

One Hundred and First Annual Report Of the American Phytopathological Society

Annual Meeting

The 101st Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society was held at the Oregon Convention Center in Portland, Oregon, August 1-5, 2009. Close to 1500 attendees representing 44 countries were present. Student attendance continued to grow from 264 in 2007 to 299 in 2009. Expansion of the “going green” endeavor included both the registration brochure and the abstract book being available online only. Abstract printing stations at the meeting made the abstracts available to all attendees, but reduced both printing and shipping costs and carbon footprints. A new registration and abstract submission system was introduced which streamlined online processes. President James Moyer welcomed participants to the APS plenary session “Achieving Scientific Excellence in a Changing Environment.”

The sessions featured speakers representing three important sectors of our society, academia, government, and industry; each relaying their views on the changing environment, how it affects their scientific environment, as well as, share their insights on the future.

Dr. William S. Niebur, Vice-President, Dupont Crop Genetics and Development

Dr. Niebur began his career at DuPont subsidiary, Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc. serving in a variety of roles beginning as a research station manager, European Maize Research director and then Maize Research Director prior to being named Vice-President for Crop Genetics and Development.

Maura O'Neill, Senior Advisor for Energy and Climate, USDA

O'Neill served most recently as chief of staff for U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell. She has spent over 25 years in the public, private, and academic sectors focused on two areas: sustainable energy development and entrepreneurship/innovation. She has founded four companies, is on the faculty of UC Berkeley, served on local, state, utility and non-profit policy committees.

Neal Van Alfen, Dean, College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, University of California-Davis

Dean Van Alfen served on the faculties of the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station, Utah State University and as Head of the Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology at Texas A&M prior to assuming the role of Dean at UC-Davis.

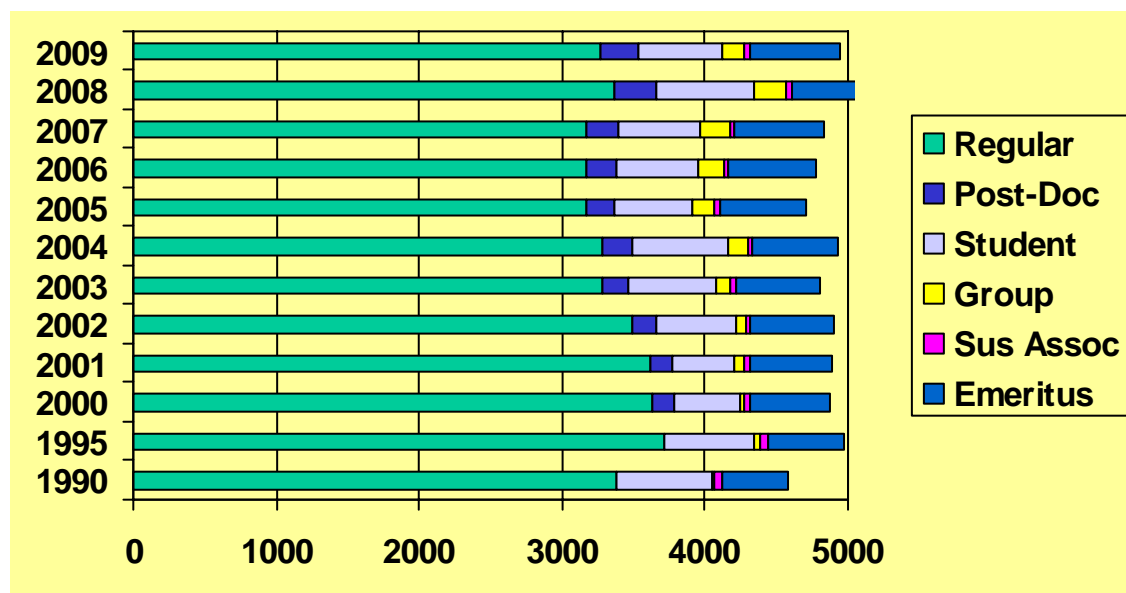
Society Affairs

Membership

APS membership as of June 30, 2009 was 4939, a slight decrease from the peak observed in the centennial year.

- The percent of membership residing outside the United States was 35%, with 11% of the international members being from Canada.
- Examination of APS' future showed an increase in both student membership and post doc membership with 587 students and 258 post docs. Together, they represent 17% of membership.

APS Membership Count by Type 1990-2009



Membership by Category:

Regular members - 3274

- An increase of 100 from 2007.

Student members - 587,

- An increase of 17 from 2007.

Post-doctoral members – 258,

- An increase of 34 from 2007.

Groups - 161

- The first decrease since 2000.

Sustaining associates - 30,

- A decrease of almost 20%.

Emeritus/life members - 629,

- An increase of 5 since 2008; have steadily increased, 12% since 2000.

Deceased Members – June 26, 2008 -June 30, 2009

Elroy A. Curl
James R. Davis
Robert H. Fulton
James W. Gerdemann
Guy V. Gooding
August M. Gorenz
Jerome F. Harrington
Arthur Kelman

Christina K. Kennedy
George C. Kent
Frances M. Latterell
Curt Leben
States M. McCarter
John E. Mitchell
Samuel Roger Rimmer
Lewis F. Roth

Richard D. Schein
Harvey K. Wagnon
Nash N. Winstead
Harry C. Young, Jr.
Natale Zummo

Financial

Randy Row, APS Treasurer, Rowe.4@OSU.edu

The Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) and APS headquarters staff met on July 31, 2009, in Portland, OR, to review financial matters related to the operation of the society and to refine the APS strategic financial plan. FAC, headquarters staff, and leaders of APS business centers update and revise the strategic financial plan annually to ensure that funds are available to support all activities of the society. An overall society programmatic strategic plan is in place to put forth a strategy to meet the mission and vision for the future. Council and the officers regularly analyze the external environment and make progress toward assigning responsibility for developing and executing strategies to attain the goals of the society's strategic plan. Having a strategic financial plan helps us, as a society, provide a focus for our resources and is used as a guide for the various committees and staff to do their jobs. Strategic targets inform everyone as to what is expected from their programs several years in advance so they can build and execute strategies over several budget years. The role of FAC in this process is not to get involved in strategy building, but rather to develop financial goals, build business plans to meet those goals, and monitor progress toward each goal. FAC continually ask the difficult questions such as which programs should break even and which are expected to generate surplus to invest in our programs and services that best benefit our members? This plan continues to work for the society, allowing us to invest in our future.

The FY09 budget from operations (excluding investments) was concluded with a surplus of \$427,510. Much of this surplus resulted from a concerted effort by staff and members to minimize expenses throughout the fiscal year. Despite the success of these "cash conservation" efforts, FY09 was an extremely difficult year for investments. The APS investment portfolio, including the APS Foundation, had unrealized investment losses of \$676,196. In addition, the unrealized losses on the employee pension plan resulted in an unfunded pension liability of \$884,738 for the year.

The 11 income and expense categories for the society are detailed in Table 1. Our total income (\$4,935,612) was derived from seven sources as indicated in Figure 1, and our total operating expenses (\$4,508,102) incurred during FY09 were partitioned as indicated in Figure 2. The income and expenses of the society for the most recent 11 FYs are presented in Table 2. The total assets of the society as of June 30, 2009, including restricted funds, were \$6.9 million and current liabilities totaled \$2.3 million. This resulted in total net assets of \$3.6 million.

The society reacted immediately when the economy declined in Fall 2008. Thank you for helping the society implement the temporary cash conservation measures in FY09. These savings contributed to the positive net income from operations this year.

Future Annual Meeting Sites

2010 Nashville, TN, August 7-11, 2010

2011 APS/IAPPS Joint Meeting, Honolulu, HI, August 6-10, 2011

2012 Providence, Rhode Island, August 4-8, 2012

Awards and Honors Ceremony

APS regularly honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the science of plant pathology. The awards were presented at the 2009 APS Annual Meeting in Portland, Oregon as listed herein:

APS FELLOWS:

- **Ann Chase**
- **James Carrington**
- **Martin Carson**
- **Cesare Gessler**
- **Walter Gubler**
- **John Leslie**
- **David Marshall**
- **Richard Nelson**
- **Timothy Paulitz**
- **Patrick Phipps**
- **Herman Scholthof**
- **Robert Zeigler**

EXCELLENCE IN EXTENSION AWARD: Anne E. Dorrance

EXCELLENCE IN INDUSTRY AWARD: Charles Mellinger

EXCELLENCE IN TEACHING AWARD: H. David Shew

INTERNATIONAL SERVICE AWARD: Richard A. Sikora

LEE M. HUTCHINS AWARD: James E. Adaskaveg

NOEL T. KEEN AWARD FOR RESEARCH EXCELLENCE IN MOLECULAR PLANT PATHOLOGY: Andrew Bent

RUTH ALLEN AWARD: Donald L. Nuss

SYNGENTA AWARD: Ignazio Carbone's

Recognitions included **2009 APS Foundation Awardees:**

Lucy Hastings de Gutiérrez Award for Excellence in Teaching

H. David Shew, North Carolina State University

JANE International Service Award

Richard Sikora, University of Bonn

Noel T. Keen Award for Research in Molecular Plant Pathology

Andrew F. Bent, University of Wisconsin-Madison

International Travel Award

Oscar Alberto Moreno Valenzuela, Yucatan Scientific Research Center (CICY), Mexico

JANE Research Awards

Kelly Ivors, North Carolina State University

Zok Simon, Institute de le Recherche Agricole pour le Developpement, Cameroon

Jean Kurate, Institute de le Recherche Agricole pour le Developpement, Cameroon

Pioneer Fellowship in Plant Pathology

David E. Cook, University of Wisconsin-Madison

9th I.E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium

Saori Amaike, University of Wisconsin-Madison

Pravin Gautam, University of Minnesota

Peter Horevaj, University of Arkansas

Claudia Probst, University of Arizona

Anissa M. Poleatewich, Pennsylvania State University

Katelyn T. Willyerd, Pennsylvania State University

Schroth Faces of the Future Early Career Professionals Symposium

Rodrigo P. P. Almeida, University of California-Berkeley

Johan H. J. Leveau, University of California-Davis

Brenda K. Schroeder, Washington State University

Youfu Zhao, University of Illinois

French-Monar Latin American Fund Awardees

Yuliet Franco, Instituto de Invest. de Sanidad Vegetal, Cuba

Jose Crespo, Tobacco Research Institute, Cuba

Marleny Gonzalez, Instituto de Invest. de Sanidad Vegetal, Cuba

Maylin Perez Bernal, Ctr for Genetic Engineering & Biotech., Cuba

Y. M. Moran, Tobacco Research Institute, Cuba

Yamilka Perez, Instituto de Invest. de Sanidad Vegetal, Cuba

Juana Belkis Peteira, Nat'l Ctr of Animal & Plant Health, Cuba

Madeline Quiñones Pantoja, Nat'l Ctr for Animal & Plant Health, Cuba

Julia Elena Almandoz, Plant Health Research Institute, Cuba

Alexander Bernal, Centro de Investigaciones Agropecuarias, Cuba
Yusimy D. Reyes, Dpto. Biología y Sanidad Vegetal, San José de las Lajas, Cuba

Elda Ramos, Instituto de Invest. de Sanidad Vegetal, Cuba

Daniel Cabrera, Facultad de Ciencias Agropecuarias, UCLV, Cuba

Yamila Martinez-Zubiazur, Protección de Plantas, CENSA, Cuba

Monica Guzman-Barney, Laboratorio Virus Vegetales, IBUN, Colombia

Juan Bautista Pineda, Universidad Centroccidental Lisandro Alvarado, Venezuela

Student Travel Awards

The José and Silvia Amador Award: **Maria Carolina Quecine**, University of São Paulo
The Elsie J. and Robert Aycock Award: **Jessica Gigot**, Washington State University
The J. Artie and Arra Browning Awards: **Grant Poole**, Washington State University
The C. Lee Campbell Award: **Sydney Everhart**, University of Georgia
The Caribbean Division Award: **Mauricio Montero Astúa**, Kansas State University
The H.J. Dubin Student Travel Award in honor of the Peace Corps: **Kaoutar El Mounadi**, SIUC
The Gustaaf A. and Ineke de Zoeten Award: **Jessica Koczan**, Michigan State University
The Zahir Eyal Award: **Kylea Odenbach**, The Ohio State University
The John F. Fulkerson Award: **Stephanie Rogers**, Oklahoma State University
The Robert W. Fulton Award: **Carola De La Torre**, The Ohio State University
The Richard L. Gabrielson Award: **James Zanzot**, Auburn University
The Raymond G. Grogan Award: **Michelle Moyer**, Cornell University
The Janell Stevens Johnk Award: **Alissa Kriss**, The Ohio State University
The Stephen A. Johnston Award: **Jonathan Jacobs**, University of Wisconsin-Madison
The Arthur Kelman Award: **Kestrel Lannon**, North Carolina State University
The Evanthia D. and D. G. Kontaxis Award: **Ganyu Gu**, Mississippi State University
The Tsune Kosuge Award: **Fushi Wen**, University of Arizona
The Don E. Mathre Award: **Heather Olson**, North Carolina State University
The Donald E. Munnecke Award: **Lakmini Wasala**, Oklahoma State University
The John S. Niederhauser Award: **Rebecca Sweany**, Louisiana State University AgCenter
The Albert Paulus Award: **Ernesto Robayo-Camacho**, Clemson University
The Luis Sequeira Award: **Kameka Johnson**, University of Georgia
The Virology Award: **Thanuja Thekke Veetil**, University of Illinois-Champaign-Urbana
The John M Barnes Award and The William Malcolm Brown, Jr. Award: **Jane Stewart**, Washington State University
The Eddie Echandi Award and The H. David Thurston Award: **Rachel Melnick**, The Pennsylvania State University
The Joseph P. Fulton Award and The Landis International Award: **Xiaopeng Wang**, Michigan State University
The Kyung Soo Kim Award and The Malcolm C. Shurtleff Award: **Qing-Ming Gao**, University of Kentucky
The Milt and Nancy Schroth Award and The George Herman Starr Award: **Amy Replogle**, University of Missouri

Report of the Business Meeting

The APS Annual Business Report was presented to society members on Monday, August 3, 2009, during the APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR. APS President **James Moyer** opened the meeting highlighting the 2008–2009 year in review. Listed below are the highlights from his presentation.

Journals

- Impact factors continue to hold steady compared to competing journals, with *Plant Disease* increasing for 2008 (*MPMI*—4.13; *Phytopathology*—2.19; *Plant Disease*—1.87)
- Digital scans of back issues (*MPMI* and *Plant Disease* complete, *Phytopathology*—2010/11)
- Electronic open access—12 months *MPMI*; *Phytopathology* moving from 24 to 12 months with September 2009 issue; 24 months for *Plant Disease*
- Upgrading online service to allow open-access articles to be seen in PubMed
- Anticipate library budgets being cut by up to 25%, increasing efforts to respond to trend (holding 2010 rate increase to ~3%)

APS PRESS

- Developing an original electronic APS PRESS product (Phytophthora Protocols Database), that will be subscription based
- 2nd Edition of *Essential Plant Pathology* coming in Fall 2009
- Developing strategy to convert APS PRESS books for online delivery
- Several new titles now available

Plant Management Network

- 2008 Record Year for Traffic: 359,026 Unique Site Visitors
- Joint Executive Committee Organized (APS/ASA/CSSA Jointly Manage PMN)
- Peer-Reviewed Journals Continue to Grow
- 36 Land-Grant Partners
- Ag Practitioners Portal Introduced (Serves Crop Advisers, Extension Agents, Producers)

APS Website

- Purchased Microsoft's "Sharepoint" Content Management System
- Rebuilding entire site; classifying and migrating content
- Increased collaboration tools in 2010
- New website coming early 2010 ...

Governance

- Task Force appointed 2008 Mid-Year Council
 - Report received 2009 Mid-Year
 - Expanded discussion of proposal—Annual Meeting
 - Leadership Forum
 - Business Meeting
 - Final Recommendation to Council 2010 Mid-Year
 - Implementation
 - Vote of Council
 - Vote of Members

New Initiatives for 2009–2010

- Review of the Annual Meeting Format
- Implementation of new information-delivery products
- Development of Visioning Forum
- Continuation of Cash Conservation Initiative (>\$200K saved)

Membership and Financial Updates are included previously in this report under “Society Affairs”.

2009 APS Annual Meeting—Plant Lovers Take Portland!

The 2009 APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR, was a huge success with attendance exceeding expectations, the city of Portland serving as a terrific host, and a scientific program packed with great speakers from around the world. Thank you to the attendees, speakers, volunteers, exhibitors, and presenters who made this meeting one to remember! In fact, almost 96% of annual meeting attendees were satisfied or very satisfied with the overall meeting; 96.2% would recommend the meeting to others in the field.

This year’s meeting featured an exciting plenary session with speakers from government, academia, and industry presenting their perspectives on the external changes that are impacting not only what we do but how we do it. Speakers included **William S. Niebur**, Dupont Crop Genetics and Development; **Maura O’Neill**, USDA; and **Neal Van Alfen**, the University of California-Davis. Niebur presented the global view of crop development and the importance of teams to achieve common goals. O’Neill gave insights into the priorities and strategies for increasing USDA support for research, education, extension, and education and their desire for help in meeting those goals. Van Alfen gave an insightful discussion of the changing climate on university campuses. He stressed that plant pathology departments, although traditionally graduate programs, must now also have a presence at the undergraduate level.

New to the APS program this year, the 2009 Annual Meeting included a special hot-topic session on Wednesday, August 5, entitled “The Use of Fungicides to Promote Plant Physiological Health.” Speakers and presentation topics were chosen to present unique perspectives and a broad examination of the many possible approaches to this new area of interest. The session promised an opportunity to review the data and provide a balanced discussion that represented both sides of the issue. All indications were that these expectations were met.

“This session provided a rare opportunity to hear from a variety of distinct voices and areas of expertise on a potentially controversial subject,” noted Program Chair and APS President Barb Christ. This will serve as a great model for hot-topic sessions at future meetings.

Of course, one of the most important aspects of the meeting for many attendees was the opportunity to socialize and network with like-minded people from around the world. The social activities kicked off on Sunday evening at the Welcome Reception, where attendees visited with exhibitors, browsed posters, and met at alumni socials. The Industry & Extension Social and the Joint Women in Plant Pathology and Cultural Diversity Socials took place that same night, while Monday night brought the Early Career Professionals Social and the always-popular Graduate Student Social. Finally, on Tuesday, the Final Night Celebration proved once again to be one of the most popular events at the meeting. Live music, dancing, food, and beverages make this event a perennial favorite and a great way to meet other attendees.

Also new for 2009, APS encouraged meeting attendees to share their meeting experiences while they were happening via Twitter and Facebook. You can keep up with plant pathologists and their latest developments, photos, and thoughts year round by taking advantage of APS’s presence on these sites. Visit www.apsnet.org/members/aps20.asp for complete information and links to everything APSP^{2.0}.

Again, a very special thanks to all of the members and volunteers who helped orchestrate another successful APS Annual Meeting! Don’t forget to visit the annual meeting website at <http://meeting.apsnet.org> for additional photos from the meeting, as well as information on the 2010 APS Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN.

At the President's reception, the following members were recognized for completing their terms in Council, Offices, Boards or Special Committees:

Northeast Division Councilor: Robert L. Wick
Pacific Division Councilor: Melody Putnam
Senior Councilor-at-Large: Gary W. Moorman
Immediate Past President: Raymond D. Martyn
Phytopathology News Editor-in-Chief: Joyce E. Loper
Plant Disease Editor-in-Chief: Anthony P. Keinath
MPMI Editor-in-Chief: Jonathan D. Walton
PDMR Editor-in-Chief: Dan Egel

OPRO Director: Douglas J. Jardine
PMN Strategic Planning Board Chair: Dennis Gross
Adhoc Profession of Plant Pathology: Status and Future Prospects Chair: David Gadoury
Adhoc Culture Collections Chair: Jeff Jones
Adhoc Int'l Societal Relations Chair: Jan Leach
Adhoc Future of Education in Plant Pathology Chair: Jim MacDonald

Report of Council Meetings

Midyear. President **J. Moyer** presided at the 2009 Midyear Council Meeting held at APS headquarters on February 21-22, 2009. Pres. Moyer began with an overview of the flowchart used for formulating the APS strategic priorities, then recapped with the status of current priorities. Treasurer **R. Rowe** described the role of FAC, the process for developing the Financial Strategic Plan document, and finally measures being adapted to compensate for the current economic environ. Three recommendations from Publication Board endorsed by Council included: moving general society business from Phytopathology, moving obituaries to Phytopathology News and development of a writing workshop aimed at new authors. The final report from the International Societal Relations ad hoc committee recommended the establishment of an APS entity that proactively identifies and negotiates opportunities for collaborations with other societies. It could reside within the office of International Programs – reporting to that director or act as an independent entity (standing committee) appointed by council, reporting to council. Director **J. Fletcher** of Public Policy Board relayed the focus for the DC meeting will center on the Culture Collection System, Food Safety Initiative and Funding for Ag research. APS Governance Structure *ad-hoc* chair, **M. Boehm** provided Council with an overview of proposed recommendations to improve nimbleness and representation within the Council structure. Incorporating proposals from Council, the dual concept put forth by the committee to reduce the size of council, and for council to be composed of an executive committee and elected and appointed councilors that represent a wide membership base was accepted. Additional sub-committees will be formed to examine various components of the proposed structural change.

Annual. President **J. Moyer** presided at the 2009 Annual Council Meeting in Portland, Oregon, July 31 and August 5, 2009. Persons completing terms on Council are listed in the Report of the Business Meeting. Highlights of boards/offices /standing committees were provided orally or electronically. **J. MacDonald** delivered the Future of Education final report with fourteen recommendations for further direction. **R. Bennett** provided recommendations for a National Plant Microbial Germplasm System to safeguard culture collections. Recap of the highlights from the Leadership Forum addressing governance structural change were brought to Council. Consensus from Council was to move forward on revision of duties for the Presidential Lineage, formation of a leadership development committee, and a membership development committee. Due to past cash conservation methods by staff and the society, financial impact of the current economy to APS has been lessened. Additional adjustments were offered to Council for implementation and were endorsed. A progress report was provided by staff on the new content management system, reviewing the challenges, resulting concessions by the vendor, favorable progress, etc. in bringing this to completion by March of 2010. Finally, to provide Publication Board the financial means to work in a strategic manner, Council approved giving budget authority to the board to enhance the quality and value of the journals. The Board would have authority to spend up to 5% of the previous 3-year rolling average of net journal income after overhead.

Significant Motions passed

1. From Publication Board/FAC: Time to open access for Phytopathology be changed to 12 months, consistent with the policy for MPMI. The cost will be \$500 per color figure for the first and second figure, and \$250 for third and subsequent color figures in a given article for Phytopathology and Plant Disease, which will match the charges in MPMI. Finally, to offer enhancements to invited reviews for Phytopathology the following were approved: Provide staff time to re-design format for review articles to include boxes with key concepts, glossary, conceptual graphs, charts, etc. (similar to Trends journals) and waive color figure charges for up to 2 invited, interdisciplinary reviews per year at the discretion of the Editor in Chief.
2. From Exec: Council approved modifications in presidential lineage duties.
3. From OPRO: Council grants permission to the directors and current board members to appoint member replacement.
4. From Publication Board: The Publications Board be given budget authority to enhance the quality and value of the journals. The Board would have authority to spend up to 5% of the previous 3-year rolling average of net journal income after overhead. The board would make decisions on use of the funds for improvements to the journals. Funds would be used primarily to provide enhancements to the three major print journals that are the primary source of revenue, but needs of other journals would also be considered. Changes in policy with multi-year budgetary consequences would be funded from the Pub Board budget during a test period, and would be brought to Council for approval for long-term funding.

5. From the APS Governance Structure *ad hoc* Committee: Council accepted the dual concept proposal put forth to reduce the size of council, and for council to be composed of an executive committee and elected and appointed councilors that represent a wide membership base. Details will be further defined by the *ad-hoc* and other committees.
6. From Committee on Committees: APS Council takes action to disband the Environmental Quality and Plant Health Committee and the Placement Committee.
7. From APS Advisory Committee on Threatening Plant Diseases: Council approved revised name to APS Advisory Committee on Threatening Plant Diseases (ACTPD).
8. From IUMS Affiliate: Council charge the IUMS affiliate and the bacteriology committee to work together to develop a procedure for nomination, election, term limits and a way to ensure that the representative is able to attend the ICSP meetings which may include securing funding.

New Council members for 2009

Vice President: Carol A. Ishimaru

Junior Councilor-at-Large: Anne E. Dorrance

Councilor, Northeast Division: Wade Elmer

Councilor, Pacific Division: James Adaskaveg

Editor in Chief, Phytopathology News: Doug Jardine

Editor in Chief, Plant Disease: R. Mike Davis

Editor in Chief, MPMI: Gary Stacey

Status of Appointed Committees

Formed

ad hoc Leadership Institute (Rick Bostock, Christine Smart, Co-Chair)

Special Committee PMN Oversight Committee (B. Olson, Chair)

Reappointed

ad hoc APS Governance Structure (Mike Boehm, Chair)

ad hoc APS-ISF Collaboration on the Codification of Pathogen Races / Strains *Commonly Used in the Seed Industry* (Phyllis Himmel, Chair)

Completed

ad hoc The Future of Education in Plant Pathology (Jim MacDonald, Chair)

ad hoc Profession of Plant Pathology Committee (David Gadoury, Chair)

ad hoc Working Group on Culture Collections Committee (Jeff Jones, Chair)

ad hoc International Societal Relations Committee (Jan Leach, Chair)