

## **2.2 WSSA-NIFA FELLOW**

### **Responsibilities**

The WSSA-NIFA Fellow shall:

1. Serve as a weed science resource and subject matter expert to USDA-NIFA and act as a liaison between WSSA and USDA-NIFA.
2. Become familiar with USDA-NIFA policies, procedures, staff, and staff responsibilities and develop a basic understanding of how USDA-NIFA funding priorities are established and grants awarded.
3. Travel to USDA-NIFA headquarters in Kansas City, MO approximately once every 6-8 weeks and to Washington, DC as needed to interact and work with USDA-NIFA staff.
4. Provide input to USDA-NIFA program leaders on a wide range of topics such as current weed management practices, herbicide resistance management, weed biology and ecology, invasive plants, the role of weed control in land management and the potential for new weed management technologies.
5. Enhance USDA-NIFA's understanding of weed science and help connect NIFA staff with appropriate WSSA committees and members to leverage their expertise.
6. Advance the weed science community's understanding of USDA-NIFA programs and opportunities through presentations at annual meetings, quarterly conference calls with the WSSA-NIFA Fellow Advisory Committee, and through quarterly reports submitted to the WSSA Board of Directors. Quarterly reports will be made available and archived on the WSSA website. Serve as an ex officio member on the Research Priorities (E6), Noxious and Invasive Weeds and Biocontrol (E4), and Science Policy Committees (E2) (see 4.3, 4.4, and 4.5).

### **Term of Appointment**

With approval of the Board of Directors, the WSSA President will appoint the WSSA-NIFA Fellow. The term of appointment for the WSSA-NIFA Fellow is three years with an additional year (4 total years) to mentor the new Fellow. With support from the WSSA Board, the WSSA-NIFA Fellow may serve up to two consecutive terms. Once the liaison's term is completed, they are expected help mentor the new Fellow by participation on the WSSA-NIFA Fellow Advisory Committee.

### **NIFA Fellow Advisory Committee**

The NIFA Fellow Advisory Committee composed of the WSSA President, Vice-President, President-Elect, Past-President, Science Policy Committee Chair, Research Priorities Committee Chair and Executive Director of Science Policy, and previous WSSA-NIFA Fellow's will provide guidance and advice to the Fellow. The NIFA Fellow Advisory Committee along with USDA-NIFA partners will assess annually program performance to help advance Fellow activities. The Advisory Committee will report performance progress to the Board of Directors.