WSWS Officer and Committee Report
March 2024

Office or Committee Name: Awards Committee
Officer or Chairperson Name: Harry Quicke
Date of Preparation (include year): 02/06/2024.

Activities during the year:

Committee members: Harry Quicke (chair), Tim Prather, Drew Lyon, Het Desai (student member).

- Calls for nominations for Distinguished Achievement Awards and Elena Sanchez Memorial Outstanding Student Scholarship were published in the WSWS Summer 2023 newsletter and on the WSWS website.
- Close to the November 3rd, 2023, deadline for Elena Sanchez scholarship submissions, an additional reminder email was sent to the membership.
- The Committee received seven applications for the Elena Sanchez scholarship and selected three awardees. Winners were announced in the WSWS Fall 2023 newsletter with a short bio of each winner and Eric Gustafson mailed $1,000 checks to each winner.
- To generate Distinguished Achievement Award nominations, the committee compiled a list of potential nominees and nominators for each award. Potential nominators were contacted directly to ask if they were willing to nominate.
- Using this process, a total of eight nominations were received and the committee selected a winner for each of the six available awards (OWS Early Career Public, OWS Early Career Private, OWS Private, OWS Public, Professional Staff, Weed Manager).

Recommendations for Board Action:

- Since Outstanding Weed Scientist Early Career and Outstanding Weed Scientist are different award categories, there is a need to distinguish between these awards in the past winners table on the website.
- The Operating Procedures states that the deadline for Distinguished Achievement Awards nominations is December 1. However, in recent years the request for nominations has set a deadline of December 16. The committee requested that the definitive date in the Operating Procedure be replaced by “The Awards Committee sets the deadline for award nominations.

The deadline should be no later than December 10". This change request was passed to Sandra McDonald.

- The web site is confusing since the Governance section has the Operating Guide with the instructions for nomination and the Meeting section has other information on awards. We suggest consolidating all award information in the meeting section.

Budget Needs:

The Awards committee requests $3000 for Elena Sanchez scholarships, with $1000 for each of three students.

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Harry Quicke