

**Minutes of the APS Executive Committee Meeting
Salt Lake City, UT
August 24, 2001**

The meeting was called to order at 12:45 p.m. in Salon III of the Hilton Hotel. The agenda was distributed (**attachment #1**) and additions were made.

Present: S. Slack, J. Fletcher, J. Sherwood, D. Jardine, N. Van Alfen, R. Gergerich, N. Keen

Guests: G. Bergtrom, C. Ishimaru

Staff: S. Nelson, A. Hope, M. Wimer

1. Status of committees

A. Completed

President Slack reported that the following committees have completed their work since the midyear meeting: 1) Public Policy Board, J. Sherwood, chair; 2) Constitution and By-Laws Revision, C. Windels, chair; 3) Scientific Programs Board, J. Fletcher, chair; and the APS Branding Committee, E. Stromberg, chair.

B. Completed, action pending

1. **Governance Committee**, L. Madden, chair. President Slack reported that L. Madden will be present at Saturday's Council meeting for discussion. Discussion centered on how to proceed if there is not any consensus among Council. Even with approval, this will take a constitutional amendment before implementation can begin. There was more discussion on strategies for educating the membership and what problems might arise. A question arising was how would membership services be handled with the dissolution of the councilor-at-large positions. This could possibly come from one of the senior division councilors. The Public Policy Board (PPB) discussed the proposal at length on their last conference call. The question of a PPB representative on Council was raised. There were no major concerns voiced among Executive Committee members and none are expected, although the divisions could be one area where problems arise.

C. Still Active

1. **Linkages/Partnerships**, C. Windels, chair. This committee is really starting to move. No actions are necessary during this meeting.

2. **Emerging Diseases Committee**, L. Madden, chair. L. Campbell originally established this committee based on a request from APHIS to create a list of pathogens that could become a threat to U.S. crops. There was some confusion as to their charge. It was determined that APHIS wanted a top 10 list with profiles on each disease. S. Slack reviewed some of the committee problems and some highlights from the report (**attachment #2**). L. Madden is recommending a new committee be appointed to complete the profiles. It was noted that APS has received \$10,000 from APHIS to complete this project and none of it has been spent yet. A memo from O.W. Barnett (**attachment #3**) was distributed. The PPB wants to be sure we continue to move forward on this perhaps by appointing a new interim chair. The entomologist's are already finished. It was questioned as to whether we could terminate the project at this point and return the money to APHIS? The existing committee will be encouraged to stay on to complete the profiles. There was discussion on what to

call the list. Is this to be an APS list or and APHIS list? Since this is an ad hoc committee, it will need to be reappointed whether or not it is the current members or new members. S. Nelson will get the contracts and examine the wording.

2. Membership survey

D. Rogers from Readex will be at the Council meeting Saturday morning to review the results.

3. Report on volunteerism

There will be a number of activities during the meeting. There will be colored badge holders for all who have volunteered in the past year. There will be thank you posters indicating why volunteers are important. J. Andrews will address the department heads on the importance of having their personnel be volunteers. Volunteerism will be addressed at both the First Timers Orientation and the Committee Chairs meeting. The MOO needs to be reviewed to make sure volunteer duties are clearly defined. Other ideas need to be explored such as a volunteer of the month for example. This topic will be revisited at midyear after review of evaluations from the Salt Lake City meeting.

4. Sulzinski recommendation to drop CELS

With minimal discussion it was decided to recommend to Council that APS drop its affiliation with CELS.

5. Appointments to Public Policy Board

First and second choice candidates were identified for three available positions. This will be taken up at Council when O.W. Barnett is present.

6. Housekeeping

A. APS Historian

There is currently no set term of service. It will be recommended that the term be set at five years and be renewable upon mutual consent. Wording will need to be placed in the MOO Historian section.

B. Consistency of editorial board descriptions in By-laws

Wording should be looked at in the next revision.

7. HOC Update

A working agreement has been reached for administrative services with the Master Brewers Association of the Americas (MBAA). Two ad hoc committees made of APS and AACC members are looking at ways the two societies can work together outside of administering headquarters. One committee will look at partnering in the area of electronic publications. The new reorganization plan at headquarters is generally operating well. A few items including internal communications need to be addressed. A new staff position, acquisitions editor, has been approved. The person will be charged with proactive gathering of new titles to fill product holes and to find authors for such. The position will service AACC 80% to start.

8. FAC budget issues

The budget has a deficit of \$147,300. Each member of Council will receive a Financial Booklet. J. Sherwood will review the booklet's contents with Council. We are moving to electronic subscriptions faster than anticipated. There will be a motion to Council to increase the previously approved subscription rates. This motion will not be tabled as usual because of the immediacy to send out subscription notices. FAC will propose to review Plant Health Progress including setting benchmarks

for progress. They will also propose to review the financial aspects of the annual meeting. There has been an increase in member services expenses recently. We need to determine what percentage of our income stream should go to member services and what can we provide for that amount. FAC recommends continuing the K. Eversole contract for up to \$35,000/yr. Funds for the International Congress of Plant Pathology will need to be approved (\$1,000).

9. Strategic Plan – next steps

There are two issues. 1) We have not reached closure on governance and the Scientific Programs Board. 2) We need to be thinking about future plans. If a totally new plan is to be developed, a committee will need to be appointed in the next year. Nearly all parts of the current plan are in motion. Better feedback from groups charged to carry out activities is needed. The member services needs of “jr.” members (<10 years) need to be looked at.

10. Letter from *Science*

A letter from Don Kennedy, Editor-in-chief of *Science* has been received (**attachment #4**). They would like us to release back issues for electronic retrieval after 12 months. There was discussion about the impact of this on our finances. Since we are our own publisher, there are greater consequences. We also have little advertising compared to *Science* to offset expenses. The issue will be brought up to Council for discussion.

11. IUMS

Dues for IUMS were to increase from \$600 to \$3,000. A grant received will offset the proposed increase for at least one year. We will continue the affiliation for the present. J. Baker will be asked to suggest member names to fill spots on some needed IUMS committees.

12. Affiliates

Our ATCC representative is requesting easier cross-linking between APSnet and affiliate web pages. Staff will be charged to look into the possibilities.

13. On-line cooperation between APS and MSA

The executive committees of both societies will meet jointly in Salt Lake City. Cross-referencing of publications on APSnet will be discussed. It may be possible to cross-link references from papers in the future. Other possible issues would be future joint meetings and consortia for publishing journals.

14. OPAE appointments

They will be handled at the same time as the PPB appointments.

15. Anti-evolution letter

S. Slack has signed on to a letter with AIBS and CSSP opposing an anti-evolution letter written by Congressman Santorum.

16. Office of Industrial Relations

They still want representation on Council. They have a position in the proposed reorganization. No action will be taken until the full governance issue is addressed.

17. Plant Health Progress

M. Wimer addressed issues related to *PHP*. It is taking on a life of its own as we establish relationships. We are seeing increased submissions although most are still plant pathology related. We have applied to *Current Contents* for abstracting and have received a favorable response. We have two current industry partners. Others will be approached at the meeting. There are three current university partners and C. Ash is actively recruiting others.

ESA participation was reviewed. They are key for success. Due to their financial position, an in kind offer to participate has been made in order to wave the fee for them. Their finance committee will be discussing the offer.

CSSA has an editor on board. They are looking at publishing a comparable production oriented journal. They are asking us to bundle this journal with *PHP*. We would need \$30,000 from them to accomplish this. One subscription would get you both journals.

There was general discussion on various issues especially getting ESA on board. The president will be the point of contact for M. Wimer as he carries on negotiations with various groups.

There was a brief discussion on planning for the APS 100th Anniversary.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Douglas J. Jardine
Secretary, APS