

NCWSS Board of Directors Meeting

Galt House Hotel
Louisville, KY
1:05 pm, December 1, 2003



1. Call to Order. President M. Horak presiding.
2. Roll call by Secretary-Treasurer J. Green. Quorum present.
Board members present. M. Horak, J. Doll, T. Peters, J. Green, B. Johnson, B. Young, R. Becker, J. Martin, D. Peterson, R. Schmidt, B. Henry (for J. Daniel), J. Bruce, H. Flanigan (for D. Childs), K. Schaefer, C. Thompson, M. Barrett, C. Sprague (for K. Renner), D. Belcher, W. Fithian, K. Howatt, B. Miller, C. Medlin, C. Alford, S. Conley, C. Guza, D. Bruns, D. Nord, D. Pullins.
3. Minutes. The December 2, 2002, December 4, 2002, and July 16, 2003 minutes were presented by the Secretary-Treasurer. J. Martin moved to approve the July 16 minutes. The motion was seconded by D. Peterson and the motion passed.
4. Executive Secretary Report. R. Schmidt reported that the total membership this past year was 640 individuals (545 members, 95 students) which is a significant decrease from the 696 the previous year. Preregistrations for the annual meeting are below those received in previous years. He has received a significant increase in credit card registrations for the meeting. R. Schmidt noted that there is an additional cost to the society to process credit cards. J. Doll commented that the credit card registration is evidently meeting a need for our membership.

M. Horak stated that E-mail use for communication between officers, board members, and committees has increased significantly this past year. Although a few problems were encountered, it was used to notify the membership of the newsletter that was posted on the society's web site. Elections for some state representatives were also conducted through electronic media. An E-mail database is progressing for communicating with the membership, but still has some limitations. One of the more difficult limitations with contacting members via E-mail is maintaining a current E-mail address list of the membership. Therefore, members need to be encouraged to provide their current E-mail address when they register for the meeting. M. Horak indicated that we should also remain sensitive to members who do not have E-mail capabilities so that we are able to continue communicating with them.

(Officer and committee reports can be found in Summary of Committee Reports, December 2003)

5. Proceedings Editor. B. Hartzler was not present and no report was given. A brief discussion was held on the apparent limitation for the length of abstracts submitted (number of characters allowed) and whether a full paper could also be submitted. In addition, sending a confirmation back to the authors on receipt of the abstract was discussed. B. Hartzler will be notified to review these issues for future abstract submissions.
6. Research Report Editor. B. Young gave the report. This is the second year of combined NCWSS Proceedings and Research Report and they have received no complaints about the combined CD format. He was able to postpone the deadline for submitting reports until November 5 and still anticipates meeting the deadline for publishing. The CD is expected to be distributed in early January 2004. Cost of creating the CD diskette is the same as last year which is approximately \$5.16 for each copy with an additional cost of \$1.50 each to mail. The CD is approximately one-half full with information; therefore, there is room for more information that could be added to the CD diskette.

7. Communications Editor. B. Johnson reminded the board that three copies of the newsletter are sent out each year. The spring and fall copy were only posted on the web site and the summer issue, which contains the call for papers, was sent out by traditional mailing and electronically. Budget needs are similar to last year. We need to continue to encourage submissions of articles for the newsletter. A number of changes which were suggested at the summer board meeting for the website have been implemented. The web site usage has been significantly high with 136,000 hits this past year with the heaviest use in September, October, and November; the lightest month is June. Several positive comments were made on the changes and layout of the current website. In response to a question about the number of newsletter copies that are printed for each issue, B. Schmidt commented that we still mail out approximately 100 printed copies of the newsletter to Fellows and other members who do not have electronic access. The availability of the newsletter electronically has greatly reduced our printing and mailing cost.

An implementation of an E-mail list server was extensively discussed. B. Johnson indicated that it could be coordinated through Purdue University but he needed more guidance to proceed. B. Young moved that B. Johnson investigate how to develop a society list serve and report back to the board. C. Guza seconded the motion and motion passed. A request was also made to increase the number of characters for the E-mail addresses on the web site for submitting title submissions.

8. WSSA Representative. R. Becker gave the report. He is still waiting on language from the WSSA Executive Director regarding the NCWSS relationship with the Director of Science Policy. The WSSA web site is being updated. A new position is being discussed to address educational material produced by the WSSA, titled Director of Education, which is currently being filled in a *pro bono* status by Gerry Stephenson. Procedures have been developed to expedite electronic communications among the WSSA Board such as E-mail discussions, conference calls, and electronic voting. Methods of archiving WSSA activities were being reviewed. Future meetings of the WSSA will be held in Kansas City (2004), Honolulu (2005), and New York City (2006), which is the 50th anniversary of the WSSA. An effort to strengthen graduate student programs is being implemented. Back issues of *Weeds*, *Weed Science*, and *Weed Technology* journals will be digitized; WSSA also plans to renew their contract with BioOne, the journal consolidator. The release of the Expert Identification Systems (XID) weed identification CD is planned for early January 2004 with Phase II targeted for completion in 2005. An endorsement of a funding initiative by the American Phytopathological Society at the national level was requested, but at this time the WSSA does not feel that this effort adequately represents weed science interests. The ESA IPINAMS conference, a joint meeting endorsed by the Ecological Society and WSSA held in Florida, was successful with about 830 attendees. WSSA membership and annual meeting attendance is dropping in numbers, but hopes to stabilize. The travel cost for R. Becker to attend the WSSA summer board meeting in Honolulu is estimated to be approximately \$850.00 for airfare; hotel expenses will be covered by the WSSA.
9. CAST Representative. J. Martin reported that the EPA cooperative agreement to train the trainer program on worker protection has been extended to September 2004. CAST is continuing to develop and improve its web site (<http://www.cast-science.org>). The budget for CAST is operating at a deficit due to membership declines; therefore, the organization is requesting that individual member societies assume all travel expenses, if feasible, for their representative to attend the spring and summer board meetings. The Biotechnology Communications Initiative has been a major focus for CAST the past few years. Unless additional grant funding can be secured the Biotechnology Program Coordinator position may be terminated. Future CAST meetings will be held in Washington, DC in March 2004 and Oklahoma City in September 2004. J. Martin concluded his report by expressing his appreciation to the NCWSS society for the opportunity to represent the society as a CAST representative. M. Horak also thanked J. Martin for his service to the society.

A discussion was held on whether or not both the old and new CAST representative should attend the spring CAST board meeting and provide travel support for both representatives. The current MOP allows for both representatives to attend the first CAST board meeting during the transitional term. In response to a question about our supporting dues to CAST it was stated that our dues are based on the individual membership of the NCWSS. J. Martin moved that all travel expenses for the NCWSS Representative to attend the CAST board meetings be paid by the society. T. Peters seconded the motion and motion was approved. M. Horak requested that travel support to CAST board meetings be reflected in the 2004 NCWSS budget.

10. Local Arrangements. C. Slack reported that the hotel and local arrangement committee is ready to host the meeting. As of now 309 room blocks have been reserved which is close to the number last year. Therefore, we do not expect any financial penalties from the hotel. President M. Horak thanked Charles Slack for his leadership in local arrangements.
11. Future Site Selection. C. Slack stated that the hotel contracts for Columbus, OH and Kansas City have been signed and the room blocks have been reduced to be more in-line with the anticipated meeting attendance. The committee recommends that the 2006 meeting be held at the Milwaukee Hyatt on December 10-14, 2006. D. Peterson moved to accept the committee recommendation. B. Johnson seconded the motion and motion was approved.
12. Finance, Steering & Policy. J. Green reported a net operating loss for the fiscal year which ended in November 2003 but a total net financial gain of approximately \$1000.00 primarily due to the return on investments. Five 30-day advance notice motions to change the MOP Bylaws on 1) Publications, 2) Annual Conference, 3) Meeting Sites, 4) Duties of the Board of Directors, and 5) preparation of a notebook by the officers and local arrangements chair were approved by paper ballot. These motions were previously recommended at the summer Executive Board meeting and E-mailed to the board of directors 30 days prior to the December meeting. Since the Proceedings of the annual meeting of the NCWSS are no longer in a printed form, J. Green presented a motion to archive board minutes on electronic media. The motion states that under the duties of the Secretary-Treasurer (Section II, Chapter 1) that the Secretary-Treasurer shall in Item 1, “Prepare minutes of all meetings of the Board of Directors and make available electronic media copies of approved minutes and summary of committee reports for the Board of Directors and for archiving.” and under the duties of Executive Secretary state in Item 13, “Retain copy of current Research Report, Proceedings, and approved minutes and summary of committee reports of Board of Director meetings for permanent file.” J. Doll seconded the motion and motion was approved.
13. Fellow. S. Miller indicated that three nominations were submitted and have been accepted by the committee and approved by the NCWSS Executive Board to receive this honor. He expressed a concern for getting individuals nominated particularly from the industry sector.
14. Distinguished Achievement Awards. D. Peterson reported that five candidates have been selected and approved by the Executive Board as recipients of these awards.
15. Legislative Information. T. Peters gave the report. He commended J. Doll for use of electronic mail and he plans to model this method of communication for the society. Currently, the Legislation, Regulatory, and Public Policy Committee is a mechanism for gathering information and feedback from our constituency for use by our Director of Science Policy, Rob Hedberg. We may need to investigate how we can better direct Rob Hedberg’s activities on behalf of the NCWSS.
16. Publicity and Public Relations. T. Peters expressed a need to develop a better mechanism for publicizing the annual meeting. This may include a method for transmitting information from the states to the committee members and on to Rob Hedberg which could add value to the information. In return, we should request R. Hedberg to submit a report or an article for the newsletter for our

constituency. J. Doll commented that R. Hedberg's position as Director of Science Policy does not appear in our Manual of Operating Procedures. It was suggested that R. Hedberg be invited to the NCWSS board meetings so that he could be more involved with our activities and could be more visible.

17. Nominating. M. Loux gave the report. The committee identified two candidates each for the position of Vice President and CAST Representative. No additional nominations were presented on the floor. The elections were held by paper ballot. Stephen D. Miller was elected Vice President and Kassim Al-Khatib was elected CAST Representative.
18. Program. J. Doll reported a total of 212 presentations were submitted for the annual meeting. The electronic title submission process went well overall. There has been a significant drop in student paper and poster presentations. Some sections have only a few entries such as Regulatory and Crop Consultants, Soils & Environmental Aspects, and the Industry, Forestry, Turf, and Aquatic sections. He commended C. Slack for his role in matching the program with the Galt House facilities. J. Doll suggested the program committee develop a proposal for modifying the MOP so that sections of the annual meeting program could be added, combined, or removed. Three symposia are in the program this year -- a) The Application of Genomics Techniques to Weed Science, b) Beyond Thresholds: Applying Multiple Control Tactics in Integrated Weed Management, and c) Future Role of Weed Science Extension.
19. Career Placement. J. Hinz gave the report. He indicated that they are no longer able to forward hard copies of resumes and job opportunities to the WSSA and no place currently exists on their web site to post resumes. Therefore, his committee will discuss how to forward resumes to the WSSA in the future. The committee will accept hard copies of jobs and resumes during the NCWSS meeting.
20. Herbicide Resistance. J. Hinz reported that the committee is in the process of updating the list of herbicide resistant weeds. Current issues that are being investigated include lack of adequate control of common lambsquarters with glyphosate, impact of insects on herbicide performance, and waterhemp resistance to PPO herbicides.
21. Membership. H. Hatterman-Valenti gave the report. The committee met to discuss how to increase membership. Suggestions include joining with another organization to broaden our scope or be content with current membership numbers. They have considered placing a suggestion box at the registration desk for comments from members on their preferences for the annual meeting. J. Doll commented that with fewer numbers it is easier to organize a meeting, but on the other hand can we survive as an organization. Other ideas that have been discussed include meeting every other year, perhaps opposite an annual WSSA meeting or consider having more symposia with invited speakers to attract more participants. Industry representatives are looking for a broader venue when they attend meetings. M. Horak encouraged the Membership Committee to contact state/provincial directors in the fall to request their support in soliciting members to attend the annual meeting.
22. Extension. S. Conley gave a report. He indicated that one of the symposia at the annual meeting will be the "Future Role of Weed Science Extension" to be held on Thursday morning.
23. Resolutions and Necrology. M. Peterson indicated no deaths have been reported during the past year.
24. Collegiate Weed Science Contest. D. Pullins reported that the 2003 contest was hosted by Syngenta on July 17 in Champaign, IL. A total of 71 students (38 undergraduates and 33 graduate students) participated with 10 universities represented. Next year the contest will be held July 20 in Waseca, MN hosted by the University of Minnesota.

25. Resident Education. D. Pullins gave the report. He thanked all the volunteers who assisted with the summer contest and the judges for the papers and poster contests. The committee conducted a survey in October to determine what, or if, any changes need to be made for future summer contests. To make the summer contest sustainable in years to come the Resident Committee recommends the following: 1) eliminate the formal banquet, 2) raise the student fee for participation from \$20 to \$30, and 3) change the contest format. Changes in the summer contest under consideration are to eliminate the sprayer calibration event, continue the weed identification section, leave or increase the emphasis on the problem solving event, and continue the herbicide symptomology section which was considered very valuable, but tough. The committee also discussed leaving the written calibration portion, but adding to the problem solving section a virtual reality style problem.

President Horak emphasized that the University of Minnesota are willing to host the 2004 summer contest if it does not lose any money. He asked if a budget for the contest had been developed and if there should be any immediate changes in the summer contest format so that the University of Minnesota can host the 2004 contest. Significant changes in the contest format or rules will require board action to implement and for modifying the MOP. M. Horak requested that the Resident Education Committee or R. Becker contact B. Durgan for more information to bring back to the next board. A question was also raised on whether eliminating the sprayer calibration section would result in a loss of financial support for the contest.

26. Electronic Communications. J. Bruce reported that six LCD projector remote controls have been bought for use at the annual meeting. The committee made changes to the NCWSS web site to communicate with presenters on the preferred format for bringing presentations to the meeting. Arrangements through C. Slack were made for LCD projectors to be available at the meeting.
27. Long Range Planning. M. Horak highlighted D. Rathmann's committee report. Two items the committee will discuss this week include an endowment fund to enhance the financial standing of the NCWSS and production of a weed seed identification software program. The Long Range Planning committee will report back at the Wednesday night board meeting.
28. Industry. D. Bruns gave the report. He indicated that when the industry group meets they will solicit topics of interest for future program chairs. They anticipate two sustaining member displays for the meeting. The committee recommends refining the role of the Industry Committee in the Collegiate Weed Science Contest if the universities will be hosting the summer contest. President Horak encouraged cooperation between the Industry and Resident Education Committees to support and conduct the summer contest. He also requested a proposal for inclusion in the MOP that would formalize future cooperation between these two committees for the summer contest.

J. Doll pointed out a discrepancy in the number of sustaining members indicated in the Industry Committee report compared to the number of sustaining members listed in the annual meeting program. An increase in the annual dues for sustaining members that exceed \$1 MMM in sales was discussed but some opposition was voiced because of tight budgets. It was suggested that companies who market "generic" products be solicited for becoming sustaining members. M. Horak also asked that a primary contact person be identified for each company for soliciting dues.

29. Regulatory and Crop Consultants. D. Nord reported a significant decline in interest from crop consultants and contract researchers. A primary forum for this group has become the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants. However, there appears to be some interest in regulatory issues; thus, a symposium on how to register a pesticide or genetically modified crop would perhaps encourage some attendance for those individuals interested in regulatory issues. It appears that crop consultants who attend the NCWSS are mainly at the meeting to gain information about weed control. An extensive discussion was held on whether or not to drop the Regulatory and Crop Consultants Special Interest Group and whether the duties of the Legislation, Regulatory and Public

Policy Committee adequately address all regulatory issues. President Horak emphasized that this issue is extremely important to the society and that during the annual meeting the board should informally poll the members and bring this issue up for a decision at the Wednesday night board meeting.

30. Research and Publications. No report or representation present.
31. Graduate Students. C. Guza reported that graduate student organization is gaining momentum. A graduate student mixer sponsored by BASF and a luncheon sponsored by Monsanto will be held again this year although he anticipates a decrease in attendance since there appears to be a decline in graduate students at the meeting. The group intends to select a NCWSS student representative to attend the WSSA meeting in their efforts in organizing a WSSA graduate student organization. A decline in the number of graduate students in university weed science programs was briefly discussed.
32. Old and New Business. None
33. Adjourn. 4:50 pm. D. Peterson moved to adjourn, seconded by J. Martin. Motion passed.