

North Central Weed Science Society
Summaries of Committee Reports
December 2003

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Presidents Report

Michael Horak

All committee and chairperson assignments were made in January 2003, with continued appointment of the Long Range Planning committee. The president, president-elect and vice president met with Robert Schmidt (Executive Secretary) on May 15, 2003. The purpose was to outline and discuss the services that he provides to the NCWSS and specific projects that needed to be addressed this year including: developing a notebook to document the procedures and processes provided, the continued use and development of a NCWSS database, credit card registration for the meeting, etc. The summer executive board meeting was held at the Hawthorne Suites in Champaign, IL on July 16, 2003. The board meeting was extended to a full day to allow in-depth discussion of several important topics including: format and content of the NCWSS web page, needed changes to the NCWSS summer contest to accommodate university hosts, an in-depth but partial review of the Manual of Operating Procedures, and an overview of the services provided to the NCWSS by Robert Schmidt. Emphasis was continued on the development and use of the NCWSS data-base for society business. A call for reports and notification of the 2003 board meeting in Louisville was issued.

Executive Secretary's Report

Robert Schmidt

Membership as of September 30

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
Members	545	596	601	730	711
Students	<u>95</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>91</u>
Total	640	696	695	847	802

Annual Meeting preregistration

	2003	2002	2001	2000	1999
	Louisville	St. Louis	Milwaukee	Kansas City	Columbus
Members	278	279	321	375	391
Students	<u>62</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>72</u>
Total preregistered	340	370	404	450	463
Final Attendance	381	452	501	495	603

NCWSS Proceedings Editor

Bob Hartzler

No written report

NCWSS Communications Editor

Bill Johnson

Three newsletters were prepared and delivered via the NCWSS website in 2003. The summer edition which contains the call for papers for the annual meeting was also delivered to members through traditional mail. It was suggested to 1) encourage membership to continue to submitting items for inclusion in the newsletter, and 2) review mailing list to avoid duplicate publication and mailing fees.

NCWSS Research Report Editor

Bryan Young

Research Report submissions were solicited by email and on the NCWSS website in September. The submission date for the Research Reports was postponed to November 5 due to a late harvest season. However, this change may become permanent in future years. The expected distribution date of the combined NCWSS Proceedings and Research Report CD is early January 2004. The 2003 NCWSS Research Report contains approximately 114 reports which is slightly down from 2002 (134 reports) and significantly reduced from 2000 (191 reports). The 2003 bid cost from Noteworthy (CD program authoring only and cover art) is \$2,200.00. The 2003 bid cost from Advanced Duplication Services (CD production) is \$1,414 for 700 copies or \$2.02 per CD. Both bids are the same as 2002. Thus, the total cost is estimated to be \$3,614.00 or \$5.16 per CD. This cost does not include labor for compiling the information on the CD or mailing costs for distribution. No complaints have been filed on the new CD format containing both the Proceedings and Research Reports. No immediate changes are suggested, but an ongoing discussion of the value of this CD and format is encouraged.

WSSA Representative

Roger Becker

The wording from Joyce Lancaster regarding the employer-employee relationships for the Regional Societies to the WSSA and to the Director of Science Policy for use in our NCWSS manual of operating procedures has not been finalized. This verbiage is intended to clarify the relationship of the Regional Societies with Rob Hedberg concerning the use of contractual language or employee/employer language relevant to ensuring IRS requirements for taxation, etc. are met. The WSSA is entering an employer/employee relationship with Hedberg and discussions were still being finalized on the exact nature of his salary and benefits. WSSA anticipates there will be no change in the monetary cost for the regional societies.

The WSSA summer board of Directors Meeting was held in Kansas City, Mo on July 26-27, 2003. The first morning and early afternoon of the WSSA board meeting was spent revisiting the WSSA plan of work. In particular, time was spent to develop a vision for WSSA and to reality check its relevance to our current strategic plan. The key issue for all was the WSSA website. The appropriate committee will follow-up on improving the website design and website content. Another issue that evolved was for increased educational materials and educational content from the WSSA that is of high quality. Gerry Stevenson has agreed to fill a new position which will be titled the **Director of Education**, *pro bono* for the time being. Specifics of the arrangement have yet to be determined, but the long-term vision is that such a position may evolve in a similar manner to that of **Director of Science Policy**. The Director of Education position is to develop high quality materials, to write grants, and to initiate and augment materials from members of the Society. Funding to support this position needs to be obtained long term. Means to expedite WSSA communication and voting on issues that arise between the summer and annual board meetings were formalized and will be added to the WSSA MOP including guidelines for email and conference call procedures.

WSSA Archives. It was decided that for the good of the Society and for legal reasons, WSSA contracts should be forwarded to the Executive Committee for archiving. The WSSA archive at Iowa State University is incomplete. WSSA President Al Hamill will appoint a special committee to look into the process of getting information submitted to the archives. In addition to the archives, the corporate memory for WSSA lies in Board of Director and Business meeting minutes.

WSSA Membership. Joyce Lancaster, WSSA Executive Secretary, noted a continued decline in membership and the need for WSSA to set a monetary goal for increasing the Endowment Fund. Encouraging former members to renew their memberships was discussed at length. Past presidents of the WSSA will be granted executive status upon retirement from their paid positions. This qualification eliminates the issue of previous MOP requirements regarding length of participation in the WSSA. This removed requirements that had been imposed from the Weed Science Society which were in fact a disincentive to serve as President of the WSSA.

WSSA Local Arrangements Committee. Local arrangement chairs have been selected for the next three annual meetings: 2004 in Kansas City, Missouri, Bill Bertges; 2005 in Honolulu, Hawaii, Roy Nishimoto; and co-chairs

Rich Bonano and Brad Majek for the 2006 meeting in New York City at the Marriott Marquis in Times Square. The 2007 meeting site is anticipated to be within the U.S. South and South Central regions. Four symposia will be featured at the 2004 meeting in Kansas City 1) Remote Sensing and Site Specific Weed Management, 2) Fate of Agrochemicals in the Environment and Implications for Water Quality, 3) Sustainability of Glyphosate and Glyphosate-Resistant Crops, and 4) Second Generation Crop Biotechnology and Predicted Effect on Weed and Pest Management. A round table discussion on vegetable weed control will be held. A workshop on invasive plant species of the Midwest will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting, co-hosted by Roger Becker and Collie Graddick, past-president of the North American Weed Management Association (NAWMA).

Graduate Student Activities. A Graduate Student Representative Cody Gray reported that graduate students want to create an official GSO [Graduate Student Organization]. In preparation, they voted to put a temporary organization in place. The students suggest that an organization would benefit students by increasing their knowledge of how WSSA works, providing input to the Board, increasing student involvement at meetings, and suggesting program changes that will target students. The students are in favor of continuing "town hall" meetings, as has been the custom the past few years. Language will be drafted to formalize a graduate student organization or committee, which is required prior to any student representation on the Board of Directors. Much of the strength of the Southern and North Central student programs will be drawn on to do so. Cody will work with the graduate student attendees at the 2004 Kansas City WSSA meeting to further recommendations.

Publications. Proposals to digitize back issues of *Weeds*, *Weed Science*, and *Weed Technology* were discussed. Further details to develop a final proposal were requested from the Publications Board to bring before the WSSA Board of Directors. WSSA's contract with BioOne, the journal consolidator, expires December 31, 2003. The contract will be renewed. Concerns regarding the lack of soils related information in the 8th Edition of the *Herbicide Handbook* were discussed. FICMNEW's (Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds) revised *Weed Fact Book on Invasive Weeds* will be completed by August 30; plans for printing or distributing the book have not been finalized.

WSSA website evolution includes the desire and intent to develop better and inclusive linkage of WSSA with all regional sites, including publications and educational materials for all societies. Efforts will be made to be inclusive of other educational materials in promotion pieces in WSSA advertisements and on the WSSA website.

Expert Identification Systems Project (XID). Alex Ogg reported a poor response to the request for weed images. Phase I is projected for release on January 2, 2004. It was pointed out that a January release date will miss key meetings and opportunities for promotion in the fall of 2003, such as the NCWSS meeting. A promotional brochure has been developed for marketing the CD. The APMS (Aquatic Plant Management Society) would like to participate in providing photos for Phase II of the XID project. If APMS is able to contribute significantly, they would like to discuss possible funding for educational opportunities with WSSA. Phase II of the XID CD is planned for completion by the 2005 annual meeting.

Director of Science Policy Report. Citizens of 28 U.S. states visited the fourth National Invasive Weed Awareness Week, held in Washington, D.C. This continues to be an excellent method of reminding the public about weeds and gaining visibility for WSSA. WSSA commented on US EPA's draft strategic plan for the next five years. Overall the draft plan is good and provides obtainable, measurable results. However, the plan does not mention invasive species and their effects on threatened and endangered species. WSSA also noted that risks associated with pesticide use and genetically engineered plants should be weighed against risks resulting from not controlling a pest. Rob Hedberg is trying to find ways for WSSA to work more closely with the APS (American Phytopathological Society), i.e. in partnership projects. WSSA has declined endorsing an APS funding initiative for about \$10 million per year to bridge the gap between NRI (National Research Initiative) basic research and applied research at Land Grant Universities. The funding proposal did not adequately represent weed science interests. Hedberg worked with the Washington Liaison Committee and the Federal Noxious and Invasive Weeds Committee to draft comments regarding kikuyagrass (*Pennisetum clandestinum*). USDA is considering removing two kikuyagrass cultivars from the Federal Noxious Weed List. In the U.S. Congress, many bills are expected to be introduced for salt cedar control. WSSA needs to be active in this effort, particularly in ensuring that appropriations are directed to agricultural schools.

WSSA – ESA IPINAMS Conference. The joint meeting with the Ecological Society of America and WSSA is in session at the time of this report. About 800 attendees are expected. Posters, field trips, educational workshops and oral presentations will be featured. A total of \$315,000 was expected to be raised to help defray the cost of putting on the conference, including major grants from the Department of Defense, the NRI, and the USDA Forest Service.

Federal Noxious and Invasive Weeds Committee. The committee requested WSSA provide membership data for use in a searchable database of weed researchers and the invasive weed species they are currently working with. The CIPM (Center for Invasive Plant Management) has volunteered to house and maintain the database, and pay the \$750 to \$1,000 for initial set-up. WSSA's will change the membership renewal form to include an invasive weeds interest.

It was recommended that the NCWSS formalize the language for the Director of Science Policy in the NCWSS Manual of Operating Procedures. Travel funds for the WSSA Representative to attend the summer board meeting of the WSSA in Hawaii were requested.

CAST Representative

James Martin

Reports on CAST activities were made in the fall issue of the NCWSS Newsletters. J. Martin attended the CAST Board of Directors fall meeting in Portland, OR during September 17-20. New Officers for CAST include Dr. Dale Maronek seated as president of CAST and Dr. Stanley Fletcher elected as president-elect.

2003 NCWSS meeting: CAST's booth describing recent activities pertaining to weed science and related matters will be available for viewing at the sustaining members display section.

IPM Task Force Report: CAST recently published the report on "Integrated Pest Management: Current and Future Strategies" This report offers a comprehensive and up-to-date analysis of the issues involved in pest control. The report is designed to offer policymakers, opinion makers, and educators an informed overview of the changing nature of these choices in the twenty-first century. Chair, Kenneth R. Barker, North Carolina State University. R140, June 2003, ISBN 1-887383-23-9, 246 pp., \$50.00.

CAST Activities: CAST sponsored a Resistance Symposium on "Strategies on Using Crop Management, Technology, and Pesticides" on April 10-11 following the national IPM meeting at Indianapolis, IN. The intent was to bring together all groups who have been working with resistance. CAST co-sponsored with USDA-APHIS a Biotechnology-Derived Perennial Turf meeting following the Northeastern Weed Science Society meeting. A publication is being developed as a result of this meeting. An EPA Cooperative Agreement for a pilot project combining Pesticide Applicator Training with Worker Protection received an extension from September 2003 to September 2004. Future projects of interest from the Plant Protection Sciences Workgroup include exploring the development of 1) an issue paper on nondietary exposure to pesticides and 2) an issue paper on isolation distances for transgenic crops. A significant part of CAST activities has focused on the Biotechnology Communication Initiative with the help of Ms. Cindy Richard, Biotechnology Program Coordinator. Some of her current activities include coordinating the study tours with the Chinese Ministry of Agriculture and as well as serving as CAST's contact person for the Biotech Advisory Committee. Her position is funded by grants instead of CAST's general core account. Unless funds are secured in the near future, her position will end sometime this spring.

CAST Web Site: The web site (<http://www.cast-science.org>) for CAST has been revised in order to allow "members only" access to such things as publications catalog, online ordering of publications, and online membership application and renewal. Members will have access to: annotated list of reports/issue papers/special publications, full-text PDF's of recent publications (to view or download), task force listings, news releases, indexes by author/series/subject/title forthcoming publications list and online purchase of paper copies.

Budget: CAST has been operating in a deficit for the last two years. The expenses have been managed reasonably well, whereas, the income has declined due to an increase in mergers or consolidations of the membership base. CAST is requesting that member societies provide all travel expenses for their respective board members for travel

to CAST's spring and fall board meetings. The traditional policy has been for CAST to reimburse up to a total of \$556 per member per year for travel expenses. The remaining expenses have been paid by member societies. The Association for the Advancement of Industrial Crops (AAIC) became a new member of CAST.

The 2004 CAST Board Meetings are scheduled for March 18-20 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Washington D.C. and on September 16-18, 2004 at the Westin Hotel in Oklahoma City, OK. Because of the budget shortfall of CAST it was recommended that the NCWSS board budget \$1500 for all travel expenses for the CAST Representative to attend the CAST's spring and fall board meetings.

Extension Committee

Shawn Conley, Chair

The Extension Committee held a business meeting at the 2002 NCWSS Meeting. Jeff Stachler presided over the meeting and Dawn Norby was elected the new Vice Chair. A motion was made and approved to update the Extension Committee list to include everyone in the NCWSS region. The committee suggested that an Extension symposium be arranged for the 2003 NCWSS annual meeting. After a short discussion, the topic for the symposium was identified as "The Future Role of Weed Science Extension." Shawn Conley was selected to lead symposium arrangements.

Industry Committee

Dain Bruns, Chair

Syngenta Crop Protection's Technical Center hosted the 2003 Collegiate Weed Science Contest in Champaign, IL. In conjunction with the Resident Education Committee and NCWSS President, the University of Minnesota has been secured as host of the 2004 North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest. Currently 38 sustaining members are displayed on NCWSS website. Emails and follow-up phone calls were made by Industry committee chairman to sustaining members that had not yet paid NCWSS membership dues. One new inquiry for sustaining membership was communicated to Bob Schmidt. A topic and speaker were chosen for the annual industry breakfast to be held on Thursday morning during the annual meeting. Information regarding space for sustaining member displays was printed in NCWSS newsletter; however, to date only one sustaining member (CAST) has requested display space for the 2003 meeting.

A recommendation by the committee was made to consider adding a sustaining membership category with annual dues of \$1500 for sales >\$1 MMM (currently member companies pay \$1000 dues for company sales > \$100MM). For the future the NCWSS Board should consider refining role of the Industry Committee in Collegiate Weed Science Contest site selection process should the Universities become frequent hosts of the summer contest.

Regulatory and Crop Consultants Committee

Doug Nord, Chair

Although many of the NCWSS members interact with the pesticide and plant genetics regulatory industry there is little observable interest in this section at this time. The primary forum for Crop Consultants and Contract Researchers has become the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC). It appears that the NCWSS members attend the annual meetings of the NCWSS to exchange information covered in other sections. In view of lack of interest of this section at this time it is recommended to cancel this section of the meeting and incorporate any presentations related to Regulatory and Crop Consultants into other sections.

Research and Publications Committee

Jennifer Ralston, Chair

Committee had no action in 2003 and is reassessing the future of this interest group.

Resident Education Committee

Don Pullins, Chair

Graduate Paper and Poster Contests. There were 51 graduate student papers and 29 graduate student posters entered in the contests at the 2002 NCWSS meeting. There were five sections in the paper contest and three sections in the poster contest. For 2003, there are 28 graduate papers and 21 graduate posters. An announcement requesting volunteers for contest judges was placed in the NCWSS Newsletter.

Undergraduate Poster Contest. There are four posters in the 2003 contest. The contest will be held in conjunction with the Graduate Student Poster Contest, with the same rules and evaluation guidelines. The contest was announced in the NCWSS Newsletter, along with a request for contest judge volunteers.

Summer Contest. The 2003 North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest was hosted on July 17 by Syngenta on their Northern Regional Technical Center near Champaign, Illinois. Syngenta's NRTC staff did a great job conducting a successful contest. A total of 71 students (38 undergraduates and 33 graduates) participated in the contest, with 10 universities represented (8 graduate level teams and 6 undergraduate teams). The 2004 contest will be hosted by the University of Minnesota at their Southern Research and Outreach Center at Waseca, MN.

A recommendation for future summer contests would be to eliminate unnecessary items to reduce costs such as eliminating a formal dinner the night before the contest, but have a very informal get together for everyone. In October a survey was sent out to 100 individuals (20 graduate students and 80 professionals) to determine what, or if, changes need to be made to future contests. Results of this survey will need to be discussed by the board.

Graduate Student Committee

Corey Guza, Chair

A graduate student mixer sponsored by BASF on Monday night and a luncheon on Wednesday sponsored by Monsanto will be held again at the 2003 annual meeting. The graduate student group intends to select a NCWSS student representative to attend the WSSA meeting in an effort to organize a WSSA graduate student organization.

Career Placement Committee

John Hinz, Chair

The career placement form was posted on the North Central Weed Science Society web page. The committee will be discussing the posting of resumes on the WSSA jobs web page. There were 7 resumes, 2 graduate assistantships and 1 full time job posted in 2002.

Distinguished Achievement Award Committee

Dallas Peterson, Chair

Five worthy candidates were recommended by the committee and approved by the NCWSS Executive Board for presentation of NCWSS Distinguished Achievement Awards at the 2003 annual meeting. The candidates have been notified of their award and will be present to receive the awards at the banquet on Wednesday evening. It is recommended to contact state directors and other members to solicit new nominations.

Fellow Committee

Steve Miller, Chair

Three nominations were submitted and have been accepted by the committee and approved by the NCWS Executive Board to receive the NCWSS highest honor.

Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee

J. D. Green, Chair

At the close of the 2003 fiscal year, the Society has an invested financial reserve of \$301,719 which exceeds twice the annual operating expense of the Society (\$113,957) by over 50% as mandated in the Manual of Operating Procedures, Chapter 9. Therefore, the financial reserve is adequate at this time. There have been 4 consecutive years where total operating expenses have exceeded income (excluding investments). Although there was a budgeted net loss for the past 2 years, the society has realized a net gain principally due to the investment income and a reduction in the cost for publications. The 2002 annual meeting (2003 fiscal year) generated a net profit of \$5,215. Income from the NCWSS Research Report/Proceedings covered production costs with a net profit of \$6,358. Expenses exceeded income for program services by \$22,770, which was near the budgeted amount. Major program expenses include the NCWSS Newsletter (\$2,319), North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest (\$6,500), Management Fee (\$17,500), and the Washington Liaison (\$14,000). The deficit in the program service area is a result of the NCWSS contribution to these areas.

Four changes were made to the MOP as a consequence of Board actions at the December 2002 annual meeting. The MOP changes include 1) revision of the duties and responsibilities relative to the Newsletter Editor, Newsletter Committee, Publicity Committee, and Future Site Selection Committee, 2) move the responsibilities for the web site to the Newsletter Editor and change the title to NCWSS Communications Editor, 3) rename the Legislative Information Committee to Legislation, Regulatory and Public Policy Committee, and 4) incorporate additional duties for State and Provincial Directors. Five motions to change the MOP were approved at the Executive Board meeting held in July. These motions require a 30-day advance notice to the board for final approval and include the following changes: 1) the sale price of the society Proceedings and Research Report shall be determined by the Board or Directors instead of approximately ten percent above production costs, 2) the registration fee for the annual conference shall be determined by the Executive Committee, 3) a change in Bylaw 9 indicating that the future meeting sites for the annual meeting shall be determined by the Board of Directors based on the recommendations of the Future Site Selection Committee, 4) a new subsection created within Section II, Operating Procedures to more clearly define the specific duties of State and Provincial Directors and 5) adding to the duties of each Officer and Local Arrangement Chair a requirement to prepare a notebook to pass on to their successor which contains a list of responsibilities, specific activities, and relevant correspondence. In addition, it is recommended to the NCWSS Board to modify the listed duties and responsibilities of the Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Secretary whereby minutes of the Board of Director's meetings could be archived using electronic media.

Future Site Selection Committee

Charles Slack, Chair

The committee has evaluated the Hyatt Regency and Hilton Hotel in Milwaukee, WI. They have the dates we desire and Chris Boerboom has agreed to be the lead for Local Arrangements. The committee recommends that the Hyatt Regency in Milwaukee be the site for 2006. The dates of the annual meeting would be December 11-15.

Legislation, Regulatory, and Public Policy Committee

Tom Peters, Chair

Jerry Doll has done an outstanding job of modeling the use of electronic mail as a communication vehicle. Committee members serve as a portal to gather information and feedback from our constituency for the Director of Science Policy's Washington activities. That is, a listening post of the NCWSS delegates to the WSSA Washington Liaison Committee that oversees Rob Hedberg's activity. In reality, it probably works the other way whereby Rob Hedberg is a conduit of information from the Director of Science Policy back to the committee members. Issues of particular concern that R. Hedberg has dealt with this year include atrazine related issues, changes in emergence use exemption, and invasive weeds. There is other communication designed to solicit opinion so that a formal response can be made on behalf of the national and regional weed science societies to various Washington interest groups. It is recommended that the NCWSS continue to improve its electronic communication strategies so that information can be disseminated to all NCWSS members or opinions back to the Director of Science Policy. We should solicit articles from R. Hedberg for use in every NCWSS Newsletter. Rob Hedberg will attend the annual meeting to give a presentation during the General Session and he will attend the Legislation, Regulatory, and Public Policy Committee meeting.

Local Arrangements Committee

Charles Slack, Chair

Several meetings have been held with hotel sales manager assigned to our meeting to review the contract. A significant reduction was made in the number of room blocks reserved after our reduced room take in St. Louis. In February we had a change in the sales manager assigned to our meeting. In April Jerry Doll made a site visit to the Galt House to tour the meeting space and begin to plan where sessions would fit. The Local Arrangements Committee will meet on December 1, 2003 to finalize any remaining details. The reservations for hotel rooms have been aggressive and the block is near capacity; thus, we do not anticipate any room penalty issues.

Membership Committee

Harlene Hatterman-Valenti, Chair

During the annual meeting last year suggestions were gathered on how the NCWSS should proceed to increase membership. All were in agreement that the status quo was not an option if this regional organization was to continue. Most were in agreement with the suggestion of combining two organization meetings so that attendees could attend both meetings without too much extension of "days out". The NEWSS and the NE region ASHS were given as organizations to consider. Committee members were asked to continue to think about ways to either increase membership or decrease cost associated with the annual meeting and to ask fellow weed scientists for suggestions. Most of the responses received to date suggest that a pure weed scientist is past terminology, especially in industry, and unless the society adapts to these changes industry membership will continue to decline. The national WSSA meeting is becoming similar to the regional meeting, thus with fund limitations university personnel will choose to attend the meeting that is the closest or most economically feasible. Both responses indicate that the board will need to make some major decisions soon. It is recommended that the board consider organizations to combine the annual meeting with and the committee is considering placing a suggestion box by the registration desk where attendees can voice their opinions.

Program Committee

Jerry Doll, Chair

The committee reviewed four symposia proposals and approved three, all of which have resulted in full agendas. The call for paper and poster titles was in the July Newsletter and by mid August titles started arriving. As usual, most paper and poster submissions arrived within days of the deadline. An email reminder near the deadline resulted in a few more submissions. Only one or two titles were "lost" between the submitter and me. A total of 212 presentations will be made.

The program committee did not meet at the WSSA meeting because I did not attend. In lieu of a meeting, a conference call could have been held. I coordinated the general session and we did not deliberate on or select a theme for the conference as was done previously. Future program chairs may wish to return to the practices of having the program committee meet at the WSSA meeting and of selecting a theme for the annual meeting.

The title submission procedure was seamless, thanks to Glenn Nice's and Bill Johnson's efforts. I received an email for each submission which made acknowledgement very easy. A week after the deadline passed, Glenn provided an Excel file with all the pertinent information. This was invaluable to sort by type of presentation, sections, student contestants, etc. in deciding how to organize the program. I needed to add the submission information for the symposia and general session speakers; the symposia chairs gave me the titles, names, emails, etc. which made this easy to do as well. We will add one more column to the file next year: person giving the paper or poster. This is needed so that the presenting author receives the abstract preparation information directly and to clarify who is giving the paper for the 20% of coauthored submissions without an asterisk by the presenter. The Excel file was modified to send pertinent sections to the paper and poster contest chairs, the abstract editor, the communications committee, and the executive secretary (so he could send hotel registration information to general session and symposia speakers).

We need to develop a mechanism to decide how to add and delete sections to the annual meeting. At the moment, the Soils and Environmental Aspects (2 papers, 4 posters); Industry, Turf, Forestry and Aquatic (2 papers, no posters); and Regulatory and Crop Consultant (no papers or posters) sections are near extinction. One suggestion for the Soils and Environmental Aspects section is to place all drift related papers in this section as drift is an environmental issue. Since the soils/environmental section had more posters (4) than papers (2), keeping the section might be logical but those interested in this area need to meet to discuss pertinent issues and select a new vice-chair. Thus, a meeting for this purpose was scheduled as though it were another committee since the two papers were moved to another section.

Charles Slack was a valuable key to the success of matching all the activities of the conference to the facilities of the Galt House; he deserves special thanks for his efforts. He took time to arrange a site visit for me in April that was time well spent. He also has now retrained the new staff members of the Galt House so that they will be more prepared for us the next time we return to Louisville!

It is recommended that the board add a duty for the Program committee in the MOP that states, "The Program committee will assess the sections that comprise the annual conference to decide if new sections are needed, sections need to be renamed or recombined, or if sections need to be removed."

Publicity and Public Relations Committee

Tom Peters, Chair

The Local Arrangement Chair (Charles Slack) and I discussed publicizing the annual meeting. It seems that our best opportunity to showcase or publicize the meeting is through our State Directors and through various state NCWSS membership affiliations and/or related industry.

Resolutions and Necrology Committee

Mark Peterson, Chair

No necrologies to report at this time. The committee will meet on Tuesday, December 2 to review proposed resolutions on the Hotel Facilities, Local Arrangements Committee, Graduate Student Paper and Poster Contest Judges, North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest, and the Hyatt Undergraduate Award.

Electronic Communications Committee

Joe Bruce, Chair

Six LCD projector remote controls equipped with laser pointers were purchased and provided to Bob Schmidt for use at society meetings. Instructions for paper presenters on the NCWSS website were updated to encourage use of a presentation (CD-ROM) drop box at the registration area. Arrangements were made to borrow four LCD projectors and four laptop computers plus two backup units for use in paper presentations. In the future it is suggested to update the NCWSS website instructions for paper presenters to label their CD-ROM with the presentation number found in the meeting program to ease the sorting and distribution of presentations to session chairs.

Herbicide Resistance Committee

John Hinz, Chair

The committee will meet Monday, December 1 to discuss the spread of herbicide resistance in the past year; we will get an update on the PPO resistant waterhemp and the status of work on insect induced weed resistance.

Long Range Planning Committee

Duane Rathmann, Chair

The committee will meet on Wednesday, December 3 to discuss options suggested last year to enhance the financial standing of the NCWSS. An endowment fund and production and sales of a Weed Seed ID program are two the items on the agenda to be discussed.