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MINUTES OF MIDYEAR APS COUNCIL MEETING

February 21-23, 2003

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Attendance

Present: J. Fletcher, S. Slack, G. Bergstrom, C. Ishimaru, J. Sherwood, E. Stromberg, J. MacDonald, C. Mundt, A. Biggs, R. Ploetz, J. Andrews, R. Belanger, M. Ellis, J. Brown, R. Martyn, B. Christ, M. Matheron, A. Grybauskas, A. Culbreath

Absent: H. Spaink, S. Johnson, D. Mathre

Guests: R. Gergerich, T. Murray, G. Schumann, and J. Ristaino

Staff: S. Nelson, A. Hope, M. Smith, M. Bjerkness, M. Wimer, C. Ash

1. Call to Order

President J. Fletcher called the Midyear APS Council Meeting to order at 3:44 PM, Feb 21, 2003 in the Conference Center at APS Headquarters, St. Paul, MN.

2. Welcome and Introductions (Fletcher)

President Fletcher welcomed Council, staff and guests to the midyear meeting. Participants introduce themselves.

3. Appointment of Parliamentarian (Fletcher)

Immediate Past President S. Slack was appointed Parliamentarian.

4. Approval of agenda (Fletcher)

The agenda was distributed electronically prior to the meeting and copies passed out at the meeting (**Attachment 1**). Pres. Fletcher noted that the format departed from past of Council meeting agendas. She intentionally developed the agenda with an emphasis on the goals and objectives of the APS Strategic Plan. Background information was requested on agenda items with an asterisk next to it. Where possible, this information was made available electronically on APS*net* Council's Corner prior to the meeting.

5. Approval of minutes of previous meeting (Ishimaru)

Minutes of the 2002 Annual Meeting in Milwaukee were posted on APS*net* prior to the meeting. **Motion.** Approve the minutes of the APS Council Annual Meeting, 2002, Milwaukee, WI. **Motion approved.**

6. President's report (summary) (Fletcher)

Pres. Fletcher's report was posted on Councilor's Corner prior to the meeting. She reminded attendees that Council meetings would continue to have a significant emphasis on strategic issues. She also noted that APS has acquired a much greater presence in Washington DC over the past two years, greatly due to the activities of the PPB.

She pointed out that there were several appointments to offices and boards for Council to consider. Appointments to be made were posted on sheets in the room. She encouraged attendees to think about nominations to these positions over the next few days, so that there would be more information available for discussion when these agenda items came to the floor later in the meeting.

7. FAC report (Sherwood, Stromberg)

Treasurer J. Sherwood reported that FAC/Exec had met that afternoon to review the current and proposed budget for 2004. He reviewed the current and proposed budgets. Items discussed are included in the minutes from the Exec/FAC meeting of Feb 21, 2003 (**Attachment 1b**). From the report: "The January 31, 2003 unaudited statement was reviewed and the Society is at a net loss of \$31,798 FY year to date. Contributing to this deficit are: loss to date of Plant Management Network of \$96,126 plus G&A and G&A of loss of \$616,089 versus budgeted loss of \$480,831. Journal income remains good compared to anticipated revenue. While APS Press income is below what was budgeted, so are expenses. Losses for Phytopathology News are less to anticipated to date. There was a \$10,652.63 loss for the Annual Meeting in Milwaukee. Staff to continue to review activities that could result in cost savings. Fee for booth space for exhibitors at Annual Meeting to be reviewed by Staff."

Current budget concerns are the losses in PMN and expenses for PPB. Also, income generated by operating reserves, which is managed by US Bank, has not been performing well. The Pension Committee is looking at recommendations on whether to continue working with US Bank. New councilors were reminded that motions involving approval of funds would be tabled until the last day of the meeting.

Motion. Propose a FY03-03 budget of approximately \$4,114,834 of income with approximate expenses of \$4,186,199 giving a deficit of approximately \$71,365. This includes a meeting registration of \$350 for member pre-registration, a 9% and 7% increase in journal for non-members and member subscriptions, respectively, and dues to increase by the CPI as of June 30, 2003 (estimate 2-3%). **Motion to table. Motion approved.**

J. Sherwood offered to provide details of the budget upon request.

8. Focus Topic 1: Effective Meeting Procedure* (MacDonald, Bergstrom, Ishimaru)

GOAL 2: Maintain a strong, pro-active and united professional organization. Objective 2B: Examine and refine governance and organizational structure to optimize effectiveness....

President Fletcher reported on highlights from the American Society of Association Executives workshop she, S. Nelson, G. Bergstrom, and J. MacDonald attended recently. The APS representatives were pleasantly surprised to learn that APS is doing well in terms of strategic planning and forward-thinking, and that APS is truly moving towards a more effective means of governance. They also learned about new methods for furthering these directions.

The agenda reflects some of the lessons learned from the ASAE workshop. The topics for the agenda were developed according to the strategic plan and with a new model for society governance in mind.

a. The Will to Govern Well – Tie-in with Strategic Plan (MacDonald)

J. MacDonald gave a Power Point presentation from the “Will to Govern Well”. **Attachment 2** contains some of the information provided by G. Tecker Consultants. In summary, knowledge, trust and nimbleness are keys to effective societies. It was emphasized that governance is more a process than an organizational chart. APS has spent a lot of time in the past on the organizational chart.

b. “Dialog” before “deliberation”: a 9-step process for decision-making (Bergstrom)

G. Bergstrom followed with a Power Point presentation on ideas for implementing the concepts from the ASAE workshop. An emphasis was on implementing a “knowledge-based decision making process” into APS. He reviewed that this type of decision-making process is composed of two phases: dialogue and deliberation (**Attachment 3**). After the dialogue phase and development of a knowledge-based motion, a vote on the motion is made.

G. Bergstrom and J. Fletcher explained that to utilize a “knowledge-based decision making process” within our parliamentary procedures, which are based on Robert’s Rules, Council would first need to agree to adjourn to a committee of the whole. After discussion of the issue and once a knowledge-based motion has been developed, then we would adjourn from the committee of the whole and return to parliamentary procedure for deliberation (or step 9 in attachment 3).

The logistics of holding meetings using the knowledge-based decision making process include having the first part or day of a meeting for discussion and then follow the next day with deliberations. Alternatively, Council could adjourn to the committee of the whole and then return as dictated by each agenda item. J. Fletcher indicated that this meeting was being conducted as an experiment and a hybrid of the two approaches.

G. Bergstrom and J. MacDonald distributed handouts on the “APS Council Knowledge-Based Motion” (**Attachments 4 and 5**). It was emphasized that meeting minutes are considered legal documents and can be subpoenaed. It was suggested that we do not need to put details of who said what in minutes. In fact, all that is really needed is the distillation of the issue, as developed in the knowledge-based motion. The motion forms would then become part of the permanent minutes. Along with this concept is the actuality that decisions are made by Council, not by individuals.

c. A new model of motion making (Ishimaru)

The Secretary requested Council use the “APS Council Knowledge-Based Motion” for their motions at this meeting. Not all issues would require this sort of motion. Some, like appointments to offices and boards, could still be made with the standard motion form. She indicated that M. Smith would have a computer and LCD project available for presenting knowledge-based motions to the group.

President Fletcher emphasized that she requested background papers from members reporting on specific focus topics because the background information would be an integral part of the decision making process. The more informed Council is on a subject, the more likely it’s discussions would successfully represent a consensus view.

Motion. To move to a committee of whole. **Motion seconded. Motion approved.**

9. Focus Topic 2: APS Governance and the Strategic Plan (Bergstrom, MacDonald, Fletcher, Nelson)

GOAL 1: Promote highest quality research and professional standards. Objective 1A: Develop, implement and continuously assess annual meeting strategy. GOAL 2: Maintain a strong, proactive and united professional organization. Objective 2B: Examine and refine governance and organizational structure to optimize effectiveness....

a. *The APS Strategic Plan – review of version containing input from governance groups

G. Bergstrom introduced the topic. Copies of the APS Strategic Plan Draft 12-02 (**attachment 6**) were distributed.

S. Nelson asked Council to approve the draft from December 2002, which includes input from the annual meeting with the extended Council. Input was compiled by S. Nelson and G. Bergstrom.

J. Fletcher reviewed three items that came from the extended council's input (see attachment 6). She wanted approval from council to change these items in the December 2002 version before putting the SP out to membership. Acceptance of this version is a finite snapshot so that it can be presented to members. It will continually change, but she emphasized the need to capture a snapshot of the document periodically. The SP would be revised continually, i.e. at Charlotte. None of the comments from the input from the groups on the APS strategic plan were in conflict with what is in the 12-02 draft. Council agreed that the three items in question in draft 12-02 would be resolved over this meeting and a decision made on Sunday.

b. Call for additional input on SP

S. Nelson reviewed that committees, offices, and boards that traditionally submit a midyear report had been asked to utilize a new reporting form and also to identify where their activities fit within the objectives of the strategic plan. M. Smith passed out the most recent version of a document containing the committee reports. (**Attachment 7a**).

S. Nelson added that the response to a two-page summary of the activities of the committees, which was drafted by M. Bjerkness, had been very favorable. (**Attachment 7b**) The intent was to inform groups and leaders in the society and make it easier and less time-consuming for volunteers in preparing their reports.

C. Ishimaru added that the new report format, if it works and is adopted in the future, could impact the content of the annual report of the society.

It is anticipated that attachment 7 will be distributed to the extended Council for consideration at the annual meeting in Charlotte.

c. APS governance: status of 'the experiment' and new input

Pres. Fletcher indicated that there would be discussion of this item at the end of the meeting and again in Charlotte.

10. Focus Topic 3. Current Issues in Plant Pathology* (Slack, Sherwood)

GOAL 5: Promote understanding and increase awareness of plant pathology and the practice of plant pathology. Objective 5A: Identify and monitor emerging national and international issues and opportunities affecting policies and funding for plant pathology and plant health, and provide APS with information, advice and counsel regarding these issues.

a. Current priorities in plant pathology (brief introduction of the concept)

S. Slack made introductory remarks and referred to a list of current issues in plant pathology he compiled with input from J. Sherwood (**attachment 8**). He noted that PPB has played a key role in identifying these issues. There are no examples of plant pathology in the McGraw-Hill yearbook on Science and Technology. S. Slack is seeking input from various group on the specific inclusion of these topics or others for the yearbook.

J. Sherwood passed out **attachment 9**, which summarizes the perspectives of PPB on the biggest challenges to APS success. National C-FAR is working with DITTUS, a public relations organization, on how to raise the public interest in agriculture and its funding.

Several council members voiced a need to continually keep a list of current issues within Council's sight.

Break

5:40 PM. Reception at 5:30-6:30 PM in Brabender.

Reconvened

8:10 AM Saturday, February 22, 2003

Attendance

Present: J. Fletcher, S. Slack, G. Bergstrom, C. Ishimaru, J. Sherwood, E. Stromberg, J. MacDonald, C. Mundt, A. Biggs, R. Ploetz, J. Andrews, R. Belanger, M. Ellis, J. Brown, R. Martyn, B. Christ, M. Matheron, A. Grybauskas, A. Culbreath, S. Nelson

Absent: H. Spaink, S. Johnson, D. Mathre

Guests: R. Gergerich, T. Murray, G. Schumann, J. Ristaino, G. Shaner, D. Luster, L. Madden, K. Frazier

Staff: A. Hope, M. Smith, M. Bjerkness, M. Wimer, C. Ash, G. Grahek, S. Kronmiller

Personal introductions were made and a new advertising brochure for PMN was distributed (**attachment 10**).

11. Focus Topic 4. Journal Issues* (Shaner, Grahek, Ploetz, Wimer, Fraser)

GOAL 1: Promote highest quality research and professional standards. Objective 1D: Utilize interdisciplinary strengths offered by Plant Management Network to promote the broad accessibility of plant pathology information. GOAL 3: Be the premier resource for plant health information and knowledge dissemination. Objective 3A: Be the foremost Internet resource for all aspects of plant health. Objective 3D: Be the foremost print and electronics resource for all aspects of plant health.

a. *Presentation of ad hoc committee's issues and progress

G. Shaner made a presentation to Council on progress from the ad hoc committee on the future of APS Journals (attachment 11a). The ad hoc committee met briefly in Milwaukee, 2002, and had made progress since then. One of the biggest challenges to APS was seen as moving to on-line publication of our journals. Major financial issues stem from this, as APS journals are a net source of income. The committee felt that journals that are not available on-line in the near future will lose readership. The committee did not have specific recommendations yet.

b. *Presentation of headquarters committee's progress

G. Grahek presented a summary of headquarters activities addressing journal issues. This is a combined effort of AACC and APS. The Headquarters Committee set up an ad hoc committee to look at journal issues. One outcome is that APS has become part of a journal marketing alliance. (See supplemental information provided by G. Grahek to the Secretary, **attachment 11b**). This group, called "Nonprofit Journals Group for Ag, Food, and BioSciences", represents journals published for scientists by scientists.

c. *Remarks by K. Frazier, Librarian, University of Wisconsin

K. Frazier distributed a handout on journal pricing (**attachment 12**) and gave a perspective of librarians. Libraries receive requests of up to 10% routinely annually, but are not guaranteed this level of increases in their own budgets.

He informed Council that cost per unit, marketing trends, and journal value differ significantly between commercial and nonprofit publishers. In general, commercials have high cost-low value; nonprofits have low cost-high value. He suggested scientific societies like APS look at forming aggregates for their journals, similar to those being marketed by commercial publishers. Also, reward people for publishing in nonprofit journals. He encouraged us to educate administrators and researchers on how scholarly communication works in academics. For example, agreeing to write a review article for a commercial organization may have an overall negative impact on nonprofit publishers. There are businesses out there, like SPARC, a nonprofit consulting firm that can help nonprofit groups form aggregates. This strategy has already led to the formation of a biology and ecology resource aggregate. He also urged APS to continue with its strategic planning and proactive approach. At our own universities, we should educate administrators on the impact of publishing in commercial versus nonprofits. Copyright restrictions also differentiate nonprofits and commercials-

commercials tend to have more restrictive terms. The differences between nonprofits and commercial publishers should be incorporated into a marketing strategy.

d. Discussion

Council discussed with K. Frazier other ways that our Societies can interact more effectively with librarians. He suggested CAST and others may be helpful, especially SPARC. Commercials are way ahead of nonprofits in marketing journals. He suggested we rethink our view that we can only increase costs to libraries at less than 10% per year. Frazier indicated that there would be benefit in APS communicating with librarian's societies, but more importantly we need to work with our own universities. Another idea discussed was increasing our APS journal impact factors, so that there is more of a reason for people to publish in our journals. Publishing more reviews and methodology papers could increase impact factor, since more people will cite these.

A group of staff planned to meet with K. Frazier in the afternoon. They planned on discussing ways to make APS members aware of the journal situation and increase communications with librarians. Ideas for conveying the information to members included the business meeting, and Phytonews.

Council was very favorably impressed with the journal presentations and found them very enlightening.

12. Focus Topic 5. APS Crop Biosecurity Initiative* (Madden, Luster, Sherwood)

GOAL 5: Promote understanding and increase awareness of plant pathology and the practice of plant pathology. Objective 5B: Provide timely (proactive as well as reactive) and credible science-based information to national and international policy and funding organizations and institutions that are engaged in defining critical issues, drafting position statements, making recommendations and regulating and funding policies affecting plant science.

a. Ad hoc Crop Biosecurity Committee* (Madden)

President Fletcher introduced L. Madden, chair of the committee on crop biosecurity. This was an ad hoc committee and is now a standing committee with Madden as Chair. He gave a presentation on the committee's, history, activities and perspectives (**attachment 13a**). He noted APS' interests in this subject began prior to 9-11. A lot of other scientific groups, for example ESA, ISPP, and ASM, have now focused on this issue.

He summarized some of the activities in APS on biosecurity. A challenge for APS is determining how proactive versus reactive it wants to be. Much of what has been done has been reactive. The committee hasn't done much proactively, yet. They've discussed ways of becoming more active in education of public and scientists about plant diseases.

Other questions for Council's consideration are how to place the biosecurity committee, considering there are other groups within APS active in biosecurity issues (PPB for example). Also, how much do we want the committee to work with the National Plant Disease Centers and the US intelligence community?

b. Ad hoc Emerging Pathogens Committee* (Luster)

D. Luster, Research Leader at Fort Detrick, gave a review of the establishment and progress of the ad hoc committee on Emerging Pathogens. The committee now consists of five subcommittees. Each subcommittee has met via conference calls. The subcommittees represent the different scenarios: Bioterrorism Committee, Bio-War Fare, Contaminations with Toxins Produced by Plant Pathogens, Genetically-Enhanced Pathogens, and Accidental Invasions. Each subcommittee has its own chair.

A hierarchical analysis was used to rate pathogens, and top pathogens were split out into different threat scenarios. (**13b attachment**). Each pathogen on each host is being rated as a threat. Each subcommittee will come up with a weighted list. From these lists they will look at developing a compiled list. One list is desirable from several standpoints. These sorts of lists can have significant impact and can be used in rapid response situations. They hope to have lists developed by August for the Charlotte meeting. They might use a statistical polling organization for assistance.

Regarding the strategic plan, this effort (list) could be used by many groups (law enforcement, fed agencies, etc). If there is buy-in on the value of the lists by APS and others, then it could be a very important means of increasing credibility of APS. Research coming out of a \$3 million investment from APHIS targeted three of

the pathogen lists (rust of soybean, rust of wheat, mildews of wheat). Most of the work is on molecular diagnostics and genome sequencing.

Other related activities were discussed. A task force has been established to evaluate the USDA/ARS. L. Sequeira is on the task force, which is looking at the possibility of forming a National Institute for Plant Health. Dept. of Homeland Security is having a big impact at Fort Detrick. Funds for plant pathogens are limited, but there may be more in the future. DHS will build containment facilities at Fort Detrick and elsewhere. Coordination among the various groups (APHIS, DHS, ARS, DOE, CIA, and FBI) and the role of APS in these efforts was seen as one of the current challenges.

c. PPB activities (Sherwood)*

J. Sherwood reviewed some of the activities PPB is targeting. Taking off on the proactive versus reactive theme, he noted many of the things PPB has done have been reactive. PPB will host a workshop in March 20-21 in DC (**Attachment 14a**), and is developing a brief on crop biosecurity for Co Farm for April (**attachment 14b**). There is also an effort to move ahead on promoting a funded research program on sustainable agriculture (**attachment 14c**). This program may need to have a biosecurity emphasis, and PPB will be looking at including this aspect.

A big question is how much activity does APS want to proactively endorse? Reactive efforts are less expensive than proactive ones. The question is especially germane in light of current and projected income streams for the Society. Much of the impact APS has had in Washington has been due to the financial commitment to K. Eversole, and members travel to DC. APS might need to develop a means of assessing the value of these efforts so that it can make fiscally responsible commitments to these activities in the future.

d. Discussion

Pub Board met and agreed that APS should use the same wording as ASM with regard to the issue of publishing sensitive but not classified information. L. Madden will make a presentation on PMN as a possible mechanism for communicating the plant disease networks at the upcoming workshop in March. Council also discussed the need to promote crop biosecurity by dealing with the issues that are promoting bioterrorism in the first place, such as the limited resources and sociological factors.

A. Biggs presented discussions from Pub Board about their recommendation, which will be handled on Sunday (**Attachment 15**). He read a draft of a knowledge-based motion for discussion. The need for an attachment of the ASM statement was mentioned. J. Fletcher agreed to contact ASM for permission to use their wordage with minor changes to reflect the emphasis in APS. From the discussions it was clear that one way APS can contribute to the national efforts on biosecurity is by facilitating communications on issues among various agencies.

13. Focus Topic 6. Young Professionals* (Andrews)

GOAL 2: Maintain a strong, proactive and united professional organization. Objective 2A: Broaden the membership base by providing a new and innovative options that add value to the membership as well as more opportunities for involvement.... for students... GOAL 4: Foster professional growth and development. Objective 4C: Engage young scientists into the profession of plant health.

a. Young Professionals Survey – results and significance (Andrews)

J. Andrews gave a presentation on the results of the survey, and summarized the charge of the committee and its composition, which included M. Bjerkness and three councilors (**Attachment 16a, b, c**). The committee's charge was to review issues of young professionals in APS. A survey in 2002 went to APS members in the young professional category to supplement the information in a focus survey of APS members and nonmembers sent out in 2001. He presented the recommendations from the committee.

b. Discussion of how to apply what we learned

Council targeted specific recommendations from the committee's report, some of which would require funds and therefore formal motions. Further discussion postponed until after the breakout.

Break

Lunch break at 12:10 PM.

Reconvene

Meeting reconvened at 3:15 PM.

Attendance

Present: J. Fletcher, S. Slack, G. Bergstrom, C. Ishimaru, J. Sherwood, E. Stromberg, J. MacDonald, C. Mundt, A. Biggs, R. Ploetz, J. Andrews, R. Belanger, M. Ellis, J. Brown, R. Martyn, B. Christ, M. Matheron, A. Grybauskas, A. Culbreath, S. Nelson

Absent: H. Spaink, S. Johnson, D. Mathre

Guests: R. Gergerich, T. Murray, G. Schumann, J. Ristaino

Staff: A. Hope, M. Smith, M. Bjerkness, M. Wimer, C. Ash, S. Kronmiller, D. Vukson-Van Beek

Pres. Fletcher distributed copies of the recent Phytopathology News article on the workshop on scientific openness and national security (**Attachment 17**).

b. Discussion of how to apply what we learned cont.

The common opinion within the young professional's group was that APS should provide more and better e-communications. Council favored the possibility of having a young professional attend the APS Press/ Pub Board meetings..

Pres. Fletcher noted a need to develop a strategy to move from the ad hoc committee's recommendations to actions. The Executive committee discussed appointment of a young professionals committee that would be charged with developing specific actions. Council was supportive of this idea and names of possible candidates were presented. Pres. Fletcher asked for other nominations and M. Bjerkness will solicit nominees and volunteers for the committee. This list might also be used to identify young professionals willing to be involved in other aspects of APS.

14. Discussion/Follow-up (Continued as needed from topics 5-10)

No discussion.

15. Focus Topic 3. Current Issues in Plant Pathology (Slack) (Continued from Friday)

Council was reminded of the presentations from yesterday. The question was raised as to whether subject matter committees and other groups have been informed and solicited for input on the topics being focused on by PPB and others. PPB is working on developing information for distribution in this year's registration packets, for examples to entice members to attend PPB sponsored activities at the annual meeting. Email announcements of PPB activities will be sent to the subject matter committees for their input. Some felt that this would be more effective than surveys in obtaining ideas on what the current topics are. The activities of PPB could be presented by the Senior CAL and Vice President during their meetings with new subject matter committees chairs.

Pres. Fletcher asked Council members and guests to write down their three priority issues in plant pathology in ranked order.

J. Sherwood distributed handouts on the proposed rates and projected budget for FY04 (**Attachment 18a and 18b**). He also distributed a document on the income and expenses by function, where the budget had been broken down into various cost centers (**Attachment 18c**).

Results from the Council's input on priority items in plant pathology (items followed by number of people identifying this as an issue):

1. Funding (15)
2. Future Extension, Applied and Sustainable Programs (12)
3. Fewer Plant Pathology Programs (Training, Positions) (9)
4. Public Education/Outreach and Respect for Profession (4)
5. How to attract brightest and best students (3)

Additional items receiving only one vote:

Disease Control Products Legislation	Preserve Biodiversity
Publications of Peer-Reviewed	Molecular Plant Pathology
Meaningful Participation with Outcomes	E-access to journals
Collaboration across sciences	Number of Women in tenure track
How to deal with information	positions
overload/workload	Soil Microbiology/Ecology
Acceptance of GMO's	Use of Genomics for Epidemiology
Public Policy on Crop Biosecurity	

Items on this list could be added to those from the young professionals survey.

16. Focus Topic 7. E-Community Software and Demonstration (Hope)

GOAL 1: Promote highest quality research and professional standards. Objective 3E: Develop E-communities for topics of common interest.

a. Demonstration and examples (Hope)

A. Hope introduced S. Kronmiller and D. Vukson-Van Beek who gave a presentation on E communities. APS is launching interactive.apsnet.org as a website for the new e-community. D. Vukson-Van Beek presented a power point presentation on E-communities and described the basic administration of the community. Establishment of the community will be through the help of staff (M. Bjerckness). There will soon be a community for a sudden oak death symposium with at least three different forums, including a public discussion. Individuals will subscribe to the community to have access to the symposium. OEC is going to beta test the site for the interactive communities.

b. Discussion of applications

Currently the e-community is viewed as a member's service. However, it is intended that this will be used for online registration and other activities that could become revenue saving. Perhaps there will be ways of making this revenue generating, but it isn't seen as that at this point. March 21 is the expected date for going live, which would enable upcoming annual meeting attendants to register on line.

Break

Dinner at 5:15 PM

Reconvene

Sunday, February 23, 2003, 8:00 AM Conference Center

Attendance

Present: J. Fletcher, S. Slack, G. Bergstrom, C. Ishimaru, J. Sherwood, E. Stromberg, J. MacDonald, A. Biggs, R. Ploetz, J. Andrews, R. Belanger, M. Ellis, J. Brown, R. Martyn, B. Christ, M. Matheron, A. Grybauskas, A. Culbreath, S. Nelson

Absent: H. Spaink, S. Johnson, D. Mathre

Guests: R. Gergerich, J. Ristaino

Staff: M. Smith, M. Bjerckness, A. Hope

Pres. Fletcher announced changes to the agenda and indicated the meeting would end at 11, not 10 AM, as indicated in the agenda.

18. Recommendations/Strategic Issues from Standing Committees and Boards

a. Executive Committee (Fletcher)

Pres. Fletcher recapped the background on the bid for the 2008 meeting with ICPP. The idea originated at the Milwaukee meeting with C. Delp, and there was a recommendation from CF to pursue meeting with ICPP in Minneapolis. Staff submitted a bid in September. We lost the bid by a close margin to Italy. C. D'Arcy has agreed to chair the APS centennial planning committee. She is also a member of ISPP.

Motion. Move to adjourn from committee of the whole. **Motion approved.**

f. FAC (Sherwood, Stromberg)

Motion. Untable the motion from FAC. **Motion approved.** The treasurer reread the motion: “Propose a FY03-03 budget of approximately \$4,114,834 of income with approximate expenses of \$4,186,199 giving a deficit of approximately \$71,365. This includes a meeting registration of \$350 for member pre-registration, a 9% and 7% increase in journal for non-members and member subscriptions, respectively, and dues to increase by the CPI as of June 30, 2003 (estimate 2-3%).” **Discussion.** None. **Motion approved.**

Treasurer Sherwood gave his perspective on the financial outlook of APS. He suggested that Council pay attention to future income streams, PMN, and expenditures into public policy. He also encouraged development of parameters for monitoring investments and outcomes of PMN, PPB, OPAE and others. A challenge is meeting obligations for the pension funds, with the main current concern being the lack of performance in investments. APS needs to make sure operating reserves perform as best as can be expected in the present economic environment. PMN is in its first year of serious renewals, and the results will give an indication of its future revenue stream. Transition to electronic publishing is already in motion. Negotiations are in process to recover the resulting lost revenue from libraries. Activities toward establishing journal alliances are progressing.

S. Nelson gave his perspective on the general circumstances faced by scientific societies. Dues are only 10 percent of APS income, so journals are very important to the future of the society. Income from publications is stable or declining, while expenses are rising. APS recognized this trend early on and held expenses down by reducing staff numbers and taking on the partnership with MBA. Cash flow presently is break-even or a little in the black. He suggested that we find a place to get revenue for a 3-4 year period to cover additional expenses when new products, like PMN, are launched. APS should decide if it expects to make more money from journals than books, as this would make a difference in its approach to generating revenue. Models that would be helpful in making this decision will be a major topic for the FAC meeting in May. Staff has been asked to provide data on expenses and possible alternatives for the FAC meeting.

17. Focus Topic 2. APS Governance and Strategic Plan (continued) (Fletcher)

a. Council approval of Strategic Plan

Pres. Fletcher reviewed the suggested revisions to the draft 12-02 version of the strategic plan. Four items were presented to Council.

1. Re: stopping after the first two bulleted points. Discussion. Suggestion made to keep as is. Others suggested having a shorter, crisper version or that a one-liner would be even better. **Motion.** Approve the bullets in the APS strategic plan as is. **Motion approved.**

2. Re: support (may indicate finances) instead of strengthen. Councilor’s Forum wanted to know why the statement is for “divisional meetings” instead of just divisions. **Motion.** Change goal 1, objective 1c to: recognize and support Divisions. **Motion approved.**

3. Re: changing the goal order to indicate order of priorities. **Motion.** Leave goals in present order. **Motion approved.**

4. Re: approval of the revised strategic plan for distribution to membership. Strategies will be available for internal review, but not presented to members on *APSnet*. Vote will be only on the goals and objectives. **Motion.** Accept SP in its present form. **Motion approved.**

18 cont.

c. Councilors’ Forum (Belanger)

R. Belanger spoke on behalf of CF. He reported CF was in agreement with the selection of Minneapolis for the centennial meeting in 2008. For 2009, CF is looking into Puerto Rico, Hawaii, Costa Rico, Portland and Seattle.

Collection of nominations for Society officers is in progress. Several nominees have already been received.

CF is reviewing specific areas of membership, including lapsed members and industry members.

Some members of ISPP have contacted Council about the lack of presence at the recent ICPP in New Zealand. A few divisional members also contacted Council. Council discussed the importance of having a presence at the international meetings, even if it is only a booth (without books because of the costs).

President Fletcher indicated she had written a letter to the Italian scientists congratulating them for their successful bid on hosting the next ICPP and wishing them well.

CF proposed a change to the constitution. **Motion. (See attachment 19a and 19b).** R. Belanger reviewed the APS Council knowledge-based motion. **Discussion.** Council discussed the need for adding a time limit, such as 10 years, in the motion. But the feel of Council was that we are losing more students than we would be by having people take advantage of the process. Council discussed the presentation of the knowledge-based information to membership. It recommended that a paragraph capturing the background in the knowledge-based motion be presented to membership. **Motion approved.** M. Smith will present the motion for constitutional vote of membership. M. Bjerkness will call the graduate student committee with Council's decision.

COC: J. Andrews reported the Women in Plant Pathology and Cultural Diversity Committees have voted to merge. The new committee will be called the Joint Committee of Women in Plant Pathology and Cultural Diversity. P. Adams will be Chair and D. Fernando will be vice chair. **Motion.** Merge the Women in Plant Pathology Committee in the Cultural Diversity Committee, to be called the "Joint Committee of Women in Plant Pathology and Cultural Diversity". **Discussion.** Council discussed the background on the lack of participation in these committees. **Motion approved.** J. Andrews will notify the committee chairs of Council's decision.

e. Pub Board (Biggs)

A. Biggs gave a summary of journal performances. All are doing well. A highlight of *Plant Disease* is its success in electronic submission of articles. It was previously estimated that going to electronic submission would result in a 35-42 day reduction in the time to publish. After six months of data, the reduction is actually about 75 days, perhaps because authors are revising manuscripts much quicker than was anticipated. *Phytopathology* is going in this direction with even more changes proposed.

Regarding appointments, T. Murray has agreed to stay on as Editor-in-Chief of PHP. G. Schumann has agreed to stay on as Editor-in-Chief of *Education Center*. H. Spaink's term is ending and Pub Board will seek a new EIC of MPMI before its next board meeting. Pub Board agreed recommended K. Bowen as new EIC of *Plant Disease*.

Motion. The Publications Board has approved the re-appointment of T. Murray as Editor-in-Chief of *Plant Health Progress* and so moves that Dr. Murray's reappointment be approved by Council. **Motion approved.**

Motion The Publications Board has approved the re-appointment of G. Schumann as Editor-in-Chief of *Plant Health Instructor* and *APSnet* Education Center, and so moves that Dr. Schumann's reappointment be approved by Council. **Motion approved.**

Motion The Publications Board has approved the appointment of K. Bowen as Editor-in-Chief of *Plant Disease*, and so moves that Dr. Bowen's appointment be approved by Council. **Motion approved.**

List of candidates for the editorial board of *APS Press* were presented. There are four Senior Editors to replace. Council discussed the recommendations of names suggested by APS Press. **Motion.** Approve the ranked list of candidates for *APS Press* Senior Editors. **Motion approved.**

A. Biggs introduced the topic of requiring membership for Senior and Associate Editors.

Pub Board discussed the need for encouraging a positive approach to reviewing manuscripts. An *APSnet* feature article for will be written on this topic. Pub Board also discussed having a common authorship policy. It voted to have all the APS journals and MPMI adopt this policy. Council discussed the policy. Issue was taken with the statement about those who shouldn't be an author. A. Biggs will take the Council's suggestion to remove the sentence on who shouldn't be an author back to Pub Board for their consideration.

A. Biggs brought forth a motion (**attachments 20a, b**) on the issue of sensitive but not classified material. The knowledge-based format was distributed. Pres. Fletcher will contact D. Atlas of ASM about using ASM's statement in our policy. **Motion.** Approve the statement on policy guidelines of the Publications Board of the APS in handling sensitive but not classified information, if the wording is agreeable to ASM, according to the language in the knowledge based motion (**attachment 20a**). **Discussion.** Request that the policy also be inserted into the instructions to authors. **Motion approved.** Pres. Fletcher will contact ASM as soon as possible so that

this is in place by the time of the biosecurity workshop. A. Biggs will insert text into the instruction to authors on identifying potentially sensitive materials and associated APS policies.

b. Updates to the Manual of Operations (Ishimaru)

The Secretary distributed a plan for updating the current MoO and gathering input on specific sections (**attachment 21**). Electronic approval of specific sections in the MoO will be sought from Council in the near future. M. Smith will post the current version of MoO with the suggested revisions on Council's Corner.

a. Executive Committee (cont.)

1. Appointments for terms nearing an end

a. APS Foundation Director.

D. Mathre – term ends 8/13/03. Foundation meets in two weeks. Pres. Fletcher will contact D. Mathre about Council's feedback on his reappointment.

b. OPAE (Board member). Pres. Fletcher read a recommendation from G. Tylka on M. Draper for appointment to the OPAE Board. **Motion** Approve the recommendation from OPAE to appoint M. Draper to the board. **Motion approved.** M. Bjerckness will contact G. Tylka about Council's decision.

c. CAST (Rep). Nominations were presented and discussed. It was noted that this responsibility is quite large and time-consuming. Nominees were ranked. J. Fletcher will contact the candidates in ranked order.

d. Int'l Soc Arboriculture (Rep) (R.J. Stipes in 2nd yr of 2nd 3-yr term). J. Fletcher will contact the Forest Pathology subject matter committee and related committees for additional nominees.

e. Int'l Union Microbiological Societies (IUMS) (Rep) (Jacyn Baker). J. Fletcher will contact relevant subject matter committees for nominations. A suggestion was made to form a group that would represent international committees so that they could coordinate efforts.

f. Public Policy Board

(1) O.W. Barnett – term ends 03. (2) Barry Jacobsen in 2nd yr of 2nd 3-yr term. J. Sherwood reviewed the current board's composition. Council discussed the diversity and issues facing the board. A list of about 25 potential nominees is available through PPB. He will ask the board to narrow the list down for presentation to Council. Sustainable agriculture is going to be a future area of emphasis for PPB. Names representing that area would be encouraged.

g. OEC. J. Ristaino reviewed the current openings for four positions. Two are reappointments. **Motion** from committee. Extend the appointments of D. Eastburn and C. Bull to 3 years. Add G. Hughes and K. Stedham as members of OEC. **Discussion.** Adding a student to the office was viewed favorably. **Motion approved.**

Regarding the representation to the Int'l Union Microbiological Societies (IUMS), J Brown indicated that there are three APS members on the IUMS '05 meeting national organizing committee. J. Brown will contact J. Fletcher about the names of the people on the meeting organizing committee and then contact the IUMS rep.

17 cont.

b. The "Council Experiment" – how will it continue in Charlotte?

Pres. Fletcher mentioned that we are waiting for the governance survey and response from membership before taking further action on the governance structure. For the next annual meeting, Council favored continuation of the format from the last meeting, which included an expanded council. It saw this format as a valuable means for receiving and giving information from Council to members. Pres. Fletcher welcomed feedback on the new motion form and the formats of last year's annual meeting and the MY03 meeting.

d. Public Policy Board (Sherwood)

No further discussion.

g. Other? (based upon advance receipt of issues, or on issues that arise at Midyear)

None noted.

19. Other?

None noted.

Adjourn

Motion to adjourn seconded and passed. Meeting adjourned at 11 AM Central.

Attachments

1. a. Agenda b. FAC Notes
2. Focus Topic #1: Will to Govern Well
3. Four Key Questions for Knowledge-Based Decision Making
4. Example: APS Council Knowledge-Based Motion
5. Blank: APS Council Knowledge-Based Motion
6. APS Strategic Plan (Draft –12-02) with input from annual meeting with extended council
7. a. APS Strategic Plan with progress reports. B. Summary of Current APS activities
8. Focus topic #3. Current Issues in Plant Pathology
9. Report from PPB
10. Brochure on PMN
11. a. Focus topic #4: The Future of APS Journals; Background and Issues. B. Executive Summary Nonprofit Journals Group
12. 2001 Journal Calculations
13. a. Focus topic #5. Biosecurity report. B. Midyear report ad hoc Emerging Diseases and Pathogens Committee
14. a. Biosecurity Workshop agenda. B. CoFARM Draft Briefing on Crop Biosecurity. C. APS white paper on recommendation for development of an interagency funding program for “CAUSE”.
15. Pub Board Report: Policy Guidelines...
16. a. Focus topic #6. Young Professionals and APS, committee reports. B. Summary report of survey. C. Young Professional Scientists Focus Group tool.
17. Public Policy Update, *Phytonews*
18. a. FAC APS Current and Proposed Rates. B. APS 2003 Budget_Preliminary Feb 20. c. APS Budget FY2004 Draft #2
19. a. Proposed changes to constitution from CF. B. Knowledge-based motion from CF.
20. a. Knowledge-based motion from Pub Board. B. Policy guidelines proposed by Pub Board.
21. Updates to the Manual of Operations

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Ishimaru
APS Secretary