June 13, 2014
NC APS Division Business Meeting
Madison, WI

In attendance: Carl Bradley, Emmanuel Byamukama, Amanda Gevens, Loren Giesler, Tamra Jackson-Ziems, Doug Jardine, Sally Miller, Daren Mueller, Jim Steadman, George Sundin, Albert Tenuta, Kiersten Wise, others (attendance list was lost in transit).

The 2014 North Central Division of APS business meeting was called to order by Amanda Gevens (Univ. WI) at 9:00 AM.

The agenda was distributed to the meeting attendees. No additions to the agenda were made.

The minutes of the 2013 NC APS business meeting were distributed and read by the attendees. Doug Jardine (KS St. Univ.) motioned to accept the minutes, and Jim Steadman (Univ. NE) seconded the motion. The motion to accept the minutes was voted upon and passed unanimously.

The treasurer’s report was distributed and read by the attendees. Jim Steadman motioned to accept the treasurer’s report, and Albert Tenuta (Ontario Min. Agric.) seconded the motion. The motion to accept the treasurer’s report was voted upon and passed unanimously.

Tamra Jackson-Ziems (Univ. NE) provided the divisional forum representative report. She reported on membership in the Division, which most recently is made up of approximately 75% academic, 10% industry, and 15% government. She also reported on attendance at the NC Divisional meetings, which has been very good the last several years. Tamra reported on the relatively new Divisional Forum Symposia, which have taken place at the annual APS meeting recently. These symposia feature graduate student competition winners from all of the divisions. Tamra took a “straw poll” on the Divisional Forum Symposia, and most of the attendees felt that these symposia were important to continue. Tamra also reported on the new “flat fee” structure of APS Headquarters charges for Division services. This flat fee entails $650 for conducting meeting registrations and abstracts, and $150 for conducting on-line elections.

Sally Miller (OH St. Univ.; APS Vice-President), gave the APS President’s report. She mentioned that the 2014 APS meeting would be in Minneapolis, and that “poster huddles” would be a new part of the meeting. These poster huddles would help encourage discussions among poster authors. In addition, shorter session symposia will be an experiment for the upcoming meeting, which will allow for more symposia at the meeting. Sally also reported on APS membership, in which there is some concern that membership is not growing. She asked members to encourage colleagues, post-docs, and students to become members, and mentioned that initiatives to increase membership may be considered in the next few years, and that international membership also is being encouraged. Sally also mentioned that APS is also involved in a Phytobiomes meeting that is being planned for 2015.

Old Business: No old business.
New Business:
Kiersten Wise (Purdue Univ.) was nominated by Carl Bradley (Univ. IL) to become the next secretary/treasurer of the NC Division, and Doug Jardine seconded the nomination. Doug Jardine moved to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Kiersten to become the next secretary/treasurer, and Emmanuel Byamukama seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

George Sundin (MI St. Univ.) made some comments about the upcoming 2015 NC APS meeting, which will be hosted by Michigan State University. George mentioned that the meeting will be at the Kellogg Center in East Lansing, MI, with the date to be determined soon.

Future meetings: Comments were made that hosting of the 2016 meeting will be Minnesota’s option, and that the 2017 meeting will be Illinois’ option.

All of the attendees thanked the University of Wisconsin for a wonderful job of arranging the meeting, to Amanda Gevens for service as President, to Tamra Jackson-Ziems for service as Divisional Forum Rep, and to Carl Bradley for service as secretary/treasurer. Thanks were also given to Cindy Scheller (APS Headquarters) and Megan Kennelly (KS St. Univ.) for their help in meeting preparation.

Doug Jardine motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Emmanuel Byamukama seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed unanimously.

Minutes prepared by: Carl Bradley, Secretary/Treasurer