



NCWSS Executive Committee Meeting
Kansas State University
Manhattan, Kansas
July 20, 2005

A summary and review of the activities by the Long Range Planning Committee was presented to the NCWSS Executive Committee from 8:00 to 10:20 am before the summer board meeting began. The Long Range Planning Committee and some members of the Executive Committee had met the previous day (July 19) to discuss the future direction for the NCWSS. Discussion was lead by Dr. Peter Bloome, a facilitator who assists professional organizations in developing a vision and long-range strategies. The committee developed a mission statement and a vision for the NCWSS membership to consider.

1. Call to Order. President Tom Peters presiding, 10:34 am.
2. Roll Call by Secretary-Treasurer J. D. Green. Quorum present.
Executive Board members present: Tom Peters, Stephen Miller, Adrian Moses, J. D. Green, Bob Hartzler, Bill Johnson, Bryan Young, Roger Becker, Kassim Al-Khatib, Jerry Doll, Robert Schmidt.
Other members present: Tom Threewitt, Kip Sanders, Phil Stahlman, John Wollam.
3. President T. Peters reviewed agenda. No agenda additions or adjustments were presented.
4. President-Elect Report. S. Miller has been working on the program for the 2005 annual meeting. Two workshops are planned for Kansas City: 1) Gene Flow workshop lead by Michael Horak, and 2) Invasive Weeds of the Midwest organized by Adrain Moses, Kevin Gibson, and Bob Buman. For the General Session plans are being formulated to a) discuss the membership survey results, b) discuss the future direction for the society – possibly part of the Presidential address, and c) provide a short introduction for the Gene Flow workshop and the Invasive Weeds Symposia to be co-sponsored by the Midwest Invasive Plant Network Group. Whether there was a need to have an opening address at the General Session was discussed. Instead, it was felt that sufficient time should be allowed for the membership to respond to the survey results and the discussion on the society's future direction. As an introduction to the General Session one possibility would be to have a brief overview of 60th history of the NCWSS to correspond with the 50th anniversary of the WSSA.

Michael Horak via conference call was invited to further discuss the Gene Flow Workshop. He explained that the purpose of this special workshop to be held in conjunction with the NCWSS is to bring together individuals who are involved in pollen mediated gene flow in crops and the consequences of crop gene integration into wild relatives. This topic is relevant to the weed science discipline because of a) concerns for herbicide tolerant traits and the subsequent management of volunteer plants within rotational crops, etc. and b) broader issues from within the ecological community as how this technology is being utilized. The workshop would not only provide information for our membership but also should bring in others interested in this topic, and thus, would expose them to the NCWSS. A web page has already been posted on the NCWSS web site to advertise this workshop as a separate meeting, but it would be fully integrated within the NCWSS annual meeting agenda. A steering committee is still developing the program for this 1 or 1½ day meeting. S. Miller, NCWSS program chair, recommended a one-day meeting. Questions raised include how to handle registration and how much to charge. Also, could some of the proceeds received for registration for the workshop be used for costs associated with this activity? In response to questions from the board, M. Horak indicated that additional advertising would include targeting mailings to those who are working with or are interested in gene flow issues, including government and regulatory agencies. They hope to target 50 to 60 people with this workshop. The feasibility of a luncheon as part of this workshop was briefly discussed. The board agreed that Abstracts be available in the NCWSS Proceedings on topics that are covered within the workshop. The registration fees and the process for collecting fees for either the workshop alone or in combination with the regular NCWSS meeting were briefly discussed. (See below the registration fees approved by the Executive Committee).

5. Vice President Report. A. Moses reported on two major issues that he has been actively pursuing which includes the Invasive Weeds Symposium (Workshop). It was agreed to call it a workshop to encourage participation by a broader audience, since individuals who work within the federal government can “workshops” much easier than if a program is labeled as some other type of meeting. During the Kansas City meeting they hope to encourage further discussion between the NCWSS and the Midwest Invasive Plant Network on how both groups can interact in the future. A separate registration fee will be posted for individuals who would want to only participate in this workshop, which is anticipated to attract 50 to 100 participants. The second issue is a program session on “What’s New in Industry”. This session would allow a five to ten minute presentation from industry representatives or other interested individuals that would be open for questions and comments from the audience. It was suggested that this session be included on the Thursday morning program following the industry breakfast. The comments from industry would not be limited to herbicides, but would also include seed companies and others affiliated with the weed science discipline. The intent is to provide opportunities to discuss label changes, updates, and product overviews; but will not allow sale pitch presentations or comparisons with competitor’s products.
6. President Report. T. Peters handed out a written report highlighting the current year’s activities. He has spent the first part of his term with several major activities. These include 1) involvement with the Shared Leadership Workshops and the activities of the Long Range Planning Committee, 2) communication to the society through the NCWSS list serve by providing an update on activities, and 3) time spent on discussions relative to the position of WSSA Director of Science Policy.
7. Past President Report. J. Doll indicated one of his primary responsibilities is to chair the Distinguished Achievement Award Committee. He continues to solicit individuals for new nominees to add to the pool of potential individuals who have already been nominated the previous year. In addition, he has assisted President T. Peters on other activities of the society. He is also moving forward on the invasive species program in conjunction with the Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin planned for the 2006 annual meeting in Milwaukee.
8. Weed Contest Update. Tom Threewitt reported that 52 students are anticipated to participate in the 2005 NCWSS Weed Contest. This includes representation of 6 teams from within the North Central region (Michigan State, Ohio State, Illinois, Purdue, Missouri, and North Dakota) plus 2 universities from the Southern region (Arkansas and Mississippi State). The Southern Weed Science Society (SWSS) will not be hosting a contest this year; therefore, they asked to participate in our contest and agreed to provide their financial resources to our contest. It is not clear at this point if the SWSS has yet contributed their financial support. In the future to include both societies it has been proposed that the 2006 contest be held in Little Rock, Arkansas next year. In addition, Bayer Corporation may be interested in hosting the contest at their facility near Kansas City, but are not a definite host. In order to conduct a joint contest, the way the two societies differ in the way they reward the winners, particularly the monetary awards given by the SWSS, needs to be considered. A question was also raised and discussed regarding the rules of our contest which indicate that former first place winners who have won the contest in the past can not participate in future contest. This differs from the rules of the SWSS contest. After much discussion regarding the difference in contest rules between the two societies and the additional traveling distances for teams to participate in the contest, President Tom Peters with consensus from the Executive Committee directed Kip Sanders (NCWSS Industry Representative) to locate a site within the North Central region to host the 2006 contest.
9. Sustaining Membership. Kip Sanders requested direction from the executive committee on the feasibility of offering an initial sustaining membership at half price. This would be used as an incentive for soliciting more sustaining members. The committee agreed that this was a good recommendation.

The Executive Committee resumed the meeting after a lunch recess.

10. Secretary Report. J. D. Green presented the minutes for the December 2004 NCWSS Board of Directors meeting in Columbus, OH. J. Doll moved and S. Miller seconded a motion to accept the minutes of both December board meetings. Motion passed. J. D. Green reported that all 14 motions were approved that appeared on the 30-day ballot which was mailed to the NCWSS Board of Directors following the December 2004 board meeting. The ballot included a motion to add the Electronic Communications Committee as a standing committee and another motion to dissolve the Career Placement Committee and incorporate those duties under the Graduate Student Committee. The Manual of Operating Proceedings has been revised as of February 28, 2005 to reflect these changes and is now posted on the NCWSS web site. The Finance, Steering, and Policy Committee held a conference call on April 5, 2005 to discuss the WSSA Director of Science Policy position. The committee recommended to the NCWSS board to continue financial support of this position. However, appropriate policies should be developed and approved to better define our relationship with this position including how our support for the position could be decreased if circumstances require a change in our financial commitment. The 3-year terms of state and provincial directors that will expire in 2005 include Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ontario, and Wyoming.
11. Treasurers Report. J. D. Green gave a mid-year update on the society's income and expenses relative to the 2005 budget. He reported a decrease in membership and sustaining membership dues from what was anticipated in the budget, as well as a decrease in the income from the 2004 annual meeting. Whereas, the expenditures for the annual meeting was similar to the previous year and a slight decrease occurred in the expenditures for publishing the CD-Rom diskette containing the Research Report and Proceedings. Based on these figures there is likely to be a deficit this year in our end of the year financial statement. Bryan Young indicated that the consulting fees for the services provided by Peter Bloome of approximately \$1,600 plus expenses are not currently reflected in the current financial statement.
12. Proceedings Editor. Bob Hartzler had no formal report. Question was raised about including the annual meeting Power Point presentations on the CD-Rom with the conference proceedings. After the pros and cons were discussed at length by the executive committee, it was concluded not to pursue adding the presentations on the CD diskette at this time.
13. Research Report Editor. Bryan Young had no formal report, but indicated that based on the membership survey he is considering condensing the information contained within the NCWSS Research Report and limit entries to only reports that include only new experimental products or new uses of older herbicide products. The board supports this decision. Furthermore, as the result of recent discussions by the Long Range Planning and Membership Committees on the future direction of the NCWSS, the Executive Committee recommended that the Long Range Planning Committee bring a formal proposal to the next NCWSS board meeting to terminate the Research Report Editor position.
14. CAST Representative. Kassim Al-Khatib reported that the spring board meeting for CAST was held April 20-23 in Alexandria, Virginia. The Charles A. Black Award was presented to Dr. Norman E. Borlaug. Dr. John Bonner has been named the new Executive Vice President for CAST. Monsanto Company was invited to give a presentation at the annual meeting as a stake-holder. CAST plans to continue this activity in the future. In January 2005 CAST closed their Washington, D.C. office with plans to maintain an office in Ames, Iowa. CAST continues to have some financial difficulties. Two additional scientific societies joined CAST – American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) and The Council of Entomology Department Administrators (CEDA). One new publication was released titled *Agricultural Ethics*. Other publications are planned such as a paper on Gene Flow. The next board meeting will be in Albuquerque, NM on November 16-28, 2005. Membership dues for societies have been raised to \$602.

15. Communications Editor. Bill Johnson reported that two issues of the Newsletter have been printed and posted on the website. He asked for comments from the board and was not sure how many people are printing the newsletter off the website. Tom Peters commended Bill Johnson and Glen Nice for the outstanding job they have done on the website. They were asked to investigate on how to set up a shopping cart on the web page. Four different companies are capable of setting up a shopping cart with a cost of approximately \$50 to \$60 per month. If put in place, this system could be used to register online for the annual meeting. The plans on setting up a shopping cart system may depend on what the WSSA and other affiliated societies decide to use. Steve Miller moved to use PayPal as a web site provider to receive registration fees online for the upcoming annual meeting. Bob Hartzler seconded the motion. Motion passed.

16. WSSA Representative. Roger Becker reported that there have been considerable discussions on the position of WSSA Director of Science Policy and he continues to work on the language to include in our MOP. Rob Hedberg has resigned this position and the WSSA Board has offered the Director of Science Policy position to Lee Van Wychen. All of the other affiliated societies have approved the funding increase requested to support this position, except the NCWSS. However, the SWSS voted to support the position at \$16,000 rather than the \$17,600 per year requested due to budget constraints. WSSA approved a \$55 increase in registration fees and changed the fee structure for membership dues based on whether a member wants to receive journals online plus a print copy (\$155 per year or \$60 students) or the online only option (\$135 members and \$40 students). There have been continued discussions on digitizing the WSSA journals. Future meeting dates include the 2006 meeting in New York City, which is the 50th anniversary of the WSSA. The next National Weed Awareness Week will be held February 27 – March 3, 2006. Jim Kells was elected the new WSSA CAST representative. A new edition of the Herbicide Handbook is forthcoming and an online version is anticipated. It has been suggested that regional society representatives be staggered on the WSSA board so that two will be rotating on and off every year. WSSA approved hiring a web design and web content editor with the possibilities that this would provide an opportunity for cost sharing and improved efficiencies for the regional societies as well. Attendance for the WSSA annual meeting in Hawaii was up by approximately 150 members. The WSSA Extension Committee has floated the concept of hosting a symposium in New York on cost recovery for the Extension Service, perhaps with a speaker from Britain to discuss privatization and subsequent problems from privatization of educational outreach in Britain. WSSA has appointed a task force composed of Past Presidents to develop the concept for a WSSA Executive Director.

A discussion was held on the value and benefits of WSSA Director of Science Policy position for the NCWSS. Steve Miller moved to financially support the WSSA Director of Science Policy position at \$16,000 for a period of one additional year. Bryan Young seconded the motion. After extensive discussion, motion passed.

17. Executive Secretary. Robert Schmidt reported a total membership of 484 individuals (423 members, 61 students) down from 558 the previous year. Renewal notices were mailed to individuals who did not attend the 2002, 2003, or 2004 annual meetings. For the 2004 Proceedings/Research Report the income to date has been \$10,661 minus \$7,522 for expenses. The attendance for the 2004 annual meeting held in Columbus, OH was a total of 336 attendees (275 members, 61 students) which is approximately half of the attendance reported in 1999 when the annual meeting was last held in Columbus. Income from the annual meeting was \$45,584 with expenses of \$37,994 for a total gain of \$7,590. Other activities for the past year include sending state directors the email addresses of past members to be used with the membership survey, the domain name for the society has been renewed for five years, and Host Depot has been paid the yearly fee for the web site.

The management fee associated with the duties provided by the Executive Secretary was briefly discussed. Steve Miller moved to increase the 2006 management fee to \$19,200 for the Executive Secretary. Jerry Doll seconded the motion. Motion passed.

18. New Business. J.D. Green moved to set the 2005 Registration Fee for the annual meeting at \$220 (\$45 banquet, \$30 dues, \$30 CD, \$115 registration), which was the same as the previous year. Steve Miller seconded the motion. Motion passed. Jerry Doll moved to set one-day registration fee at \$40; Adrian Moses seconded motion. Motion passed. This would also be the cost associated with only attending the Gene Flow or Invasive Species Workshops. Hosting a luncheon for the workshops was not encouraged.

John Wollam, Local Arrangement Committee Chair, gave a brief report. A society mixer was suggested for inclusion with the evening poster session. A graduate student mixer is also planned for Monday night and a student luncheon on Wednesday which will be sponsored by industry. The spouses program will offer a luncheon at the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art and offer a tour of historic areas in Kansas City.

J. D. Green indicated that currently there are no proposed changes to the NCWSS Bylaws or Manual of Operating Procedures. He suggested that if any proposals are forth coming to eliminate the Research Report, to add an invasive species representative as a special interest group on the board, or to make changes in the Research and Publications Committee they should be brought to the NCWSS board of directors as a formal proposal during the December board meeting.

Jerry Doll suggested that the new CAST Executive Vice-President and the new WSSA Director of Science Policy should be invited to attend the next annual meeting. President Peters also presented a concept for an Executive Director, a new position that is under preliminary evaluation and discussion by WSSA and the other regional societies. He provided a handout that highlighted the duties of the Executive Secretary and contrasted those duties with the potential duties of an Executive Director. The function of an Executive Director would be to support, promote, and publicize weed science organizations and their activities. No action was taken.

19. Adjourn. Motion to adjourn by Bryan Young. Bill Johnson seconded. Motion passed. Meeting adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Minutes Addendum (September 2005)

The Research and Publication committee presented an opportunity for the NCWSS to purchase and sell as a third party vender a publication titled "Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest: An Illustrated Guide to Their Identification and Control". Michael Crotser moved to purchase 150 copies of the publication titled "Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest" for sell as a third party vender during the NCWSS annual meeting and through the NCWSS website. J. D. Green seconded the motion. This publication written by Elizabeth J. Czarapata describes plant species that are considered to be invasive within the midwestern areas of the U.S. Book chapters are subdivided into plants of "major concern" verses "lesser concern" with pictures and illustrations of individual plants at various growth stages. The cover price for the book is \$26.95 in which the society would receive \$11.59 per copy sold. Following a 20-day request for board members to submit comments electronically via email, President Tom Peters called for an electronic ballot on September 29, 2005. Motion passed.