

WSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda

Tuesday, July 7 and July 8, 2015

Call to Order, Introductions – Dallas Peterson

Pres. Dallas Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:00 and introductions were made.

17 voting members present at meeting and 8 of 8 executive board members so quorum met.

Approval of Minutes – Larry Steckel Motion to approve minutes as written. Seconded by Joe DiTomaso. Unanimously approved.

President's Report – Peterson - Contracts set to expire with Allen Press for business manager for WSSA and so BOD approved new contract to lock in Joyce Lancaster as business manager through April 2017. Joyce Lancaster will retire in the spring of 2017 and a search for replacement needs to start. Don Schilling started his new role as USDA NIFA fellow. Mike Barrett did not attend WSSA summer board meeting as he was involved in EPA weed resistance tour in Iowa.

Executive Secretary Report – Lancaster - WSSA now has 1144 members. Membership has dropped about 50 members in 2015. Major reason stated for not renewing is that the member is no longer in the weed science discipline. Emeritus status is growing and new membership from graduate students into WSSA is not developing to help offset this trend. Janice McFarland suggested a possible option could be a link between regional weed societies and WSSA (e.g. Entomology societies) where when you join the national society you are automatically in the regional society of your choice.

Finances are in very good shape at this point. Need to visit about meeting registration rates. Joyce assisted with travel and lodging arrangements for the EPA herbicide resistance tour in Iowa on July 8—10.

Future Site Selection – Lancaster – The request for proposals for 2018 (east region), 2019 (south region) and 2020 (southwest regions) annual WSSA meetings was mailed out and proposals received. Joyce expressed concerns that some members may only attend one day at some of the eastern locations like Richmond or Greensboro due to the close proximity to agencies and company headquarters, which could reduce room nights and jeopardize the minimum room night requirement for WSSA to avoid a penalty. Settled on narrowing down to Greensboro where the hotel met every request and Alexandria

as it is in the East where traditional rotation would have occurred for site visits for 2018 meeting. For 2019, site visits will be for Savannah, Orlando and New Orleans. The consensus is to hold off on 2020 location selection until 2016 as bids that far out are not plentiful. E-vote after Joyce Lancaster visits and provides a summary.

Finance Committee Report and Annual Dues- Boydston Committee met with Wells Fargo

representative and they are pessimistic about near future so they advised positioning for downturn. If interest rates rise he was advising moving some investments into bonds. The WSSA is in good shape financially. Revenues come largely from annual dues and meeting registration. Totals now in the general fund is \$1,022,651 and in the endowment fund is \$423,281. Wells Fargo will likely request an increase in their commission in the near future.

Request from Ohio State to support the 2015 weed contest. They requested \$5,000 from WSSA to help partially support the weed contest. Kevin Bradley made motion for WSSA to fund \$5,000 toward Weed Olympics and seconded by Sarah Ward. Unanimously approved.

Rand Merchant suggested that winners of the Weed Olympics receive a stipend to attend the annual WSSA meeting. Discussion tabled until Wednesday meeting.

Discussion on change of annual dues for 2016. Rick Boydston suggested dues remain the same and the board agreed.

WSSA Strategic Plan Committee Update – DiTomaso – Last strategic plan was dated back in 2010.

Therefore an updated version was needed. Committee was formed to update strategic plan with changes being sent to various ongoing WSSA committees to implement. The 5 points were to: Aid our

members and affiliated societies in their scientific endeavors and professional growth; Raise awareness and understanding of weeds and invasive plants, their impacts and best management practices; Advance weed science research; Advance weed science education, extension and public outreach; Be the leading source of information on Weed Science for stakeholders and policy makers. Discussion tabled until Wednesday meeting.

Science Policy Report – Van Wychen. There are 22 members on the SP committee. Don Schilling is the chair.

Definition of a weed was set upon as: **“A plant that causes economic losses or ecological damage, creates health problems for humans or animals, or is undesirable where it is growing.”** Andrew Kniss made motion to approve the definition and seconded by Prasanta Bhowmik. Passed unanimously.

Pollinator health issue very high priority at EPA. Bee issue: acute toxicity ban on diuron and sethoxdim during peak flower period. Comment period going on.

Monarch butterfly habitat with milkweed issue. Some discussion of increasing milkweed in parks, right of ways, etc. Some talk of creating buffers around fields where glyphosate could not be sprayed. Some discussion that WSSA needs to be out front of this issue on land management. Good funding right now from various sources for research on milkweed ecology and management.

Proposal to schedule a session on Sunday before the 2016 WSSA meeting for discussions about challenges in landscape management for ecology and biology with respect to pollinator health.

National survey of most common and troublesome weeds. Good response from this survey.

Foundation of Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) was established in the new FarmBill. **FFAR Seeks Our Input.** The Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (FFAR) named Dr. Sally Rockey as its first executive director on June 11. Congress provided \$200 million for the Foundation that must be matched by non-federal funds as the Foundation identifies and approves research projects. The Foundation operates as a non-profit entity seeking to address problems of national and international significance. This organization is almost set to begin asking for RFPs to support research on agriculture. Should be good news for weed science research.

USDA budget proposals for next year on research is down compared to previous years.

Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) gets support in both the House and Senate, (but still not from the Army Corp of Engineers).

Waters of the US (WOTUS) Rule Finalized. 27 States sue.

Discussion on how WSSA should provide for education on IARC Glyphosate classification.

Herbicide Classification Critique from Paper in Weed Research Some discussion of asking Dale Shaner to address this. Also suggestion to delegate this to the terminology committee to address as well. Dallas Peterson to contact Dale Shaner and Les Glasgow to get their opinion on how and if WSSA should respond.

EPA Report – Barrett and Van Wychen The coordination of the herbicide resistance tour with EPA in Iowa is a highlight of this year. The tour starts on 7/8/15 and will be conducted on farms outlining herbicide resistance issues. Mike also working with EPA on a number of other issues such as the endangered species act and general agronomy and weed control practices.

Herbicide Resistance Committee Reports - Steckel and Kniss. The Steckel and Kniss committees are getting organized on how to proceed with respect to suggestions to the EPA on herbicide resistance stewardship during the public comment period regarding proposed changes to the glyphosate label during the re-evaluation process.

NIFA Fellow report – Donn Schilling (Peterson) Donn met with many USDA folks and developing working relationships for future interactions.

Publications Report – Ward - Herbicide handbook sales are up to about 900 out of print run of 2000 printed. The Herbicide Handbook is a financial success. Journal of IPSM now has an official impact factor and that increases access. The impact factors were IPSM 0.964, WT 1.058 and WS 1.87 in 2014. The WS impact factor is now higher than Weed Research.

Special edition on Research Techniques open access is now up and running. Dallas Peterson suggested that it be advertised again in the newsletter.

Press releases for highlighted articles. The press releases were not well written when coordinated by Allen Press and the board decided to change directions. Linda Edgerton now crafts the press releases. Linda is doing a great job and is costing us half what the board voted to pay for this project.

Allen Press is doing a better job this past year in getting accepted articles published in a timely manner. A paper accepted by the editor will get online in 48 hours. This took months before the change. The long delay reduced manuscript submissions in all three journals.

Executive Sessions

Motion made by Cody Gray to go into executive sessions and seconded by Kevin Bradley and approved unanimously.

Motion made by Kevin Bradley to go out of executive sessions and seconded by Reid Smeda and approved unanimously.

July 8th. President Dallas Peterson called the meeting to order.

2015 Meeting Program, Symposia, and Plans – **Kevin Bradley and Peter Dotray** – They went over the proposed plans for Sunday tour of the rain forest, Bacardi and old San Juan. Possible topics and speakers for opening general session on Sunday evening were discussed and possible topics include history of San Juan and the parrot project.

Symposia for both boards “Weed Control 2050”, 21st Century Challenges in Aquatic Weed Management, Use of Biologic Control of Invasive Weeds, and graduate student symposia. Late call from Mike Horak on weed biology/ecology working group discussion: Topics: Weed biology/ecology at the landscape level with respect to pollinator health. It will likely be called a forum and be held during the meeting. Discussion that there will be enough space but time conflicts could be issue with all the symposia. All the meetings will be held on the 2nd floor and will be very convenient.

A recent piece of local legislation to ban glyphosate on right of ways in Puerto Rico may also be a topic for the regulatory session.

Logistics of joint meeting discussion:

There will be a SWSS paper contest only. WSSA will host a poster contest open to all graduate students. Quiz Bowl likely will be on Tuesday night. Awards session may be just prior to quiz bowl.

WSSA and SWSS will have separate business meetings during the annual meeting. Logistics and schedules to be determined.

Graduate Student Organization Report and Poster Contest – Merchant and Rana Nick Bassinger is President Elect for the WSSA graduate student organization. Symposia for students last year was well received. They would like to have grad student luncheon for WSSA on Tues. and SWSS on Wed. WSSA poster contest last year had 31 Ph.D and 14 M.S. student participants. A room for judges to tabulate scores was requested for 2016 meeting.

Request by Darrin Dodds to add a paper contest to WSSA to start in 2017. Darrin Dodds will chair the graduate student poster contest for joint meeting in 2016.

Meeting Registration Rates – Boydston Best estimate for cost of meeting is greater than \$200,000. Dr. Boydston suggested that we go with option 2 which is \$325 for early bird, \$425 and \$475 for on-site registration. Any student that registers for both will be member of SWSS and WSSA. Straw poll of rate was all in favor of option 2.

2017 Meeting Program – McFarland – The Tucson property is fairly small and will be mostly taken by WSSA folks during the WSSA meeting. Really a beautiful location near a mountain range. Some discussion of organizing a golf outing to support the endowment.

Nominating Committee Report – DiTomaso Vice president, member at large and secretary will need to be filled for 2016. Joe has some good candidates lined up to run for all three vacancies. Need to have an e-vote on approval of candidate list, followed by electronic vote of membership.

Constitution and Operating Procedures – Porpiglia - Peter Porpiglia will be rotating off as Constitution and Operating Procedures on the board and has lined up a couple of candidates that the President can then appoint to a 3-year term.

Website different versions have been fixed.

Reminder that we had an e-vote that eliminated a couple committees.

Weed Olympics travel awards – Merchant – Cost in the range of \$4,000 to \$5,000 to provide lodging for winning team and waive student registration fee.

Motion made by Rand Merchant for WSSA to cover cost up to 4 nights lodging and waive student registration for the 2016 annual meeting for graduate and undergraduate winning teams and overall high individuals for the graduate and undergraduate divisions. Seconded by Cody Gray and approved unanimously.

2016 Summer Board Meeting Dates for Tucson – Lancaster - Need to set dates for summer board meeting. Fly in on Monday July 11th, have meeting on the 12th and half day on the 13th.

Other business –**Peterson**

Strategic plan that was tabled from yesterday was re-visited. Discussion on minor editing changes.

Recommendation to remove some specific examples as to tactics to reach goals. Motion made by Prasanta Bhowmik to approve new strategic plan with edits as discussed. Seconded by Reid Smeda and approved unanimously.

Discussion of possible paper contest for 2017 was tabled until the BOD Feb 2016 meeting. Cody Gray and Darrin Dodds will be asked to flesh out a proposal on this contest.

Search for new executive secretary and business manager - Peterson - Discussion to form a committee to look into hiring a WSSA executive secretary and/or business manager possibly with the regional societies that also have to fill this vacancy. Another thought is to set up a committee to explore options on filling these upcoming vacancies. The action item is for Dallas to contact the regional societies to see if we want to do a joint venture in filling these vacancies. The action item from this was for Kevin Bradley to get with Phil Banks and Joyce Lancaster and others from regional societies to be on this committee to put together an RFP to fill these vacancies.

Adjourn

Cody Gray made motion to Adjourn and seconded by Joe DiTomaso. Motion approved unanimously.