WSWS Officer and Committee Report

Office or Committee Name: WSWS representative to CAST

Officer or Chairperson Name: Brian Jenks

Date of Preparation (include year): March 2018

Purpose: CAST, through its network of experts, assembles, interprets, and communicates credible, balanced, science-based information to policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

Committee Activities during the Year:

The Plant Working Group meets once per month via conference call.

Drew Lyon currently serves as Chair of the Plant Working Group on the CAST Board of Representatives.

2017 Borlaug CAST Communication Award winner: Dr. Jayson Lusk. Lusk was with the Department of Agricultural Economics at Oklahoma State University. In July, he became the head of the Department of Agricultural Economics at Purdue University.

Upcoming papers:

- Genome editing. Expected June 2018.

Papers released in the past year:

Other upcoming paper topics include:

- Historic drought, aquifer mining, and potential impacts on long-term irrigated agricultural productivity.
- Many other papers are in various stages of preparation.

CAST annual meeting was held October 25-27, 2017 in Raleigh, NC. The next CAST meeting will be October 23-25, 2018 in Sacramento, CA.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:** Continue WSWS commitment to CAST and encourage individual memberships.

**Current Committee Members:** Brian Jenks

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Brian Jenks