

NED-APS
Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting
October 28, 2010

The 70th annual meeting of the Northeastern Division of The American Phytopathological Society was held October 27-29, 2010 in Northampton, MA. NED-APS president Norman Lalancette called the meeting to order at 5:00pm on Oct. 28 and welcomed members to the annual business meeting. Nineteen members were in attendance.

Moment of Silence in Memory of Deceased Colleagues (NED-APS Divisional Forum Representative, Wade Elmer)

Wade Elmer called for a moment of silence to remember those members of the Division who have died since the 2009 meeting.

APS President Report (John Sherwood)

APS president John Sherwood addressed the membership. A constitutional amendment was ratified in May 2010 with 91% of voting members approval to implement the new governance structure. In addition, a Divisional Form consisting of representatives from each of the six divisions was created and the council representative will sit on council. A Visioning Forum has been created and it being lead by Chris Mundt and Linda Kinkel. The Nominating Committee lead by Jim MacDonald has been restructured with a cross-section of members as representatives for process of talent identification and nominations solicitation. Still in the process of development are two ad hoc committees being established to look at member services and membership (Allison Tally) as well as societal collaborations (Mike Boehm).

The current 2010 membership stands at 4,843 members of which 34% are international members. The '09-'10 fiscal year saw a net surplus of \$533,845. However, a significant income stream for the Society comes from library subscriptions. What happens if open access limits this income stream? An advisory body to Council is being formed to explore how to diversify income.

After two years, more than 100K pages and 20K images, the new forward thinking APSnet with easier to navigate/search tools and features was launched. Collaboration tools will be coming in Phase Two. In terms of strategic initiatives in education, the Coalition for Sustainable Agricultural Workforce (CSAW) was initiated in 2010 and is being lead by Jim Moyer and Steve Nelson. With federal support, CSAW proposes to develop new partnerships to attract students and train them in the agricultural sciences. The objectives are to: 1) Educate middle and high school students about the interdisciplinary sciences underpinning agriculture; 2) Support scholarships to attract the best students into agricultural sciences at the B.S. level; and 3) Graduate student recruitment and training programs for advanced degrees. As a result of these efforts an Office of Education is being added to the APS Governance Structure.

The APS Public Policy Board lead by Jan Leach is looking to identify new initiatives that the PPB should be focusing on. Current regulatory initiatives are being focused on biosecurity regulations, APHIS and EPA while funding initiatives include: 1) general funding increases for USDA, NSF, DOE, DHS and FDA; 2) genomics and bioinformatics; 3) education; 4) food safety; and 5) culture collections.

John Sherwood's presentation concluded with an invitation to attend the 2011 Annual Meeting that will be held jointly with the International Association for the Plant Protection Sciences in Honolulu, HI on August 6 – 10, 2011.

Divisional Form Representative Report (Wade Elmer)

During the 2009 Business Meeting, the members discussed the way the money of the Division is invested by the Society (APS) and it was decided to check with the Society if the Division could be allowed to manage its own money. The Divisional Forum Representative reported to the membership. APS Treasurer, Randy Rowe, described how divisional funds were invested and possible options for managing the fund differently. The NED-APS membership decided that APS was best suited to invest the funds as it had before.

Presentation and Approval of the Minutes (Russell Tweddell)

Vice President Russell Tweddell presented the minutes of the 2009 meeting. No additions or modifications were requested. A motion to accept the minutes passed unanimously.

Secretary-Treasurer Report (Beth Gugino)

Division Membership. Division membership dropped again this year from 275 in 2008 to 264 in 2009 to 239 in 2010 (of those 14 members (approx 6%) are from outside the NE region).

Northampton Meeting. A total of 62 people registered and attended the meeting. There was one on-site registration. In addition, complimentary registrations were provided to five non-APS speakers presenting in two symposiums. The Division also agreed to cover the cost of one night lodging and meals for four of those speakers (Dickson, Grewal, Huang, Kobayashi). A total of 39 presentations are being given which includes 8 symposium presentations, 13 graduate student competition presentations and 18 contributed papers. Thirty-one abstracts were received for publication.

Johnston Memorial Travel Award. As reported last year, the Division donated \$2,631 to the Foundation to bring the Award up to \$10K so it can be offered every year however with the lower than expected return on the endowment principal (3.5% instead of 5%), the executive and local arrangements committee in March agreed to make an additional donation of \$250 to the Foundation so that an individual award in the award name could still be provided. So to date, the S.A. Johnston award account has a balance of \$10,815.47 as of the end of September. In 2010, the travel award recipient was Lisa Beirn from Rutgers who presented an abstract titled "Molecular analysis of trufgrass rusts reveals the widespread distribution of *Puccinia coronata* as a pathogen of Kentucky bluegrass".

Meeting Advertisement. Once again the meeting was advertised via email to both NED-APS members as well as APS members residing in the Northeast region. It was also announced in Phytopath News as well as on the News Feed on the website homepage.

Division Website. With the unveiling of the new APS website, the Division now also has a new website and along with that a shorter URL....<http://www.apsnet.org/northeasterndivision>.

Division Statements. Total meeting receipts so far are \$7,250 which includes both registrations and sponsorships. That does not include the \$1,395 for abstract publication. The pre-meeting account

balance carryover from the 2010 fiscal year was \$13,267.91 (June 30, 2010) plus the meeting receipts and investment income places our current balance \$22,529.07. It is anticipated that meeting expenses will be higher than meeting receipts due to the higher costs of the meeting facility (2 deposits \$1,300 and \$9,084.31 = \$10,384.31 thus far).

Secretary-Treasurer Election. Congratulations to Andy Wyenandt, Rutgers University, who was elected Secretary-Treasurer for 2010-2011.

Committee Reports

Local Arrangements (Rob Wick, Frank Caruso). Despite the rain, 13 people attended the tour/hike to Mount Holyoke. Everything was running smoothly so far for the 2010 meeting. The 2011 local arrangements committee composed of Bruce Clarke (Chair), Ann Gould, Andy Wyenandt, and Norm Lalancette (Rutgers University) will host the 71st Annual Meeting of the NED-APS in New Brunswick, NJ in October 2011. Bruce Clarke invited all division members to attend next year's annual meeting in New Jersey. He took a straw poll of attendees at the 2010 NED-APS business meeting to see if they favored the second or third week in October 2011. Both weeks appeared to be acceptable with the majority at the business meeting. Therefore, the final date of the 2011 NED-APS Annual Meeting (either October 12-14 or October 19-21, 2011) will be decided based upon the final price estimates obtained from the two hotels currently being considered to host the annual meeting (i.e., the Hyatt Regency and the Heldrich Hotel, both in the city of New Brunswick, NJ). The 2011 annual meeting will be held in conjunction with the Gala Celebration of the 100th Anniversary of the Plant Pathology Department at Rutgers University. Several joint functions (e.g., joint symposia, social events and tours) are being planned to coincide with the NED-APS Annual Meeting in October 2011.

Graduate Student Award (Beth Gugino). A total of 13 students participated in the graduate student presentation competition. The committee will be deliberating in the Insider's Board Room shortly and will announce the winner at the banquet this evening**. I would like to thank the 3 people who volunteered to help judge the competition this year since many from the committee were unable to attend the meeting.

**N.J. Brazee (University of Massachusetts) won the "Graduate Student Presentation Award" with his presentation entitled "Armillaria species distribution and site relationships in *Pinus* and *Tsuga*-dominated forests in Massachusetts".

Nominations (Jim LaMondia). Nominations were received for the *Award of Merit* and the *Early Career Achievement Award*. It was decided that the candidate for the *Award of Merit* and the candidate for the *Early Career Achievement Award* will receive the awards. The names of the awardees will be announced during the banquet*.

*During the banquet, the Division presented the *Early Career Achievement Award* to Andy Wyenandt (Rutgers University) and the *Award of Merit* to Gaston Laflamme (Canadian Forest Service).

Site Selection (Russell Tweddell). As previously stated, the 2011 Annual Meeting will be held either October 12-14 or October 19-21 in New Brunswick (NJ) with Bruce Clarke heading the Local Arrangements Committee. The 2012 Annual Meeting will be held in Connecticut with Bob Marra heading the Local Arrangements Committee. Based on past rotation, the western part of the Quebec province, New Hampshire and Maine should be considered for the 2013 meeting.

Symposium (Bruce Clark, John Kaminski). The 2010 Symposium Planning Committee consisted of Bruce Clarke (Co-Chair; Rutgers University), John Kaminski (Co-Chair; Penn State University), Danny Rioux (Natural Resources Canada, Canadian Forest Service), and Julie Carroll (Cornell University). The committee planned two symposia for the 2010 Northeast Division Meeting in Northampton, Massachusetts.

The first symposium entitled, “*Challenges and Perspectives of Plant Parasitic and Beneficial Nematodes in Plant Production,*” was held on Thursday, Oct. 28, 2010 from 8:00 to 10:00 am. Rob Wick (University of Massachusetts) was the session moderator. George S. Abawi (Cornell University), Don Dickson (University of Florida), Jim Lamondia (Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station), and Parwinder Grewal (Ohio State University) were the invited speakers. The session concluded with a panel discussion involving all the speakers.

The second symposium, “*Emerging Trends in Plant Health Management,*” was held on Friday, Oct. 29, 2010 from 8:00 - 10:00 am. Danny Rioux was the session moderator. The speakers included Bruce Clarke, Bingru Huang (Rutgers University), Don Kobayashi (Rutgers University), and John Kaminski. The symposium concluded with a panel discussion involving all of the speakers as well as David Rosenberger (Cornell University), Andy Wyenandt (Rutgers University) and Marge Daughtrey (Cornell University). Bruce Clarke and John Kaminski will rotate off of the symposium committee at the conclusion of the 2010 meeting, and Danny Rioux will become the chairperson in 2011. Two new members will need to be selected in 2011 to fill vacant positions on this committee.

Dr. Clarke thanks all the speakers and the members of the Symposium Committee for their excellent work. Next year, Danny Rioux will chair the Committee. The co-chairs (Bruce Clarke and John Kaminski) will rotate off and two volunteers will be needed.

Extension/Industry (Norm Lalancette). The meeting took place Wednesday October 27 at 1:30 pm. A total of 28 persons including 8 from industry attended the meeting presided by Norm Lalancette. Presentations included several interesting reports of plant diseases in the Northeast.

All participants noted that the dry, hot spring and summer suppressed plant pathogen activity and late frosts also damaged crops. Insect activity was increased in 2010, including spider mite, apple maggot, chili thrips, eriophyid mites and brown marmorated stink bug. Major new pathogens included *Xanthomonas axonopodis* pv *poinsetticola* on poinsettia, *Ditylenchus dipsaci* on garlic, several new rust diseases on the Rosaceae family, needlecast diseases on firs, pine and spruce including sudden needle drop of spruce (SNED), downy mildew diseases on ornamentals, and new virus problems (blueberry scorch and pepper mosaic). Abiotic conditions reported included scorch, drought stress, scald, oil and sulfur injury, lime-sulfur toxicity, and glyphosate associated damage. Industry representatives talked about new products such as metaconazole, succinate dehydrogenase, zinc/copper/silver ions, and new formulations of biological control agents targeted for soil application. Thanks to Bess Dicklow for additional meeting minutes.

Old Business

The results of a survey conducted by an ad hoc committee (Rob Wick [chair], Dan Cooley, Margery Daughtrey) to improve the participation to the Annual Meeting will be sent to the secretary-treasurer.

New Business

Changes in NED constitution (Wade Elmer). The following motions were adopted unanimously by the members:

1. *The office of 'Councilor' will be changed to 'Divisional Forum Representative' in the Constitution and Standing Rules of the NEDAPS.*
2. The Constitution and Standing Rules of the *NEDAPS* will be modified to include the following language addressing the new terms of office for the Divisional Forum Representative: *The Divisional Forum Representative will serve a term of three years on the Divisional Forum.*
3. The Constitution and Standing Rules of the *NEDAPS* will be modified to include the following language addressing the election of the Divisional Councilor from members of the Divisional Forum: *The Divisional Councilor will be elected from among the eligible Divisional Forum Representatives.*

The revised constitution is presented in Annex A.

Calendar for the Division. Jim LaMondia proposed to the members to create a calendar for the Division. The calendar will feature different plant diseases. He invites the members to send him pictures of plant diseases. The calendar could be given to the Division members for free or it could be for sale.

Editorial Committee. Members considered that it could be a good idea to create an Editorial Committee to review the submitted abstracts of contributed papers to ensure their suitability. It will be of major importance to establish where to draw the line between science and publicity.

2011 NED-APS Officers:

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Russell J. Tweddell

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Term: 28 Oct. 2010 – Oct. 2011

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Term: 28 Oct. 2010 – Oct. 2011

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At 6:30 pm, a motion was made to adjourn and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Beth K. Gugino
NED-APS Secretary-Treasurer

ANNEX A

CONSTITUTION THE AMERICAN PHYTOPATHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, NORTHEASTERN DIVISION

ARTICLE I

This Division shall be known as the American Phytopathological Society, Northeastern Division. Its purpose shall be the furthering of phytopathology in the northeastern states and adjacent Canada.

ARTICLE II Membership and Dues

Sec. 1. The Division shall consist of members of the American Phytopathological Society residing within the northeastern region at the time of the regular meeting, and duly elected associate members.

Sec. 2. All persons not members of the American Phytopathological Society but interested in the study of pathology, including the practical control of plant diseases, shall be eligible to associate membership.

Sec. 3. Each member or associate member shall pay such dues as the Division shall determine and, if in good standing, shall have a vote in all matters pertaining to the Division.

Sec. 4. Members shall be considered not in good standing, and their names shall be removed from the roll of the Division when dues have not been paid for two years. The Secretary/Treasurer shall notify such members of their delinquency one month before the regular business meeting of the Division. A member who has been dropped from the Division may be reinstated on payment of dues for the last two years of his previous membership as well as the annual dues for the year in which he has been reinstated.

ARTICLE III Election of Associate Members

Associate members may be elected at any regular meeting of the Division or by the Executive Committee during the interim. Each application for associate membership must be endorsed by at least one member of the Division.

ARTICLE IV Officers

The officers of the Division shall consist of a President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, and Divisional Forum Representative. Their duties shall be those usually performed by such officers. The officers shall serve until their successors are elected, and the Executive Committee shall fill any vacancies occurring in the interim between elections. The Executive Committee shall consist of the President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Divisional Forum Representative, and the immediate Past

President. All action of the Executive Committee or officers must be authorized or approved by the Division.

ARTICLE V Election of Officers

The Secretary-Treasurer and Divisional Forum Representative shall be elected at least each biennium by a majority vote by mail ballot. Nominations for at least two candidates for each of these officers shall come from the Nomination Committee who shall make their selection known to the President five months prior to the meeting time. The Nomination Committee shall include in their considerations the names of candidates proposed from the floor during the annual business meeting of the preceding year. The Divisional Forum Representative will serve a term of three years on the Divisional Forum

ARTICLE VI Committees

Temporary, special, and standing committees may be appointed by the President and may deliver their reports to the Division at a regular meeting.

ARTICLE VII Meetings

Meetings shall be called at least biennially by the Executive Committee. The program for each meeting shall be arranged by the Secretary in collaboration with the local arrangement committee and shall consist of scientific and business sessions.

ARTICLE VIII Publication

The proceedings of the Division shall be published in Phytopathology News, and arrangements may be made for the publication in the Annual Proceedings of the American Phytopathological Society of abstracts of scientific papers read at the regular meetings.

ARTICLE IX Amendments

This constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a three-fourths majority of all members voting, notice of the proposed amendment having been sent to all members at least one month previous to the meeting.

ARTICLE X

The membership of the Northeastern Division recognizes and ratifies the provisions in Standing Rule 7, parts a-d of the Constitution of the American Phytopathological Society.

BY-LAWS

1. a. The Northeastern Division shall be organized and operated exclusively for scientific

and educational purposes.

b. No part of the net earnings of the Northeastern Division shall or may under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any individual.

c. The Northeastern Division shall not carry on propaganda to influence legislation nor participate in any political activity for public office.

d. The Northeastern Division shall not be operated for profit.

2. Upon dissolution of the Northeastern Division, the Executive Committee shall distribute the assets and accrued income to the parent organization, the American Phytopathological Society.

3. These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members voting at any regular meeting of the Division.

Originally adopted November 25, 1947, Poughkeepsie, New York.

Amended November 6, 1964

New Brunswick, New Jersey

Amended November 3, 1967

Ithaca, New York

Amended November 8, 1974

Syracuse, New York

Amended November 6, 1986

Stowe, Vermont

Amended October [28, 2010 Agawam, MA](#)