



WSWS Officer and Committee Report 2018 – Denver, CO

Office or Committee Name: President
Officer or Chairperson Name: Andrew Kniss
Date of Preparation (include year): July 27, 2018

Committee Activities during the Year:

Since the March meeting, I have worked on appointing members to committees. There are still a couple vacancies on committees due to multiple members declining invitations due to other commitments. The committee list will be published online with existing vacancies, and will be updated as soon as the final committee positions are filled. In filling committee vacancies, I noticed that several of our committees have minimal activity, or have reports that haven't really changed much from one meeting to the other, or regularly have missing reports. I think it would be worthwhile to discuss whether our current committee structure is still serving the needs of our membership.

Appointments to the new *ad hoc* committee on Diversity and Inclusion is nearly complete with 10 members having agreed to serve, and 2 invitations that are still pending responses. This committee will begin their work shortly after the summer board meeting, and it is hoped they will provide actionable recommendations to the board by the March regular meeting.

As I write this, I am traveling back to Wyoming from the North Central Weed Science Society weeds contest, at which WSWS agreed to provide awards for WSWS schools that participated. Teams in the "Western Division" of the contest included UC Davis, North Dakota State, Kansas State, and a joint Montana State/Wyoming team. I would like to gather input from WSWS teams and coaches that participated to evaluate how or whether WSWS should continue supporting this contest in the future.

I participated in at least 2 Science Policy calls with Lee Van Wychen since the March meeting. Dicamba seems to be at the forefront of all of these calls. Fortunately, our society is relatively less affected by many of the issues surrounding dicamba that have become so contentious in other regions.

Finally, Elizabeth Mosqueda, a student WSWS member, has submitted a proposal for WSWS to purchase an exhibitor booth at the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS) meeting to be held in San Antonio, TX in October. This could be a great opportunity for our society to expose students from underrepresented backgrounds to our discipline, and potentially recruit new members. I would like to discuss this opportunity (and other, similar opportunities) as a board to determine whether exhibiting at other conferences would be a worthy use of our resources.

Recommendations for Board Action: none

- Provide direction for site selection committee to pursue for 2021 and 2022.
- Discuss the current committee structure and determine if there is a need to disband or add any standing committees.
- Discuss the possibility of exhibiting at other conferences to educate others about our discipline.

Budget Needs: Up to \$1650 if the Board decides to approve the SACNAS exhibitor proposal.

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Andrew Kniss