The 2019 North Central Division of APS business meeting was called to order by President Anne Dorrance (The Ohio State University) at 10:00 AM on June 7, 2019. {In attendance: Kaitlyn Bissonnette, Loren Geisler, Damon Smith, Soledad Benitez, Alison Robertson, Santiago Mideros, Jay Pscheidt, Ashok Chanda, Dean Malvick, Mark Gleason, Deanna Funnell-Harris, Doug Jardine, Christine Kraus, Johannes Mathieu, Sydney Everhart, Anne Dorrance, Febina Mathew}

The minutes of the 2018 North Central Division APS business meeting were distributed prior to the meeting (by email and hard copies). There were no corrections to the minutes, and thus, the minutes were approved as distributed {Loren Geisler (University of Nebraska-Lincoln) proposed the secretary’s report be approved, and Deanna Funnell-Harris (USDA, Lincoln, NE) and Doug Jardine (Kansas State University) seconded}. The treasurer’s report was distributed and read by the attendees (Loren Geisler proposed the treasurer’s report be approved, Deanna Funnell-Harris and Doug Jardine seconded). There were no corrections to the report, and thus, the report was approved as distributed.

Ashok Chanda (University of Minnesota) provided the Divisional Forum Representative report and discussed that we have 107 out of 651 student members are in the APS-NCD. In addition, the winner of the APS-NCD oral competition represents the division at the Plant Pathologists of the Future Showcase in the APS annual meeting and the individual is awarded $1,000 by APS-NCD to meet their travel expenses.

Anne Dorrance (The Ohio State University) asked if the APS-NCD oral competition winner will present the division at the Plant Pathologists of the Future Showcase during the APS annual meeting in Denver, CO. {Roshni Kharadi (Michigan State University) was awarded a check of $1,000 from APS-NCD for presenting at the APS annual meeting on March 9, 2020. This was in addition to the $250 travel award that the student has received from APS-NCD in 2019. The student confirmed presenting at the APS annual meeting on June 19, 2020}. 

Ashok Chanda discussed about having the APS North Central Divisional Forum Representative election. The APS nomination committee will be approached to get names of the people who are interested. Anne Dorrance suggested checking with Larry Madden (The Ohio State University; APS nomination committee). Loren suggested about emailing the department heads for names of the people who may be interested. {The APS North Central Divisional Forum Representative was held in the month of October. The candidates were emailed the Election result on October 15, 2019. Loren Geisler was elected as the APS North Central Divisional Forum Representative in 2019 for a three-year term (2019 to 2022)}. 

Jay Pscheidt (Oregon State University) commented that APS-NCD is the healthiest of all the APS divisions. {Good job, APS-NCD}. 

Mark Gleason (Iowa State University; 2019 APS Vice-Chair) provided an overview on APS and their initiatives in Boston in 2018 (>2000 attendees; 88 countries; 500 presentations). The attendance in Cleveland, OH was relatively lower. APS initiatives discussed were – (1) Collaborative opportunities for research working on emerging pathogens; (2) PMN has changed; PHP has assumed a separate identity; PDMR reports are under discussion; (3) APS- Public Policy Board is working on Forest health; (4) APS collaborates with nine international phytopathological societies; (5) APS has mechanisms for early career members; (6) APS has become better about providing graduate and undergraduate students opportunities; (7) APS provides free membership to undergraduate students; (8) APS Foundation board is pumped with energy to build endowment and awards; (9) APS website has received feedback; (10) APS press sales have slowed down; (11) APS is hosting webinars; (12) 2020 is the International year of plant health and APS is reaching out to international societies (e.g. International Society of Soils) and policy makers.

Old business: APS NCD meeting was held in conjunction with the APS annual meeting in Cleveland, OH (August 3 to 7, 2019). We had a total of 78 poster presentations and 19 oral competitions. There were 12 travel awards winners, four poster competition winners, four oral competition winners, one early career award winner, and one distinguished award winner. Febina Mathew (South Dakota State University) said the checks and certificates would be posted after the meeting. {The checks and certificates were mailed to the winners by APS (Ruth Rosseau) on September 12, 2019}.

Social hour was on August 6, 2019. Anne Dorrance thanked the sponsors (BASF, Syngenta) for the Social hour ($3000). Anne Dorrance suggested that the deficit expenses be covered by APS-NCD. Doug Jardine made the motion that Anne Dorrance can try sponsors to cover the remaining expenses from the APS-NCD meeting; otherwise, the deficit will be covered by APS-NCD. Loren Geisler seconded the proposal. {The deficit was paid by APS-NCD on September 16, 2019}.

These suggestions were made by APS-NCD to APS councilor(s) –

- Anne Dorrance suggested when the APS-NCD meeting happens with the annual meeting, the division should consider to have their social event. The President of the Division should also be part of the APS annual meeting organizing team. With the help of the staff at APS headquarters, things were in order for this year.
- Ashok Chanda suggested preparing a list of hurdles faced by APS-NCD while organizing the meeting in conjunction with the APS annual meeting in 2019 and provide the list to APS annual meeting organizing committee.

New business: Locations for next meetings

- 2020– Doug Jardine proposed University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Alison Robertson (Iowa State University) and Damon Smith (University of Wisconsin- Madison) seconded. {The APS-NCD meeting will be in Lincoln, NE in 2021. Loren Geisler sent out an email about this on March 19, 2019}.
- 2021- Iowa State University-Ames (Proposed by Alison Robertson)
• 2022- Possibly University of Minnesota to mark the 75th anniversary of APS-NCD.

At the APS-NCD meeting in Lincoln, NE, these were proposed by the new APS-NCD President (Loren Geisler)

• 18 travel awards will be awarded (6 post-doctoral travel awards and 12 graduate student travel awards). The hosting institution will decide the applicants for the travel awards. (Loren Geisler proposed having post-doctoral travel awards and Doug Jardine seconded the proposal).
• Free admission for undergraduate students.

All attendees thanked the Ohio State University for hosting an excellent meeting, and thanks were given to Anne Dorrance for service as the President, and to Ashok Chanda for service as the Divisional Forum Rep. Thanks were also given to the APS staff (Cindy Scheller, Megan Boatman, Ruth Rosseau, and Kathy Guderjahn) for their help in meeting preparation.

Kaitlyn Bissonnette (University of Missouri) motioned to adjourn the meeting, and Ashok Chanda seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by: Febina Mathew, Secretary/Treasurer, APS-NCD