

**North Central Weed Science Society
Summaries of Committee Reports
December 2007**

Executive Committee Reports

President.....
President Elect
Vice President
Past President
Secretary-Treasurer
Proceedings Editor
Communication Editor.....
WSSA Representative.....
CAST Representative.....
Executive Secretary
Director of Science Policy

Special Interest Group Committee Reports

Extension Committee.....
Graduate Student Committee.....
Industry Committee
Resident Education Committee.....
Contest Rules Subcommittee
Summer Contest Subcommittee.....

Standing Committee Reports

Distinguished Achievement Award Committee
Electronic Communications Committee
Fellow Committee.....
Finance and Steering Policy Committee.....
Legislation Regulatory & Public Policy Committee
Local Arrangements Committee.....
Membership Committee.....
Nominating Committee.....
Program Committee
Publicity and Public Relations Committee
Resolutions and Necrology Committee
Long Range Planning and Organizational Affairs Committee.....

State Directors Reports

Missouri
Nebraska

Appendices

Appendix 1, Press Releases
Appendix 2, 2007 Weed Contest Results
Appendix 3, Weed Contest Survey Results
Appendix 4, Membership White Paper.....

Executive Committee Reports

President - Adrian Moses

Waiting on Report

President Elect - Bill Johnson

Committee Activities During the Year:

- 1) Facilitated the development of the 2007 NCWSS Annual Conference program, which included securing speakers for the General Session, and collection and organization of presentations for 8 volunteer paper sessions, 2 poster sessions, and 4 symposia. There were 81 posters submitted and 142 papers submitted, compared to 88 posters and 158 papers at the 2006 conference. For the 2007 meeting, there are 5 posters in the undergraduate student poster contest, 24 posters in the graduate student poster contest, and 21 papers in the graduate student paper contest.
- 2) Collaborated with Local Arrangements Chair to designate rooms for committee meetings, poster session, volunteer paper sessions, symposia, industry social, and banquet.
- 3) Traveled to St. Louis in late mid September and late October to visit with the Local Arrangements Chair, view the hotel facilities, and meet with the local arrangements committee.

Budget Needs:

- 1) \$4500 for the Gene Flow Meeting
- 2) \$1500 for the Wildlife Habitat Restoration Symposia
- 3) \$1500 for the Communication Development Symposia
- 4) Travel expenses and honoraria for Dr. James Fischer and John Bonner

Suggestions for the Future:

Initiate discussions with MIPN and Indiana Invasive Plants organization for the 2008 meeting.

Current Committee Members:

Bill Johnson, Mick Holm, Greg Elmore, Michael Crotser, Kevin Bradley, Joe Armstrong, John Hinz, Adrian Moses

Suggestions for Future Committee Members:

Mick Holm, Kevin Gibson

Vice President - Mick Holm

Committee Activities During the Year:

As chairman of the Publicity and Public relations committee, we have used two different press releases plus the condensed Program Brochure to help advertise the meeting (Appendix 1). These are helpful, but in the future we should look at additional methods for improving our public relation efforts. I'll be open to ideas in my role of Program Chair for 2008.

VP activities included assisting with the "What's New in the Industry" session and helping Bill Johnson on occasion with his President elect efforts.

Preliminary plans are underway for the Indy program in 2008. We have started generating symposia ideas and plans are being made to partner with MIPN again at the 2008 meeting. Ideas for 2008, along with the MIPN partnership, include Organic weed control, DOT roadside revegetation programs and another Adjuvant symposium. We are having an informal breakfast meeting in the restaurant at 7:00 A.M. Wednesday morning, Dec. 12, to discuss program and symposia ideas for 2008. Please provide your ideas and/or let me know if you would like to attend.

Past President – Steve Miller

Refer to Distinguished Achievement Award Report

Secretary/Treasurer – Christy Sprague

Manual of Operating Procedures Update: A 30-day ballot to approve to eliminate the Research and Publications Committee was emailed following the December 13, 2006 Board Meeting. The motion to eliminate the Research and Publications Committee was approved unanimously by the Board and changes were made to the MOP document revision February 17, 2007. This document has been updated on the NCWSS web site. Additional changes that were made to the MOP included 4 proposals that were approved at the December 11, 2006 Board Meeting. These proposals included: adding Mission and Vision Statements to NCWSS MOP, establishing the Long Range Planning Committee as a standing committee, adding duties to the nominating committee, and removal of Oklahoma from state membership.

New State Directors: Elections were held for the 3-year terms of the state and provincial directors that will expire in 2007. The new directors are Patrick Geier (Kansas), Gary Powell (Michigan), Mark Bernards (Nebraska), Dain Bruns (Ohio), and Jed Colquhoun (Wisconsin). The new directors will start their terms at the Wednesday night Board Meeting at the NCWSS Annual Meeting.

Proceedings Editor – Bob Hartzler

Communications Editor – Harlene Hatterman-Valenti

WSSA Representative – J. Anita Dille

WSSA Executive Board for February 2007 – February 2008

Past-President	Dale Shaner
President	Jill Schroeder
President-Elect (Program Chair)	Jeff Derr
Vice-President	David Shaw
Secretary	Tom Mueller
Treasurer	David Gealy
Members-at-Large	John Jachetta, Mike Barrett, Joe Neal, Peter Porpiglia
Chair, Constitution and MOP	Ralph Whitesides
Director of Publications	Mike Foley
Executive Secretary	Joyce Lancaster – Allen Marketing and Management

www.wssa.net

WSSA Summer Board Meeting

- July 20-22, 2007 at the Chicago Hilton, 720 South Michigan Ave., Chicago, IL. Friday and Sunday were dedicated for the Board meeting while Saturday was spent in a tactical planning session to discuss the WSSA Project Review Process.
- Number of very active committees and projects:
 - Public Relations Committee (chair Janis McFarland) working to develop articles for release targeted to general audience. Titles include: *Invasive plants threaten national landscapes*, *Four things you need to know about what might be lurking in your garden*, and *Wildfires: Fueling the argument for increased invasive weed control*.
 - Professional Development Committee (past chair Tracy Sterling, chair Sarah Ward) surveyed the membership to guide the activities of the committee. Survey

results support the need for WSSA to provide career and professional development programming with greater emphasis being placed on the development of new research skills and networking.

- Steve Dewey (Utah State Univ) is the new Weed Science Subject Matter Expert with EPA and travels regularly to Washington DC to interact with EPA personnel to answer questions and provide support.
- WSSA terminated XID project as it was difficult to complete contract re: obtaining photographs of all weed species.
- **Publication Activities**
 - Invasive Plant Science and Management Journal (Joe DiTomaso Editor and Janet Clark Project Manager).
 - Herbicide Handbook (9th edition) completed.
 - Neil Harker, Weed Technology Editor
 - Clifford (Trey) Koger, WSSA Newsletter Editor
 - James V. Anderson, WSSA Director of Publications as of February 2008
 - Wun Chao, WSSA Abstract Editor as of February 2008

2008 WSSA Annual Meeting

- February 4-7, 2008 at the Chicago Hilton
- Keynote speaker will be Mr. Orion Samuelson, Agribusiness Director for WGN radio in Chicago
- 6 symposia and workshops scheduled:
 - Invasive Plant Species and the New Bioeconomy
 - GIS for Invasive Weed Management and Research
 - Charting the Course for Weed Genomics
 - Role, Value, and Importance of Complementary Herbicides for Weed Management in Glyphosate-tolerant Crops
 - Glyphosate Resistance Mechanisms: Current Understanding and New Insights
 - Tips and Tricks for Journal Writing: What Everyone Needs to Know for Preparing Submissions to WSSA Journals (Graduate Student Organization)

Future WSSA Meetings

- 2009 joint WSSA-SWSS meeting in Orlando, FL.
- 2010 concurrent meeting of WSSA with Society of Range Management in Denver, CO.

Other Weed Science Meetings

- Weeds Across Borders, May 27-30, 2008, Banff, Alberta; Abstract Deadline, January 25, 2008.
- 5th International Weed Science Congress, IWSS/WSSA/CWSS, June 23-27, 2008, Vancouver, British Columbia; funds available to support graduate student participation in Congress.

CAST Representative – Karen Renner

CAST Activities During the Year:

CAST (Council for Agricultural Science and Technology) was very active in 2007. The role of CAST is to assemble, interpret, and communicate credible, science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, and to the public. NCWSS is one of 38 professional scientific societies that are members of CAST. Individual members of NCWSS are strongly encouraged to join CAST (\$60 individual membership fee in 2007). CAST publications, and the presence of CAST in Washington, are very important to legislation and policy that affect agriculture in the United States.

CAST representatives from the 38 scientific societies met March 2007 in Washington D.C. and October 2007 in Ames, Iowa. CAST representatives work in various committees (I am on the Editorial and Publications and the Plant Protection Sciences Committees) to discuss important issues in agricultural science and technology, determine the role CAST should play, and most importantly, decide on issue papers, commentaries, and task force reports that need to be written and published to address these current issues.

In 2007 CAST published the following:

Special Publications:

Avian Influenza Vaccines: Focusing on H5N1 High Pathogenicity November 2007
Avian Influenza (HPAI), with a Comprehensive Bibliography

Issue Papers: (6 – 20 pages)

The Role of Transgenic Livestock in the Treatment of Human Disease May 2007
Probiotics: Their Potential Impact to Human Health October 2007

Commentaries: (4-12 pages)

Biofuel Feedstocks: The Risk of Future Invasions November 2007
Convergence of Agriculture and Energy: II. Producing November 2007

Cellulosic Biomass for Biofuels
Avian Influenza Vaccination: A Commentary focusing on H5N1 November 2007

High Pathogenicity Avian Influenza

The Biofuel Feedstocks: The Risk of Future Invasions was written by weed scientists and plant ecologists and can be accessed at the CAST web site: <http://www.cast-science.org>

Budget Needs:

Continue to provide support for travel of CAST representative to two CAST board meetings each year.

Suggestions for the Future:

Encourage NCWSS members to join CAST.

Executive Secretary – Robert Schmidt

Director of Science Policy – Lee VanWychen

Special Interest Group Committee Reports

Extension Committee – Kevin Bradley

Committee Activities During the Year:

Met during the 2006 NCWSS meeting

Suggestions for the Future:

During the 2006 meeting, the committee thought of a symposia idea on alternative fuels and/or crop rotation affects on weeds. This may be something to consider in the future.

Current Committee Members: Vice-Chair: Mike Moechnig. Past Chair: Lizabeth Stahl.

Members: Bill Johnson, Christy Sprague, Rich Zollinger, Jeff Gunsolus, Dawn Nordby, Bob Hartzler, Mark Loux, Jeff Stachler, Chris Boerboom, Dallas Peterson

Suggestions for Future Committee Members: Mark Renz

Graduate Students – Joe Armstrong

Committee Activities During the Year:

Forty-eight grad and undergrad students from nine schools competed in the 2007 Summer Weeds Contest in Richland, Iowa. As in years past, the students thoroughly enjoyed the contest and the opportunity to interact with fellow weed science students. On behalf of all of the students in the NCWSS, the grad student committee would like to extend our appreciation to all industry and university involved in hosting, preparing, and operating the Summer Contest.

The Grad Student Mixer at the 2007 NCWSS meetings is again sponsored by BASF and the student luncheon is being sponsored by Monsanto. Again, the grad student committee wishes to thank these companies for their continued support.

Current Committee Members:

Joe Armstrong, Valerie Mock (Vice-Chair), Mark Waddington, Angela Kamierczak, John Lindquist, Chris Schuster

Industry – John Hinz

Committee Activities During the Year:

We raised \$14,000 to pay for the North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest. We scheduled Gerald Dill of Monsanto to speak at the Industry breakfast. We raised \$12,000 for the industry mixer at the NCWSS meeting in St. Louis.

Current Committee Members: Mark Myers (vice chair), Pete Porpiglia, Mark Peterson, Kip Sander, Fritz Koppatschek, Brent Petersen

Resident Education Committee - David Nicolai

Committee Activities During the Year:

Paper and Poster Contests. There were 28 graduate papers, 20 graduate posters, and 4 undergraduate posters entered in the contests at the 2006 NCWSS meeting in Milwaukee, WI. There were three sections in the paper contest and two sections in the poster contest. For 2007, there are 21 graduate papers, 24 graduate posters, and 5 undergraduate posters. An announcement requesting volunteers for contest judges was placed in the NCWSS Newsletter.

Summer Contest. The 2007 North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest was hosted by Bennett Agricultural Research Co. on Wednesday and Thursday, July 18 and 19, at their location in Richland, IA. There were 20 undergraduate students and 28 graduate students from 9 schools participating in the contest. Award winners are listed in Appendix 2. The 2008 contest will be hosted by Bill Tarter, Alvey Ag., Carlyle IL. Proposed dates are Wednesday and Thursday, August 13 and 14, 2008. We have received a response from the NEWSS contest coordinator, Jerry Baron. We had asked about co-hosting the 2009 contest. Jerry indicated that they do not have a site selected for 2008 and wondering if some teams could come to the NCWSS. Jerry also indicated that the NEWSS contest committee would discuss a possible joint 2009 contest at their January, 2008 meeting.

Prior to the Summer Contest there was a survey sent out to coaches of North Central Collegiate Weed Science teams and representatives of North Central colleges who are not presently involved in the contest. The Resident Education committee is interested in the coach's opinions about the current status and future of the Summer Weed Contest. A summary of the survey is listed in Appendix 3.

Recommendation For Board Action:

The Contest Rules Subcommittee of Resident Education committee reviewed the Manual of Operating procedures with respect to Chapter 3 Rules and Regulations for the four student contest events that the NCWSS sponsors. These procedures were compared to current rules, regulations, and procedures posted by and for individual events (Graduate Student Paper Contest, Graduate Student Poster Contest, Undergraduate Student Poster contest, North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest). The committee recommends that proposed changes for Manual of Operating Procedures are appended by the North Central Weed Science Board of Directors as listed in Appendix 3.

We would also like the board to consider increasing its current financial contribution of \$6500 to the summer contest.

Budget Needs:

For 2007, paper and poster contest needs 1st and 2nd place in each paper and poster section are \$1,050 (three paper, three graduate poster, and one undergraduate poster section; \$100 for 1st place and \$50 for 2nd place in each section). For the summer contest, at a minimum \$6,500 for the host we are asking the NCWSS board for additional support.

Suggestions for the Future:

Continue to monitor the success of the NCWSS summer contest. Ask the current and future hosts of the summer contest to keep extensive records for future hosts.

Current Committee Members:

David Nicolai, Chair; Jess Spotanski, 1st Vice Chair Resident Education; John Hinz, 2nd Vice Chair Resident Education; Anita Dille; Chair Contest Rules Subcommittee; Jeff Stachler, Past Chair Resident Education; Anita Dille and Tate Castillo, Co-Chairs, 2007 Summer Contest

Suggestions for Future Committee Members:

Review and implement if needed suggested changes from the 2007 Coaches Survey in order to improve the Summer Contest (SEE APPENDIX).

Contest Rules Subcommittee of Resident Education – Anita Dille

Committee Activities During the Year:

- Reviewed Manual of Operating procedures with respect to Chapter 3 Rules and Regulations for the four student contest events that the NCWSS sponsors. These procedures were compared to current rules, regulations, and procedures posted by and for individual events (Graduate Student Paper Contest, Graduate Student Poster Contest, Undergraduate Student Poster contest, North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest).

Recommendation For Board Action:

- Proposed changes for MOP are appended

Current Committee Members:

- Anita Dille, Chair
- Jess Spotanski, 1st Vice Chair Resident Education
- John Hinz, 2nd Vice Chair Resident Education
- Dave Nicolai, Chair Resident Education
- Jeff Stachler, Past Chair Resident Education

Summer Contest Subcommittee – Anita Dille and Tate Castillo, Co-Chairs

Committee Activities During the Year:

- Bennett Agricultural Research Co. hosted the 2007 North Central Collegiate Weed Science contest on Wednesday and Thursday, July 18 and 19, at their location in Richland, IA.
- There were 20 undergraduate students and 28 graduate students from 9 schools participating in the contest
- The schools were Ohio State University, Parkland College, University of Illinois, Michigan State University, University of Nebraska, Kansas State University, Purdue University, University of Missouri, and University of Nebraska.

Budget Needs:

2007: None: paid in full to BARC. Amount received was adequate to cover expenses.

Suggestions for the Future:

July is a busy month for BARC (and most contract research companies). Consider moving contest to late summer.

- Location and host for 2008 North Central Collegiate Weed Science contest – Bill Tarter, Alvey Ag., Carlyle IL
- Proposed dates are Wednesday and Thursday, August 13 and 14, 2008.
- Proposal is to work together with NEWSS to co-host the 2009 weed contest at a central location.

Current Committee Members:

- Tate Castillo, co-chair and Host 2007
- Anita Dille, co-chair and Host 2005
- Dave Nicolai, Chair, Resident Education Committee
- John Hinz, Chair, Industry Committee
- Joe Armstrong, Chair, Graduate Student Committee
- Kirk Howatt, member
- Gordon Roskamp, member
- Bill Tarter, Host 2008
- David Bennett, Host 2007
- Jess Spotanski, Host 2006

Standing Committee Reports

Distinguished Achievement Awards – Stephen Miller

Committee Activities during the Year: The committee inherited a pair of nominees from Tom Peters in 2006. We also had one new nominee. Next year's committee must aggressively recruit nominations as the carry-over pool is small. We had the majority of nominations in the Young Scientist category and elected to go with two winners in this area. Winners for 2007 are:

Education: Douglas Doohan

Young Scientist: Martin M. Williams II

Young Scientist: Kevin Gibson

Budget needs: None beyond what's already done (plaques, brochure)

Suggestions for the future: Aggressively recruit nominations

Current committee members: Steve Miller, Adrian Moses, Tom Peters, LeRoy Cobia, Jan Michael, Richard Zollinger, Troy Klingaman, Mark Wrucke, Charles Slack.

Electronic Communications Committee – Glenn Nice

Committee Activities During the Year:

The NCWSS Web Page Stats:

Month	Visits	
Dec 2006	10,706	The total number of visits from Oct. 2006 to Sept 2007 was 111,779. Popular visited pages are the Main page, meeting program, meeting information page, and the newsletters. Of these visits on average, 39% were U.S. commercial; 9% Education; and 19% Network. Other notable hits; Japan, Canada, U.S. Government, and non-profit.
Jan 2007	9,116	
Feb 2007	8,733	
March 2007	11,400	
April 2007	8,558	
May 2007	8,010	
June 2007	9,715	
July 2007	11,056	
August 2007	8,284	
Sept 2007	2,319	

List Service:

There are 481 members on the NCWSS List Service. From the membership on the NCWSS List Service in 2006, 76 members did not renew their memberships for 2007. Of the 481 members for 2007, 101 of these are marked new from 2006 (Bob would have longer records of this; I have only been tracking since 2006).

NCWSS - all received posted 16 messages in 2007 and 31 messages in 2006.

Online Registration:

To date (October 15, 2007), 19 people have registered using the Online registration process. One concern brought up was PayPal's inability to take international purchases. I don't see any change in this situation in the near future.

Budget Needs:

Continued funds as allocated previous years.

Current Committee Members:

Glenn Nice (Chair), Harlene Hatterman (Vice Chair), Kevin Adam, Eric Spandl, Vince Davis, Andrew Kniss, Brian Jenks

Fellow Committee – Steve Weller

Committee Activities During the Year:

Solicited names of potential Fellow Nominees for 2007. We received two nominations for the Fellow Award. The committee evaluated nominations and recommended that both Christopher Boerboom and Michael Horak be approved by the NCWSS Board for the Fellow Award.

Recommendation For Board Action:

No action – as committee is functioning well. Board needs to encourage more members to nominate deserving people for the award.

Current Committee Members:

Steve Weller, Aaron Hager, Phil Stahlman, Kassim Al-Khatib, J.D. Green, Brent Peterson, Mark Wrucke, Dain Bruns, LeRoy Cobia – Past Chair.

Suggestions for Future Committee Members:

James Kells, Dallas Peterson, Duane Rathman

Finance and Steering Policy Committee – Christy Sprague

Legislation Regulatory & Public Policy Committee – Lee VanWychen

Local Arrangements Committee – Greg Elmore

Committee Activities During the Year:

The Local Arrangements Committee is on track for the annual meeting in St. Louis. The committee along with Program Chair Bill Johnson, have met with the Hyatt staff on two occasions, including September 19 and October 25. The LAC and hotel staff will also hold a pre-convention meeting on December 10 at 11 am. Allison Lynn has been very accommodating as our Hyatt representative.

As of November 16, we have booked 108% of our contracted block of rooms. The society has reserved 888 room nights compared to 832 contracted. The hotel has some open space but it is going fast. In the event that an alternative hotel is needed, the Drury Inn and Suites at Union Station 314-231-3900 and the Sheraton City Centre 314-231-5007 are suggested.

The entire committee is working together to ensure a successful conference. The progress of the committee in each area is as follows:

Registration: Reid Smeda is working with Bob Schmidt to schedule individuals to staff the registration table on Monday – Thursday morning. There may be single day registration for the Communication Development Symposium on Thursday morning.

Banquet / meals and breaks: Sue Rick is working with Hyatt staff to cater the breaks, banquet, poster and paper judges breakfast, Industry breakfast, Industry mixer, Graduate student mixer and lunch and LAC lunch.

AV / room setup: Leon Hunter will be working with Bill Tartar and Kevin Bradley to handle AV. Leon has been negotiating with SWANK, the AV company within the Hyatt. He has arranged for LCD projectors to be brought into the hotel by the Moderators of each session. The LAC will bring along other LCD projectors as back ups. It appears that the total AV costs will be in line with past meetings.

Posters and sustaining member displays: Kent Woodall and Ron Krausz have arranged for posters and easels to be shipped from a local warehouse to the Hyatt for storage on Friday, December 7. Twenty additional poster boards have been acquired. Members of the LAC will help with set up on Monday morning December 10. Posters for the Gene Flow Symposium will be initially placed in the poster session then will be moved to the room where the Gene Flow Symposium will be held.

Signs: Norm Probst is coordinating signs for the St. Louis meeting. He may replace some of the signs and will create new signs for the symposia. Norm and the LAC will make sure signs and easels are properly placed during the meeting.

Security: Dennis Belcher will work with the hotel staff on all security issues. Dennis and the LAC will make sure that all meeting rooms and equipment is secure at the end of each session and at the end of each day.

Public Relations: Michelle Starke is arranging for promotion of the conference including the unique symposia available. Information on the wildlife symposium has been sent to SIU-C, the University of MO, Columbia, MO dept of Conservation, and US Army Corps of Engineers. Information will be sent to Cabella's and Bass Pro as well. The information on the Gene Glow symposium has been sent to Wash U and the Danforth Center. She will also arrange for a photographer for the General Session and the Banquet.

Gene Flow: Matt Falletti will work with Michael Horak to support the needs of the Gene Flow Symposium. Matt may help with Registration, move easels and posters and provide for other needs of the group Michael is hosting.

Current Committee Members:

Sue Rick, Ron Krausz, Mark Kitt, Bill Tartar, Matt Faletti, Kevin Bradley, Reid Smeda, Dennis Belcher, Kent Woodall, Leon Hunter, Michelle Starke and Norm Probst

Membership – Kelly Nelson

Committee Activities During the Year:

The membership and long-range planning committees collaborated on the development of a strategic plan in 2005. A white paper integrated portions of the strategic plan was circulated by Wayne Fithian in the spring of 2006 (Appendix 4). The membership committee discussed several items and identified specific action items to address growth of the membership. One of the major topics discussed was to determine a reasonable long-term scope of the NCWSS to help understand where the membership committee should focus their efforts.

Recommendation For Board Action:

The Membership Committee discussed several items to consider and prioritized these items in the following order:

1. Determine a reasonable scope for the society membership.
2. Follow up with people that did not join and expand outreach such as circulating a condensed version of the program in the summer months.
3. Place a value on membership such as a copy of the proceedings when they join the NCWSS. This may require restricting free access to the proceedings on the web-site.
4. Build long-term collaborations with allied organizations such as invasive plants and gene-flow programs. Identify additional groups such as the master gardeners and horticulture/turfgrass programs that maintain scope of the society and build the membership basis in the long-term.
5. Maintain the identity of the NCWSS, yet pair up with other North Central Regional societies to help serve those with part-time weed science assignments which could reduce overhead costs related to separate regional meetings. Discussions are needed now to plan for meetings in three to four years. Some regional societies may include:
 - a. NC Entomology Society
 - b. NC University and Industry Fertility Conference
 - c. NC Regional American Society of Agronomy

- d. Rotating joint meetings in KY or MO with the SWSS such as 1 of every 4 years.

Suggestions for the Future: The Kansas City (2005) and Milwaukee (2006) meetings were excellent and should be considered great successes. Integrating special topics and allied organizations such as the invasive weeds participants has been successful at attracting additional attendance, but plans to maintain these participants as long-term members needs to be addressed.

A strategic plan was designed by the long range planning committee in 2006. This plan included proposed mission and vision statements along with potential goals. The potential goals included:

1. Make the annual meeting and publications more attractive
2. Serve those with part-time weed science assignments
3. Collaborate with allied organizations
4. Expand the role of publications and educational outreach

The Long Range Planning and Membership Committees still have much work to do – a vibrant, sustainable organization must have a strong membership base; both current members and new members are essential to our future, and getting these people to our annual meeting is even more essential! The recipe for recruiting new members and keeping current members active is the same – provide value and, perhaps of even greater importance, effectively communicating how our activities create that value. We must ensure current and prospective members are aware of why they need to belong to NCWSS and why they need to attend our meeting.

Current Committee Members:

Kelly Nelson, Michael DeFelice, Frank Forcella, Tony White, Ken Carlson, Mick Holm, Lizabeth Stahl, Peter Sikkema, Paul Vassalotti, Phil Stahlman.

Nominating Committee – Kirk Howatt

Program Committee – Bill Johnson

Refer to President Elect's Report

Publicity and Public Relations – Mick Holm

Refer to Vice President's Report

Resolutions and Necrology – John Frihauf

Committee Activities During the Year:

The committee tried to stay informed about deaths of current or past North Central Weed Science Society members. We are not aware of any NCWSS members passing away in the past year. The committee will meet during the annual meeting to discuss resolutions on the Hotel Facilities, Local Arrangements Committee, Graduate Student Paper, and Poster Contest Judges, and the North Central Collegiate Weed Science Contest.

Current Committee Members: John Frihauf, Brent Petersen, Patrick Tranel, and Patrick Geier

Long Range Planning and Organizational Affairs Committee – Dirk Drost

State Directors Reports

Missouri State Director – Reid J. Smeda.

Committee Activities During the Year:

Andy Kendig from the University of Missouri, Delta Research Center, resigned his position to begin a career in industry. It is not known if the University of Missouri will replace this position.

Nebraska State Director – Jess Spotanski

Committee Activities During the Year:

This is a 3 year summary of activities as this is the end of my term. During the term, I maintained contact with state membership informing them of activities and happenings within the NCWSS via email such as important dates and meeting reminders. The members were given a brief report of each of the board meetings and what decisions were made and what topics drew the most discussion. A list of current email addresses was made available by Bob Schmidt. After the 2004 annual meeting, 5 non-attending members were surveyed to determine their reasons for not attending the recent meetings. Each year the Nebraska Weed Control Association was contacted via email and informed of our annual meeting and was given a brief summary of the program to see if they had any interest in attending. In October 2007, an election was held to determine the next Nebraska State Director. An email ballot was sent to all active state members. The two candidates were Mark Bernards and Jerry Baysinger. The next director is Mark Bernards of the University of Nebraska.

Appendices

Appendix 1

Meeting Announcement Dec. 12-13, 2007

Please mark your calendars for an important meeting on Invasive Plants in the Midwest.

The North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) will sponsor a one day program (Dec. 12, 2007) on managing invasive plants during wildlife habitat restoration and improvement in the Midwest. The program will be held during the 62nd NCWSS Annual Meeting at the Hyatt Regency Hotel in St. Louis, Missouri, Dec. 10-13, 2007.

The full-day symposium will focus on the science and art of wildlife habitat restoration and improvement. The symposium will be an exciting venue where a diverse group of academics, consultants, and land management professionals to discuss invasive plant biology, ecology, and management and highlight what weed scientists and the weed science discipline can offer to increase efficiency of restoration programs. The program will include invited presentations and contributed papers and posters. Among the topics presented will be management of invasive algae, selecting non-invasive wildlife food plants, wildlife habitat restoration principles, invasive plant impacts on natural areas, and wildlife habitat improvement with case studies provided by Quail Unlimited, National Wild Turkey Federation, Quality Deer Habitat, industry panel to discuss herbicide and application technologies in habitat improvement programs.

For more information on the conference, please visit the NCWSS website at www.ncwss.org. Additional information on speakers and workshop topics will be announced in the next few weeks and posted on the NCWSS website.

We believe we've put together a great program and encourage everyone interested in invasive plants in the Midwest to attend.

For Further Information Contact:

Mark Renz, University of Wisconsin, mrenz@wisc.edu

Bob Masters, Dow AgroSciences, ramasters@dow.com , 317-337-4281

Jerry Doll , Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin – Madison, jddoll@wisc.edu

The Science and Art of Wildlife Habitat Restoration Symposium

Room: *Grand Ballroom C*

Moderator: Robert Masters

- 10:00 **Introduction to the Wildlife Restoration Symposium.** Robert A. Masters and Daniel D. Beran, Dow AgroSciences, Indianapolis, IN and BASF Corporation, Des Moines, IA.
- 10:15 **Biology, Ecology and Management of Invasive Weeds in Missouri.** Kevin W. Bradley and Reid J. Smeda, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. (102)
- 10:45 **Invasive Species and the Missouri Department of Conservation.** Lia Bollmann, Wildlife Biologist, Missouri Department of Conservation, St. Charles, MO. (103)
- 11:15 **Management of Invasive Plants and Algae in Aquatic Systems.** Carole A. Lembi, Purdue University, West Lafayette, IN. (104)
- 11:45 **Discussion**
- 12:00 **Lunch Break**
- 1:00 **How to Select an Appropriate Plant.** Valerie Vartanian, Horticulture and Landscape Professions Liaison, The Nature Conservancy and Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis, MO. (105)
- 1:30 **Integrating Restoration Techniques with Management Methods for Invasive Weeds.** Mark J. Renz*, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI. (106)
- 2:00 **Managing Vegetation for Whitetail Deer Habitat Perspectives from the Quality Deer Management Association.** Kip Adams, Certified Wildlife Biologist and Northern Director of Education and Outreach, QDMA, Knoxville, PA. (107)
- 2:30 **Discussion**
- 2:45 **Break**
- 3:00 **Managing Vegetation for Wild Turkey Perspectives from the National Wild Turkey Federation.** Loran Brinkmeier, Biologist, National Wild Turkey Federation, Wyoming, IL. (108)
- 3:30 **Managing Vegetation for Quail and Upland Birds, Perspective from Quail Unlimited.** Jef Hodges, Wildlife Habitat Consultant, Clinton, MO. (109)
- 4:00 **Utility of Herbicide and Application Technologies in Wildlife Habitat Improvement Programs.** Daniel D. Beran, Byron B. Sleugh, and Robert A. Masters, BASF Corporation, Des Moines, IA and Dow AgroSciences, Indianapolis, IN. (110)
- 4:30 **Discussion**
- 5:00 **Adjourn**

Appendix 2

2007 NCWSS Weed Contest Results

Over All Graduate Individual

1st Place - Jason Parrish (The Ohio State University)

2nd Place - Carl Woodard (University of Missouri)

3rd Place - Jason Haegele (Iowa State University)

Over All Graduate Team

1st Place - Purdue University

2nd Place - University of Missouri

3rd Place - Kansas State University

Over All Undergraduate Individual

1st Place - Nathan Miller (The Ohio State University)

2nd Place - Janelle Donahue (Purdue University)

3rd Place - Melinda Hoffman (The Ohio State University)

Over All Undergraduate Team

1st Place - The Ohio State University – Green

2nd Place - The Ohio State University – Blue

3rd Place - Illinois State University

Category Awards

Team Field Sprayer Calibration

Graduate - Kansas State University

Under Graduate - The Ohio State University- Blue

Unknown Herbicide

Graduate - Jason Parrish (The Ohio State University)

Undergraduate - Jenelle Donahue (Purdue University)

Written Sprayer Calibration

Graduate - Joe Armstrong (Michigan State University)

Undergraduate - Mike Butler (University of Illinois)

Weed Identification

Graduate - Jason Parrish (The Ohio State University)

Undergraduate - Nathan Miller (The Ohio State University)

Problem Solving

Graduate - Kellan Kershner (Kansas State University)

Undergraduate - Mike Butler (University of Illinois)

Appendix 3

North Central Weed Science Society (NCWSS) – Survey about future of Collegiate Weed Science Contest

The Society is interested in your opinions about the current status and future of the Summer Weed Contest. Please take a few minutes to complete this survey and provide feedback. Thank you in advance for your time and ideas! (More contest information at: www.ncwss.org)

1. Have you heard about the NCWSS weed science contest? Yes or No (circle one)
YES = 17 NO = 2
2. Should the NCWSS continue to host the weed science contest? Yes or No (circle one)
YES = 14 NO = 1
3. Check the type of institution you are located at: 2-year college 5; 4-year college 1; 4-year college with graduate programs 14; Other _____
4. Do you teach a weed science course or a different course that includes weed science topics? Please list course(s) and general topics.
SEE ATTACHED
5. Did you participate in any regional weed science contests as a student? Circle all that apply: graduate (7), undergraduate (1), both (3), never (9).
6. Have you ever coached a team for the NCWSS weed science contest (or other regional weed science contests)? Yes (14) or No (5) (circle one) Most recent year _____
2006 (5), 2005 (3), 2004 (1), 2003 (1), 2002 (1), 2001 (1), 1992 (1), 1990's (1)
7. Are you a coach for other collegiate teams? Check all that apply:
 - a. _____ Crops Team
 - b. 2 Soils Judging
 - c. 1 NACTA
 - d. 4 Other (please specify) _____ **PASO** _____**PASO: Postsecondary Agriculture Students Organization: Several contests are a part of the program**
8. Do you participate every year for a given contest? Yes (6) or No (10) (circle one). Why?
SEE ATTACHED
9. If you have heard of the NCWSS weed science contest and not participated, why not? Check all that apply:
 - a. 2 lack of available contest materials for coaching
 - b. 5 time to dedicate to coaching a team
 - c. 3 students would not benefit
 - d. 5 lack of students available to participate (usually a team of four)
 - e. 2 contest location too distant
 - f. 3 lack of funds to support travel by students and coach to contest location
 - g. 2 date of contest
 - h. 2 other, please specify **conflicts with students focus on research,**

most students not willing to put forth the effort

10. Do you think the weed science contest offers opportunities for academia and industry to recruit graduate students and employees, respectively? Yes (13) or No (2) Why? SEE ATTACHED

11. There are five events in the weed contest. As a coach, please rate each event on a scale of 1 to 5 from least important (1) to most important (5) with respect to learning by students:

Importance of learning by students

Event	Least				Most	Don't know
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Written test about herbicide applications	3	1	5	3	6	1
Actual calibration of sprayer by a team	2	3	5	5	4	
Identification of herbicide using symptoms	1	2	2	3	10	1
Farmer problem solving		1		5	13	
Weed identification		2	3	5	9	

12. As a coach, please rate each event on a scale of 1 to 5 from least difficult (1) to most difficult (5) with respect to students being able learn each event:

Difficulty for students to learn

Event	Least				Most	Don't know
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Written test about herbicide applications	2	5	6	4		1
Actual calibration of sprayer by a team	2	5	7	2	1	1
Identification of herbicide using symptoms			1	7	9	1
Farmer problem solving			4	3	10	1
Weed identification	2	7	4	4		1

13. As a coach, rate each event on a scale of 1 to 5 from least difficult (1) to most difficult (5) with respect to being able to teach each event:

Difficulty for coaches to teach

Event	Least				Most	Don't know
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Written test about herbicide applications	4	7	5		1	1
Actual calibration of sprayer by a team	3	6	4	3	1	1
Identification of herbicide using symptoms			3	7	7	1
Farmer problem solving		2	2	7	6	1
Weed identification	4	6	6	2		1

14. As a means to further evaluate events in the weed science contest, please indicate to what extent the events currently in the contest could be changed?

Potential changes to weed contest events

	No	Slight	Drastic	Delete	No

Event	change 1	change 2	change 3	event 4	opinion 5
Written test about herbicide applications	4	8		1	4
Actual calibration of sprayer by a team	5	4	2	3	3
Identification of herbicide using symptoms	11	4	1		2
Farmer problem solving	7	7	1		2
Weed identification	13	2			1

15. If you suggested a change (slight change, drastic change or delete event), what changes would you recommend?

SEE ATTACHED

16. Suggest additional events / topics to improve the weed science contest. Explain any ideas.

SEE ATTACHED

17. If an online source or a notebook of coaching materials were available to assist you as a coach in preparing students for the contest,

a. Would this be a useful resource? Yes (18) or No (0)

b. Would you now prepare a team for the contest? Yes (7) or No (2) Maybe (4)

SEE ATTACHED FOR COMMENTS

18. Indicate the best week(s) of the year to hold the weed science contest (check all that apply):

a. 10 3rd or 4th week July (current schedule)

b. 5 1st or 2nd week August

c. 4 3rd or 4th week August

d. 5 1st or 2nd week September (proposed change)

e. 1 other, please specify October

19. Are you planning to prepare a team and participate in the contest (check all that apply):

a. 7 this year (2007, Iowa)?

b. 5 next year (2008)?

c. 3 later?

d. 8 not likely?

20. There is a proposal to hold a combined contest with the Northeast Weed Science Society.

Would you be in favor of this proposal? Yes (6) or No (3) Maybe (1) WHY?

SEE ATTACHED

21. Please provide any additional comments that you may have about the NCWSS Weed Science Contest.

SEE ATTACHED

THANK YOU for your time and comments on behalf of NCWSS Resident Education Committee.

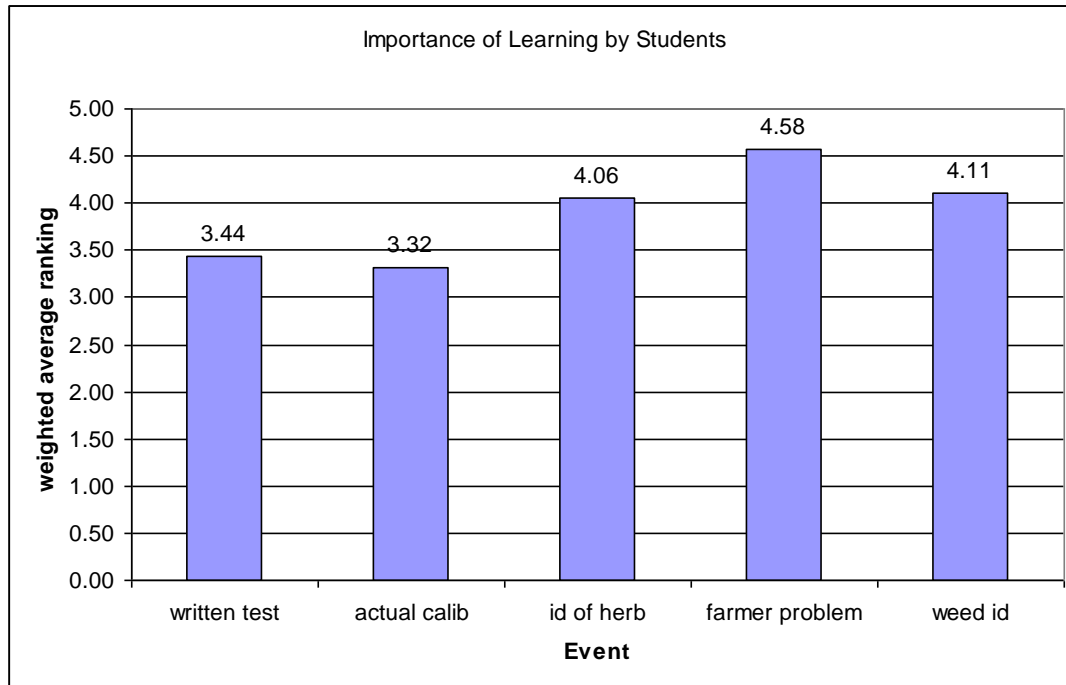
Return survey:

by mail to: Midwest Research, Inc., c/o Jess Spotanski, 910 Road 15, York, NE 68467-8050

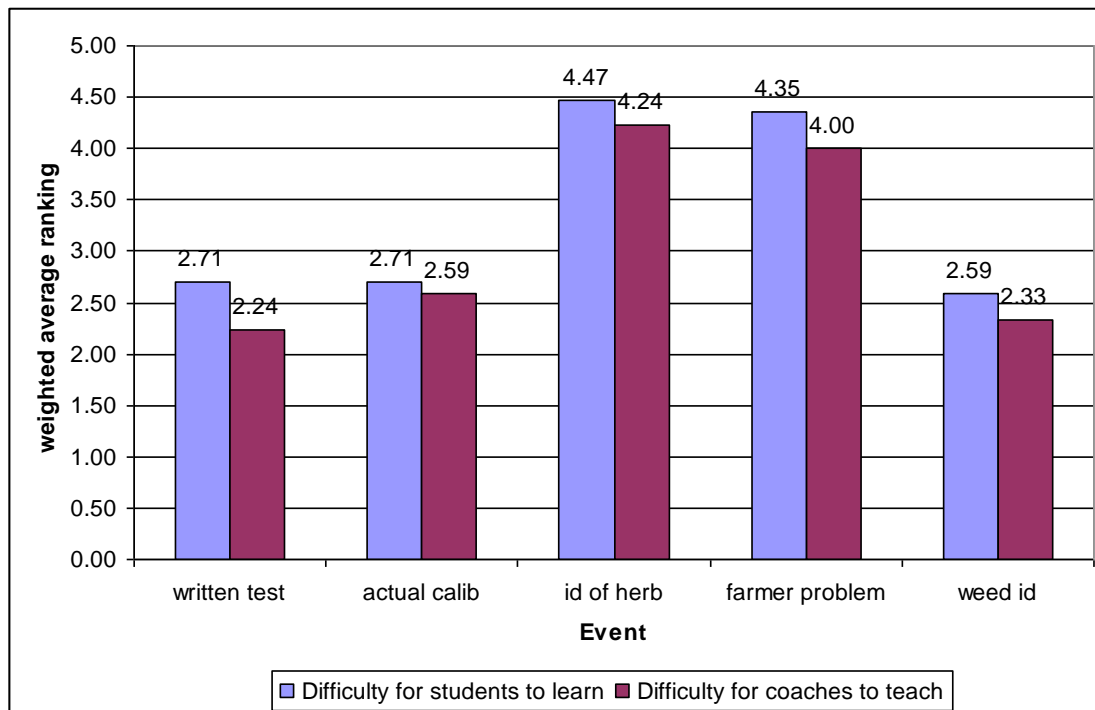
by e-mail attachment to: jess_spotanski@mainstaycomm.net

Overall summary of Survey to coaches about weed contest, 2007

11. There are five events in the weed contest. As a coach, rate each event (1 to 5 scale) from least important (1) to most important (5) with respect to learning by students:



12/13. As a coach, rate each event (1 to 5) from least difficult (1) to most difficult (5) with respect to students being able to learn each event, and with respect to being able to teach each event:



15. If you suggested changes to events in the contest, what changes would you recommend?

Written Test (ranked as least difficult to teach, and of relative low importance)

Incorporate the calculations section in with the farmer problem. This would require the student to calculate if the proper rate was used or something to that affect.

Written test, the difficulty level changes drastically year to year, make it more consistent.

Actual Calibration (ranked as least important for students, and average re: difficulty to learn and /or teach)

I think the calibration event is an important component of the contest. However, the emphasis should be on actual calibration, not on problem solving. In recent years, the problem given for the actual calibration has been too difficult, resulting in students spending most of the time solving the problem, and not spending much time on calibrating the sprayer. The written test measures problem-solving ability; the calibration should measure ability to calibrate.

Sprayer calibration is something in the past for our students. I also HATE the aspect of this event being timed and the potential for accidents.

If a sprayer is calibrated, make it real farmer-type equipment instead of back-pack

Calibration-consider making it an individual event (see NEWSS contest)

Identification of herbicide symptoms (ranks as most difficult to learn and most difficult to teach, but ranked in the middle with respect to importance). This was an event needing little change.

I think injury symptoms are important, but don't like the current format – think it is developed as much to differentiate among students as it is to teach herbicide symptomology

Symptomology- I haven't looked at how the symptomology event is run in probably over a decade, but I always thought it was asking too much useless memorization of the students (*x number of species, y number of herbicides*). I never got over having to differentiate between alachlor and metolachlor (or some other similar comparison) when I was a student. I think it would be better to simply have plots with a single species (crop or weed) with the plants showing distinct symptoms. The students should only have to ID the symptoms to herbicide class, not individual product.

Identification of symptoms-too many ALS herbicides used.

Herbicide Id-Extremely difficult for all but experienced graduate students and select undergraduates. If contest is to target undergrads, needs to be adapted to better meet their learning level

Farmer problem solving (ranked as most important for the students, and ranked as second most difficult to teach and learn). This event was third in need of changes.

Farmer problem-I think it is unrealistic to expect students to be familiar with all of the herbicides labeled for use on the crops grown in the Midwest. Familiarity with the herbicide label usually is

needed when diagnosing problems. I think students should be given a list of 10 (or some reasonable number) of herbicides that will be involved in the farmer problem solving. This way the students realistically can be expected to be familiar with the products involved in the problems.

Changing up weeds on ID list, herbicides on symptom list, expanding farmer problems to include more crops and more time to spend on problem.

Some direction to contestants on the farmer problems would be appreciated. Currently, it's just luck of the draw if the student may know the topic or not. This is not a good reflection on the student's overall weed science knowledge when you base it on a crop or herbicide that the student is unfamiliar with.

Use photos, e-mail description as part of a written problem solving section that wouldn't require as many volunteers.

Make problems practical, something encountered by agrichemical dealers in farmers' fields

Farmer problem-this is not enough of an education event; it's more based on which problem/judge you get. This event is also very work intensive; I would not want to lose the contest (if being dropped) because of this event

Farmer Problem- any way to simplify for host but maintain event

Weed Identification (ranked as important and least difficult to teach and learn) No changes suggested.

Additional suggested changes:

Perhaps could have students provide an assessment of yield loss, etc. on a given plot and compare to results from WeedSOFT. However, I'm unsure how you would do the scoring.

Consider changing the time of year the contest is held in order to increase the involvement of folks that teach undergraduate weed science classes and undergraduate student involvement

It might seem that I would recommend making the tests easier because all my students are general Ag students. But I don't feel it should be made easier as long as we compete at the undergraduate level I think the competition is great.

16. Suggest additional events / topics to improve the weed science contest.

General agronomy / diagnostic:

I think there would be more value to students (especially undergraduate) if the contest was expanded to be a more of a crop diagnostic clinic rather than a weed science event. This would only fly if we could get other pest disciplines involved (most likely entomology)

How about adding a few agronomic aspects to the contest? Most of our students get jobs in this area anyhow. I'm not certain what this would translate to, but just thought I would throw out the idea.

Weed Biology / Ecology:

I know there has been talk about adding a weed biology/ecology component. But I do not know how to incorporate it. Possibly it could be incorporated into the farmer problem? Maybe there could be a list of 20 weeds for which the students would be expected to know their biology, e.g., life cycles, modes of reproduction (seed and/or vegetative reproduction, selfed vs. out crossed, etc.), germination timings, etc., and then components of this could be built into the farmer problem

Weed Science is moving beyond a focus on chemicals in many programs. Include/develop events that would highlight weed biology or ecology

Resources:

I would like to see viable weed seed samples sent out to anyone wanting to participate. Large universities with numerous weed science staff and funding already have these teaching materials along with greenhouses and greenhouse staff. Perhaps herbicide availability is similar, but with a little work, anyone can obtain samples of the herbicides.

Having the University of Nebraska educational unit there last year was excellent. My students were very impressed! More demonstration activities like that would be helpful.

NCWSS Paper and/or Poster contest

Consider ability to take information and communicate in written format (extension bulletin) or orally-prepare a PowerPoint.

Appendix 4

North Central Weed Science Society Membership Committee December 13, 2006

I. Requested Action

The membership and long-range planning committees collaborated on the development of a strategic plan last year. This white paper integrates portions of the strategic plan circulated by Wayne Fithian in the spring of 2006. The membership committee discussed several items and identified specific action items to address growth of the membership. One of the major topics discussed was to determine a reasonable long-term scope of the NCWSS to help understand where the membership committee should focus their efforts.

II. Identified Needs

For many decades, membership growth came easily, meetings were well attended and robust, and there were ample members volunteering for leadership and support roles. Our membership has experienced change during the last decade. The introduction and shift to products of biotechnology resulted in industry consolidation and less overall reliance on conventional pesticides; fewer companies and fewer farmers translated to smaller industry and academic workforces; the need to gain efficiency caused less “weed science only” focus and a greater need for tutelage and touch with related disciplines; growth of and a widening diversity of competitive professional organizations servicing related aspects of weed science attracted members away from NCWSS; and the information age (internet and email) replaced our meeting as a primary source of information and method of contacting colleagues. The base of our foundation began to shrink – fewer and fewer companies, industry professionals, students, and finally, academicians focused on traditional weed science. The number of students participating the in weed science contest has decreased since 1998 to a near all time low in 2006 (Spotanski, 2006). The result of these changes is illustrated by recent trends in meeting attendance since 1999:

Year	City	Meeting Attendance	Gene flow/Invasive Weeds	Total Members
1999	Columbus	603		799
2000	Kansas City	495		847
2001	Milwaukee	501		695
2002	St. Louis	452		696
2003	Louisville	381		640
2004	Columbus	336		558
2005	Kansas City	429*	58/39	
2006	Milwaukee			

*NCWSS “only” attendance was 332.

The Kansas City and Milwaukee meetings were excellent and should be considered great successes. Integrating special topics and allied organizations such as the invasive weeds participants has been successful at attracting additional attendance, but plans to maintain these participants as long-term members needs to be addressed.

A strategic plan was designed by the long range planning committee in 2006. This plan included proposed mission and vision statements along with potential goals. The potential goals included:

5. Make the annual meeting and publications more attractive

6. Serve those with part-time weed science assignments
7. Collaborate with allied organizations
8. Expand the role of publications and educational outreach

The Long Range Planning and Membership Committees still have much work to do – a vibrant, sustainable organization must have a strong membership base; both current members and new members are essential to our future, and getting these people to our annual meeting is even more essential! The recipe for recruiting new members and keeping current members active is the same – provide value and, perhaps of even greater importance, effectively communicating how our activities create that value. We must ensure current and prospective members are aware of why they need to belong to NCWSS and why they need to attend our meeting.

III. Specific Action Items

The Membership Committee discussed several items to consider and prioritized these items in the following order:

6. Determine a reasonable scope for the society membership.
7. Follow up with people that did not join and expand outreach such as circulating a condensed version of the program in the summer months.
8. Place a value on membership such as a copy of the proceedings when they join the NCWSS. This may require restricting free access to the proceedings on the web-site.
9. Build long-term collaborations with allied organizations such as invasive plants and gene-flow programs. Identify additional groups such as the master gardeners and horticulture/turfgrass programs that maintain scope of the society and build the membership basis in the long-term.
10. Maintain the identity of the NCWSS, yet pair up with other North Central Regional societies to help serve those with part-time weed science assignments which could reduce overhead costs related to separate regional meetings. Discussions are needed now to plan for meetings in three to four years. Some regional societies may include:
 - a. NC Entomology Society
 - b. NC University and Industry Fertility Conference
 - c. NC Regional American Society of Agronomy
 - d. Rotating joint meetings in KY or MO with the SWSS such as 1 of every 4 years.

The future is bright. We need to remember the scope and maintain the integrity of the NCWSS, but realize that membership growth is a function of flexibility and a willingness to change.