2011

One Hundred and Third Annual Report Of the American Phytopathological Society

Annual Meeting

The 103rd Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society was held jointly with the International Association for Plant Protection Sciences (IAPPS) at the Hawai'i and Convention Center in Honolulu, Hawaii, August 6-10 2011. Over 1,500 attendees representing 45 countries were present. President John Sherwood welcomed participants to the APS plenary session "Implementing Change: Meeting Global Plant Protection Challenges."

The plenary session reflected the breadth and depth of two leading scientific societies that focus on plant health: APS and IAPPS, and examined issues in research, outreach, education, and funding that are affecting our science and efforts to address societal needs.

Roger Beachy Former Director, National Institute of Food and Agriculture, USDA and President Emeritus, Donald Danforth Plant Science Center delivered an address on "Sustainable Production and Protection of Global Agriculture: Advancing Science and Technology Amidst Changes in Climate and Policy",

Richard Tapia, Director, Center for Excellence and Equity in Education, Rice University, spoke on "Educating America's Future Educators"

Elske van de Fliert, Co-Director, Center for Communication and Social Change, University of Queensland, Australia spoke on "Communicating IPM for Implementation in Farmers' Fields in Southeast Asia: Past Lessons, Future Strategies"

Robert Ziegler, Director General, IRRI delivered an address entitled: "Trends in Rice Supply and Demand and their Implications for Plant Protection".

Awards and Honors Ceremony

APS regularly honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the science of plant pathology. The awards were presented this year at the Opening General Session of the APS Annual Meeting in Honolulu, Hawaii, to allow membership the opportunity to extend well wishes and congratulations throughout the meeting. The following were honored as this year's APS award recipients:

APS Fellows: James R. Alfano, Judith K. Brown, Lynda

M. Ciuffetti, Thomas L. German, Maria Lodovica Gullino, Dennis A. Johnson, Yin-Won Lee, Themis J. Michailides, and

Thomas J. Wolpert

Excellence in Extension Award: Gary A. Chastagner Excellence in Industry Award: William F. Dolggel

Excellence in Industry Award: William E. Dolezal

Excellence in Teaching Award: Lori Carris

International Service Award: Mohammad Babadoost

Ruth Allen Award: Valerian V. Dolja Lee M. Hutchins Award: Guido Schnabel

Noel T. Keen Award for Research Excellence in Molecular Plant

Pathology: Daniel Klessig

Syngenta Award: Amy O. Charkowski

Additional details on the awardees are available at www.apsnet.org/members/awards/

Recognitions also included the APS Foundation International Travel Award, 11th I.E. Melhus Symposium Presenters, the Schroth Faces of the Future Early Career Professionals Symposium Awards, the Raymond J. Tarleton Student Fellowship Award, the Pioneer Fellowship in Plant Pathology Award, the APS Student Travel Awards, and the APS Public Policy Early Career Internship.

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

ICO (Internal Communications Officer): Danise Beadle

Senior Councilor-at-Large: Carolee T. Bull Immediate Past President: Barbara Christ

AXMB (Auxiliary Meetings Board) Director: Gary Bergstrom

OEC (Office of Electronic Communications) **Director:** Darin

Eastburn

Education Center and Plant Health Instructor Editor-in-Chief:

Anton Baudoin

Phytopathology Editor-in-Chief: Niklaus Grunwald

Report of the Business Meeting

Year in Review

Effective communication within APS. Only a few APS members know from firsthand experience just how large and complex an organization APS has become. We have over 4,800 members in 90 countries. We currently operate more than 57 boards, offices, committees, and foundations; one of the largest publishing houses of plant protection literature (APS Press); and we publish four of the most respected journals of our profession. Maintaining these operations requires a professional staff and literally hundreds of member-volunteers. Awareness of their responsibilities and activity is a minimal requirement. Coordinated management of the total operation necessitates effective communication between APS Council, APS Headquarters, and each unit, and with the general APS membership. In September 2011, Council began to succinctly lay out the organization of operations, and the relation of all operations to strategic goals. Every Council officer now serves as a liaison to a particular APS board or office. The liaisons are the conduit for communication to and from Council and Boards and Offices of APS. A divisional counselor (David Schmale) insures effective communication among APS divisions, and between divisions and Council.

Financial health of APS. At a time when many organizations are struggling to maintain membership and relevance, APS is financially sound and growing. We have done so with either no increase or minimal increases in member dues for several years. What is a bit worrisome is that APS presently depends on institutional subscriptions for approximately 31% of its annual revenue. As institutions trim

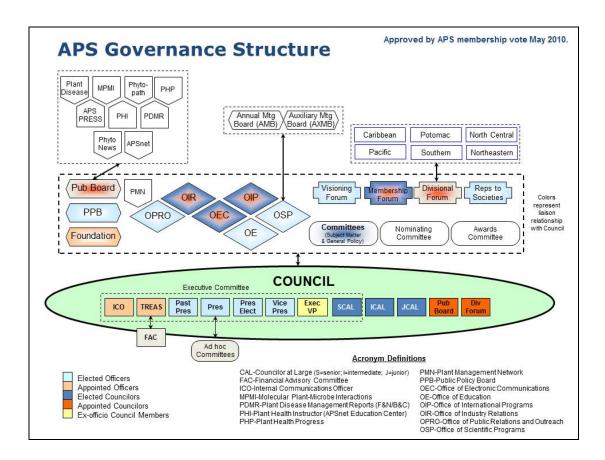
budgets, we have largely been spared as lesser journals are axed and subscriptions to APS journals are retained. However, as society progresses towards complete open access to journal content, APS may need to move quickly to secure new non-journal income streams. Two of our strategic goals bear directly on this issue: (1) Maintain a strong, proactive and united professional organization, and (2) Be recognized as the leading global resource for plant health information and knowledge dissemination. To be sure we invest our available resources wisely; we screen our options against their potential to generate revenue, value to members, timeframe for development, and available resources and capabilities. One new initiative is the APS Committee on Innovation and Entrepreneurship. Council is just beginning to vet the ideas coming out of this committee, several of which will be explored in detail in the coming months.

Meetings. One issue guaranteed to generate a response from members has to do with the format and conduct of the annual meeting. It has always been so. Council deals not only with the annual meeting of APS, but a host of divisional and auxiliary meetings as well. The latter may play an increasingly important role in the finances of the society, particularly if we are successful in our bid to host the International Conference of Plant Pathology in 2018. But, second to our journals, it's the annual meeting of APS that is the single most relevant service that we provide to members, and to the profession. Despite its sometimes frustrating complexity and hectic pace, it is widely perceived as a must-attend venue for keeping pace with science and outreach in plant pathology, for maintaining professional and social contacts in the discipline, and for networking nationally and internationally. With respect to the APS annual meeting, the Annual Meeting Board continues to solicit ideas and suggestions from members to improve the annual meeting experience. Like most things in life, this game is played by those who show up. APS Subject Matter Committees have a substantial influence upon the meeting program through their ability to suggest and organize symposia, colloquia and workshops. We also need to hear from a broad section of the general membership to insure that the program reflects more than the ideas of influential committee chairs. Do you want more opportunity to showcase your research in an oral presentation, or to have more feedback on a poster than is presently provided? Do you feel that symposia dominate the annual meeting program to the exclusion of individuals? What technology or simple tricks could be used more advantageously in our 104-yr-old meeting format? If you have an idea, you can make it known to any member of the Annual Meeting Board, or ask that it be added to the agenda for discussion at a monthly conference call of APS Council.

Professional development activities and resources. APS provides extensive opportunities for professional development. The placement service at apsnet.org is **the** place to go to either advertise for personnel or search for a position in the discipline. Every annual meeting has featured one or more workshops dealing with various aspects of career development, mentoring, and survival strategies for early career professionals. These activities will be expanded, in part by the new APS Leadership Institute, but also through the coordinated activity of Council and several APS committees, boards and offices as part of the overall strategic plan. Do you need a reason to join and become engaged in APS? Ask someone who has a job.

The future of the discipline. Two ad hoc committees on the future of the discipline and the future of plant pathology education published their final reports as Feature Articles in the December 2009 issue of Plant Disease (93:1228-1237 and 93:1238-1251). Council is now acting upon the findings and recommendations of those committees. The wave of retirements has just begun to hit the discipline. Its impact might be temporarily offset by the present economic downturn, but the magnitude of the age demographic effects will far exceed the impact of any contemplated downsizing. Incoming data indicate prospective job candidates have good reason for tempered optimism. Council is repeating the census of plant pathologist in the US so we'll be in a better position to predict future employment trends in teaching, extension, research, industry, and government service. APS is actively engaged as a clearinghouse for Research Experiences for Undergraduates (REU) programs nationally as a vehicle by which we will attract the best students to the profession. We now have national outreach and recruitment efforts at several venues like the National Conference for Undergraduate Research and the Society for Advancement of Chicanos and Native Americans in Science. APS is a lead agency involved with the new Coalition for a Sustainable Agricultural Workforce (CSAW), an industry-centered effort that seeks a federal/private partnership to support agricultural research. We don't yet know which of these efforts will really pay off, or to what degree. But part of the strategic planning process is to objectively measure the return on investment, so those answers are forthcoming.

Governance. APS Council is now more than one year into operations under its new governance structure. There has been a considerable downsizing and reorganization of Council to streamline meetings, and to facilitate strategic planning. To the rank and file membership of APS, the changes are largely transparent. From an insider's view, everyone has been on a steep learning curve. In the past, as members and officers rotated on and off Council in a staggered schedule, there was always a mix of novice and experienced members. With respect to the new governance structure, to some degree we're all novices. Council is now a smaller governing body, with an increased focus on strategic planning. Information sharing and communications are enhanced by monthly conference calls, and a winter, spring, and fall planning meeting, in addition to the Council meeting in conjunction with the annual meeting of the society. Individual Council members and officers are now liaisons to most offices, boards, committees, and foundations of APS to further enhance efficiency and communication. A diagrammatic depiction of the most recent approved version of the governance structure follows.



New Initiatives. The APS Office of Education was created to coordinate and provide leadership to the efforts of the Society in promoting the importance of plant pathology in curricula and the need to support the educational development of plant pathologists. APS Council conducted a national search for a volunteer leader for a substantially expanded effort of national scope with the following immediate goals: (i) Identify and implement the most effective means to communicate and promote the content of the Education Center to primary and secondary educators, (ii) Develop and pursue opportunities for development of new high-impact content to increase public awareness of the value of plant pathology, and (iii) Create, identify and pursue high-impact opportunities to reach elite undergraduate scholars for recruitment as professional plant pathologists. Scott Gold was appointed director of the new Office of Education through the 2014 annual meeting, with other members consisting of Lori Carris, Maya Hayslett, George Hudler, Tom Mitchell, Anissa Poleatewich, Ron Walcott, and Anton Baudoin (ex officio); all serving through the 2014 annual meeting.

USDA Interactions. A new ruling has been obtained from USDA administration regarding the service of USDA scientists as officers of APS, and upon various boards, offices, foundations and committees of APS. In general, the ruling seeks a uniform standard for service of USDA personnel in a variety of volunteer positions of scientific societies. This new ruling should facilitate the service of USDA scientists on APS Council, and within entities such as APS Press and the Financial Advisory Council of APS. APS is grateful for this clarification of policy from USDA administration.

Moving Forward—APSnet has been rebuilt to incorporate more than 100,000 pages and over 20,000 images. The new site is easier to navigate and search, and includes new tools for collaboration. The site will move to mobile access during the next 12 months. APSnet was identified as the #1 membership value in the 2011 survey of APS members. APSnet is the "go-to" site for information on career opportunities, jobs, graduate and post graduate positions, and REU programs (Research Experience for Undergraduates) in academia and industry.

Society Affairs

Membership

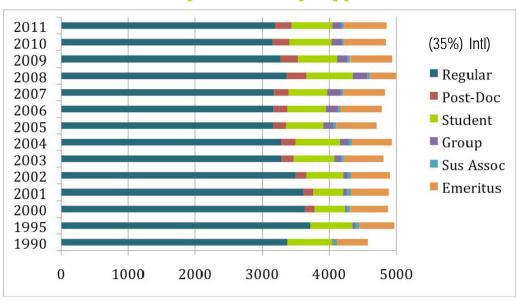
APS membership as of June 30, 2011 was 4854, a slight increase from the past year.

• The percent of membership residing outside the United States was 35%, with just over 10% of the international members being from Canada.

Membership by Category:

Regular members - 3190An increase of 33 from 2010Student members - 242A decrease of 9 from 2010Post-doctoral members - 615A decrease of 8 from 2010Groups -142A decrease of 19 from 2010.Sustaining associates - 31An increase of 4 from 2010Emeritus/life members - 634An increase of 10 from 2010

APS Membership Count by Type 1990-2011



Deceased Members - July 2010- July 2011

Wolfgang D. Bauer Robert O. Blanchard H. Edwin Carley Luigi Chiarappa Gene D. Easton Robert M. Endo Silas S. Hagar Yigal Henis John Percy Hollis, Jr. Blair F. Janson Adam Kondorosi Charles M. Leach Jacqueline Mullen Vernon George Perry Ralph M. Reedy Joseph Rotem Howard A. Scott Donald H. Smith Dennis P. Stimart Albert "Al" Simpson Williams Bratislay Zak

Financial

The APS Report of the Treasurer for 2011 will be published in the March 2012 issue of Phytopathology News,

Future Annual Meeting Sites

2012 Providence, Rhode Island, August 4-8, 2012 2013 Austin, Texas, August 10-14, 2013 2014 August 9-13 Minneapolis, MN

Report of Council Meetings

Winter: Council met from 22-23 January 2011 in Scottsdale, AZ. Present were John Sherwood, Betty Ford, Greg Grahek, David Schmale, David Gadoury, Mike Boehm, Steve Kronmiller, Carol Ishimaru, Barb Christ, Tony Keinath, Anne Dorrance, Carolee Bull, Barb Mock, Randall Rowe, Walt Mahaffee, Amy Hope, Danise Beadle, Marci Smith, Michelle Bjerkness, Jody Grider and Steve Nelson. After a call to order and introductions, Council discussed the role of APS as an organization and role of Council in providing leadership (Nelson/Sherwood). The discussion focused upon the following deliverables: The Strategic Plan, Vision, and Current Priorities updated with current environmental inputs; Committees and Boards fully aware of the importance of their charge and context within the overall plan; Council aware of the progress being made toward achieving goals and/or actions in place to help committees, boards, and staff. With respect to CSAW, it was confirmed that now was the appropriate time for APS to take a leadership role in moving this initiative forward, and for more active involvement of additional APS members and officers in the effort. With respect to the Annual Meeting Models: Survey results indicated an overwhelming positive response for recorded sessions from the annual meeting. Membership input will largely determine the organization and appearance of future APS meetings. It was decided that APS would assemble and submit a bid for the ICPP meeting in 2018: A successful bid would mean there would be no separate APS meeting in 2018. We would hold necessary committee meetings and other APS related events around or within that meeting. Nominations for the office of APS Treasurer were reviewed, and after discussion Council approved the appointment of Steve Slack to succeed Randy Rowe as Treasurer.

Spring: Council met from 27-29 April 2011 at APS Headquarters in St. Paul, MN. Present were John Sherwood, Randall Rowe, Barb Mock, Carol Ishimaru, Anne Dorrance, Tony Keinath, Steve Nelson, Barb Christ, David Gadoury, Danise Beadle, Marci Smith, David Schmale, Walt Mahaffee, Karen Cummings, Betty Ford, Miles Wimer, Greg Grahek, Steve Kronmiller, and Michelle Bjerkness. Mike Boehm joined the meeting via conference call. After a welcome, call to order and appointment of parliamentarian (Barb Christ), Council reviewed the results of the 2011 Membership Survey. Significant findings included (i) APS is primary membership for close to half of the members, (ii) Younger members anticipate increase in volunteer time, (iii) Volunteerism remains high and increasing on average, (iv) Positive trends in unfamiliarity ratings of offerings, (v) Growth in online involvement with positive ratings (although 30% never visited

APSnet), (vi) Online offerings continue to grow while print declines, (vii) Customer service (staff) continues to remain steady and positive, (viii) Overall evaluations steady and improving, and (ix)Member cost value has increased and likelihood to renew at about 90%. Recommendations from the survey included: (i) Close monitoring of "trial", international, and early career members with emphasis on core offerings including volunteer opportunities, specifically to younger members, (ii) Consider proceeding with popular new initiatives (online disease image subscription), and (iii) Monitor health of profession (consider non-member research to determine market share). Among the strategic issues discussed was the Creation of an international strategy for APS. APS has an ongoing dialogue on this issue with BSPP and the Australasian societies, CABi, in addition to our working group with CSPP. Steve Nelson responded to the above with respect to mutual interests in data mining, sharing of educational materials and course opportunities (print and electronic). ICO (David Gadoury) reported on an APS recruitment effort for undergraduate researchers and applicants for graduate programs at the National Conference on Undergraduate Research on 31 March and 1 April at Ithaca College (http://www.ncur.org). A contact list generated from interviews at NCUR was conveyed to John Sherwood for distribution to department chairs. Continuation of this recruitment effort was recommended for the next NCUR meeting in Ogden, Utah March 29-30, 2012. Divisional Forum Councilor (David Schmale) presented an Engagement Plan to revitalize the APS divisions. The plan may require constitutional changes at both the divisional and national level. Council then discussed and approved an effort to capture the content of the upcoming Annual Meeting on video Capture of meeting content, and appropriated \$50,000 in the FY12 budget as a sub line item of the Annual Meeting budget for this purpose. Based upon a recommendation from the Awards and Honors Committee (AHC), the eligibility for the William Boright Hewitt and Maybelle Ellen Ball Hewitt Award was changed from "within 5 years of the Ph.D." to "within 7 years of the Ph.D" to increase the number of eligible applicants. Based upon a second recommendation of AHC, Council approved the establishment of an award for Excellence in Regulatory Affairs and Crop Security; with nominations accepted in fall 2011 for the 2012 award year. With respect to appointments: Council unanimously approved appointment of Scott Gold to Director of Office of Education. David Schmale was approved by the president as a member of FAC beginning August 2011. Council unanimously approved appointment of Rick Bennett as the new director of the Auxiliary Meetings Board for a 3-year term beginning this August. Council unanimously approved the appointments of Bill Dolezal and Barry Jacobsen to APS Foundation, and Katherine Stevenson as the new Editor in Chief of PHI.

Annual: APS Council met on 10 August 2011 at the Annual Meeting in Honolulu, HI. Present were John Sherwood, Steve Nelson, George Abawi, Steve Slack, Randall Rowe, Mike Boehm, Barb Mock, Amy Hope, Michelle Bjerkness, Jeff Jones, Walt Mahaffee, Carol Ishimaru, Barb Christ, Danise Beadle, Marci Smith, David Gadoury, Carolee Bull, Anne Dorrance, Tony Keinath

Guests: Kellye Eversole, Jan Leach and Angela Records. Regarding the role of liaisons from Council: discussion centered on possible training for liaisons to better define the role of Council liaison as it differs from that of a committee "member, and various models for rotation of liaisons over time. It was decided to incorporate orientation for liaisons into the general council orientation guidelines. Regarding the APS Foundation: The market has had a significant impact on Foundation's ability to maintain funds for various travel awards on an annual basis. Foundation is therefore appreciative of the recent financial support of Council. Travel awards for Providence will be scaled back from 2011 closer to previous levels, as expenses for the Providence meeting should be significantly lower than HI, and this will allow a greater number of awards than would be otherwise possible. Office of Industry Relations has expressed strong support for continuation of a new products session at the annual meeting. This provides a venue for APS as a society for the introduction of new products, and a means for the industry memberships to maintain visibility. With the support of Council, a proposal will be brought to the AMB. Divisional Forum has requested that when the annual meeting is in a location of a division, that staff communicate the timing of the meeting to the Divisional Forum so that divisions can decide to meet together with the annual meeting or separately. A CSAW Summit was held in June, hosted by APS, facilitated by Jim Moyer, and attended by scientific societies and high-level industry executives. CSAW will survey companies for employment data and investments in education, internships, and hiring. This summit provided visibility for APS and our abilities, specifically to a new audience. Regarding the 2018 ICPP Bid: Work on the bid for this meeting continues. Five possible meeting sites were considered and ranked by Council, with the Back Bay area of Boston, MA receiving the highest rank during the proposed time window of July 27 – August 3. Based upon the recommendation of FAC, Council approved that APS dues for FY12 be increased by 2%, given that the CPI had increased 3.6% in the last 12 months

Fall Strategy Session: Council met on 20-23 September 2011 in St. Paul, MN. Present were Carol Ishimaru, Mike Boehm, Tony Keinath, David Gadoury, Marci Smith, Karen Deuschle, Walt Mahaffee, Barb Mock, David Schmale, John Sherwood, Michelle Bjerkness, Amy Hope, Steve Slack, Randall Rowe, Anne Dorrance, Jeff Jones, George Abawi, and Steve Nelson. After the Call to order, welcome, and introductions, APS President Carol Ishimaru appointed John Sherwood as parliamentarian and facilitator for the duration of the meeting. The APS Strategic Plan and Current Priorities were reviewed and discussed. Steve Nelson presented an example from the American Association of Brewing Chemists Emerging Issues committee from their scanning and collaborations; resulting in 25 top scientific issues and recommendations for their science. This was augmented by a list of top issues for the food industry developed in collaboration with high-level representation from 8 major corporations in the industry. Discussion ensued on how such an approach might work for APS, where there is a need to engage multiple segments of the industry, well as the broader membership. APS will develop a template that all groups can use for this purpose. Subsequent discussion focused on achieving effective communication within the APS organization, with the goal of maintaining a strong, proactive, and united professional organization. "Follow up" to insure that communication has the desired effect was identified as an issue requiring greater attention from Council. The foregoing will be addressed through the Council liaisons, who will communicate that Offices and Boards should bring their concerns to Council, in addition to reporting the group's activities. Council must then clearly and effectively respond to the Offices and Boards. Discussion then moved to a consideration of the financial health of APS. A report on the operations for the current fiscal year indicated that most are doing well. The annual meeting revenue was over budget and should have a net income after overhead. APS is still heavily dependent upon the journal income to support operations and services. A full report on the finances of APS will appear in the February 2012 issue of Phytopathology News. A report from the newly-created Committee on Innovation and Entrepreneurship was presented to Council, which identified several opportunities for investment. FAC ranked the suggestions using potential revenue-generation along with member value as criteria for their recommendations. Smart phone apps ranked the highest, followed by on-line courses, and foreign language translations for products. Council appropriated \$36,000 of a reserved \$100,000 to provide staff with resources to pursue the top 6 suggestions. The next issue discussed was the potential of APSnet as a venue for organizing "professional development" opportunities. Coordination of activities will be required, as several entities could be engaged in this activity: the Early Career Professionals committee, the OE (Office of Education), and OEC (Office of Electronic Communications). The

next discussion topic was the role of APS in ensuring the future of the discipline. The goal of APS is to be recognized as the leading global resource for plant health information and knowledge dissemination. To reach this goal requires the promotion of understanding and increased awareness of plant diseases and the practice of plant pathology. As a deliverable, Council will define the role of APS in the future of the discipline and if necessary, develops objectives for strategic plan. ICO (Gadoury) will repeat the 2007 census of plant pathologist in the US university system in time for the January 2012 meeting of Council. This will provide a snapshot of the overall trends in faculty and student numbers for the period 2007 to 2011. Subsequent relevant questions to address included: (i) How can APS arm departments to affect discussions relevant to university administrators? (ii) What assistance is needed to develop this data and to move the initiatives CSAW forward? (iii) How do we collect the data from corporations on workforce numbers. It will be necessary to clearly define APS' role and the targets so we can agree on strategies. The APS President and President elect (Carol Ishimaru and Mike Boehm) will work with Steve Nelson and John Sherwood to develop the foregoing for presentation to Council in January 2012. Immediate past president John Sherwood confirmed that APS has moved forward with a bid to host the ICPP 2018 Meeting.

Significant Motions passed

- Divisional Forum is approved as a "standing committee" of APS and established procedures for the manual of operations
- Open Access for Plant Disease decreased to 12 months to be consistent with that of MPMI and Phytopathology
- APS Council set aside \$100,000 to establish an Innovation and Entrepreneurship Support Fund which will be funded
 annually up to 5% of the annual surplus from APS revenues. Disbursements from this fund will be authorized by APS
 Council at the recommendation of FAC to support CIE (Committee for Entrepreneurship and Innovation) activities and
 provide start-up support for new endeavors within APS that show promise to lead to significant new revenue streams for the
 Society.
- Immediate open access purchase option approved for Plant Disease.
- Extension of eligibility for the William Boright Hewitt and Maybelle Ellen Ball Hewitt Award changed from "within 5 years of the Ph.D." to "within 7 years of the Ph.D."
- New "Excellence in Regulatory Affairs and Crop Security" award approved.
- Society matched funds for support of a member to participate with a federal agency on public policy initiatives extended through the 2014 APS Annual Meeting

New Council members for 2011

Vice President: George S. Abawi

Junior Councilor-at-Large: Jeffrey B. Jones

Treasurer-Elect: Steven Slack

Status of Appointed Committees

Reappointed Adhocs

APS-CSPP Working Group (Y. Jia, Chair) Annual Meeting Models (A. Dorrance, Chair)

CIE (Committee on Innovation and Entrepreneurship) (F. Wong and A. Chase, Co-chairs)

Membership Forum (A. Talley, Chair)

Review of Affiliates and Representatives (M. Boehm, Chair)

Review of the Manual of Operations (D. Beadle, Chair)

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

Formed Society Internal Relations Committees

Office of Education