

## **2009 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2009 and Action Plan for 2010**

**Committee Code and Name:** (E2) Science Policy Committee (formerly WLC)

**Committee Chair:** A. Richard Bonanno (rotating off committee)

**Board Coordinator:** Jeff Derr (Past President) will be David Shaw after 2/10

**Committee Members Rotating Off:** Jeff Derr

**Appropriate Replacements:** Mike Barrett – Pres-elect

Members for 2010 are NCWSS (Michael Horak), WSSS (Pamela Hutchinson), SWSS (Jason Norsworthy), NEWSS (Shawn Askew) and APMS (Linda Nelson). Donn Shilling and Harold Coble have served as at-large members. WSSA officers on the committee will be Past (David Shaw), Pres. (John Jachetta), and Pres-elect (Mike Barrett). Note that each regional and the APMS appoint a representative to serve on the SPC each year.

Rich Bonanno is the current Chair of the Science Policy Committee and his will be retiring from this position as of the 2010 WSSA annual meeting.

### **2009 Summary of Activities**

What were the committee's goals for 2009? A major goal for 2009 was to resolve issues related to NIWAW. The move toward an all-taxa meeting seems to have been a good move and should be continued. Issues related to EPA dominated in 2009. Providing timely input was a major activity.

List the committee's accomplishments in 2009: The all-taxa invasive meeting was a success and will be continued. Providing direct input to EPA and having the subject matter expert in place are irreplaceable assets to our efforts. Major issues that are ongoing include herbicide resistance, clean water act permits, drift regulations.

What information was posted on the WSSA website? Quarterly reports were posted in the newsletter and provides to the regionals and APMS.

How much funds were requested? How much was spent? \$5000 is the usual additional budget for this committee. These funds are not always used and depend of travel funding of those that come to DC in support of the DSP.

What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments? It is always difficult to quantify results however, one major accomplishment was the educational (EPA Florida Aquatic Pesticide Tour) visit set up to look at issues related to the clean water permits. This field visit highlighted issues differentiating land applications to crops from aquatic uses. Also was the glyphosate-related resistance seminar organized for EPA. Lee's most recent report will be presented at the WSSA Board meeting in Denver.

## **2010 Plan for Committee Activities**

Goals for 2010: Most activities are ongoing. In addition, however, communication between the DSP and membership is critical and needs to be increased.

Plan of Action for the SPC:

1. Provide continued direction for the Director of Science Policy
2. Work to prioritize issues for 2010. Priorities will be set at the 2010 meeting in Denver.
3. Continue work on pressing issues including invasive weeds, EPA issues, and other issues as they arise.
4. Continue work on an effective office environment for the DSP.
5. Continue to develop linkages and coalition building by the DSP with other scientific, commodity, and government groups.
6. Explore the possibilities of obtaining grants at the federal level to expand WSSA's impact in Washington and to supplement funding for the DSP position.

**Recommendations for Board/Society Action:** The Board needs to review Lee's performance over the past year. The board also needs to decide on Lee's continued employment and decide on any salary adjustment. Comments from various members of the SPC and others will be forwarded prior to the Board meeting in February. The new SPC Chair and John Jachetta should work with Lee in identifying areas where job performance can be improved. Time commitments should be evaluated. I would also like the Board to verify that excess funds collected from WSSA, the Regionals, and APMS are being escrowed, as we did in the past, so that future salary increases, increased office expenses, etc can be provided for. A new Chair for the SPC must be selected.

**Funds requested for 2010:** Other than monies dedicated by WSSA, the Regionals, APMS, and outside sources, WSSA has usually budgeted \$5,000 for use by the DSP and the SPC for travel. Other travel, including travel to annual meetings, other than to WSSA, is provided by the Regionals and/or APMS.