

North Central Weed Science Society
Summaries of Committee Reports
December 2000

Executive Secretary's Report2
Proceedings Editor.....2
Research Report Editor.....2
WSSA Representative3
CAST Representative3

Interest Group Committees

Extension Committee4
Industry Committee4
Research and Publications Committee4
Resident Education Committee4
Graduate Student Committee.....5

Standing Committees

Career Placement Committee6
Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee.....6
Legislative Information Committee.....7
Local Arrangements Committee.....7
Nominating Committee8
Program Committee.....8
Publicity and Public Relations Committee8
Resolutions and Necrology Committee9
Distinguished Achievement Award Committee9

Special Committees

Future Site Selection Committee9

Executive Secretary's Report

Robert Schmidt

Membership as of September 30

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
Members	730	711	756	792	761
Students	<u>117</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>117</u>	91
Total	847	802	880	909	852

Annual Meeting preregistration

	2000	1999	1998	1997	1996
	Kansas City	Columbus	St. Paul	Louisville	St. Louis
Members	375	391	400	354	449
Students	<u>75</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>80</u>
Total preregistered	450	463	483	430	529
Final Attendance	612 est	603	649	635	762

Illustrated Taxonomy Manual of Weed Seeds. We have sold 372 copies to date. Income of \$7,439 with expenses of \$3,903.

NCWSS Proceedings Editor

Bob Hartzler

Electronic submission went smoothly. The biggest problem was authors who resubmitted due to mistakes in original version. Greater than 90% of people met the deadline. Nine abstracts not submitted by Dec. 7. Abstracts will be available on computer in Media room. This replaces the practice of having authors bring 50 copies of abstract to the meeting. Next year, the abstracts could be placed on web prior to meeting if desired. I plan on completing the abstract portion of proceedings by Dec. 29, so I strongly encourage people to submit other components as quick as possible.

Research Report Editor

Bryan Young

The 2000 NCWSS Research Report publication has been changed to an electronic format for publication on CD-rom as suggested by the membership and at the Board of Directors meeting in July 2000. This resulted in slight modifications for submissions but was relatively well received by authors. Reports have been compiled, delivered to the program authoring service, and sent to a CD manufacturer for reproduction. The report will be shipped to the meeting for distribution. The 2000 report contains 191 individual reports and is 451 pages long which compares to 497, 480, and 444 pages in 1999, 1998, and 1997, respectively. The 2000 bid cost included jewel case packaging, multiple color printing, 1000 copies, program authoring, and reproduction in Carbondale, IL for \$6,495 which compares to printing costs of \$8,205.59 for 700 books for the 1999 report.

Because the Research Reports are now in an electronic format, the utility of the Research Report can be expanded into the internet. The internet site would allow users to search the reports and view the index outline for specific reports, however, entire reports would not be accessible through the internet. The internet would serve as an alternative to the search indexes on the CD-rom and potentially increase awareness and sales of the Research Report.

WSSA Representative

Kent Harrison

1. WSSA Membership Issues. Sustaining membership revenue is holding steady but foreign institutional memberships have dropped 30%. Student memberships in WSSA average <4 per state. The Membership Committee is soliciting university faculty directly to try and increase grad student membership in WSSA. Membership dues have been increased \$5 to \$90/yr, and subscription to both journals was increased \$10 to \$170/yr. The rate for single journal subscription was increased \$5 to \$100/yr. The Electronic Membership Directory is now available on the WSSA web site.

2. WSSA Publication Issues. On July 23, the WSSA BOD voted unanimously to revert to the previous editorial guidelines of using weed common names throughout manuscripts published in *Weed Science*, with scientific names shown only at the first mention of a plant. This was in response to a survey of 691 members in which 413 (59.8%) preferred common names and 31 (4.4%) had no preference. In other matters, there is general concern that *Weed Science* and *Weed Technology* have become indistinguishable in subject matter. Donn Thill is chairing a task force to determine what direction the membership wants to go with *Weed Technology*. A task force is exploring options for electronic publication of the journals.

3. DSP (Director of Science Policy). DSP Guidelines (ie., memorandum of understanding between WSSA and regional societies) were finalized. Under the new guidelines, the Washington Liaison Committee will conduct an annual review of the DSP and report to NCWSS by February 1, 2001. WSSA contacted ARS administrators (St. John, Horn) to express the need for a national program in weed science and emphasizing its role in IPM. The National Invasive Weed Awareness Week in Washington, D.C. is planned again for Feb. 26 - March 2, 2001.

4. Other Relevant Issues. The Council for Biotechnology Information asked WSSA to join in their efforts to disseminate information on biotechnology to the public. WSSA responded to the request by pointing out that it already participates in biotech. information dissemination via CAST. The WSSA BOD is considering formation of a WSSA Biotechnology Committee.

CAST Representative

Thomas J. Peters

CAST representatives testified on several initiatives of importance to NCWSS members during 2000 including testimony to the USDA Citizen Advisory Board on Biotechnology and testimony at a Congressional hearing on carbon cycle research and the role of agriculture in reducing climate change.

CAST representatives served as host or co-host to several briefings or workshops of importance to NCWSS members during 200 including a) briefing on Biotech Corn (StarLink™) in partnership with the Alliance for Better Food in Washington D.C. and b) briefing on Biotech Corn (StarLink™) in Washington D.C. CAST continues its collaboration with the International Food Information Council and the Georgetown University Center for Food and Nutrition Policy in an ongoing effort to disseminate scientific information and facts about current food biotechnology issues to the national media.

A publication of direct interest to NCWSS members include: the issue paper, *Invasive Plant Species*, at a series of briefings in Washington, D.C. The release of the paper was scheduled to coincide with National Invasive Weed Awareness Week. Other publications of interest to NCWSS members include: the issue paper, *Relevance of Soil Testing to Agriculture and the Environment* and the issue paper, *Storing Carbon in Agricultural Soils to Help Mitigate Global Warming*.

Forthcoming publications of direct interest to NCWSS members include: the report, *Integrated Pest Management*, the report, *Urban Agriculture* and the issue paper, *Vertical Integration of Agriculture and its Impact on Rural America*, the issue paper, *Movement and Impacts of Detrimental Non-Native Organisms Affecting Agricultural Production and Natural Resource Environments (pests)* and the report, *Global Climate Change*. Additional information about these or other issue papers or reports can be found at the CAST web site, <http://www.cast-science.org>.

The CAST Board of Directors approved five new topics for issue paper projects at its September meeting in New Orleans. These include: "Ethics in Agriculture," "Natural Products called Nutraceuticals," "Animal Diet Modification to Reduce Potential for Nitrogen and Phosphorus Pollution," "Testing and Regulation of Crops Developed through Biotechnology for the U.S. Market," and "Environmental Impacts of Livestock Grazing Systems."

Cindy Lynn Richard joined CAST as Biotechnology Communications Coordinator in July. Richard will contribute to CAST's efforts to enhance public understanding of agricultural and food biotechnology and related science issues by providing the public with easy access to information on biotechnology to make informed decisions.

Extension Committee

Ronald F. Krausz, Chair

The committee was able to retrieve a 1983 edition USDA publication regarding weed control with systemic herbicides. It included phenoxy herbicides, dicamba, picloram, amitrole, and glyphosate. In 1994, Dr. Ellery Knake revised the publication by deleting herbicides that were canceled by the EPA. Several weed species also have been deleted. The revised publication is titled *Susceptibility of Weeds to Systemic Herbicides*, Agronomy Facts WP-07. The committee should investigate updating the original USDA publication by adding new herbicides and deleting canceled herbicides.

Industry Committee

David Nicolai, Chair

The 2000 sustaining membership includes 31 sustaining members. The 1999 membership was 36. Ten sustaining members requested display space for the 2000 meeting. Monsanto at Monmouth, IL will be the host of the North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest in 2001. Dow has agreed to host the contest in 2002 to be held near Lafayette, Indiana. Twenty five letters were sent to prospective sustaining members in November inviting them to join the Society as a sustaining member by President Jim Kells. A new industry sponsored breakfast and business meeting will be held on Thursday morning during the annual meeting on Dec. 14th. Rob Hedberg, Director of Science Policy for the national and regional weed science societies will present the keynote address "Understanding the New Herbicide Regulatory Policy of the Food Quality Protection Act." It is recommended the Society devise a system to track sustaining membership so the Society can more accurately bill members as well as increase their participation in Society activities. The committee plans to continue the Industry meeting/breakfast with an appropriate speaker to increase attendance to the Annual Meeting, to sponsor a symposium for 2001 or 2002, and to continue to work on plans to increase the number of sustaining member displays at the annual meeting.

Research and Publications Committee

Julie Young, Chair

Both the Proceedings and Research Reports have changed for the year 2000. Abstracts are now submitted electronically for inclusion in the Proceedings to expedite the production and availability of the publication. The Research Report has been changed to a CD rom version only. This format is intended to improve the versatility of the reports and reduce production costs.

Resident Education Committee

Reid Smeda, Chair

At the 1998 meeting, there were 53 graduate student papers and 29 graduate student posters presented. The 1999 North Central Collegiate Weed Contest was held July 21 and 22 at Agri-Growth, Inc. in Hollandale, MN. There were 94 contestants from 12 universities involved in the competition. A total of 46 graduate student papers and 29 graduate student posters are scheduled for the 1999 NCWSS Annual Meetings. There will be 4 sections in the paper contest and 3 sections in the poster contest. An announcement requesting volunteers for contest judges was placed in the NCWSS newsletter and all judges for the contest have been identified.

In 1999, there were 46 graduate student papers and 29 graduate student posters presented. The 2000 North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest was hosted on July 19 and 20 by Bayer Corporation on their research station north of West Lafayette, IN. A total of 91 students (52 undergraduates and 39 graduates) from 14 universities (10 graduate and 9 undergraduate) participated. A total of 39 graduate student papers and 31 graduate student posters are scheduled for the 2000 NCWSS Annual Meetings. There will be 3 sections in the paper contest and 3 sections in the poster contest. An announcement requesting volunteers for contest judges was placed in the NCWSS newsletter and all judges for the contest have been identified.

The committee recommends consideration of the following proposal to amend the regulations identifying eligible students for the Summer Weed Contest. The current regulations state that: "Any undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled and pursuing a B.S., M.S., or Ph.D. is eligible to participate." In early 2000, a request was made by an individual from an institution that awards associate degrees (two-year degrees), but does not offer B.S. degrees. This individual wanted to bring a team of students to the summer contest. The rules state that only students pursuing a B.S. or advanced degree can participate, and this is assumed to be schools that offer four-year or advanced degrees. The individual approached the Northeastern Weed Science Society and was told that his team could participate. After conferring with NCWSS President James Kells and the individuals on the Resident Education Committee, it was decided that this team would be allowed to compete in the 2000 summer contest in the North Central Region, but a change in rules was needed to allow two-year schools to compete on a regular basis.

I initiated a survey of weed scientists in states throughout the North Central Region to inquire how many schools that offer two-year associate degrees could potentially send a team to the summer weed contest. Of the states for which data could be obtained, a total of at least 25 schools was determined. Most of the respondents indicated that very few of these schools would send a team on a regular basis. Some reasons given include that students at these institutions may not receive the type of rigorous training that is held at many schools who currently send teams. Therefore, if the scores of students from two-year schools is abnormally low, students may be reluctant to continue competing in the contest. Also, many of the individuals attending two-year schools are on internships during the summer and may be unavailable to train for the contest.

From the perspective of the Resident Education Committee, we feel that there are some positives to allowing students attending two-year schools to participate in the summer weed contest. First, with increasing difficulty in attracting potential graduate students in weed science, involving students from two-year schools may peak their interest in weed science and result in a career decision in weed science. In addition, with the relatively small number of additional teams expected if the rules were amended, there would not be a significant new burden placed on the host of the contest. According to Dave Doran from Bayer, the sponsor for the 2000 contest, he could have accommodated several additional teams at a minimal additional cost. It is uncertain how much additional time this would add to the contest, as it is difficult to get everyone through the contest in its current format. Lastly, allowing additional schools to participate in the summer contest may broaden the audience interested in the North Central Weed Science Society. Therefore, we may see a potential (albeit small) increase in membership in our society.

It is the recommendation of the Resident Education Committee that the rules be altered from the current wording of: "Any undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled and pursuing a B.S., M.S., or Ph.D. is eligible to participate", to "any undergraduate or graduate student currently enrolled in an agriculture-related curriculum is eligible to participate." The committee realizes that if there is a significant surge in the number of individuals or teams that participates in the summer contest, some constraints may need to be imposed. For example, currently there are no restrictions on the number of teams that a university can send to the contest. In addition, we may need to regulate team participation based upon the ability of the contest host to handle these teams.

Graduate Student Committee

Chad Lee, Chair

BASF Corporation will sponsor the graduate student mixer. The mixer will be held Monday night, December 11, from 5-11 pm. The theme this year is Monday Night Football and Dennis Belcher made the local arrangements. Due to low student turnout during the Graduate Student Business Meeting in the past, the time has been moved to noon on Wednesday, December 13. Bayer Corporation has agreed to sponsor a light lunch for the business meeting this year. The Graduate Student Committee is thankful to both BASF and Bayer for their generosity. If the LCD

projection works well at this 200 meeting, the graduate students will likely be in favor of moving their papers from 35 mm slides to LCD projections. The Graduate Student Committee would support straightforward guidelines as to presentation format and content. We anticipate that the noon meeting time will increase attendance for the Graduate Student Business Meeting in 2000. The Graduate Student Committee will likely request the same time for scheduling the business meeting in 2001.

Career Placement Committee
Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, Chair

The suggested board action of checking the room on a regular basis (versus constant manning) was successfully implemented. Committee members suggested that copies of positions desired and available could be kept at the registration desk for anyone wanting such information. A suggested alternative was to allow copies to be made per request.

	Positions Desired				Positions Available					
	BS	MS	PhD	Total	GRA	Private	Univ.	Gov.	Other*	Total
2000	0	8	3	11	1	0	4	0	10	15
1999				17						19
1998	0	12	9	21	3	11	7	0		21
1997	1	7	13	21	2	8	4	0		14
1996	1	3	1	5	0	3	3	3		9
1995	1	8	12	21	0	9	2	0		11
1994	0	6	5	11	1	6	3	0		10
1993	3	8	13	24	6	12	4	1		23
1992	2	9	23	34	0	7	3	1		11
1991	1	7	10	18	0	5	3	0		8

* positions not emphasizing weed science (i.e. corn breeder, programmer).

Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee
Chris Boerboom, Chair

At the close of the 2000 fiscal year, the Society has an invested financial reserve of \$284,934 which exceeds twice the annual operating expense of the Society (\$116,019) as mandated in the Manual of Operating Procedures, Chapter 9. The financial reserve is adequate at this time and the Society is currently in a sound financial position. Total expenses exceeded income (excluding investments) by \$4,074 in 2000. This is the first year since 1992 that expenses exceeded income. The 1999 annual meeting (2000 fiscal year) generated a net profit of \$7,928. Income from the NCWSS Research Report did not cover publication costs and had a net loss of \$1,376, but the NCWSS Proceedings had a net profit of \$2,607. In addition, the Society generated about \$279 in revenue from sales of the weed seed manual. Net revenue for publications was \$760. Expenses exceeded income for program services by \$12,762. Major expenses include the NCWSS Newsletter (\$4,164), North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest (\$6,500), Management Fee (\$15,00), the Washington Liaison (\$14,000). The deficit in program service area is a result of the NCWSS contribution to these areas. Currently, the Society maintains an overall net profit because of revenue from the annual meeting and interest on investments. The long term investment strategy for the NCWSS is to invest future profits and existing investments at maturity into certificates of deposit and/or treasury bills with approximately 25% maturing each six months.

Three motions were approved that made changes to the MOP at the December 13, 1999 Board meeting. The first

two motions were for rule changes to the nomination procedures for NCWSS Fellows and for Distinguish Achievement Awards. The rule changes simplify and clarify the request for nomination materials. The second motion eliminated the North Central Research Publication Committee and assigned coordinating duties to the vice-chair of the Extension Committee.

Legislative Information Committee Report

Dallas E. Peterson, Chair

The primary function of the legislative information committee is to provide input and support to the Director of Science Policy (DSP) sponsored jointly by WSSA and the regional weed science societies. Rob Hedberg currently serves as the DSP. The primary issues established for the DSP this past year included: 1) Funding for weed science; 2) Food Quality Protection Act; 3) Invasive Species; 4) Ag biotechnology; 5) Worker Protection Standards exemption for research; and the 6) ARS Weed Science Program. The DSP has been very active on all priority issues, helping coordinate several key events and receiving key positions on several committees and advisory panels that help guide policy decisions. Key appointments include the Invasive Weed Awareness committee, the Committee to Advise on Reassessment and Transition (CARAT) for FQPA, and the organizing committee for the ARS Weed Science Program Workshop. In addition, the DSP continues to build strategic alliances with other organizations that have similar agendas, such as ASA, CAST, and CoFarm. A summary of DSP activities is posted at the NCWSS web site and published in the newsletter. Rob Hedberg will be attending the NCWSS meeting to update membership at the general session on his activities as DSP and to participate in the Invasive Weed Symposium and the Industry breakfast. The LIC committee plans to meet with the DSP at the 2000 NCWSS meeting and provide further input on priority issues.

Local Arrangements Committee

Jim Bloomberg, Chair

Security (Mosier): Since we had an outside intruder interrupt one of our sessions at the 1999 NCWSS meeting, it was decided that we will have several members of the NCWSS monitoring the meeting room entrances this year trying to ensure that everyone entering the room is wearing his/her name tag. We suggest that the wearing of name tags for all meeting be announced during the general session.

Registrations (Nichols/Al-Khatib): Two telephone lines, a message board, etc., have been ordered. Individuals from KSU and Syngenta will help man the desk during peak hours. Installation of both telephone lines will total \$125 with a \$25/phone/day usage fee. In addition, the hotel will charge a \$1 fee for each non-local call.

Audio/Visual (Philbrook/Moses): We are in the process of finalizing bids for the A/V. Bidders include the local hotel group (VAE) and an outside group (Hoovers). Estimated bids from both groups are ca. \$8,000. The committee is leaning toward Hoovers because their reputation is excellent (they were used at the 1994 NCWSS meeting in KC) and because of their excellent response to our committee questions/needs, etc. AVE has been very difficult to work with and not responsive to our questions. Hoovers will commit to having people stay on site during our meeting and will have all the spare parts/replacement machines available immediately should the need arise.

Meals/Breaks (Olson): Coffee breaks and meals are essentially completed. Coffee breaks will be held twice per day (am/pm). Refreshment/meals for NCWSS- sponsored events have been ordered. The general banquet this year will feature a buffet dinner named 'Best of Kansas City' which features smoked Brisket, Boneless Breast of Chicken and smoked pork Loin. Presently, we have 300 meals guaranteed. Larry Thompson will lead the invocation at the banquet. For lunches, there are several restaurants within the hotel itself and many others within a 5 minute walk using a covered walkway. In addition, we have requested the hotel to set up a 'trial' C.O.D. food line for quick meal service for Tuesday. If sales of these quick meals exceeds \$350, we will do likewise the following day. If sales are less than \$350, the service will not be used the following day since the society is obligated to make up the difference for sales less than \$350. Present total estimated cost of all NCWSS-sponsored coffee breaks/meals, etc.; is expected to be between \$20,000-21,000. Costs could be slightly lower depending on the amount of sodas consumed on coffee breaks. For those not consumed, we shall receive a credit.

Hotel Room Pickup(Bloomberg): As of November 13, 2000, NCWSS members had registered for up to 70%

of our room block. In order to receive our meeting room space free of charge and to get our 1 comp. room for every 50 rooms booked, the NCWSS must reach a room target of 85% of our room block. Right now, things look very positive that we will reach that 85% mark.

Signage (Austin/Geier/Dollinger): Signs available from previous meeting have been reviewed and a listing on new signs to be made for the 2000 meeting is ongoing. The hotel will provide a complimentary easel for each meeting room, which we have reserved for this year's meeting.

Poster Session/Sustaining Members (Thompson): An inventory (92 easels and 85 boards) has been taken for the poster session, and arrangements made to have them delivered to the Hyatt on Monday morning, Dec. 11, to the Pershing Exhibition Hall. Individual contacts have been made for sufficient assistance in setting up the poster boards by 5:00pm on Monday, Dec. 11. Sustaining members will be setting up displays along the prefunction area in front of the main meeting rooms to allow for more exposure to the society membership. Setup for the sustaining members will be on Monday afternoon, Dec. 11 and early Tuesday morning.

Public Relations/Press Room (Johnson/Geier): Computer and printer have been secured for the press room at a cost of \$410. Work is still in progress for a copier but one will probably cost ca. \$1000 for the entire meeting. A photographer for the general session and banquet has been secured for an estimated cost of \$1000. Press releases for the meeting have been prepared and will be released during the week of November 13, 2000 through an editor offices in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Iowa and Oklahoma. The NCWSS abstract editor, Bob Hartzler, has reported it is likely the abstracts from this year's meeting can be available in an electronic format for this meeting.

Spouses Program (Maret): The official spouses program has been cancelled for this year's meeting. Information concerning local areas of interest, dining, etc. will be available near the registration desk for those interested. In addition, a person from the Kansas City Convention Bureau will be available in the LAC room on Tuesday morning for those interested for additional insight concerning activities in/and around the Kansas City area.

Nominating Committee

Dave Johnson, Chair

The NCWSS nominating committee was charged with finding candidates for Vice President and CAST Representative. An industry representative is to be selected for Vice President and several candidates were identified and three agreed to have their names submitted for consideration. For CAST Representative, two candidates agreed to have their names submitted.

Program Committee

Duane Rathman, Chair

The work of the committee is reflected in the 55th Annual Meeting program. The 2000 meeting will feature 147 oral presentations and 81 posters. The trend of more posters offset by less oral presentations has continued. Three symposia bring a diverse topic discussion to the meeting. A special thanks to all who helped organize the symposia. A special thanks also to Rob Hedberg, who is participating in the general session, a symposia, and as the industry breakfast speaker. His participation will give many members an increased exposure to the Washington Liason position. Certain sections such as Regulatory and Crop Consultants, and Soil and Environmental Aspects may need to be reviewed due to lack of paper submissions. The email submission for paper titles has worked well, but there is a need for the program chair to have the ability to return email to authors more efficiently. A new feature this year is the trial use of LCD projectors in three major sessions by Brent Prignitz and the computer committee. LCD projectors will also be used in the general session and in each of the three symposia. I look forward to the computer committee's assessment of the LCD sessions in 2000 and their recommendations on the use of LCD projectors in 2001.

Publicity and Public Relations Committee

Dallas E. Peterson, Chair

The publicity and public relations committee has promoted attendance at the annual meeting to area extension

personnel, noxious weed personnel, agri-business professionals and commodity groups. A press release was developed at the University of Missouri and distributed to surrounding Land Grant University communication offices for distribution to the local media. Local media and farm press were also invited to attend the meeting. Paper and poster authors have been asked to provide copies of abstracts for the press room and for distribution at each session. A photographer has been hired to take pictures of conference activities and award winners for use in the newsletter and press releases.

Resolutions and Necrology Committee

Richard Proost, Chair

Standard resolutions have been finished. No new resolutions were submitted to the committee members. Four NCWSS members have passed away during the past year. Dr. Dan Hess, Dr. Edward Stroube, Dr. Larry Mitich, and Gary Gabrielson. Full biographies for these members are incomplete due to problems acquiring information on Dr. Larry Mitich and Gary Gabrielson. It should be impressed upon the membership that information on deceased members must be forwarded to the Resolutions and Necrology Committee.

Distinguished Achievement Awards Committee

Phil Orwick, Chair

Six nominees were received for consideration for the awards. Four were in the category of Professional Staff and one each for Young Scientist and Industry. By committee vote, five of the nominees were chosen for awards: David Vos, Professional Staff; Gary Powell, Professional Staff; James Lux, Professional Staff; Bill Johnson, Young Scientist; and Harlan Palm, Industry. While the committee is receiving strong candidates for consideration, we would like to see more nominations from the members. We received no nominations for either Research or Teaching. We suggest moving the nomination deadline to earlier in the year and continuing to stress the streamlined procedure for nominations.

Future Site Selection Committee

Charles Slack, Chair

The first site choice was Columbus, but the first two weeks of December were not available in 2003. There is no one willing to host the meeting in Indianapolis or Cincinnati. I then looked at Louisville and Lexington. The committee considered proposals from the Galt House in Louisville, Hyatt Regency, Radisson and The Lexington Center in Lexington. I negotiated potential contracts. The result of the visits and contract information were put into a ballot and sent to the committee for their vote and suggestions. The majority of the committee voted for the Galt House in Louisville. The committee recommends that Louisville be the site for 2003. The hotel of choice is the Galt House.