

WSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Saturday, February 7, 2015
and
Sunday, February 8, 2015

Saturday, February 7, 2015 – Bluegrass Room

Call to Order, Introductions - Joe DiTomaso

Pres. DiTomaso called the meeting to order at 8:15 and introductions were made.

17 voting members present at meeting and 7 of 7 executive board members so quorum met.

Agenda Items – Joe DiTomaso

Dallas Peterson moved to approve agenda and seconded by Mark Bernards. Motion approved unanimously.

Motion to approve consent agenda was made by Les Glasgow and seconded by Sarah Ward. Motion approved unanimously.

Reports included in the Consent Agenda

Affiliated Society Reports:

APMS Report
CWSS Report
NCWSS Report
NEWSS Report
SWSS Report
WSWS Report

Committee Reports:

E2 - Science Policy
E3 - CAST
E6 - Research and Competitive Grants
E8 - Environmental Aspects of Weed Management
E10 - Herbicides for Minor Uses
E11 – Weed Loss
E12 – Herbicide Resistant Plants
E12b – Herbicide Resistance Education
E13 - Public Awareness
E14 - Website
F4 - Professional Development
F5 - Sustaining Membership
P22 - Terminology
P22b - Standardized Plant Names

W3 – Awards
W6 – Nominating
W10 – Constitution and Operating Procedures
W11 – Extension
W15 - Formulation, Adjuvant, and Application Technology
W16 – Biological Control
W19 - Resolutions

Approval of the Summer Board Meeting Minutes, and minutes of actions taken between meetings- Larry Steckel

Motion to approve minutes made by Hugh Beckie and seconded by Peter Porpiglia . Unanimously approved.

President’s Report – Joe DiTomaso

Discussion on how the new meeting app was working. Herbicide Handbook is now out. WSSA printed 2000 and sold 795 by November 2015. New strategic plan for WSSA committee was formed and will be discussed tomorrow. Donn Shilling is now the WSSA Fellow to NIFA. USDA educational program provided WSSA funds for Herbicide Resistance Education call to action initiative and David Shaw will lead discussion on Thursday.

Executive Secretary’s Report – Joyce Lancaster

Staffing in Allen Press is stable. There have been about 80% renewals to WSSA to date. Membership continues to decline by about 200 people in the last couple of years. Sustaining membership has recruited new companies and picked up a couple other companies that were out in 2014 and now back in 2015. David Shaw’s herbicide resistance education group has brought in over \$200,000 and Joyce has been spending a good deal of time assisting them. She also spent a good deal time getting the new app working and on the Herbicide Handbook.

Treasurer’s Report – Ian Burke

Spending just about what we bring in. Herbicide Handbook revenue is \$60,000 and cost \$22,000 to print. Reviews of journals look very positive as well. Endowment fund is up from \$306,000 in 2011 to \$421,000 now. 2015 budget will be worked on during the finance committee meeting and presented at Thursday’s meeting. Endowment committee still trying to develop an investment and spending plan.

Meeting Management – Joyce Lancaster

First time used convention center instead of rooms in hotel. We will be the only group there. The 3rd floor in convention center is where we hold most of the meetings. Discussion on meeting space and reception. We were at 84% of room block which provided WSSA some concessions. AV equipment for big rooms was rented.

Registration is now at 367 of which 68 are students. A number mistakenly paid for guests and did not have a guest.

2015 Program Committee and Local Arrangements Report- Dallas Peterson

Facilities and program set to go. Feedback on how app is working is requested. Some tried to enter two posters into the contest and had to be directed by Dr. Dodds to just enter one. Winners will be announced at Business meeting. Two symposia this year. General session - Steve Johnson will talk about horse industry. Rosalind James, USDA ARS, will talk about future of weed science research at USDA.

WSSA 2016 Meeting – Kevin Bradley

Main discussion on the challenge of integrating WSSA poster contest with SWSS contest. There was some discussion of having just one Poster contest and a separate paper contest just for SWSS students. There was also discussion of possible speakers for plenary session.

IWSS Support Proposal- Joe DiTomaso

Meeting will be next June in Prague. WSSA provided \$12,000 four years ago to IWSS for assistance to graduate students to attend the meeting. IWSS is requesting \$12,000 again for the Prague meeting. Some discussion on how it is good for WSSA to provide some support for International Weed Science.

Motion was made by Les Glasgow to provide \$12,000 for IWSS to assist graduate students to attend meeting in Prague. Seconded by Dan Kunkel. Motion carried.

Discussion on how John Jachetta got the WSSA undergraduate award established, chaired the committee and obtained funding for 22 years. In recognition of that, Prasanta Bhowmik made motion to change name of WSSA undergraduate research award to WSSA John Jachetta undergraduate research award. Motion was seconded by Andrew Kniss. Unanimous approval by board.

EPA Subject Matter Expert Update- Mike Barrett

New director EPA-office of pesticide programs appointed –Jack Housenger is now working with EPA. EPA registration division reorganized. Enlist Duo was a major registration to get through during much agency turnover. Herbicide Resistant II summit and EPA liaison took the bulk of Mike's time.

Very open to tours from weed science graduate students to facilitate interest in working at the EPA registration office.

Agency is going to start collecting herbicide resistance data on where it is occurring and how it is occurring. EPA is asking WSSA to help with this process.

Respond to request for input on mapping herbicide resistance and develop approaches to monitor and mitigate herbicide resistance.

EPA office in the process of making a smart label that is electronic with drop down boxes. They want terminology and weed lists from WSSA in construction of this new label format.

They likely want more insight into the benefit of a new herbicide. They are fairly well versed on assessing risk.

Tours for EPA folks to Iowa with Mike Owen leading tour and Georgia with Stanley Culpepper leading tour on resistance issues and evaluation of new herbicide trait weed management.

Director of Science Policy Report – Lee Van Wychen

Science policy meeting on definition of a “Super Weed”. *Slang used to describe a weed that has evolved characteristics that make it much harder to manage due to the repeated use of the same management tactic. Over dependence on a single tactic as opposed to utilizing diverse approaches can lead to such adaptations.*

The most common use of the slang refers to a weed that has become resistant to one or more herbicide mechanisms of action (www.weedscience.org) due to their repeated use in the absence of more diverse control measures. Dependence on a single mechanical, biological, or cultural management tactic has also led to such adaptations (e.g. hand-weeded barnyardgrass mimicking rice morphology, dandelion seed production in a regularly mowed lawn, knapweed resiliency to gall fly biocontrol).

Two common misconceptions about a superweed are that they are the result of gene transfer from genetically altered crops and that they have superior competitive characteristics. Both of these myths have been addressed by the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) at www.wssa.net/weed/wssa-fact-sheets.

WSSA has created a variety of free educational materials and recommendations concerning herbicide resistance and how to avoid it, available at www.wssa.net/weed/resistance.

Definition was tabled to let everyone look it over one more time. Vote on it Sunday morning.

There is no definition for a “weed” from the WSSA. Discussion on how to proceed defining what a weed is from a scientific standpoint.

National weed survey discussion. Currently Ted Webster conducts this by asking SWSS Extension weed scientists about weed prevalence in crops and pasture. Lee is constructing a survey through Survey Monkey to open this up to all WSSAs and regional weed societies to participate in this survey. Carroll Moseley Carol has offered \$5,000 for graduate student/s to analyze this data.

Aquatic plants research program continue to ask for funding from USDA. Lee is getting acquainted/reacquainted to know some of the new folks brought in by the change after last election. Some increase in Hatch funds and Extension. Joint House/Senate meeting with EPA on waters of US. WSSA has not taken a position but has been asked from outside groups. National invasive species webinars notices will be on website.

It was ruled that glyphosate-tolerant tall fescue did not need to be regulated by APHIS due to the gene coming from a plant instead of bacteria. Scotts did not let anyone know in weed society this was coming.

Monarch butterfly potentially being put on endangered species list is an issue for weeds due to milkweed being a primary host. Survey data to know how milkweed populations have changed over time would have been helpful if the butterfly is listed as endangered.

MOP and Constitutional Changes –Peter Porpiglia

Motion made by Andrew Kniss to change term length in MOP for Website Committee from “Consist of a Chair appointed to a three-year term and eight other members, each appointed to a five-year term” to “Consist of a Chair appointed to a three-year term and five or more other members, each appointed to a three-year term” and seconded by Sarah Ward. Unanimously approved

Extension committee MOP change

Mark Bernards made a motion to replace the 3rd MOP for Extension committee which states “**Determine publication needs and assign priorities for the preparation of new publications as well as updating of reprinting outdated or out-of-print state, regional and federal bulletins, or brochures to help meet extension needs. Develop recommendations for satisfying those needs.**” With *Discuss current weed sciences issues and provide suggestions for symposia, public awareness, press releases, working groups, and other collaborations.* Seconded by Larry Steckel. Tabled until Thursday BOD meeting, which would give the proposed change the required two weeks before a vote can be held.

Discussion and vote on continuing the education project through Western Farm Press and Penton Media – Joe DiTomaso and Joyce Lancaster

Motion made by Andrew Kniss to continue the relationship with Penton Media and seconded by Dan Kunkel. Unanimous approval.

Graduate Student Organization- Kate Venner

Discussion of how to get more interest in “take a student out to dinner” initiative. 45 students have entered the poster contest. Two sessions are MS and three sessions are Ph.D.

Luncheon on Tuesday sponsored by Bayer Crop Sciences.

Proposal for joint meeting with SWSS for Poster contest to be run by WSSA and all students could participate. Oral paper contest will be run by SWSS with only SWSS students participating.

Workshop on how to prepare for life after graduate school.

Proposal to sell California Weed Book on WSSA site – Joe DiTomaso

Joe DiTomaso will go to main author to see particulars of how this might work.

3:59 pm. Larry Steckel made motion to Adjourn and seconded by Kevin Bradley. Unanimous approval.

Sunday, February 8, 2014 – Bluegrass Room

Call to Order, Introductions - Joe DiTomaso

Pres. DiTomaso called the meeting to order at 8:15.

17 voting members present at meeting and 7 of 7 executive board members so quorum met.

Motion made by Prasanta Bhowmik to accept definition of a “super weed” and Peter Porpiglia seconded. Approved unanimously.

Publications Report- Sarah Ward

Introductions were made by Dr. Ward of Taylor Fulton and Melanie Dolechek from Allen Press. Taylor and Melanie updated us on changes in Allen Press and what they do in their respective jobs.

Have a record of when three-year editorial started. Sarah proposed to have some kind of training for new Associate Editors (AEs) for the journals.

Sarah proposed that we recognize AEs some way. She asked for suggestions in this endeavor. Since November, 2014, Herbicide Handbook has sales revenue of \$60,146 and expenses of \$32,000, so it is making money.

Disposal of old Herbicide Handbooks will take place next month.

Nilda Burgos proposed a Research Methods book. The board thought this was needed but decided to go with a special Weed Science edition on research methods instead of a book. Indexes will pick them up and should increase Weed Science impact factor.

Sarah Ward asked the board if this special research method be distributed online only. Discussion on advantages of the online version which included less expense for society, ease of updating some of these research methods which are changing rapidly and most folks use the online version even if they get a hard copy. Broad consensus from board was to go with online only.

Dallas Peterson moved that we solely publish online the special research method Weed Science edition and Les Glasgow seconded. Motion approved unanimously.

There will be a 2nd Weed Science special edition with papers presented at the Weed Resistance Summit II. This special edition will also be online only.

IPSM has become more successful since its start in 2012 and is now in the black.

Subscriptions continue to decline for non-members. However, BioOne is going very well and seems to be picking up the slack. Libraries are going more to BioOne instead of subscribing directly as a cost cutting program.

WSSA Strategic Plan – Vanelle Peterson

First revise the mission statement of WSSA that is all externally focused to also contain relevance for what WSSA mission can do for members. Goals consolidated (from 6 to 5) and some rewording of last strategic plan goals.

Goals:

1. Aid our members and affiliated societies in their scientific endeavors and professional growth
2. Raise awareness and understanding of weeds, their impacts and best management practices
3. Advance weed science research
4. Advance weed science education, extension and public outreach
5. Be the leading source of information for policies effecting weed science

Some discussion on whether or not to consolidate goal #3 on research. Most felt we should keep as is. Peter Porpiglia suggested Board look at strategic plan each year as a performance evaluation of the WSSA.

Ian Burke suggested a fiscal strategic plan to have a focus on how to manage finances and how they are linked to overall strategic plan.

Board and committee chair meeting to present goals to them to help them construct their committees.

Committee suggested that Mission Statement be edited to add some component of what WSSA does for membership.

Joe DiTomaso asked strategic plan committee to present edited version of strategic plan and mission statement. The result will be run by the WSSA Board in order to make final edits for it to be proposed to the summer board meeting vote.

Executive Session

Kevin Bradley made motion to go into Executive Session and seconded by Cody Gray. Unanimous approval by board.

Cody Gray moved to end Executive Session and seconded by Kevin Bradley. Unanimous approval by board.

Cody Gray made motion to accept Business meeting agenda and seconded by Eric Palmer. Unanimous approval by board.

No new business.

Mark Bernards made motion to Adjourn and seconded by Dan Kunkel . Unanimously approved.