



University of Hawaii at Manoa

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Office of the Director

April 27, 1983

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 - M. Tamashiro C. Smith
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FROM: Ian G. Morison
 Assistant Director

SUBJECT: Formation of a Forestry and Related Natural Resources
 Multidisciplinary Group

Multidisciplinary implementation groups have been formed from faculty members of this College for the major agricultural commodities produced in the state.

The function of these groups is described diagrammatically by the attached diagram and is set out in more detail later in this memo.

Most of you are familiar with the industry analysis process conducted by this College for the Governor's Agricultural Coordinating Committee (GACC) and, in particular, with the Analysis and Action Sheet (attached) for Forestry and Related Natural Resources which was presented to the GACC on February 25, 1981. Also attached for your information is a copy of a Progress Report prepared one year later by Rudy Kallander in which he documented the nature of progress made in each of the analysis segments. The analysis of Forestry and Related Natural Resources was unlike the usual commodity analysis as the expertise largely lay outside the College. The composition of a Multidisciplinary Group for the Forestry Commodity must likewise be made up largely by off-campus scientists, administrators, and practitioners.

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The attached diagram indicates that the group identifies the research and extension needs of the industry and assists the university staff in formulating programs to satisfy those needs. One objective of the group is to bring together all those people both on and off-campus who are conducting forestry and natural resource research and extension in order to review the magnitude and direction of forestry research and extension programs and from this perspective, identify those areas which are being neglected or perhaps overemphasized.

This College receives approximately \$100,000 per year through McIntire-Stennis funding for forestry (including range, wildlife, and outdoor recreation) research. Also the College receives funds from the Renewable Resources Extension Act for forestry extension (funding has been temporarily suspended). It is to be hoped that a major function of the proposed Multidisciplinary Group will be to guide college research and extension in forestry and related natural resource matters and provide coordination with other research and extension units.

A Multidisciplinary Group seeks the ideal of a common sharing of concern and responsibility for all the problems and projects relating to an industry. It also generates a body of knowledge and experience about an industry that far exceeds the simple sum of the abilities of the individual members of the group. From this base, it can readily assess problems that can arise and can quickly respond to questions for which existing knowledge has the answer. Furthermore, it can develop the foresight necessary for this College and other research and extension groups to act rather than react.

Because of your work and interest in the field of forestry and related natural resources, I am pleased to invite you to membership of the group because I believe you can make a significant contribution to the functioning of such a body.

This concept was introduced at the recent Hawaii Chapter of the Society of American Foresters meeting in Manoa. Chairman, Bob Clayton, followed it up with a small exploratory meeting on April 25, 1983.

It was agreed that we should plan the first meeting of the group sometime in the first week of June 1983. I have agreed to be the interim convener or group-leader and my secretary, Lucy, will be contacting you to arrange for a time and date convenient to all.

It would be most useful as a start if you could come prepared to give a 10 minute presentation describing your work in this area as we will then have a good basis of information on past, current, and future programs.

I would then suggest that we be prepared to critically analyze the Analysis and the Action Sheet with a view to updating them and perhaps restating them to match the perspective of our group. Also we should review the Progress Report and chart a course for future action.

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I do sincerely trust you will be agreeable to becoming a member. Please feel free to suggest appropriate individuals not on the mailing list above who should also be included. The basic philosophy of the group is to be inclusive and not exclusive.

Thank you for the contributions you have already made to the forestry and natural resource analysis. I have every confidence you will find membership in the proposed group a very stimulating experience.

Please expect a call from Lucy. Many thanks.

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Attachments

cc: N.P. Kefford
Y. Kitagawa
A. Demb
W. Harada
R. Kallender