



Call to Order – Jesse Richardson

Present at the meeting: Jesse Richardson, Tony White, Ian Burke, Phil Banks, Ryan Edwards, Vanelle Peterson, Pat Clay, Joseph DiTomaso, Dan Ball, Phil Stahlman, Ed Peachy, Marvin Butler, Brad Hanson, Phil Motooka, Marvin Butler, and Phil Munger.

Motion: Approval of Agenda: Joe DiTomaso moves to approve the agenda, Tim Miller seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

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

Business Manager's Report – Phil Banks

All bills have been paid, tax forms have been filed, and the current financial status of WSWS will be presented to the Board at the meeting. As of February 28, 2010 we have \$346,586.28 in capital with an additional asset of \$144,674.50 in unsold Weeds of the West inventory. Net cash assets increased significantly due to the sale of Weeds of the West and we did not need to reprint this year. All bills have been paid. I coordinated with the Newsletter Editor and each Newsletter was sent out on time. We currently project a \$20,000.00 plus loss in the operating budget related to Society and annual meeting expenses. This is primarily due to the increased cost of having the meeting in Hawaii and the reduced number of registrants (down approximately 70 from attendance in Albuquerque).

We have started scanning back issues of the Research Progress Report and have completed the years 1984 through 2009. Previous issues go back to 1952 and the project should be finished by the summer Board meeting. The Board should discuss or set a policy on access to these files once posted at the website. The Board allocated an additional \$ 1500.00 at the summer meeting to complete the scanning. Most likely, it will cost an additional \$ 500.00 to \$ 750.00 to complete the project.

I worked with the Site Selection Committee for the 2013 meeting and an RFP was sent to hotels and Convention and Visitor Bureaus in southern California, Phoenix, Tucson, Denver, and Colorado Springs. Over 34 proposals were received and summarized for the committee. The committee will convene at the meeting to review and make a recommendation for the 2013 site. Future meetings are scheduled for Spokane for 2011 and Reno for 2012.

The Marriott has been relatively easy to work with for the 2010 meeting and Phil Motooka has met with them several times in the run-up to the meeting.

Recommendations for Board Action:

1. Approve up to \$750.00 to complete the scanning project of the RPR.
2. Approve a policy on budgets for future symposia that is more defined.
3. Consider the purchase of meeting disaster insurance.

4. Deadline for the student travel scholarship should be moved up with the awards made prior to the title submission deadline.

Phil Banks reports that we have paid all bills. He's coordinated with the newsletter editor to make sure they were published on time. The weeds of the west continue to keep us afloat. Registration for the annual meeting is down across the board. We have 240 registrants including 27 students and 30 spouses. Food costs are greater. Several new sponsors stepped forward where some were lost.

All the proceedings are scanned in online. The research progress report project has scanned 1984 forward. From here on, the research progress reports will be submitted electronically.

Phil requests some additional funds to finish scanning the research progress report in.

Dan Ball asks about the searchability of the research progress reports. Phil Banks notes that they are searchable in year, not across years. Dan Ball notes that could be chargeable function. Tony White notes that it is very cumbersome. Google Search on the WSWS website will pick it up over time, but it is a valuable asset and perhaps we should charge for each.

Phil Banks suggests we should consider disaster insurance. Dan Ball asks what that should cost. Phil Banks doesn't know.

Phil Banks also suggests that we need to move up the travel scholarship applications are due. Dan Ball notes that the lateness of the application was only realized as the process moved forward. Jesse Richardson thinks the deadline change participation, but he asks how this support would likely change student participation. Phil Banks doesn't think much, as many PI's likely encouraged their students to go to the national meeting in Denver.

Phil Banks notes that the sales of the Weeds of the West went up. Most of the book orders occurred over the web site. Wyoming sales are down a little. Wyoming sells at a deep discount, typically below where we sell them for.

Phil Banks was pretty pessimistic concerning the budget because of the costs associated with the meeting. We will likely lose \$23,000 conducting this meeting.

Phil Banks asks that Jesse Richardson read Vince Ulstad's statement of thanks at some time during the meeting. Jesse Richardson wonders where the best place to read the statement.

The Board suggests the awards ceremony is the best place.

Motion: Dan Ball moves that the board approve a \$750 payment to Phil Banks to finish scanning the research progress reports.

Discussion: Dan Ball notes that we should probably have a discussion of how to improve the searchability of the reports, and how to extract value.

The motion passed unanimously.

Program Committee Report – Joe DiTomaso

The 2007 meeting had 380 registered, 90 oral presentations and 60 posters (total 150)

The 2008 meeting had 328 registered, 126 oral presentations and 56 posters (total 181)

The 2009 meeting had 320 registered, 105 oral presentations and 67 posters (total 172)

The 2010 meeting has 240 registered + 32 spouses, 116 oral presentations with 4 cancellations for a total of 112 oral presentations, 71 poster submissions with 4 cancellation and 3 additions for a total of 70 posters. There are an additional 15 presentations in the Thursday

symposium. In total, there are 70 posters and 127 oral presentations (total 197). There are also 27 people signed up for the Gorse tour. The other two tours were canceled due to lack of registration (only 5 registered for each trip).

For the General Program:

General Session:

Introductions & Announcements – Joe DiTomaso

Welcome to Hawaii – Phil Motooka (I contacted the Big Island major Mr. William Kenoi and although his staff person indicated he was available, they have not returned my repeated calls or emails)

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

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. Thus far, 48 people have registered.

Recommendations for Board Action: Need to approve the two symposia for the 2010 meeting.

Budget Needs: \$3000 was provided by the Board to cover speaker travel to the Thursday Symposium. An additional \$2000 was provided by the National Park Service, courtesy of Rita Beard. Budgeted a total of \$5000 for travel for speakers.

Suggestions for the Future: Need to revisit the Symposium committee. May be better to have this as an ad hoc committee with the Program Chair as a member.

Vanelle Peterson asks if we spent over our allocation. Joe DiTomaso states that we did not exceed our budget, but that the low number of registrations may not generate the revenue we would typically get.

Phil Banks notes we'll put together an errata sheet to hand out as people register for the meeting.

Research Section Report – Ed Peachey

Activities during the Year: Projects 1 and 5 were combined and renamed to Weeds of Range and Natural Areas, Project 6 became 5 and was renamed to Basic Biology and Ecology.

Revised the call for papers to include a change in protocol that will allow presenters to upload presentations on site.

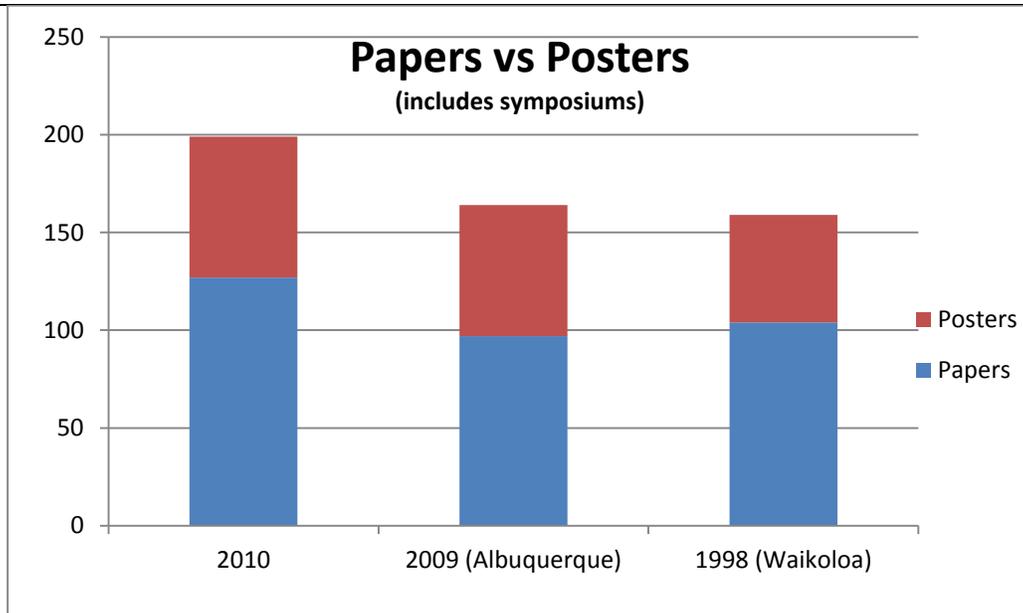
Discussion topic selected this year for projects 1-5 included:

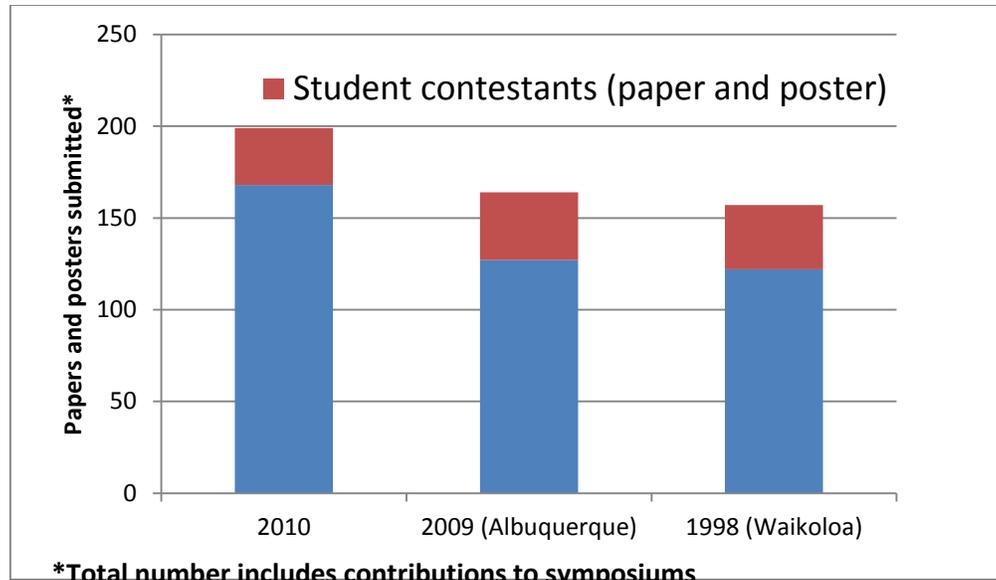
1. Weeds of Range and Natural Areas: NPDES permits and the 6th Circuit Court ruling: impacts on future pesticide applications in and around water

2. Weeds of Horticultural Crops: The future of weed control in horticultural crops: with a limited number of new herbicides, what are the options?
3. Weeds of Agronomic Crops: Weed issues when converting CRP to cropland
4. Teaching and Technology Transfer: Using Audience Response Systems in Extension and Classroom Education.
5. Basic Biology and Ecology: Stacking herbicide resistant genes for weed management opportunities and challenges.

A total of 199 papers and posters were contributed, of which 31 were from student contestants. The total number of papers submitted was up 25% from 2009 (Albuquerque) and 1998 (when we last visited Waikoloa).

Venue (2010)	Papers		Posters	
	Total	(Student)	Total	(Student)
1. Range and Natural Areas	29	5	19	2
2. Horticulture	13	2	10	1
3. Agronomic	41	7	37	8
4. Teaching and Technology Transfer	7	0	2	1
5 (6). Basic Biology and Ecology	10	4	4	1
Special Program: Endangered species	3	0	-	0
Sym: Kochia	9	0	-	0
Sym: Per grass invasions	15	0	-	0
Total	127	18	72	13





Recommendations for Board Action: Review section name changes, particularly Project 5 (Basic Biology and Ecology). Evaluate success of presentation delivery to Project chairs and moderators

Ed Peachey notes we need to come up with an improved way to upload paper presentations. Pat Clay notes that the beltwide cotton conference has paper uploads at the meeting. Tony White notes that we used to upload abstracts, that a system is in place, and perhaps it could be used in this way.

Education & Regulatory Section Report – Pat Clay

Pat Clay notes that no papers were submitted to the Education and Regulatory Section.

Immediate Past-President's Report – Dan Ball

Activities during the Year: I have been procrastinating on the completion of an operating guide for the special symposium committee. I discuss the reason, below. I worked with Tanya Skurski, Student Liaison Chair-Elect on a proposal for a WSWS Student Scholarship. I sent out an announcement to WSWS reminding them of the retirees reception on Monday prior to the annual meeting. No response.

Recommendations for Board Action: I would request that the Board of Directors discuss the real need for a standing, Symposium Committee, and therefore an operating guide to facilitate its functioning. Because of the way symposia are spawned, it has been difficult to draft an appropriate Operating Guide. The Board had voted in an earlier meeting to create a standing, Symposium Committee, but I question the need for this approach, and would request discussion on maintaining this committee as Ad Hoc.

Suggestions for the Future: Need to adjust the deadline for the student scholarship applications to give applicants time to be notified of their success so they can make timely WSWS registration, abstract submission, and travel plans.

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: Revisit the need for a standing symposium committee and therefore, discuss the need for an operating guide for a Symposium Committee.

Dan Ball asks that if the standing symposium committee locks us into having a symposium. Phil Banks notes that wording has to be in place for room space on Thursday. Joe DiTomaso notes that the knotweed symposium committee was directly involved with the planning and execution of the symposium. Once the symposium was complete, the standing committee expressed no interest in involvement in the following year's symposium. Tim Miller asks if we are really increasing membership with the symposium. Phil Banks replies we are likely not. Dan Ball wonders what the timeframe really needs to be, if two years is too much.

Joe DiTomaso notes we still do not have a symposium for Spokane. Vanelle Peterson notes that there are ideas, but asks which type of symposium we are talking about – one inside the meeting and one outside the meeting.

Phil Munger notes that state chapters could organize a symposium.

Kai Umeda notes that a call should go out for symposia proposals immediately after the meeting. Jesse Richardson notes that a set date is a great idea. Dan Ball notes that wording exists in his draft operating guide. Dan Ball, Joe DiTomaso, Vanelle Peterson agreed to meet to work on the wording of the operating guide.

Dan Ball asks if there are any other retirees other than Bob Parker, Doug Ryerson, Steve Miller, and Steve Dewey. Jesse Richardson notes that Mick Canevari retired.

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

Date of Preparation (include year): March 1, 2010

Committee Activities during the Year: First, I regret not to attend WSWS and Board of Directors Meeting in Hawaii. I have serious sickness in the family that prevents me from attending WSWS meeting. I hope I will attend the summer Board meeting in Spokane. I will have time to work on any project that the Board of Directors signed me for after May 2010.

As Member-at-large, I have been involved in two activities, develop the discussion session for Basic Science and work with Phil Stahlman to develop kochia symposium. We have develop outstand symposium that we hope it will be well attended.

Again please accept my apology for not attending the meeting

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

At the WSWS Board Meeting in Albuquerque, New Mexico, Tim D'Amato (Land Stewardship Manager, Larimer County Dept. of Natural Resources and Kelly Uhing (State Weed Coordinator, Colorado Dept. of Agriculture) met with the Board to propose the formation of State Weed Chapters, created as part of, or in association with, the WSWS. In practice, the State

Chapters would serve as an information “bridge” between researchers and land managers in the West.

Since the meeting in Albuquerque, Tim, Kelly, and P. Munger have met to develop a formal proposal for the State Chapters, which, as requested by the WSWS Board of Directors, will be presented for a Board vote on this topic at the 2010 annual meeting in Hawaii. Below, please find the proposal submitted for review by the Board.

State Weed Chapters – Western USA

Objectives

1. Create a venue that serves to bridge information between researchers and land managers in the western United States by structuring a program that encourages cooperation and collaboration, and would
 - Organize as a regional association composed of individual state weed chapters.
 - Focus on invasive weed species management and restoration techniques in natural areas, and range and pastures.
 - Identify and prioritize most important issues confronting land managers, and applied research suggested to address such issues for universities, USDA-ARS and others.
 - Establish locations for research & demonstration sites with private landowners, open space agencies, and on local, state and federal lands.
 - Provide grant opportunities through coordinated multi-state and multi-agency research proposals.
 - In short, promote information transfer and encourage land managers to actively participate with researchers in establishing best-management-practices relating to invasive plant management and restoration techniques.
2. Explore opportunities and advantages resulting from
 1. increased participation of land managers from local, state and federal levels at WSWS meeting venues, and
 2. link State Chapters with WSWS.
3. Develop a proposal for discussion and presentation of State Chapters at the WSWS Board of Directors Meeting at the 2010 WSWS meeting in Hawaii.
4. Create a 6 member State Chapters Committee within WSWS to liaison with the WSWS, and to organize State Chapters, State Chapter activities, and meeting agendas.

Invasive Plant Organizations and the NCWSS

The Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) has scheduled its meetings during the NCWSS, beginning at 1 pm following the conclusion of the NCWSS. In at least one year, an MIPN-sponsored invasive weed symposium was scheduled during the NCWSS. As a result of the association between the NCWSS and the MIPN, several MIPN participants perceived benefit in attending both meetings, registering to attend both the MIPN and NCWSS.

Proposed Format for State Chapters Meetings

Similar to the MIPN, it's proposed that the State Chapters meet for ½ day, beginning at 1 pm on the final day (Thursday) of the WSWS meeting. As participation increases, a full-day meeting may be warranted.

Half-day meetings would consist of state updates on invasive weed projects. Additional activities, such as panel discussions and focused workshops would be possible in a full-day agenda.

At the first meeting in 2011, 50 registrations are anticipated for the half-day State Chapter meeting. In subsequent years, and depending on location, attendance is expected to grow upwards to a potential of 100 meeting registrations.

Meeting Registration

Registration for the MIPN is \$40, with an additional \$20 registration fee to attend the symposium. MIPN participants also had the option to register for the NCWSS meeting.

The proposed fees for the one-half day State Chapter meeting in 2011 are \$40 and \$50 for pre-registration and on-site registration, respectively (final registration fees to be determined, based on recommendation from the WSWS Board of Directors, meeting room and related expenses, etc.). Should individuals attending the State Chapter meeting choose to attend the WSWS, the fee for the former STATE CHAPTERS could be reduced?

Continuing Education Credits

Although not perceived to be a primary purpose of the State Chapter meetings, continuing education credits could be made available to meeting participants.

Input of WSWS Members

If approved by the WSWS Board of Directors on Monday, March 8, the State Chapter concept and format can be presented to WSWS members during the WSWS meeting. Further details regarding State Chapters and questionnaire soliciting topics of interest can subsequently be posted on the WSWS website, and in the WSWS Newsletter.

Recommendations for Board Action: Review, and at the March 2010 WSWS Board meeting, vote to move forward with the formation of State Chapters and their association with annual WSWS meetings.

Budget Needs: A Budget is at this time not foreseen, as it is anticipated that registration costs for State Chapters would fund meeting costs.

Suggestions for the Future: Schedule the first State Chapter meeting following the 2011 WSWS meeting in Spokane, WA

Tony White asks how it would be administered, how would the registration be handled. Phil Munger thought it would be independent. Joe DiTomaso asks what the agenda would typically be for such a meeting. Phil Munger thought the data transition gap from those who generate the information to the practitioners. Typical attendees would be within the state.

Vanelle Peterson asks if the Western Weed Coordinating Committee still exists and if they would serve this function. DT notes he has the same concern. Jesse Richardson notes that there seems to be a disconnect between the proposers and current entities designed for this.

Joe DiTomaso thought we should try and get a draft agenda to see what this would look like. Phil Stahlman notes that the North Central had a similar symposium series that helped increase registration. Kai Umeda notes that a horticulture group had a similar request several years ago. He notes that the intent was to facilitate meetings at the end of the WSWS meeting – Thursday and Friday. Phil Munger notes that the intent is the same here.

Joe DiTomaso suggests they submit a proposal, and we review it and vote at the summer meeting. Jesse Richardson asks that the proposal include a formalized list of speakers and the topics that would be covered. Vanelle Peterson asks that the proposal be submitted before June 1 so it can be reviewed and voted on in the summer meeting. Vanelle Peterson notes we need to get a general email out with a call for proposals. Dan Ball notes that a title call would go out earlier for review by the Board. Vanelle Peterson asks that we make an announcement to submit ideas for symposium at the Spokane meeting to the Committee Chair. Jesse Richardson suggests the announcement be made at the general session. The due date suggested for titles is April 15 to Vanelle Peterson.

Vanelle Peterson notes that it would be easiest for Phil Munger to convey the need to Tim and Kelly to treat their proposal as a full symposium proposal.

Kai Umeda notes that there is an opportunity to bring a new group of people. Vanelle Peterson notes that we haven't succeeded yet in other attempts, that this is a ground up effort, and we should embrace it. Joe DiTomaso agrees, and notes that the current symposium model hasn't worked – no one from Hawaii is registered for this meeting's symposium.

WSSA Representative Report – Tim Miller

The 2010 WSSA annual meeting was a joint meeting with the Society for Range Management (SRM), held February 7-11 in Denver, CO. There was no plan by the WSSA Board of Directors to immediately pursue additional joint meetings with SRM, particularly since this meeting took a large amount of time and effort by the Program Chairman (and new WSSA President) John Jachetta. Twenty-minute oral presentations had positive support among the BOD and will be considered for future WSSA meetings. BOD member Mike Owen will be conducting a survey of WSSA attendees to gain information about what they liked and disliked about the joint meeting. A motion to hold a joint meeting with the Canadian Weed Science Society in Vancouver, BC during February 2014 was discussed and passed (2011 meeting Portland, OR; 2012 meeting Waikoloa, HI; 2013 meeting Baltimore, MD).

James Anderson (Director of Publications) reported that the Journals are bringing in about \$70,000 in royalties annually, mostly from *Weed Science* and *Weed Technology*. *Invasive Plant Science and Management* enjoyed a successful launch during 2008, primarily through the work of Joe DiTomaso, Janet Clark, and Vanelle Peterson as well as Karen Ridgway and others with Allen Press. While not yet showing a profit, IPSM losses are less than was anticipated for the three-year launch. It is hoped that both institutional and personal subscriptions will continue to increase for this journal and that it will be profitable after the third year (2010). Additional marketing of *IPSM* is planned for 2010. In a motion approved by the BOD last year, abstracts of articles submitted to *Weed Technology* will be printed in English and Spanish beginning this year. 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.

Jill Schroeder has requested to extend her duties as Weed Science Subject Matter Expert at EPA for an additional year. After spending a year and a half in this position and knowing the personnel and idiosyncrasies of Washington DC, she believes she can be very helpful regarding EPA's discussion of NPDES permitting and Drift Management regulation rather than rotating off at this time. The BOD enthusiastically supports Jill in her efforts.

The first National Invasive Species Awareness Week was held in Washington DC in January. The BOD is providing up to \$10,000 to continue this work, but is interested in identifying someone besides Lee Van Wychen to be the organizer for this event.

Website director David Kruger developed on-line abstract submission software for use at the 2011 WSSA annual meeting in Portland. The prototype software was used by NEWSS for their 2010 annual meeting, and will be available for use by the regional and member societies. Other website changes will involve the weed images, which will be combined with the Center for Invasive Species and Ecosystem Health's (formerly Bugwood) photo database at the University of Georgia.

There is interest by the Weed Loss committee to update the 1992 Crop Losses Due to Weeds in the US publication. Regional societies may be approached to name members who might be interested in submitting a grant to do this work.

Ralph Whitesides provided Code of Ethics, Document Retention, Conflict of interest, Whistleblower policies that he had created from several sources. BOD accepted these policies, with minor editorial changes. They will be posted on the WSSA website when complete.

Tim Miller notes that Greg Armel is attempting to organize a Weed Olympics in 2011. IB notes that an email was circulated in December that outlines the vision of the contest and includes the rules. IB suggests circulating them to the membership after getting accurate dates from Armel.

CAST Representative Report – Phil Stahlman

Activities during the Year: In my reports to the WSSW Board of Directors (BOD) in March and July 2009 and in one Newsletter article, I informed the WSSW BOD and membership that CAST was facing major financial challenges and that fundamental changes in the way CAST operates were forthcoming. Considerable time was spent during the Fall 2008 and Spring 2009 CAST BOD meetings discussing structural changes and a new strategic plan and modified business model. The BOD authorized the Executive committee to develop a proposal for restructuring CAST based in part on outcomes of an Executive Committee retreat. Changes directed by the BOD included (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) new proposals for publications must include prospective external funding source(s); and (3) CAST will no longer pay any travel expense for a society's representative to attend CAST BOD meetings. An increase in membership contributions was not part of the BOD's charge to the Executive Committee.

In September 2009, the CAST BOD received and subsequently voted to adopt the Executive Committee's Restructuring Proposal. Significant changes in addition to those mentioned above include redefined membership contributions (\$1,500 for professional societies with fewer than

1000 members and \$3,000 for societies with 1,000 or more members; previously \$750 for WSWS), consolidated and streamlined Work Groups, and creation of a Board of Trustees to replace the National Concerns Committee. The Board of Trustees will be a body of 11 prominent and nationally known individuals who will serve as a review body and make final recommendations to the Executive Committee concerning proposals for publications submitted by the Work Groups. Membership will still contain a mix of professional societies, commercial companies, non-profit and trade organizations, and individual members. Membership contributions can be at any level; however, full membership contribution as listed above for professional societies is required for society representation in Work Groups. Thus, WSWS contribution for full membership is increased from \$750 to \$1,500. The WSWS already covers travel of its representative to CAST BOD's meeting when submitted for reimbursement.

Despite difficult times and challenges, CAST's staff (small in number but high in output) remains dedicated and highly committed to the organizational mission of communicating credible science to policymakers and the public. CAST has developed several excellent relationships with other key organizations that help increase CAST's reach and impact. One example is partnering with the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research (NCFAR) in conducting seminars on topics of high interest for Capital Hill staffers and other policy makers in Washington D.C. about the value of public investment in food and agricultural research. Nearly 1,900 Hill staff has attended 40 seminars over the past five years (Figure). Many of the seminars have featured CAST publications with presentations by the authors from over 40 institutions across the nation.

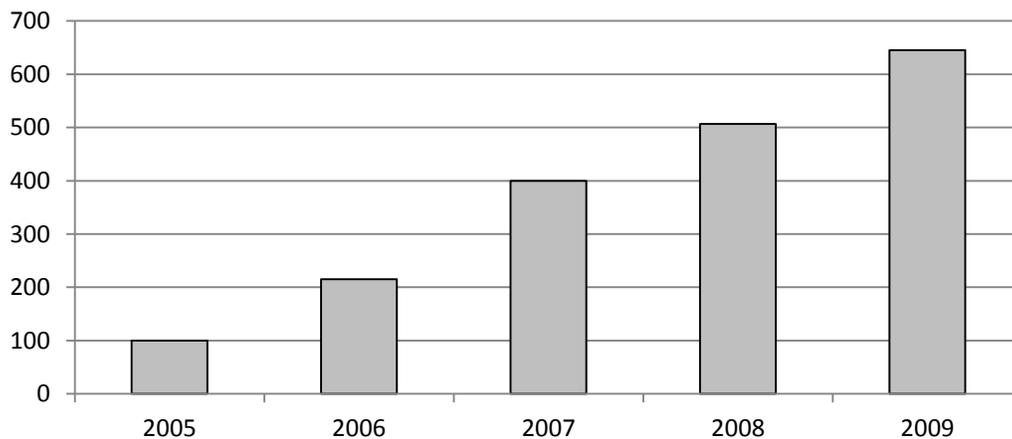


Figure. Number of Hill staff attending NC-FAR's "Lunch-&-Learn Hill Seminar Series. 10 seminars in 2009; 9 in 2008; 21 in 2005-2007. Source: NC-FAR

Phil Stahlman notes that a new issue paper is in preparation on the effects of weed resistance on conservation tillage.

Joe DiTomaso notes that the Staffers view CAST as the one source of non-biased science-based information. Vanelle Peterson notes that we would be down one vote if we did not renew our membership.

Phil Stahlman notes that all forthcoming publications will require sponsorship. Dan Ball notes that that system may lead to bias.

Jesse Richardson notes he supports our membership in CAST. Phil Stahlman notes that funded proposals are now being moved to the top of the publication list. Jesse Richardson notes we have already paid the \$1500 charge. Tony White asks why the SWSS has declined membership. Phil Stahlman notes that the SWSS financial status was such that they had to decline.

Phil Stahlman notes that a proposal could be submitted with partial support, as long as a list of ideas for support is included. He also notes that the board will be required to operate with a code of ethics.

Joe DiTomaso asks if the CAST publications will include a note of source of funding. Phil Stahlman notes that they are generally recognized. Joe DiTomaso asks if there is a statement noting that the sponsors do not have any input into the author selection or paper preparation. Phil Stahlman notes that the papers do not say that explicitly. CAST does not regulate content. They tend to depend on the review process. The reviewers are listed below the authors.

Recommendations for Board Action: Accept the increased membership contributions from \$750 to \$1,500 and remain a full society member of CAST.

Motion: Joe DiTomaso moves to support full membership in CAST at the \$1500 level. Phil Munger seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

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

Constitution and By-Laws Representative Report – Kai Umeda

Completed updating operating guides for: Local Arrangement Committee (eliminate industry reservations), WSWS Newsletter Editor (modify timeline), Research Section Chairperson (PowerPoint presentation loading, 5 sections)

Initiated updating operating guides for: Secretary (eliminate Resolutions Committee), Symposium Committee, Sustaining Member Committee (add organization contact information), Education Committee (integrate ad hoc committees), Research Project Chairpersons (6 to 5 sections)

Discussed with Publications Committee rotation of chairpersons

Symposium Committee to be standing committee requires member vote in 2011

Kai Umeda notes that Frank Young had some suggestions for the student scholarship program.

Recommendations for Board Action: Select a new Representative
 Approve completed operating guide revisions

Local Arrangements – Phil Motooka (Joe DiTomaso)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Philip Motooka, chair; James Leary; Jeremy Gooding; Keith Duncan; Chuck Rice.

Activities during the Year: James Leary setup several demonstration plots for the planned tours. Due to lack of interest, only one tour will be conducted, that for the gorse tour on Mauna Kea. Phil Motooka scouted the area near the hotel for eating places. Besides the main restaurant and a snack bar close to the conference rooms there are fine dining restaurants across the street at the Kings' Shopping Center. Up the street, a five-minute walk, is the Queen's Market which has fine dining restaurants, a food store with a deli section, and a food court. He also twice met with the Marriott staff. The second visit included a walk through the conference area and settling menus and conference room setups. Arrangements were made to secure foam core boards and to rent extra easels from a firm called ICES. These items were not available on island and so had to be shipped in from Honolulu. They will be delivered to the hotel before 8 a.m. on March 8, 2010. A power point projector will be borrowed from the University of Hawaii as a standby.

Budget Needs: James Leary needs money to cover van rental, gasoline, and food. There are no eating places on Mauna Kea. He will contact Phil Banks.

Finance – Leo Charvat (Phil Banks)

Activities during the Year: The finance committee met in Albuquerque, New Mexico, during the WSWS annual meeting. Financial reports and investments information was reviewed with Business Manager Phil Banks. A review of the financial records and investments, with the Business Manager, were found to be in proper order and the society is operating within the financial guidelines as outlined.

The financial committee has been updated on conversations with Stan Cooper at RBC, on the current situations during the year in the financial markets. The current position of a more conservative approach taken last year by the board and committee have allowed for gains, but not to previous levels, while protecting principal and preventing further losses.

The Board approved at the summer meeting three \$1,000 travel scholarships that were awarded for the meeting. Currently there 28 students registered for the meeting that could potentially apply for the \$45/night reimbursement for the meeting.

As of February 23, 2010, the overall value of the RBC Wealth Management account was \$190,242 vs. \$161,129, a gain of \$29,113 from the annual meeting in 2009. Overall the return for that calendar period is 18.06%, with a gain for the year of 2009 of 8.85%.

Investment allocations are as follows: 68.3% bonds, primarily very short maturity bonds (average duration of the portfolio is approximately 2 years.), 27.7% global mixed assets, a blend of international bonds, stocks, commodities and cash, 2.5% natural gas, 1.4% cash.

Stan Cooper's, RBC, comments on the market: Future outlook is to expect extreme volatility in the markets for the year ahead and the portfolio has been positioned accordingly to reduce risk and maintain gains, with adjustments to be made to take advantage of higher yields when they occur.

Budget Needs: The Board will be discussing how to continue the Noxious Weed Short course, and what, if any, this will cost WSWS. We will post a larger than normal loss on the Annual meeting due to low attendance and the increased cost to the WSWS for meeting in Hawaii.

Suggestions for the Future: Need to watch expenses for the Annual meeting and encourage attendance to prevent large financial losses.

Nominations – Don Morishita (Dan Ball)

Committee met during WSWS Annual Meeting in Albuquerque, NM to discuss potential nominees for WSWS offices. Emails were exchanged with committee members as potential candidates were contacted and considered for the slate of officers. For 2010-2011 officers, the committee compiled 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 agreed to run for the offices listed below. The voting results were sent to President Richardson and Phil Banks. Voter turnout was similar to previous years, with about 96 members casting their votes.

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: During my conversations and calls to various individuals to see if they would be willing to run for an office, one of them expressed a concern about paying

for their travel to the summer board meeting, since they were self-employed. Phil explained in an email that the Board had approved providing \$500 for travel to the summer board meeting regardless of their source of employment. It is not certain how much this affected their decision to consider running, but it may have influenced their decision to some extent. This committee would like to Board consider revising the \$500 travel stipend to a level that would ensure covering travel expenses.

Another potential nominee said they were interested in serving, but did not feel management from their company considered their involvement in the leadership of professional organizations, including WSWS, important. This committee is wondering if private industry management should be encouraged by WSWS to support their employees to serve in these roles.

Dan Ball notes that private industry support for the society has waned, and that's reflected in the private sector nominations for awards.

Phil Stahlman asks if support among the private industry for Society participation is strong. Jesse Richardson, Phil Munger, and Pat Clay note that support is strong, while Tony White notes that other companies are less interested in supporting society participation.

Kai Umeda notes that we should produce a document that articulates the benefits of participation in the society.

Phil Stahlman suggests including wording that says up to but not to exceed a certain amount and only reimburse actual cost. Vanelle Peterson suggests adding wording that suggests adding exception wording

Motion: Dan Ball moves to increase the travel reimbursement limit up to \$750 for actual travel expenses for the summer board meeting. Joe DiTomaso seconds. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Kai Umeda asks Tony White if voting is all online. Tony White notes it is.

Fellows and Honorary Members – Bill Cobb (Dan Ball)

The 2009 – 2010 Fellow and Honorary Member committee consisted of myself, Dr. Phil Stahlman and Dr. Don Morishita.

Three fellow nominations were submitted to the committee, all three nominations were from the public sector. No honorary membership nominations were received.

The committee selected two nominees for the Fellow Award:

Dr. Tracy Sterling, Department Head, Land Resources and Environmental Science Department, Montana State University, Bozeman, Montana

Mr. Rick Arnold, Department of Entomology, Plant Pathology and

Weed Science, New Mexico State University, Farmington, New Mexico

Jesse Richardson notes that Harry Cline, Editor, Western Farm Press was selected as honorary member.

Awards – Frank Young (Jesse Richardson)

Activities during the Year: Received and ranked nominations for awards. We were also asked to receive applications and rank three \$1000 scholarships for WSWS student members. We have provided Dan Ball with short introductions of the award and scholarship winners to be used for the presentations. For various reasons none of the awards committee members will be able to attend this year's meeting. Via discussions with Past-President Dan Ball and President Jesse Richardson it was agreed upon to have Dan Ball introduce and present the awards to the winners.

Recommendations for Board Action: Present the following awards.

Professional Staff Award: Cheryl Fiore, Research Specialist, New Mexico State University.

Outstanding Weed Scientist Early Career Public Sector: Dr. Ian Burke, Assistant Professor of Weed Science, Washington State University.

Outstanding Weed Scientist Public Sector: Dr. Drew Lyon, Professor Dryland Cropping Systems Specialist, University Nebraska-Scottsbluff.

\$1000 Scholarships:

Wilson V. Avila-Garcia, Oregon State University

Mary Joy Abit, Kansas State University

Jeremiah Mann, University of California-Davis

Suggestions for the Future: Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: Procedures for notifying the scholarship winners and when the checks will be presented to them was very confusing. I requested the winning students' major advisors to notify them. Upon notifying Phil Banks of the winners he immediately mailed the checks. As Chair, I notified all scholarship applicants who did not receive awards and notified nominators if their nominees did not receive awards. I believe confusion existed because the scholarship award was quickly decided upon at the summer meeting and as Chair of the awards committee I was asked to review the applicants. We (committee members) gladly accepted the task. The awards committee can continue to do the scholarship reviews in the future with no problem; however we need to clarify specific duties and time frames.

We also extended deadlines for ALL awards hoping that more nominees would be submitted. We did have five (5) scholarship applicants, however nominees for WSWS awards were VERY disappointing. In general we only had one nominee per award with NO nominations from the private sector for any awards.

Poster Committee – Robert Finley (Joe DiTomaso)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Carl Libbey – Chair 2010, Charlie Hicks - Past Chair, Robert Finley – (Chair 2011), and Roger Gast – (Chair 2012).

Date of Preparation (include year): March 8, 2010

Activities during the Year:

Poster boards and easels were stored at New Mexico State University Weeds Lab in Las Cruces after the conclusion of the Albuquerque meeting. There are a total of 100 poster boards plus 50 easels. For the Waikoloa meeting the local arrangement committee will have procured poster boards and the WSWS easels will be shipped to Hawaii. Additional easels will be rented from the Marriott Hotel. We will set up a total of 70 boards and easels in the Ali'i Ballrooms for the two poster sessions. Following the meeting, easels will be shipped to the Washington State University Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center for storage prior to the Spokane, Washington meeting.

Recommendations for Board Action: The board should discuss plans for poster arrangements at the 2011 meeting in Spokane, Washington.

Budget Needs: Need to plan for shipping and/or rental costs for the 2011 meeting.

Phil Banks notes that Tim Miller will store the poster boards and move them to Spokane. Joe DiTomaso notes that if transport can be arranged, he can store the poster board for the Reno meeting.

Student Paper Contest – Andy Hulting (Joe DiTomaso)

Office or Committee Name: Student Paper Judging

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:

Andy Hulting, Chair Jim Harbour

Roland Schirman

Date of Preparation (include year): March, 2010

Activities during the Year:

Preparations for the student paper/poster contests at the 2010 meeting have gone smoothly. Based on the guidelines for this committee outlined in the Operating Guide and the titles/abstracts submitted, the student papers and posters have been organized into the following divisions for judging:

Weeds of Agronomic Crops/Weeds of Horticultural Crops

8 graduate papers-1st and 2nd places will be awarded

Weeds of Range and Natural Areas/Basic Sciences

9 graduate papers-1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded

Graduate/Undergraduate Poster Contest

9 graduate posters-1st, 2nd and 3rd places will be awarded

2 undergraduate posters-only 1st place will be awarded

Thirteen WSWS members have agreed to serve as judges for the student paper/poster contests. A minimum of four judges has been assigned to each division of the contest.

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs:

Total award numbers and dollar amounts are based on the number of students participating in the contest per Operating Guide rules. Total budget needs for monetary prizes will be \$725 if all papers/posters noted above are presented. Plaques will also need to be made and mailed to the award winners in each respective division at a cost of approximately \$400-500.

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

Tony White asks which presentations have been changed. Joe DiTomaso notes presentation 75 and 77 will be switched.

Sustaining Membership – Jeff Koscelny (Dan Ball)

Date of Preparation (include year): March 1, 2010

Activities during the Year:

- On September 14, 2009, Chair emailed a request to previous and potential new sustaining members asking for their continued support for the WSWS by payment of dues. An invoice was included with the request.
- On January 4, 2010, a reminder email was sent to sustaining members that had not yet responded to September request.
- On March 3, 2010, a total of 17 sustaining members had agreed to support the WSWS for a total contribution of \$6,600.
 - The sustaining members were: AMVAC Chemical Corporation; Arysta LifeScience; BASF Corporation; Bayer CropSciences; Dow AgroSciences; DuPont Crop Science; FMC; Gowan Company; Helena Chemical Company; Marathon-Agric.&Environ.; Monsanto Company; Novozymes Biologicals; Phil BanksI Gordon Corporation; Syngenta; Valent; Wilbur-Ellis Company and Winfield Solutions, LLC.

Necrology – Corey Ransom (Ian Burke)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Corey Ransom (Chair), Laurel Baldwin, Jim Vandecoevering, Tom Whitson (Advisor/Historian)

Date of Preparation (include year): March 3, 2010

Activities during the Year: Collect names and obituaries for members of the society that passed away during the year. At this time we are aware of the passing of one member of our society. Jack May (who had worked with Shell in Modesto, CA) passed away on February 16, 2010. We are still waiting to receive an obituary.

Public Relations – Erin Taylor (Pat Clay)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Erin Taylor (Chair), Brad Hanson, Mark Ferrell, Bill Cobb, Dennis Scott, Brian Olson, Deb Shatley

Date of Preparation (include year): March 3, 2010

Activities during the Year:

- A press release was written and released on February 22, 2010 and then again a week later on March 2, 2010. Please see second page for press release.
- Continuing education credits to meet state licensing requirements have been applied for the 2010 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 have also been applied for. An update of those states/organizations awarding credits will be given at the business meeting and be provided in the summer report.

Legislative – Pam Hutchinson (Tim Miller)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:

Pam Hutchinson, Chair (2011)

Lisa Boggs (2012)

Lee Van Wychen, *Ex-officio*

Date of Preparation: March 02, 2010

Activities during the Year:

At the summer 2009 Board of Directors Meeting, I requested as current Chair for this committee an additional year to provide continuity to this committee since committee member resignations have recently occurred and I was not due to become Chair until next year anyway.

As per the Operating Guide for the Legislative Committee Chair, “The Chairperson shall serve as a member of the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) Science Policy Committee,” I have been copied on emails sent to the WSSA Science Policy Committee throughout the year from Lee Van Wychen and directly from WSSA. Excerpts from these emails sent between the March 2009 and summer 2009 Board of Directors meeting were included in the summer 2009 Committee report.

On August 26, 2009, my University of Idaho, Plant, Soils, and Entomological Sciences Department Head forwarded a letter from Deputy Secretary of Agriculture Kathleen Merrigan which includes indications of future priorities. An electronic copy of the letter will be on file at the WSWS website.

I could not attend the 2010 WSSA Science Policy Committee meeting and plan to next year if possible.

Excerpts from the aforementioned emails since the summer 2009 Board of Directors meeting are as follows:

Sept. 24, 2009—Roger N. Beachy, Ph.D. has been appointed the first director of the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) at the U.S. Department of Agriculture by President Barack Obama. Beachy will join the agency on October 5, 2009.

Beachy is the founding president of the Donald Danforth Plant Science Center in St. Louis, MO, a not-for-profit research institute with a mission to improve the human condition through plant science.

Overall- this can be viewed as very favorable appointment from the Weed Science perspective. His appointment is for 6 years. Some people here in DC are whining that he wasn't Senate confirmed, but that's not that big a deal. NIFA replaces CSREES on Oct. 1. Beachy will be in charge of the \$200+ million in competitive grant funding as well as the nearly \$300 million in formula funding to the land-grants.

10/23/2009 Lee asked a question of the societies listed below, "Do you want to be a permanent member of the AFRI Coalition?" I recommended to WSWS President Jesse Richardson that we do become a permanent AFRI Coalition member.

Lee's email text: Since the passage the 2008 Farm Bill, a coalition of science societies has been meeting on ad-hoc basis to support funding for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), which is the new USDA competitive grants program that replaced the NRI.

Given our initial success of a 30% increase in USDA research dollars for FY2010, the coalition is looking to move forward with a mission statement and permanent member list. My question to each society (AMS, NCWSS, NEWSS, SWSS, WSWS and WSSA) is: Do you want to be a permanent member of the AFRI Coalition?

To date, I have included each society as signatories on the letters we have sent to Congress and the Administration in support of AFRI funding. I have attached two of those letters. (FYI- Holdren is Obama's science advisor, officially the Director of the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP)).

Legislative Committee Chair NOTE: The two aforementioned letters have been sent to the WSWS Webmaster to file on the WSWS website.

*The AFRI Coalition Mission Statement:

- The mission of the AFRI Coalition is to heighten the awareness of and appreciation among policymakers and the public for the importance and role of USDA's Agriculture and Food Research Initiative competitive grants program in ensuring a nutritious and safe food supply, enabling sustainable food, feed, and fuel feedstock production, assuring agriculture's role in climate change mitigation, and protecting our nation's environment and natural resource base. The AFRI Coalition is united behind the desire to see AFRI funded at its authorized funding level of \$700 million.
- The only part of the mission statement that might cause some consternation is "assuring agriculture's role in climate change mitigation". Just as the agricultural lobby groups here in DC are divided on the issue, I can imagine that some of your societies might be divided on the issue.

Lee stated that beyond that, there are no dues or fees to be part of the coalition, so I would highly recommend that each society becomes a permanent member of the AFRI Coalition. Society Presidents were asked to let Lee know their decision by Oct 29, 2009.

11/05/2009 Lee asked the WSSA Science Policy Committee to distribute the \$47.3 million USDA grant announcement for the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI), application closing date Jan. 14, 2010. One of the five focus areas is: "Efforts to identify and address threats

from pests and diseases.” See:

<http://www07.grants.gov/search/search.do?&mode=VIEW&flag2006=false&oppId=50092>

Lee also included in the 11/05/2009 email the following: The American Farm Bureau Federation, National Cotton Council, CropLife America, the National Association of Wheat Growers and others asked the Supreme Court this week to review to review the 6th Circuit Court decision from January that invalidated the EPA rule that exempts pesticides applied in compliance with FIFRA from having to obtain a Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. The Supreme Court is expected to make a decision on whether to hear the case by the end of the year. Please note that EPA will continue to move forward on their timeline to develop an NPDES general permit. As things currently stand, all pesticides applied “in, over, or near navigable waters of the U.S.” will be required to have an NPDES permit by April 2011.

11/19/2009 Lee asked the WSSA Science Policy Committee if any work with the National Ecological Observatory Network (NEON)? If so, it would be great to respond to the American Institute of Biological Science's (AIBS) survey by 12/02/2009.

<http://coronainsights.com/survey/surveylogin.asp?k=125720397347&i=2DanBall4B32345484C93C7568457D6417CB39ED701>

11/23/2009 A WSSA Science Policy Committee conference call was held on this date to discuss a number of policy issues including NPDES permits and the EPA federal register notices for spray drift. Specific on the agenda were updates on:

- Spray drift labeling
- Clean Water Act permits
- National Invasive Species Awareness Week
- Healthy Habitats Coalition
- APHIS/EPA Herbicide resistance grant

Legislative Committee Chair NOTE: I was unable to participate in the conference call.

12/16/2009 Lee informed the WSSA Science Policy Committee the following: We are very happy that USDA will be re-hiring a Director for their Office of Pest Management Policy. Some of you may have known Al Jennings, who retired on Jan. 1. He included the announcement and stated that it would be great to have a weed scientist in this position! Application deadline is JANUARY 15, 2010.

01/18/2010 Rich Bonanno, Chair WSSA Science Policy Committee sent the following:

As part of the report of the Science Policy Committee to WSSA, I need to assemble a review of Lee based on his performance over the last year. I would appreciate it if you could take a minute or two and send me your thoughts. Any comments based on the Newsletter reports, visits to Society meetings, one on one interaction, Invasive Species week, etc would be appreciated.

Very positive comments were sent to Rich by the deadline January 22, 2010 in order for him to make a report to WSSA President, David Shaw.

01/09/2010 Information was sent from WSSA and Lee Van Wychen about USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) plans to release Agriculture and Food Research

Initiative RFA in February no later than mid-February 2010 and commitment of up to \$800 million in funding for new grants, contingent on annual appropriations in following years.

01/25/1020 and 02/16/2010 from WSSA to WSSA Science Policy Committee:

On November 4, 2009, the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) issued a Federal Register Notice entitled “*Draft Guidance for Pesticide Registrants on Pesticide Drift Labeling*” requesting comment on three documents: (1) Pesticide Registration Notice (PRN) Draft Pesticide Drift Labeling; (2) Draft Pesticide Drift Labeling Interpretation (Labeling Interpretation); and (3) Draft PRN Additional Information and Questions for Commenters.

Information about the Notice was included in the email and Committee members were encouraged to submit comments directly to the EPA on the proposed action and to include the docket number “EPA-HQ- OPP-2009-0628” in the response. Comments may be submitted via www.regulations.gov to docket “EPA-HQ-OPP-2009-0628” and are due on or before March 4, 2010. Comments can be submitted under the new March 4, 2010 closing date on page 5 of this docket or by using the following website:

<http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#submitComment?R=0900006480a66c8d>

Noted in the email: Lee Van Wychen and the Science Policy Committee will be developing the response from WSSA.

Suggestions for the Future: Proposed Committee Tasks for the upcoming year pending upon direction and approval from the WSWS Board:

- Discuss the possibilities of scheduling conference calls with WSWS states’ U.S. Congressional Senator and Representatives aides and if possible, the Congressional members themselves.
- Discuss initiating in 2010/2011 development of a workshop training interested WSWS members from each WSWS state on how to meet with their county and state congressional reps and aides.
 - The WSWS Legislative Committee would work together and with Lee
 - Materials are available from various sources.
- Discuss with Lee and the WSWS Board the possibility of a Legislative Committee member travelling to Washington D.C. in the future to spend time with Lee and visit key Congressional members and their aides.
 - WSWS would have to approve and pay the costs.
- Initiate the development of a contact information document online for each state’s U.S. Congressional members, key agriculture aides in Washington D.C., and aides/representatives living and working in each state.
- Chair attend the Summer WSWS Board meeting if requested.
- Chair attend the 2011 WSSA meeting as Legislative Committee Liaison from WSWS.

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: None since the recently posted, revised Legislative Committee Operating Guide

Lee Van Wychen thinks Pam Hutchinson’s intent is to generate some interaction with your local congressional representatives during their August recess.

Herbicide Resistant Plants – Joel Felix (Phil Munger)

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Joel Felix, Chair (2011), Ian Burke (2011), Earl Creech (2011), Melissa Bridges (2012), Andrew Kniss (2012)

Date of Preparation (include year): March 2, 2010

Activities during the Year: The committee communicated via email and discussed issues related to weed resistance to herbicides in different states/regions. There are anecdotal accounts of hard to control kochia (*Kochia scoparia*) and Russian thistle (*Salsola kali*) in Montana's chemical-fallow systems. Additionally, there are accounts of suspected green foxtail (*Setaria viridis*) and prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*) resistance to ALS-inhibiting herbicides as well. Resistance to suspected herbicides has not been confirmed yet.

Also, there are reports of large expanses of areas occupied by 2,4-D resistant prickly lettuce (*Lactuca serriola*) in Washington State. The resistance seems to be widely distributed and appears to be spread over much of the Palouse region.

Phil Stahlman notes that there are four confirmed sites of kochia resistant to glyphosate in Kansas.

Recommendations for Board Action: The committee urges urge the WSWS board to continue the education and awareness of potential herbicide resistance developing or escaping to perennial systems (e.g., rangeland).

Budget Needs: No budget is needed at this time. However, there may be a need to develop a survey and gauge the perceptions of growers, ranchers, and general agricultural practitioners towards herbicide resistant plants.

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: The committee 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. Proposals were sent out to Colorado Springs, Salt Lake City, and several to California locations Napa, Sonoma, Monterey, San Diego, Oxnard. We are receiving many offers and calls hoping for business. Our committee plans to meet Sunday, March 8 to discuss these options.

Jesse Richardson notes that the site selection committee asks for clarification. Does the board prefer a warm weather site or a Colorado site? Phil Stahlman notes that we really need a firm recommendation from the committee. Dan Ball notes that the board seems to favor the current thoughts on San Diego.

Student Liaison – Ryan Edwards and Tanya Skurski

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Ryan Edwards, chair, and Tanya Skurski, chair-elect.

Activities during the Year:

- Establishment of the WSWS outstanding student (undergraduate and/or graduate) scholarships.
- Proposal for the WSWS student liaison chair and CAST representative to become voting members of the board.
- Drafting the WSWS student liaisons operating guide.
- Establishing with Tony White, a platform for future online voting of student liaison chair-elect.
- Presentation tips from the members for student paper and poster contest.
- Organizing with corporate sponsors of the 2nd annual student luncheon and student reception.
- Establishment of the 2010 Kona Meeting travel reimbursement (\$45/night/student up to 3 nights).
- Revisal of the ‘Student Night Out’ program.
- Student liaison messages in the WSWS newsletter.
- Updates to the WSWS student website.

Recommendations for Board Action: Proposal for the WSWS student liaison chair and the CAST representative to become voting members of the board (requires membership vote).

Suggestions for the Future:

- Assessment of the “Student Night Out” Program at the end of the meeting.
- Revisal of the Student Liaison operating guide.

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:

- Updates to the operating guide (depends upon membership vote for voting rights for the student liaison and CAST representative).
- Adoption of the WSWS student liaison operating guide (pending edits).

Joe DiTomaso asks how the sign-up for student night out is going. Ryan Edwards notes that online registration was not a workable and that he is currently crafting a sign-up sheet and sign for this year’s event.

Director of Science Policy – Lee Van Wychen

USDA personnel changes

-ARS hired Dr. John Lydon as the new National Program Leader for Weed Science. Mention Great Basin Initiative.

- Roger Beachy was selected as the first Director of NIFA (6 year appointment).

- Under Sec for Research, Education and Econ is vacant as Raj Shah left for US-AID. No replacement nominated as of Mar. 4.

Doubling Campaign for USDA Agricultural and Food Research Initiative (AFRI)

I have been working with several research coalitions (NC-FAR, Co-Farm) 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 was 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. The FY 2010 ag approps bill was passed last fall with \$262 million for AFRI. The FY 2011 budget, released on Feb. 1 targets AFRI for \$429 million. Great! However, there are rumors that the biology of weedy and invasive species grant program under AFRI will be “reshuffled” into big picture AFRI initiatives. DISCUSSION.

Herbicide Resistance Management Policy -WSSA members Bill Vencill, Carol Mallory-Smith, Bill Johnson, Nilda Burgos, Ted Webster, Bob Nichols, and John Soteres 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. The goal is publish the review paper via “open access” in *Weed Science* by Sept. 2010.

In October, Jill Schroeder, WSSA-EPA Liaison, helped coordinate a learning session on herbicide resistance management in Washington DC. David Shaw, WSSA President, gave presentation to EPA-OPP and CropLife America in October that discussed results after 3rd year of 4-yr, 6 state study that showed that net returns on fields managed according to recommended best practices are equal to or greater than the returns on those where glyphosate is used alone. WSSA recommendations include focused educational efforts that target all appropriate groups including media, growers, dealers/distributors, and consultants. We need to convey a consistent, accurate message about managing herbicide resistance and it must be urgent. Discussions about herbicide mode-of-action labeling are on the table with EPA.

EPA- Clean Water Act (CWA) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permits (NPDES) The WSSA wants 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 political agendas. In January 2009, the 6th Circuit Court ruled that EPA’s rule exempting pesticides from CWA permits was not a reasonable interpretation of the CWA since the terms “chemical waste” and “biological materials” unambiguously include aquatic pesticides. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies along with many other stakeholders (including USDA Secretary Vilsack, and House and Senate Ag Committees) asked EPA to petition for a full 6th Circuit court rehearing because it was EPA’s rule that was vacated by the court. When that did not happen, industry petitioned the full 6th Circuit Court to rehear the case, while in the meantime, EPA only asked for 2 year stay in the 6th Circuit decision in order have time to implement an NPDES permit system for pesticides applied “in, over, or near water”. The industry (Crop Life, National Cotton Council, etc...) appeal to the full 6th Circuit Court was denied last summer. Industry has

since petitioned the Supreme Court to hear the case, but that petition was rejected last week, essentially ending the judicial appeal process.

EPA has until **April 9, 2011** to implement an NPDES permit system for all pesticides applied in, over, or near water. Jack Faulk, EPA Office of Water, and Skee Jones, EPA Office of Pesticide Programs, are the agency leads on writing the NPDES permits. We have a very good working relationship with them. Both were on the Florida aquatic pesticide fact finding trip and provided an update on the permit writing at National Invasive Species Awareness Week. EPA plans to release NPDES general permit draft language for public comment by **April 2010**. Comments will be incorporated into final permit language that will be released to the states in December 2010. States will be required to do their own permitting (except for ID, MA, NM, and VT which don't have that EPA authority to do their own permitting and will have to use EPA's version). State general permits must be approved by EPA prior to **April 9, 2011**

My biggest concern is that exposure to nuisance claims, litigation and onerous fines would prevent/inhibit weed managers from carrying out an appropriate weed management program. The required record keeping and monitoring, subjective determination of best practices, 24-hour incident reporting, 5-day written reports, annual reports, required signature from a corporate officer, fines up to \$500,000 and up to 30 years prison sentences for a violation; all make the use of herbicides an impossible risk.

The number of nuisance lawsuits would shut down any operation when an adverse incident is defined as;

"(1) A person or non-target organism may have been exposed to a pesticide residue, and
(2) The person or non-target organism suffered a toxic or adverse effect, or is reasonably likely to suffer a delayed or chronic adverse effect in the future."

Spray Drift Labeling. EPA has proposed new language for FIFRA labels which poses many problems. Vague language such as "could cause" or "may cause" adverse effects does not belong on a pesticide label because it is NOT in accordance with the FIFRA risk-based standard of 'no unreasonable adverse effects' and it forces state regulators into the role of risk assessor to determine what 'may or could' cause an effect, which they are not trained to do and is EPA's role. EPA's guidance on how to enforce the proposed drift label language sets an unachievable zero drift standards and sets the stage for frivolous lawsuits and enforcement actions. For example, a headache that is untreated or verified by a medical professional may be the basis for an enforcement action or lawsuit, particularly when a farmer's neighbor has a predetermined reason or history of conflict with the farmer. Email notice was sent via WSSA list-serve. Comments were due to EPA on March 5.

Atrazine Re-Evaluation in 2010 -Atrazine was re-registered in 2006 after a 3 year review of over 6,000 studies on atrazine. EPA concluded that "no harm that would result to the general U.S. population, infants, children or other...consumers" from atrazine use. However, the new EPA admins want to review atrazine again, but the case study and human incident data is questionable. The FIFRA SAP met Feb. 2-5, 2010. Tyrone Hayes study released on March 1. None of his "studies" on atrazine have yet to reproduced by other scientists.

Motion: Joe DiTomaso moves to become a permanent member of the AFRI coalition Tim Miller seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Jesse Richardson asks that Lee Van Wychen direct the weed science organizations on how to engage in the litigation activities against pesticides.

Noxious Weed Short Course – Joe DiTomaso

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:

Co-chairs Joe DiTomaso and Vanelle Peterson

Rita Beard, Natl Park Service, Gina Ramos and Richard Lee, BLM, Linda Spencer and Leonard Lake, USFS, Rod Lym and Celestine Duncan

Activities during the Year:

Met and drafted an RFP to review with the Board at the 2010 board meeting. If the description is approved by the board then proposals will be accepted to be reviewed and voted on by the Board via email by June 2010. In order for the 2011 Short Course to be planned and organized it is desired to have the proposal chosen and awarded by June 2010.

DRAFT is attached (see below).

Recommendations for Board Action: Vote to approve the RFP as written by the advisory committee.

DRAFT FOR SUBMISSION TO BOARD

Guidelines for proposals to establish a Western Society of Weed Science Invasive Plant Short Course. The Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) Noxious Weed Short Course has had a long history of success. The course is very well respected by its clientele and has provided outstanding training to hundreds of land managers for about 20 years. The reputation of the course has been of great benefit to WSWS, providing a small source of income, tremendous visibility and credibility to the society, and the ability to sell weed identification books and increase society membership. These same criteria will be a strong consideration in the selection of other WSWS sponsored training courses.

Objectives: To conduct a “hands-on” course targeting Western land managers with resource knowledge of herbicides, ecology, invasive plants, and natural resources. This course should provide additional training in weed identification, herbicide formulations and calibration, herbicide uptake, translocation and mode of action, ecological principles of weed management including biological and cultural control methods, weed mapping and monitoring, integrated pest management strategies, and restoration ecology. The participants must be able to acquire Continuing Education Units (CEUs) from all participating states. In addition, the course has to meet Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements.

Types of proposals: Highest priority will be given to 3 day short course proposals that are directed at providing basic weed science and its use in land management training to local, state, federal government, and other land managers throughout the western region.

Proposals may also be accepted that target other groups, including applicators and other land managers, or that are more advanced training courses for government or private land managers, or applicators.

WSWS is not restricted to sponsoring only one course. If more than one course is sponsored by WSWS, the courses should not overlap in their program and target audience. Priority will not be given to courses that provide training for clientele only within a single state or small region, thus consideration will be given to the location where the course is conducted. Programs must have a broad range of qualified and knowledgeable instructors with extensive experience in outreach training; preference will be given for proposals that use WSWS members from across the west as instructors. Priority will be given to proposals with interactive adult education techniques, including interactive discussions, hands-on laboratories, field lectures, etc. As a sponsor of the course, WSWS will provide the initial start-up funding and advertising, with the expectation that WSWS is highlighted as the primary sponsor of the course. In addition, it is expected that some level of financial support will go back to WSWS at the completion of the course. Approved proposals will be evaluated non-competitively for renewal after two years.

Proposal requirements:

Proposals should contain the following information:

1. Expectations for the course, including level of training or knowledge expected of students who wish to participate.
2. Target audience and plan for attracting registrants. How many participants can the course accommodate to achieve the objectives?
3. Location, timing (potential dates and number of days), and facilities for the course, which must include ability to provide field exercises or demonstrations and some consideration for ADA access.
4. Using our requirements provide a detailed agenda including topics and instructors (key instructors need to be identified) with brief description of the qualifications of key and potential instructors. A detailed list of plants to be covered during the weed identification portion of the class must be included.
5. Format for information dissemination including a variety of mechanisms of information (i.e., standard lectures, interactive discussions, laboratories, videos, modules, field lectures, etc.). Provide information on how each format will be used.
6. Detailed budget, including income (e.g., registration costs and expected enrollment) and expenses (e.g., organizer fees, honoraria, speaker travel and per diem, facilities, meals, instructional information, vehicle rental, WSWS support, etc.)
7. Methods for evaluating the course and instructors, including yearly report to the WSWS Board. The report should also include evaluations and recommendations for proposed changes to future coursework.

Tim Miller asks if the courses should be self sufficient. Joe DiTomaso says they are, and that there is an expectation that the WSWS will get its money back. Tim Miller asks is the intent to have one course. Vanelle Peterson says yes, unless there are two very distinct courses with very different target audiences.

Motion: Dan Ball moves to moves the RFP as drafted by the subcommittee and corrected during discussion. Pat Clay seconds the Motion.

Discussion: Dan Ball asks if there were a way to disseminate the RFP outside the WSWs. Vanelle Peterson thought that those that would create such a course would likely be closely associated at least with agriculture. Dan Ball thought it would be worthwhile to advertise widely.

The motion passed unanimously.

Proceedings – Joan Campbell

Activities during the Year: The 2009 Proceedings is 214 pages. Omnipress printed 210 copies at a total cost of \$2800.00 (\$13.33 per book). The Board voted to eliminate the minutes from the Proceedings at their summer meeting. Board members and committee chairs were reminded to submit Proceedings information in early April.

Recommendations for Board Action: We suggest including at least the summer board meeting minutes in the Proceedings since they will be approved by printing time.

Budget Needs: \$2,800 -printing & shipping

Suggestions for the Future: Include Board reports in the Proceedings as they are submitted before the annual meeting.

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: Publications committee will work as a committee to update the Operating Guide.

Research Progress Reports – Traci Rauch

Office or Committee Name: Research Progress Report

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Traci Rauch and Joan Campbell

Date of Preparation (include year): February 26, 2010

Activities during the Year: The 2009 Research Progress Report is 144 pages duplexed. Omnipress printed 125 copies of which 75 copies were sent to the meeting site and remaining copies were sent to Phil Banks. The total cost including shipping was \$1,985.00.

Project 1 - 20 reports

Project 2 - 7 reports

Project 3 - 32 reports

Project 4 - 1 report

Project 5 - 3 report

Project 6 - 0 reports

To continue encouraging submissions to the Research Progress Report, we included a note in the September newsletter and on the website. Reports were submitted as paper copy and electronically by e-mail. Most reports were submitted in Microsoft Word format and some as pdf file type (Acrobat). This allowed the editors to make minor changes (margins, typos, full justification, etc) without needing to contact the authors. The number of reports submitted was 63 in 2010 which is 19 less than in 2009. The largest change was a reduction in Project 1

reports. A deadline change until the first week of January may help increase submissions. Reports were submitted from the following states:

Arizona
California
Colorado
Idaho
New Mexico
North Dakota
Oregon
South Dakota
Utah

Budget Needs: \$2,100 -printing & shipping

WSWS Newsletter – Cheryl Fiore

Activities during the Year: Follow the Newsletter Editor's Operating Guide schedule to request and compile submissions to the newsletter for publication.

Recommendations for Board Action: Accept recommended changes to Newsletter Editor's Operating Guide (attached).

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 March 1, 2009 until March 1, 2010 include:

10,028 visitors came to the website from 103 countries; 47% were new visits

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

With 21,172 page views, the meeting pages were at the top of the list with 17% of all views. Personal account pages and the online store were nearly tied for second (7%).

More website statistical data is available. Please contact me if interested.

Online Payment System. One major change to the online payment system is that the link between registration payments being required before title submission could take place was removed. This helped members who wanted to submit a title prior to the December deadline, but could not make payment until after the first of the year.

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 and Tonya Skurski. Additional updates and changes are ongoing.

Online Proceedings. 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.

Website Activity in Progress.

The Board of Directors report submission site was not developed due to the large amount of time necessary for development and the low amount of use the system would provide. Unless others feel this is a high priority, BOD reports will continue to be posted to the website as PDF, MS Word, or MS Excel documents.

Continue to update a variety of pages for general content. The online store and member account pages will be updated soon.

President's Report – Jesse Richardson

Jesse Richardson commented on the WSSA meeting among society Presidents and President-Elects. Other regional representatives were very favorable in meeting with other societies. WSWS continues to express an unwillingness to meet with other societies.

Old Business

Lee Van Wychen notes that a death notice for Dr. May was recently submitted to the WSSA website. Joe DiTomaso notes that the death was reported in the necrology report.

New Business

Vanelle Patterson resigned as Research Chair-elect, and Jesse Richardson appointed Brad Hanson as Research Chair-elect.

Motion: Tim Miller moves to affirm the appointment of Brad Hanson as Research Chair-elect. Joe DiTomaso seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Jesse Richardson opens discussion on realizing any potential revenue from the electronification of the research progress reports. Joe DiTomaso notes it will likely not be a major revenue stream. Dan Ball suggests that the new publication committee chair discuss the issue with the committee.

Motion: Tim Miller moves to adjourn. Dan Ball seconds the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted, April 16, 2010, Ian C. Burke, WSWS Executive Board Secretary.