As my year as President-elect transition into my year as President, I would like to thank the society for the opportunity to serve as president for the next year. I look forward to the challenges of the year as the WSWS continue to thrive. The greatest strength of our society is the eagerness of members to contribute to this organization. The experience I have had as President-Elect and Program Chair was overwhelming. The support I received from the Local Arrangements Committee, Section Chairs, Project Chairs, Committee Chairs, Symposia Chairs, Web Master, and others was outstanding. I hope that you will provide Ron Crockett the same support as he develops the program for the 2007 meeting.

Our 59th annual meeting was extremely successful by all standards. I would like to thank all who attended the 2006 annual meeting in Reno for continuous support of WSWS. The total attendance was up from 2005 meeting with 339 attendees this year compared to 290 in 2005 meeting. The increase in the attendees for this year meeting is very positive for the society and hope to continue in the future. There were total of 114 oral presentations and 79 posters. The number of poster presentations has been increasing steadily over the past few years. We also had three symposia – Status of Biological Control of Knapweeds and Yellow Starthistle, Prevention or Large-scale Management? Optimal Allocation of Weed Management Budgets, and Life after Graduate School. Thanks to Lincoln Smith, Matt Rinella, Cynthia Brown, and Dirk Baker for organizing and chairing these symposia. The graduate student oral presentation and poster contests continue to be the highlight of the program with 15 papers and 11 posters entered in the contests. I extend my congratulations to all graduate students who participated in the contests. Another highlight of the meeting is the discussion sessions that were generally well attended and the discussion was lively.

The WSWS is a volunteer organization. I appreciate all the members who have volunteered their time serving on committees and as officers. The response to my call for volunteers to serve on a committee this year was overwhelming. Unfortunately, I had more volunteers than committee assignments. We will do our best to accommodate your requests for committee work in the future.

The ‘Students Night Out’ where public and private weed scientists hosted students for dinner and informal conversation was a huge success. Special thanks to Steve Dewey for his time and effort to make it succeed. Students had high praise for the program and were very appreciative of all the members who volunteered their time. We should continue to support a ‘Students Night Out’ at our future meetings.

The Local Arrangements Committee chaired by Tom Lanini with Tim Miller and Carol Mallory-Smith as Assistant Chairperson did an excellent job of organizing and managing the meeting facilities. The WSWS also appreciates the committee efforts in helping assure a smooth flow of the events.

I would like to thank Wanda Graves for serving the society as a Business Manager for many years. Wanda is retiring from WSWS on March 30, 2006. Wanda

Continued on page 2
Report from the President (continued)

contributed to our society in many ways; everyone in the society is going to miss Wanda. The society celebrated Wanda retirement at the WSWS members Welcome and Retirees Reception hosted by the Immediate Pat President at Reno, Nevada. The Society also provides Wanda with Honorary membership to acknowledge her contributions to WSWS. I also would like to welcome our new Business Manager Phil Banks who is familiar to the WSWS. We were fortunate to have Phil as Business Manager and hope to continue working with him for many years to come.

There WSWS website continue to improve. Tony White did a superb job by making the website more accessible, posting annual meeting registration and payment online, facilitates paper and abstract submission, and timely posting events on the website.

The WSWS Executive Board made several important decisions during the annual meeting, including support the improvement of the WSWS website, reprinting 12,000 copies of “Weeds of the West”, explore the possibility of selling individual copies of the book “Weeds of the West” on the WSWS website, and send a team of three members to the CAST Leadership Training Program at Paradise Valley, Montana this summer. This training program will help WSWS to prepare the future society leaders.

Our finances continue to be strong and membership numbers seem to improve from last year. But let us not rest on our successes. Time is changing, and it is our challenge to meet and benefit from these changes. I would like to remind us that we members are the society. Feel free to express new ideas or suggestions to any officer or director. Attached to this newsletter is a list of the Executive Board and Chairs and member of the various committees.

Kassim Al-Khatib
President

New Business Manager for WSWS

Wanda Graves has retired after 17 years of serving as Business Manager/Treasurer for WSWS. At the annual Awards Luncheon, she was made an Honorary Member of WSWS and presented with letters of appreciation from the Board of Directors and other members of the Society as well as receiving a monetary gift from her friends. Phil Banks was named as the new Business Manager, effective April 1, 2006. The new contact information for WSWS is: 205 W. Boutz, Bldg. 4, Ste. 5, Las Cruces, NM. Phone: 505-527-1888. E-mail: wsws@marathonag.com.

Thank You to Judges

The student paper judging committee would like to thank the following individuals for their efforts judging the student paper and poster competition.
Mark Renz
Mary Corp
Linda Wilson
Sandra McDonald
Jim Harbour
Joe Yenish
Curtis Thompson
Oleg Daugovish
Brad Ramsdale
Lisa Boggs
Cini Brown
Steve King
Pam Hutchinson
Lynn Fandrich
Stephen Enloe, Student paper judging committee
| **Western Society of Weed Science**  
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[rod.lym@ndsu.nodak.edu](mailto:rod.lym@ndsu.nodak.edu) |
## 2006-2007 Western Society of Weed Science standing and Ad Hoc Committees

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### President Past
- **Kassim Al-Khatib**
- **Phil Banks**

### President-Elect
- **Ron Crockett**

### Nominations
- **Pamela Hutchinson**

### Program
- **Secretary**
- **Hutchinson**

### Poster
- **Tina Belles**

### Local Arrangements
- **Nelroy Jackson**

### Student Paper Judging
- **Jim Harbour**
Dr. Thomas J. Muzik died peacefully on January 26, 2006, near Spokane, WA. Dr. Muzik led a wonderful, long and adventurous life. Born on December 21, 1919, he grew up in Berwyn, Illinois. Fascinated by trees and other plants, he first studied forestry at the University of Michigan, in Ann Arbor, Michigan, and then majored in Botany. He was a proud member of the Society of Les Voyagesurs, a University society promoting intellectual intercourse and interest in outdoor life and nature. During WWII, Tom’s studies took him to Liberia, West Africa, from 1942 to 1947, where he conducted research on rubber trees for Firestone Company for five years. Returning briefly to Michigan in 1945 to marry his wife, Peggy, she then joined him in Africa, and gave birth there to their first son, Steven Thomas. Upon returning to Michigan to complete his studies, his second child, Katherine Margaret, was born in 1948, and he obtained a Ph.D. in Botany in 1949. In 1956, upon receiving a job offer as a Plant Physiologist in the Agronomy Department at Washington State University, Tom moved with his family to Pullman, Washington. There his third child, a son, Wesley Nicholas, was born, in 1957. While at Washington State, Tom published numerous scholarly papers on weed science, with special attention to herbicides and plant hormones, focusing on the weeds in wheat fields of the rolling Palouse Hills. In 1970, he wrote and published an important book, Weed Biology and Control, which is still timely and pertinent to the field. Upon early retirement from WSU in 1981, Dr. Muzik received an invitation to be a Research Advisor for Bechtel Company, in Bahrain, Saudi Arabia, where he spent two years, again with his wife Peggy. During these years and after finally retiring in 1983 to live in Sandpoint, Idaho, he and Peggy traveled all around the world, including Hong Kong and China, Okinawa, Greece, Italy, Alaska, Hawaii, the Caribbean and Bulgaria. He was especially fond of his weekly “Tertulia” discussion group, bowling, gardening, playing bridge, and as ever, fishing. To all three of his children he imparted his love of jokes, his frank manner, his forthright honesty, his resilience, and his stubbornness. One of his favorite aphorisms was, “Count Your Blessings”, and certainly among them he counted his wife, his children, and his very successful grandchildren, Joseph and Anita Muzik. His memory will be honored in a ceremony during the summer of 2006, when his remaining relatives will gather to fling his ashes over his favorite secret fishing spot on Lake Coeur D’Alene.

Submitted by Amber D. Vallotton, Necrology Committee Chairperson

New Online Herbicide Physiology Course

PSPP 546 Herbicide Physiology is a new, online, distance delivery graduate course to be offered in Fall semester, 2006. The course is taught by Profs. William Dyer (Montana State University), Tracy Sterling (New Mexico State University), and Scott Nissen (Colorado State University). We will cover topics in herbicide classification, herbicide mode of action, and resistance mechanisms. Prerequisites include upper division courses in biochemistry and plant physiology, or consent of the instructors. The course is designed for students without traditional access to this course material, and is not designed to replace existing, on-campus courses at other institutions.

Please see http://webct.msu.montana.edu/public/20067026536/index.html or contact Dr. William E. Dyer at wdyer@montana.edu for more information.
WSWS Objectives

- To foster and encourage education and research in weed science.
- To foster cooperation among state, federal and private agencies in matters of weed science.
- To aid and support commercial, private and public agencies in the solution of weed problems.
- To support legislation governing weed control programs and weed research and education programs.
- To support the Weed Science Society of America and foster state and regional organizations and agencies interested in weed control.

Calendar of Events

May 25-28, 2006
Weeds Across Borders 2006 Conference, Hermosillo, Mexico
For more info. Visit: www.desertmuseum.org/borderweeds/

June 20, 2006
University of Idaho Snake River Weed Research Tour, Kimberly R&E Center
Contact:  Don Morishita at don@uidaho.edu or 208.736.3616

June 21, 2006
University of Idaho Snake River Weed Research Tour, Aberdeen R&E Center.
Contact:  Pamela Hutchinson at phutch@uidaho.edu or 208.397.4181

June 29-30, 2006
National Sugar Beet Researchers Tour Twin Falls, Idaho.
Contact:  Don Morishita at don@uidaho.edu or 208.736.3616 for more information.

August 2-3, 2006
Annual Maricopa County Short Course: Herbicide Behavior in Plants and Soils. Phoenix, AZ
Contact:  Pat Clay at p clay@cals.arizona.edu or (602) 470-8086 ext. 313.

October 3-4, 2006
2006 Tamarisk Research Conference: Current Status and Future Directions. Fort Collins, CO.
For more information visit http://www.tamarisk.colostate.edu/