



Association Board of Directors Fact Sheet #3

Cornell Cooperative Extension Communications Structure

Cornell Cooperative Extension is a complex educational system including campus-based faculty and staff, regional specialists, county educators and support staff, and volunteer leaders such as county association boards of directors. To facilitate communication and coordination throughout the system a communications structure has been developed that is composed of the following elements:

Regional Communication Chairs

In each of the eight CCE regions an association executive director serves as a Regional Communications Chair. Responsibilities include:

- Convene regional executive director meetings (quarterly)
- Convene regional board presidents/CoA reps meetings (semi-annual)
- Communicate information on behalf of the Director of Extension
- Collect and consolidate input on specific issues as requested

Executive Directors Senate

This is the deliberative body for executive directors. The Senate:

- Provides a forum for collective decision-making on behalf of EDs
- Makes recommendations to the Director of Extension
- Takes action on specific issues/projects through task forces

Council of Associations

The [Council of Associations](#) (CoA) represents the volunteer leadership of Cornell Cooperative Extension. It is composed of current and recent CCE association board members from the various regions around the state. Several executive directors serve in a liaison role. The CoA:

- Serves as a voice for CCE in Albany and to a lesser extent Washington
- Provides a forum for exchange of information and experience
- Represents the 50,000 volunteers who support Cornell Cooperative Extension

State Extension Specialists

A team of four State Extension Specialists represents the Director of Extension. Each specialist works with two CCE regions. The specialists:

- Work with boards of directors on executive director recruitment, development and evaluation
- Provide support for executive directors and board presidents
- Assume leadership for statewide CCE system initiatives