



WSWS Post Meeting Board Meeting
Doubletree Hotel
March 10, 2011, Spokane, WA

In attendance: Joe DiTomaso, Phil Banks, Rick Boydston, Tim Miller, Vanelle Peterson, Kai Umeda, Brad Hanson, Mike Ostlie, Cameron Douglass, Joe Yenish, Phil Westra, Chuck Rice, Pete Forster, Rich Affeldt, Corey Ransom.

President Vanelle Peterson called the meeting to order.

Introductions ensued.

Kai Umeda nominated Bob Stougaard, Montana State University as the new Member at Large. Kai pointed out that Bob has previous WSWS Board experience.

Motion: Kai Umeda moved to accept Bob Stougaard as the board's new Member at Large. Tim Miller seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Vanelle Peterson asked the board for their feedback on the program. Phil Westra pointed out that the audio could have been better in some rooms. Chuck Rice stated it is preferable to have both the lapel and stationary microphones as options. It was noted that the moderator has the responsibility for audio adjustment and having microphones in the rooms and we need to remind them of this next year. Joe DiTomaso indicated that the hotel in Reno will have all new facilities next year. Phil Banks said he will send Kai Umeda the hotel contact information.

Vanelle Peterson reported there was good attendance in all sessions. The Ventenata Symposium had a high of 75 and the Ecological Effects of Invasive Plants Symposium had a high of 89 attendees.

Phil Westra commented on the format of having all the grad students come up front for the awards at the business breakfast meeting. He wondered if some grad students (non winners) were uncomfortable going up front. Rich Affeldt agreed. Some students seemed a bit confused as to what was going to happen. Awarding everyone Participant certificates was a new idea by Roland Schirman's committee. The consensus was that it was awkward for many of the students. One student was left out by accident. Kai Umeda pointed out that with the previous method of having them all stand up at their tables to be recognized made it difficult to see them all. It was suggested that the committee could possibly present the award winners first and then recognize all the students afterwards.

Corey Ransom pointed out that one judge wasn't at the poster judging at the correct time and turned in his judge's form lacking comments. The judge apparently went too early and marked everyone not present. Historically, the comments of judges were mailed rather than given to the students at the meeting. Vanelle Peterson commented that three undergraduate posters didn't get recognized as undergraduates. The board thought that we need to have a separate category for the competition for undergraduates. The website apparently didn't have a check box for the undergraduate category when the students signed up. Dave Krugar and Tony White need to make that change.

Vanelle Peterson reminded Brad Hansen to have section chairs get the minutes and new elected chairs from each section to him for inclusion in the Proceedings.

Rich Affeldt asked how older members without internet access can obtain the Proceedings and Reports. He was concerned about the requirement of having to be a member in order to access them. Phil Banks stated that currently the Proceedings are posted and are password protected and it is a membership perk to be able to access them. It is \$30 to become a WSWS member. Phil pointed out that the SWSS allows open access to the Proceedings. Joe DiTomaso indicated he would prefer that we have open access. Phil Banks said that people can purchase a hard copy of the Proceedings from a print on demand service, but not from WSWS. Phil indicated that about 30 libraries purchase hard copies. Last year we still had a print version of the Proceedings, but in the future we won't and Phil Banks will provide instructions how to obtain one. WSWS will receive \$20 and a cut of every one they sell. The board felt that we sell so few that the money isn't very important and there is no reason not to have open access.

Motion. Tim Miller motioned that we change the Progress Report and Proceedings to open access. Rich Affeldt seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

Vanelle asked for discussion for the scheduling of the Summer Board meeting in Reno. Several other meetings we need to work around are the WSSA, July 30-Aug. 1 and the WSSA Weed Olympics July 26-28. Vanelle Peterson suggested tentative dates of the weeks of Aug. 1 or Aug. 8 weeks. Phil Banks pointed out that the WSWS pays for graduate student travel to the Board meeting. Vanelle and Phil will need to check on the availability of Tina Mudd, Local Arrangements chair.

Kai Umeda indicated that Aug 1-5 was good for him. Joe DiTomaso cannot make it Aug. 5 or the following week. Phil Banks suggested the Board select 2-3 dates and then prioritize them.

Aug 1-5 was the first choice

Aug 8 second choice

July 11 was the third choice

Vanelle Peterson requested the board allow additional time to accommodate the ad hoc strategic planning committee (Mike Ostlie, Cameron, Kassim Al-Khatib, Vanelle Peterson, Joe DiTomaso) extra time to go over their findings with the board.

Vanelle Peterson thought that the beginning or end of the week would work better than the middle (start Monday noon and end next day or Thursday morning to noon Friday).

Phil Banks reported that he met with the Site Selection committee and they had three hotel recommendations for 2013 in Colorado Springs.

- 1. Doubletree – WSWS has met there in past.*
- 2. Crown Plaza – it is across the street from the Double Tree and was recently renovated. They offer the Government per diem rate of \$84/night and free parking and internet.*
- 3. Antlers Hilton – it is more of a resort type of place and more expensive (\$130-\$140/night).*

Phil reported that John Fenderson will visit each hotel by the first week in April. A site assessment will also be done on-line to check out the meeting room sizes. Phil Banks stated that the Board needs to approve Colorado Springs and whatever hotel recommendation the Site Selection ends up selecting.

Motion. Joe DiTomaso made the motion that the Board approve Colorado Springs for the site of the WSWS annual meeting in 2014 and allow Phil Banks to make the final decision on the hotel based on information Phil receives from the Site Selection committee. Seconded by Joe Yenish. **The Motion passed unanimously.**

Vanelle Peterson asked for discussion about the reprinting of Weeds of the West (WOW) book. Phil Banks said he visited with Tom Whitson and we still have 4,000 books in inventory. He felt we could wait until summer board meeting unless someone orders 500-1000 all at once. Phil Banks thought that the expenses we will incur from the Spokane meeting will not be too bad, so the immediate question of whether to reprint is not that critical right now. The board discussed several future possibilities of publishing WOW and selling it through different formats or sources (on-line versions, other websites, etc.)

Joe DiTomaso indicated that regardless of how we publish the book, that we still have to reprint once again. In order to get a decent price for reprinting we need to reprint a minimum of 10,000 copies. The potential for revenue is greater if we were the only seller. If WSWS sells all the books we make about \$5/book, but Joe DiTomaso didn't know if Tom Whitson and the University of Wyoming were alright with us being the only seller. After some discussion, the board thought that if Tom Whitson was fine with it, we should be the lone seller. Joe DiTomaso said he would visit further with Tom Whitson about it and find out. Phil Banks said he has storage space for all the books if we are the lone seller. He pointed out that if WSWS is the only seller, it gives us opportunities to push other books on our website as well.

Vanelle Peterson said that currently we don't actively market WOW and most of our orders are small and sporadic. Phil Banks pointed out that we have a written MOU with Tom Whitson on selling WOW. It was suggested that we have the Finance committee look into revising the book. Rich Affeldt pointed out that having an electronic version would increase our sales of both hard copies and electronic versions. Joe DiTomaso

indicated that Tom Whitson has no interest in being involved in revising the book. The consensus was that we should reprint soon and then work on a revision timeline of 3-4 years. If Tom Whitson wants the University of Wyoming to continue to sell WOW then it will restrict our options. If he doesn't object to WSWS being the only seller then we have multiple options.

Phil Westra questioned whether the current version of WOW was meeting the needs? Are new sections needed or new weeds needed? He thought we should possibly bite the bullet now rather than reorder this version of the book. He pointed out that technology is changing so fast that we might not be able to sell all of the next printing. Vanelle Peterson thought that made sense if we are committed to doing a digital or new version within 1 year, but didn't see that happening. Phil Banks said similar concerns were expressed before they decided to do the last printing and the book is still selling 3,000/year. Brad Hanson didn't think it would be possible to complete a new revision in a year and that we need to go ahead buy 10,000 now and consider a new revision and/or electronic book as a future goal.

Phil Banks indicated that Joan Campbell was checking into whether it is possible to make the current version into an electronic book and if we could repackage that quickly (6 months) we might want to try it. Joe DiTomaso said he will lead an effort into looking at all these ideas and all our options. Phil Westra volunteered to help. Joe said they will also contact Michael DeFelice as he is also knowledgeable on some of these issues. Joe indicated that we can form a core group to address revisions once we know some of our options.

Vanelle Peterson told the board that a symposium idea for the 2012 Reno meeting has already been received. The proposal was from Cynthia Brown, Ian Burke, and Jane Mangold. The proposal is on the topic of Bromus species management in multiple ecosystems. The group proposes to team up with Bromus REEnet and address both crop and noncrop management principles and work with both Range and Noncropland and Agronomic Section Chairs to host a combined discussion section post Symposium. Some board members thought that the subject may have been beat to death already and they weren't sure it would attract a large number of people. Phil Westra suggested that the WERA 171 discussion section could be an avenue for this subject. Joe Yenish suggested that Reno would be a good location for topics covering cheatgrass or Medusa head.

Several members thought that having a symposium at the end of the meeting was not satisfying the needs of the members as much as having a symposium within the meeting. Phil Banks added that there were only two walk-ins for the end of the meeting symposium held today. Kai Umeda said he will work on developing the program and symposia.

Vanelle Peterson adjourned the meeting.