

2014 APS Pacific Division Meeting Highlights

Bozeman, Montana



Incoming APS-Pacific Division President (*left*), Juliet Marshall, and outgoing President, Judith Brown (*right*).

Scientific Events

The scientific events included 8 presentations in three **symposia**, i) Cereal Crops: Wheat and Barley, ii) Plant Virus-Vector Complexes in the Western US, and iii) Food Safety; 25 **oral presentations** (14 of which were from the **Graduate Student Oral Competition**), and 11 **posters**. Collectively, more than 40 presentations were made during these events.

The Audience



Alberta
British Columbia
Saskatchewan
Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming



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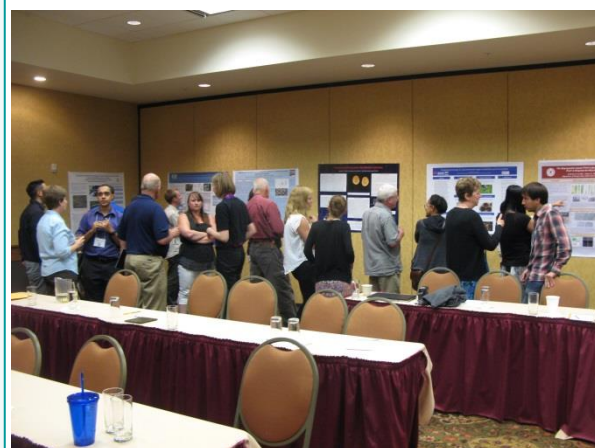
Divisional Forum
Representative
Jay W. Pscheidt
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Kudos to the Local Arrangements Committee!



Barry Jacobsen (*left*) spearheaded efficiently the local arrangements with assistance from Alan Dyer (*right*).

The Poster Session



Highlights prepared by **Soum Sanogo**
Photo credits: **Mary Burrows**

Graduate Student Oral Competition Awards and Travel Awards



Participants of the 2014 Graduate Student Oral Competition

Standing from right to left: **David May**, Montana State University; **David Wheeler**, Washington State University; **Nar Ranabhat**, Montana State University; **Marcos-Paolinelli-Alfonso**, INIFAP-CICESE, Baja California, Mexico; **Robin Choudhury**, University of California-Davis; **Teresa Jardini**, Washington State University; and **Eric Christianson**, Washington State University. *Sitting from right to left:* **Habib Batche**, INIFAP-CICESE, Baja California, Mexico; **Danilo Vera**, Washington State University; **Carmen Pol**, Montana State University; **Francis Na**, University of California-Riverside; **Gretchen Freed**, Washington State University; **Brianna McGuire**, University of California-Davis; and **Arturo Quinterro-Ferrer**, University of Idaho.

The first place winner (\$500) was **Francis Na**, University of California-Riverside (mentor **Dr. Akif Eskalen**), who presented on “Efficacy of various potential biological control agents for the control of *Fusarium euwallaceae* – a symbiotic fungus of the polyphagous shot hole borer (*Euwallaceae* sp.)”. The second place winner (\$300) was **Eric Christianson**, Washington State University (mentor **Dr. Lindsay du Toit**), who spoke on “Screening carrot germplasm for resistance to *Xanthomonas hortorum* pv. *carotae*.” **Gretchen Freed**, Washington State University (mentor **Dr. Malvik**, University of Minnesota) was the third place winner (\$ 200), and presented on “Substrates from soybean and corn influence pathogenesis and growth of *Fusarium virguliforme*.”

Recipients of Travel Awards included **Robin Choudhury** of University of California-Davis, and **Teresa Jardini** of Washington State University.



Participants of Symposia



Speakers of the 1st symposium (Cereal crops: Wheat and Barley). *From right to left (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 5th, and 6th):* **Judith Brown**, University of Arizona; **Jan Leach**, Colorado State University; **Marcia McMullen**, North Dakota State University; **Juliet Marshall**, University of Idaho; and **Alan Dyer**, Montana State University. **Rick Bennett**, APS President-Elect (4th from right), provided an update on activities of APS prior to the symposium.



Speakers of the 2nd symposium (Plant Virus-Vector Complexes in the Western US). *From right to left:* **Judith Brown**, University of Arizona; **Mary Burrows**, Montana State University; **Barry Jacobsen**, Montana State University; and **Nilsa Bosque-Pérez**, University of Idaho.

Participants of Symposia



Speakers of the 3rd symposium (Food Safety). *From right to left: Trevor Suslow*, University of California-Davis; and **Jackie Fletcher**, Oklahoma State University. **Gary Chastagner** (3rd from left), Washington State University was moderator of the session.



Lifetime Achievement Award



Barry Jacobsen (left), Montana State University, was the recipient of the 2014 Lifetime Achievement Award. He was presented with the award by **Judith Brown** (right), outgoing President of APS-PD.

Early Career Award



Claudia Nischwitz, Utah State University, received the APS-PD Early Career Award.

The Crowds



A crowd from Montana State University. *From right to left:* standing, **Mary Burrows**, and **Alan Dyer**; sitting, **Carmen Pol**, **David May**, and **Nar Ranabhat**.



From right to left: 1st and 3rd, **Rufina Hernández Martínez** and **Habib Batche** of INIFAP-CICESE, Baja California, Mexico; 2nd and 4th, **Mojtaba Mohammadi** and **Akif Eskalen** of the University of California-Riverside.



From right to left: **Gary Chastagner**, Washington State university, and **Mike Matheron**, University of Arizona.



From right to left: **Tim Murray**, Washington State University and APS Vice President-Elect; and **Jay Pscheidt**, Oregon State University, and Divisional Forum Representative for APS-PD.

Business and Executive Meetings

The agenda for the business meeting was sent out to the APS-PD membership prior to the meeting. Among other things, the meeting included the following items: Retiree and Necrology report; Reading of minutes of 2013 business meeting; Reports from Secretary/Treasurer and Division Forum Representative; Acknowledgements of volunteers; Invitation for nominations and identification of future meeting sites; and Discussions on issues pertaining to financial stability of divisions, abstract quality, and future of plant pathology. A more detailed description of the issues will be presented in the minutes of the meeting that is forthcoming to the APS-PD website.

Report of the Secretary-Treasurer

- Balance as of 4/30/2014: **\$27,850.62**
- Communications to APS-Pacific Division membership through E-messages including Meeting Highlights, Newsletters, Meeting Digest, Calls for abstracts and nominations, Reminders on all events, and submission of divisional information to Phytopathology News.
- Launching of the APS-Pacific Division 'Field Album': A showcase for disease symptoms through the APS-PD Collaboration Site (see Newsletter of Winter 2013-Spring 2014 or visit APS-PD website).

2015 Pacific Division Meeting



Scheduled for **August 1-5, 2015 in Pasadena, California**
In conjunction with APS

Mark your calendar!

Divisional Forum Representative Report

Jay W. Pscheidt, Oregon State University

APS Pacific Division – Bozeman, MT 2014

(Note: The Divisional Forum (DF) is a group of representatives elected on behalf of all APS Divisions to meet, discuss, and facilitate subject disciplinary and membership issues at the divisional level for APS council. Most recent meeting was in conjunction with the North Central Division in Madison WI, June 2014.)

Pacific Division (APS-PD) remains strong with membership numbers up this year. Compared with other divisions we remain APS's largest division and have the largest percentage of APS members who are also Pacific Division members. Hard to turn down a \$5 registration fee. On the other hand, we seem to be below the divisional average when it comes to attendance at division meetings (see membership numbers below).

APS-PD has awarded 46 student travel awards in the previous 13 years for an average of 3.5 awards per year but ranging from 0 to 8. The Divisional Forum will be comparing numbers between divisions soon. But in comparison, I just watched the North Central Division hand out 14 student travel awards! Other comparisons consistent with our **engagement plan** will also show how we stack up against the other divisions.

Once again, the Divisional Forum will sponsor a special session at the APS annual meeting for our **top student paper winners**. Billed as the "Best of the Best", this session was very successful last year. Lydia Tymon, WSU, will represent the APS-PD this August at the annual meeting. Look for the technical session entitled, "Plant Pathologists of the Future" on Tuesday from 2:15 to 3:30 pm. Let us support Lydia with a good showing from our division. This will help ensure the session is held again for our top student winner this year!

The Divisional Forum has been working on a **financial stability plan** and expects to hear back from APS council soon about the proposal. We are proposing to diversify our investments to guard against market downturns similar to what happened in 2008-2009. All divisions lost money during that time since all funds were basically in stocks/bonds. The proposal, among other things, will encourage divisions to use money market funds to diminish the impact of future economic downturns. (A more detailed report is available upon request.)

The forum will be addressing the topic of **abstract quality** at the division level in the coming year. Although there are guidelines for abstract submission for all divisions, there is an absence of content and publication guidelines. Let me know if you have suggestions, comments, gripes, concerns, etc. on this topic.

Thanks for attending the 2014 APS-PD meeting!

