



**WSWS Summer Business Meeting
July 17-18, 2009
Embassy Suites Portland Airport
Portland, Oregon**

Call to Order – Jesse Richardson

Present at the meeting: Jesse Richardson, Tony White, Ian Burke, Phil Banks, Ryan Edwards, Vanelle Peterson, Jill Schroeder, Tonya Skurski, Pat Clay, Joseph DiTomaso, Dan Ball, Phil Stahlman, Kassim Al-Khatib, Ed Peachy, Marvin Butler, and Phil Munger.

Motion: Approval of Agenda: Kassim Al-Khatib moves to approve the agenda, Joe DiTomaso seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Motion: Dan Ball moves to accept the minutes as written. Joe DiTomaso seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Immediate Past-President's Report – Dan Ball

I passed relevant files to the current president, Jesse Richardson within a month or so of completing my term as president. I sent a copy of my presidential address to Joan Campbell, Proceedings editor. I sent a letter of thanks to the hotel staff in Albuquerque for the fine facilities. I sent a letter of congratulations to Tom Brokaw for being selected as a WSWS Honorary Member. I have continued to work on an operating guide for the special symposium committee. A proposed operating guide will be presented at this meeting. I am working with Tanya Skurski, Student Liaison Chair-Elect on a proposal for a WSWS Student Scholarship proposal. That proposal will also be presented at this meeting. I plan to send out an announcement to WSWS reminding them of the retiree's reception on Monday prior to the annual meeting.

Recommendations for Board Action: I would request that the Board of Directors review and adopt an operating guide to facilitate functioning of a Symposium Committee. I would request that the Board review and institute a WSWS Student Scholarship Program.

Budget Needs: \$3000 for three WSWS student scholarships, if that proposal is approved by the Board.

Suggestions for the Future: Make sure the immediate past president sends letters of thanks to last year's Program Chair, Local Arrangements Chair, and the hotel staff for the facilities.

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: Add an operating guide for a Symposium Committee.

Business Manager's / Treasurer Report – Phil Banks

Date of Preparation (include year): 7/2/2009

All bills have been paid, tax forms have been filed, and the current financial status of WSWS is attached. As of June 30, 2009 we have \$271,602.91 in capital with an additional asset of \$191,259.00 in unsold Weeds of the West inventory. We have unpaid liabilities (Director of Science Policy and the Service Contract of the Business Manager) of \$ 29,625.00. For the 2008-09 fiscal year, we realized a loss of over \$ 100,000.00, primarily from a reduction in the value of our investments with RBC. These accounts have recovered since the March meeting (an increase of approximately \$ 17,000.00) and the Finance Committee and our financial advisor have made several changes to our investment portfolio. Also attached is an estimated and final budget for the 2008-2009 operating year and an estimated budget for 2009-10. All Newsletters were printed and mailed on time.

We have finished scanning all Proceedings and after quality checking them, we will transfer to the Web Editor for posting at the website. I have also worked with the Site Selection committee for the location of our 2012 meeting, which will be at the Peppermill Resort in Reno, NV. A contract was negotiated with the hotel and has been signed by President Jesse Richardson. When the Site Selection Committee determines potential meeting locations for 2013, I will issue an RFP to the Convention & Visitors Bureaus and selected hotels. If we follow the same timeline as last year, the committee will meet and select the 2013 host hotel at our meeting in Hawaii. Future meetings are scheduled for Hawaii for 2010 and Spokane for 2011.

I conducted a short survey of WSWs members related to their possible attendance to our 2010 meeting in Hawaii. The results were encouraging in that most responding members that attended the Albuquerque meeting indicated they would attend the meeting in Hawaii. The results of the survey are attached to my report. I have communicated with the Marriott hotel, the host of our Hawaii meeting and they have made one concession and are agreeable to work with us if the current economic situation reduces our ability to fulfill the agreement with them.

Recommendations for Board Action:

1. Recommend a registration increase for the Hawaii meeting to \$ 205.00.
2. Discuss possible student travel support for Hawaii meeting.
3. Determine Noxious Weed Short Course future.
4. Revisions to the Treasurer/Business Manager’s duties have not been updated at the website. This needs to be done.
5. The service agreement between Marathon Consulting and WSWs will expire at the end of the 2010 meeting. Attached is a proposed continuation of the service agreement if the Board wants to take action at the summer meeting.

Western Society of Weed Science: Budget for 2008-2009 (April 1, 2008-March 31, 2009)					
	Estimate	Actual		Estimate	
	2008-09			2009-10	
Annual Meeting Income*	\$65,000.00	\$70,585.95		\$65,000.00	
Expenses					
Annual Meeting**	\$42,200.00	\$44,275.68		\$45,000.00	
Website	\$500.00	\$2,830.00		\$2,500.00	
Accountant	\$390.00	\$385.65		\$390.00	
Insurance	\$500.00	\$500.00		\$500.00	
CAST dues	\$650.00	\$679.00		\$690.00	
WSSA Dir. Sci. Policy	\$15,000.00	\$15,000.00		\$15,000.00	
Student Awards	\$1,000.00	\$1,000.00		\$1,000.00	
Business Manager	\$19,500.00	\$19,500.00		\$19,500.00	
	\$79,740.00	\$84,170.33		\$84,580.00	
	(\$14,740.00)	(\$13,584.38)		(\$19,580.00)	
*Includes registration fees, individual and sustaining membership dues, RPR and Proceedings income.					
**Includes hotel charges, travel, printing costs (newsletters, programs Proceedings, RPR), postage, etc.					

**Western Society of Weed Science Financial Report
April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009
Annual Meeting Report**

CAPITAL

2007-2008 Balance Forward	\$380,722.79
Current Income (loss) for 2008-2009	(108,420.28)
	\$272,302.51

DISTRIBUTION OF CAPITAL

RBC Dain Rauscher Funds	\$165,278.12
Money Market (Bank of the West)	21,892.25
Checking (Bank of the West)	41,775.63
Certificate of Deposit (Bank of the West)	43,356.51
	\$272,302.51

WSWS Financial Report – April 1, 2008 through March 31, 2009

INCOME

Registration & Membership Dues (includes Proceeding and Research Progress Report income)	\$ 63,985.95
Noxious Weed Control Short Course	26,167.65
Weeds of the West	70,918.45
Bio Control of Invasive Weeds book	895.79
California Weeds Books	1,311.82
Bank interest & Investment income	1,583.17
2009 Sustaining Membership Dues	6,600.00
Invasive Plants Book	98.97
Student Travel Account	300.00
	\$ 171,861.80

EXPENSES

Annual Meeting Expenses (includes cost of Proceedings, Research Progress Report, & programs printing and mailing)	41,015.75
Website (Host fees & service)	1,810.00
Tax Accountant	385.65
Liability Insurance	500.00
CAST Membership Dues (2008)	679.00
CAST Representative Travel	0.00
WSSA Director of Science Policy	15,000.00
Service Contract for business management	19,500.00
Noxious Weed Control Short Course	22,047.48
IWSC Meeting Support- Vancouver '08	4,000.00
Newsletters (printing and postage)	759.56
Invasive Plants Books	10.50
Travel to Board meeting	2,500.37
Website transaction fee (Web Editor)	1,020.00
Book handling charges	437.50
Merchant credit card fee (PowerPay)	2607.31
Monthly credit card fee (AuthorizNet)	634.43
Virtual Terminal (PayPal)	210.00
Weeds of the West	117,285.98
California Weeds Book fee	1,369.00
Misc. Expenses	30.00

\$ 231,802.53

Western Society of Weed Science-Net Worth Report	
6/30/2009	
Account	Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts at Bank of the West	
Certificate of Deposit	43,356.51
Checking	23,775.09
Money Market	21,901.40
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	89,033.00
Other Assets	
Weeds of the West Inventory	191,259.00
TOTAL Other Assets	191,259.00
Investments	
RBC Dain Rauscher Acnt 1101-5709-9275	182,569.91
TOTAL Investments	182,569.91
TOTAL ASSETS	462,861.91
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Business Manager and WSSA Director of Sci. Policy	29,625.00
TOTAL Other Liabilities	29,625.00
TOTAL LIABILITIES	29,625.00
OVERALL TOTAL	433,236.91

Phil notes that he will present the treasurer's report in addition to the business manager's report.

Joe DiTomaso asks if we sell books over the internet? Phil Banks replied that we sell 130 over the internet, others have called in to make bulk purchases. Many are single purchases, probably to people that have found the book by searching the internet.

Dan Ball asks if we are working on the 9th edition? Phil Banks notes that we are.

Kassim Al-Khatib asks if we have insurance on the books. Phil Banks replies that we do not. We can get a policy, but it would be expensive because of the location of storage (University of Wyoming). If there were an event, it would be a loss for the organization.

Phil Banks notes that we continue to operate at a gross loss, which is made up by interest income and book sales (largely through the sales of Weeds of the West).

Phil Banks finishes with the comment that we will likely lose \$20,000 this year because of the meeting in Hawaii.

Vanelle Peterson thanks Joe DiTomaso for allowing the book 'Weeds of California' sold through the website. Phil Banks notes that we nearly broke even, but it has contributed.

Phil Banks notes that the business arrangement for the weeds of the south is different. Kassim Al-Khatib asks what the price of the weeds of the south. Phil Banks replies that it is \$40 plus shipping. Kassim Al-Khatib thought the books would compete, but Joe DiTomaso and Phil Banks do not think they will.

Vanelle Peterson asks about our affiliation with Wiley. Phil Banks notes that it is free, but no one is purchasing books through us with Wiley. Vanelle Peterson suggests we encourage lecturers to direct students to purchase textbooks through the WWSW website.

Phil Banks notes that all the proceedings are online except one. Joe DiTomaso asks if the research progress reports. Phil Banks says they are not, but they could be. The Research Progress Reports would be simpler to put into pdf format. Joe DiTomaso notes that they would be much better in a searchable format.

Phil Banks notes that having the different members sit down and discuss the site selection is much better than having the discussion by email.

Marvin Butler asks about the number of attendees at the Hawaii meeting. Phil Banks thinks that we will be lower – we were the last time we went to Hawaii. Phil Banks notes that the hotel in Hawaii will waive the resort fee. We also have an agreement with the hotel to match local deals, if they become available.

Program Committee Report – Joe DiTomaso

Period: March to July, 2009

The 2007 meeting had 380 registered, 90 oral presentations and 60 posters

The 2008 meeting had 328 registered, 126 oral presentations and 56 posters

The 2009 meeting had 320 registered, 105 oral presentations and 67 posters

The committee is in the process of developing the 2010 program for the WWSW annual meeting in Kona, HI. Although it is unknown how registration will go, a preliminary survey indicated that it should still be within our normal range. For the General Program:

General Session:

Introductions & Announcements – Joe DiTomaso

Welcome to Hawaii – TBA (I have a number of potential political people suggested, but perhaps the Big Island major Mr. William Kenoi might be a good person)

Presidential Address – Jesse Richardson
Science Policy Update – L. Van Wychen
Threats to the coral reefs of Hawaii – Dr. Cecilia Smith
Transgenic Papaya, how it saved the industry – Dr. Dennis Gonzalves
Invasive plants impacts on the Big Island – Rhonda Loh (there have been several suggestions)

Two symposia are being considered:

- *Kochia scoparia*: Enhanced Threat in Western North America (~3.5 hrs) Wednesday afternoon – Phil Stahlman and Kassim Al-Khatib
- Ecology, Impacts and Management of Arid Perennial Grass Invasions. Thursday all day – James Leary

Joe DiTomaso would like to open a discussion on the General Session. He suggests the Mayor of Hawaii – apparently a dynamic speaker.

Joe DiTomaso asks if we have money available for the General Session. Phil Banks replies there is, \$1000. Dan Ball notes that we can comp rooms as well.

Joe DiTomaso thought that the only person who might require an honorarium is Dr. Dennis Gonzales.

Joe DiTomaso also mentioned a motivational speaker, but there was no board interest.

The Board encouraged Joe DiTomaso to move forward with his plan for the General Session. Phil Banks encouraged Joe DiTomaso to plan the speakers to keep the General Session on time.

Vanelle Peterson asks if we have any tours planned. Joe DiTomaso noted that we are, all planned by James Leary.

(Include tour list).

Jesse Richardson thought we should end the General Session early. The later the general session runs, the likelihood the crowd will thin. Dan Ball and others note that we should probably give Lee van Wychen a longer time slot.

Research Section Report – Ed Peachey

Activities during the Year:

- Outgoing chair Kirk Howatt collected reports from project chairs for discussion sessions and forwarded for inclusion in the proceedings.
- Project chairs have been encouraged to begin identifying discussion topics.
- Discussions in May and June with project chairs focused on reconfiguration of projects and project names.

Project chairs and chair elects for 2010

1. Weeds of Range and Forest

James Harbour
James.D.Harbour@usa.dupont.com
DuPont Field Development
429 NW 23rd St.
Lincoln, NE 68528
402-219-3863 (m)

James Leary (Chair-elect of Projects 1 and 5 if combined)
leary@hawaii.edu
Department of Natural Resources and Environmental
Management
University of Hawaii at Manoa
1910 East West Road
Sherman 101
Honolulu, HI 96822

808- 352-8774 (m)

2. Weeds of Horticulture Crops

Curtis Rainbolt
curtis.rainbolt@basf.com
Tech Service Rep
4763 N Pacific Ave
Fresno, CA 93705
559-430-4418 (m)

Brad Hanson (CE)
brad.hanson@ars.usda.gov
USDA-ARS
San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Sciences Center
9611 S. Riverbend Ave.
Parlier, CA 93648
559 596 2860 (office)
559 443 9235 (work cell)

3. Weeds of Agronomic Crops

Brian Olson
bolson@ksu.edu
Kansas State University
Northwest Research and Extension Center
P.O. Box 786
Colby, KS 67701
(785) 462-6281

Andrew Hulting (CE)
andrew.hulting@oregonstate.edu
Oregon State University
109 Crop Science Building
Corvallis, OR 97331-3002
541-737-5098

4. Teaching and Technology Transfer

Andrew R. Kniss
akniss@uwyo.edu
Department of Plant Sciences
Agriculture C 1011
University of Wyoming
Laramie, WY 82071
(307) 766-3949

Jamshid Ashigh (CE)
jashigh@njcf.ad.nmsu.edu
Extension Weed Specialist/Assistant Professor
Department of Extension Plant Sciences
New Mexico State University
PO Box 30003- MSC 3AE
Las Cruces, NM 88003
(575)646-2888

5. Wetlands and Wildlands

Cody Gray
cody.gray@uniphos.com
United Phosphorus Inc
11417 Cranston Drive
Peyton, CO 80831
(954) 5620254

None elected

6. Basic Sciences: Ecology, Biology, Physiology, Genetics

Kassim Al-Khatib
khatib@ksu.edu
2004A Throckmorton Hall
Agronomy Department
Kansas State University
Manhattan, KS 66506
(785)532-5155

Kevin Kelly (CE)
kevin@agraserv.com
AGRASERV
2565 Freedom Lane
American Falls, ID 83211
208-317-7638

Recommendations for Board Action:

Combining Projects 1 and 5. Research Project chairs for 2010 discussed changes to project names. The combined discussion sections of Projects 1 and 5 decided in Albuquerque that the two sections should be combined. Outgoing Project 1 chair Michael Moechnig coordinated an online vote in May among Project 1 and 5 participants, and after two voting iterations, Range and Natural Areas was proposed as the new name for the combined sections. Placing second was Range and Wildlands. Other names considered were: Invasive Plants; Invasive Plants in Natural Areas; Invasive and Non-Crop Weeds; and Invasive Plants of Wildlands.

Renaming Project 6. Kassim Al-Khatib, at the request of those attending the Project 6 discussion section in Albuquerque, submitted a proposal to change the name of Project 6 to Weed Biology and Ecology (see attachment below). The current name is 6. Basic Sciences: Ecology, Biology, Physiology, Genetics. Melissa Bridges (outgoing Grad Student Rep) introduced this topic at the March post-meeting of the Board. She suggested later that a half day symposium on Weed Biology and Ecology might be a good way to test the waters for this name change.

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future:

Proposal to change submission of presentations. PowerPoint presentations will be submitted to project chairs one week prior to the meeting **OR** at the registration desk the day prior to presentation. This should mitigate some of the last minute changes to slides (and blatant disregard for deadlines). Files can be dragged and dropped from a presenter's USB memory stick to a designated folder on a laptop(s) at a site or room near the registration desk until 6 PM one day prior to the scheduled time slot. Files should be labeled with assigned paper number, presenter's name, and date of presentation (e.g. 106-Obama-Mar12.ppt). Project Chairs will be responsible for retrieving and testing presentations from the receiving computers prior to the scheduled session.

Suggested wording in Call for Papers: Two options are available for submission of presentations to Project Chairs: 1) presentations can be forwarded directly to the Project Chairs one-week prior to the meeting for preloading; **OR** 2) presenters can directly download their presentation from a USB memory stick to designated laptops near the registration desk until 6 PM one day prior to the day the presentation is scheduled. *Send the presentation to the project chair one week. The deadline for loading at the meeting is 6 pm the day before the presentation.*

Phil Banks suggests a specific time period be designated for loading the presentations. Jesse Richardson thinks that may be cutting it close. Phil Banks agrees, we should probably set the loading for earlier in the day. Phil Stahlman thinks that the deadline a week ahead of the meeting was not workable. Ian Burke notes that the time it takes to load a presentation is minimal. Phil Banks notes that if we use the registration desk as a loading site, we need to coordinate times away from the busiest front desk times. Joe DiTomaso thinks we need to get everybody presenting Tuesday by email and arrange for meeting times for the later sessions. Kassim Al-Khatib thinks we should continue email submissions, but perhaps arrange for a way to load them at the meeting. Phil Stahlman thinks the outward policy should not change. Jill Schroeder suggests that we should advertise the policy repeatedly. Ian Burke suggests that we standardize the name of the file – Ed Peachy notes that that is in the proposal as written. Joe DiTomaso suggests the name include the presentation number.

Education and Regulatory Section Report – Pat Clay

Ideas are still being formulated but the issue of maximum residue limits have come up a number of times. There is a lot of interest in this topic but most (but not all) of the issues that have come

have been insecticide related. Possible speakers could include representation from public and private sector, regulatory, and grower/shipper group.

Pat Clay notes he has been trying to get a topic together, and that he could fit Lee van Wychen in. Phil Banks suggests the herbicide residue applications to water. Jesse Richardson suggests the Maximum Residue Limits(MRL) issue. The issue is the varying levels among different governmental entities. Phil Munger suggests food safety may be a good topic, particularly as related to herbicides. Kassim Al-Khatib suggests that endangered species act as it relates to weed control in sensitive areas may be appropriate. Phil Stahlman suggests Lars Anderson, a co-author on the endangered species paper, is contacted for a presentation.

Member-at-Large (Public Sector) – Kassim Al-Khatib

As Member-at-large, I have been involved in two activities, develop proposal to change the name and direction of the basic Science project, and develop symposium proposal on Kochia for the upcoming WSWS annual meeting in Hawaii.

The basic science project is an important part of WSWS annual meeting. However, over the years, the focus and directions of the basic science project has not been changed. The current focus of the project is herbicide and weed physiology. The project has not taken advantage of the change in current basic weed science status. Weed biology and ecology became central to weed science and today basic weed science involves diverse components, which include weed ecology, genetics, genomics, physiology, biochemistry, and ecology. During 2009 annual meeting, attendees of the basic science session discussed different options to revive the basic science project. The group suggested the basic science project needs to be inclusive and reflect the current status of basic weed science. Attached is the complete proposal for changing the name of the project.

Member-at-Large (Private Sector) – Phil Munger

a. Requested Committee Report from the Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee (e-mailed from the committee chairman to the webmaster)

The Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee is in the process of developing methods to facilitate communication concerning weed resistance to researchers in the West.

b. Requested Director of Science Policy Report

c. Regional Invasive Plant Council (IPC)

The WSWS Board of Directors was approached last Spring by Kelly Uhing and Tim D'Amato, Colorado Department of Agriculture, to determine whether the WSWS would consider scheduling of a Regional Invasive Plant Counsel (IPC) at the spring WSWS Meeting.

The development of a Regional IPC would provide representatives from State IPC Chapters and other organizations in the West, the opportunity to convene, and as a primary goal, discuss research and demonstration results and topics involving invasive plants. The need for a Regional IPC was based in part on reduced county outreach activities, specific to management/control of invasive plants, and the continued need for the transfer of this information.

The question to the WSWS Board of Directors was whether the WSWS would serve as the forum for the Regional IPC.

The concept of coupling the WSWS and the Regional IPC was discussed with WSWS members and non-members. Overall, there was perceived value in this concept, particularly since emphasis of the Regional IPC would address research and demonstration topics in the western United States.

Scheduling proposals for the Regional IPC included (1) the formation of a full-day Section during the WSWS meeting, (2) the combining of the Regional IPC within an already established section(s), or (3) the establishment of a separate meeting/section following the conclusion of the March WSWS meeting.

Estimated participation at the Regional IPC could eventually exceed 100 people; many of whom it was thought would also attend the WSWS meeting. The Regional IPC could be scheduled annually, or as one person suggested, bi-annually.

Other possible venues for the Regional IPC, which were put forward included

1) The North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA), and 2) The Society of Range Management

Since discussion of research topics and findings in the West is a primary objective of the Regional IPC, the WSWS was considered an ideal forum for this meeting.

Phil Munger reviewed the proposal to hold regional Invasive Plant Council meetings within the WSWS meeting, as a full section perhaps. Phil Munger suggests that we make a IPC section, a full section, during the meeting. Hold the meeting every other year. He also suggests the name not include regional, perhaps 'Western'. Kassim Al-Khatib asks if there is any meeting now. Phil Munger replied there is not. Vanelle Peterson asked if the PNW IPC had been approached. Joe DiTomaso asked if there was involvement with the state weed societies. Vanelle Peterson notes that the western weed coordinating committee used to meet with the WSWS. They don't now because of our meeting locations (Hawaii). Jesse Richardson notes that this is a slightly different proposal than what was originally proposed in March. Phil Banks suggests they meet on Monday, register with the WSWS, and then attend the meeting as members. Joe DiTomaso asks if there be overlap with the range management section. Phil Munger didn't have a good read. Vanelle Peterson suggests that perhaps that we have the IPC take over the special symposium, or join the WSWS in planning the Thursday symposium. Kassim Al-Khatib asks in that situation would they register for the whole meeting, or should they register for the symposium only. Phil Stahlman notes that such an arrangement would fit within our current arrangement for the symposium. Vanelle Peterson thinks it will evolve past a partnership.

The board is receptive to the idea of partnering with IPC to hold a symposium at the Spokane meeting, and asks Phil Munger to return to the IPC coordinators to encourage them to prepare a proposal for the spring board meeting.

Student Liaison – Ryan Edwards/Tanya Skurski

Activities during the Year:

Student liaison messages in the WSWS newsletter
Establishment of an online voting program for chair-elect position
Updates to the WSWS student website
Tips and links for paper and poster presentations to be added to the student website
Proposal for the WSWS student scholarship
Proposal for the WSWS student liaisons to become voting members of the board

Recommendations for Board Action:

Proposal for the WSWS student travel scholarship (**requires Board vote**)
Proposal for the WSWS student liaison chair and the website editor to become voting members of the board (**requires Board vote**)

Budget Needs: possible funding for the Student Scholarship

Suggestions for the Future:

Increasing student participation in the “Student Night Out” Program
Continued implementation of the Student Luncheon and Student Reception to replace the Student Breakfasts during future meetings

Marvin Butler asks if the student night out is still working. Ryan Edwards replied that the student night out is still a work in progress. Initially it was a success, but now the students are not supporting the program as well. Tonya Skurski suggests that we advertise the program more. Joe DiTomaso suggests that, as an academic, he is not really interested in taking a student out for a meal – he encourages the student representatives to communicate the need for students to come prepared to discuss topics of interest. Tonya Skurski also suggested that those hosting the dinner also be prepared. Vanelle Peterson suggests making arrangements prior to the meeting. Kassim Al-Khatib suggests that we ask what the students want – his students mainly want to meet with industry personnel. Jesse Richardson asks if this is something we want to continue to conduct this program. Jill Schroeder reminds the Board that Steve Dewey initially intended for there to be small groups, not large groups. Vanelle Peterson adds that it is incumbent upon the hosts to lead the discussion. Kassim Al-Khatib suggests that there be established guidelines. Tonya Skurski suggests that if the industry are not interested in taking students out, then we should not be forcing them. Jesse Richardson suggests that, if there is no one available to take students, no is forced to take the students.

WSSA Representative Report – Tim Miller

The 2010 WSSA annual meeting will be held jointly with the Society of Range Management February 7-11 in Denver. SRM is a large meeting (some 2500 registrants) so Program Chair John Jachetta is working hard to ensure that WSSA will maintain its identity while marketing itself to prospective new members. Sections and Symposia are being selected now and will be confirmed at the BOD summer meeting, which is scheduled for July 25-26 in Denver.

Janet Clark was named Marketing Director for *Invasive Plant Science and Management Journal* at the WSSA BOD meeting in February and the BOD approved her plan in June. Her objectives are two-fold: 1) to increase subscriptions to *IPSM* and, as a result, 2) to increase membership in WSSA. Advertisements and information will be sent to various natural resource publications and agencies/councils/groups concerned with conservation and/or weed management. Journals and informative materials will also be provided for various trainings and meetings to occur during the next twelve months. A particular effort will be made to promote *IPSM* at the joint WSSA/SRM meeting in February.

As mentioned in the March report, “open access” for non-subscribers has been requested by some contributors to our journals. This means that non-members can access the full article on the website rather than just the abstract. The BOD decided to allow open access for those authors, up to 25% of the articles in any particular issue. Cost for open access will be paid by the authors, \$2000 per manuscript for members and \$2500 for non-members. Also, in effort to increase international readership, abstracts of articles submitted to *Weed Technology* will be printed in English and Spanish beginning in 2010. Cost to the authors will be \$17 for the translation, and usual page charges will apply. Depending on results of this trial project, *Weed Science* and *IPSM* may move in this direction in the future.

Allen Press also proposed to the BOD that they identify nonmember authors from *Weed Science*, *Weed Technology*, and *IPSM* and solicit them to join WSSA. A budget was created to provide startup funds and to cover staff time for composing and sending out these email invitations over the course of a year. Success of the program will then be evaluated and a determination made of whether to continue this program.

WSSA is also implementing a new tracking system through Allen Press for the three journals. This submission site is provided by PeerTrack, an online manuscript managing system developed by Aries Systems and used by over 2300 journals. All members should have received information on this system, as well as userids and passwords via email in early July.

Lastly, WSSA website director David Kruger has begun beta testing the WSSA on-line abstract submission site for use at the 2011 WSSA annual meeting in Portland. Jeff Derr’s ad hoc committee has been involved in this testing to insure that the site is operational in time for

abstract submission in fall of 2010. Tony White (WSWS website director) and I are both serving on this committee.

Joe DiTomaso briefly describes the open access policy for journal. Kassim Al-Khatib asked if Tim Miller would enquire why there seems to be fewer manuscripts in Weed Science.

CAST Representative Report – Phil Stahlman

Activities during the Year: The Spring Board meeting was held in Washington D.C. March 18-20, 2009 and the Fall Board meeting will be held in St. Louis, MO October 7-9, 2009. At the Spring Board Meeting, The Board voted to implement several changes to CAST structure and its business model designed to improve financial stability. Some of the more significant and visible changes include: (1) eliminating the face-to-face Spring Board of Directors meeting and conducting business periodically throughout the year via audio/video conference calls and email; (2) future proposals for publications must include external funding source(s); and (3) society membership dues will remain the same but CAST will no longer pay any travel for a society's representative to attend Board of Directors meetings. This change will not affect several societies, including WSWS, which already cover representative travel to Board meetings. Additional structural changes are being considered.

CAST remains very active and has two Special Publications and one Commentary rollouts within the next 3 weeks, and one more scheduled for mid-August. The publications cover “the big 3” of agriculture: animals, plants, and food. The first CAST Special Publication release on July 16 is a collaborative effort of CAST and the National Pork Board to provide a literature review on topics directly related to swine manure management systems, bacterial hazards associated with swine manure, common swine viruses, and the fate and transport of zoonotic parasite pathogens. The majority of microbes contained in swine manure are not pathogenic to humans. The effectiveness of swine manure management systems to prevent environmental contamination with human pathogens is a concern, however, because of potential environmental pathways by which these zoonotic pathogens may be transported to water resources.

The second CAST Special Publication release on July 20, funded by the United Soybean Board, provides a comprehensive review and evaluation of U.S. soybean production systems currently in use with respect to their environmental and economic sustainability. This publication documents the ecological and economic implications of U.S. soybean production in conventional, transgenic (biotech), and organic production systems, contributes to timely development of a scientific foundation for determining the environmental sustainability of various soybean production protocols and offers verified strategies to mitigate environmental impacts in producing soybeans. The lead author of this publication is weed scientist Bryan Young, Southern Illinois University.

The third release on July 27, addresses food-related illness associated with fresh produce. Although contamination can occur at any point in the food production-processing-distribution-preparation chain from field to table, this Commentary reminds consumers of important precautions to decrease their risk from disease-causing microbes on fresh fruits and vegetables.

A CAST Commentary titled "The Endangered Species Act: Its Interface with Agricultural and Natural Ecosystems", authored by Bernalyn McGaughey (Chair), Compliance Services International,

Lars W. J. Anderson, University of California, Davis, and Michael J. Bodenchuck, Texas Wildlife Services, is on track for publication later this year. I serve as the CAST Board Liaison for this publication.

Recommendations for Board Action:

- 1) Consider extending voting privileges to the CAST Representative.
- 2) My three-year term as CAST Rep ends after the Fall Board meeting in October, 2009. Identify the next CAST rep by the time of the Fall Board meeting. CAST Board members are expected to be involved in committee and work group activities. CAST bylaws require that Society representatives be individual members of CAST. Starting in 2010, there will be one face-to-face Board meeting instead of two and travel costs to the Board meeting will be the responsibility of the representative or the Society he/she represents. WSWS already pays reasonable travel costs of the CAST Rep when requested. History: Phil Stahlman (1 term); Rod Lym (2 terms); Steve Miller (1 term); Jack Evans (1 term); Gary Lee (1 term); Lowell Jordan (3+ terms).

Budget Needs: Reasonable travel costs to annual Board Meeting upon request with appropriate receipt.

Jesse Richardson commends Phil Stahlman for his service as CAST representative. Jesse Richardson asks what we as a society should do. Phil Stahlman replies that we need to bring the value of CAST to the membership's attention. The publications that CAST is now working on are very important for the development of policy. There is a move to make it a requirement for each paper to have a cooperate sponsor. Kassim Al-Khatib notes that requirement is only on papers, not commentaries. He notes that CAST is still considered a reliable non-biased source of information. Joe DiTomaso asks if Phil Stahlman would consider a second term. Phil Stahlman admits he is willing to serve a second term, but he would like to avoid denying the experience to other qualified individuals.

Constitution and By-Laws Representative Report – Kai Umeda

Committee Activities during the Year:

Initiating development of operating guide for education committee

Revising local arrangements committee operating guide

Recommendations for Board Action: Initiate search for new Constitution and Operating Guide Representative

Phil Banks suggests that Kai Umeda build one document containing the latest operating guide and send that to Tony White for publication on the website. Dan Ball suggests Kai Umeda be considered for the presidential award of merit for his service.

President's Report – Jesse Richardson

Activities during the Year: I took office as President on March 12, 2009 at the WSWS annual meeting in Albuquerque, NM. All open committee appointments have been filled and are reflected in the list of committees on the WSWS website.

Several communications with the Board of Directors (BOD) have taken place via email. Communications to approve minutes from the March 9, 2009 Board of Directors led to a motion to approve these minutes. Minutes were approved on July 11, 2009. On March 26, 2009, I received an e-mail from Lee Van Wychen, asking WSWS to join other societies in asking EPA to request a rehearing of the Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals decision defining pesticides as pollutants and requiring Clean Water Act permits before they can be applied in or near water sources. I sent an e-mail message to the WSWS BOD, polling them for their opinions. Due to the unanimous response, I signed a letter to the USEPA, dated March 30, 2009. On May 5, 2009, I received an e-mail communication from Lee Van Wychen, asking the WSWS to support the Senate confirmation of Dr. Rajiv Shah as USDA Research Education and Economics Under

Secretary. Our endorsement was added to that of APMS, NCWSS, NEWSS, SWSS and WSSA. Celestine Duncan informed me of her decision to step down as coordinator of the Noxious Weed Short Course. Three different entities subsequently communicated their interest in assuming this function, and e-mailed proposals accordingly. These proposals were e-mailed to board members on July 6, 2009 for consideration at the upcoming BOD meeting in Portland. Michael Moechnig followed up on the Albuquerque combined Weeds of Range and Forest and Wetland and Wildlands discussion session, where it was decided to combine these two projects into one project – by asking the attendees to vote on a new name for the combined projects. The top two vote-getters were fairly close in the polling, so I asked Michael to have a runoff vote, to insure that the vote would have the fairest possible outcome. He sent an e-mail to the attendees on May 11, 2009, and tallied the results on May 18.

On behalf of the WSWS, I signed a contract with the Peppermill Resort Spa Casino in Reno, NV for our 2012 annual meeting, and mailed it to the Peppermill on May 27, 2009.

Jill Schroeder notes that the court ruled a two-year stay of the sixth circuit court of appeals decision on the definition of herbicides as pollutants. www.epa.gov/npdes/agriculture The workgroup is trying to develop a system to allow permitting to be a simple process. Jesse Richardson asks if the EPA interpretation (that drift and terrestrial applications are not covered in this ruling) is satisfactory for weed science. Vanelle Peterson notes that it very much is.

Committee Reports (Board Contact)

Nominations – Don Morishita (Dan Ball)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Don Morishita, Ralph Whitesides, Jill Schroeder, and Dan Ball

Date of Preparation (include year): July 13, 2009

Activities during the Year: Committee met during WSWS Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM to discuss potential nominees for WSWS offices. For 2010-2011 officers, the committee needed to compile a list of nominees for President-elect (private sector), Secretary, Research Section Chair-elect, and Education and Regulatory Section Chair-elect. Several members were considered by the committee for nomination. A compiled list of member names will be maintained and passed on to the next committee chair.

The following members were contacted by the chair and have agreed to be considered as nominees for the following positions.

President-elect:
Peter Forster
Vanelle Peterson

Secretary:
Corey Ransom
Rick Boydston
Research Section Chair-elect
Joe Yenish
Kelly Luff

Education and Regulatory Section Chair-elect:
Curtis Thompson
Tim Prather

Recommendations for Board Action:

The Nominating Committee recognizes that Vanelle Peterson is currently serving as Research Section Chair-elect. However, this committee felt that Vanelle is an excellent candidate for President-elect and that the WSWS Constitution provides for filling her position as Research Chair in the event she is elected. Vanelle is also aware of this and is willing to continue serving as 2010-2011 Research Section Chair or as 2010-2011 President-elect, if elected. Thus, this Committee recommends approval of this slate of candidates for the respective WSWS offices.

Motion: Kassim Al-Khatib moves to accept the nomination committee list of candidates. Marvin Butler seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Jesse Richardson notes that there would be a conflict should Vanelle Peterson be elected. Phil Banks clarifies the constitution, that the president, on the vacation of a position, appoints the replacement.

Proposals for Noxious Weed Short Course (Jill Schroeder)

Jill Schroeder asks that Celestine Duncan give the Board some background on the Noxious Weed Short Course. Celestine Duncan notes that the course has been conducted for 20 years. The BLM and the Forest Service asked for a training course beyond what typically occurred through state extension training. Over the years, incentives were devised to increase enrollment, including providing free slots to NRCS personnel. By the third year, enrollment was 35. By the seventh year, enrollment was filled early and demand was high. For the last 10 years, back to back courses were conducted to fulfill the enrollment demand.

Jill Schroeder asks about the opinions of the clientele. Celestine Duncan notes that weed id and herbicide mode of action and formulation workshops are the highest rated portions. Kassim Al-Khatib asks what percentage of the attendees come from out of state. Phil Banks replies that Celestine Duncan thinks that 40 to 50% come from out of state, mostly from adjacent states. Joe DiTomaso asks if there is a need for a more advanced training course given the number of people that have taken the course. Celestine Duncan notes that there is interest, but not for a computer-based course. She thinks that it would take a separate effort. Joe DiTomaso asks if Celestine Duncan has a recommendation for how to best entertain proposals for advanced and introductory training sessions. Celestine Duncan notes that she tries to not make the material so introductory, but that it is certainly not advanced. She thinks the main course should not be changed. Vanelle Peterson asks about the lower ratings for ecological topics. Celestine Duncan notes that those portions are given as powerpoints, and the attendees often do not like those portions of the training session. Jill Schroeder asks what would be the final date for which a decision needs to be made to have a course in 2010, and what would be the risk of not holding a meeting in 2010 to make a proper decision. Celestine Duncan thinks that a decision must be made by the end of September. She notes that 9 or 10 months is needed to make arrangements for facilities. Celestine Duncan feels that if a year is skipped, we would be ok, given the interest in the course. Kassim Al-Khatib asks how much Melissa Brown was involved. Celestine Duncan notes that she is really involved and made a number of logistical arrangements.

Kassim Al-Khatib asks about the price of the training. Phil Banks notes that Celestine Duncan typically set the training price to break even. Phil Banks also notes that the WSWS website hosts payment for the course. Kassim Al-Khatib asks how much time does Phil Banks spend on the short course. Phil Banks spends very little time, mainly processing refunds. Kassim Al-Khatib asks why does the WSWS need to host it. Phil Banks notes that the hosts needed a way to process payment and to take care of liability issues.

Vanelle Peterson notes that Rita Beard's proposal was only recently received. Rita Beard suggests that an ad-hoc committee be appointed to review the course content and suggest a course of action to the board.

Jill Schroeder asks the small groups (3) to discuss the positives/negatives of each option. Discuss these three options: (1) discontinue short course, (2) review and accept proposal (is there enough information to do so), (3) appoint an ad hoc committee to evaluate the short course as is, or (4) appoint ad hoc committee to consider all options, including thinking out of the box and consider targeting different clientele groups.

The group then broke into three groups to consider the options.

When the group reconvened, Jill Schroeder polled the groups for the positives and negatives.

Option 1:

Positives

- reduced WSWS liability*
- less hassle*

Negatives

- loss of pretie and visablity*
- loss of info to clientele*
- loss of membership and book sales*
- waiting list indicates need*
- represents objectives of wsws*
- represents a positive cash flow for the WSWS*

Option 2:

Positives

- maintain continuity of program (can offer a course in 2010)*
- some proposed new ideas (approaches built on current course)*
- maintain status quo*

Negatives

- proposals were all vague (although no criteria were put forth by the WSWS) and did not include information necessary to review course content, etc.*
- maintain status quo*
- location identity*
- bottom line, there is not enough information to review the proposals*
- to evaluate proposals, need curriculum, budget, speaker and speaker responsibility, an system to evaluate the course over the short term, and an indication of how the group will interact with the WSWS*
- how to maintain the WSWS brand*
- loss of credibility to the WSWS should any of the proposed courses failed*

Option 3:

Positives

- known product for current clientele (federal government)*
- criteria to evaluate short course and proposals*
- have a waiting list for proposed curriculum*

Negatives

- narrowly focuses on federal agency employees*
- introductory course*
- lose a year in the offering of the course*

Option 4:

Positives

- gives more time to analyze clientele needs*
- more time to solicit responses from proposals*
- allow time to solicit additional proposals*
- allow time to develop RFP*
- expand horizon beyond federal agency clientele*
- increased income opportunities*
- more flexibility to train at different sites, on different issues, at different levels*

Negatives

- losing a year*
- loss of clientele*
- risk losing course identity*
- rebuild credibility with current clientele*
- less focused agenda if we cater to multiple groups*

The board tabled the discussion until the discussion of New Business, Saturday.

Finance – Leo Charvat (Tim Miller)

Activities during the Year: New flexibility for our financial advisor has proven to be great asset as he has been able to protect the assets of the society effectively and gain in a stagnant economy.

Currently our asset balance as of June 30th: Money Market - \$21,901.40, RBC Funds - \$183,887.00, Certificate of Deposit - \$43,356.51, Checking- \$23,775.09

We have had a YTD gain in our RBC funds of 5.22% thru June 2009 vs. DJIA -2.0%, and S&P 500 of +3.17%. Current Asset Allocation is 48.3% cash, 47.9% bonds and 3.8% natural gas.

Stan Cooper, RBC, comments and current take of the market and plan. Stan followed the market and made changes to protect our dollars. On March 27th, with the DJIA at 7725 he moved back into several stock index funds. Then, on June 15th, with the DJIA at 8612, it appeared that the market was tipping over and he moved everything out of stocks, back into cash, except a small piece in natural gas. As of this morning the DJIA is down 52 points to 8130. The various technical reports that he uses suggest that we could bottom this time around between 7500 and 7800. When we get there, he will want to shift back into stock index funds for the next ride up. This ride could go to 9100- 10300 by September, then be volatile, at this point he will move back into cash. The projection for the market is dangerous after the high and in the 4 quarter, the most volatile time, the market indicators point to a downward tipping in December to January and a severe worldwide decline for 9 months which could bottom out at 2000 to 4000 before recovery in 2010

Site Selection – Steve Wright (Jesse Richardson)

Activities during the Year: Chairperson Bill Kral, John Fenderson, Amber Grove, and Steve Wright met in Albuquerque at the WSWS meeting to discuss possible sites for 2012. There were 13 proposals that were received and considered for the 2012 meeting. The cities included Denver, Westminster, Loveland, Salt Lake City, Sacramento, and Reno/Sparks/Lake Tahoe area.

The committee and executive board agreed to go the Reno because of meeting and travel advantages there. Due to concerns about typical smoking in the casinos we agreed that unless we found a suitable site not to go there. The Peppermill Resort was selected as our first choice in Reno. The Resort is downtown and will be easy to walk around. They have a facility that will work well with our conference and the conference facility has a good air filtration system that should alleviate the smoking issue. The contact person is Paula Kent, Sales Manager (pkent@peppermillreno.com) 775-689-7349.

Recommendations for Board Action:

To recommend the Peppermill Resort in Reno for 2012. Recommend that the President sign the acceptable contract and return it to the Treasurer-Business Manager. I believe this was already approved by the executive board. Recommend that the site selection committee find a suitable location for 2013.

Phil Banks notes that for 2013 we need to consider the southern portion of our region.

Awards – Frank Young (Jesse Richardson)

Activities during the Year: We are currently sending the nomination requests to WSWS members. Thus far we have one complete nomination packet for the Outstanding Weed Scientist-Public Sector. We have no other nominations either for the above award or for the other four awards.

Dan Ball notes that the pipeline for nominees for honorary members and fellows is empty.

Local Arrangements – Phil Motooka (Joe DiTomaso)

No Hotel Facilities Tour (Hawaii Meeting)

Phil Banks notes that Motooka has already visited the location several times, and James Leary is very energetic.

Publications – Joe DiTomaso

Proceedings - Joan Campbell

Research Progress Reports - Traci Rauch

Committee Activities during the Year: Proceedings 2009 are ready except for inclusion of Executive Board, Business, and post-annual meeting approved minutes. Omnipress will again print the Proceedings once we receive the minutes.

The Publications committee met in March and the following change to the constitution is requested.

Constitution change:

Current:

Section 4. The Publications Committee shall consist of the President-Elect (Chairperson), Proceedings Editor, Research Reports Editor, Newsletter Editor, and Website Editor

Suggested:

Section 4. The Publications Committee shall consist of the Proceedings Editor, Research Reports Editor, Newsletter Editor, and Website Editor and others as deemed necessary by the board. The chair shall be elected annually by members of the committee.

Recommendations for Board Action: Approve the constitution change for member vote.

Budget Needs: Expected printing cost should be about \$3200, similar to last year (printing estimate relies on final page count).

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: The Publications committee is working on finalized operating guidelines.

Vanelle Peterson what the justification is for a separate chair other than the president-elect.

Phil Banks notes that the change in the constitution would be back to the previous version.

Joe DiTomaso notes that by having a separate chair it provides more continuity. Dan Ball notes that the president-elect is well-served to coordinate among the publication editors. Phil

Banks notes that the proceedings are seldom printed according to the operating guide. They are late for a variety of reasons, but mainly because the board minutes are late in their preparation. Tony White and Phil Banks suggests printing the Proceedings without the minutes, as the minutes are maintained on the website.

Tony White asks if it makes sense to be a board member and a committee member. Kassim Al-Khatib notes that a change in Tony White's positions will have to change the bylaws.

Motion: Dan Ball makes a motion to reject the proceeding editor's changes to the operating guide. Kassim Al-Khatib seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Motion: Joe DiTomaso moves that all board minutes and business meeting minutes be provided on the website and not in the proceedings. Kassim Al-Khatib seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Website - Tony White

Committee Activities during the Year:

Online Stats Integrated. In April 2008, an online analytics application through Google was established to help track website statistics. These stats can help us better understand where people are coming from, what they are looking for, and other information about WSWs website users. This is the essential feedback we can use to continuously improve the WSWs website. A few key stats from July 13, 2008 until July 13, 2009 include:

9,988 visitors came to the website from 95 countries; 52% were new visits

Website traffic sources come from direct traffic, referral sites, or search engines (nearly 1/3 equal from each).

With 21,454 page views, the meeting pages were at the top of the list with 13% of all views. Personal account pages and the online store were nearly tied for second (4%).

I have a considerable amount of online stats data to share and would be happy to provide this if anyone would like to see it.

Online Payment System. Phil Banks and I are still working on administrative changes to improve the behind-the-scenes functionality of the payment pages. While some of this may affect users (in a positive way), many of the upgrades will streamline payment management and meeting participant registration. I welcome other upgrade suggestions you may have regarding the payment system.

Student Site Updates. In February 2009, the student site was launched. This site contains a variety of information relevant to the student membership. The site was updated recently with information provided by Ryan Edwards. Additional updates and changes are in store in the future.

Website Activity In Progress.

The Board of Directors report submission site was not ready in time for the 2009 summer board meeting. This site should be ready for the annual meeting report timeframe. This site will allow all committee members and officers to go to login to the website and access a series of pages where they can submit their report similar to how we currently submit information for titles and abstracts. This system will reduce confusion of sending and posting a variety of word processing file types or PDF files.

Thanks to Phil Banks and his staff, many of the proceedings from 1938 to the present time have been scanned and posted to the WSWs website. Currently, not all available proceedings copies have been scanned. However, we will work over the next year to get them all posted to the site.

- Continue to update a variety of pages for general content. The online store and member account pages will be updated soon.
- Working to improve navigation on the website to make things easier to find. I am open to suggestions on how to make this better.

Recommendations for Board Action: Discuss the current status of the proceedings and research reports. Should these be strictly online? I am just trying to visualize the long term utility of the WSWS website in order to prepare for possible site enhancements that may be necessary to support future website additions.

Budget Needs: Other than the board request noted above, there are no additional website budget needs at this time.

Tony White notes that the sales of the proceedings and the research progress reports continue to decline. He asks if we should convert to an electronic format. The board indicated that they were not interested in making a switch largely because they are maintained in library archives.

Poster Committee – Robert Finley (Joe DiTomaso)

Posters were stored at University of Arizona Maricopa AG Center and transported to Las Cruces, NM by Bill McCloskey. Amber Groves and Garrett Moser then transported supplies to Albuquerque, NM. There are a total of 100 new poster boards plus the 50 easels. We will set up a total of 26 boards and easels in the Sandia VI-VIII rooms for the two poster sessions. Additional boards and easels will be set up in the Ocotillo Room I for the Jointed Goatgrass Symposium on Wednesday afternoon following lunch. Following the meeting, boards and easels will be transported back to Las Cruces, NM for storage.

Recommendations for Board Action: The board should discuss plans for poster and easel arrangements at the 2010 meeting in HI. The local arrangements committee for HI should check into the cost and availability of renting easels and boards -Vs- shipping. I believe at the last meeting in Kauai, we shipped the easels and someone local purchased boards, which was cheaper than shipping.

Budget Needs: Need to plan for shipping and/or rental cost for the 2010 meeting.

Suggestions for the Future: Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: No changes to the operating guide are needed at this time.

Phil Banks notes that the last time we conducted a meeting in Hawaii, we shipped the easels and purchased new posterboards.

Student Paper Judging – Andy Hulting (Joe DiTomaso)

Activities during the Year: A successful paper contest (with 4 separate divisions) was held during the 2009 meeting and preparations are underway for the 2010 meeting. The committee will provide a paragraph to encourage participation in the paper contest and provide information and guidelines for the paper contest in the upcoming Call for Papers.

Hulting will solicit the WSWS membership for volunteer contest judges in early January 2010 with the goal of having at least 5 judges for each division of the contest.

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs: The only budget needs of this committee are to provide monetary awards for the student contest winners. Total award numbers and dollar amounts are based on the number of students participating in the contest per committee rules. If we have a similar number of student entries compared to the previous two annual meetings, total budget needs should be in the \$700-

800 range. If student participation is down, given the location of the meeting and travel restrictions, budget needs will likely be closer to the \$500 range.

Suggestions for the Future: Because past contests have gone smoothly the committee suggests keeping changes to a minimum.

Sustaining Membership – Jeff Koscelny (Dan Ball)

Activities during the Year:

To date, the committee activity has been limited. Beginning this month, the committee activities will include:

- Refine list of past and new potential Sustaining Members.
- In August, chair will mail or email a request to current sustaining members to continue their support for the WSWS and ask for payment of dues. An invoice to be included.
- Also in August, chair will solicit potential new members by letter or email and include an application for sustaining membership.
- In late September, chair will follow-up with any sustaining member or potential new member.
- By December 1, chair will submit to the program chair an alphabetical list of paid sustaining members for publication in the Program.

Recommendations for Board Action:

- Continue the policy that only sustaining members may participate in the “What’s New In Industry” presentation session.
- During summer board meeting, review list of sustaining members and solicit board members for potential new sustaining members.

Dan Ball notes that Jeff Koscelny would like ideas on new Sustaining Members. Vanelle Peterson suggests that Motooka might have an idea for supporters in Hawaii. Phil Banks mentions that sustaining members are entitled to a display at the meeting. Vanelle Peterson suggests that there are some Dow AgroSciences Sales personnel that might have ideas for opportunities.

Fellows and Honorary Members – Bill Cobb (Dan Ball)

Activities during the Year: Submitted a call for nominations for Fellows and Honorary Members for publication in the April WSWS Newsletter. No responses, to date.

Suggestions for the Future: We need to check with past-chair, Phil Stahlman to see if there are any carryover nominations from past years.

Dan Ball expressed concern that there are no holdover fellow or honorary member candidates. Phil Stahlman notes that a list was developed when a similar problem developed in the past. He suggests that we develop a new list.

Necrology – Corey Ransom (Ian Burke)

Activities during the Year: Life sketches of three deceased WSWS members were presented at the annual meeting. The committee has not received information of additional WSWS members who have passed away since the annual meeting.

Public Relations – Brad Hanson (Pat Clay)

Activities during the Year:

A post (2009) meeting press release dated May 14, 2009 (see attachment) was distributed via email to:

- o AgOnline (Successful Farming)
- o Agronomy Society of America
- o AgWeb.com (Farm Journal)
- o American Society of Horticultural Science

- o American Vegetable Grower
- o Associated Press
- o California Farm Bureau Federation
- o Capital Press
- o Farm Progress Publishing (California Farmer; Western Farmer – Stockman)
- o Metrofarm radio
- o Southwest Trees and Turf
- o Turf Magazine
- o Weed Science Society of America
- o Western Farm Press
- o Western Farm, Ranch, and Dairy Magazine
- o Wildland Weeds
- o Yuma Daily Sun
- o Progressive Farmer

Continuing education credits to meet state licensing requirements were obtained for the 2009 meeting from: Oregon, Montana, Washington, California, Kansas, Oklahoma, Utah, Idaho, Wyoming, Nevada, Arizona, and New Mexico. Credits for the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) and Society for Range Management certification programs were also obtained.

No credits were obtained from Colorado and Nebraska for the 2009 meeting.

Brad Hanson stepped down as chair and Erin Taylor from the University of Arizona accepted the position.

Vanelle Peterson asks how we can better facilitate pesticide credits from Oregon. She notes that the President had to make a phone call to facilitate the credits. Dan Ball volunteers to explore facilitating a process to make credits from Oregon more easily obtainable.

Herbicide Resistant Plants – Joel Felix (Phil Munger)

Activities during the Year: None so far. However, preparations are underway to develop a viable method for communicating with researchers in the western states on the current status of weed resistance to herbicides in their respective states.

Legislative – Pam Hutchinson (Tim Miller)

Activities during the Year: The House and Senate are now quickly moving legislation forward. It's been said that from Climate Change to Food Safety, the landscape is about to shift dramatically. Various commodity groups are emphasizing that a one size fits all approach is not going to work. Most feel that they have good support from their Congressional delegation in supporting this view. On the State level, the turmoil and fallout from many State budget cut backs continues. In Idaho, for instance, there will be an impact on the Extension Service and the Research Stations, but the extent is not yet clear.

Conference call with Lee Van Wychen, Science Policy Director, National and Regional Weed Science Societies and Science Policy/Legislature Committee members from the WSSA and regional weed science societies was held May 29, 2009. The agenda was as follows:

1. Current situation with Clean Water Act NPDES permits and feedback from Florida-EPA trip with Getsinger & Schroeder
2. NIWAW Steering committee recommendations for 2010
3. Ag research funding issues- new USDA Undersecretary, flat line 2010 ag budget despite Administration promise for increased science research

Chairperson Hutchinson was unable to participate in the conference call due to field research matters.

On May 29, 2009, this Email was sent by Lee Van Wychen to the Science Policy/Legislature Committee members from the WSSA and regional weed science societies:

EPA Moves To Integrate Water, Pesticide Offices' Protective Criteria

EPA is developing a series of white papers on how to harmonize methods used by the Office of Water (OW) and the Office of Pesticides Programs (OPP) to assess pesticides' water quality risks, addressing what some stakeholders say is a gap between the requirements for pesticide producers and wastewater dischargers.

EPA distributed [a scoping document](#), *Towards a Common Effects Characterization Methodology*, to stakeholders April 21, outlining its plans to complete a series of white papers by the fall, and asking for feedback from stakeholders.

At issue is an inherent difference between the way the Clean Water Act (CWA) and the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) approach pesticide risk.

The agency "has different minimum data requirements used to support effects assessment activities by [OW] under the CWA and by the [OPP] under FIFRA," the EPA scoping document says. "At issue is the relationship between the effects characterization methods used for pesticide registration actions under FIFRA versus those used to derive water quality criteria used by States and Tribes when adopting water quality standards under the CWA," according to the document.

An environmental technical consultant following the issue says that often the values used in pesticide registrations are "less protective than the water quality criteria that were being generated by" OW. Under the CWA, discharges must not harm species most sensitive to a particular contaminant, but under FIFRA there are no mandates to choose a particular species on which to test toxicity.

That gap is what is at issue in the attempt to sync the OW and OPP processes, as wastewater treatment plants and municipalities with permits for urban stormwater runoff must meet water quality standards that are lower than what is required for the pesticide registration. "That left municipalities, in part the wastewater treatment plants . . . kind of holding the bag for that difference," the technical consultant says. Stakeholders consequently "started requesting in the mid-1990s that EPA examine [its] processes and make them sympathetic with each other." Creating and implementing limits for pesticides in waterbodies through the CWA's total maximum daily load process can cost into the millions of dollars so it is better, the source says, for EPA to establish pesticide registrations that have similar water quality considerations as those to which CWA permit holders will be held.

But the source says there is some concern that the scoping document does not specifically mention EPA's Office of Wastewater Management (OWM), the part of OW that develops the list of species to be used for toxicity testing under the CWA. The source says many in industry are hoping OWM will be directly involved in the process.

The effort comes as part of new guidelines EPA water and pesticide officials are developing to allow states to set enforceable water quality standards for various chemicals before the agency sets national parameters outlining the chemicals' effects on aquatic life and human health. The new approach is born from the water office's limited capacity to set water quality criteria, especially for emerging contaminants such as pharmaceuticals and personal care products, and would be designed to give states more flexibility and be less resource intensive, EPA officials say.

EPA officials have said that a mutually agreed upon deviation methodology or calculation procedures for pesticides effects assessments or creating water quality criteria and standards should be available for contaminants other than pesticides.

As a first step, EPA plans to develop a series of white papers, including an exploration of the application of safety or application factors; generation of a dataset using synthetic data; analysis of methods for bridging data; and a hybrid of the approaches, the scoping document says.

After developing the white papers, the agency plans to present them to stakeholders for scientific input and modification, the document says, leading to a “subset of effects characterization methods that appear most promising for further refinement and validation.” EPA plans review of the methods by the Science Advisory Board and the FIFRA Scientific Advisory Panel, which the agency hopes will result in a common method of determining aquatic water quality criteria (AWQC), determining ecological risks for OPP, “and for interpreting pesticide monitoring data for which AWQC are not yet available.”

On June 04, 2009, this Email was sent by Lee Van Wychen to the Science Policy/Legislature Committee members from the WSSA and regional weed science societies:

Dear Science Policy Committee,

If there was ever a time to advocate, I believe it is now. A Congressional fix to the pesticide exemption rule for FIFRA under the Clean Water Act (CWA) is within reach.

If you made it through the 12 page report that Jill, Kurt and I sent yesterday, you would have come across the “Related Issue” section regarding the scope of the CWA on page 11/12 (sic See Below).

Feingold’s Senate bill, S.787 is expected to be marked up in committee next week (IMHO, this is bad). However, if Baucus gets enough support for his amendment to S.787 that would exempt pesticides applied according to FIFRA (which overrules the Sixth Circuit Court decision), this would be good.

The WSSA has put way too much science into FIFRA to have it superseded by biased judges in San Francisco (and Cincinnati).

Please read the related story below and then “reply to all” to the following 2 questions:

1. Should the National and Regional Weed Science Societies support the Baucus amendment?
2. If yes, would your society and its members be willing email/write your elected officials?

Thanks for your prompt attention to this,

Lee

Aforementioned “Related Issue” section regarding the scope of the Clean Water Act (CWA): To Win Farm Support For Clean Water Act Bill, Baucus Exempts Chemical Spraying

In an apparent bid to win support from agriculture groups for legislation clarifying the scope of the (CWA), Sen. Max Baucus (D-MT) is offering to exempt pesticide spraying activities from water act permit requirements imposed by a controversial recent appellate ruling.

Baucus has also proposed to exempt hunting and shooting activities from the water law to address National Rifle Association (NRA) concerns that recent court rulings have defined bullets as a “point source” if they are discharged into waters.

But the pesticide exemption is facing opposition from environmentalists and has not yet won support from other Democrats on the Senate environment committee. “Serious discussions are ongoing, but no final resolution has been made,” a source close to the situation says.

It is also not clear whether the Obama administration will back Baucus’ proposal. The Department of Justice (DOJ), on behalf of EPA, in a May 27 brief reiterated its call for the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit to stay for two years its January ruling in National Cotton Council v. EPA requiring permits for spraying activities, a move intended to give the agency time to craft a permit program. And in a June 3 brief DOJ urged the 6th Circuit to deny an industry request for an en banc rehearing, saying “EPA believes it can conform its conduct to comply with the panel’s decision.”

Baucus’ proposal, an amendment to a Democratic bill seeking to clarify the scope of the Clean Water Act, S. 787, would add pesticide application to a list of activities exempt from the discharge standards in section 402 of the water law, if applied in accordance with federal pesticide regulations.

Baucus' office is floating the amendment in hopes of winning support to include it in the bill, introduced by Sen. Russ Feingold (D-WI). It is the latest proposal Baucus has floated to amend the Feingold bill. Last month he floated a substitute to the Feingold bill that hewed closely to a proposal from states that codified EPA's regulatory definition of jurisdictional waters, making most waters subject to federal oversight, not just "navigable waters" as is the case under current law. Environmentalists insist on dropping jurisdiction based on navigability as a way to overcome current and possible future Supreme Court limitations on jurisdiction, but industry officials insist on maintaining it.

The Baucus plan also codified regulatory exemptions for prior converted croplands and waste treatment systems that environmentalists have long opposed codifying. His latest proposal retains those two exemptions while also adding new exemptions for shooting activities and pesticide spraying. If the chemicals are applied "in accordance with the instructions on the label" under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide & Rodenticide Act, the spraying "shall be considered to have met all requirements for a permit under this section," the new amendment says.

The new exemption is a response to the Cotton Council ruling, which says pesticide spraying on or near waters constitutes a "point source," requiring a water act permit. Industry officials say that the ruling has far reaching implications for pesticide applications and other activities previously considered as nonpoint source activities that until now have been exempted from permit requirements under the CWA.

EPA in its recent briefs says that the agency may have to issue as many as 365,000 new permits because of the ruling.

The case played a key role in the agriculture industry's opposition to Feingold's bill, which they say could expand the reach of the CWA to more waters than were originally regulated under the water act before two Supreme Court rulings.

Feingold's bill seeks to clarify the CWA in the wake of two cases -- Solid Waste Agency of Northern Cook County (SWANCC) v. Army Corps of Engineers and Rapanos, et ux., et al. v. United States -- which critics say have narrowed the law's jurisdiction over isolated wetlands, intermittent streams and other marginal waters. In SWANCC, the court limited the basis for asserting jurisdiction over solely intrastate waters, while in Rapanos, the court provided two competing tests for determining jurisdiction.

Baucus and other moderates have been seeking to pick up support from some in the agriculture community for Feingold's bill, according to industry sources. The latest offer could boost prospects for the bill's passage. For instance, one source says the wheat sector may endorse the Baucus amendment.

But despite Baucus' latest effort, most industry groups, including many agricultural organizations, continue to take a hard line against the legislation because it would remove "navigable" from its definition of "waters," which industry critics say would broaden the reach of the CWA far beyond the law's original reach.

Sources following the negotiations say the changes Baucus made to the bill are also in part intended to appease concerns from the NRA stemming from several federal court decisions defining bullets as a "point source" if they are discharged into waters. An NRA source says the organization has voiced its concerns to Senate environment committee members that the bill could drastically expand permitting requirements.

"The [EPA] administrator shall neither require a permit under this section, nor directly or indirectly require any state to require a permit, for any discharge from a firearm during hunting or competitive or recreational shooting," the amendment says, adding the language to section 402(l) of the CWA, which includes other exemptions for agriculture, oil and gas related stormwater runoff. The amendment also includes exemptions for hunting and recreational shooting under sections 404 and 502 of the CWA.

Baucus' bid may also underscore a desire by moderates on the environment committee to obtain additional political cover in order to support Feingold's bill, even after the Obama

Administration recently issued statement of principles calling on Congress to “broadly protect” waters under the CWA.

Environmentalists and others said the Obama administration’s recent release of principles calling for legislation to expand the reach of the water act could provide cover for moderates like Baucus and Sen. Amy Klobuchar (D-MN).

While the principles stop short of endorsing a particular bill, they go some way towards heeding environmentalists’ calls for the incoming Obama administration to endorse S. 787. The principles also echo recent statements from Jackson who called for a legislative fix to expand the law’s scope.

The statement does, however, endorse calls by states and industry groups to preserve existing regulatory exemptions, such as those for prior converted croplands.

Republicans and industry groups continue to call for further hearings on legislation to define the scope of the CWA, arguing that new members of the environment committee deserve more information on the bill. Both industry groups and EPA held briefings for Senate staff on the issue this week. -- Jonathan Strong

Many committee members replied to Lee’s email (including myself) with confirmation that the National and Regional Weed Science Societies should support the Baucus amendment and that their society and its members would/might be willing email/write their elected officials. However, some had questions about the amendment such as: whether the language of the Bill does or does not specifically exempt pesticide applications or possibly says something like "meets all the requirements of the Clean Water Act;” how the lack of an "exemption" keeps the applications under the auspices of the CWA and still would expose applicators to citizen suits; and that the basic bill may not be desirable in that it substantially expands the jurisdiction of the CWA and makes any water impoundment or mudflat waters of the United States.

On June 29, 2009, this Email was sent from Lee Van Wychen to the Science Policy/Legislature Committee members from the WSSA and regional weed science societies:

Thanks for your time and effort on this issue. I want to make sure that we are all in general agreement on any Congressional fix that would exempt pesticides applied in accordance with FIFRA from the regulatory reach of CWA NPDES permits. Given the additional info that has (sic been) brought forth, let’s sit tight for a bit until we have some more answers.

I have included the section of the federal US Code (33 U.S.C. 1342(l)) dealing with NPDES permits and how it would read with the Baucus amendments (**RED**).

Sec. 1342. National pollutant discharge elimination system

(l) Limitation on permit requirement (existing law)

(1) Agricultural return flows

The Administrator shall not require a permit under this section for discharges composed entirely of return flows from irrigated agriculture, nor shall the Administrator directly or indirectly, require any State to require such a permit.

(2) Stormwater runoff from oil, gas, and mining operations

The Administrator shall not require a permit under this section, nor shall the Administrator directly or indirectly require any State to require a permit, for discharges of stormwater runoff from mining operations or oil and gas exploration, production, processing, or treatment operations or transmission facilities, composed entirely of flows which are from conveyances or systems of conveyances (including but not limited to pipes, conduits, ditches, and channels) used for collecting and conveying precipitation runoff and which are not contaminated by contact with, or do not come into contact with, any overburden, raw material, intermediate products, finished product, byproduct, or waste products located on the site of such operations.

(3) APPLICATION OF PESTICIDES (Baucus)

For the purposes of this Act, a person that applies a pesticide or herbicide in accordance with the instructions on the label of the pesticide or herbicide and the Federal Insecticide,

Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (7 U.S.C. 136 et seq.) shall be considered to have met all requirements for a permit under this section with respect to the pesticide or herbicide.

(4) DISCHARGES FROM FIREARMS (Baucus)

The Administrator shall neither require a permit under this section, nor directly or indirectly require any State to require a permit, for any discharge from a firearm during hunting or competitive or recreational shooting.

Recommendations for Board Action: Please read the Emails from Lee Van Wychen included in this report pertaining to the Baucus amendment and if you feel the need, provide commentary/feedback to Chairperson Hutchinson via email phutch@uidaho.edu

Suggestions for the Future: Request carrying Hutchinson as Chairperson for an additional year to provide continuity to this committee since committee member resignations have recently occurred and Hutchinson was not due to become Chair until next year anyway.

Vanelle Peterson notes that the committee needs be strengthened. Phil Banks suggests Dana Coggin.

Education – Pat Clay

Activities during the Year: Due the transition of this committee from Ad-hoc to standing committee and also to be consistent with the new SOP for this committee, the committee discussed opportunities to broaden committee activities to serve WSWS members and weed science in general. Therefore, the committee recommends:

- With the rotation described in the new SOP and to revitalize the committee, new members should be sought; new members should include individuals interested in teaching and outreach, and also should include members from industry, consultant, and student. Current members have served for about eight years and are willing to continue to serve, if needed to provide historical perspective and continuity. However, new members are needed to inject new ideas and directions.
- The contact person for the standing committee now is the Education Section Chair who needs to harmonize and improve the interface among those working on Educational initiatives in the WSWS.
- Although the Short Course is now a component of this standing committee, its coordinator should still present a separate report because the Short Course is run independently. We recommend that the operating guide be changed to indicate that “the coordinator of the Noxious Weed Short Course will report directly to the President”.

The Distance Education has met its long-term goal of developing web-based Weed Science educational materials for multiple type learners. Many lessons have been developed and we thank Tony White for keeping the links up to date (see WSWS web site - <http://www.wsweedscience.org/Lessons/lessons.asp>). Additional lessons are being prepared for consideration of publication. We continue to work with Deana Namuth to upgrade the lessons and correct any glitches.

Using these materials, Bill Dyer, Scott Nissen, and Tracy Sterling have offered a shared, graduate-level Herbicide Physiology course (PSPP 546 Herbicide Physiology) via Distance Education from Montana State University in Fall 2006, 2007, and 2008 (<http://btc.montana.edu/courses/asp/descrip3.aspx?TheID=104>).

Enrollment for this entirely on-line course has been from across the U.S. and Canada:

Fall 2006, 9 students from AZ, CO, MO, MT, OR, and Saskatchewan; fall 2007, 8 students from CA, CO, IA, MT, and VA; fall 2008, 15 students from CO, FL, ID, MT, NE, and OR. Each fall, one to two of the enrolled students dropped the course because of time constraints with full-time jobs or they did not feel academically prepared for the course.

Students came from multiple backgrounds – those seeking M.Sc. and Ph.D. degrees as well as several from industry and consulting businesses and one professor. This diversity really added to the quality of the discussions and insights shared.

Each week targets a specific MOA, using the UNL lessons as a cornerstone for fundamental knowledge with weekly on-line quizzes as well as reading of a journal article for which they answer several questions in essay format. Additional readings are provided as ‘backgrounders’, consisting of seminal literature for review and discussion. Asynchronous discussion is a core of the course, for which students are graded on participation and content. Student reviews have been very favorable with an emphasis on knowledge gained, clarity of expectations, and in-depth coverage of topics, but there was concern about too much workload; therefore, this fall’s course will have fewer homeworks and discussion postings assigned. This fall we plan to present additional ‘real-world’ scenarios as assignments where students can apply the theory they are learning (i.e. CSI MOA) in their weekly homework.

This 14-week course is offered every Fall semester. The course will be advertised in WSSA and WSWS newsletters for the 2009 offering.

Suggestions for the Future:

The committee will focus in the coming year:

- Consider planning a Teaching Symposium
- Continue Mode of Action Distance course (CSU, MSU)
- Consider developing a new course to target weed managers
 - CA has an on-line training
 - ASA has a Continuing Education course

Kassim Al-Khatib notes that this committee needs some revision, perhaps with some younger members.

Director of Science Policy – Lee Van Wychen (Phil Munger)

WSWS Summer Board Meeting, July 17-18, 2009. Portland, OR

EPA- Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits (NPDES)

I have spent a lot of time this spring working to ensure that FIFRA remains the preeminent federal law for pesticide regulation that protects both people and the environment. The extensive research and science-based risk assessments required by FIFRA should not be jeopardized by politics (and it is). All the details are in the report titled “EPA Florida Aquatic Pesticide Tour” on the [WSSA website](#). Many thanks to Jill Schroeder (WSSA-EPA liaison) and Kurt Getsinger (APMS, Army Corp of Engineers) for their excellent work on this issue.

The CWA will have a huge impact on our discipline if CWA NPDES permits are required for pesticide applications “in, over, or near water”. **The citizen lawsuit provisions in the CWA (but not in FIFRA) will be an incredible economic burden on everyone.** In January, the 6th Circuit Court ruled that EPA’s final rule was not a reasonable interpretation of the CWA since the terms “chemical waste” and “biological materials” unambiguously include aquatic pesticides. The

WSSA along with many other stakeholders (including USDA Secretary Vilsack, and House and Senate Ag Committees) asked EPA to petition for a full court rehearing. In April, Industry asked for the full 6th Circuit Court to rehear the case, but EPA only asked for 2 year stay to implement an NPDES permit system for pesticides applied “in, over, or near water”.

There are currently 3 major avenues being pursued to **ensure that pesticides applied in accordance with FIFRA are exempt from any CWA regulation:**

- **Judiciary Branch-** Industry (Crop Life, National Cotton Council, etc..) appeal in full 6th Circuit Court is still pending. Supreme Court?
- **Legislative Branch-** Congress could provide exemption of pesticides in compliance with FIFRA from CWA. The Baucus amendment to Senate bill 787 (which broadens the scope of CWA jurisdiction) did not do that.
- **Executive Branch-** EPA has until **April 9, 2011** to implement an NPDES permit system for all pesticides applied in, over, or near water.

EPA plans to release a draft version of an **NPDES general permit** for public comment by April 2010. States will be required to do their own permitting, but EPA would not object to “plagiarism” of its general permit. State general permits must be approved by EPA prior to April 9, 2011.

An NPDES General Permit will allow an applicator to perform certain activities (mosquito control, aquatic weed control, etc.). Applicators would need to **file a ‘notice of intent’ (NOI)** that would be good for 5 years (still discussing timeframe). The NOI is intended to be a simple 1 to 2 or 3 page form with name, address, application type, discharge area, etc. Applications should be able to be made within 2 days to a week of NOI submission. EPA does not believe that individual NOI’s should be made available to the public, although general permits could be made public.

National Invasive SPECIES Awareness Week (NISAW): January 10-14, 2010

The WSSA will lead the NISAW-organizing effort, assisted by the Center for Invasive Plant Management. Janet Clark and myself will serve as co-chairs. This is the next step for NIWAW and will be the first national ALL TAXA awareness effort in Washington D.C. The expanded coalition will focus on increased resources for invasive species management. Please note the CHANGE in dates from late February to mid January!

Current NISAW Planning Committee members:

Lee VanWychen, Chair – Weed Science Society of America
Janet Clark, Coordinator – Center for Invasive Plant Management, Montana State University
Rita Beard – National Park Service
George Beck – Colorado State University / Health Habitats Coalition
Peg Brady – National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration / National Invasive Species Council / ANSTF
Kurt Getsinger – US Army Corps of Engineers
John Jachetta – Weed Science Society of America / Dow AgroSciences
John Madsen – GeoResources Institute, Mississippi State University
Bob Parsons – North American Weed Management Association
Vanelle Peterson – Dow AgroSciences
Jamie Reaser – Pet Industry Joint Advisory Council
Beth Strobridge – National Governors Association
(To be decided) – Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies

APHIS/EPA Grant for Herbicide Resistance White Paper

Bill Vencill, Carol Mallory-Smith, Bill Johnson, Nilda Burgos, Ted Webster, and Bob Nichols have been working on a “state of the science” review paper on the development of herbicide-resistant weeds and weed shifts that are linked to the introduction of GE herbicide-tolerant corn, soybeans, wheat, rice, cotton, alfalfa and switchgrass. They will assemble a final draft at the WSSA summer board meeting on July 24-25, 2009 with the goal of final “open access” publication in *Weed Science* by late October 2009.

Doubling Campaign for USDA-AFRI grants

I have been working with several research coalitions (National C-FAR, CoFarm) to double the AFRI grants (old NRI) over the next 5 years. Funding was \$193M in FY 2008 and \$201M in FY 2009. Our ag research coalition group is pushing Congress for \$250 million in FY 2010 (exclusive of any Section 406 Program funding), with a goal of \$500 million in total funding by FY 2015. We were very happy with the Senate ag appropriations bill passed last week that funds AFRI at **\$295 million in FY 2010**. The House ag approps bill funds AFRI at \$213 million. The difference will be worked out in conference.

USDA-ARS National Program Leader for Weed Science

Three candidates were interviewed in January 2009. In March, ARS said the candidate pool was “not diverse enough”, and subsequently re-posted the position. Applications were due May 22, 2009 for the “second” round. They will be vetting those applicants this fall.

Vanelle Peterson notes that the national invasive weed awareness week will change to a national invasive species awareness week. Kassim Al-Khatib notes that changing the name of the NRI program in a similar fashion was in the end a negative. Vanelle Peterson responds, noting that if we reach out we will garner more monetary support by widening the scope of the week.

Symposium Committee Ad Hoc – James Leary (Joe DiTomaso)

WSWS 2010 symposium “Ecology, Effects and Management of Perennial Grass Invasions”

Introduction

1. Natural history of the dryland ecosystem in Hawaii
2. Natural history of the dryland ecosystem in the Southwestern states

Potential speakers:

Anne Marie LaRosa, Institute of Pacific Island Forestry, USFS
Julio Betancourt, USGS
Hannah Springer, Kona
Jonathon Price, UHH, Geography Department

Topic 1: Biological and ecological characteristics and consequences of invasion of arid perennial grasses

3. Mechanisms and patterns of perennial grass invasions in Hawaii
4. Mechanisms and patterns of perennial grass invasions in the Southwest
5. Functional traits leading to the invasion of buffelgrass, fountain grass, guinea grass, and/or Andropogon
6. Ecological consequences of grass invasion

Potential speakers:

James Kellner, Department of Global Ecology, Carnegie Institution
Rhonda Loh, Volcano NPS
Jennifer Funk, Chapman University
Susan Cordell, Institute of Pacific Island Forestry, USFS

Darren R. Sandquist, Cal State Fullerton
Curt Daehler, University of Hawaii
Creighton Litton, University of Hawaii, Manoa
Mark Bradford, Yale

Topic 2: Fire frequency and fuels regeneration

8. Fuel loading of invasive perennial grasses in arid systems
9. Post fire regeneration and adaptiveness of arid invasive perennial grasses
10. Perennial grass effects and management related to fire and federally listed species
11. Fuel trait comparison of native and non-native grasses

Potential speakers:

Lisa Ellsworth, University of Hawaii, Manoa
Matt Brooks, USGS
Andrew Elmore, Dartmouth College
Dawn Greenlee, USFWS Pacific Islands Fish and Wildlife Office
Erin Questad, USDA Forest Service

Topic 3: Management of invasive arid perennial grasses

10. Manual control, timing and success
11. Grazing management approaches for invasive arid perennial grasses
12. Herbicide control strategies in Hawaii
13. Herbicide control strategies in the Southwest
14. Restoration of ecosystems invaded by arid perennial grasses
15. Fire as a management tool

Potential speakers:

Darren R. Sandquist, Cal State Fullerton
Mark Thorne, Rangeland Specialist, University of Hawaii, Manoa
Fred Provenza, Animal behavior, Utah State University
Richard Mack, Washington State University
James Leary, University of Hawaii, Manoa
Sierra McDaniel, Volcano NPS
Mick Castillo, Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge
Curt Deuser, NPS Lake Meade Exotic Plant Management Team
Jeremy Gooding, NPS Pacific Islands Exotic Plant Management Team
Jason Hanley, USFWS Region 1 Invasive Species Strike Team
Susan Cordell (could discuss reduction of fuel loading through restoration concept if needed)

Jesse Richardson asks how many speakers will actually participate. Joe DiTomaso notes that there are many names listed, but there will be fewer that actually participate. Phil Banks notes that having a presenter give multiple presentations is a good idea. Vanelle Peterson suggests setting a budget – Joe DiTomaso replies that he expected \$5000, based on previous attendance. Phil Banks suggests not conducting a food service. Vanelle Peterson suggests that a boxed lunch might be better to maintain attendance. Phil Banks notes that 50 to 60% of the registrants are WSWS members, who pay a reduced rates. Joe DiTomaso asked about overhead charges – Phil Banks notes that there are AV charges (perhaps \$600 or \$700). Joe DiTomaso notes that many workers in Hawaii don't attend such presentations on the mainland. Phil Banks asks that Joe DiTomaso determine the number of participants that will stay Thursday night, as we have a limited number of rooms set aside on Thursday.

Joe DiTomaso noted that there were three review articles were created as a consequence of the Arundo meeting. He is going to encourage review articles for the three topics he has proposed.

Dan Ball notes that we are very nearly in the same position we were in prior to the Arundo symposium. Joe DiTomaso notes that he needs to know what the budget is prior to obtaining commitments from speakers.

Tony White asks who takes care of title and abstract submissions. Joe DiTomaso notes his preference is for the individual authors to submit titles and abstracts in online, and they are responsible for the whole process.

Joe DiTomaso also asks that the presenters only pay the symposium fee, unless they attend the entire meeting.

Jesse Richardson notes that there was some issue with non-members submitting titles or abstracts. Tony White notes that they have to be a registered website user. Phil Banks points out it is better for the coordinator to manage the submissions. Phil Banks and Joe DiTomaso note that James Leary will handle the submissions of titles and abstracts, rather than the individual presenters handling the submission.

Joe DiTomaso asks for suggestions for Spokane. Ian Burke suggests annual grass invasions of range and native prairie.

Motion: Dan Ball moves to approve the symposium proposal presented by Joe DiTomaso, with the budget limit of \$5000. Phil Munger seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Old Business

Symposium Committee Operating Guide

Jesse Richardson asks if we need to approve an amended version, rather than the original. Vanelle Peterson asks about the intent of the operating guide – she notes that initially the intent of the symposium was that it would be conducted after the meeting on hot topics for the local area. Dan Ball notes that it would operate well no matter what type symposium was held. Vanelle Peterson asks if there were two symposia, would this committee handle both. Dan Ball thought it would, but he notes that the committee tends to form spontaneously. Phil Stahlman notes that because of past problems, there needs to be some formal guidelines. Joe DiTomaso thinks there needs to be formal guidelines, but the committee role is to facilitate the symposium, and there should be a subcommittee that addresses speaker arrangements. Vanelle Peterson notes that program committee should be involved, simply for scheduling purposes. Jesse Richardson notes that the communication is very simple and may not need to formalize. Kassim Al-Khatib notes that we have two different symposia – the special symposium and the short symposium. Kassim Al-Khatib also notes that perhaps we should add the word ‘workshop’ to the title. Jesse Richardson thinks that the guidelines would serve both the special and the half-day symposia. Vanelle Peterson asks what the necessity of the committee is. Phil Banks suggests that Dan Ball sends out the draft operating guide for suggestions with a firm deadline to leave comments. Dan Ball agrees to do so. Vanelle Peterson expresses her concern about the nature of the motion to make the symposium committee a standing committee. Phil Banks reads the past motion, noting that the intent was to create a symposium committee dedicated to the special symposium.

Proposed new project: Weeds of Range and Natural Areas

Jesse Richardson notes that the in the straw polls taken in the combined section at the Albuquerque meeting indicated that there was a willingness to combine, and that ‘Weeds and Range and Natural Areas’ was the preferred title.

Motion: Joe DiTomaso makes a motion to combine projects 1 and 5 into project 1 entitled weeds of range and natural areas. Dan Ball seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

WSWS State Chapters

Jesse Richardson asks that if there were any more comments. There were none.

Extend voting to student liaison chair & web master?

Ryan Edwards notes he initiated this discussion. He summarized the positions that have and do not have voting privileges. He also indicated his and Kai Umeda stance, that chairs-elect should not have a vote, but that other non-voting members would (the student representative, the website-editor, and the CAST representative). Vanelle Peterson reminds the board that that there are several appointed voting members of the board, and that the intent of limiting voting members was to reduce the impact of appointed members of the board. Dan Ball notes that Tony White is compensated, and he should not be a voting member due to conflict of interest. Joe DiTomaso notes that of the proposed addition of voting members, only one is appointed. Jesse Richardson expresses his opposition to chairs-elect positions voting positions. He and Dan Ball notes that a smaller number of voting members is more conducive to rapidly conducting business by email.

Motion: Dan Ball moves that we recommend amending the constitution to extend voting status to the cast representative and to the student liaison chair to the membership. Kassim Al-Khatib seconds.

Discussion. Jesse Richardson notes that there were some interested in seeing a vote by the chair elect. The board is in general agreement that these two positions are the most appropriate to have a vote.

Motion passed unanimously.

Graduate student proposals for travel scholarships – ad hoc committee?

Phil Banks notes that we would create a new standing committee or perhaps the awards committee. Dan Ball notes that only the operating guide would have to be change if we make this the responsibility of the awards committee. Dan Ball and Kassim Al-Khatib express concern that, on a 3 person committee, one or more people may have to recues themselves should there be a conflict of interest. Phil Stahlman notes that if we constrain the committee membership (public vs. private) it could put constraints on the president.

Tonya Skurski notes that have been some concern about financial need. Vanelle Peterson notes that the intent was to increase attendance, however, Phil Banks and Joe DiTomaso note that that would be difficult to verify. Joe DiTomaso notes that the intent of the scholarship is to reward the best students – not to financially reward students. Phil Banks notes that the bottom line is we can't police need.

Kassim Al-Khatib described the student enhancement program, noting that when it was cancelled, the various companies would be willing to contribute scholarship money. Phil Stahlman notes that we have a fund set up with the proceeds from April Fletcher's collage. Jesse Richardson notes that the industry would be interested in supporting scholarships if the award could be attributed to the sponsor.

Jesse Richardson notes that what we have discussed is different than the initial intent of the proposal – to increase student attendance. Phil Banks notes that we had initially discussed a travel reimbursement for each student. We currently have one, but the reimbursement request rate is zero. Jesse Richardson notes that we also already have a paper and poster award system. Jesse Richardson notes we are talking about two different students.

Motion: Kassim Al-Khatib moves that three outstanding student scholarship awards be established following the amended guidelines for \$1000 each. Joe DiTomaso seconds.

Discussion. *Dan Ball notes that Tonya Skurski did an outstanding job on developing the guidelines.*

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Kassim Al-Khatib moves that the travel reimbursement for students be increased to \$45 for three nights for the Hawaii meeting only. Joe DiTomaso seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Roland Schirman's Proposal

Motion: Joe DiTomaso moves that we table the discussion. Pat Clay seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

New Business

Noxious Weed Short Course – Final Decision – Schroeder

A straw poll conducted at the board meeting resulted in a unanimous vote for option 4. Phil Banks suggests that members of the ad hoc committee be from the former clientele. Also, someone who has experience in participating in the course. Other members could include new clientele or who is an end user outside of federal agencies.

The goals for the ad hoc committee needs to develop a concept for a course or courses for the board to consider.

Joe DiTomaso notes that there should be some limitations, for instance, proposals cannot be state-focused. Proposals should have a regional focus.

Vanelle Peterson and Joe DiTomaso will co-chair the committee, and the committee will be comprised of those who have had past experience and understand the value of the short course.

Joe DiTomaso asks Jesse Richardson to contact the authors of the three current proposals to update them on the board decision. Phil Munger suggests putting adding notices on the website, Vanelle Peterson asks Dan Ball recognize Celestine Duncan at the Monday reception.

Selection of a local arrangements chair for Spokane in 2011

Chuck Rice is the chair of the local arrangements committee for 2011.

Kassim proposal – Weed Biology & Ecology project?

Western Society of Weed Science

Proposal: Changing Basic Science Project Name to Weed Biology and Ecology

Request by: Kassim Al-Khatib, Basic Science Chair

Contact Information: khatib@ksu.edu, 785-532-5155

Background

The basic science project is an important part of WSWs annual meeting. However, over the years, the focus and directions of the basic science project has not been changed. The current focus of the project is herbicide and weed physiology. The project has not taken advantage of the change in current basic weed science status. Weed biology and ecology became central to weed

science and today basic weed science involves diverse components, which include weed ecology, genetics, genomics, physiology, biochemistry, and ecology.

For the past several years, attendance and number of papers and posters submitted to basic science project have been declining. In addition, attendance for the basic science discussion session also has declined. This may be attributed in part to lack of adjustment in the project to the change in the status of basic weed science. In order for the basic science project to be vibrant and current, it needs to be more inclusive and diversified in focus.

Action

During 2009 annual meeting, attendees of the basic science session discussed different options to revive the basic science project. The group suggested the basic science project needs to be inclusive and reflect the current status of basic weed science. Weed biology and ecology need to be the center of the project. The project name may not encourage and attract WSWS members to be part of the project. I was asked by the group to submit a proposal to WSWS Board of Directors to change the name of the Basic Science Project to Weed Biology and Ecology Project. We expect that this action will encourage submission of more papers to the WSWS annual meeting because weed biologists and ecologists will find a home to present their research at WSWS. Weed biologists and ecologists drifted away from the WSWS meeting over the last few years to attend other meetings.

We do not expect to drain large number of papers from other projects since the focus of the Weed Biology and Ecology Project will be basic in nature.

Implementation

We would like to implement change as soon as the WSWS Board of Directors approves the measure and the process is completed.

Vanelle Peterson notes that the ecology should probably be presented in sections to which it apply. Kassim Al-Khatib notes that he should amend it to say Basic Biology and Ecology. Vanelle Peterson suggests that we need to think more long term and consider the names of all the projects. She also suggests that we need to respond to the membership and how they choose to position presentations.

Phil Stahlman notes that we have eliminated one section and have a spot to add an additional section. The board tables the discussion with the intent to see what happens at the next meeting. Joe DiTomaso and Kassim Al-Khatib will work together to increase participation in the Basic Science Section.

Kochia symposium

Monsanto has agreed to increase their sponsorship to \$4000. Kassim Al-Khatib suggests we get some students to encourage student submissions of posters to compliment the symposium.

Jill Schroeder suggests one free night for 3 speakers, and free registration for 3 speakers. Phil Stahlman is committed to make sure the symposium does not cost the society anything.

Motion: Dan Ball moves that we approve the kochia proposal outline as submitted by Phil Stahlman, the budget not to exceed \$4000, contingent upon receipt of partial support from Monsanto, we are going to support one free night for up to 3 speakers and free registration for up to 3 speakers. Kassim Al-Khatib seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Business Manager contract renewal (excuse Phil Banks)

Motion: Joe DiTomaso makes a motion to renew Phil Banks contract as written. Kassim Al-Khatib seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Increase in Registration Fee

Jesse Richardson asks if this is permanent or only for Hawaii. Phil Banks suggests we revisit the registration fee each year, that the increase will help the bottom line.

Phil Banks also suggests that we increase the late registration fee penalty from \$50 to \$100.

Phil Stahlman suggests we just raise the registration meeting costs permanently. Jesse Richardson notes that the private sector is increasingly limiting travel.

Motion: Kassim Al-Khatib moves to increase the registration fee for the Hawaii meeting to \$205, to increase the late registration fee from \$50 to \$100 additional, and the student registration fee to \$80. Joe DiTomaso seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Research Progress Reports

Vanelle Peterson asks if we should address scanning in the research progress reports. Tony White and Phil Banks agree to explore how to create a searchable product.

Motion: Kassim Al-Khatib moves to adjourn the meeting. Joe DiTomaso seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted – Ian C. Burke WSWS Executive Board Secretary – July 28, 2009.