

American Phytopathological Society, Potomac Division

Minutes

61st Meeting of the Potomac Division, American Phytopathological Society
March 16-18, 2005

The 2005 meeting of the Potomac Division was held March 16-18, 2005 at the Carousel Resort Hotel, Ocean City, MD. The Local Arrangements committee consisted of Nikki O'Neill, Chair, Jacyn Baker, Dan Roberts, Mary Strem, Sue Mischke, Julie, Wolf, John Clark, Talo Pastor-Corrales, and Arv Grybauskas. The Program Committee consisted of Bob Davis, Chair, Jay Norelli, Bill Bruckart, Dan Roberts, Tom Evans, Nikki O'Neill, Arv Grybauskas, Nina Shishkoff, Talo Pastor-Corrales, Shunyuan Xiao, Mary Strem, and Bill Schneider. The Executive Committee consisted of Bob Davis, President; Bill Bruckart, Past-President; Jay Norelli, Vice President; Dan Roberts, Secretary-Treasurer; and Tom Evans, Councilor. There were 97 formal registrants with 43 people participating in the EcoTour of Assateague Island on Wednesday afternoon (March 16th).

The Program started Wednesday afternoon with the Industry-Extension-Emerging Problems update moderated by Arv Grybauskas. The social, sponsored by Bayer CropScience and Dow AgroSciences, was held from 5:30 PM until 7:00 PM. The social was followed by Symposium I, "Sudden Oak Death: East Coast Perspective," chaired by Nina Shishkoff. The Program was started Thursday morning with opening remarks from Bob Davis, President, Potomac Division. John Andrews, President-Elect, the American Phytopathological Society provided an update regarding activities at APS Headquarters. Session I, chaired by Lev Nemchinov, consisted of 4 contributed papers from Potomac Division members and collaborators. Symposium II, "Durable Resistance," was chaired by Talo Pastor-Corrales and Shunyuan Xiao. Session II was the Graduate Student Competition, moderated by Jay Norelli. Session II consisted of three oral presentations by graduate students in the Potomac Division. Session III, chaired by Paul Tooley, consisted of four contributed papers presented by members of the Potomac Division and collaborators. Session III was followed by the Poster Session. Thirteen posters were presented. The Program on Thursday was capped-off with the Banquet from 7:00 PM until 9:30 PM. Eric Erbe, gave the presentation "Agriculture, Snowflakes and Avalanches: Frontiers in Electron Microscopy." The Program started Friday morning with Symposium III, "Diagnostics in a Genomics Era," chaired by Bill Schneider. The roundtable workshop, "Tricks of the Trade, Hints for Successful Molecular Methods Including Diagnostics," was the last session of the meeting. The workshop was chaired by Mary Strem. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 12:30 PM Friday March 18, 2005.

The Potomac Division Best Student Paper Award was presented to Alyssa Collins, University of Delaware, for her presentation entitled "Impact of cover cropping systems on fruit rots of pumpkin." Two Honorable Mention Awards were presented, one to Revital Hermann, University of Delaware, for the presentation "Characterization and efficacy testing of novel antifungal peptides in transgenic rice" and one to Jiahuai Hu, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, for the presentation "Propamocarb resistance of *Phytophthora nicotianae* populations at ornamental plant nurseries in Virginia." There were no applicants for the Memorial Fund Student Travel Award. Kate Everts was elected Vice-President of the Potomac Division for 2005-2006. Dan Roberts was re-elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Potomac Division for 2005-2006. There were no nominations for the Potomac Division Distinguished

Service Award. Resolutions, assembled by the Resolutions Committee (Mannon Gallegly and Nikki O'Neill) were read by Mannon Gallegly at the Banquet. The gavel was presented to Jay Norelli, President for 2005-2006, by outgoing President Bob Davis.

Potomac Division Business Meeting

The 61st Annual Business Meeting of the Potomac Division Meeting was called to order at 12:30 PM Thursday, March 17th 2005. A moment of silence was held for members of the Potomac Division who passed away over the past year. Burt Endo, USDA-ARS, Beltsville, MD; Houston Couch, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; Charles Drake, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University; J. Stanley Melching, USDA-ARS, Ft. Detrick; and Clyde Peet, USDA-ARS, Ft. Detrick were remembered.

Tom Evans presented the Councilor's Report. The American Phytopathological Society is in good financial health with approximately \$1 million in a reserve account. The De Bary Bowl has been discontinued as of the upcoming meeting in Austin, TX. Apparently opponents are tired of losing to the Potomac Division. Tom indicated that members need to lobby John Andrews if they would like to see the competition reinstated. There are plans to potentially reinstate the De Bary Bowl in 2008 for the Centennial Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society. The American Phytopathological Society has retained the services of lobbyists Kelley, Ebersol, and Associates to represent the Society's interests with the U.S. government. The journals Fungicide and Nematicide Tests and Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases have been moved to the publication board. This has been done in an effort to increase the quality of these journals.

Dan Roberts presented the minutes of the 2004 meeting of the Potomac Division. The minutes were approved. Dan Roberts presented the Treasurer's Report for the Potomac Division for 2004. He indicated that the Division was in good financial health and that the Investment Fund was starting to appreciate in value, in contrast to the performance of this fund in 2003. At the end of 2004 there was \$15,275.79 in the Operating Account and \$11,828.35 in the Memorial Fund. The Treasurer's Report was approved. The Auditor's Report, presented by Jacyn Baker, stated that the Treasurer's books were in order. The Auditing Committee was comprised of Jacyn Baker and Ken Deahl.

The University of Delaware volunteered to host the annual meeting of the Potomac Division in 2006. The chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2006 meeting is to be Tom Evans, University of Delaware.

Norm Schaad proposed that the Potomac Division fund an annual \$2000.00 travel award for foreign students. To be eligible, the student must be from a foreign country and have a prior collaboration with a Potomac Division member. The award was proposed to fund travel to the national meeting of the American Phytopathological Society. Questions arose about how many such candidates might exist, and whether the description should be broadened. The motion failed. Tom Evans proposed that an ad-hoc committee be established to study this proposal. This motion passed.

The Business Meeting was adjourned at 1:10 PM Thursday, March 17th.