

APS Pacific Division

DUTIES OF THE DIVISIONAL FORUM REPRESENTATIVE

(Revised July 2012)

The Divisional Forum:

The Divisional Forum (DF) is as a group of representatives elected on behalf of all APS Divisions to meet, discuss, and facilitate subject disciplinary and membership issues at the divisional level for APS council. The main mission of the DF is to:

- represent the membership of the divisions of APS,
- provide APS Council and other offices of APS scientific perspective on regional plant health and plant disease issues related to divisional activities,
- promote interactions among APS divisions by increasing collaborative activities on challenges facing the discipline of plant pathology, and
- provide an avenue to attract and engage students, early career professionals, and any additional APS members into divisional meeting activities and leadership opportunities within APS

GENERAL DUTIES:

Divisional Forum Representatives (DFR) of the American Phytopathological Society will:

- 1) Have the *profession and science of plant pathology* as their main focus.
- 2) Actively participate in the Divisional Forum and support the Divisions of APS.
- 3) Communicate and support divisional officers with goals and activities of APS Council and the Divisional Forum that are consistent with the goals of the society.
- 4) Be open to all APS members and associate members (non-APS) that would like to affiliate with the Division.

Role of the DFR in Supporting the Divisional Forum Engagement Plan:

Long-term goals - Strengthen the Divisions of APS through targeted programs in Education and Extension

- 1) Increase the exposure of plant pathology to high school students and teachers
- 2) Recruitment of promising undergraduate students in the discipline of plant pathology
- 3) Expand the awareness of private and public sectors of agricultural extension to the field of plant pathology and our society - APS

Short-term goals –

- 1) Participate in planning of Divisional meetings to achieve the long-term goals of APS
- 2) Participate in DF activities to support membership, improve communication, and enhance the value of membership in the society
- 3) Participate in membership activities to assure growth of the society and nominations to support individual leadership skills in the society

Role of the DFR in establishment of new divisions:

- 1) Dialog with groups interested in establishing a division.
- 2) Provide information and guidance.
- 3) Provide a sample constitution and bylaws.
- 4) Provide criteria for new division establishment.
- 5) Evaluate proposals for new divisions and either reject, request modifications, or accept the proposal to pass on to Council.
- 6) Oversight of the new division – DF facilitates the active participation of the new division in the DF; continue, in particular to work with struggling divisions with strategies to rebuild participation and activities. As a last resort, the DF will recommend dissolution of a struggling division to Council.