

North Central Weed Science Society
Summaries of Committee Reports
December 1999

Executive Secretary's Report	2
Proceedings Editor.....	2
Research Report Editor.....	2
Newsletter Editor.....	2
WSSA Representative	3
CAST Representative	3
Interest Group Committees	
Extension Committee	4
Industry Committee	4
Research and Publications Committee	4
Resident Education Committee	4
Graduate Student Committee.....	4
Standing Committees	
Career Placement Committee	5
Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee.....	5
Fellow Committee	5
Legislative Information Committee.....	6
Local Arrangements Committee.....	7
Membership Committee	7
Distinguished Achievement Award Committee	7
Special Committees	
Electronic Communications Committee.....	10
Future Site Selection Committee	10

Executive Secretary's Report

Robert Schmidt

Membership as of September 30

	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
Members	711	756	792	761	742
Students	<u>91</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>117</u>	91	<u>94</u>
Total	802	880	909	852	836

Annual Meeting preregistration

	1999	1998	1997	1996	1995
	Columbus	St. Paul	Louisville	St. Louis	Omaha
Members	391	400	354	449	446
Students	<u>72</u>	<u>83</u>	<u>76</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>68</u>
Total preregistered	463	483	430	529	514
Final Attendance	643 est	649	635	762	741

Illustrated Taxonomy Manual of Weed Seeds. We have sold 357 copies to date. Income of \$7,142 with expenses of \$3,903.

NCWSS Proceedings Co-Editors

Carole A. Lembi and Merrill A. Ross

The copy for the 1998 Proceedings was mailed to Bob Schmidt from our office on March 4, 1999. The Proceedings were published and mailed out to members in approximately one month (we received our copy on April 27, 1999). Abstracts or papers for 231 of the 239 presentations were submitted for the Proceedings. Sale of the Proceedings stands at 565 copies.

Research Report Editor

Bryan Young

The 1999 NCWSS Research Report has been compiled and sent to the printer. The report was shipped to the meeting for distribution. The 199 report is 497 pages long which compares to 480, 444, and 543 pages in 1998, 1997, and 1996, respectively. The 1999 bid cost, based on 450 pages and 700 copies, for printing in Fargo, ND was \$8,569.82 which compares to a bid and actual printing costs of \$8,205.59 and \$9,160.38, respectively, for the 1998 report. The utility of the 1999 Research Report may be expanded by providing an electronic index/search function available through an internet download. This function will find specific herbicide/weed combinations or any other indexed categories. Potentially, a CD-rom version of the Research Report with the search capabilities could be made available in the future. The CD-rom version would not necessary eliminate the need for a paper copy. The CD-rom version would also reduce the production costs of the publication. Paper copies of the publication cost approximately \$13.50 each, whereas a copy of a CD-rom would cost significantly less. A survey is in progress to determine the interests of the society members.

Newsletter Editor

Michael J. Horak

The NCWSS newsletter was published three times in 1999. The Newsletter is now posted on the NCWSS home page. Plans are in place for e-mail notification of the membership when a new issue is available on the home page. Paper copies are still sent to all members.

WSSA Representative

Kent Harrison

1. WSSA reviewed the contract w/ AESOP for Director of Science Policy (DSP) position. WSSA decided

to sign the 1999-2000 contract with AESOP for the DSP position, provided that amendments regarding deliverables to WSSA were in a revised contract. In a related issue, NCWSS expressed concern regarding its relationship with WSSA in providing partial support for the DSP position, and reiterated that it is essential that cooperative funding agreements involving NCWSS and other member societies be outlined in writing for purposes of organizational memory and accountability. Rob Hedberg, current DSP, has been working on issues involving invasive species, ag biotechnology, research worker exemption from Worker Protection Standards, and FQPA.

2. WSSA reviewed meeting services provided by Allen Marketing & Management during the past 2 years. Although there have been positives, problems have occurred in the areas of timely and accurate publication of the WSSA Directory and meeting materials, financial management, and timely response to WSSA members. In July 1999, the WSSA Board listened to a proposal from American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS)/Burk and Associates as a potential alternative to management services provided by AM&M. WSSA's contract with AM&M expires in March 2000.

3. In April, Weed Science Editorial Committee announced a change in editorial policy regarding the use of scientific weed names in lieu of common names throughout the text of its articles. After much feedback, it was decided to conduct a preliminary e-mail survey of the readership regarding the pros and cons of this change. WSSA suggested that the membership then have the opportunity to discuss and vote on this issue in an open forum.

4. EPA has requested WSSA input on the general issue of Herbicide Tolerant Crops (HTC). WSSA will get USDA and EPA input on specific priority issues regarding HTC, and Charlotte Eberlein will work with the Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee to coordinate options for developing an issue paper, which will be published as a review paper in *Weed Technology*.

5. The 2000 WSSA annual meeting will be held at the Westin Harbor Castle Hotel in Toronto on Feb. 6-10, 2000. A post-conference tour is planned for the Niagara peninsula. The 2001 WSSA meeting will be in Greensboro, NC and the 2002 meeting will be in Reno, NV. The site selection committee has targeted the midwest for the 2003 meeting.

6. WSSA is making plans for its 50th Anniversary, although the exact anniversary date is subject to debate. Dick Oliver is meeting with past presidents of WSSA and the Historical Committee to discuss when/where/how to celebrate WSSA's golden anniversary.

CAST Representative

Thomas J. Peters

A report of CAST activities for 1999 has been posted on the NCWSS web site. Recent publications of direct interest to NCWSS members include: *The EPA Plant Pesticide Rule*; *Foodborne Pathogens: Review of Recommendations*; *Benefits of Biodiversity*; *Agricultural Impacts of the Sudden Elimination of Key Pesticides under the Food Quality Protection Act*; *Gulf of Mexico Hypoxia: Land and Sea Interactions*; and *Applications of Biotechnology to Crops: Benefits and Risks*. Additional information about these or other issue papers or reports can be found at the CAST web site, <http://www.cast-science.org>. Forth coming publications of direct interest to NCWSS members include: *Estrogenicity and Endocrine Disruption: Regulation, Risk and Reality*; *Agriculture and the Predicted Global Climate Change*; *Integrated Pest Management*; *Movement and Impacts of Detrimental Non-Native Organisms Affecting Agricultural Production and Natural Resource Environments*; and *Vertical Integration of Agriculture and its Impact on Rural Development*. Two new societies joined CAST in 1999. New members were the American Society for Nutritional Science and the American Veterinary Medical Association. This brings the number of societies in Cast to 38.

The CAST representative from the NCWSS participates in the Plant Protection Sciences Work Group. Presently, biotechnology acceptance issues are of critical importance to the work group. The work group developed the topic content and recommended authors for the issue paper entitled *Applications of Biotechnology to Crops: Benefits and Risks* at the fall meeting of the World Trade Organization conference in Seattle. The purpose of this document was general information to conference attendees, the public and media. Subsequent papers are at the planning stage and include the topics of plant improvement including processes to produce food and benefits, safety and risks associated with foods derived from grain containing genetically modified organisms.

Extension Committee

Aaron G. Hager, Chair

At the 1998 meeting of the Extension Committee of the North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS), Mr. Ronald

Krauz was elected as the vice chair for 1999. Ron will assume the responsibilities of chair in 2000 and preside over the extension section at the NCWSS meeting. Discussion included the possibility of extension committee members drafting press releases for submission to popular press sources and the extension vice chair serving as chair of the extension publication committee.

Industry Committee

Brent B. Petersen, Chair

Invoices for payment of dues were sent to Sustaining members by Bob Schmidt. A call for sustaining member displays was published in the Summer 1999 issue of the NCWSS News. To date, six Sustaining Members have requested display space for the 1997 meeting. The Industry Committee Business Meeting will be held on Tuesday December 14, 1999 at noon in the Fairfield room. Agri-Growth Research of Hollandale Minnesota hosted the 1999 North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest. Bayer will host the 2000 contest at Oxford, IN. Monsanto will host the 2001 contest at Monmouth, IL. Mergers and business closings have caused a decline in Sustaining Members. The herbicide list for the program be updated on a bi-annual basis. This should occur in 2000.

Research and Publications Committee

Michelle R. Obermeier, Chair

At the 1998 NCWSS meeting, there was much discussion concerning the price and usefulness of the NCWSS Research Report. At the 1999 NCWSS meeting, a survey will be distributed in order to gather information on use of the NCWSS Research Report by members. Members will be asked to fill out the survey as they register for the 1999 meeting.

Resident Education Committee

Randy W. Lloyd, Chair

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

Graduate Student Committee

Krishona Bjork, Chair

BASF Corporation will again sponsor the annual graduate student mixer. It will be held on Monday, December 13th beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Union A, B and C Rooms. If there is low attendance at the business meeting again, consideration should be given to scheduling the meeting at a different time. The 1997 meeting was prior to the mixer on Monday and the 1998 meeting was held at 4 p.m. on Wednesday and both meetings were poorly attended. It should be announced that graduate students can serve on other NCWSS committees. To organize the graduate student mixer, correspondence should be directed to Steve Crosbie of BASF at his home office and to the program and local arrangements committee chairperson to reserve a time and place.

Career Placement Committee

Bob Hartzler, Chair

There were 19 positions listed and 17 resumes placed in the notebooks. These numbers are similar to past results.

Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee

Chris Boerboom, Chair

At the close of the 1999 fiscal year, the Society has an invested financial reserve of \$269,511 which exceeds twice the annual operating expense of the Society (\$105,639) as mandated in the Manual of Operating Procedures,

Chapter 9. The financial reserve is adequate at this time and the Society is currently in a sound financial position. Total income exceeded expenses (excluding investments) by \$8,700 in 1999. The 1998 annual meeting (1999 fiscal year) generated a net profit of \$24,592. Revenue from the sale of the NCWSS Research Report just covered publication costs and the NCWSS Proceedings will have a net profit of about \$3,890. In addition, the Society generated about \$660 in revenue from sales of the weed seed manual. Net revenue for publications was \$4,450. Expenses exceeded income for program services by \$19,115. Major expenses include the NCWSS Newsletter (\$3,894), North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest (\$6,500), Management Fee (\$14,750), the Washington Liaison (\$12,667). The deficit in program service area is a result of the NCWSS contribution to these areas. Currently, the Society maintains an overall net profit from revenue in the other two areas (especially the annual meeting) and from interest on investments. The long term investment strategy for the NCWSS is to invest future profits and existing investments at maturity into certificates of deposit and/or treasury bills with approximately 25% maturing each six months.

A 30-day advance notice ballot from the December 7, 1998 Board of Directors Meetings was mailed to all Directors on June 9, 1999. The ballot requested a vote on the following motion: The provinces of Alberta and Manitoba should be removed as members of the NCWSS Board of Directors. The motion passed.

Fellow Committee

Brent B. Petersen, Chair

Two nominations for NCWSS Fellow were received. The two nominees were Dr. Michael Barrett and Mr. Norman J. Probst. The committee evaluated and ranked each nominee. The committee has voted to select both as Fellows in 1999. A revision for the Nomination Guidelines has been made as follows and is being submitted for the review and approval of the Board. A timeline of procedures was given to me by the previous Chairman and has been very useful in fulfilling my duties. Also a list of potential nominees and their nominators was passed along. This was also beneficial and a similar list will be passed on to the incoming chairman.

SECTION III RULES CHAPTER 1 NORTH CENTRAL WEED SCIENCE SOCIETY FELLOW

Eligibility of Nominee

Nominee must have been active in the NCWSS and should have made substantial contributions in more than one of the following areas: 1) Service to NCWSS, 2) Presentations and publications in the NCWSS, 3) Service to other Weed Science societies, 4) Academic Weed Science endeavors, 5) Industry Weed Science endeavors, and 6) Other meritorious Weed Science service.

Nomination Procedures

Preparation - Preparation of the best nomination possible for a distinguished colleague is a compliment to both him/her and the nominator, and provides maximum assurance that the nominee will be selected. Obtaining the assistance of the nominee in supplying information is required and should improve the accuracy and completeness of the documentation.

Vita or Resume – After being contacted by the nominator the nominee will create a concise two to three page vita or resume. The vita or resume will include the standard information such as degrees received and professional positions held, but will concentrate on service to the NCWSS. Items to highlight for service to NCWSS would include elected and appointed offices or positions, committee assignments, presentations and publications at NCWSS, service to other Weed Science societies, academic weed science endeavors, industry weed science endeavors, and other meritorious service to NCWSS and Weed Science.

Evaluation Letter - The nominator should clearly identify in a letter accompanying the nomination the major contributions of the nominee and explain why the nominee is especially deserving of election to Fellow. This evaluation is an important part of the nomination.

Supporting Letters - The nominator in cooperation with the nominee is responsible for selecting two active members of NCWSS to supply supporting letters. Supporting letters should highlight key contributions indicated in the nominee's vita or resume. These letters are to be sent to the nominator. Fellow Committee members are not

eligible to write supporting letters.

Format - Organize the nomination according to the nomination format. Type the nomination single-spaced on 21.6 x 28.0 cm paper.

Submission - Assemble eight complete copies of the nomination and staple each copy once in the upper left corner. Mail the eight copies along with the originals to the NCWSS Fellow Committee Chairperson.

Deadline Date - The deadline date for receipt of the nominations is September 1,

Nomination Format

Title Page - Entitle the document, "Nomination of _____ for Election to Fellow by the North Central Weed Science Society", inserting in the blank the name of the nominee.

Evaluation Letter – The letter written by the nominator should be placed immediately following the Title Page.

Supporting Letters – The supporting letters written by two active members of the NCWSS should be placed following the Evaluation Letter.

Vita or Resume – The vita or resume written by the nominee will be placed immediately following the two Supporting Letters.

The NCWSS Fellow Committee Chairperson should forward this document on to each Fellow Committee member for evaluation.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES

Major additions or changes to the North Central Weed Science Society Fellow guidelines may be accomplished by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any annual meeting. The committee has the authority to make minor changes, subject to approval of the President of the Society.

Legislative Information Committee Report

Duane Rathmann, Chair

This was the first year the WSSA has had Rob Hedberg as a full time Director of Science Policy (formerly know as Washington Liaison). I began the year by meeting with Rob while I was on business in Washington, DC, to better understand his new full time appointment. Rob did a good job over the course of the year e-mailing me with information on activities in Washington. His key areas were: 1) Invasive Species; 2) Food Quality Protection; 3) Research Worker Exemption from specific worker protection standards; 4) National Weed Management Program within ARS; and 5) Agricultural Biotechnology. Rob has listed these issues and supporting current information on the NCWSS web page. I believe this serves as a good method to disseminate information on these issues to the NCWSS members. I encourage all members to review his reports on the web site. The NCWSS Legislative Information Committee does not seem to serve any purpose at the moment, except to monitor state legislative issues which may not come to Robs attention at the national level. Rob has requested that the NCWSS Board offer him direction on issues that he should be monitoring and the priority of those issues.

Local Arrangements Committee

Mark Loux, Chair

Planning for the December meeting is on schedule. Committee members are following up on their responsibilities, and the hotel staff has been extremely cooperative. The hotel is renovating some sleeping rooms, but the number of remaining rooms will probably be sufficient to accommodate us. However, a block of rooms will be reserved at the same rate at another Hyatt. Consolidation in the chemical industry may reduce the attendance at the NCWSS annual meeting. This trend, along with the attendance figures from the 1999 meeting, should be considered when negotiating room blocks in future contracts.

Membership Committee

Gary Fellows, Chair

Two press releases were prepared in association with Dr. Jim Kells (Program Director) detailing the 1999 NCWSS meeting in Columbus, OH. These press releases contained highlights, session titles and times, selected paper titles, and symposium topics and speakers. Contacts were made in several states including Ohio, Indiana, and Minnesota to include the press releases into newsletters for the State CCA groups and/or private consultant organizations. Addresses and contacts for the NCWSS including the website as well as registration and location details were also included. A special emphasis was placed on the three symposiums, where CCA credits can be were obtained. A special reduced rate for registration (for Thursday symposium only) was obtained to entice new members. Our attempt was to reach a selected portion of Certified Crop Advisors who are located in the area surrounding the meeting location. The committee recommends establishing a one-day price for enrollment for final day session symposiums and encourage CCA credit applications within the host states to attract additional members. It is suggested to increase advertisements to potential CCA's through direct mailing, newsletter inclusion, or email announcements by: 1) determine contact person, or organization by state to speed up releases to the CCA audience (perhaps get a contact person from each state Board member); 2) issue two releases/advertisements – a late summer release/advertisement to get on calendars, followed by a more detailed release with symposium and paper topics when finalized; 3) if possible locate email lists for quicker/direct contact with potential members, and 4) ensure that CCA credits are available.

Distinguished Achievement Awards Committee

Douglas D. Buhler, Chair

The committee received and evaluated seven outstanding nominations and recommended the following awards: Chris M. Boerboom, Young Scientist; J.D. Green, Service; Thomas Hoverstad, Professional Staff; Robert J. Kremer, Research; Reid J. Smeda, Young Scientist. The nominations of the two individuals not receiving awards will be forwarded to the incoming chair. The guidelines for nominations have been revised and the following proposed changes submitted to the President for consideration by the Board.

CHAPTER 5 DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

(no change in awards)

ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINEES

(no change in eligibility of nominees)

ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINATORS

(no change in eligibility of nominators)

NOMINATION PROCEDURES

Preparation. To assure that a nominee can be adequately evaluated for the award, the nomination document must be accurately prepared and contain the required information. Obtain the assistance of the nominee when preparing the nomination to insure accurate information. If the DAAC Chairperson determines that a nominee might fit into a category other than that originally indicated by the nominator, this change can be made following consultation with and agreement by the nominator.

Submission. Mail twelve complete copies of the nomination to: Chairperson, NCWSS Distinguished Achievement Awards Committee, 1508 W. University Ave., Champaign, IL 61821-3133. Faxed nominations are not acceptable. Each copy must contain: a) the nomination information or complete C.V., b) two supporting letters, c) a short biographical summary which relates the key items that justify recommendation for this award, and d) a letter from the nominator.

Unsuccessful nominations will not be returned. Once submitted, a nomination will be evaluated by the Committee for three successive years. For unsuccessful nominations, the nominator has the option of submitting a complete new nomination package, or furnishing an update of the original package each year the nomination is reconsidered.

Submission deadline. All materials must be received by the Chairperson by September 7 the year of nomination.

AWARD ADMINISTRATION

The DAAC evaluates nominations and recommends awards to the NCWSS Executive Committee for ratification. Persons receiving the awards are promptly notified by the NCWSS President. The DAAC is comprised of active NCWSS members from various interest groups within the NCWSS and has both experienced members as well as relatively new Society members. Membership on the committee consists of nine members with various lengths of service, and a select number of members are replaced yearly. The chair is the NCWSS Past President and the vice-chair is the President.

AWARD PRESENTATION

Distinguished Achievement Awards will be presented at the annual NCWSS awards banquet where a Distinguished Service Award Plaque will be awarded.

CRITERION USED FOR EVALUATING NOMINATIONS

Awards are based on merit. There is no requirement to give an award in any or every category, and multiple awards may be given in one category. Within the guidelines for each category, there is flexibility to fit the nominee. Professional achievements and their impact are the principal criteria for receiving these awards.

I. EDUCATION. This award recognizes outstanding educational achievements in weed science. Individuals making outstanding contributions in areas such as resident, extension, industrial, and regulatory education are eligible. Principal criteria include innovative or unique approaches that result in learning, ability to clearly communicate ideas, motivation of the intended audience, and recognition of accomplishments by peers and the intended audience.

II. RESEARCH. Awards in this category are to recognize outstanding research achievements in weed science. Selections will be based on demonstrated excellence and creativity in research accomplishments; in conducting research and applying the results to solve problems in weed science; and, in applying unusual creativity to the research effort.

III. SERVICE. This award is given for exceptional achievement in areas other than education or research. Outstanding, creative contributions in service or leadership in activities that bring significant, important changes in weed science are criterion for this award.

IV. YOUNG SCIENTIST. This award is to be given to members under 40 years old as of September 7 the year the award is received who fulfill the requirements to qualify in the above education, research, and service award categories.

V. INDUSTRY. Awards in this category are given to representatives of industry who meet the basic guidelines in the above education, research, or service categories. For these individuals, it is important to include the contributions this individual has made to weed science within the industry. Examples might be: patents, development of unique formulations, development of research techniques, discovery of unique uses for a product, or service to NCWSS or to agriculture in general.

VI. PROFESSIONAL STAFF. This award recognizes outstanding and sustained contributions in support of weed science activities in the North Central region. Nominees will be restricted to individuals that work under the direction of university, federal, or industry scientists. These individuals may have titles such as researcher, research associate, technician, support scientist, or specialist. The nominee must have been involved in weed science research, extension, or resident education for at least five years at the time of nomination.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FOR NOMINATIONS FOR DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS

COVER PAGE: The cover page should include:

1. Statement of nomination. "Nomination of _____ for the NCWSS Distinguished Achievement in Weed

Science, _____ Award".

2. Nominee. Give name, title, date and place of birth, complete mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

3. Nominator: Give name, complete mailing address, telephone and FAX numbers, and e-mail address.

EVALUATION STATEMENT: A concise summary and evaluation of the nominee's contributions, not to exceed two pages, explaining why the nominee is qualified to receive the award.

QUALIFICATIONS OF NOMINEE: Provide the material outlined below as appropriate for the individual nominee and category. A current C.V. may be substituted if it provides the committee with the information needed to assess the qualifications of the nominee.

1. Degrees received. Give major, date, and institution for each advanced degree.

2. Memberships in honorary and professional societies.

3. Honors and awards.

4. Professional positions held.

5. Professional contributions within the last 10 years. This includes, but not limited to: a) Books written or edited, b) Referred journal articles, c) Technical papers (includes abstracts, research reports, extension leaflets and bulletins, etc.), d) Non-technical papers (includes magazine and newspaper articles and other articles written for agricultural public) and e) contributions other than publications. List and briefly explain other contributions as appropriate to support the nomination.

SUPPORTING LETTERS: One copy of each of two supporting letters (in addition to the letter of nomination), solicited by the nominator, shall be submitted with the nomination document. Preferably, these letters should not exceed one page in length. Members of the Awards and Executive Committees are not eligible to write supporting letters.

ADDITIONS OR CHANGES

Additions or changes to the Distinguished Achievement Award may be accomplished by a majority vote of the Board of Directors at any annual meeting. The committee has the authority to make minor changes, subject to approval of the President of the Society.

Electronic Communications Committee

Brent A. Pringnitz, Chair

The NCWSS website has completed one year of online service to the Society. During the past year the website received 52,214 hits and 4,863 user sessions. A user session is a summary of all activity for one user of a website for one visit. A complete analysis of website usage is available. The primary usage of the site has been to distribute the newsletters, provide current information between newsletters or meetings, and submission of paper and poster titles for the annual meeting. Submission of titles for the 1999 annual meeting was completed using the website. In the past email was utilized for this purpose. The web submission process provided specific advantages over the email method. Titles submitted were automatically forwarded to the program chair in a uniform format. This greatly assisted the program and section chairs in preparing the program for the annual meeting.

It is suggested that large reports, which exceed NCWSS newsletter space limitations, be summarized and reference the website where the complete report can be made available. It is currently recommended that the print version of the newsletter continue to be distributed to all members with the web version available for non-members and used as a supplement to the print version. The benefits, costs and policy of developing an email list server for the Society has been considered, but there is no current recommendation for action. The Proceedings document is the next logical addition to the resources of the website. During the transition to a new Proceedings Editor, the processes

involved with online distribution will be discussed.

Future Site Selection Committee

Charles Slack, Chair

Three hotels were suggested as potential sites by the St. Louis Convention Bureau for 2002. When Tom Peters and I visited St. Louis it was determined that one of the hotels was not interested in hosting the meeting due to our size requirements. We then visited two hotels, Adam's Mark and Hyatt Regency, and negotiated potential contracts. The result of the visits and contract information were put into a ballot and sent to the committee for their vote and suggestions. The committee vote was unanimous for the Hyatt Regency. The committee recommends that St. Louis be the site for 2002. The hotel of choice is the Hyatt Regency.