**
- **Congressional Interest**

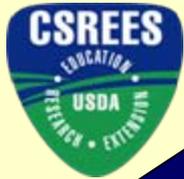


Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

Why Now?

2008 Farm Bill Proposals

- **No Provision to amend these requirements**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

AREERA Audit Open Recommendations (Without Final Action)

- **Recommendation 1. Require Land Grant Institutions (LGIs) not computing base percentages to select 25 percent for all AREERA activities or to correctly determine their base percentages.**
- **Recommendation 2. Establish and implement controls/procedures designed to ensure that requests for reductions in target percentages are granted only in verified cases of hardship, infeasibility, or other similar circumstances.**
- **Recommendation 3. Revise guidance provided in CSREES' frequently asked questions that require activities conducted by individuals on spilt appointments to be integrated so that it conforms to guidance published in CSREES regulations.**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

15 Comments

– 13 Institutions

- Northeastern Region 4**
- Southern Region 2**
- North Central Region 7**
- Western Region 0**

– 2 USDA



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

From Comments – Significant Issues

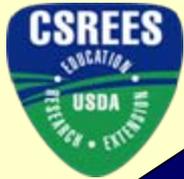
- **Definition of Integrated Activities**
- **Use of Split Appointments**
- **Administrative Burden**
- **Formal Agreements**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

From Comments – Significant Issues

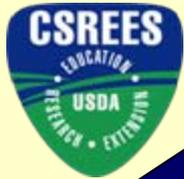
- **Use of Other Funds to Meet these Requirements**
- **Waivers**
- **Effective Date**
- **Intrastate vs. Multistate Activities**



Draft Revised Administrative Guidance for Multistate Extension and Integrated Activities

Timeline

- Release Proposed Administrative Guidance (11/10/2008)
- Comment Period (11/10/2008 – 12/9/2009)
- Release Final Administrative Guidance (1/20/2009)
- Due Dates for Reconfiguration/Reset (3/6/2009)
 - Target Percentage
- Effective Date (10/1/2008)



Other Formula Grant Regulations and Policies

- Draft Administrative Manual for Extension Formula Grants
- Draft Administrative Manual for McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Research Program



Other Formula Grant Regulations and Policies

- Proposed Regulations
 - Matching Requirements for 1890s, UDC, and Insular 1862s
 - Administrative Provisions for Extension Formula Grant Program
 - Administrative Provisions for McIntire-Stennis Formula Grant Program



Questions

- **Questions may be emailed to:**
 - **formulagrantsquestions@csrees.usda.gov**



Future Communications

- Regional Business Officers' Meetings (late September 2008 through October 2008)
- Considering Other Forums for Input and Discussion