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

Committee Code and Name: W3 Awards Parent Committee

Committee Chair: Lori Wiles

Board Coordinator: Ralph Whitesides

Committee Members Rotating Off: **Appropriate Replacements:**
    Lori Wiles   None identified yet
    Other members are chairs of subcommittees and replacements are dealt with in the
    subcommittees.

2009 Summary of Activities

What were the committee's goals for 2009?
- Revise the procedure for selecting Outstanding Reviewers.:
- Consider if teams should be eligible for certain awards.
- Increase the number of nominations by reducing the burden of the nomination procedure.
- Post list of past award winners on the website.

List the committee's accomplishments in 2009:
- Sub-committee chairs did an outstanding job with timely selections.

- Sub-committee chairs decided against changes to the amount of information required for nomination package.

- *Outstanding Reviewer Award* **–** Recommendation (accepted by the BOD): Changing the procedure for selecting the Outstanding Reviewer Awards to include reviews from the Journal of Invasive Plant Science and Management and to specify that recipients are not required to be members of WSSA.

- *Team nominations for Honorary Member* – Recommendation (accepted by the BOD): Allowing the Honorary Member sub-committee to accept team nominations and recommend selection of a team for an award when members of nominated team have worked so closely that no single member can be recognized above the others. This condition must apply to all criteria for the award and the nominator must write a justification for the award.

- *Award for Papers with the Most Citations* – Recommendation (accepted by the BOD): The WSSA should not formally acknowledge or recognize the papers with the most citations in Weed Science, Weed Technology or the Journal of Invasive Plant Science and Management because it is not clear what the WSSA would be recognizing with an award based on the most citations, however the number is calculated:
  - Recognizing a seminal paper – a paper with considerable impact and that has withstood the test of time – is a worthy goal, but the number of citations is not a good metric for identifying this type of paper.

- o Review papers and papers on popular topics may be cited more often than high quality research papers.
- o There are also many technical difficulties in implementing the proposed award such as choosing the appropriate time frame for calculating the number of citations ("the test of time") and determining the pool of journals for counting the citations. Citations in the three WSSA journals may not reflect the extent of the impact, but the task of determining all citations could be difficult and time-consuming.

- Arranged for recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the Annual meeting at the awards ceremony.

- The committee chair would like to thank John Jachetta for his willingness to substitute for me at the awards ceremony when I could not attend the meeting with very short notice.

What information was posted on the WSSA website?
Nomination information and list of previous winners.

How much funds were requested? How much was spent?
None

What was the impact of the committee activities/accomplishments on the following: membership, publication, policy, legislation, and/or education?
None

What is the current state of the committee's projects and activities?
We still need to generate more nominations for most awards.

2010 Plan for Committee Activities

Goals for 2010:
- Determine the need for any changes in the scope or description of the Outstanding Industry award based on recommendation from the subcommittee.

- Consider the recommendation of the subcommittee on rewording of the Outstanding Early Career Award to remove ambiguity about eligibility requirements.

Recommendations for Board/Society Action:
Any recommendations on the goals above will be determined at 2010 committee meeting.

Funds requested for 2010:
None

Other requests for the Board:
Suggestions on increasing the number of nominations