

2001 Annual Meeting and Industry Tour – Southern Region Grape Information Exchange Group (SERA-IEG 14)

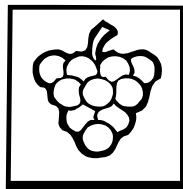
Editor - E. Barclay Poling, Ph.D.

Hosted by North Carolina State University

Department of Horticultural Science

Department of Plant Pathology

Department of Food Science



Annual Business Meeting & State Reports Thursday, Sept. 20, 2001

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1. Members participating in Business Meeting

Administrative and Planning Committee

1. Dr. Justin Morris, Ext. Admin. Advisor to SERA-IEG 14
2. Dr. Thomas Bewick, National Program Leader, USDA, &
Official USDA Representative to SERA-IEG 14
3. Dr. E. Barclay Poling, Chair, North Carolina SERA-IEG 14 Program for 2001,
& *Business Meeting Sec'y*
4. Dr. Leon Boyd, Moderator, SERA-IEG 14 Business Meeting
5. Mr. Bill Cline, Planning Committee for 2001 SERA-IEG 14 Program
6. Mr. Andy Allen, Planning Committee for 2001 SERA-IEG 14 Program
USDA & State representatives
7. Dr. James Ballington, NCSU
8. Dr. Robert Bates, University of Florida
9. Mr. Jeff Bloodworth, Private Grape Breeder, NC
10. Mrs. Peggy Bloodworth, Hillsborough, NC
11. Ms. Diane Ducharme, Buncombe Co. CES, NCCES
12. Dr. Joseph Fiola, Western MD Res. & Ext. Cntr., UMD
13. Mr. Terry Garwood, Surry Co. CES, NCCES
14. Dr. Mel Hall, UGA-Tifton
15. Ms. Jean Harrison, MHCREC, NCSU
16. Dr. Tony Johnson, Middle Tennessee State Univ.
17. Dr. Gerard Krewer, UGA-Tifton
18. Dr. Dave Lockwood, UT
19. Dr. Tom Melton, DEL, Plant Pathology, NCSU
21. Dr. William Morris, UT
22. Mr. Joseph Post, Post Familie Vineyards, Altus, AR
23. Mr. Robert Rouse, Wye Res. & Ext. Cntr., UMD
24. Dr. Blair Sampson, USDA-ARS
25. Dr. Stephen Stringer, USDA-ARS

2. E-mail addresses as of 9-20-01 (circulated at the Business Meeting – includes members not in attendance)

Andy Allen<andy_allen@ncsu.edu>
Robert P. Bates <rpb@mail.ifas.ufl.edu>
Thomas Bewick <Tbewick@reeusda.gov>
Terry Bland <terry_bland@ncsu>
Jeff Bloodworth <grapjb@mindspring.com>
Leon Boyd <Leon_Boyd@ncsu.edu>
Dan Carroll <Dan_Carroll@ncsu.edu>
Bill Cline <bill_cline@ncsu.edu>
Peter Cousins <pscousins@ucdavis.edu>
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Tania Dautlick <tania.dautlick@ncmail.net>
William Dozier <annam@saaesd.msstate.edu>
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William Morris <wcmorris@utk.edu>
Justin Morris <jumorris@uark.edu>
Bill Olien <bolien@clemson.edu>
Penny Perkins-Veazie <pperkins@ag.gov>
Barclay Poling <barclay_poling@ncsu.edu>
Joseph Post <josephl@postfamilie.com>
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Keith Striegler <kstrig@comp.uark.edu>
sjstringer@ars.usda.gov
Turner Sutton <turner_sutton@ncsu.edu>
Sherri Wesson <Swesson@uaex.edu>
Tony Wolf <vitis@mail.vt.edu>
Bruce Zoecklein <bzoeckle@vt.edu>

3. Annual Meeting Agenda

Thursday, Sept 20, 2001 – morning business meeting and state reports, and afternoon tour of Winegrapes in Western NC and Upper Piedmont

8:15 am Arrive at MHCRS for Business Meeting (include Ext., Res. & USDA

Admin. Advisors to SERA-IEG 14) – Dr. Leon Boyd, Moderator

- National & Regional Developments - Dr. Tom Bewick, Dr. Justin Morris, and Dr. Billy Dozier (absent)
- State Research and Extension Reports – approximately 10 min. per state

10:00 am Coffee and donuts

10:15 am Special Committee Reports, Conference call with Tony Wolf, 2002 Meeting, Nesbitt Award and Misc. business items

11:30 am Adjourn

4. Minutes (submitted by E. Barclay Poling, Professor, Dept. Hort. Sci., NCSU)

Introduction

Leon Boyd, Moderator, brought the meeting to order at 8:15 am, September 20, 2001. The North Carolina delegation expressed their sincere thanks to all of the SERA-IEG 14 members in attendance. Even a larger turnout was anticipated for the Business Meeting (actual no. 25) and Tour (actual no. 17). However, on 9/11/01 a terrorist attack NYC and Wash., DC, caused a virtual shutdown in the U.S. airway system until days before the North Carolina SERA-IEG program. The NC committee sent this communication to all members on September 12, 2001:

“We come together in Asheville, North Carolina, next week to continue our great tradition of sharing information, experience and friendship. We are all stunned and deeply saddened by yesterday’s tragic events in New York City, our nation’s capitol and Pennsylvania. But, each of us, whether we are 30 or 60, must do our part to keep this increasingly important grape industry sector of our agriculture *moving forward*. The best way for us to keep our industry growing is by sharing our knowledge. With heavy hearts, we will continue this great tradition, as planned, next week.”

The hosting committee also expressed their gratitude to the North Carolina Muscadine Grape Growers Association for their generous donation of \$300 towards the expenses for the SERA-IEG program, and also to Tomen-Agro, Inc., for a contribution of \$400 (letters of thanks were subsequently sent by B. Poling to our respective sponsors). The additional \$700 was needed to defray the expenses associated with the Banquet (9/18) at the Biltmore House, and for complimentary tickets and lodging for members of the Nesbitt family, and award recipient, Jeff Bloodworth.

Dr. Boyd next asked everyone to identify themselves, and then he proceeded to introduce Dr. Thomas Melton, Department Extension Leader (DEL), Plant Pathology, who was the official administrative representative of NC State University attending our Annual Meeting.

Announcement – Jim Ballington

Jim Ballington asked to make an announcement regarding the Southern Region Small Fruit Consortium (SRSFC). The Consortium is sponsoring an extension short course on Winegrape Production at the MHCREC, Fletcher, NC, January 14-15, 2002. Annual dues are \$35,000 for each of the member institutions of the SRSFC. Contact either Jim Ballington or Andy Allen regarding further details about the Winegrape short course next January. A full description of the SRSFC is provided in the *Proceedings* (pp. 45-47).

Remarks from the SERA-IEG Administrative Liaison – Justin Morris

Dr. Justin Morris is the current SERA-IEG 14 Extension Administrative Advisor. Dr. Billy Dozier, is SERA-IEG 14 Research Administrative Advisor (not in attendance for health reasons). It is our understanding that Dr. Dozier is going to be retiring from this capacity, and someone will need to be appointed as the SERA-IEG 14 Research Administrative Advisor for the 2002 Annual Meeting (in Tennessee). These advisors are responsible for making a report from the Annual Meeting to the Southern Region Directors within 60 days (deadline 11-21-01). Dr. Dozier was responsible in 2001 for sending a memorandum “Authorizing the Annual Meeting of the SERA-IEG 14 Grape Exchange Group at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research Station, Fletcher, NC. The meeting date is from 1:30 pm on Sept. 19, 2001, through 5:30 pm on Sept. 21, 2001.”

It was further noted in Dozier’s communication that:

“Each member of the work group is being requested to furnish a 1 to 2 page summary of both the research and extension activities being conducted in their state to be distributed to other members. If you do not plan to attend the meeting of the September 19-21 please send your summary for distribution. For the individuals who do not attend, but send a summary of their activities we will send them a copy of the summaries distributed.”

Dr. Morris noted how appropriate it was that the SERA-IEG 14 was becoming so active once again (there was an excellent turnout for the Annual Meeting in Arkansas last year). He mentioned the importance of greater cooperation of faculty in this group in seeking new funding resources for the future. He concluded with the statement that, “This is an industry that is going to grow (in the future).”

Individuals not attending, but who sent reports

It is the established policy of SERA-IEG 14 to send a proceedings to members who did not attend, but who sent a report. As such, the following scientists received a spiral bound proceedings of the 2001 program (27-Oct-01). Their report titles are listed here:

1. Report to SERA-IEG-14 Grape Exchange Group, 2001-Oklahoma
 - Penelope Perkins-Veazie, USDA-ARS, SCARL, Lane, OK
2. Grape Breeding Activities for 2001 for SRIEG Report
 - John R. Clark, Dept. of Hort., Fayetteville, AR
 - also, see this website: www.agriculture.org/commhort/fruits/grapes/default.asp
3. Implementation of integrated production systems for bunch grapes
 - Project Leader, Sherri Wesson, County Extension Agent, Searcy, AR
 - Cooperator, Donn Johnson, Fruit Entomologist, U of AR
 - Cooperator, Keith Striegler, Hort. Specialist, U of AR
4. Mid-Florida Research & Education Center, Apopka, FL
 - Dennis Gray
5. Muscadine and bunch grapes at the MAFES Truck Crops Branch Experiment Station, Crystal Springs, MS
 - W. B. Evans
6. Viticulture research and extension efforts at Virginia Tech, 2000-2001
 - Tony Wolf, Prof. of Viticulture, Va-Tech
 - Also, see websites: www.ext.edu/news/periodicals/viticulture
www.vaes.vt.edu/winchester/faculty/wolf/wolf.html
7. The Grape Genetics, Breeding and Viticulture Program Center for Viticultural Sciences, Florida A & M University, Tallahassee, FL
 - Jiang Lu, Ph.D., Associate Professor
8. Muscadines, Reveratrol and Health
 - Dr. Charles M. “Mike” Mainland, Professor, NCSU
9. Summary of Muscadine Research in Food Science
 - Daniel Carroll, Professor, Food Science, Leon Boyd, Assoc. Prof., Food Science, and Joanna Tharrington, Research Associate

NC State Report – see pp. 1-47 of 2001 Annual Meeting and Proceedings

The North Carolina state report was given by Mr. Bill Cline, Extension Plant Pathologist, who has responsibilities in both muscadines and blueberries (based at the Hort. Crops Res. Sta., Castle Hayne, NC). Cline noted that the NC Grape Council, Inc., has been a real driving force in North Carolina’s grape industry. This Council is currently lobbying to have its funding cap increased from \$175,000 per year to \$350,000 (Senate Bill 970 – adopted by the Finance Committee, 8/1/01). The Council was created in 1986, and derives income from an excise tax

collected on wine bottled in North Carolina. The FY 01-02 Budget for the NC Grape Council is \$256,658 (with carryover from FY 00-01). The Council supports both Marketing and Research activities to improve North Carolina's rank as a grape and wine producing state. There are currently 21 wineries in North Carolina with 4 more planning to open in 2002 – see the Grape Council website, www.ncwine.org, for further updates and information about the NC wine industry.

Bill Cline and his research technician, Bennett K. Bloodworth, contributed the paper, *Muscadine Grape Fungicide Evaluations and Observations on Fresh Market Cultivars*, p. 13. This paper summarizes fungicide trials at Castle Hayne, NC, from 1987-1994. In a second report, *Evaluation of Strobilurin Fungicides Against Diseases of Muscadine Grape, 2000*, p.14, Cline and Bloodworth found that all strobilurins were more effective than Captan against Macrophoma rot and Black rot. A sooty blotch disease was observed on 'Fry' and tentatively identified as *Peltaster fructicola*.

Mike Mainland, who works at the Castle Hayne location, contributed the paper, *Muscadines, Resveratrol and Health*, and includes results of an independent report on ORAC levels in 1999 on muscadine and bunch grapes (p. 33), and charts from the Copenhagen City Heart Study (p. 39).

Andy Allen, Extension Specialist, Viticulture, mentioned that, "We have a rapidly expanding industry in North Carolina, and many of the people now growing vinifera grapes have little past experience." This point was made to also underscore the importance of revising the Mid-Atlantic Winegrape Production Guide, as the information in this guide has become somewhat dated (published 1995, NCCES). Allen is now producing a *Bunch Grape Advisory*, that is available on <http://intra.ces.ncsu.edu/depts/hort/berrydoc> (*BerryAgent website*). Andy is also providing Site Evaluation maps through the Extension Viticulture program for new and current grape growers. This program examines factors such as elevation, slope, soils aspect and land use (p. 5) interested client

Wayne Mitchum's program in Orchard and Vineyard Floor Weed Management, is described in the proceedings on p.8, and Bill Cline pointed out that Wayne is now working for three states – North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia in a regional extension associate position. Wayne is based at the Mountain Horticultural Crops Research and Extension Center, Fletcher. It was mentioned that the publication, "Weed Management Considerations in Southeast Vineyards", will soon be available for publication and available to extension agents and the public via the internet and the Small Fruit Consortium website, <http://smallfruits.org>.

In North Carolina, a survey was initiated in September 2000 by Dr. Turner Sutton, Dept. Plant Pathology, to determine the principal cause of fruit rot diseases in *Vinifera* and French-American hybrid grapes (p. 15). There is also an investigation underway to determine if Pierce's disease is present in established vineyards in the Piedmont and Mountain growing regions. If Pierce's disease is found, reservoir hosts nearby the vineyard will be surveyed, according to Jean Harrison, who was present at the Business Meeting.

Leon Boyd, Dept. Food Science, shared several remarks about *The Effects of Processing on the Antioxidant Capacity of Selected Muscadine Products* (pp. 28-32), and noted that hot pressing has a significant impact on total phenols in Carlos and Nesbitt. There was also an evaluation of *Messenger*. Tentative results indicate a slight decrease in the antioxidant activity of Carlos from treatment with this control ripening agent, according to Boyd.

Arkansas Report – see pp. 48-56 of 2001 Annual Meeting and Proceedings

The Arkansas state report was given by Dr. Justin Morris, Distinguished Professor, Institute of Food Science and Engineering, University of Arkansas. Dr. Morris said that Arkansas may permit supermarkets and grocery stores to retail wine. He commented, that there will be "no way to fill the demand", should this change occur. There will be over 4,000 retail outlets for wines sales in Arkansas as opposed to 500 at the present time. Another new winery opened in

Altus in 2001. Arkansas has some of the very largest wineries in the Southern Region, and its several wineries actually exceed Missouri's 32 wineries in total wine production. Representing *Post Familie Vineyards* (Arkansas's Number 1 Winegrower) at the SERA Business Meeting was their marketing specialist, Joseph J.T. Post (1700 St. Mary's Mtn. Rd., Altus, AR 72821, 501/468-2741).

John Clark sent a report describing his grape breeding activities for 2001 (pp. 54-55). The report mentions that the focus on table grape breeding continues along with a smaller but very active interest in wine selections. Generally, the crossing objectives are: 1) fully seedless; 2) large berries; 3) vine health and productivity; and, 4) absence of fruit cracking. Clark notes that there was heavy selection pressure in 2001 for fruit cracking and crack-resistant genotypes. Exchange group members are referred to Dr. Clark's website for information on sources and descriptions of UA developed grapes, including the two newest releases, 'Jupiter' and 'Neptune' (released in 1999): <http://www.aragriculture.org/commhort/fruits/grapes/default.asp>.

Florida Report – see pp. 57-68 of 2001 Annual Meeting and Proceedings

The Florida state report was given by Dr. Bob Bates, Food Science and Human Nutrition Dept., University of Florida, Gainesville. Dr. Bates indicated that grape research in Florida is conducted in these three locations:

1. Gainesville (IFAS) – Charles Sims and Bob Bates, Food Science and Human Nutrition Dept.
2. Apoka (IFAS) – Dennis Gray, Mid-Florida Research and Education Center
3. Tallahassee (FAMU) – Jiang Lu, Breeding and Grape Germplasm Center (grant awarded in 2001).

Vinifera is a “non-item” in Florida, according to Bates, as most bunch grapes are seriously by disease factors. However, Bob mentioned that Dr. Dennis Gray's work is a very “hot area” as Dr. Gray has recently received a US patent for the use of lytic peptide genes for disease control in grape (p. 57). At the Apoka site a 4 acre vineyard was established in 2001 that will serve as: 1) a germplasm repository for historic UF varieties; 2) a site for replicated trials of their breeding-derived lines; and 3) a site for trials on non-transgenic varieties from the biotech program.

Bates reported that there is considerable interest among growers and wineries regarding nutraceutical value of Florida grapes and cooperative research in both vineyards and wineries is in progress. There are now 7 Florida wineries in operation, and Bob and his group work quite closely with commercial wineries and individuals committed to both commercial and hobby winemaking. The Florida Grape Growers Association (FGGA) is quite active in conducting programs and workshops with IFAS. Bob gave an excellent powerpoint presentation that touched on a number of important points about winegrape research and extension in Florida.

Muscadine research. There are five graduate students at IFAS who are currently working to some extent with muscadine grapes and their components:

1. Melanie Kemmerer (M.S.) – Copigmentation reactions with muscadine anthocyanins using primarily rosemary as antioxidants and enzyme inhibitors on fresh-cut carrots.
2. Janelle McGuinness (M.S.) – Red clover isolates as pre- and postfermentation copigments to muscadine wine for improved color and functional properties.
3. Joonhee Lee (Ph.D.) – Remediation of ellagic acid sedimentation and methods to improve phytochemical retention in muscadine wine and juice.
4. Danielle Pires (M.S.) – The effects of muscadine juice fortification as affected by various processing treatments.
5. Susanne Mertens (Ph.D.) – Anticarcinogenic effect of flavonoids from muscadine wine on signal transduction and cell cycle regulation in blood cell lines and non-tumourous cells.

Jiang Lu, Associate Professor, FAMU, sent an extensive report about his grape genetics, breeding, and Center for Viticultural Sciences, Florida A&M University (pp. 59-68).

Georgia Report – see pp. 69-74 of 2001 Annual Meeting and Proceedings

Research. The Georgia state research report was given by Dr. Melvin Hall, University of Georgia, Coastal Plain Experiment Station, Tifton, GA. Dr. Hall's muscadine breeding work has its main emphasis on fresh market muscadines. In 2001 there was a serious loss of muscadine vines to cold injury and disease as well. Mel reported that this is an ongoing problem. There is a new demonstration planting of muscadines that was made in Griffin, GA in 2001; at Tifton, Dr. Hall has 35 varieties in a demonstration planting. The latter planting in Tifton (3rd leaf) will provide a means to compare performance between the Coastal Plain and Piedmont regions of the state. Dr. Hall indicated that the Griffin location (planted this year) has some of the most promising of his latest muscadine selections. Hall notes in the *Proceedings* that, "The UGA breeding program uses plastic growth tubes on all newly planted vines and has found similar benefits described by Dr. Jian Lu in the 2000 SERA-IEG Annual Report (Arkansas)."

A report in the Proceedings, *Cooling Delays Cause Muscadine Grape Firmness Losses*, provides quantitative evidence for the need to minimize delays in cooling of muscadine grapes (pp. 71-74).

Extension. Dr. Gerard Krewer, Extension Specialist, University of Georgia CES, Tifton, GA, announced to the group that a joint Georgia-South Carolina Muscadine Meeting was going to be held on September 28, 2001, and shared with the SERA-IEG a very promising program for that meeting. He then shared information that the wholesale fresh muscadine grape price hit a low of \$10/box (22 lb) at one point in 2001, but for most of the season the price was in the low teens. Dr. Krewer indicated his support for more efforts in the marketing area for muscadine grapes. SERA-IEG-14 does have a market development committee that could become more proactive in the area of fresh market muscadines in the future. Approximately 30-40% of the Georgia muscadine crop consists of 'Fry'. Temperatures in the low 20's last December 2000 did cause extensive injury in muscadines, according to Krewer. Cracking of trunks and cordons was observed in certain varieties, including 'Supreme', Georgia's new "flagship" black muscadine fresh variety. According to Dr. Krewer, 'Supreme' was one of the hardest hit. Both 'Carlos' and 'Noble' were unaffected.

Gerard indicated that there has been a huge change in the market dynamics in Georgia – there is now a much heightened interest in winegrapes in Georgia compared to a few years ago. Much of this interest is related to *Vinifera* winegrape production in Georgia's mountains. A new viticultural position at the M.S. level is being established at Blairsville, GA, to address the needs of a growing clientele for *Vinifera* grape information and extension support.

Mississippi Report – Steve Stringer, USDA-Poplarville, MS

This past year was Dr. Stringer's first season in muscadine research (previously worked in cotton). He "jumped right in" with a study to evaluate the growth and phenology of 40 muscadine varieties from bud break through harvest. He is evaluating several growth regulators with the objective of inducing seedlessness in muscadines. He is rapidly building up his collection of muscadine varieties and indicated to the SERA-IEG-14 group his interest in "getting his hands on every muscadine variety in existence."

Overall, Dr. Stringer reported there has been an overall decline in the Mississippi muscadine grape acreage (now 375 A). In 2001 there were a lot of grapes going to out-of-state wineries, including Louisiana and North Carolina (Duplin Wine Cellars). It is Steve's view that the industry has bottomed out and is now making a comeback. Dr. Stringer mentioned the work of Blair Sampson on pollination in muscadines, and Dr. Barbara Smith's ongoing research with fungicides in muscadine grapes.

There is also a report in the Proceedings (p. 75) by Dr. Bill Evans, Research Scientist, MAFES Truck Crops Branch Experiment Station, Crystal Springs, Mississippi.

Oklahoma Report – no one was present at the business meeting from Oklahoma, but see the report faxed to us by Dr. Penelope Perkins-Veazie on pp. 76-77.

Tennessee Report - see pp. 78-81 of 2001 Annual Meeting and Proceedings

Dave Lockwood, Extension Specialist in charge of educational programming in tree fruits, tree nuts, small fruits and fruit tree nurseries, gave the extension report for Tennessee. He pointed out that while there is some pressure to develop the *Vinifera* industry in his state, that most people like muscadines and the wines produced from a number of the American and French-American bunch grapes. Sweeter wines are popular in Tennessee. Dave also mentioned that approval was recently provided for wine festivals across the state. There are now 395 acres of grapes in Tennessee, according to Dr. Lockwood. There is a problem in Tennessee with regards to a limited staff to deal with inquiries on winegrape production and wine-making. Dave is evaluating Dr. John Clark's bunch grape selections for adaptability to Tennessee conditions – he mentioned that there are 5 different climatic areas in the state.

Bill Morris, Dept. of Food Science and Technology, UT, next spoke to the group and indicated that 1 ½ years ago there was promise of greater support for educational programs in grapes and processed fruits, but there has been a substantial shortfall in Tennessee income tax collections, and there are currently very limited resources for operating viticulture and enology programs in Tennessee. Dr. Morris has a new publication in press on *Starting You Own Wine Business*, that should be of substantial benefit to farm winery entrepreneurs in Tennessee and surrounding states.

Tony Johnson, School of Agribusiness and Agriscience, Middle Tennessee State University, teaches 4 courses, including one on wine appreciation. He mentioned the increasing awareness of consumers in Tennessee of state wineries, and that “people seem to be getting away from thinking that drinking wine is something sinful done in private!” Johnson pointed out that the demand for *Vinifera* and other wines are on the increase. Luckily, a travel freeze was lifted 2 weeks prior to the SERA-14 meeting that allowed Tony to participate in the 2001 Annual Meeting of the grape IEG workers in North Carolina.

Virginia Report – no one was present at the business meeting from Virginia, but see the reports submitted by Dr. Tony Wolf on pp. 82-92.

Special Committee Reports, Conference call with Tony Wolf, 2002 Meeting, Nesbitt Award and Misc. business items

A. Committee Reports -

At the Arkansas SERA-IEG-14 Business Meeting, Sept. 9, 2001, three committees were established:

- Rootstock Research Committee**
- Market Development**
- Publications**

Rootstock Committee – the chair of this committee, Dr. Keith Striegler, was unable to attend the 2001 SERA-IEG program, and no report was filed. Dr. Stiegler will provide an update on the activities of the Rootstock Research Committee at the 2002 meeting in Tennessee.

Market Development – the chair of this committee, Dr. E. Barclay Poling, was present at the Business Meeting, and he briefly mentioned some of the activities of the SERA-IEG-14 Market Development Committee. At the Southern Region ASHS meeting in Fort Worth, TX (Jan. 2001), this committee had a poster that identified several of the objectives of this committee, including the formation of a multi-state team for the purpose of attracting new funds for muscadine market development. If IFAFS funds are available in 2002, this group will likely submit a grant application.

Publications Committee – the chair of this committee, Dr. David Himelrick, was not in attendance. It is our understanding that Dr. Himelrick would like to remain involved in SERA-IEG-14, but as a new department head at LSU, it may be difficult for him to provide any further leadership to this committee. A new chair of the Publications Committee is needed, and anyone in the group interested in this responsibility should contact Dr. Justin Morris before the September 2002 meeting in Tennessee.

B. Conference call with Wolf -

As a follow-up to the discussion in Clarksville, AR (Sept. 9, 2000), about grape publications, Barclay Poling and Andy Allen took the initiative to contact Tony Wolf by way of a conference call during the Business Meeting. Our specific concern related to Dr. Wolf's plans (if any) for a revision of the *Mid-Atlantic Winegrape Production Guide* (last published in 1996). From this discussion we learned that Dr. Wolf is leading a new team in the production of a winegrape production guide that will be published by NRAES (based at Cornell University). This publication will be less specific to conditions in the southern region, and will cover winegrape production regions as far north as Ontario, Canada. Tony will be orchestrating this whole effort himself, and he encouraged members of the SERA-IEG-14 group to submit information to him by October 1, 2001 on possible chapter(s) they would like to contribute. He also said that he would make a final decision on chapters and contributors for the NRAES production guide by November 1, 2001.

Dr. Poling subsequently contacted Dr. Wolf (early November) to indicate that NC State would undertake a revision of the current *Mid-Atlantic Winegrape Production Manual* with a team being led by Andy Allen and himself. Andy Allen has taken the initiative to organize this effort, and thus far the response of co-workers at NCSU and other grape workers in the Southern Region (including Arkansas) has been favorable. The goal would be to have an updated winegrape guide ready for publication by early 2003. It is further anticipated that the NCCES will publish this guide, as funds have already been allocated for this purpose (same publisher of the *Mid-Atlantic Winegrape Production Manual*). Allen and Poling are very definitely seeking contributions from authors in other Southern Region states. This new guide will be of primary value to *Vinifera* as well as American and French-American hybrid winegrape growers in the *Mid-South* (NC, SC, GA, TN, AR). Muscadines will not be addressed in this publication.

C. Meeting in 2002 –

Dr. Justin Morris, Ext. Admin. Advisor to SERA-IEG 14, received a request from Tennessee to host the 2002 SERA-IEG-14 Annual Meeting and Tour, and this request was favorably received by everyone present at the Business Meeting. The anticipated date for the meeting will be in the 2nd-3rd week in September 2002. The site needs to be determined also. The committee hosting the 2002 meeting will consist of:

- Dr. William C. Morris, Dept. Food Sci. and Technology, UT
- Dr. Tony V. Johnston, Middle Tennessee State University
- Dr. Dave Lockwood, Dept. of Plant Sciences and Landscape Systems, UT

D. Nesbitt Award in 2002-

The chair of the 2002 Nesbitt Award Committee is Dr. Bob Bates, University of Florida. The other 2 members are: Dr. Barclay Poling, past-chair of the 2001 SERA-IEG-14 program in North Carolina, and Dr. William "Bill" Morris, chair-elect of the 2002 SERA-IEG-14 program in Tennessee. Please send your nominations to Dr. Bates for the 2002 Nesbitt Award by no later than August 15, 2002:

Dr. Robert Bates
Food Science & Human Nutrition Department
P.O. Box 110370
University of Florida
Gainesville, FL 32611

General Description: This annual award is designed to honor the career of a professional member of the SERA-IEG 14 grape working group for significant research and/or extension contributions to the grape industry in the Southern Region. The Award is named in honor of William Belton Nesbitt, 1932 – 1983. Dr. Nesbitt served on the faculty of the Department of Horticultural Science, NC State, from 1966 until 1983. His grape breeding efforts produced numerous Vitis rotundifolia cultivars, including 'Noble', 'Carlos', 'Dixie', 'Sterling', 'Regale' and 'Doreen'. Dr. Nesbitt was extremely dedicated to his breeding work, research and furthering agricultural advantages for growers in North Carolina and throughout the Southern Region.

Nomination Process includes submitting a packet (either electronically or via mail) with the following: 1) A copy of the nominee's curriculum vitae; and, 2) A brief (less than 1,000 words) letter indicating the reason for nominating this individual. This letter should identify the major contributions on which the nomination is based and explain why the nominee is especially qualified to receive this award. Each of the following criteria should be addressed in the state

1. Originality and significance of research and/or extension contributions.
2. Contributions that led to the development or improvement of grape germplasm, viticultural practices, programs, and/or products that have had an impact on industry, or an area of general public concern.
3. Quality and significance of publications resulting from research and/or extension programs.
4. Leadership on scientific matters in the grape industry as well as the SERA-IEG 14 Working Group of the SR-ASHS.
5. Three letters of support, including at least one from another institution.

E. Misc. business items -

Before the Business Meeting Program Moderator, Leon Boyd, adjourned the Business Meeting, Dr. Thomas Bewick, National Program Leader, USDA, & Official USDA Representative to SERA-IEG 14, asked to make a few comments about the Eastern Viticultural Consortium. He encouraged multi-state applications for funding from the SERA-IEG-14 group to Viticultural Consortium (deadline 1-Dec-2001). He was especially encouraging of submissions from the Rootstock Committee. He advised that SERA-IEG-14, which is essentially an information exchange group, could meet in conjunction with a Grape Rootstock Working Group similar to the Apple Rootstock working group (NE 140). Experiment Station Directors in each state would need to be advised of the need for a Grape Rootstock Working Group in the Southern Region. Hatch funds can be designated by state Directors for use to support travel by southern region grape scientists to working group meetings, such as NE 140 or NC 183. Again, it may be very prudent to arrange to have the Grape Rootstock Working Group meeting overlap with the SERA-IEG-14 Annual Meeting.

The Business Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am, September 20, 2001, and 17 of the SERA-IEG-14 members stayed on for the 1 ½ day industry tour.

