

FAC/Exec Minutes

Wednesday, May 9, 2007

A. Information only (won't discuss unless there are questions)

1. Status of Special Meetings: Conference call with Scott Adkins, Jan Leach, Jim Moyer, Ray Martyn, Steve Nelson, Michelle Bjerkness, Marci Smith (Erin R. absent). Michelle prepared a summary of potential workshops/small meetings for 2007-2008 (see attached). For the remainder of 2007, there are 5 possible workshops...and more for 2008. Thus, the need to get this rolling right now is eminent. Scott indicated that SPB is up to their ears with planning for the Annual Meeting. Thus, we agreed to set up a small committee, with representation from SPB, Exec, and Staff, that would (1) handle the workshops for this year, and (2) develop a process for how this should be done in the future. This has the potential to be a major business center for APS. Gary Bergstrom agreed to chair the ad hoc which is called "APS Auxiliary Meetings and Workshops Ad Hoc committee". The committee members are Scott Adkins, James Buck, Randy Rowe, Gail Wisler and Amy Hope. The charge to the committee is in the attached letter.

2. China interaction building trip is scheduled for May 28-June 1. Will be attended by Ray Martyn, Steve Nelson, Randy Ploetz, and Jan Leach. We will be joined by Tom Mew (retired, IRRI) and Jenifer McBeath (U. Alaska, who will be in Beijing on other business). List of discussion items is being developed; tentatively, they include:

- organize a Sino-American Plant Pathology symposium series on topics of common interest.
- Network on specific research topics, such as rice blast, soybean rust, etc. (just mentioned a few).
- Training on special topics of plant pathology research (CSPP would like to request APS offers special training to its members on certain area of plant pathology research during summer time).
- Compilation of data, and development of database on (field or horticultural) major crop diseases existing or non-existing in both countries.
- Shared publications (perhaps co-publishing papers?)
- Enhancement of the Wiki-type media (perhaps they would be interested in co-development?). Perhaps a Wiki-Piki?
- Sister societies

3. ICPP booth issue: As agreed, offered ICPP a booth + one registration for \$500 (original price \$750). They accepted.

4. Progress on New Taskforces/Advisory Committees etc

a. Crop Biosecurity now called Advisory Committee on Threatening diseases: John Sherwood chair: developing a specific charge, and John, Gary B and I have developed a list of names; will report later

b. Leadership Recruitment and Development Task Force: Suggestions for membership/chair being solicited. So far, James Starr TxA&M, Stewart Gray, Cornell; Mary Hausbeck, MSU; Bob Seem Cornell; Charlie Woloshuk Purdue; Gerald Holmes, NCSU; George Hudler Cornell; Joyce Loper (USDA-ARS); Larry Madden, Ohio State; Tim Murray WSU; Mike Davis UC Davis; Mike Stanghellini UCR; Carol Ishimura U of Minn; Gary Payne NCSU; Gary Moorman Penn State; Jim Schultz, U of Missouri

5. Report on CSPP mtgs attended by Leach (May 2007)

a. Report on Global Climate Change

United Nations Foundation and Sigma XI released report "Confronting Climate Change: Avoiding the unmanageable and managing the unavoidable" (www.confrontingclimatechange.org) in February. Societies are encouraged to make report (or at least executive summary) available to membership.

b. Recommendation passed to propose a Scientific Advisory Council for the United Nations. The role would be to advise on policy issues as well as be a resource to identify critical expertise. We will be asked to sign letter in future; will send that letter around for comment when it is developed.

6. International Seed Federation (ISF) request to APS (Ray). Several lengthy email responses back and forth between Dr. Radha Ranganathan (World Seed.org) and me and with several APS members have resulted in some very positive steps. An unofficial ad hoc group of APS members has been brought together to address this with ISF representatives. We have a lunch meeting scheduled at San Diego (Tuesday, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM). The APS group is as follows: Bill Dolezal (Pioneer Hi-Bred International); Phyllis Himmel (Seminis Vegetable Seeds, may also represent ISF), Kimberly Webb (STA Laboratories), Wayne Wiebe (Rogers Brand Vegetable Seeds), Chet Kurowski (Harris Moran Seed Co., may also represent ISF) and Lindsey du Toit (Washington State University and incoming chair of APS Seed pathology committee

7. Meeting of the Americas (Ray). Lee Calvert is spearheading this and he is attending the Caribbean Division meetings next week where a meeting venue will be discussed. One site that was suggested previously was the Dominican Republic but after checking there is no hotel large enough to accommodate. A second site being investigated is Panama City. A luncheon meeting is planned at San Diego to discuss this further with Latin American society officers.

MOA Luncheon in SanDiego:

Guillermo Fuentes-Davila
Graciela Avila-Quesada
Oscar Moreno-Valenzuela
Carlos Perez
Bruce Gossen
Jim Menzies

President
Vice-President
President

Past-President
President

Sociedad Mexicana de Fitopatología
Sociedad Mexicana de Fitopatología
APS-Caribbean Division
Sociedad Uruguaya de Fitopatología (SUFIT)
Canadian Phytopathological Society
Canadian Phytopathological Society

B. Discussion Agenda for **May Call**:

1. Attendance (Marci): J. Leach, R. Rowe, R. Martyn, W. Wilcox, D. Beadle, J. Andrews, T. Evans, M. Daughtrey, J. Moyer, S. Nelson, M. Smith, M. Bjerkness, B. Mock

Absent: B. Christ

2. Approval minutes from March 7, 2007 call: **Vote called for approval; passed unanimously**

3. Voting for Board or Committee members between Midyear and the Annual Meeting (those that require full council vote):

a. example: SPB Workshop person (nominations: Dilantha Fernando and James Buck, see Buck cv and Fernando nomination...Fernando is current SPB Workshop person)

The Constitution authorizes Exec to act on behalf of council and notify full council of their actions.

Called vote to proceed with the appointment of workshops chair: unanimous

Vote called for each candidate: James Buck approved with one abstention

Jan: contact both candidates and include/copy Scott Adkins and Erin on that communication

4. Strategic Plan Revision: Draft attached (John A)

a. Please review and be prepared to discuss. Please also send any written comments to John prior to the call.

The taskforce (Margery Daughtrey, Joyce Loper and Ray Martyn) finalized their discussion about a month ago with the draft as the result. **Vote called to approve revision with minor editorial changes; approved unanimously.**

John: will compose a paragraph summary for the newsletter and forward to Jan

Jan: will send to Phyto News for inclusion in the July issue; encourage comment from committees and membership

Marci: post new version over old on the web

Danise/Staff: review MoO for revision of this responsibility to oversee the strategic plan

5. San Diego –mtgs (Ray M.)

a. Review of officer schedule in San Diego (Marci)

c. Chinese delegation breakfast at SanDiego, Wednesday AM

Registration materials have mailed. The business meeting format is still to be determined and who will present; there will be handouts. Accomplishments over the past year will be highlighted.

Orientation for incoming council will be done following the annual meeting; format to be determined

Appointments: need to communicate the process to boards/committees in advance: "In continuation of the

discussion at midyear, all offices, boards and committees requiring Council approval of appointments or reappointments beginning in August 2007-December 2007, will submit to the APS Secretary prior to the annual meeting an appointment sheet listing candidates and vitae, if necessary. These submissions will be an addendum to their annual report to

Council. All candidates will be consolidated into one ballot to be distributed to Council prior to the annual meeting." (**Jan, Marci, and Danise will work on that process**)

6. Advisory committee on threatening diseases chaired by John Sherwood (Jan) see attached

Need to forward wheat rust issue to this new committee: **Jan:** will send committee list to exec/fac for comment

7. Updates on Centennial (Jim Moyer): We need to communicate to committees and membership the plans for the 2008 meeting; Staff has promotional materials in the works which will be sent soon

The Plenarys are confirmed; 3 speakers each.

Sponsorship dollars: If donors wish to specify funds for a specific session they can do so as long as the session has gone through process and is approved.

8. Updates on Calling list responses (see attached) (All) See updates below in grid; Jan will include this each month prior to the call for updates.

9. Update on upcoming HOC (John): This meeting is May 21-23; background materials are in the works and will be posted next Monday, May 14.

Board/Office	Officer Responsible	Comments on Progress to May, 2007
APS Foundation	Treasurer	
APS PRESS Board	Treasurer	
Councilor's Forum	VP	
OEC: charge to look at future of APS internet	Pres elect	see below grid
OIP	Pres	Sally Miller chair after July; Ploetz will present update on vision for Int Ag for society at Leadership Forum
OIR	VP	
OPRO	Immed Past Pres	
PPB	Pres	Wash DC visit highly productive; New format of having leaders of particular areas taking off; tracking of progress on issues implemented;
Publications Board	Immed Past Pres	
SPB	Pres Elect	Previous conf call with in-coming director, Scot Adkins, Jan Leach and R. Martyn: Discussion related to SPB taking on the new 'small meetings' agenda.
PMN & Inter-Societal Strategic Planning Board	VP	2nd meeting held in May. CSSA and ASA agreed to take proposals back to their boards for approval that would detail financial contributions to PMN over the next 3 years. If approved, both societies will share in potential future revenue. Copyright will be in the name of PMN but CSSA and ASA will have reuse of material permission at no cost.
Future of PP Profession	Pres	Will present report at Leadership Forum; communication with Education Ad Hoc good; surveys and data gathering in progress
Culture Collections	VP	
Advisory Committee on Threatening Plant Diseases	(in progress) Immed Past Pres	
International Efforts	Pres	Intersocietal planning mtg with CSSP 5/30-6/1; 2 nd call to develop agenda will be 5/10
Education of PP	VP	
Leadership recruitment and development Comm.	(In progress) Immed Past Pres	
AAAS collaboration on Women in Ag	Pres	Data gathered; analysis in progress. AAAS symposium submitted
Meeting of Americas Special Committ	Pres Elect	Site proposals to come from Caribbean mtg next week. Special lunch for other society presidents at San Diego to continue discussions about the objectives and goals of the meeting
APS Auxiliary Meetings and Workshops Ad Hoc committee	Treasurer	

Update on Office of Electronic Communication (OEC) Activities (Tracked by R. Martyn): May 10, 2007

At Midyear Council meeting (Feb 2007), council approved "up to \$30,000" for OEC to hire a consulting firm to review APS' current web-based communication system and make recommendations for improving it. Darin Eastburn, OEC chair has been leading this effort. They initiated a call for proposals to companies and received six. They interviewed four by teleconference and selected one, Delcor Technical Services. Cost was \$20,000. The charge to Delcor: make recommendations as to how our current website management can be revamped and improved or whether we should start over with a new content management platform.

Delcor began the process the first of May. They have begun reviewing the website and comparing it to industry standards. They have a site visit planned to APS headquarters in June. They are considering a 'user survey' to either the entire membership or a subset of the membership about their use and satisfaction with the current system. At the conclusion of their review, Delcor will provide a recommended course of action and an approximate cost of that action. They hope to have their report finished by the San Diego meeting, although Darin has told them that if this is too soon, he would rather have a more complete report later.

Darin will provide an update on this at council in San Diego. Delco will be available to come to midyear (Feb 2008) to give council a full report, if desired.