

2011 WSSA Committee Report to Members Summary for 2011 and Action Plan for 2012

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: William Dyer, 2012-WSWS
Paul Cavers, 2012-CSWS

Committee Member Replacements Anil Shrestha, Fresno State University; 2015-WSWS
To be identified, 2015-CWSS

2010 Summary of Activities

Advertisements were placed in several newsletters, including WSSA, ASPP, ASA, APMS, the Regional Weed Science Society Newsletters as well as Weed Technology and the Journal of Natural Resources and Life Sciences. A personal letter containing the grant announcement was sent to approximately 400 WSSA Educators in September 2011, this was followed with a Society-wide e-mail announcement. It's been a bit of a slow year with 8 grant applications received, however one was from a graduate student; it's the unanimous judgment of this committee that graduate students do not qualify for this undergraduate research award. Applications were reasonably well distributed across the Society and included universities in Colorado (2), California, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, New York, and Virginia.

What were the committee's goals for 2010?

The key objective for 2011 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 2011:

We will award 7 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 8 awards (\$8,000), these funds will be distributed in 2011.

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)

2012 Plan for Committee Activities

Goals for 2011:

A key objective for 2012 is to increase the number of applicants.

Plan of Action: Action steps for 2012 include:

1. Announcements will submitted to journals and newsletters in May, 2012 (Jachetta)
2. Grant announcement letters to membership will be mailed in September, 2012 (Jachetta)
3. Grant announcement e-mail reminder to membership in Late September (Jachetta)
4. Grants accepted for review by ~November 15, 2012 (Jachetta).
5. Grants to committee for review in ~December 1, 2012 (Jachetta).
6. Funding determinations made by ~January 15, 2012 (UGRA Committee).
7. Presentation to WSSA at 2013 Awards event (Jachetta).

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 2011:** \$10, 000 in support of 10 applicants
2. **Other requests for the Board:** None