



**WSWS Business Breakfast Meeting
Tucson Marriott – Tucson Arizona
March 5, 2026**

Call to Order at 7:00 AM by President Carl Coburn

Welcome and Recognition of Incoming and Outgoing Officers- Carl Coburn

Officer Reports:

Secretary – Brad Hanson

- Presented that 2025 Annual Business Meeting minutes have been posted online. President called for a motion to accept minutes.
 - Moved by Tim Prather, seconded by Sandra McDonald
 - Voice vote: all in favor, no votes against. Minutes of the 2025 business meeting are accepted.

Treasurer and Finance Committee Report – Ryan Rapp

- Full report available online
- Society has transitioned to a new financial advisor and is going well.
- Committee is working with a tax attorney to change/clarify non-profit status as it affects potential individual donations to the society (e.g. estate gifts).

President – Carl Coburn

- Acknowledged officers and committee members rotating off after terms ended.
- Noted several important votes and board actions during the past year: FourWaves software, investments/finance, future joint meetings.
- Thanked Pat Clay for filling in for WSWS Rep to WSSA.
- Noted opportunity for expressions of interest to be CAST rep (Greg is willing to continue, but also willing to train a replacement).

Past President– Tim Prather

- Nothing additional to report

President Elect/Program Chair – Nevin Lawrence

- Oversaw the program committee and worked on assembling the program
 - Nevin thought the Four Waves software worked quite well for first year
 - Noted this was our third new software in three years; seems to be a keeper.
 - Thanked the program committee, session chairs, and volunteers
- Registration was down a bit from previous. ~170 registered for 2026.

Education and Regulatory – Lovreet Shergill

- Nothing additional to report

Research Section Chair – Beth Fowers

- Reminder to include the chair-elects in the process to facilitate planning and training.
- Reminded Project-Chairs to get discussion reports to Beth within the next few weeks

WSSA Representative – Alan Helm

- Not present

Member-at-Large Public – Breanne Tidemann

- Considering “dine arounds” like the Canadian society does for future meeting
- Nothing additional to report

Member-at-Large Private – Derrick Sebastian

- Not present

CAST Representative and WSSA President – Greg Dahl

- All US Regional Weed Science Societies and WSSA are members of CAST and having a CAST rep is very valuable to the member societies
- Recent (March 2026) CAST publication on Invasive Species
 - Webinar scheduled for April 8, 2026

Student Liaison – Wes Maughan

- Ola Adeyemi from Utah State will be Student Liaison next year
- Silent action closes after business meeting
 - Thank you to those that donated money or items to the silent auction
- Student night out had about 40 students and 20 hosts participating.
- Greeshmanth Alluri from Oregon State University will be the next Student Liaison in rotation

Constitution and Operating Procedures Representative – Sandra McDonald

- Reminded committee chairs, officers, etc to “read the Operating Procedures”
- This is a “living document”. Contact Sandra to get Procedures updated to make current and relevant.

Director of Science Policy – Lee Van Wychen

- Lee reported in the general session and submitted a report
 - Reminder that the Science Policy Fellow applications are due by March 27, 2026
 - Reported that the Farm Bill passed the house ag committee yesterday; next will move to the House floor and then on to Senate

Committee Reports:

Publications Committee

Proceedings – Carl Libbey

WSWS Newsletter – Carl Libbey

- Nothing additional to report
- Reminder: Newsletter is 4 times a year. Carl will reach out to members for more reports/info for the proceedings

Website – Eric Gustafson

- nothing to report

Local Arrangements – Kai Umeda

- No major issues to report.
- Noted that Beth (Research Section Chair) and Eric G did a great job with the facility and minor issues
- Thanked Matt F and the posterboard relay team for getting boards to site. Also thanks to volunteers for rapid setup and teardown of posterboards/easels.

Nominations – Breanne Tidemann

- Noted that the committee secured a full slate of officer nominees. Thank you to nominees for allowing their names to stand.
- Corey Ransom will chair this committee next year.

Awards – Drew Lyon

- Awardees were honored at Luncheon.
- Awardees:
 - Lisa Rew, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Public Sector
 - Craig Alford, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Private Sector
 - Eric Westra, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Early Career Public
 - Shannon Clark, Outstanding Weed Scientist, Early Career Private
 - David King, Professional Staff
 - Kelly Pruit, Weed Manager

Thanks to those who nominate and support nominations

Fellows and Honorary Members – Andrew Kniss

- Recognized those that nominated members for awards, and encourage other members to do the same
- WSWS Fellows for 2026 are Curtis Rainbolt and Greg Dahl.
- There were no nominees for Honorary Member this year.
- Carol Mallory-Smith will rotate off the committee, Brad Hanson will chair in 2027.

WSWS Representative to WSSA Finance Committee – Ryan Rapp

- Noted that WSSA is financially stable.
- WSSA developed a financial strategic plan recently to serve as a guide to spending and investing strategy.

Site Selection – Craig Alford

- 2027 meeting will be at the Hyatt Regency in Irvine, California
- For 2028, we are aiming for Salt Lake City or Reno; working with our site planner.
- For 2029+, trying to get back to our goal of having sites lined up three years in advance.
 - This is becoming more important as we vie for mid-size venues as our attendance has been shrinking over the past several years.

Poster – Marcelo Moretti

- Thank you to volunteers to set up and tear down poster room
- Thank you to poster board relay team. Suggested the Society consider renting boards or purchasing a second set to reduce cross-region transport needs.
- 60 total posters submitted this year

Necrology –Earl Creech

- Recognized Bob Kline who passed in March 2025

Sustaining Membership – Jenna Meeks

- Thank you to the 11 current Sustaining Members for supporting WSWS

Herbicide Resistant Plants – Rui Liu

- In past year, the committee developed a poster for this meeting. Greenhouse resistance screening methods

Diversity and Inclusion Committee – Lisa Jones

- Became a standing committee last year after six years as an ad hoc committee.
- This year, activity focused on student involvement. Started a new scholarship “grown the future” that made a \$2,000 undergrad award

- Held a DEI “social hour” held on Tuesday morning

Invasive Species Ad-Hoc Committee – Lisa Jones

- Committee has been ad hoc for 4 yrs
- Committee worked over the last year on changes to Operating Procedures to become a standing committee. The membership will be asked to vote on this during the New Business part of this meeting.
- Coordinated activities with Western Weed Coordinators and provided feedback to them on one of their documents.
 - The 2027 WSWS meeting in Irvine will be joint with the WWC; they will hold a symposium as part of our program
- This committee has been participating in the WSSA ESA committee; providing feedback to that committee with special focus on western rangelands and invasive weed issues.

Student Paper/Poster Judging and Awards– Judit Barroso

- There were 46 student presenters (26 posters, 20 oral presentations).
 - 11 were undergrads
- Thank you to students and the 22 members who served as judges.
- Winners:
 - Posters (undergrad):
 - Agronomic section: Ethan Frager, OSU (1)
 - Horticulture section: Madden Robertson, OSU (1)
 - Posters (grad)
 - Agronomic section: Ian Waldecker, U Wyo (1) Devansh Het Desai, MSU (2), Wes Maughan, WSU (3)
 - Horticulture section: Davi Fiedler, OSU (1); Greeshmanth Alluri, OSU (2)
 - Range, Forestry, Natural Areas: Felipe Quatroni, USU (1)
 - Basic Biol.Ecol.: Renan Favera, OSU (1)
 - Oral presentations (grad)
 - Agronomic section: Ian Waldecker, U Wyo (1), Renan Favera, OSU (2), Laura Rodriguez, U Idaho (3)
 - Horticulture section: Pamela Medeiros dos Santos, OSU (1)
 - Basic Biol. Ecol.: Ola Adeyemi, USU (1)
 - Range, Forestry, Natural: Claire Anderson, MSU (1)

New Business:

- Carl Coburn: motion from the Board of Directors to move the Invasive Plants Committee from ad hoc to a WSWS Standing Committee
 - Moved by Sandra McDonald, second by Jenna Meeks
 - No discussion offered by membership
 - Carl called for a voice vote.
 - All members present voted in favor, none voted in opposition.
 - Motion passes to make Invasive Plants committee a WSWS standing committee
- Ceremonial “passing of the gavel” from outgoing president Carl Coburn to incoming president Nevin Lawrence
 - Nevin thanked Carl for his service to the WSWS
- President Lawrence called for a motion to adjourn
 - Moved by Andrew Kniss, seconded by Phil Banks

Meeting adjourned at 7:56am