

ABRIDGED MINUTES
from the June 16, 2022
APS Council Call

A. Call to Order (Amy C.)

Meeting called to order at 11:02 a.m. CDT. A quorum was present.

Council attending: Amy Charkowski, Ron Walcott, Jim Bradeen, David Gent, Sydney Everhart, Ashok Chanda, Krishna Subbarao

Council apologies: Nik Grünwald, Mark Gleason, Lawrence Datnoff, Courtney Gallup

Staff: Amy Hope, Carol Ericson, Greg Grahek, Megan Boatman, Tressa Patrias, Eric Fletty, Rachel Alvarado

B. Strategic Planning (Amy H.)

MISSION (*who we are, what we do and how we do it*)

Discover, disseminate, and apply new knowledge of plant health worldwide to promote the development and adoption of economically and environmentally sustainable practices.

CORE PURPOSE (*our reason for being*)

Advancing the science of plant pathology

VISION (*our destination which motivates action*)

Healthy plants assure a sustainable future.

CHANGE: in Core Purpose, change “PLANT PATHOLOGY” TO “PLANT HEALTH”

Goal A: Advancements in plant health science are accelerated through professional collaboration and data sharing.

- Build upon the success of APS publications
- Increase access to data across platforms
- Increase access to shared research resources
 - Create diagnostic networks
- Expand opportunities to promote innovations (incubators)
- Increase opportunities for interdisciplinary collaboration
- Increase opportunities for stakeholder collaboration including academia, industry and govt.

CHANGE: Remove subpoint underneath “increase access to shared research resources”

Goal B: A growing workforce has the skills necessary to ensure sustainable plant health.

- Increase availability of professional resources for scientists throughout their career.
 - Increase our understanding of the unique professional needs of sectors in plant pathology (university, industry, government, etc.)
 - Identify products or services, or partnerships with other associations or providers that can increase access to professional resources (Don't recreate the

wheel if we can find appropriate training or resources elsewhere, but negotiate discounts, etc.)

- Increase the diversity of the workforce.
 - Communicate how diversity will improve plant health/science.
 - Understand the barriers to inclusion to prioritize actions.
- Increase availability of shared undergrad/graduate curriculum focused on plant pathology.
 - Define plant pathology literacy
 - Focus on key learning outcomes
 - Reduce barriers to academic collaboration.
 - Determine whether there are gaps that APS can fill through courses or Ed Center

CHANGE: In Obj. 2, add a tactic-suggested wording: “increase active engagement/recruitment and retention of diverse populations”

Goal C: Our science impacts decisions leading to a sustainable future.

- Improve our collective ability to communicate the impact of our science.
 - Offer PITCH 120 workshops in a variety of formats (maybe LMS-delivered) aimed at varying audiences (funders, legislatures, and public, for example) to help members practice.
- Increase the understanding of the impact of climate change.
 - Translate what is known about the impact of climate change.
 - Identify knowledge gaps.
 - Share that knowledge to accelerate the science.
- Increase the impact of plant science on public policy decisions.
 - Identify high impact and urgent issues annually.
 - Identify subject matter experts within our membership that can serve as resources or experts to our urgent issues
- Increase the impact of plant science on public policy decisions.

ACTION: Review goals and submit any comments for edit so that slides can be confirmed, and messaging can be created for the annual meeting

STRATEGIC PLANNING NEXT STEPS:

- Alignment of volunteer workforce
- Engagement of the Subject Matter Committees
- Prioritization, Impact Assessment and Metrics
- Messaging opportunities during Committee Week/Plant Health 22

Recommendation: Small group to look at tactics, responsible parties, resources/impact and make recommendations

ACTION: Ron Walcott, David Gent and Amy Charkowski volunteered to start the recommended group Nik Grunwald, Courtney Gallup and George Sundin will also be asked to join. Carol and Amy will get meetings on the calendar for this group.

C. Financial Health (Carol/Amy)

- **Project Dashboard (Carol)**
 - Erik Uner heard back from Brantlee regarding Ed Center and re engaging in the project; more to come on this

- 4 workshops being worked on currently and a webinar tomorrow with 40 registrants
- Early career is working hard on first timers event- roughly 243 people registered for the event of the almost 400 first timers (number based on registrants that haven't been to an in person meeting)
- **Plantopia (Jim B.)**
 - Recently released 2 episodes with a 3rd coming tomorrow. A total of 5 have been recorded so far and plan to release monthly
 - Conversations focused on speaker's research and how they got into plant pathology
 - Marketing department is relaunching a focus on podcast; discussion to push out to APS Commons when a new podcast drops
 - Call for speakers to have on the podcast and asked for feedback for the overall tone of the podcast and direction it is headed
- **April finances/[Financial Dashboard](#) (Carol/Amy)**
 - Revenue continues to exceed budget; sharing of attached slides*
 - PPP loan -we had put in last year for employee retention credit and money came in this week; ended up with nearly \$250k credit back to be allocated among all the SciSoc groups (more revenue to the bottom line)

D. Meetings (Megan/Tressa)

- **Plant Health 2022 Update (Megan/Tressa)**
 - Registration
 - 918 TOTAL: 390 are First Time In-Person Attendees
 - 311 Professional Members, 10 Emeritus, 194 PostDoc/Early Career Members, 315 Student Members, 15 Undergrad Members, 65 NonMembers, 8 Guests
 - 28 Late-Breaking Submissions (closes June 30)
 - About 15 abstracts have dropped to ePoster
 - Some government employees still waiting for approval to travel- not a widespread issue at this point
 - Programming Highlights
 - 13 Idea Cafés
 - 1:1 Conversations with an Expert being finalized
 - New Session Formats for this Year (from submissions)
 - Speed Networking Event
 - Plant Diagnostic Bowl
 - Hot Topics finalized
 - Insights into Funding Opportunities for Plant Pathologists
 - Mentoring Across Differences: Approaches for Enhancing the Effectiveness of Cross-Cultural Mentoring
 - Sponsor Organized Sessions
 - 2 from Corteva, 1 from Bayer
 - Sponsorship
 - \$75,000 compared to budget of \$40,000
 - Exhibitors

- 14 Booths Sold (\$31,300 compared to budget of \$40,000)
 - Logistics
 - Health & Safety
 - Checkpoints before entering exhibit hall to present test or vaccination card
 - Badge folder will be ticket to get into the hall so we know attendees have gone through health and safety checkpoints
 - No on-site testing but website's health and safety page lists where attendees can go to get tested
 - Hotels
 - Really close to filling our room block in all hotels-Tressa reaching out to hotels to see if rooms can be added rather than entering into another contract
- **Draft Council Schedule at Plant Health (Carol)**
 - Carol will send next week with color coded updates to time changes.

E. Publications (Krishna/Greg)

- **Journal Transition**
 - Looking for options on how to invoice authors
 - *Plant Disease* will move to TNQ beginning with the November 2022 issue – Contract nearly complete.
 - *Phytopathology* will move to Aptara beginning with the September 2022 issue. Contract complete.
 - *Plant Health Progress* will move to Aptara beginning with the Q3 2022 issue. Contract complete.
 - *MPMI*, *Phytobiomes Journal*, and *PhytoFrontiers* are now with Aptara. Contracts complete.
 - *Web of Science* Impact Factors will release later this month.
 - *Plant Disease*, *Phytopathology*, and *MPMI* were all approved for “ahead of issue” deposits for integration into *Web of Science*, but only recently, unlike the commercial publishers and some of the larger society publishers.
 - This which will likely negatively affect our impact factors that will be announced next month, especially with the delay in our issues throughout most of 2021.
- MPMI leadership met this morning and a candidate has been identified for a Plant Health Editor in Chief and is going to Publications Board for approval. Expected to announce at next month's meeting.

F. Administrative

- **Approval of Minutes (All)**
MOTION: to approve the May 19, 2022, minutes. *Seconded; motion passed.*
- **Officer election and Constitution vote outcome (Carol)**
 - SHARED election closed yesterday-confidentiality is appreciated since they have yet to be notified.
- **Constitutional changes approved**

- Approved to change with a majority vote of 790 of 880
- Changes will be made on the website and all other appropriate places

Meeting adjourned at 11:52a.m. CDT.