

History of Partnership between AACC International and The American Phytopathological Society (APS)

BACKGROUND ON MERGER OF SOCIETY ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Thor Kommedahl was appointed Editor-in-Chief of PHYTOPATHOLOGY in the fall of 1963 to become effective January 1, 1964. Dr. Robert Fulton of Wisconsin was the previous Editor-in-Chief and during the months of November and December of 1963, transferred the editorial office to Minnesota. Rather than hire individual secretaries and technical editors to work within the Department at Minnesota, Dr. Kommedahl contacted the assignment to Association Services, Inc., a partnership of R. J. Tarleton and Jack Morris, St. Paul. The former principal was working for the American Association of Cereal Chemists and had the approval of its Board of Directors for this "moonlighting" operation.

PHYTOPATHOLOGY was edited and produced by Association Services under the supervision of Dr. Kommedahl until June of 1967. At that time, the workload had become too great at the AACC for Tarleton to give as much time as needed to Association Services and he sold his interest in the business to Jack Morris. Concurrent with this sale was a request from APS to provide a quotation which would cover all business functions of the Treasurer/Business Manager as well as the editorial needs of the Society. This request was generated in the APS Council and personally supervised by the then current APS President, Dr. Arthur Kelman.

After the departure of Tarleton, APS (particularly Dr. Kelman) became concerned that the required expertise to handle APS affairs no longer existed within Association Services and an official approach was made to the AACC by Dr. Kelman. AACC was asked if it would consider a joint administrative arrangement whereby present AACC staff and any necessary additions would handle both AACC and APS editorial and business affairs. The chief benefit to APS would be the immediate services of experienced editorial and business administration at a fraction of the cost of establishing its own office or headquarters. The benefit to AACC would consist of lower administrative costs coupled with an opportunity of sharing staff where only part-time services to each organization were needed.

The joint administration was approved by AACC and in the summer of 1967, PHYTOPATHOLOGY was moved to the AACC headquarters. The business office was moved in November of 1967. Rented space presently being used by AACC was retained and an appropriate allocation of rent and salaries was assigned to APS. This allocation was approved by a Liaison Committee of the two groups consisting of the President and Treasurer of each organization. At the beginning, less than 50% of salaries were allocated to APS with the exception of the technical editor for PHYTOPATHOLOGY. Usually, APS was assigned 25% to 35%.

NEED FOR PERMANENT HEADQUARTERS

The office space rented for the operation had just been remodeled in 1968 when a fire destroyed the building. Headquarters moved to rental space a few blocks away until 1971. Over several years the governing bodies debated continuing to rent or to purchase a facility. After considerable effort to find an existing building it was decided to purchase land and construct a building. In the spring of 1969 three acres were purchased in Eagan for \$15,000 per acre. A joint committee of members from both groups was formed and a major fund raising campaign was organized in 1970. Individuals and industry contributed to the fund. Contributors to the building fund are recognized on a lighted glass wall in the entrance to the building. A 12,000 square foot building was designed and construction began in April of 1971 and move in was November of 1971. A total of seven staff moved in and the additional office space not yet needed was rented to the UNIVAC Corporation for five years. APS and AACC agreed that construction costs, general building and staff overhead, and the salary of the EVP would be shared equally. Other expenses would be allocated to each society. The Headquarters Operations Committee was created to manage the joint staff and facility. In 1972 the American Society of Brewing Chemists signed a management contract with AACC and APS.

In 1977 Phase II of the development program was organized with the goal of completing the original goal of raising \$350,000 for the building. The industry goal was \$150,000 and past presidents pledged \$8000. In 1978 the building mortgage was paid off.

In the early 1980's finances were very tight and frills were cut back. Finances were frequently the drivers of discussions by the Board and Council. Consolidation was the order of business.

By 1982 staff had grown to over 60 and with the growing number of books and journals being published HOC considered building warehouse space onto the existing building. In the mid 1980's it was decided to rent the warehouse space instead of building. While the entire operation was nonprofit, state law required that AACC and APS still pay property taxes. New case law and persistent legal work was continued on this front.

By the late 1980's the lack of office space became more difficult as additional staff were needed. Staff investigated various options including finding additional space nearby and a split in the operation, contracting some work out, selling the current building and buying a new one, selling the building and renting, and adding onto the building. In 1989 after four years of discourse and planning the HOC approved expansion of the building. While the original building was designed to add an additional story it was decided it would be less disruptive to add onto the side. A new wing was added with 10,000 additional square feet, which nearly doubled the original space. Only a small campaign to raise funds on a low-key basis was organized this time. AACC and APS named the new addition the "Tarleton Wing". In 1994 the building addition mortgage was officially retired and the property tax relief was achieved.

Subsequent renovations occurred in both 2001 and 2006.

- A 2001 remodel included restructuring of office space and work stations throughout and the construction of a new server room (complete with racking and designated AC and office space for the IT staff workstations. This necessitated rewiring and cabling throughout the building and relocation of the existing phone lines. We also contracted an offsite vault storage facility at this time. Construction began on April 16, 2001. The finish work began around May 1 and the renovation was completed in June of 2006.
- In May of 2006 we initiated negotiations with an architect and Kraus Anderson to contract the addition of the new exit and construction of the new conference center. Within the next few months contacts were made with vendors and the city of Eagan and final plans were approved early in the fall of 2006. We commenced construction late October and the project was completed the first part of January 2007.
 - We worked with independent contractors on the flooring and the cabinetry for the kitchen.
 - A new large screen monitor was included to facilitate projection.
 - The exterior landscaping was completed in the spring and summer of 2007.