

Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting October 11, 2007

The 67th annual meeting of the Northeastern Division of The American Phytopathological Society was held October 10-12 in Cape May NJ. NEDAPS president Cheryl Smith called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m. on October 11 and welcomed members to the annual meeting. Twenty members were in attendance. Councilor Rob Wick asked if anyone knew of members who had passed on in the past year, and there was a moment of silence for Bill Mai.

APS President Report

APS president Ray Martyn addressed the membership. He spoke about the importance of the divisions. Division membership has been increasing over the last 5 years. This may be due to a change to automatic payment of division dues with national dues – with an option to strike off – that was piloted in the NC division and expanded to others in 2005. This increased membership has been maintained without problems for all six divisions (northeast membership approximately 275). However, the overall attendance at annual division meetings is declining.

Other updates included:

APS Council

1. Financial planning – Journals, Client Services, Auxiliary Meetings and Workshops -4.5 million dollars, APS co-owns headquarters - \$2 million; paid off.

- Journals – 3 major journals - subscriptions primarily responsible for income, not from page charges; especially library subscriptions. Income peaked at about \$1 million in 2005. Over the last 2 years there has been a decline due to electronic library subscriptions. With free access to journals personal subscriptions decreased. There will be open access after 1 year or 18 months.

- Client Services – APS partners with the American Cereal Chemists Society for management and manages, for a fee, several small societies such as the American Society of Brewing Chemists, Master Brewers Association of America. and the Controlled Release Society.

- Auxiliary Meetings and Workshops

- Genomics workshop
- Plant Bio Security Workshop
- National Soybean Rust Symposium
 - o Others planned – small specialty meetings

2. Plant Management Network – web-based and multidisciplinary – Ag Science, APS, CSA, AS Agronomy – funded by University partnerships

PMN is growing. 4 referred electronic Journals

- Turfgrass Science
- Crop Management
- Forage and Grazing lands

- Plant Health Progress
- Plant Disease Management Reports
Approximately 3000 disease images

PMN is now searchable along with 12 Journals of the host societies.

One can also search Partner universities extension publications, and PMN acts as a link to AGORA. There is a scientific filter to avoid non-science Google hits . PMN is trying to find ways to increase membership to small universities, etc. PMN is not profitable yet.

- Public policy board – International Arena and Vision – International membership growing (1/3 international) - partner with select national societies.

Co-host/host international meetings such as: The Meeting of the Americas in 2010 and the International Plant Protection Congress in 2011.

- APSnet.org – needs to be updated – 90,000 pages – static pages
Audited by private consultants – in process of drafting proposal
Solicitations – content management system, new software, etc.
2 years ~> \$350,000

- 2008 Centennial Meeting – Minneapolis, MN July 26-30. There will be a 2 day Plenary Session on Ag, food security and public health, Global issues – global solutions. Connect agriculture to public health (medicine cannot cure starvation and malnutrition)

Wednesday lunch will have an Agricultural Futurist – “Tomorrow’s Ag: Six trends you can’t afford to miss”

Upcoming APS meetings:

2009 – Portland Oregon

2010 – Nashville Tennessee

2011 – Hawaii (in conjunction with the IPPC)

Councilor’s Report

- NED APS Councilor – Rob Wick – submitted a written report.
- Comments – Rosenberger – how to increase applied agricultural science in US
No money or support in extension and applied research science.
APS – will try to facilitate this by influence on government money and policy.

Approval of Minutes

Vice-President Dan Cooley presented the minutes for the 2006 meeting.

Motion to accept – Wade Elmer; Second – Margery Daughtrey; Pass – unanimous

Secretary-Treasurer Report

The division membership is in good shape. The trend since 2000 is for growth. This is probably due to division dues being added to APS dues.

As of 9/30/07, the Division had a balance of \$9,419.52 in the treasury.

2007 Cape May NJ Meeting information:

50 registered and attended the meeting. There were 24 abstracts presented, 21 were published. There were 6 students in the grad competition, and 49 people attended the banquet.

Total Annual Meeting Receipts were \$8,155.00. This includes \$945 for abstract publication costs. Total meeting expenses at Congress Hall were \$8706.01 Graduate award costs were \$568.50 and speaker reimbursement was \$356.34

Meeting expenses were higher than meeting receipts and the meeting costs were \$1,800 more than receipts (not including student award costs).

The division contributed \$1,000 as a sponsor of the APS Centennial again this year.

A motion to accept the Treasurers Report was made by Frank Caruso, seconded by Wade Elmer, and passed unanimously.

Committee Reports

Local arrangements. The local arrangement committee led by Norman Lalancette did an outstanding job of covering all concerns and accommodating the participants. President Cheryl Smith thanked them for their efforts. Norman thanked Frank Caruso for leading the birding tour of Cape May and reported that 20 people participated in the historical tour of Cape May.

Nominations: Jim LaMondia reported that the nomination committee had made nominations for Sect./Treasurer of the Division, and solicited nominations for Division Awards.

Graduate student awards: Frank Caruso reported that there were six presentations and all deserved to be winners. Rachel Melnick of PSU won the graduate student paper competition with her presentation, "Co-colonization of *Theobroma cacao* seedlings with bacterial and fungal endophytes".

Site Selection: Norm LaLancette reported that the 2008 meeting will be held in Rhode Island with Nathaniel Mitkowski heading the local arrangements committee. Meetings in 2009 will be held in Quebec and in 2010 in Massachusetts. There was a discussion whether to meet at universities or at a central location every year. Margery Daughtrey suggested that Department staff meetings could be used to get a response from the membership. Norm Lalancette suggested that timing is important as we compete with other meetings. Meeting early competes with the APS national meeting. Dave Rosenberger suggested that a March meeting might be better. APS President Ray Martyn noted that national APS would be very interested in the outcome. A Committee was

formed to obtain feedback from NED departments: Head – Rob Wick; Dan Cooley; Margery Daughtrey and a person to be named later from PSU.

Symposium:

Two symposia were presented at the meeting. The Symposium on Diagnosis and Management of Bacterial Diseases was organized by Andrew Wyenandt and featured presentations on “Advances in phytobacteria diagnostics” by William Schneider (USDA, MD), “Multilocus sequence typing: a convergence of taxonomy, epidemiology and evolution” by Erin Schuenzel (USDA, MD), Prospects for using bacteriophages as part of a disease management strategy” by Jeffrey Jones (Univ. Florida), and “Dealing with bacterial diseases in greenhouse flower crop production” by Margery Daughtrey (Cornell). These presentations complimented the next day’s Molecular Biology Symposium presented by Jeffrey Jones on “Use of a heterologous host to locate genes associated with host specificity in citrus and pepper”. Andy Wyenandt will again coordinate next year’s symposium.

Extension:

Extension and Industry Meeting had 13 reports from 6 states. Twenty-five people attended to hear updates on new or recurring diseases. Gar Thomas (BASF) gave an industry report and Jeff Huether provided a written report. Stacy Bonos will be the next Chair and Frank Caruso the next Secretary of the Extension committee.

Officers of the NED are:

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A motion was made to Adjourn by Bob Marra, seconded by Andy Wyenandt, and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

James LaMondia
NED-APS Secretary Treasurer