

**Technical Director Goals: *Direction, Communication, Stable Funding***

**TD VISION** – We wanted to expand the opportunities our members have to come together to share and discuss new, relevant information and research during our HRC Winter Meeting. In order to accomplish this, we are introducing our first Poster Session during the 2018 HRC Winter Meeting/American Hop Convention. Our Poster Session will provide a no-cost, unique and casual opportunity for our hop grower, processor, and brewery members to interact with each other, and university researchers and graduate students.

For this session, we encourage not only university researchers and extension personnel, but brewers and hop processors to submit posters. While we are not requiring poster authors to be present, if you are attending the HRC/HGA meetings we have set times for poster question and answer sessions. Posters will be available for viewing on both January 24 and January 25 from 8:00AM – 5:00PM. We're asking poster authors (if present) to be available to answer questions from 10:00-11:00AM on January 24, and from 9:00-10:00AM on January 25.

If you are interested in authoring a poster, or if you know of someone who is interested, please contact Bryan Thoet at [bryan@bjagriculturalconsulting.com](mailto:bryan@bjagriculturalconsulting.com), or visit the Hop Research Council website ([www.hopresearchcouncil.org](http://www.hopresearchcouncil.org)) and go to the Research page to download both the Poster Registration Form and our Poster Guidelines. We are limited to a total of 20 posters, so be sure to register early. Our poster session sponsor, GS Long Company, will cover the cost up to \$100 per poster.

***We would like to extend our sincere thanks to GS Long Company who are graciously sponsoring this poster session!***

**TD UDATE** – In early November both Bryan and Judy visited the IAREC research facility in Prosser, WA and met with a majority of the hop researchers and their staff who work at this location. We were given tours of the facilities and the hop fields located there. While excellent research is being conducted at the IAREC, something that we both observed during our tours is the 'mature' condition of many of the buildings and much of the equipment that our hop researchers rely on. A majority of the IAREC buildings were built over 50 years ago, and the budget reductions from WSU to the IAREC facility, 26% over the past three years, are beginning to be evident along with age. The hop industry will need to discuss this issue in the near future as up-to-date research facilities are a key component to attracting and retaining top researchers and their support staff.

**HRC People** - One of the individuals we met with in Prosser is Dr. Rick Boydston, a USDA-ARS research weed scientist who has contributed to hop weed research for some time. Dr. Boydston has been stationed at Prosser since 1985 with his primary research focus being on improving weed management in irrigated cropping systems. Dr. Boydston will be retiring in early 2018 and we wish him well in his next life journey.

**HRC Events** – The Hop Research Council Winter meeting is being held January 23 and 24, 2018 at the JW Marriott Desert Springs. On January 23 we will have our business meeting and single hopped beer tasting (an RSVP event – invitations will go out to HRC members in January). On January 24 our HRC funded researchers will present their annual research reports. A complete meeting agenda will be posted on the HRC website by early January. For complete registration information to the full event, the 2018 American Hop Convention, please visit the USAHOPS website under this section: <https://www.usahops.org/convention/>

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*If you have any suggestions for content for our monthly newsletter, please contact your Co-Technical Directors, Bryan and Judy Thoet ([bryan@bjagriculturalconsulting.com](mailto:bryan@bjagriculturalconsulting.com)) ([judith@bjagriculturalconsulting.com](mailto:judith@bjagriculturalconsulting.com)) (503) 400-9147*