



**Office or Committee Name:** President  
**Officer or Chairperson Name:** Carl Coburn  
**Date of Preparation (include year):** 3/2/2026

**Activities during the year:**

Science Policy Committee of WSSA Topics for the science policy committee meetings included 1) comments on MAHA report, WSWS signed on to a letter supporting science-based risk assessment of herbicides 2) Rescinding harm definition in endangered species act, initially it was determined this is a legal issue and not a science issue, so the WSWS and other societies did not make a comment but encouraged membership to comment individually 3) the need for practical examples of success stories resulting from federal appropriations to NIFA, Smith-Lever, Hatch Act, etc.

Weed Science Presidents DC Trip Participated in the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research meeting and met with legislative staff along with coalition members in support of NCFAR appropriation requests. Additionally, the WSSA and regional society presidents met separately with various legislative staff to encourage support of science-based policy and support of the appropriation requests. Most staffers highlighted the need for specific examples of how funding cuts impact people, facilities, research, and extension as well as specific examples of success stories resulting from the appropriations. We also met with Crop Life America and American Soybean Association, who are both delivering important expertise and advocacy around pesticide policy and appropriations. It was great to see Lee VanWychen's leadership and expertise on this trip, and I now more fully appreciate the value he provides to the weed science discipline.

Letters of Support

Upon request from Lee Van Wychen, I signed various letters of support in alignment with other regional and national weed science societies.

Various Board Votes

- Fourwaves submission and program management
- Investment policy
- Joint meeting with Western Weeds Coordinating Committee
- Fellows/Nominations

WSWS Representative to WSSA

WSSA requested increased participation from WSWS representative, A new representative has been identified and will be discussed at the BoD meeting.

CAST Representative

Greg Dahl has been an energetic and productive CAST representative. He is now retired, and willing to continue as CAST representative, but agreed it would be good to provide an opportunity for other members to develop in this role.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

After discussion with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee and several attempts, I did not make an appointment to this committee.

**Recommendations for Board Action:**

Discuss WSSA Representative and CAST representative.

**Budget Needs:**

None

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:**

Carl Coburn