

2010 WSSA Committee Progress Report

July, 2010

Committee Code and Name: **P1-Publications Board**

Committee Chair: [James V. Anderson](#)

Committee Members, 2010:

Anderson, James	2011-NC
Chao, Wun ex-off	2011-(P11)
Domaso, Joseph ex-off	2011-(P4)
Harker, Neil ex-off	2011-(P3)
Koger, Trey ex-off	2011-(P8)
DiTomaso, Tony	2012-NE
Luschei, Ed, ex-off	2012-(P23)
Norsworthy, Jason	2012-S
Vencill, William ex-off	2012-(P2)
Anderson, Lars	2013-W
Foley, Michael	2013-NC
Tardif, Francois ex-off	2013-(P6)
Miller, Tim ex-off	2014-(P22b)
Ransom, Corey ex-off	2014-(P22)

Board Coordinator: [James V. Anderson](#)

Committee Members Rotating Off: **NA** **Appropriate Replacements:** **NA**

2010 Summary of Activities (through 07/09/10)

- What are the committee's goals for 2010?
 1. Explore new approaches for reducing the length of time manuscripts are in the review process.
 2. Update WSSA Journal Homepage, and links from WSSA Society Homepage to Journal Homepage.

List the committee's accomplishments (through 07/09/10):

1. We have worked with Allen Press and the Editors to obtain actual values for turn-around times over the last 5 years for each journal (see supplementary data contained in the 2010 Mid-Year Report provided by Allen Press) and have some data from other comparable journals (see supplementary data contained in Comparison of Turn-around Time of Several Journals provided by William Vencill). Additionally, in volume 3(2) of the April-June, 2010 issue of IPSM, the editor has included a note (page 105) which reviews submission data and turn-around times for IPSM over the first 2.5 years of publication. I expect that the editors of Weed Science and Weed Technology will also include similar submission data in upcoming issues.

Shortly after the 2010 Annual Meeting, a decision was made to increase the initial request for invited reviewers from 2 to 3. This change was adopted to reduce the time required to obtain 2 reviews. Under this system, if all three initial invitations are promptly accepted, all three reviews will be used, if submitted on time. During the first half of 2010, I have also periodically tracked the progress of submissions to each journal. In some cases, it appears that Associate Editors are actually taking longer to make a recommendation than reviewers are given to provide reviews. Although we understand the demanding time constraints reviewers and AEs encounter in this voluntary review system, we will continue to work to establish tighter turn-around times and encourage AEs to promptly submit recommendations.

Based on the 2010 data provided by Allen Press, it appears that only ~25% (323) of the reviewers (1292) in the system for our journals are actual WSSA members. We should 1) encourage non-member reviewers to join WSSA, and 2) encourage more WSSA members to participate in the review process.

2. Allen Press estimates launching the new journal website in late summer or early fall of 2010. We have also requested that icon links on the Society Homepage for Weed Science, Weed Technology, and Invasive Plant Science and Management 1) be moved to the top of the Society Homepage, 2) have the current cover for each issue displayed, and 3) link directly to the new Journal Homepage.

- What information was posted on the WSSA website?

Information pertaining to the new policy for funding of symposiums was provided in the April, 2010 WSSA newsletter and on the Society Homepage (call for symposia).

- How much funds were requested? \$2,000
- How much was spent? As of 07/09/2010, no funds have been used.
- What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership - not known; publication - see report; policy - see report; legislation - not known; and/or education - knowledge provided through publications?
- What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?

We continue to monitor the success of Spanish Abstracts in Weed Technology, to monitor the success of IPSM, and to discuss options for increasing submissions and impact factors. To date, no new information is available from Rich Zollinger on the Adjuvant Book Project.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:

Assist with moving recommendations for changes to Society Homepage design forward.