



## ***BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - 2004***

February 17, 2004

Adam's Mark Hotel, Tulsa, Oklahoma

President John Damicone called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

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The minutes of the previous Business Meeting (2003 South Padre Island, Texas) were distributed and a motion was passed unanimously to approve them.

**Graduate Student Paper Competition.** Past-President Barbara Smith congratulated all the participants in the Graduate Student Paper Competition for their exemplary presentations. The 1<sup>st</sup> place award (\$300) went to Melinda Sullivan, North Carolina State University, 2<sup>nd</sup> place (\$200) to Emily Cantonwine, University of Georgia, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place (\$100) to Sara Gremillion, University of Georgia.

**Graduate Student Travel Awards.** Vice President Tim Brenneman presented \$300 travel awards to Emily Cantonwine, University of Georgia, Sarah Gremillion, University of Georgia, Raghuwinder Singh, University of Florida, and Jason Woodward, University of Georgia.

**Treasurer's Report.** The 2003 report, prepared by R.J. McGovern, Secretary/Treasurer, was distributed. The beginning balance was \$12,604.05. Total income during the year was \$4,508.47 while expenses totaled \$4164.46. The ending balance was \$12,948.06. A motion to accept the Treasurer's Report passed unanimously.

**Membership Report.** The membership report, prepared by Secretary-Treasurer R.J. McGovern, was distributed. There were 474 paid members in the SDAPS as of 1/31/04, representing a net loss of two members. Fifteen regular members were lost, presumably through death or retirement; this number was almost completely offset by an increase in student and emeritus members of 11 and 2, respectively. Also, six additional members joined the SDAPS at the meeting.

**Necrology Report.** A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of SDAPS members deceased during the last year. Two members, Ed Freeman from Florida and Luther Baxter from South Carolina passed away in 2003.

**Remarks from the APS Immediate Past President.** Jacque Fletcher, Immediate Past APS President, extended greetings from Gary Bergstrom, current APS President, to our division. (Bergstrom was unable to attend because of a prior commitment). Fletcher re-emphasized the important mission of the APS that includes a global focus, exchange of scientific information, and opportunities for professional growth. The society has grown from its initial 138 members (1908) to about 5,000, of which 69% are US citizens, 5% Canadians, and the remainder from all over the globe.

Fletcher reviewed the current APS governance structure which allows scheduled interaction between the APS Council and regional divisions. Started in 2002, the APS Leadership Forum includes the society's council members and key program leaders and continues to implement a strategic. Components of APS's strategic plan include:

- Continuing to build the value of the society's journals
- Building the content, readership, and financial health of the Plant Management Network
- Expanding products
- Building alliances with other scientific societies
- Forging alliances with other non-profit publishers
- The APS Education and Learning Center
- Providing online meetings and symposia

**Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award.** Dr. Tom Kucharek, University of Florida-IFAS, was the recipient of the 2003 SDAPS Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award. Tom was a fitting awardee because of his outstanding extension and research contributions that have led to the development of management strategies for plant diseases of economic importance in the southern US and his long-standing service to the SDAPS. President Damicone presented Dr. Kucharek with a commemorative plaque and check for \$400 at the industry sponsored social the previous evening.

**Councilor's report.** Councilor Culbreath presented an update on mid-year APS Council activities. The council continues to address the strategic plan for the society including continued support for a governance structure that provides strong input from the APS regional divisions. However, the governance structure will continue be examined and will evolve. Ideas for participation by the division are welcome. Gary Bergstrom, current APS President, is supportive of the current level of divisional participation.

**Vice President and Councilor Election Results.** President Damicone announced that Craig Rothrock (University of Arkansas) and Gerald Holmes (North Carolina State University) were elected Vice President and Councilor, respectively.

**New Business.** Little Rock, Arkansas was proposed as a site for the next meeting of the SDAPS. This would facilitate our meeting in conjunction with the Eastern Regional Conference on Root-Infecting Microorganisms (ERCERIM). Craig Rothrock, incoming SDAPS V. P. from the University of Arkansas was chosen to followup with this plan. A motion to meet jointly with ERCERIM in 2005 in Little Rock was unanimously approved. Savannah, Georgia was discussed as a possible site for the SDAPS meeting in 2006. Mark Legendre, Secretary-Treasurer of SAAS, indicated that SAAS was evaluating Tampa, Orlando, and Savannah as possible sites for their 2006 meeting.

**Resolution** (John Sherwood). John Sherwood, in his own inimitable fashion, presented a humorous yet respectful wrap-up of all the meeting's activities.

**Adjournment** The presidential gavel was passed to incoming president Mike Benson who expressed appreciation to John Damicone for his leadership of SDAPS and all his efforts on the meeting in Tulsa that made it such an outstanding success. Benson also

expressed his appreciation to Albert Culbreath for his service as the division councilor.  
The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Respectively submitted by R. J. McGovern, Secretary-Treasurer, Southern Division APS