



**NCWSS Board of Directors Meeting
Hyatt Regency Crown Center
Kansas City, MO
December 12, 2005**

1. Call to Order. 1:05 pm. President Tom Peters presiding. President Peters introduced the new WSSA Director of Science Policy, Dr. Lee Van Wychen, and welcomed him to the NCWSS.
2. Roll Call by Secretary-Treasurer J. D. Green. Quorum present.
Board members present: T. Peters, S. Miller, A. Moses, J. Green, B. Hartzler, B. Young, R. Becker, K. Al-Khatib, J. Doll, R. Schmidt, B. Henry, J. Bruce, H. Flanigan, K. Schaefer, D. Nord, G. Murphy, A. Chomas, B. Miller (for T. Rabaey), D. Belcher, J. Spotanski, K. Howatt, P. Sikkema, D. Vos, A. Kniss, V. Davis, K. Sander, T. Threewitt.
3. President Report. Tom Peters provided a written report of the activities for the past year. He commented that it has been an interesting year with all the issues relative to the society. He participated in quarterly conference calls hosted by WSSA for the Regional Presidents and various other email correspondences. The summer board meeting included a session on Shared Leadership lead by Dr. Peter Bloom. The two symposiums that have been planned are outstanding and appear to be driving attendance for the annual meeting. President Peters indicated that he is an advocate for investigating the feasibility of an Executive Director position to represent the regional societies and the WSSA. Other suggestions for the future include 1) formalizing the Long Range Planning Committee as a standing committee, 2) reevaluating the composition of the NCWSS Board of Directors to assess if changes are needed, and 3) continue to examine the format of our annual meeting.

(Officer and committee reports can be found in Summary of Committee Reports, December 2005)

4. President-Elect Report. Stephen Miller reported there were a number of changes made to the program for the annual meeting. No theme was used for the General Session. It includes an introduction of the two symposia by the organizers, a report on last year's membership survey, and the Presidential Address. He commended Kip Sander for soliciting industry financial support to sponsor a society mixer on Tuesday evening that has been planned in conjunction with the Poster Session. A new section has been added titled "What's New in Industry" will be held on Wednesday afternoon organized by Adrian Moses. Networking with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network (MIPN) was instrumental in the development of the Invasive Species Symposia. The annual meeting program includes 223 volunteer and invited papers, 81 in which are posters. Graduate student participation in either the paper or poster contest is similar to the previous year. S. Miller recommended that an additional duty be added to the duties of the Vice President to include organizing the "What's New in Industry" session.
5. Minutes. Secretary-Treasurer J. D. Green presented the minutes for December 13, 2005 and December 15, 2004 (previously approved) and the July 20, 2005 minutes. He noted a correction in the Treasurer's Report (Item 11) within the July 20, 2005 minutes and an addendum added to the July minutes to reflect board action taken in September 2005 to be a third party vendor for the publication titled "Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest". S. Miller moved to approve the July 20, 2005 minutes with the noted corrections. Kirk Howatt seconded the motion. Motion passed to approve the minutes. New directors elected to begin their 3-year terms in 2006 are: Patrick Tranel - Illinois, Leslie Lloyd - Iowa, Brett Miller - Minnesota, Brian Kuehl - North Dakota, Darren Robinson - Ontario, and Andrew Kniss - Wyoming.

6. Executive Secretary Report. R. Schmidt reported that total membership for 2005 at 484 individuals (423 members and 61 students) compared to a total of 558 individual memberships the previous year. Pre-registrations for the annual meeting in Kansas City include 285 individuals compared to 318 pre-registrations last year in Columbus, OH. The estimated room blocks had to be increased compared to the number of rooms used last year. A majority of the pre-registrations for the symposia was done using PayPal in which 35 registered for the Gene Flow Symposia and 23 individuals registered for the one day or day and half Invasive Species Symposia. With this being the first year in which PayPal was available for registration the method of payment included 76 by PayPal, 90 by check, 119 by credit card. J. Doll inquired if the individuals who registered for the one day symposiums could be enticed to become full members of the society.
7. Proceedings Editor Report. Bob Hartzler reported that submissions of abstracts went well. Abstracts have been posted on the NCWSS website through the efforts of Glenn Nice. In addition, he indicated that he has been in contact with PAEI, a national organization which indexes abstracts online.
8. Research Report Editor. Bryan Young reported that the process for submitting research reports has remained the same. The 2005 Research Report contains 79 submissions which has decreased from 95 in 2004 and significantly lower than 191 submissions in 2000. The total cost for production of the combined NCWSS Proceedings and Research Report CD is approximately \$5.30 per CD. The membership survey indicated less interest in the Research Report; therefore, a recommendation to end the Research Report is anticipated. The board discussed the value of the Research Report to the membership. A suggestion was made to add the location of the annual meeting on the CD cover. A brief discussion was held on whether to include the posters on the CD. This issue was discussed at the summer board meeting in which the Executive Committee concluded that this was not a good idea at this time due to the interpretation on whether or not this would be considered published data. Other societies are exploring this option such as the American Society of Agronomy which uploaded abstracts and paper presentations and made them available to the members on a website for a short period of time.
9. Communications Editor. Bill Johnson was absent. Glenn Nice reported that 3 newsletters were published for 2005 and posted on the NCWSS website. Activity on the website included 271 hits for the Spring copy, 104 hits for the Summer, and 1018 hits for the Fall. Currently 75 hard copies are still printed for mailing to Fellows and others who do not have access to the website. Suggestions were made to consider mailing a hard copy of the summer edition to all members within the society or sending out a mailing to inform membership that the newsletter has been posted on the NCWSS website.
10. WSSA Representative. Roger Becker reported that Dr. Lee Van Wychen was employed this summer by WSSA as the new Director of Science Policy. At the summer executive committee meeting the NCWSS board voted to continue financial support for this position at \$16,000 for one year. Language is still pending, but should be forthcoming from WSSA through the Washington Liaison Committee, for clarification within the MOP on how we as a regional society interact with the WSSA DSP position and the inclusion of an opt-out clause. The WSSA is in the process of formalizing an agreement with Alliance Communications group (a subsidiary of Allen Marketing) to digitize current and past issues of the Weed Science Society journals. Future meeting dates for WSSA are New York City February 13-16, 2006, San Antonio February 5-8, 2007, and possibly Chicago in 2008. The International Weed Science of America is scheduled for June 23-26, 2008 in Vancouver, BC. Jim Kells has been elected the new WSSA CAST Representative. The WSSA would like to develop a staggered schedule for rotation of regional society representatives to provide better continuity on the board. The society wants a more functional web page and has hired a new web designer and web content editor to make changes to the WSSA website. A task force has been initiated to develop a proposal for a WSSA Executive Director possibly in conjunction with the regional and affiliated societies.

11. CAST Representative. Kassim Al-Khatib gave the report. The fall board meeting was held in Albuquerque, NM on November 16-18, 2005. This summer CAST hired a new Executive Vice-President, Dr. John M. Bonner. He plans to be at the meeting on Tuesday to man the CAST booth during the poster session. CAST continues to explore a broad range of biotechnology research and development topics. The goal is to contribute timely information on biotechnology and other relevant issues with "rapid response" publications and issue papers. CAST is sponsoring a workshop on Water Quality and Quantity Issues for Turfgrass in Urban Landscapes on January 23-25, 2006 in Las Vegas, NV. Another emerging issue that may be of concern to the agricultural community is an upcoming conference in Canada on Cosmetic Use of Pesticides. Dr. Donald Beitz, Iowa State University, began his term as CAST President in September. The next CAST Board of Directors meeting will be April 2006 in Washington, DC.
12. WSSA Director of Science Policy. Lee Van Wyche introduced himself as the new Director of Science Policy and provided a written report of his activities in conjunction with Adrian Moses. He discussed six strategic goals for the first year: 1) expand the awareness of weed science issues and increase participation in the 7th National Invasive Weeds Awareness Week, 2) work with the USDA-ARS to adopt Weed Science as a Federal job series, 3) expand WSSA participation and recognition with the EPA, 4) increase weed science funding opportunities, 5) find opportunities to advance the awareness and financial support of weed science in the 2007 Farm Bill, and 6) build a coalition to promote funding for invasive weed management through hunting and fishing groups.
13. Extension. Richard Proost was absent but had submitted a written report (see Summary of Committee Reports, December 2005).
14. Graduate Students. Vince Davis reported that a graduate student list-serve had been developed. A survey was e-mailed to students prior to the meeting to solicit their opinion on student functions at the annual meeting, career placement activities, and the student contests. The survey results indicated a strong interest in the student mixer and luncheon for socialization, a future symposium on student paper and poster presentations, and a mixed interest in the career placement activities. Several students expressed interest in the opportunity to seek job opportunities on the website or a link to the WSSA website. The graduate students are pleased with the opportunity to participate in the society's student paper and poster contests and the summer collegiate weed science contest. In the survey the students did express an interest in having a NCWSS Outstanding Graduate Student Award. BASF is hosting the student mixer at the 2005 annual meeting and Syngenta is hosting the student luncheon for the graduate student meeting. This year the career placement activities will be set up in the Poster room with a table and display board.
15. Industry. Kip Sander indicated that he had worked with the Resident Education Committee Chair and Kansas State University in preparation for the 2005 Summer Weed Contest. He commended Kansas State University for hosting an excellent contest, but noted that volunteer support from industry to assist with the contest was below expectations. The involvement of the SWSS and where the contest will be held in the future are issues that need to be addressed. Bayer will not be able to host the 2006 contest; whereas, Purdue University is a possibility for 2007. Kip proposed the best place to host the summer contest would be at the universities with industry providing financial and volunteer support. The annual Industry breakfast will be held on Thursday morning. The major accomplishment of the industry committee during 2005 was a significant increase in our sustaining membership. The Industry Committee also worked with the Local Arrangements Committee in planning and soliciting funds for an industry sponsored Society Mixer in conjunction with the Poster Session planned for Tuesday evening of the annual meeting. President Peters commended Kip Sander for his tremendous job in soliciting new sustaining members for the society.

16. Resident Education Committee. Tom Threewitt reported that 25 graduate student papers, 20 graduate student posters, and 5 undergraduate posters are planned for the 2005 annual meeting which is similar to the previous two years. Participation in the summer contest included 31 graduate and 26 undergraduate students participating from 9 different schools across the North Central region including two schools from the Southern region (Mississippi State and University of Arkansas). A total of 7 graduate level teams and 4 undergraduate teams competed for the different team and individual awards. He also commended Kansas State University for an excellent contest and the volunteers who helped; however, he echoed the concern about low participation by volunteers from industry. The committee is looking for someone to host the 2006 contest; University of Arkansas is one possibility. During the annual meeting they will be discussing potential hosts for future contests including a procedure or system for determining where the summer contest will be hosted in future years. A question was raised on whether or not the events of the contest need to be revisited in regards to making it easier for the host, particularly the farmer problem section.
17. Research and Publications. Bryan Young gave a brief summary of the written report for Michael Crotser. A motion was approved by the NCWSS board in September 2005 to sell as a third party vendor the publication titled "Invasive Plants of the Upper Midwest: An Illustrated Guide to Their Identification and Control". The society initially purchased 150 copies with a realized potential gain of income for the society at \$1738 if all copies are sold. By marketing this publication it would also give exposure for the society on invasive plant species. For future consideration J. Doll suggested offering past proceedings on invasive plants and other pertinent papers on the NCWSS website.
18. Distinguished Achievement Awards. Jerry Doll indicated that he aggressively solicited nominations from the board and membership during the annual meeting, as well as, a pool of nominees from the previous year. The total number of 15 nominee packets was reviewed, in which five were selected to receive awards from a pool of quality candidates. Award recipients this year are: Education–Chris Boerboom, Industry–Dennis Belcher, Professional Staff–Anthony Dobbels, Service–Curtis Thompson, and Young Scientist–Christy Sprague.

The committee reviewed the MOP for the Distinguished Achievement Awards and recommends the following changes to clarify some guidelines: 1) The current eligibility statement indicates "Nominees (or, in the case of the professional staff category, their supervisor) must be NCWSS members for at least five years at the time of nomination." which is subject to interpretation. Steve Miller moved to change the DAA eligibility statement to include "and" so that the statement would read "...at least five years and at the time of nomination." Kassim Al-Khatib seconded the motion. Following discussion motion passed; 2) Ten copies of the nomination packet should be mailed to the chairperson of the award committee instead of the headquarters in Champaign, IL – President approved; 3) Clarification on the three-year renewal period of a nomination packet for unsuccessful candidates. Steve Miller moved to add a statement indicating that "The three-year eligibility is renewed each time an updated nomination document is submitted." Peter Sikemma seconded the motion and motion passed; 4) For the Young Scientist Award the front cover page needs to include date of birth of nominee – President approved; 5) Since the nominator must include an Evaluation Statement add a phrase to indicate "This statement serves as the nominator's letter of support for the nominee." – President approved; and 6) Under the Qualifications of Nominee the amount of documentation should not exceed a total of 10 pages. Kirk Howatt moved that the following statement should be added "The nominee qualifications document shall not exceed 10 pages in length". Kip Sander seconded the motion. Motion passed. Furthermore, President Peters asked the Distinguished Achievement Awards Committee to further review the eligibility of the Young Scientist Award in regards to the 40 year old age limitation and bring a recommendation to the next board meeting.

19. Fellow Award. Dennis Belcher reported that the committee recommended one candidate to receive the 2005 Fellow Award. Dallas Peterson will be honored as a NCWSS Fellow at the banquet.

20. Finance, Steering and Policy. J. D. Green reported 2005 fiscal year income at \$80,804 which was significantly lower than the previous year with total expenses at \$98,102. This resulted in a total net loss of approximately \$5,298 when operating income is combined with the anticipated \$12,000 annual return on investments. The decline in income is a reflection of a decline in membership and attendance at the 2004 annual meeting. The society does continue to maintain an adequate financial reserve in investments which exceeds twice the annual operating expenses as mandated in our Manual of Operating Procedures. Fourteen motions that resulted in changes to the MOP were approved by a 30-day ballot following the December 2004 board meeting. A revised version of the MOP (dated Feb 28, 2005) has been posted on the NCWSS website.
21. Vice President Report (Legislation, Regulatory and Public Policy / Publicity and Public Relations). Adrian Moses worked with WSSA Director of Science Policy Lee Van Wychen during the past year on legislation, regulatory and public policy issues. He recommended for the future that minutes of conference calls with the WSSA Director of Science Policy should be emailed to the NCWSS board members; however, a suggestion was made that only a summary of the conference call would be more beneficial to the NCWSS board than the complete minutes. Vice President Moses also worked with the Local Arrangements Committee and Steve Miller on publicity for the annual meeting particularly for the Invasive Species and Gene Flow symposiums. He also organized the "What's New in Industry" session. He has looked for more creative ways to advertise the meeting to get more participation and asked for more input by state directors to help promote the annual meeting.
22. Program Committee. Steve Miller indicated that at the end of each session a business meeting has been scheduled which should include the selection of a new vice chair for the session. He requested that session chairs notify him on who has been elected to the new vice chair position.
23. Future Site Selection. Charles Slack reported that two potential sites (Indianapolis and Lexington) were evaluated for the 2008 annual meeting. The Future Site Selection Committee recommends the Indianapolis Hyatt Regency as the host site for December 7-11, 2008. Motion by Helen Flanigan to accept the future meeting site in Indianapolis, IN and seconded by Tom Threewitt. Motion passed. Bill Johnson has agreed to be the 2008 Local Arrangements Chair.
24. Local Arrangements. John Woolam indicated that the anticipated room nights are 150% greater than projected particularly as the result of the additional attendance for the symposiums. He expects a good meeting with excellent meeting room facilities. He has had good cooperation with the hotel, specifically with a request to increase the number of sleeping rooms needed.
25. Membership. Phil Stahlman reported that he worked closely with Kassim Al-Khatib and Wayne Fithian, Long Range Planning Committee, and members of the Executive Committee in compiling and summarizing the survey conducted during the 2004 annual meeting. Wayne Fithian will present an overview of the membership survey during the General Session.
26. Nominating. Pat Geier provided a written report indicating that nominations were solicited for three NCWSS Offices – Vice President, WSSA Representative, and Communications Editor. Kirk Howatt presented the names and ballot of the nominees to the board. President Peters asked for additional nominations from the floor but none was received. Bill Johnson was elected Vice President, J. Anita Dille WSSA Representative, and Harlene Hatterman-Valenti Communications Editor. Jerry Doll moved that the current President, President-Elect, and Vice President assume their new officer duties after the banquet. Kirk Howatt seconded the motion and motion passed.

The Nominating Committee recommended that the board consider allowing the full membership to vote on officer candidates perhaps through an email list serve. An extensive discussion was held on current voting procedures for officers, but no action was taken. The fact that the board is not aware of the officer candidates until they arrive at the board meeting was also discussed.

27. Resolutions and Necrology. Harlene Hatterman-Valenti reported that one member passed away during the past year – Dr. Gail Wicks who died February 2005. A remembrance of his service to weed science will be read at the banquet.
28. Collegiate Summer Weed Science Contest. Tom Threewitt indicated that the graduate student team award winners were 1st place – University of Arkansas, 2nd place – Mississippi State University; and 3rd place – Michigan State University and undergraduate team winners were 1st place – Ohio State University, 2nd place – Ohio State University, and 3rd place – Parkland College. Individual graduate student winners included 1st place – Nathan Goldschmidt, University of Arkansas; 2nd place – Vinod Shivrain, University of Arkansas; and 3rd place – Vince Davis, Purdue University. Undergraduate individual winners were 1st place – Jason Parish, 2nd place – Andy Westhoven, and 3rd place – Mitch Banbauer, who are all from Ohio State University. A question was raised on whether the society is providing adequate financial support for the contest and whether financial support was a limitation on finding hosts for future contests. There appears to be adequate financial support for the contest; the primary limitation has been the number of volunteers to help run the various events.
29. Long Range Planning. Wayne Fithian handed out a written report and summary of the discussion held on April 25, 2005 concerning the results of the membership survey. The committee had several activities throughout the year. He thanked the committee for their work especially Kassim Al-Khatib, Phil Stahlman, and Diana Dibble for summarizing the membership survey. He also acknowledged the state directors who solicited 25 responses from individuals who did not renew their membership, which provided good representation of this group for the survey. An article on the member survey was written for the summer issue of the NCWSS Newsletter. Survey results also will be presented at the General Session on Tuesday and will be posted on the NCWSS website. Wayne gave the board an overview of the feedback from the membership survey. Each item identified in the survey was divided into strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, or threats of the society. At the joint Long Range Planning and Membership Committees meeting on Tuesday afternoon they plan to prioritize these issues and assign individuals to these areas to create meaningful activities.

Wayne noted that prior to the Executive Committee meeting this summer the Long Range Planning, Membership, and Executive Committees met together to work on a mission and vision statements for the society to better identify who we are or who we want to be. President Peters added that the proposed Mission Statement and Vision Statements developed were facilitated by consultant Peter Bloom to create an identity for the society and to help set direct goals. He read the proposed Mission Statement which indicates that “The NCWSS delivers research, education and training to persons responsible for weeds and their management in land use systems”; whereas, the proposed Vision Statements specify that “The NCWSS 1) is the authoritative source of weed science information related to agricultural cropping systems in the north central region of the United States; 2) is a dynamic and vital organization comprising public and private sector scientists, educators, industry and agency personnel, and others with interest in weed science; 3) provides forums for scientific interaction and information exchange among its members; 4) provides professional development and education outreach to members, students and the public; 5) interacts and collaborates with other specialized fields of weed science and with other disciplines of crop systems; and 6) promotes multi-faceted approaches for persons responsible for weed management and ecosystem development.” These statements should lead to formation of direct goals that we would have as a society. Wayne Fithian further commented that the Long Range Planning Committee was initially formed to examine methods to generate revenue that would help subsidize the society, but it became apparent that the society needed strong Mission and Vision Statements by which goals and objectives could be developed. He invited the full board to participate in discussions with the LRP Committee and asked the Board to take necessary steps to finalize the Mission and Vision statements.

In further discussion President Peters suggested that the LRP Committee be open-minded on issues such as changing the composition of the board or changing the format of the annual meeting. Both

Tom and Wayne indicated that a lot of energy is exerted by members and committees during the annual meeting and that we need to find ways to keep the energy flowing throughout the year. Therefore, President Peters presented a handout that describes the duties of an Executive Director, which is in the preliminary stages of discussion with WSSA and the other regional societies. The purpose of an Executive Director would be to promote, publicize and develop continuity for a society versus the duties described for an Executive Secretary. Because of its importance to the society Jerry Doll commented that the LRP Committee should become a Standing Committee with specific duties outlined in the Manual of Operating Procedures.

30. Electronic Communications. Glenn Nice reported that online registrations were launched this year using PayPal as the payment service; a few adjustments are needed to fine tune the system. He assisted the symposium organizers in setting up their web pages on the NCWSS website. The NCWSS list serves are getting more activity, but need to stream line some of the lists that are currently available. Next year he plans to implement a method to submit presentations online instead of bringing it on a CD to the annual meeting. He also welcomed any suggestions or comments on how to improve the NCWSS website or list-serves.
31. Herbicide Resistance. Jeff Stachler commented that the committee has had good discussions in the past through e-mail messages. Reports of new weed resistance finds and other related issues are usually posted online through Ian Heaps website. The importance of this committee needs to be discussed on whether or not it should become a standing committee or dissolved as a special interest committee. The importance of maintaining this group as a society committee was briefly discussed, but no action was taken.
32. Symposium Reports. Michael Horak, organizer of the Gene Flow Symposia, reported that they anticipate a number of attendees at the session which includes five invited speakers and he expects participants from seven different countries. He thanked the NCWSS for being a sponsor and is considering the possibilities of organizing another symposia at the annual meeting in two years.

Kevin Gibson, organizer of the Invasive Weeds Symposia, indicated that one of the primary purposes of this symposium was to drive membership outside of the normal NCWSS participants. This has been a three stage process: the first stage in 2004 was a symposia organized with speakers inside NCWSS; this year most of the speakers are from outside NCWSS and recognized for their expertise on invasive species and are not necessarily affiliated with crop production, and the next stage will be a joint 2006 meeting in Wisconsin with the Midwest Invasive Plant Network and the Invasive Plants Association of Wisconsin.
33. State Director Reports. President Peters thanked the out-going directors from Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, North Dakota, Ontario, and Wyoming for their years of service to the society. A written report of their activities was submitted by Joe Bruce – Illinois, Kristine Schaefer – Iowa, and Peter Sikkema – Ontario.
34. Old Business. None.
35. New Business. Adrian Moses suggested that a drop box be placed at the registration desk for “hot topics” and an evaluation form for the annual meeting. He also encouraged the Resident Education Committee to maintain a 3-year commitment of hosts and sponsors for the Summer Weed Contest. A suggestion was made to consider compensation for Glenn Nice for his dedicated work for the society. Tom Peters appointed the Finance, Steering and Policy Committee to bring a recommendation back to the board on compensation for his efforts.
36. Adjourn. Steve Miller moved to adjourn the meeting at 5:12 pm. Andy Chomas seconded the motion and motion passed.