



## ***BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES - 2007***

February 5, 2007

Mobile Convention Center, Mobile, AL

President Craig Rothrock called the meeting to order at 4 p.m.

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**Remarks from Jan Leach, APS President:** Jan gave an update on the strategic plan of APS. In a diverse global community of scientists, APS wants to increase access of readership to its journals using Atypon. She noted that publications were becoming more global in outlook. Plant Management Network is expanding, dealing with topics such as turf and emerging diseases. They are contemplating a journal of tropical agriculture. APS wants enhanced collaborations with other societies. APS wants an expanded vision for international activities and collaborations to advance the science. She talked about the Meeting of the Americas in 2009. She said the challenge to the Office of Electronic Communications is to identify where information dissemination will be in five and ten years. She mentioned that there was an ad hoc committee on the future education of plant pathologists. This committee is charged to assess the existing ability to educate students and it will provide recommendations. Another ad hoc committee will assess the profession of plant pathology, particularly, assess the status of plant pathologists now, then develop a plan of action for the future. Other committees are looking at the future status of culture collections and the under-representation of women in plant sciences. The theme for the upcoming meeting in San Diego is “Strength Through Diversity”.

**Minutes of 2006.** The minutes of the previous Business Meeting (2006 Orlando, FL) were distributed and unanimously approved (C. Canaday, motion; R. Kemerait, 2<sup>nd</sup>).

**Financial Report.** The 2005 report was presented by Thomas Isakeit, Secretary-Treasurer. The beginning balance for January 1, 2006 was \$17,972.83. The income of \$12,758.69 was offset by expenses of \$12,429.63, leaving a surplus of \$329.06. The ending balance for 2006 was 18,301.89. The financial activities originated from both the Orlando and the Mobile meetings. Industry donations for the Orlando meeting were obtained from Valent, Sipcarn Agro, and Uniroyal (Chemtura). Industry donations for the Mobile meeting were from BASF, Valent, and Syngenta. The treasurer’s report was accepted (G. Berggren, G. Holmes 2<sup>nd</sup> ).

**Membership Report.** As of December 31, 2006, there were 641 members of the Southern Division. This represents no change from last year. The treasurer’s report was unanimously accepted without a formal motion.

**Necrology Report.** A moment of silence was observed in remembrance of SDAPS members who died during 2006. Four members passed away in 2006: Patrick Fenn from Arkansas, Howard N. Miller from Florida, Robert W. Berry from Texas and Luther Bird from Texas.

**APS Councilor’s Report.** Gerald Holmes had no report. He said he would make any concerns known to APS.

**Graduate Student Travel Awards.** Vice-President Kenny Seebold announced the recipients of the awards: Maritza Abril (The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg), Melinda Miller-Butler (The University of Southern Mississippi, Hattiesburg), Jeffrey Wilson (Texas Tech University, Lubbock), and Wei-Bo Dong (University of Georgia). Each previously received a check for \$300. Graduate students and post-docs are eligible for this award. We encourage graduate student participation in Southern Division meetings.

**Graduate Student Paper Competition.** Vice-President Kenny Seebold presented the awards. The first place winner (\$300 prize) was Wei-Bo Dong (University of Georgia) for the paper, "Evaluation of resistance to *Cylindrocladium parasiticum* in peanut naturally infested or inoculated fields, and in the greenhouse". The second place winner (\$200 prize) was Jeffrey Wilson (Texas Tech University, Lubbock) for the paper, "Screening peanut germplasm for resistance to *Cylindrocladium parasiticum*". The third place winner (\$100 prize) was Anthony Adesemoye (Auburn University) for the paper, "Reduced environmental impact of fertilizers using PGPR". The students were presented with certificates. Prize money was disbursed after the meeting.

**Outstanding Plant Pathologist Award.** This award recognizes distinguished contributions to plant pathology. The award was presented by Kenny Seebold to Richard Cartwright, Professor and Extension Plant Pathologist with the University of Arkansas. Dr. Cartwright has been there since 1992 and he is responsible for rice, soybeans and wheat.

**Old Business:** There was no carryover.

**New Business.** Future meeting sites were discussed. Mark D. Legendre, Secretary/Treasurer of SAAS talked about the SAAS meeting February 2-5, 2008 at the Adam's Mark Hotel in Dallas. He said that the 2009 meeting would be in Atlanta. We also discussed meeting separately from SAAS in 2009. Tim Brenneman suggested Savannah, GA as a site for a separate meeting and offered to coordinate a meeting there with Georgia and North Carolina plant pathology groups. C. Canaday made a motion to accept Savannah as a meeting site in 2009, as a joint meeting with Georgia and North Carolina plant pathology groups. C. Clark seconded the motion. The vote for meeting in Savannah was unanimous.

**Resolutions.** John Sherwood presented witty commentary of the meeting.

**Introduction of Incoming President.** Craig Rothrock forgot to bring the presidential gavel. He congratulated Chris Clark on his elevation to SDAPS President. Chris presented Craig with a commemorative plaque.

The meeting was adjourned by Chris Clark at 5 PM.

Submitted by Tom Isakeit, Secretary-Treasurer.