

2012 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2012 and Action Plan for 2013

Committee Code and Name: W3k – Undergraduate Research Award Subcommittee

Committee Chair: John Jachetta (jjjachetta@dow.com)

Board Coordinator: Peter Porpiglia (PeterP@amvac-chemical.com)

Committee Members Rotating Off: John Jachetta, Chairperson 2013-NC

Committee Member Replacements Steven Enloe, Auburn University, Alabama, nominated as the new Chairperson for W3k

2011 Summary of Activities

Advertisements were placed in several newsletters, including WSSA, ASPP, ASA, APMS, the Regional Weed Science Society Newsletters as well as the Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences. A personal letter containing the grant announcement was sent to approximately 400 WSSA Educators in September 2012, this was followed with a Society-wide e-mail announcement. It's been a good year with 14 grant applications received, however one was from a graduate student in Germany... that student was contacted and did withdraw his proposal. Applications were reasonably well distributed across the Society and included universities in Illinois (2), Florida (2), Georgia, Kansas (2), Montana, Michigan, Nebraska, New York, and Pennsylvania.

What were the committee's goals for 2012?

The key objective for 2012 was to announce the availability of this research award, accept grant proposals, rank those proposals and select winning applications. Announcement of winning applications is planned for the 2012 WSSA National Meeting Awards Ceremony.

List the committee's accomplishments in 2012:

Awarded 10 undergraduate research grants and encouraged a working relationship between these students and their faculty sponsors.

What information was posted on the WSSA website?

The grant announcement and directions to submitters was posted and a link forwarded to the membership via the list-serve.

How much funds were requested? How much was spent?

We have Board authorization to fund 10 awards (\$10,000), these funds will be distributed in 2013 following the National Meeting.

What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?

This award's goal is to introduce Weed Science research to undergraduates and create or deepen relationships between these students and Weed Science faculty. In this way, this grant hopes to increase membership through hands-on education and recruitment.

What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?

On-going (Post-launch, Stage Gate 5)

2013 Plan for Committee Activities**Goals for 2013:**

A key objective for 2013 is to increase the number of applicants.

Plan of Action:

Proposed action steps for 2013 include:

1. Announcements will be submitted to journals and newsletters in ~May, 2013 (Enloe)
2. Grant announcement letter to membership will be mailed in early September, 2013 (Enloe)
3. Grant announcement e-mail reminder to membership in Late September, 2013 (Enloe)
4. Grants accepted for review by ~November 15, 2013 (Enloe).
5. Grants sent to W3k committee for review in ~December 1, 2013 (Enloe).
6. Funding determinations made by ~January 15, 2014 (UGRA Committee).
7. Presentation to WSSA at 2014 Awards event (Enloe).

What is needed to further the goals of the committee/project?

The project has had long-term success, but the future is always up to the membership and their outreach.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

1. **Funds requested for 2013:** \$10,000 in support of 10 applicants
2. **Other requests for the Board:** None