

North Central Weed Science Society
Summaries of Committee Reports
December 2001

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Executive Secretary's Report

Robert Schmidt

Membership as of September 30

	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
Members	601	730	711	756	792
Students	94	<u>117</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>117</u>
Total	695	847	802	904	909

Annual Meeting preregistration

	2001	2000	1999	1998	1997
	Milwaukee	Kansas City	Columbus	St. Paul	Louisville
Members	321	375	391	400	354
Students	<u>83</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>76</u>
Total preregistered	404	450	463	483	430
Final Attendance	538 est	495	603	649	635

NCWSS Proceedings Editor

Bob Hartzler

The process of converting from paper to CD format for the proceedings proceeded smoothly. The finished product was sent to a firm in the Twin Cities on November 27 for copying. They promised to have it delivered to the editor by Dec. 7 so that we can bring it to the meeting. In addition to delivering the abstracts to members at the meeting, the cost of producing the abstracts was cut drastically. Bob Schmidt reported that the cost for the 2000 Proceedings was \$8600, whereas this year the cost is less than \$2800. Savings were made both in the cost of printing and reduced labor in compiling the abstracts. I am satisfied with the process we used this year. One possible improvement would be a better indexing method so that people could actively search by keywords. However, for the number of abstracts (~200), I think the current format works okay. To go to a more sophisticated method would incur significant costs. I think we can move back the due date for abstract submission by a week and still have it ready for the meeting.

Newsletter Editor

Bill Johnson

Three issues of the newsletter were published and delivered by mail and posting on the NCWSS web site in 2001. Suggestions for the future include considering electronic publication exclusively, encouraging membership to continue to submit items for inclusion in the newsletter, and reviewing the mailing list to avoid duplicate publication and mailing fees.

Research Report Editor

Bryan Young

No problems were experienced during the electronic submission process that was required for the second year to produce the CD. No one submitted reports relating to any other facet than typical field research (ie no greenhouse or laboratory studies that would be of timely importance). The electronic files were processed into a database and delivered to the CD authoring company on November 13. The CD's were produced and delivered to the editor on December 7. The 2001 NCWSS Research Report is 414 pages compared to 451, 497, and 480 pages in 2000, 1999, and 1998, respectively. The number of reports has decreased from 191 in 2000 to 155 in 2001. The 2001 bid cost included jewel case packaging, multi-color printing, 1000 copies, and program authoring in Carbondale, IL for \$4,695.00 which compares to \$6,495.00 for the 2000 CD and \$8,205.59 for 700 copies of the 1999 book report. The cost of producing the CD should not increase dramatically in the near future as long as we continue with the current program authoring. The current programming with a slight modification would allow for inclusion of the Proceedings into a single CD. Hence, it may be possible to produce a combined Proceedings and Research Reports

for approximately \$5,000.00. However, the logistics of combining the two publications would be a much larger issue.

WSSA Representative

Kent Harrison

The WSSA Board of Directors held their summer annual board meeting at the Reno Hilton, July 28-30, 2001. Below are items relevant to NCWSS that were discussed at the meeting:

1. Fees to increase. Annual meeting registration rates, member dues, and subscription rates were raised for 2002. The annual meeting pre-registration fee for members was raised to \$195, membership dues to \$125 (includes both journals), and journal subscription rates to \$150 for a single journal and \$250 for both journals. A new category, membership without journals, will be proposed at the Feb. Board meeting in Reno.

2. Annual meeting format changes. Beginning in 2003, WSSA Annual meeting will move to a Monday to Thursday schedule. An Invasive Species Workshop will be offered for CEU and possibly CCA credits. The traditional banquet has been nixed in lieu of a reception. Awards will be made at the General Session. The Board reviewed a proposal to offer the LCD presentation format and voted to convert the oral paper presentation format *exclusively* to use of computer/LCD projection. *For the record, this went well beyond the recommendation of original proposal prepared by yours truly.* Future meeting sites: Jacksonville (2003), Kansas City (2004), and Honolulu (2005) at the Sheraton Waikiki. The 50th anniversary of WSSA will be celebrated in 2006, possibly in or near NYC.

3. Publication issues. Foy steps down as *Weed Technol.* editor in Feb. 2002. *Weed Sci.* and *Weed Technol.* have been directed to develop mission statements and contents that clearly differentiate the two. The Director of Publications (M. Foley) is working with the journal editors to implement this Board decision. WSSA journals will expand to include sections on invasive plants. The revised Herbicide Handbook is scheduled for completion in early 2002; price = \$65/single copy or \$50 each for ≥ 10 .

4. Director of Science Policy Issues. R. Hedberg reports that EPA has reviewed current Worker Protection Standards and concluded that researchers are exempt from WPS requirements in research plots. The sublease on Hedberg's office (held by Tri-Societies) expires Dec. 31, 2001. Tri-Societies has proposed that WSSA take over the full lease and sublet to tenants, including Tri-Societies. Hedberg is investigating this further.

5. 2003 Invasive Plant Species Conference. WSSA will co-lead this conference with the Ecological Society of America. Details are pending.

The NCWSS should consider coordinating strategic planning with WSSA. Concerns regarding mission, declines in "traditional" membership and a desire/need to develop partnerships with other societies (e.g., ESA) are some common themes discussed by both Boards.

CAST Representative

James Martin

Reports on CAST activities were made in the spring and summer issues of NCWSS News. I attended the CAST Board meeting in March near Washington, D.C., but was unable to attend the September Board meeting in Raleigh, N.C.

Dr. Teresa Gruber was selected to serve as Executive Vice President. She succeeds Dr. Richard Stuckey who officially retired June 1. She will maintain an office in Washington, D.C., and will also direct CAST's office located in Ames, Iowa. Increasing the membership of CAST is an ongoing process. As a part of this effort, the NCWSS has agreed to participate in a pilot project where CAST will pay NCWSS \$20 for every NCWSS member that registers as a "New" member with CAST. A CAST application form (with a source code identifying NCWSS) was included in the fall issue of the NCWSS newsletter, and in the mailings for the NCWSS meeting. The new dues structure after Dec 1, 2001 is \$50 per year for individuals. Dues for students and retirees will be \$25 per year. As a service to its members, CAST recently began providing a weekly e-mail update of current events in Washington,

D.C. (called "Friday Notes") to CAST members who have provided their e-mail addresses. "Friday Notes" are written by CAST's Washington D.C. representatives at Meyers and Associates. Plans are underway for CAST to merge with the Agricultural Research Institute. The process on amending the bylaws will be discussed in the March 2002 meeting.

An issue paper on "Evaluation of the U.S. Regulatory Process for Crops Developed Through Biotechnology" was published in October. A copy of this document was sent to the EPA before the September 21 deadline for receiving comments on re-registration of Biotechnology crops. A symposium on "Management of Pest Resistance: Crop Management Strategies" has been proposed; however, details have yet to be developed. A CAST Biotechnology Advisory Committee (CBAC) was approved by the Board to provide oversight of the CAST Biotechnology Outreach Program. CAST's biotechnology web page (<http://www.cast-science.org/biotechnology>) continues to be an excellent source for biotechnology information. The latest biotechnology-related testimonies, briefing documents, lay public and press summaries are updated as needed. CAST is contracting with the United Soybean Board (USB) to prepare a report for USB on the environmental impacts of biotech. crops - corn, cotton, and soybeans. CAST also plans to develop its own document on this subject matter as an issue paper.

The current society dues structure for membership to CAST for societies that have a membership of 666 to 6,666 is \$0.83/member/year or a minimum of \$546/year for societies with less than 666 members. I suggest that NCWSS budget the appropriate amount to funds for CAST dues for 2002 based on the number of members following this year's NCWSS meeting. CAST Board members will be eligible for reimbursable expenses up to \$546/year. The remaining expenses, if any, are the responsibility of the member society. I recommend that NCWSS budget \$700 for participation in the CAST spring and fall meetings.

In addition to providing space for the CAST booth, it is suggested to schedule a limited time slot (possibly one hour) and a location at next year's NCWSS meeting for the CAST representative to have dialogue with members about CAST's activities. Perhaps this type of forum would allow for group interaction and be informative for NCWSS members.

Extension Committee

Christy Sprague, Chair

In 2000, the extension section was the pilot section for using LCD projectors for Power Point presentations, instead of slide presentations. The pilot project was a success. There were smooth transitions between the different presentations and there was even a 50 MB video clip in one of the presentations that went smoothly. Discussions continued on updating the USDA publication "Systemic Herbicides for Weed Control". Marshal McGlamery has agreed to work on updating the efficacy tables and Christy Sprague will talk to their publications office on Publishing it as a regional bulletin. In addition, Jerry Doll expressed to the committee his concern that the weed identification book "Ontario Weed" by J. Alex is out of print. The committee proposes the following resolution:

Whereas the book, "Ontario Weeds" by Prof. J. Alex at the University of Guelph is an excellent resource for the entire North Central Region, whereas "Ontario Weeds" is out-of-print and unavailable for purchase, and whereas the author is working to update and expand "Ontario Weeds" into an even more valuable resource, therefore be it resolved that the NCWSS in session at Milwaukee, WI on December 10-13, 2001 for the 56th annual meeting strongly encourages Prof. J. Alex to complete the revision and further urges the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs to proceed as expeditiously as possible to publish the new edition of "Ontario Weeds".

Industry Committee

David Nicolai, Chair

The 2001 sustaining membership includes 24 sustaining members. The 2000 membership was 31. Letters, emails and follow-up phone calls were made by committee members and Duane Rathman, NCWSS President, to sustaining members to gain their continuing support and participation and, in some cases, to remind members to pay dues. Seven sustaining members requested display space for the 2001 meeting. Monsanto at Monmouth, Illinois hosted the North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest in 2001. Dow AgroSciences, near Fowler, Indiana (northwest of Lafayette) will host the contest in 2002. An industry sponsored breakfast and business meeting will be held on

Thursday morning during the annual meeting on Dec. 13th; Larry Stenberg, Grain Channel Traits Manager, Dow AgroSciences, will be providing an update on labeling and regulatory issues surrounding GMO commodities.

The committee suggests the Society post list of sustaining membership companies on the NCWSS website along with contact person's information and 1) continue the Industry meeting/breakfast with an appropriate speaker to increase attendance to the annual meeting; 2) continue to work on plans to increase the number of sustaining member displays at the annual meeting; 3) develop a plan to recruit "non-traditional industries" such as equipment or biotech firms etc. with the realization that sustaining members list will continue to shrink as more consolidation of ag chemical and seed companies occurs; 4) consider adding sustaining membership category of annual dues for \$1500 for sales > \$500MM (currently member companies pay \$1000 for company sales > \$100MM); and 5) the Society should consider choosing locations for meetings by focusing on those cities with closest proximity to majority of regular attendees, i.e. 80/20 rule because NCWSS revenue in the future may become more dependent upon registration fees collected at annual conferences.

Regulatory and Crop Consultants Committee

David Bennett

No progress has been made in the last couple of years. Last year's meeting was not held due to travel conditions. This year, no interest could be generated for a formal program. The majority of the research consultants have turned their main attention away from the NCWSS and toward the NAICC. Future directions will be discussed at the Regulatory and Crop Consultants Business Meeting on Wednesday. Average attendance over the last few years has been 3 to 5 persons. If interest does not improve, there is no reason to have a committee.

Research and Publications Committee

Matthew Foes, Chair

No changes have been made for the 2001 Research Reports or Proceedings. Both will be available electronically via CD. The committee may survey NCWSS membership to gain information on current topics within the industry. Examples could revolve around weed resistance/shifts and management practices in place to deal with these issues.

Resident Education Committee

Dave Johnson, Chair

Graduate Paper and Poster Contests. There were 39 graduate student papers and 31 graduate student posters entered in the contests at the 2000 NCWSS meeting. There were three sections in each contest. For 2001, there are 41 papers and 23 posters entered in the contests. An announcement requesting volunteers for contest judges was placed in the NCWSS Newsletter.

Undergraduate Poster Contest. In 2001, we are inaugurating a poster contest open to undergraduate students on a trial basis. The purpose of this contest is to encourage undergraduate students who have conducted research in weed science to present their results to the society in poster format and to gain experience and interaction with other scientists and students. There are five undergraduate posters entered in the contest, representing four universities. The contest will be held in conjunction with the Graduate Student Poster Contest, with the same rules and evaluation guidelines. This contest was announced in the NCWSS Newsletter, along with a request for contest judge volunteers.

The committee recommends that the Board consider a proposal to make the undergraduate student poster contest a permanent part of the NCWSS meeting. The great response (five posters entered) this year indicates a lot of interest by both students and faculty sponsors. This will require a change in the MOP (proposed below), and an expenditure of \$150 for prizes (\$100 for first place and \$50 for second place, assuming one section of undergraduate contestants). From the perspective of the Resident Education committee, we feel that continuing to sponsor such a contest will encourage undergraduates to pursue a career in weed science, and allow them to participate in our meeting and interact with graduate students, faculty, and industry representatives.

Proposed wording for Manual of Operating Procedures:

CHAPTER 4

NORTH CENTRAL WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT POSTER CONTEST

An undergraduate student poster contest will be held at the NCWSS annual meeting. The purpose of this contest is to encourage undergraduate students who have conducted research in weed science to present their results to the society in poster format and to gain experience and interaction with other students, faculty, and industry representatives. Students should have a faculty sponsor who is a member of the NCWSS to provide guidance in poster preparation. The contest will be held in conjunction with the Graduate Student Poster Contest, with the same rules and evaluation guidelines (see Chapter 3). Any student who is enrolled as an undergraduate at the time of the contest and conducted the research being reported while a student in the North Central Region is eligible to participate, except those having won first place in a previous contest. Only one poster may be entered in the contest by each contestant.

Evaluation will be made by at least five judges using the guidelines of the Graduate Student Poster Contest (Chapter 3), with \$100 for first place and \$50 for second place, and a free ticket for the NCWSS banquet. The Chair of the Resident Education Committee shall be responsible for the Undergraduate Student Poster Contest.

Adding the above as Chapter 4 will require renumbering of the subsequent chapters.

Additional proposed wording changes:

In Chapter 3 (Graduate Poster Contest), 2nd paragraph, last sentence: add “Graduate Student” before “Poster Contest”.

Under “Resident Education Committee”, Part B, 1, (responsibilities of the chairperson): add “e) conduct the Undergraduate Student Poster Contest portion of the Poster Section”.

Summer Contest. The 2001 NCWSS Summer Contest was held on July 19 at the Monsanto Agronomy Center in Monmouth, IL. Hosts were Marvin Spaur and Erika Ehler of Monsanto. A total of 20 teams (13 graduate or mixed graduate/undergraduate and 7 undergraduate) competed for the team awards. In addition, 8 students competed as individuals, for a total of 88 students competing. This year was the first in which students from two-year schools were eligible to participate, and Parkland College, a two-year school from Champaign, IL, sent a team. Severe thunderstorms forced a delay in the outdoor events of contest, and the decision was made to send students into the problem-solving section in pairs after the storms passed in order to complete the events on time. These scores were not counted towards individual or team scores, and no award for top individual in this section was given. The 2002 contest will be hosted by Dow AgroSciences at their Midwest Research Center located near Fowler, IN. The 2003 contest will be hosted by Syngenta at their research center located near Champaign, IL.

There was one near miss accident when a student pressurized a plastic bottle with higher pressure during the calibration event. The bottle exploded which caused the glass on the regulator to break sending plastic and glass shrapnel everywhere. The student was cut on two fingers causing minor bleeding and a doctor’s visit later. All participants were wearing safety glasses during this event and should always be worn during the sprayer calibration. The regulators are an older model and should be replaced as well as the 3-liter bottles.

The total cost of the contest was \$14,256 of which the NCWSS provided \$6,500, R & D Sprayers provided \$1,000, and Monsanto covered the remaining \$6,756.

The committee recommends that the Board consider some changes in the herbicide list for the Herbicide Identification portion of the summer contest. Currently both clethodim (Select) and quizalofop-P (Assure II) are in the list of herbicides. These post grass herbicides produce nearly identical symptomology and spectrum of control. The possible exception is on yellow foxtail, which Select will control but on which Assure II is weak. Thus, if yellow foxtail is not included in the species used at the contest, a student who correctly recognizes that the unknown herbicide is an ACCase inhibitor is left with guessing which is the correct herbicide. This may unfairly penalize a student who actually knows the symptoms. A survey of coaches done at the contest this summer showed they agree that one should be eliminated. Therefore, the committee recommends that one of these products be removed from

the herbicide list. Additionally, with the registration of mesotrione (Callisto), we propose that this herbicide be added to the list as a postemergence product at 0.094 lb/a with COC and UAN.

E. Ehler and M. Spaur recommend sprayer calibration judges hold a conference call in advance of the contest to plan how to provide consistency in judging such as for breaking out partial points, insuring only one possible solution, standardizing team judges for consistency, and how questions are answered. It was suggested the Board consider breaking the grower problem final solution into a graduate and undergraduate level and add a trophy so that both are recognized. They also placed all the contest forms, letters, etc. on a CD to assist the next year's host. Each year's host can build on this to streamline and simplify requirements for future hosts.

Graduate Student Committee

Shannon Oltmans, Chair

BASF Corporation will sponsor the Graduate Student Mixer, which will be held Monday night, December 10, from 5-11 p.m. The 2000 Graduate Student Business Meeting was conducted over lunch on Wednesday, December 13, which was sponsored by Bayer Corporation. There were approximately 40 graduate students, an increase of 35 students from previous years. Due to the success of the lunch last year, the Graduate Student Business Meeting lunch this year will be at noon on Wednesday, December 12, sponsored by Monsanto Corporation. The Graduate Student Committee is thankful to both BASF and Monsanto for their generosity.

The Graduate Student Committee chairs were revised. Former committees were composed of Chair, Vice-Chair, and 2nd Vice-Chair, which we felt limited the opportunity of being Chair to Ph.D students. The current committee is composed of the Chair, Vice-Chair, and Past Chair. This is the first year LCD projection will be allowed for graduate students who are involved in the graduate student paper contest, which was strongly supported by the Graduate Student Committee. If the LCD projection is a success for graduate students at the 2001 NCWSS annual meeting, the Graduate Student Committee supports continued use of this format. The Graduate Student Committee supports annual evaluations of guidelines to facilitate presentations in the future. Following success with increased attendance for the Graduate Student Business Meeting in 2000 and anticipated success in 2001, the Graduate Student Committee would request the same time for scheduling of the Business Meeting in 2002. We anticipate that the 2001 Graduate Student Symposium will be informative for NCWSS members. The Graduate Student Committee would support Graduate Student Symposiums in the future, to accommodate the changing needs of graduate students.

Career Placement Committee

Henry McLean, Chair

A concern for the committee is the number and availability of active members. Industry mergers and displacement of industry personnel have greatly affected this committee. It is recommended that the committee has sufficient nominations to ensure active members for next year's committee. Committee members should also provide updated contact information. The committee is prepared for a successful meeting. Pre-meeting submissions are running low and there are only three submissions to date.

Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee

Chris Boerboom, Chair

At the close of the 2001 fiscal year, the Society has an invested financial reserve of \$281,601 which exceeds twice the annual operating expense of the Society (\$117,963) by 19% as mandated in the Manual of Operating Procedures, Chapter 9. The financial reserve is adequate at this time. However, this is the second consecutive year where total expenses exceeded income (excluding investments). With the addition of investment income, the Society still had a \$3,648 net loss as compared to a budgeted \$10,850 net gain. The 2000 annual meeting (2001 fiscal year) generated a small net profit of \$3,255. Registration income was less than expected because of the snow storm and refunds that were requested. Income from the NCWSS Research Report did not cover publication costs and had a net loss of \$1,672, but the NCWSS Proceedings had a net profit of \$1,596. There was a net loss for publications of \$381. Expenses exceeded income for program services by \$23,814. This was \$7,064 greater than budgeted. Income for program expenses was about \$3,000 less than budget for membership dues and \$4,000 less than budget for sustaining membership. Major expenses include the NCWSS Newsletter (\$5,371), North Central Collegiate Weed

Science Contest (\$6,500), Management Fee (\$15,000), the Washington Liaison (\$14,000). The deficit in program service area is a result of the NCWSS contribution to these areas. The principal reason the Society had a net loss in 2001 is because of the reduced attendance at the 2000 annual meeting, which was caused by the snow storm and the potential impacts of industry mergers on sustaining membership and meeting attendance.

Two motions were made to modify the MOP at the December 13, 2000 Board meeting by way of a 30-day advance notice ballot. The MOP changes were to appoint the Vice President as the chair of the Legislative Committee to track the activities of the DSP and to eliminate the Constitution and Operating Procedures Committee, a standing committee, and assign the maintenance and other responsibilities to those of the Secretary-Treasurer. Both motions were approved by the Board and the MOP was modified accordingly.

Legislative Information Committee

Michael Horak, Chair

The primary issues established for the DSP for 2001 and work toward those goals included:

Worker Protection Standard. Issue: Clarification of how the Office of Pesticide Programs within the EPA intends to interpret several specific provisions of the WPS relative to research settings. Progress: The DSP received a letter outlining how the Agency intends to interpret the provisions. The letter was a culmination of work conducted over 5 years to address the issue by the DSP and others. The letter offers a reasonable compromise that lets the regulations stand while providing researchers the flexibility to work efficiently without being cited for non-compliance with certain provisions of the WPS. The DSP and society will need to continue to monitor this issue and be ready to participate in future changes to the WPS.

Invasive Species. Issue: The sponsoring societies see the need to participate and have their voice heard in government and non-government organizations working on this issue. Progress: The DSP has participated in, represented our views, and promoted our societies to provide important interactions in several important and key areas: 1) National Invasive Species Council (NISC); 2) Invasive Species Advisory Committee (ISAC); 3) Federal Interagency Committee for Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds; and 4) Invasive Weed Awareness Committee (IWAC). An example of the influence of our participation through the DSP, the National Park Service has established Exotic Plant Management Teams. This will provide additional jobs for graduate students, and will allow Weed Scientists to fill a critical role that has not been traditionally held by scientist who understand weed management. Finally the DSP is working with the WSSA to coordinate an Inter-Organizational Invasive Plant Conference in November 2003 to bring together many societies concerned about the issue.

Pesticide Regulation. Issue: The sponsoring societies see the need to participate in and provide guidance and recommendations around pesticide regulation. Progress: The DSP has continued to represent the Societies on several important committees and panels: 1) Seat on the Committee to Advise on Reassessment and Transition (CAROT, this EPA/USDA bridge committee advises both departments on implementation of Food Protection Act. Participation has resulted in an opportunity to identify research needs and funding. Furthermore, participation is provides a defensive role to protect against poor regulations); 2) attend Pesticide Program Dialog Committee (PPDC, committee oversees the number of priority slots for registrants, and how the program is administered); 3) attend EPA Science Advisory Panel (panel discusses science issues regarding how the agency will evaluate various effects); and 4) attend technical briefings and review various position documents and summarizing comments on atrazine – Agencies human health risk assessment, atrazine – Agencies preliminary ecotoxicology risk assessment, Consent decree with the National Resource Defense Council, and the Talent Irrigation Case. It is important for us to comment on these cases because the comments and deficiencies listed in the response are entered into the public docket and must be considered.

Research Funding. Issue: The societies see the need to be involved in the processes necessary to secure funding for weed science. Progress: Two important developments have been participation in the Coalition of Funding Agricultural Research Mission and becoming chair of research committee of National Coalition for Food and Agriculture (CFAR). This society has 110 member societies and stakeholders. This is a key role on a large committee.

In addition to continuing the current activities, the board should consider if it will support the DSP's pursuing of a

national job series for weed scientists. If the societies are in agreement, having a job series would create further opportunity to weed science graduates.

Local Arrangements Committee

Jerry Doll, Chair

General report. The Local Arrangements committee is where we need to be at this point in time. Our activities started in April when Duane Rathman, Dallas Peterson, Tim Trower (foods), John Albright (AV equipment) and I met with Tricia Schoner, our conference coordinator, at the Hyatt Regency. We met some of the people we'll be working with and toured the facilities. This allowed us to then decide what events and sessions would work in the rooms available to us. Once Dallas had a tentative program in hand, we made final room assignments for each section and the symposia based on our best guess of how many people might attend each event. Updated versions of this were sent regularly to key people on the committee, Dallas and the hotel contact person. The full LAC met at the Hyatt in July and October. These meetings served to review what had been done, what remained before us, and how we could work together to ensure a successful conference. We will meet with as a committee and with the Hotel events staff on Dec. 10 to finalize any loose ends.

As of Nov. 16, 82% of the rooms that the Hyatt is holding for us are reserved. We need to achieve 85% "take" to avoid a possible \$5000 penalty. Our contract specifies 30 rooms for Sun., 460 for Mon. and Tue., 400 for Wed. and 30 for Thur. Nov. 20 is the last day the Hotel is required to hold our room block. There is little risk that late registrants will be referred to the overflow facility as it appears that we are the only sizeable event in Milwaukee the week of Dec. 10. It is a blessing in disguise that the Hyatt did not have the number of rooms we thought we might have needed when the contract was in early 1999. An arrangement was made with the Best Western to provide up to 85 rooms to the NCWSS. It was apparent early on that we would not need the over flow facility; fortunately there is no penalty for not using their rooms and they are still available if needed.

We were asked by Midwest Express Airlines (a Wisconsin company) to name them as the "official carrier" of our conference. We signed an agreement to do so. This gives those who purchase tickets on Midwest a discount and if 30 round trip tickets are purchased the NCWSS receives a bonus ticket.

Registration. Dave Fischer and Steve Sanborn have developed a schedule of who will staff the registration table on Mon. through Wed. afternoon. They have been in contact with Bob Schmidt and know what he needs them to provide and will assist him as needed during the Conference.

Meals/breaks/Banquet. Tim Trower worked with the Hotel staff and selected banquet menu that will feature "A Taste of Wisconsin." It will be served buffet style with two serving stations and two lines on each side. Breakfasts for the Paper and Poster judges have been arranged as well as the Industry breakfast on Thur. morning. We will have a total of four breaks: Tue. afternoon, Wed. morning and afternoon, and Thur. morning. Each one will have beverages at two stations: one outside the Regency Ballrooms and another in the Atrium area. Hospitality suites and other meal and social events that are not part of the NCWSS have been coordinated with Tim, Tricia Schoner and Jerry Doll to ensure no conflicts for space and proper billing of the expenses.

AV/Room Setup. Most papers will be given with an LCD projector, but we will also have a slide projector in each room. John Albright reviewed the costs of AV equipment for the past two Conferences and found we spent \$6000 in 1999 and \$8200 in 2000. The Hyatt in Milwaukee has an in-house company (Presentation Services). Their initial quote was \$6800, while those from two outside providers were less than \$4500. Presentation Services then resubmitted a bid at \$4911 and we signed the agreement with them. All bids included the extra cart, power strip and extension cord we need in each room for the LCD projector and laptop computer. There will probably be additional expenses for equipment as final details are nailed down, but we preferred using the in-house group for the obvious reasons. The cost of AV equipment rental would drop dramatically if all presentations used were done with Power Point and the hotel allows us to bring in LCD projectors and laptops at no cost. This year's costs were reduced significantly by having only a lavalier microphone in most rooms. In the past, both a lavalier and podium mic were rented. We will provide an overhead projector and a slide projector for the preview room from the Univ. of Wisconsin.

Posters/Sustaining Member Exhibits. Poster numbers are down this year which is fortunate as space for all posters at

one time was never going to be an option at this Hotel. We will have a rotation of posters with half on Tue. and half on Wed. The posters will be displayed in the Milwaukee rooms, the Milwaukee foyer and in the Atrium area. Final layout decisions will be made when we set up the easels and poster backs on Mon., Dec. 10, but we are confident we can accommodate the 30 or so posters each day with ample elbow room. Industry exhibits are being coordinated with Dave Nicolai and will be placed in the prefunction area by the Regency Ballrooms. Dave expects to have six industry displays. We will also locate the Visitors Bureau booth and person in this vicinity. Scott Ditmarsen contracted Capital City Transfer to ship the six crates with the easels and poster backs from the UW Arlington Research Station to the Hotel on Dec. 7 and then to the Univ. of Illinois in Champaign on Dec. 14 (the U of Ill. will use them for a meeting in 2002 and then ship them to St. Louis for our 2002 Conference). Scott has the details covered with the Hotel personnel regarding unloading the boxes, moving them to the second floor, and storing them during the Conference.

Signage/Misc. rooms. Richard Proost checked the NCWSS storage boxes and prepared an inventory of all the signs that we have on hand. Most are in fine shape but have a dichotomy of logos: the old on some and the new on others. He and Sue Bellman will be sure that the needed signs regarding spouses meeting room, symposia titles, reminders for everyone to wear their name tags, etc. will be ready.

Security/Trouble shooting. Since Sept. 11, the aspects of this subcommittee have been reviewed in ways we would never have imagined. However, we see little need to do anything that is particularly different or visible to the attendees. Carl Urwin and Bruce Michaelis (plus all members of the LAC) will politely but firmly encourage the use of name tags as the "admission pass" for all functions of the Conference. Spouses should be given a name tag so that they will be identified as authorized to utilize the Crystal room, attend the banquet (with a purchased ticket of course), etc. Tricia Schoner indicated the Hotel has not made any particular changes in security nor have there been any reasons to. She did not see a need to advise the participants of escape routes or any other precautions in advance but thought it might be good to have a meeting with our session moderators so that they know who and how to call if anything suspicious or serious happens and what the exit routes are in case they are needed. This is a decision for our president and vice-president. Each moderator should also remind members to wear their name tags at all times in the Hotel. This will be particularly important for foreign graduate students so that they are recognized as official participants in the Conference.

Local Information/Spouses program. Tom Hartberg has worked with Todd O'Leary of the Milwaukee Convention and Visitor's Bureau. Todd met with the LAC in Oct. and described the many and excellent services his office can offer during our Conference. He will provide printed materials to distribute during the Conference that include "What to See and do in Milwaukee," a city map, the Nov./Dec. calendar of events and activities in the city, and the "Genuine American Experience," a coupon book for the events during those months. The Bureau can also provide a person to answer specific questions regarding the events and places in Milwaukee and to make meal reservations at facilities outside the Hotel. The fee is \$12/hr plus \$4 for parking. We will ask the Bureau to have someone at a booth near the NCWSS registration table from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on Monday and from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Tue. This person will also meet with the spouses on Tue. morning to give them suggestions of what to see and do in the city. Spouses will need to obtain a name tag at the registration table so that they can be identified as official guests at the Conference. We plan to use the Crystal Room as a gather place for spouses at the conference. The official policy is that the NCWSS will not provide refreshments for the spouses as they do not pay a registration fee. Hospitality in the form of morning beverages and sweet rolls will be provided on Tue. morning by DowAgro Sciences and on Wed. morning by DuPont.

Public Relations/Press activities. Articles and digital images about the host city and hotel were provided to the NCWSS Newsletter editor and appeared in the summer and fall issues. Paul Vassalotti worked with Mary Ellen Bell (Univ. Wis. Extension Media person) to publicize our Conference to the key Ag reporters, magazines, newspapers, etc. in the state. Paul has also arranged for a professional photographer from the UW Ag Journalism Dept. to take pictures during the general session and at the Awards banquet. The cost will be approximately \$900. We might get TV coverage from a Milwaukee station during the Conference. Because the paper and poster abstracts will be available on a CD, we have not made arrangements for photocopies during the Conference. The Hotel offers this service so it can be used if needed by individuals.

Future Recommendations. 1. The NCWSS should establish a policy regarding one-day registrations. This year, we announced to Ag professionals and other non-weed scientists who might be interested in participating in the sessions

and symposia of interest that a one-day registration costs \$40. Then we discovered the program says it's \$30! This year's symposium on herbicides in groundwater in Wisconsin will have an appeal to some in our Ag professional community but these people are not going to register for the entire conference to attend only on Thur. morning. We also had a request from the Univ. of Wis. at Platteville to consider a special one-day fee for undergraduate students enrolled in the weed science course. In consultation with several members of the Executive Committee, this was set at \$20 this year (half the one-day fee for professionals). 2. Do we need to have printed reservation cards for members to reserve rooms at the hotel? The Hyatt was most reluctant to do so this year until it was pointed out that it is part of our contract with them. We are apparently one of the few societies to do this. Most provide a toll-free number and their members reserve rooms with a phone call. 3. At some time, the MOP duties of the Local Arrangements Committee should be revised. The chairs of this committee for the past few years have developed a list of duties for each subcommittee that gives the current responsibilities of each. 4. Someone should routinely request CCA credit for any segment of the program that meets these requirements (especially the symposia we offer).

Membership Committee

Jamie Retzinger, Chair

This committee has not met nor have any meetings been planned. All those involved in Weed Science progress through the University ranks as students of the weed science discipline and are exposed to the NCWSS through the efforts of the weed scientists at those universities. Information about the NCWSS is also available on the Internet. Therefore, it seems apparent that this committee is no longer necessary. This committee should therefore be terminated and duties deemed necessary that are not currently being addressed be assigned to another committee.

Nominating Committee

Charles Slack, Chair

The NCWSS nominating committee was charged with finding candidates for Vice President and WSSA Representative. The committee collected names for potential candidates for these two positions. After the list was compiled and their active membership determined, the candidates were then ranked by the committee. The top candidates were contacted to determine their willingness to serve. If they declined, the next candidate was contacted. The committee recommends Jerry Doll and Mike Owen for Vice President and Jamie Retzinger and Doug Doohan for WSSA Representative.

Program Committee

Dallas Peterson, Chair

The results of the program committee activities are reflected in the 56th Annual Meeting program. The 2001 NCWSS meeting will feature 165 oral presentations and 63 posters. The number of oral presentations increased and the number of posters decreased compared to the 2000 meeting, reversing the trend of recent years. The shift back to more oral presentations may be due to the use of electronic presentations, which eliminates the need to make and transport slides or posters, and provides greater flexibility. Poster presentations will be divided into two sessions. Two poster sessions require less space, ease time constraints on poster contest judges, and allow more time to visit with authors compared to a single poster session. The General Session will focus on Intellectual Property Rights issues with invited presentations by Dr. Tom Woods from DuPont, and Mr. Robert Reader from the Mid-America Commercialization Corporation. The program also features three symposia on the topics of graduate student education, understanding resistance mechanisms, and groundwater issues in Wisconsin. The Web based submission of paper titles and distribution to the program chair, contest chairs, and proceedings editor has worked well. However, it is important to maintain a record of all submissions through the website for submission confirmation. The efforts of Jerry Doll, Local Arrangements committee chair, and Brent Pringitz, Electronics Communications Committee chair are to be commended for their assistance with preparing the program. It is recommended the Society move to electronic presentation format exclusively for oral presentations.

Distinguished Achievement Awards Committee

James Kells, Chair

The committee chair solicited nominations through the state/province directors. This approach was very successful. Nine new nominations and one carryover nomination were considered. Five nominees were selected to receive a

Distinguished Achievement Award at the 2001 meeting. The committee should consist of 9 members to conform to the Manual of Operating Procedures. It is essential that the committee chair actively encourage nominations.

Future Site Selection Committee

Charles Slack, Chair

The committee looked at the Hyatt Regency Columbus. They have the dates that we desire and Mark Loux has agreed to be Local Arrangements Chair. I am currently negotiating a favorable contract. The committee is in agreement with this site as we had a very successful meeting there in 1999. The committee recommends that the Columbus Hyatt Regency be the site for 2004. The dates will be December 12 to 16.

Herbicide Resistance Committee

Terry Wright, Chair

The committee met on 12Dec00 (NCWSS, Kansas City). A number of members were absent due to weather delays. There was a brief discussion of herbicide resistance information gathered by committee members from researchers in the North Central Region. Richard Zollinger presented a preliminary summary of this information to the Herbicide Resistance Action Committee the previous day. It was decided that the committee members will continue to maintain contact with researchers working in the area of herbicide resistance and report the collected information to the society and HRAC annually. Due to a job transfer out of the North Central region, Terry Wright will step down from the Committee (25Oct01). Richard Zollinger will conduct meeting of the Committee 10Dec01 to address progress and future actions of the Committee and to elect new chair and vice chair. The committee should conduct a new survey of the top 10 broadleaf and grass weed concerns among each of the university weed extension specialists and compare to the previous survey. This may serve as the first attempt at quantifying weed shifts from recent changes in weed control practices. This may be as important, especially with respect to glyphosate usage, as resistance monitoring.