

2013 WSSA Committee Progress Report January, 2013

Committee Code and Name: F4 and W21, merged into W21, Professional Development

Committee Chair: Jason Ferrell and Chad Brommer (Chad Brommer will serve as committee chair for one year with the next committee head to ensure a smooth transition).

Committee Members, 2013:

Brommer, Chad*	2013-S
Morales-Payan, Pablo	2013-S
Weirich, Jason	2014-NC/S
Huff, Jonathan	2014-NC
Unland, Darren	2015-S
Jahla, Ahmit	2016-NC
Refsell, Dawn	2016-NC
Vollmer, Kurt	2016-S
Wedryk, Stephanie	2016-NC

WSSA Graduate Student President (for one year, as elected)

Board Coordinator: ?

Committee Members Rotating Off: Jason Ferrell. Chad Brommer (will advise the committee and new head until the 2014 annual meeting.)

Suggested Replacements: The new WSSA graduate student president is also a member of the committee. The members of both F4 and W21 will merge into this committee, new members were added as a result of the WSSA BOD solicitation of new members to committee positions.

2011-2012 Summary of Activities (through August, 2012)

- What were the committee's goals for 2012?
Merge F4 and W21 into a single committee listed at W21.
Modify the SOP for W21 to include goals and outcomes of the former F4 committee.
Develop a list of action items for 2012 and the 2013 annual meeting.
Establish section of page dedicated to W21 on the WSSA web site. Redirect F4 materials from WSSA website into the W21 area.
Coordinate the Graduate Student Travel Grant to attend the 2013 annual meeting in Maryland. Conducted search, selected candidates, and continued to work with Allen Press to distribute the awards to graduate students. Organize student awardees into a work schedule for the 2013 meeting to assist Allen Press and WSSA with the coordination of the annual meeting.
- List the committee's accomplishments (through January, 2012):
Solicited applications for the Graduate Student Travel Grant to attend the 2012 annual meeting in Hawaii. Conducted search, selected candidates, and continued to work with Allen Press to distribute the awards to graduate students. Organize student awardees into a work

schedule for the 2012 meeting to assist Allen Press and WSSA with the coordination of the annual meeting.

- What information was posted on the WSSA website?
Updates to the grant symposium under the professional development committee.
- Were funds requested for 2012? How much was spent?
None
- What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?
- What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?
The new, joint committee is in the stage of planning for the activities of 2012. An action plan will be put together for the upcoming year while in Hawaii.

2012-2013 Plan for Committee Activities

- Other Goals for 2013: In progress of planning new goals. To be developed at the 2013, WSSA annual meeting.
Symposium on graduate student transition into the work force.
- Plan of Action: Develop an outline and plan for the symposium. Compile a list of speakers to discuss the transition into the workforce.
- Develop a 3-5 year schedule of membership support or training symposia. Membership development and symposia materials can be shared via the WSSA webspace (or through other media) to reach the membership as well as at the annual meeting.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

- Funds requested for 2013: Underwriting of the Graduate Student Travel Award. Request that Allen Press assist with advertising the Award, with Award logistics, and with the budget associated with administering the award.
- Other requests for the Board: Sponsoring a "Weed scientist speed dating" event. This event would allow students and new professionals to meet and question more seasoned members of the WSSA on how they positioned themselves for a career in weed science. The event will involve tables of WSSA professionals from across the membership to meet individual or small groups of students and new professionals for 10 minutes. During this short exchange, the parties will describe their career aspirations and the professionals will explain how they came to be in their current position as well as any career or professional advice.

Both parties will make a list of the weed scientists they spoke to and who they would like to continue the career conversation. This can take place at the WSSA, for a meal/coffee/during breaks, over email, phone, or another outlet. The professionals pledge to one meeting or a few emails, or phone calls. The students pledge to respect the professionals and their time.

The event should take place earlier in the WSSA meeting week. People attending must sign up for the event in advance.