

WSSA Board of Directors Meeting – February 25, 2022

ZOOM Meeting

In attendance:

Eric Gustafson, Stanley Culpepper, Lauren Lazaro, John Byrd, Greg Elmore, Carroll Moseley, Sarah Kezar, Michael Flessner, Brett Miller, Christian Willenborg, John Lindquist, Lynn Sosnoskie, Greg Dahl, Steven Pyle, Darren Robinson, Rob Richardson, Anita Dille, Lee Van Wychen

Call to Order:

Stanley Culpepper at 9:30AM CST

Introduce New Members and Roll Call

Approval of Agenda:

Motion to approve Anita Dille by at 9:42AM. Seconded by Greg Elmore. Motion passed unanimously.

Annual Meeting Review: Eric Gustafson and Anita Dille

Overview

According to the meeting dashboard, there were 497 total users with 455 signed in users (40 did not sign in). While there were no official breakout/networking rooms there were 162 private messages and 139 public conversations. There were 25,042 desktop views and 1,715 mobile page views. Each login (multiple days and people) was considered a pageview. Eric reminds the BOD that the dashboard will be live for one year. More in depth statistics are being created by Pathable (the conference dashboard host). Bret asks how this compares to last year's virtual conference. Eric notes that overall, the number of page views was lower, but that is likely since there were less live sessions. Anita noted that things flowed very well for the live sessions, from her perspective in the green room and that there were a lot of attendees in any given session (about 70 to 110 for 3MT sessions and about 170 in the general session). Anita thanks Stanley for all his work on the program, especially with the quick change to the virtual format. The consensus thus far from the society has been positive on the program. Stanley noted that the only odd thing on the platform is the search function, which has been limited to eliminate website crashing, but this should be resolved by next week. Lynn noted that there was a slight glitch with the search function. Anita noted that this was likely due to the volume of people on the platform. Greg Dahl commended everyone on a very well-run program (many people agreed).

Endangered Species Act Committee: Stanley Culpepper and John Lindquist

Stanley would like to create an Endangered Species Act Committee considering the recent changes within the EPA, as of January 2022. Bill Chism has agreed to chair the committee. This requires a change to the MOP. John asks if this committee would be a special or a standing

committee. He recommends beginning as a special committee to get the process started. Stanley asks for clarification on the process to begin as a special committee. John notes that the BOD can appoint a chair immediately and that there must be a minimum of four members on the committee. The BOD recognizes the importance of this special committee. Stanley and Bill have put together a primary document outlining the committee. John notes to spell out Endangered Species Act instead of using the acronym. Greg Elmore asks for more clarification on the scope of the special committee. John notes that the special committee can be formed for one to five years. If the special committee appears to be long term, then the MOP will need to be revised. Carroll notes the importance of this committee as almost every herbicide registered in the past five years has been sued under the Endangered Species Act. Stanley noted that Lee will be heavily involved in this special committee. Greg asks what has been done with this committee as of today and Stanley responds that nothing has been done except approaching Bill to chair and putting together a primary document for the BOD to review. Carroll would like to see regional representation on the committee. Rob Richardson suggests expanding the objective and Stanley agrees.

Motion to create a Special Committee around the Endangered Species Act by Anita Dille at 10:04AM. Seconded by Darren Robinson. Motion passed unanimously.

Symposium Funding Requirements: John Lindquist and Stanley Culpepper

Changes to MOP

Stanley reviews the previous discussion surrounding this change to the MOP (see February 21, 2022, BOD meeting minutes for an in-depth summary). A few minor details were clarified for new members.

Motion to change the MOP language surrounding the WSSA symposium by Anita Dille at 10:26AM. Seconded by Greg Elmore. Motion passed unanimously.

Updating WSSA Committees: Carroll Moseley and Greg Dahl

Carroll notes that there are about 45 committees. Most committees have submitted the committee reports already, but still need to be finalized. Carroll will ask the BOD liaisons to confirm current committee members to update the website by April 1, 2022. Carroll will work with Greg on this. Stanley notes that Eric can help with website updates. Anita notes that all the committee reports that have been submitted are already on the website and the committee personnel changes should be on those reports, which may facilitate with this process. Greg Elmore asks who should be filling the roles on the committee and Anita notes that this falls to the committee chairs. John asks how the chairs can gain access to the society wide call for volunteers. Discussion continued surrounding how this could be achieved. John would like to also make one big MOP change instead of several small ones if needed. Anita agreed and said we could check the committee reports to get a starting point on which committees would need this.

John Lindquist left the meeting.

WSSA-USDA Webinars: Stanley Culpepper

The WSSA-USDA webinars, Dr. Steve Young is the USDA contact, would like to begin Tuesday, April 5th and run for ten consecutive weeks at the same time every Tuesday. Additionally, there are two other webinars that would like to run virtually, which could be done in the fall. Stanley would like to record all webinars and put them on a website to access. Eric notes that this is all doable. Anita suggests that we should confirm with USDA on if WSSA can record the meetings and made publicly available.

Motion to approve the format of the WSSA-USDA webinar series made by Carroll Moseley at 10:47AM CST. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passes unanimously.

Old Business

Lee Van Wychen asks is if the Travel Enrichment Experience is limited to industry and academia, or if government agencies can be included. Anita says yes, all are welcome.

Greg Dahl suggests having Bryan Young join the next BOD meeting to discuss the inclusion of the new technologies into the Formulation, Adjuvant and Application Technology committee and to consider any changes to the MOP.

Carroll Moseley discussed the International Weed Genomics Consortium (IWGC) would like to host a symposium/workshop at the 2023 WSSA annual meeting. There were questions surrounding the format and the cost surrounding this. Some initial discussions were held, but the consensus was to move forward with initial questions. Greg Elmore would like to see a formal proposal from IWGC so the BOD can make an informed decision. Stanley notes that this discussion will continue at the April BOD meeting.

Sarah Kezar provided a GSO update. She discussed the monthly newsletter and how they have promoted webinars, scholarships, job postings, etc. The newsletter also highlights a WSSA alumni and student. The GSO plans to add a research highlight to their monthly reports. There was an increase in graduate participation involvement this year. New officers were elected for vice president, secretary, and social media chair. Stanley states that students are the priority this year.

New Business

Spring and summer BOD Meeting dates. Eric will send a Doodle poll to schedule the spring BOD meeting and Stanley notes to block of August 23-25, 2022 for the tentative summer BOD meeting. There is a tentative meeting with the EPA on August 24 from 3:30 to 5PM EST.

Motion to adjourn made by Greg Dahl at 11:06AM CST. Seconded by Anita Dille. Motion passed unanimously.