



BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - 2005

February 7, 2005

Doubletree Hotel, Little Rock, Arkansas

President Mike Benson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

The minutes of the previous Business Meeting (2004 Tulsa, Oklahoma) were distributed and unanimously approved (Bob Kemerait, motion; Clayton Hollier, 2nd).

Remarks from Jim MacDonald, APS President: Jim mentioned that the theme of the upcoming annual meeting in Austin is "The Future of Plant Pathology". He also gave the highlights of the mid-year meeting in St. Paul. One topic was the future of the APS journals, which was looked into by an ad hoc committee. One issue of this was open access to *Phytopathology*. Another topic was developing the financial strategic plan, to mitigate the loss of revenues from journals. Some questions of concern include how much money does APS Press need to earn, and whether APS annual meetings should earn money. Priorities of plant pathology include a vision for the discipline and interdisciplinary work. The later priority will involve discussions with the Tri Societies, and other organizations. Finally, he noted that 25% of APS is composed of early career professionals. One of the goals of APS is to build a commitment to lifelong members.

Financial Report. The 2004 report was presented by Thomas Isakeit, Secretary-Treasurer. The beginning balance for January 1, 2004 was \$12, 948.06. During the first months of 2004, prior to May 26, 2004, the income of \$7,811.67 was offset by expenses of \$7,455.66, leaving a surplus of \$356.01. On May 19, 2004, the finances were audited by Robert Hunger at Oklahoma State University. On May 26, 2004, all SDAPS funds (\$13,304.37) were transferred to APS headquarters. Additional income since this time was \$1,426 in dues and \$120.50 in interest (with no expenditures), giving an ending balance of \$14,850.87 on December 31, 2004. The treasurer's report was accepted (John Damicone motion, Bob Kemerait 2nd).

Membership Report. As of January 31, 2005, there were 498 members of the Southern Division. This represents an increase of 24. There was a net increase of 33 regular members and 2 emeritus members, but a net loss of 11 student members. Two emeritus members died in 2004. The treasurer's report was accepted (John Sherwood motion, John Damicone 2nd).

Necrology Report. A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of SDAPS members who died during 2004. Four members passed away: George Barnes and Lou Morrison from Oklahoma, Jones H. Smiley from Kentucky, and David W. Rosberg from Texas.

Councilor's Report. Mike Benson filled in for Gerald Holmes, who had to leave the meeting early. Mike Benson explained the role of the councilor.

Graduate Student Travel Awards. Vice-President Craig Rothrock announced the recipients of the awards: Sara Gremillion (University of Georgia, Tifton), Damon L. Smith (North Carolina State University, Raleigh), and Jason Woodward (University of Georgia, Tifton). Each previously received a check for \$300.

Graduate Student Paper Competition. Past-President John Damicone presented the awards, with Jim MacDonald and Mike Benson assisting. The first place winner was Damon L. Smith (North Carolina State University, Raleigh) for the paper, "Using modeled weather for predicting Sclerotinia blight of peanut". He was presented with a certificate and \$300. The second place winner was Scott Monfort (University of Arkansas, Fayetteville) for the paper, "Influence of soil texture on *Meloidogyne incognita* induced yield suppression of cotton". He was presented with a certificate and \$200. The third place winner was Jason Woodward (University of Georgia, Tifton) for the paper "First occurrence of Sclerotinia blight on peanut in Georgia". He was presented with a certificate and \$100.

Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award. Bruce Martin of Clemson University, located at the Pee Dee Station in Florence, was selected for this award. Bruce was recognized for his extensive research and extension efforts for control of diseases and nematodes on turf. President Mike Benson presented Bruce with a commemorative plaque and a check for \$400.

Vice-President Election Results. President Mike Benson announced that Chris Clark of Louisiana State University was elected vice-president.

Old Business: *APS accounting service.* The past year (2004) was the transition year for this service. SDAPS funds are now administered by APS headquarters. *Web site update.* There were 400 hits in January, 2005 and 1000 hits since the Tulsa meeting.

New Business. *Division concerns for APS and Strategic Plan.* At the Anaheim meeting, Jim MacDonald asked for concerns from the Divisions and the general membership to be communicated to APS. Development of a strategic plan for divisions was encouraged. *Future Meetings and Sites.* SDAPS will meet with SAAS in Orlando in 2006 at the Wyndham Hotel. The Southern Soybean Worker's Group will be invited to participate. There was discussion of a joint meeting in 2007 with North Carolina Plant Pathologists and the Georgia Association of Plant Pathologists, in a location yet to be determined. Mark Legendre, Secretary-Treasurer for SAAS, said that the contract for the Riverview Hotel in Mobile, AL, where SAAS will meet in 2007 has already been signed and said that SAAS needs to know SDAPS plans to meet outside SAAS three years in advance.

Resolutions. John Sherwood presented witty commentary of the meeting. (Details follow this report).

Introduction of Incoming President. President Mike Benson presented the presidential gavel to Tim Brenneman. Tim expressed his appreciation for Mike's leadership of SDAPS. Tim presented Mike with a commemorative plaque.

The meeting was adjourned by Tim Brenneman at 5:25 PM.

**Year 2005 Resolutions
Of The
American Phytopathological Society - Southern Division
6-7 February 2005**

Whereas the 82th meeting of Southern Division of the American Phytopathological Society was in conjunction with the 102th meeting of the Southern Association of Agricultural Scientists, held at the Double Tree in the not so sunny Little Rock in AThe Natural State@ of Arkansas, home of the Razorbacks and the Department of Plant Pathology, University of Arkansas, during which there were 40 registered participants who presented 27 oral presentations in 4 sessions;

Whereas initially our name tags and programs were so secured that even security knew not of them, we moved ahead realizing that most likely we need not be too concerned of those not truly of the faith of plant pathology interloping into our sea of wisdom. Hence, following a warm welcome by President Benson we did proceed and overcame all challenges by the sinister powerpoint and mischievous Dell.

Be it therefore resolved that the hard work, excellent organizational skill, and superb leadership by the Southern Division Officers President Mike Benson, President Elect and Program Chair Tim Brenneman, Vice President Craig Rothrock, Past President John Damicone, Secretary - Treasurer Tom Isakeit, and Councilor Gerald Holmes, is sincerely appreciated. The officers in conjunctions with those handling local arrangements are to be commended for their fine job during the meeting;

Be it further resolved that the graduate student award paper session continued its tradition of excellence for its quality of presentations and scientific merit. The professionalism of all students made the work of the awards committee exceedingly difficult. Presentations were made by students from Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Oklahoma State University, University of Arkansas, and University of Georgia. Three students were recipients of Southern Division APS travel awards that included: Sara Gremillion, University of Georgia, Damon Smith, North Carolina State University, and Jason Woodward, University of Georgia.

Be it further resolved that congratulations goes to the first place winner Damon Smith, North Carolina State University; the second place winner Scott Monfort, University of Arkansas; and the third place winner Jason Woodward, University of Georgia. It was clear that all students made presentations worthy of an award and all were declared winners at the luncheon held in their honor;

Be it further resolved that the Southern Division was proud to recognize the Outstanding Plant Pathologist for the year 2004, Dr. Bruce Martin. His contributions to the science of plant pathology are numerous and notable in turf pathology, not ever letting any grass grow under his feet.

Be it further resolved that whereas the Business Meeting and presentation of these resolutions prior to the Southern Division Social deBary Bowl prevents a permanent record of who might spend too much at the cash bar, and not being able to add to the official record the University of Georgia again reigning supreme in the deBary Bowl; let us thank in advance the industry sponsors that include Bayer Crop Science, Cerexagri, Dow Agrosiences, and Syngenta Crop Protection;

Be it further resolved that well wishes given by APS President Jim MacDonald were greatly appreciated. The information presented about APS activities and the engagement of the Society make us proud to be members.

Now be it finally resolved that with the dedication and participation of many people, this meeting is considered a scientific and social success. From many of the Southern Division Department Heads we heard their collective intelligence, now a new measure of small in nanotechnology, on the past and future of our profession. And while we face challenges as we go back to our responsibilities that sometimes appear overwhelming it is only fitting to end these resolutions with something from one of our former President=s from the State of Arkansas who had a few bad days in office who so eloquently stated, ASome days I feel like a fire hydrant looking at a pack of dogs.@ So keep everything in perspective and safe travels until next year.

Respectfully submitted from the State of Arkansas by John Sherwood