

MINUTES OF APS EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Conference Call

March 29, 2002

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1. Attendance

Present: J. Fletcher, S. Slack, G. Bergstrom, C. Ishimaru, J. Sherwood, S. Hurtt

Staff: S. Nelson, M. Smith

2. Call to Order

President-elect J. Fletcher called the meeting to order at 2:35 p.m. Central

There was no formal agenda for the call. This is the first Executive Committee conference call since President Keen informed Council of the gravity of his illness.

3. Update on President

J. Fletcher updated the group on her recent contact with N. Keen's wife, Diane. J. Fletcher will continue to stay in contact with N. Keen via email and let him decide his level of involvement in APS business. Although N. Keen has requested no cards or flowers be sent to him, D. Keen would like to see the responses J. Fletcher receives from his APS colleagues and friends. J. Fletcher will forward these emails and card to D. Keen. J. Fletcher told D. Keen that every effort would be made to keep the annual meeting N. Keen's.

Executive Committee agreed to transmit items for N. Keen through J. Fletcher.

D. Keen will send the gavel to M. Smith. **ACTION.** M. Smith will bring the gavel to Milwaukee.

G. Bergstrom acknowledged J. Fletcher for her efforts.

2. Review of Action Items assigned to President

a. Awards Committee

J. Fletcher updated the group on the status of the budget for the Awards Committee. Through emails forwarded from N. Keen, she indicated L. Dunkle presented a persuasive argument for keeping the committee's \$7,000 budget.

b. Contacts of Award Recipients

J. Fletcher indicated all recipients, including O. W. Barnett, had been notified about their awards. N. Keen had also sent letters to the recipients. The procedure from here on out is that Headquarters staff will obtain information from the awardees for their bios and send each a letter regarding the particulars of the awards ceremony.

c. Establishment of an ad hoc committee to review the Awards Committee composition

ACTION. J. Fletcher will contact N. Keen to find out what has been done on this item.

d. Communicate to membership that we are going to a continuous planning process

J. Fletcher pointed out an inconsistency in the minutes from midyear meeting and this action item. **ACTION.** The Secretary will check the action list against the minutes and make corrections to the action list.

e. Request Division Councilors develop an objective for the strategic plan

ACTION. J. Fletcher will contact N. Keen about the status of this item.

3. Presidential participation in meetings

a. USDA Sponsored Genomics Workshop

J. Fletcher conveyed part of her discussion with J. Leach about the USDA sponsored genomics workshop coming up this April 9-11. All the speaker spots have been filled, so there is no need for action on the part of the APS President.

b. Divisional Meetings

Two Divisions will hold their annual meetings between now and the APS annual meeting. Normally the President attends these meetings. J. Fletcher agreed to go to the Caribbean Division Meeting. G. Bergstrom will attend the Pacific Division Meeting. J. Fletcher and G. Bergstrom will discuss developing a common set of items to present at the meetings.

A discussion of what to present and how to assist with the talks ensued. S. Slack suggested presentations for the different divisions may need to have different focuses. **ACTION.** Slack will provide J. Fletcher with the Introduction to APS presentation from his talk in Cuba.

c. Other meetings attended by the APS President

J. Sherwood volunteered to attend the meeting of the Scientific Societies Presidents, since he will be at the meeting of CoFarm that will take place a day or two after the SSP meeting.

6. Annual meeting

a. Report on governance structure to membership

G. Bergstrom reported receiving very little feedback from Executive Committee on his governance report. He went over the current plan to send the revised governance structure recommendations to Council for input and then to Phytopathology News for membership feedback. The article for will indicate that this year's annual Council meeting will be an experiment as a means of visiting a new governance structure. There was discussion on the use of graphics in the article and it was agreed that graphics would be left out at this time. **ACTION.** G. Bergstrom will draft an article on the governance experiment and ask for input from Executive.

b. Participants in the experimental Council meeting in Milwaukee

After the PhytoNews article is out, G. Bergstrom indicated invitations to the Council meeting should be sent. S. Hurtt asked for clarification on who will be invited. Additional people include the six Chairs of the subject matter committees, the Directors of the Offices and Boards, and the Editors-in-Chief.

The question was raised about having the incoming officers attend the Council meeting. This could include two new Division Councilors, a new Councilor-at-Large and the Treasurer- elect. It could also include the incoming section Chairs. **ACTION.** J. Fletcher will talk with E. Roskopf about the procedure for rotating section Chairs.

c. Presidential responsibilities

ACTION. M. Smith and J. Fletcher will review the annual meeting responsibilities of the President and President-elect for potential time conflicts. S. Slack volunteered to help J. Fletcher and G. Bergstrom as he can. He suggested that the President-elect and Vice President take up the presidential duties and that the rest of the Executive Committee would help as needed.

7. Strategic Planning

S. Nelson reported that at its next meeting HOC would discuss development of young professional's survey.

G. Bergstrom asked if there was a need to get feedback from membership regarding representation before strategic planning. Exec discussed various ways of obtaining membership input and what type of data to collect. They also discussed use of the annual meeting as an educational meeting. Whatever is presented, it should be something Council is fully behind. The Business meeting breakfast could be the place for a general presentation of the overall governance structure and strategic plan, but this would not include many details. A suggestion box could be placed at the business breakfast for membership input. Timing of the presentation is an issue, since the Council meeting will be an experiment, and it may not be possible to get the vote of full

Council on the general structure before then. S. Slack suggested the annual meeting be used as an experiment, remembering that voting must be done according to the current Constitution. We may need to go through the "experimental" meeting, see if Council can vote on the proposed structure and then, next year, go to the full plan with a vote for Constitutional changes. **ACTION.** G. Bergstrom's article in PhytopathNews will present the umbrella covering the issues of both governance structure and strategic planning.

8. Updates on ad hoc Committees

S. Nelson asked J. Fletcher to check on the progress of the ad hoc committees on Bioterrorism and Emerging Threats. She gave an update on the Bioterrorism Committee, since she is on that committee. The committee is progressing toward its objectives. **ACTION.** J. Fletcher will contact D. Luster about the progress of the Emerging Threats Committee.

9. Future conference calls

The next conference call of Executive Committee will be April 24, 2002 at 11:00 a.m. Central

ACTION. S. Nelson and J. Fletcher will identify strategic items for discussion on the next conference call. **ACTION.** J. Fletcher will distribute an agenda for the next conference call that will include strategic items identified by Fletcher and Nelson.

The conference call ended at 3:40 p.m. Central

Respectfully submitted,

Carol A. Ishimaru

Secretary, APS