WSWS Officer and Committee Report
2023 Annual Meeting – Boise, ID

Office or Committee Name: President's Report
Officer or Chairperson Name: Joel Felix, WSWS President, 2022/23
Date of Preparation (include year): February 14, 2023

Activities during the year:

Two Board of Directors meetings were conducted in 2022; the Post Annual Meeting in Newport Beach, CA (March 10, 2022) and the Summer Board Meeting in Boise, ID (August 4-5, 2022). Additionally, a virtual board meeting was conducted on October 17, 2022. Several E-votes were conducted including approval for WSWS as a cosigner on a letter by the Pesticide Policy Coalition to the President of the United States as a rebuttal to the Solicitor General advise to the Supreme Court that in some instance federal registration and labeling requirements for pesticides does not preclude states from imposing additional requirements even when they run counter what federal regulators have concluded. At issue was the case from California related to glyphosate and cancer. Another E-vote related to a motion to support WSWS Project Proposal to PERC to develop EPA required Training Materials. The motion passed unanimously, however, the proposal was not funded. Another E-vote was called on September 14, 2022 for the board of directors to approve the proposed slate of candidates for various positions. The motion passed unanimously on September 21, 2022. An E-vote was called on December 19, 2022 to approve the nominees for 2023 WSWS Fellows and Honorary Member. The motion passed unanimously on December 25, 2022. Finally, I called an expedited E-vote on January 11, 2023 to approve the symposium proposal submitted by the Regulatory & Education Section Chair, Jane Mangold, for the 2023 meeting in Boise, ID. The motion passed unanimously on January 12, 2023.

Pursuant to the WSWS Constitution and Operating Guide, I made appointments to several committees in consultation with Committee Chairs or Student Liaison when necessary in order to identify suitable and capable members willing to serve our society. I am happy to report that all committee positions were and remain filled todate.

Participated in all Science Policy committee meetings organized by our Science Policy Director, Lee Van Wychen. The meetings were entirely conducted on Zoom and included Presidents of regional sister societies and WSSA. March, April, May and June were particularly busy months for meetings with congressional staffers to urge various Congressional Representatives to advocate for allocation increases for the IR-4 program to $25 million for FY2023, support NIFA Crop Protection and Pest Management (CPPM) program at $25 million in FY 2023, and advocate for the update of the definition of "Plant Pest" in the next Farm Bill to "noxious weed" instead of "parasitic plant".

Participated in all Finance committee meetings organized by the WSWS Treasurer, Phil Banks. Details can be found in the Treasurer's report.

The Board of Directors attended the summer board meeting in person at the Grove Hotel in Boise, ID and participated in a facilities tour organized by the Boise Centre staff. I worked closely with Curtis Rainbolt, President-Elect and Program Chair, George Newberry, Local Arrangements Chair, and other committee member as they planned the 2023 joint WSWS/WAPMS annual meeting in Boise, ID. We look forward to a vibrant meeting.

I personally contacted all 2023 elected Fellows and Honorary Member to congratulate them on earning the awards. I also asked the Award Committee Chair, Tim Prather, to contact winners for Outstanding Weed Scientist, Elena Sanchez WSWS Outstanding Student Scholarships, and Rita beard Endowment Travel Scholarship.

I also contacted all participants in 2022 WSWS leadership elections and congratulated those lucky enough to have been elected to serve in various positions. Those elected to join the board at the conclusion of the 2023 meeting in Boise, ID are: Tim Prather, President-Elect, Dirk Baker, Research Section Chair-Elect, Albert Adjesiwor, Education and Regulatory Chair-Elect, and Ryan Rapp, Treasurer. Please join me in welcoming them to the WSWS board of directors.

Special thanks and appreciation for close collaborations with the Immediate-Past-President, Sandra McDonald; the President-Elect/Program Chair, Curtis Rainbolt; WSWS Business Manager, Eric Gustafson; Local Arrangement Chair, George Newberry and all other members of WSWS Officers and Executive Committee.

I would like to thank and acknowledge the WSWS Board Members who have served their terms and will be rotating off the Board on Thursday, March 2, 2023. Sandra McDonald (Immediate Past President), Harlene Hatterman-Valenti (Research Section Chair), Jane Mangold (Education and Regulatory Section Chair), Sonia Rios (Member at Large - Public Sector) and Grace Flusche Ogden (Student Liaison Chair). Phil Banks completed his term as Treasurer but will remain on the finance committee for one more year in an advisory role.

Also, special thanks to those rotating off various WSWS Committees including; Richard Zollinger (Awards), Drew Lyon (Fellows and Honorary members), Nevin Lawrence (Finance), Misha Manuchehri (Herbicide Resistant Plants), Josh Adkins (Student Judging), John Vickery (Legislative), George Newberry (Local Arrangements), Ryan Rapp (Necrology), Vipan Kumar (Nominations), Caleb Dalley (Poster), Breanne Tidemann (Public Relations), Byron Sleugh (Site Selection), and Stephen A. Valenti (Sustaining Member).

Recommendations for Board Action:

Consider introducing the President Breakfast during the annual meeting to be attended by invited guests, board members, and others invited by the President. If agreed to, it will start at the 2024 meeting in Denver, CO.

Budget Needs:

None at this time

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Joel Felix, WSWS President, 2022/23