



**WSWS Summer Business Meeting Minutes**  
**August 1-3, 2011**  
**Peppermill Resort Spa Casino**  
**Reno, Nevada**

Attendees: Vanelle Peterson, Joe DiTomaso, Kai Umeda, Corey Ransom, Bob Stougaard, Rick Boydston, Tony White, Phil Banks, Cameron Douglass, Joe Yenish, Tim Prather, Pete Forster, and Mike Ostlie. Tim Miller and Tina Mudd joined on August 2<sup>nd</sup>.

*Vanelle Peterson called the meeting to order at 1 p.m. on August 1. She reminded the board that the minutes of the previous board meeting and the business meeting in Spokane had been approved via email and asked the board if there were any additions to the agenda for the present meeting.*

*Joe Yenish reported that a Section 5 report was absent from the WSWs proceedings. Phil Banks indicated that they still haven't been printed yet, so it can still be added.*

*Vanelle Peterson reported that a number of submitted committee reports indicated that no board action or discussion was required or recommended, therefore she added them to a consent agenda. Vanelle added that these reports on the consent agenda would be posted on WSWs website and in the board minutes. She asked for board approval of the consent agenda and regular agenda.*

*Joe DiTomaso pointed out that the Public Relations committee had recommended some changes to the Operating Guide.*

*Phil Banks added that he will be billing the Sustaining Membership dues soon and if anyone knows of a company that they think should be invited to be a Sustaining member to let Curtis Rainbolt or other members of the Sustaining membership committee know. Vanelle said she had also talked to Curtis on expanding Sustaining Membership. She especially thought we should target local companies where the WSWs meeting will be held each year.*

*Phil also reminded everyone that WSWs Newsletter deadline is Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>.*

*Vanelle asked that agenda and consent agenda be approved. Joe DiTomaso pointed out that agenda listed the election of a local arrangements chair for Reno in 2012 and should be changed to San Diego in 2013.*

*The board approved the consent agenda and agenda.*

The following reports were part of the consent agenda and not discussed further by the board;

**Education Committee** – Scott Nissen  
No report received

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**Herbicide Resistant Plants** –

No report received

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**Immediate Past-President's Report – Joe DiTomaso**

**Office or Committee Name:** Immediate Past President

**Officer or Chairperson Name:** Joe DiTomaso

**Date of Preparation:** July 1, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** Relevant files were passed to the current president, Vanelle Peterson. A letter of congratulations, the plaque and complimentary copies of *Weeds of California and Other Western States* and *Aquatic and Riparian Weeds of the West* were sent to A.G. Kawamura for being selected as a WSWS Honorary Member. I sent out a note to all committee chairs to ask for potential changes to the Operating Guide for their committee. I will discuss these at the summer Board meeting. I also worked with the student scholarship committee to determine how to more effectively raise money for student support. I participated in the Noxious Weed Short course and the follow-up meeting to evaluate the course and a process to increase participation. I will make an announcement to WSWS within the next couple of months reminding them of the retirees reception on Monday prior to the annual meeting in Reno.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:** None

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Joe DiTomaso, Immediate Past President

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**Member-at-Large (Public Sector) – Bob Stougaard**

**Office or Committee Name:** Member-at-large (Public Sector)

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Bob Stougaard, Member-at-large

**Date of Preparation:** July 12, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** None

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:** NA

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:** None

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Bob Stougaard

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**Member-at-Large (Private Sector) –** Pete Forster

**Office or Committee Name:** Member-at-Large (Private Sector)

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Pete Forster

**Date of Preparation:** 7/18/2011

**Activities during the Year:** Nothing to report

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:**

**Recommendations for Board Action:**

**Budget Needs:**

**Suggestions for the Future:**

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:**

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Pete Forster

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**Necrology –** John Roncoroni  
No report received

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**Public Relations –** Brad Hanson

**Office or Committee Name:** Public Relations Committee

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:**

Brad Hanson (outgoing chair), Deb Shatley (incoming chair), Brian Olson, Mark Ferrell, Bill Cobb, Rich Affeldt, Kelly Young, Brent Buetler, Cheryl Fiore, John Brock

**Date of Preparation:** July 18, 2011

**Activities during the Year:**

1. Erin Taylor left the committee before the 2011 meeting due to a job change and Brad Hanson filled in during the transition. Deb Shatley will be the chair for the 2012 and 2013 meetings.
2. During 2011 meeting, obtained CUE credits for California, Kansas, Oklahoma, Montana, Utah, Wyoming, Washington, CCA, Oregon, Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, SRM.
3. Following 2011 meeting, wrote a Post Meeting Press Release (attached)
  - a. Sent via email to media contacts
  - b. Sent via email to the WSSA Public Relations committee as an FYI

- c. Sent via email to supervisors of WSWS award winners
4. Sent a personal email to the supervisors of all the WSWS award winners notifying them of the person's accomplishments. Also provided a copy of the Press Release, the Society's Newsletter, and links to more award information on the WSWS website.
5. Implemented an informal two-year term for the chair of this committee. A volunteer will serve as chair for two meetings before rotating back into committee member status.
6. Updated committee roster with several new members.
7. Updated committee Operating Guide and submitted to Board contact (Past President DiTomaso)
8. Organized and condensed committee records and forwarded to incoming committee chairperson, Deb Shatley

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:** N/A

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:**

1. Committee should evaluate the effectiveness of the new "two year informal chairperson rotation plan" and change or formalize as necessary.
2. Brad Hanson is leaving the committee in 2011 and Mark Ferrell plans to leave the committee in 2012 (retirement). New members have been added to fill these vacancies.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:**

Minor editorial and operational changes to the operating guide were submitted to Past President Joe DiTomaso in June 2011

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Brad Hanson

**For Immediate Release**  
**May 16, 2011**

**Western Society of Weed Science  
64<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference  
March 7-10, 2011  
Doubletree Hotel City Center  
Spokane, Washington**

The 64th annual meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) was held in Spokane, WA at the Doubletree Hotel City Center on March 7-10, 2011. The meeting, with 294 registered members and guests, featured 74 research posters and 103 scientific presentations. Graduate and undergraduate students combined to present 22 posters and 18 oral papers during the meeting. In addition to the regular program, three special symposia, "*Ventennata dubia – an emerging threat to agriculture and wildlands?*", "*Ecological effects of invasive plants*", and "*Use of new technology by weed science educators*" focused attention and discussion on these cross-cutting topics.

Each year, the WSWs presents several awards for outstanding contributions to the Society and to the discipline of weed science. Dan Ball from Oregon State University and Roger Gast from Dow AgroSciences were named as WSWs Fellows, the highest award presented to members. Kai Umeda was presented with the Presidential Award of Merit and A.G. Kawamura, former California Secretary of Agriculture was named as Honorary Member. Monte Anderson from Bayer CropScience and Brad Hanson from the University of California, Davis were recognized as Outstanding Weed Scientists and the Professional Staff award was presented to Robert Higgins from the University of Nebraska.

The WSWs recognizes the efforts of graduate and undergraduate students through scholarships and awards for outstanding poster and paper presentations. Scholarships were awarded to Katie Conklin from North Dakota State University, Sandra Kesoju from the University of Idaho, and Tanya Skurski from Montana State University. Student awards were presented to: Joseph Vassios, Ryan Edwards, and Cameron Douglass from Colorado State University; Nevin Lawrence and Jared Unverzagt from the University of Wyoming, Katie Conklin and Cassandra Setter from North Dakota State University; Connor Ferguson from Oklahoma State University; Bianca Martins from Oregon State University; and Clark Alder from Utah State University.

At the conclusion of the Society's business meeting, outgoing president Joe DiTomaso from the University of California, Davis passed the ceremonial hoe to the incoming president, Vanelle Peterson from Dow AgroSciences. Pictures of award recipients, fellows, graduate student contest winners, and the WSWs board of directors can be viewed at the website: <http://www.wsweedscience.org/Meeting/photos-2011.asp>.

The 65th Annual Meeting of the Western Society of Weed Science will be held in Reno, Nevada at the recently remodeled Peppermill Resort on March 12-15, 2012. Contact Phil Banks, WSWs Business Manager at 505-527-1888 or visit the WSWs website at: <http://www.wsweedscience.org/> for more information.

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#### **Research Progress Reports - Traci Rauch**

**Office or Committee Name:** Research Progress Report Editor

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Traci Rauch

**Date of Preparation:** July 12, 2011

#### **Activities during the Year:**

Currently, the 2012 Call for Research Progress Reports is being updated. Reports will only be submitted electronically since no paper copy is necessary. A reply will be sent upon receipt of reports. No reply means no report received. The Call will be included in the September Newsletter and be posted online. The deadline will be the first week of January. To continue encouraging submissions to the Research Progress Report, we will also include a note in the September newsletter and on the website.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:**

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:**

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Traci Rauch

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**Secretary Report** – Rick Boydston

**Office or Committee Name:** Secretary

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Rick Boydston

**Date of Preparation:** July 7, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** Recorded the minutes at board meetings in Spokane and summarized them for executive board approval. Submitted draft of minutes for board comments via email on March 24, 2011 and received final comments back on April 28, 2011. Revised minutes were sent to board members by email on April 30, 2011 and final notice of approved minutes was received May 23, 2011.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Rick Boydston

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**Student Paper Judging** – Jamshid Ashigh

**Office or Committee Name:** Student Paper Judging

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:**

Jamshid Ashigh, Chair

Guy Kyser

Roland Schirman

**Date of Preparation:** July 18, 2011

**Activities during the Year:**

A successful paper contest (with 4 separate divisions) was held during the 2011 meeting with winners announced at the business meeting. Preparations are underway for the 2012 meeting. The committee will coordinate with the program chair to encourage participation in the paper contest and provide information and guidelines for the paper contest in the upcoming Call for Papers.

Ashigh will solicit the WSWS membership for volunteer contest judges in early January 2012 with the goal of having at least 5 judges for each division of the contest. Based on the comments from last year (2011), the committee will have a discussion on how to present the awards in the upcoming meeting.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None

**Budget Needs:** The only budget needs of this committee are to provide monetary awards for the student contest winners. Total award numbers and dollar amounts are based on the number of students participating in

the contest per committee rules. If we have a similar number of student entries compared to the previous two annual meetings, total budget needs (including plaques) should be in the \$1000-1200 range.

**Suggestions for the Future:** Because past contests have gone smoothly the committee suggests no major changes be implemented.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Jamshid Ashigh

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**Sustaining Membership –** Curtis Rainbolt

**Office or Committee Name:** Sustaining Membership

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:**

Curtis Rainbolt, Chair

Seth Gersdorf, Past chair

Pat Clay, Board member

**Date of Preparation:** July 11, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** No activities to report.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None at this time.

**Budget Needs:** No budget needed.

**Suggestions for the Future:** None at this time.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None at this time.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Curtis Rainbolt

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**WSWS Newsletter -** Cheryl Fiore

No report received

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**This concludes the consent agenda.**

**Regular Agenda – Board and Committee Reports.**

**Business Manager's Report –** Phil Banks

## **WSWS Officer and Committee Report (Reno, Summer Board Meeting- 2011)**

**Office or Committee Name: Business Manager/Treasurer**

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Phil Banks**

**Date of Preparation: July 15, 2011**

### **Activities:**

We closed our fiscal year on March 31, 2011 and filed the required tax forms. For the year, we posted a gain (does not count sales of Weeds of the West) of \$ 25,572.51. Of this, \$12,204.31 came from interest and investment gains. The remaining occurred because our payment to WSSA for the Director of Science Policy was reduced from \$ 15,000/yr to \$8,832.00/yr (a savings of \$6,168.00) and an increase in Sustaining Member dues (an increase of \$6,854.00). We currently have assets of \$428,435.34 (this includes \$71,433.00 for unsold Weeds of the West inventory) with liabilities of \$18,832.00 (payments due the Business Manager and DSP) for net assets of \$ 409,603.34. We still have some outstanding expenses for the Noxious Weed Short Course.

For the Spokane annual meeting there were 242 regular members, 49 students, 28 symposia only attendees, and 8 spouses in attendance. We fell short of meeting our room block of 652 rooms by 16 rooms which cost us an additional \$2,246.58. We currently have 384 dues paying members.

The scanning project of back issues of the Research Progress Report is complete and Tony White has posted them on the website.

I worked with the Site Selection Committee for the 2014 meeting. They asked me to send the RFP to hotels in the Colorado Springs area. We received six proposals which were summarized and sent to the committee. The committee recommended the Crowne Plaza Hotel and we have a signed contract with this hotel for our 2014 annual meeting.

### **Recommendations for Board Action:**

1. The contract between WSWS and Marathon-Agric. & Environ. Consulting expires on March 31, 2012. I've attached a two year proposal to continue providing business management services. I continue to enjoy serving the WSWS in this capacity.

**Budget Needs:** See new management proposal.

**Suggestions for the Future:** Evaluate registration fee for meeting. See the Finance Committee Report.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Phil Banks



THIS SERVICE AGREEMENT dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011

**BETWEEN:**

Western Society of Weed Science (the "WSWS")

- AND -

MARATHON-Agricultural & Environmental Consulting, Inc.  
(the "Service Provider")

**Service Agreement: To Provide Business Management Services to WSWS**  
**BACKGROUND:**

- A. The WSWS is a non-profit scientific organization that was established to foster and encourage education and research in weed science as well as to encourage cooperation among state, federal and private agencies in matters of weed science. WSWS sponsors an annual meeting of its members for the exchange of weed science related information and has various day to day activities that require business management services related to these activities.
- B. The WSWS is of the opinion that the Service Provider has the necessary qualifications, experience, abilities, and resources to provide services to provide business management services to the organization.
- C. The Service Provider is agreeable to provide business management services to the WSWS subject to the terms and conditions as set out in this Agreement.

**IN CONSIDERATION OF** the matters described above and of the mutual benefits and obligations set forth in this Agreement, the receipt and sufficiency of which consideration is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

**Engagement**

- 1. The WSWS hereby agrees to engage the Service Provider for a period of two years to provide the WSWS with services consisting of business management under the specific services and conditions noted under the heading **Additional Clauses** below, and such other services as the WSWS and the Service Provider may agree upon from time to time (the "Services"). The Service Provider hereby agrees to provide these Services to the WSWS.

**Term of Agreement**

- 2. The term of this Agreement will begin on April 1, 2012 and will remain in full force and effect subject to earlier termination as otherwise provided in this Agreement, with the said term being capable of extension by mutual written agreement of the parties.

**Performance**

- 3. Both parties agree to do everything necessary to ensure that the terms of this Agreement take effect.

**Compensation**

4. For the Services provided by the Service Provider under this Agreement, the WSWs will pay to the Service Provider in the following manner: \$ 22,500.00 per year payable quarterly (April 1, July 1, October 1 and January 1). This amount includes all applicable gross receipt taxes that the Service Provider is required to pay to the state of New Mexico.

**Expenses**

5. The Service Provider will be reimbursed by WSWs for expenses related to those noted in **Additional Clauses** below. Any other expenses related to providing the services noted will not be reimbursed to the Service Provider by WSWs unless it has been agreed to by both parties in advance of the expenditure.

**Return of Property**

6. Upon the expiration or termination of this Agreement, the Service Provider will return to the WSWs all documentation, records, inventory or confidential information which is the property of WSWs.

**Legal Expenses**

7. In the event that legal action is brought to enforce or construe any term of this Agreement, the prevailing party will be entitled to recover, in addition to any other damages or award, all reasonable legal costs and fees associated with the action.

**Notice**

8. All notices, requests, demands or other communications required or permitted by the terms of this Agreement will be given in writing and either served personally, by email, by facsimile or by registered mail. The addresses for any notice to be delivered to any of the parties to this Agreement are as follows:
  - a. Western Society of Weed Science, [205](#), W. Boutz, Bldg 4, Ste 5, Las Cruces, NM 88005 c/o Vanelle Peterson, WSWs President
  - b. [MARATHON-Agricultural](#) & Environmental Consulting, Inc., 205 W. Boutz, Bldg 4, Ste. 5, Las Cruces, NM 88005, c/o Phil Banks; [marathonag@zianet.com](mailto:marathonag@zianet.com)

or to such other address as to which any party may from time to time notify the other.

**Gender**

9. Words in the singular mean and include the plural and vice versa. Words in the masculine mean and include the feminine and vice versa.

**Assignment**

10. This Agreement is being entered into in reliance upon and in consideration of the skill and qualifications of the Service Provider. The Service Provider will not voluntarily or by operation of law assign or otherwise transfer the obligations incurred pursuant to the terms of this Agreement without the prior written consent of the WSWs.

### **Capacity/Independent Contractor**

11. It is expressly agreed that the Service Provider is acting as an independent contractor and not as an employee in providing the Services hereunder. The Service Provider and the WSWs acknowledge that this Agreement does not create a partnership or joint venture between them.

### **Modification of Agreement**

12. Any amendment or modification of this Agreement or additional obligation assumed by either party in connection with this Agreement will only be binding if evidenced in writing signed by each party or an authorized representative of each party.

### **Time of the Essence**

13. Time will be of the essence of this Agreement and of every part hereof. No extension or variation of this Agreement will operate as a waiver of this provision.

### **Entire Agreement**

14. It is agreed that there is no representation, warranty, collateral agreement or condition affecting this Agreement except as expressed in it.

### **Severability**

15. In the event that any of the provisions of this Agreement are held to be invalid or unenforceable in whole or in part, all other provisions will nevertheless continue to be valid and enforceable with the invalid or unenforceable parts severed from the remainder of this Agreement.

### **Additional Clauses: The Service Provider agrees that it will:**

16. Manage the WSWs monetary transactions including the payment of all bills and invoices; accept and deposit all income; and in accordance with current WSWs policy or as decided by the Board of Directors oversee the day to day investments of the WSWs.
17. Maintain detailed financial records of the WSWs; prepare financial reports for the Board of Directors at least twice per year; and file all state and federal tax returns required of the non-profit status of the WSWs.
18. Maintain an archive of all business records, minutes of the Board of Directors meetings; copies of WSWs publications; and other pertinent records, contracts, and documents.
19. Maintain a current membership list in a form that can be easily searched and updated and used for WSWs communications. The Service Provider will handle all mailings and shipments of the WSWs in an expedient manner. The WSWs will pay for letterhead and envelopes used for official WSWs mailings by the officers and for all postage or shipping costs. Day to day correspondence related to the business manager will not be paid for by WSWs nor for printing cartridges, toner, or other types of supplies needed for the operation of the office. If desired, the Service Provider will arrange for the assembly and printing of all bulk mailings such as the newsletters, annual meeting program, Proceedings and Research Report. Printing and shipping expenses will be paid by WSWs.
20. Provide for a telephone number to be established for WSWs business. This number will be used to handle telephone inquiries and requests from WSWs members, nonmembers, vendors and suppliers. Costs are included in the agreed compensation.

21. Will work with the website Editor, Local Arrangements Chairperson (and committee), the Program Chairperson, and the WSWS President to coordinate the annual meeting. The Service Provider will prepare for the regular annual meeting and for any special symposium that may have separate registration, registration packets for those either pre-registered for these meetings or for those registering at the meeting site. The Service Provider will oversee all registration desk functions at the annual meeting and coordinate activities with the Local Arrangements Committee and the hotel that is hosting the meeting.
22. Attend and provide service to WSWS and the Board of Directors during the annual summer Board meeting and during the annual meeting in March. Travel expenses (airfare, mileage, and room) will be reimbursed to the Service Provider by the WSWS for only one employee that attends the summer Board meeting and for two employees that attend the annual March meeting.
23. Provide review of all contracts and other agreements to be executed by the WSWS for completeness and accuracy of the negotiated terms and conditions. If necessary, the Service Provider will arrange to retain legal representation for the WSWS.
24. Arrange for general liability insurance to cover the Society and its activities.
25. Coordinate with the Newsletter, Proceedings, and Research Report Editors to ensure timely publication and distribution to the WSWS membership.
26. Arrange and provide an orientation to new WSWS members in regards to the functions of the WSWS at the annual meeting and also arrange for an orientation of new members to the Board of Directors as to their duties and responsibilities.
27. Coordinate with the Site Selection committee by sending an RFP to designated cities and hotels for future meetings, summarize the proposals received, and negotiate a contract with the hotel for the future meeting based on the recommendation of the committee and approval of the Board of Directors.

#### **Currency**

28. Unless otherwise provided for, all monetary amounts referred to herein will be paid in US dollars.

#### **Termination of Agreement**

29. The WSWS may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving the Service Provider 120 days written notice. The Service Provider may terminate this Agreement at any time by giving the WSWS 120 days written notice.
30. The obligations of the Service Provider under this Agreement will terminate upon the earlier of the Service Provider ceasing to be engaged by the WSWS or the termination of this Agreement by the WSWS or the Service Provider.

#### **Governing Law**

31. It is the intention of the parties to this Agreement that this Agreement and the performance under this Agreement, and all suits and special proceedings under this Agreement, be construed in accordance with and governed, to the exclusion of the law of any other forum, by the laws of the State of New Mexico, without regard to the jurisdiction in which any action or special proceeding may be instituted.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** the parties have duly executed this Service Agreement this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2011.

For the Western Society of Weed Science

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Vanelle Peterson, President

For Marathon-Agricultural & Environmental Consulting, Inc.

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Philip A. Banks, President

**WSWS Net Worth Report: Summer Board Meeting 2011**

**7/15/2011**

**ASSETS**

Cash and Bank Accounts	
Certificate of Deposit from Money Market	43,859.54
Checking	14,073.26
Money Market	91,226.59
<b>TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts</b>	<b>149,159.39</b>

**Other Assets**

Asset (Weeds of the West Inventory)	71,433.00
<b>TOTAL Other Assets</b>	<b>71,433.00</b>

**Investments**

RBC Dain Rauscher Acnt 1101-5709-9275	207,842.95
<b>TOTAL Investments</b>	<b>207,842.95</b>

**TOTAL ASSETS** **428,435.34**

**LIABILITIES**

Other Liabilities (Business Manager and DSP)	
Liability	18,832.00
<b>TOTAL Other Liabilities</b>	<b>18,832.00</b>

**TOTAL LIABILITIES** **18,832.00**

**OVERALL TOTAL** **409,603.34**

**WSWS Cash Flow April 1, 2010-March 31, 2011**

**Category Description**

**INFLOWS**

Annual Meeting Income	69,981.00
Bio Control Of Invasives Book	175.56

California Weeds Books	820
Interest Inc	12,204.31
Invasive Plants Book	375
Noxious Weed Shortcourse	17,650.00
Student Travel Account	75.00
Sustaining Member Dues	13,850.00
Weeds Of The West	38,897.08
<b>TOTAL INFLOWS</b>	<b>154,027.95</b>

#### OUTFLOWS

Annual Meeting Expense	35,636.53
California Weeds Books	486.73
Invasive Plants Book	270.92
Noxious Weed Short Course	4,200.00
CAST Annual Dues	1,500.00
Deposit For 2013 Meeting	1,000.00
Director Of Science Policy	8,832.00
Insurance	500
List Serve	90
Merchant Account	4,002.37
Newsletter	216.89
Service Contract	20,000.00
Stipend for RPR Editor	750
Supplies	86.05
Tax Preparation	402.89
Student Travel Account	3810
Travel To WSWs Meeting	4,869.98
Web Site Host	510
Web Site Transactions	2,394.00
<b>TOTAL OUTFLOWS</b>	<b>89,558.36</b>

*Phil Banks summarized his submitted report and his activities for the year. He indicated that the WSWs had a gain of about \$25,000 this year. The gain primarily consisted of a \$12,000 return on investments, the drop in our support for the Director of Science Policy position (from about \$15K/year to \$8,832), and an increase in the Sustaining Membership dues (almost doubled this year with a net increase of \$6,800).*

*Phil indicated we would be getting another check for sales of Weeds of the West soon. He also stated that the overall net worth of \$409,600 is now about \$12,000 less due to a recent payment for the Noxious Weed Short Course that isn't reflected in the report.*

*Phil Banks explained the reason for the reduction in our support for the Director of Science Policy was a result a decision made last year by the WSSA board. The WSSA had an escrow account that had accrued a lot of money that they felt they could start drawing it down to pay the difference in support to the Director of Science Policy position for about 5 years to give the regional societies some relief.*

*Phil pointed out one issue coming up that affects the finances of the society is the decision of whether to reprint the Weeds of the West (WOW) book. He explained that most of the income from WOW goes into the money market account and then goes back out when we decide to reprint. Occasionally some other bills are paid from the money market account also. Phil thought that when we get the next \$14K payment for Weeds of the West, will have enough to reprint without dipping into the RCB investment accounts.*

*Phil Banks thought that the 49 students at WSWs Spokane meeting might be a new record for students. Only 8 spouses came to Spokane. We ended up 16 room nights short for our hotel room block. He indicated it was less expensive to buy them than to pay the penalty of \$2,246. Some nearby hotels had cheaper rates. Phil indicated that we have 384 dues paying members and about 100 of them don't come to the meeting every year.*

*Phil thought that the society made a bit of profit at the Spokane meeting, but not as much as he thought we would. He thought we would have a little higher turnout and thought that the WSSA meeting in Portland may have tapped into our attendance somewhat. Tim Prather thought that the excess rainfall received negatively impacted the Ventenata symposium attendance as growers were scrambling to work in their crops. Phil Banks indicated that the hotel room rates will be \$89 in Reno, which should be attractive and hard to beat.*

*Phil Banks stated that they have finished scanning back issues of the WSWs Research Progress Reports and WSWs Proceedings since 1938. Phil is still missing one copy of the Proceedings. Joe DiTomaso thought that U.C. Davis had a complete set and could probably send the missing copy for Phil to scan. Corey Ransom asked if Progress Reports have a citable volume number. Phil Banks said the Proceedings have volume number but the Research Progress Reports have no volume numbers and he would check into it. Joe DiTomaso stated it was great to have these Proceedings and Progress Reports on line now. Joe added that it was difficult to search them though. He has to go into the index except for the last few issues. Phil Banks indicated they should be searchable by key words.*

*Phil summarized the Site Selection committee's selection for the 2014 meeting. We now have a signed contract with the Crowne Plaza hotel in Colorado Springs, CO. Room rates are about \$109/night.*

*Phil Banks submitted a proposal for new contract. Vanelle Peterson stated we will review contract proposal with Phil Banks under new business.*

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**Program Committee Report – Kai Umeda**



**WSWS Officer and Committee Report  
Summer Board meeting - Reno  
August 2011**

**Office or Committee Name:** Program Committee

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Kai Umeda  
Tim Prather, Joe Yenish

**Date of Preparation (include year):** July 15, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** Solicited submission of symposia in April newsletter

Received 4 proposals:

- Ecology and Management of Downy Brome in the West: What can the past tell us about the future? (Burke, Brown, Mangold)
- Medium and Long Distance Transport of Pesticides in Complex Terrain (Turner, Lanini, Thistle, Giles)
- Tree and Vine Weed Control: New Issues and Opportunities in the U.S. (Sorribas and Mann)
- Winning the war, losing ground or treading water on the control of invasive plant species? (Young)

Considerations for general session topics and speakers:

- Ethics and professionalism in weed science - Bob Zimdahl, emeritus CSU
- Weeds sniffing canines – Kim Goodwin, MSU
- Future innovations and societal contributions from weed science - ? suggestions (Westra suggestion)
- Lake Tahoe topics – aquatic invasives – Lars Anderson, UCD; climate/drought effects on lake - ? (DiTomaso)

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:**

**Recommendations for Board Action:** discuss and provide feedback for symposium and general session

**Budget Needs:** honorarium and travel costs for 1-2 general session speakers

**Suggestions for the Future:** none

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** luncheon speaker not needed for current awards luncheon format

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Kai Umeda

*Kai Umeda reported that he has spent a fair amount of time on soliciting symposia proposals. He has received four proposals that are listed in his report.*

*The Ecology and Management of Downy Brome symposium submitted by Ian Burke, Cini Brown, and Jane Mangold would a time period of 8 to 12:30 (Thursday morning) according to Kai. They think they would need about \$1,600 for to bring in three outside speakers. It is the only symposium proposal that is requesting funding. This symposium has both noncrop and crop aspects included.*



*Kai thought that the Transport of Pesticides in Complex Terrain proposal submitted by Stu Turner, Tom Lanini, Thistle, and Ken Giles could possibly fit in the Basic research section of the program. Kai Umeda went over the outline of their proposal. Several board members suggested that they deemphasize legislation and legal aspects (case studies) of pesticide transport and focus on the science/technical aspects on the transport of pesticides. Bob Stougaard suggested they should contact Bob Kline who has started some wind tunnel work on herbicide drift. Corey Ransom suggested they expand the topics to include other pesticide movement (soils, etc.). After lengthy discussion it was felt that this symposium, as submitted, probably wouldn't be a good fit in the program and that it not be included. It was felt there was room for only two of the four symposia in the program.*

*Kai Umeda thought the Tree and Vine Weed Control symposium could fit into the Horticulture section for a half day. Joe Yenish asked if the Tree and Vine symposium might be a local draw from California or other places. Joe DiTomaso thought it might draw some. Tim Prather thought that the two symposia together (Transport of Pesticides and Tree and Vine) might be a draw California CA's. Would have to set up a registration fee for these if offer. It would need advertising as well.*

*Kai Umeda indicated that Steve Young submitted only a title for a symposium on invasive weed control and no proposal. Kai indicated the other proposals were all fairly complete with budgets, time lines, etc.*

*Kai stated that he preferred not having a separate optional stand-alone symposium and he wasn't confident that the Downy Brome symposium would be strong enough to stand alone. He felt that if it went much beyond noon on Thursday they would likely lose a lot of people. Tim Prather mentioned that research on a new fungus for biological control of Downy Brome could possibly be added to the Downy Brome symposium topics. Several board members suggested that this symposium could fill up most of a full day by adding just a couple more speakers.*

*Phil Banks thought that the hotel was available for a full day Thursday (until 5 p.m.) if we need it. He mentioned that if we decide to have a separate registration for any of the symposia that they would need to advertise and offer it as a stand-alone separate from the regular program. Tony White would have to set it up the website as well if we have a separate registration for any of the symposia. Vanelle Peterson indicated that the organizers of last year's Ecological Impacts symposium specifically intended it to be an add on symposium and she recommended that Kai Umeda should discuss the organizers of the Ecology of Downy Brome symposium as to what they were intentions are for their symposium; stand alone with separate optional registration fee or fit it into the overall program. Vanelle stressed that a stand-alone symposium will require advertising, sponsorship, and more organization. Joe DiTomaso suggested they consider a new title for the Ecology on Downy Brome symposium that reflects all the different aspects (crop/noncrop) they are covering.*

*Phil Banks indicated that they should solicit sponsorship for the Ecology of Downy Brome symposium if it requires an extra day to help pay for advertising, etc. Vanelle Peterson also recommended to Kai that they line up some sort of advertising for the symposium. Joe DiTomaso indicated that they also need someone to target advertising to the local community about the symposium. Vanelle Peterson suggested Tina Mudd could offer suggestions or help with that. Kai Umeda said the organizers of that symposium are already trying to line up some sponsorship (possibly \$2,000) and they are asking for a separate registration fee from the WSWs program. Kai will get back to Cini Brown about details. After the discussion and further review of the submitted proposal, Kai thought they might be able to start mid-morning on Thursday and finish in the afternoon.*

*Kai Umeda discussed several ideas for the General Program. Kai would like to bring Bob Zimdahl to speak in the General Session on the topic of ethics in Weed Science. He is currently available and Phil Banks added that we have a \$1000 available for travel and they have a complimentary room available. Several board members thought Zimdahl would be a thought provoking speaker.*

*Kai Umeda also is considering having a speaker on the WSWs history project of Arnold Appleby. Phil Stahlman put together a poster which is posted on the WSWs website. Robert Norris put a PowerPoint together based on Stahlman's poster and Kai Umeda will contact Robert Norris to see if he is available to speak. Another possible General Session speaker that Kai Umeda list was Lars Anderson. He could possibly speak on aquatic invasive species in Lake Tahoe. Kai indicated that someone to speak on a molecular biology topic was another option and Kim Goodwin is another option to speak on weed sniffing canine.*

*Kai thought the General Session would be complete if he gets Zimdahl, Norris, and Lars Anderson. Lee Van Wychen and Vanelle Peterson will also be presenting in the General Session.*

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## **Research Section Report – Joe Yenish**

**Office or Committee Name:** Research Section Chair

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:**

Joe Yenish, Chair

Tony White, Chair Elect

**Date of Preparation:** July 26, 2011

**Activities during the Year:**

- Outgoing chair Brad Hanson collected discussion section reports from project chairs and forwarded to the proceedings editor
- Emails have been sent to Project Chairs and Co-Chairs to verify their contact information and newly-elected co-chairs
- Chairs were encouraged to identify discussion topics for 2012

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2012 meeting:**

**Section 1: Weeds of Range and Natural Areas.**

Lars Baker (Chair)  
Fremont Co. Weed and Pest  
450 N 2nd St Rm 325  
Lander, WY 82520  
larsbaker@wyoming.com  
307-332-1052

Todd Neel (Chair-Elect)  
National Park Service  
7280 Ranger Station Road  
Marblemount, WA 98267  
[todd\\_neel@nps.gov](mailto:todd_neel@nps.gov)  
360-854-7336

**Section 2: Weeds of Horticultural Crops**

Hank Mager (Chair)  
Bayer CropScience  
14422 N Prickly Pear Ct  
Fountain Hills, AZ 85268 602-478-4656  
[hank.mager@bayercropscience.com](mailto:hank.mager@bayercropscience.com)

John Roncoroni (Chair-Elect)  
UCCE Napa County  
1710 Soscol Ave., Suite 4  
Napa, CA 94559-1315  
[jaroncoroni@ucdavis.edu](mailto:jaroncoroni@ucdavis.edu)  
707-253-4221

### **Section 3: Weeds of Agronomic Crops**

Chad Asmus (Chair)  
BASF Corporation  
2301 Bristol Ln.  
Newton, KS 67114  
[chad.asmus@basf.com](mailto:chad.asmus@basf.com)  
316-251-5514

Joe Armstrong (Chair-Elect)  
Oklahoma State University  
Department of Plant and Soil Sciences  
368 Agricultural Hall  
Stillwater, OK 74078-6028  
[joe.armstrong@okstate.edu](mailto:joe.armstrong@okstate.edu)  
405-744-9588

### **Section 4: Teaching and Technology**

Gustavo M. Sbatella (Chair)

Panhandle Research and Extension Center  
4502 Avenue I  
Scottsbluff, NE  
[gsbatella2@unl.edu](mailto:gsbatella2@unl.edu)  
308-632-1231

Kelly Murray Young (Chair-Elect)  
Urban Horticulture  
4341 East Broadway Road  
Phoenix, AZ 85040-8807  
602-827-8200 ext.319  
[kyoung@arizona.edu](mailto:kyoung@arizona.edu)

### **Section 5: Basic Biology and Ecology**

Bill McCloskey (Chair)

University of Arizona  
Plant Sci. – Forbes 303  
Tucson, AZ 85721-0036  
[wmcclosk@ag.arizona.edu](mailto:wmcclosk@ag.arizona.edu)  
520-621-7613

Sarah Ward  
Department of Soil and Crop Sciences  
Colorado State University  
Fort Collins, CO 80523-1170  
[sarah.ward@colostate.edu](mailto:sarah.ward@colostate.edu)  
(970) 491-2102

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None  
**Budget Needs:** None  
**Suggestions for the Future:** None  
**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None  
**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Joe Yenish

*Joe Yenish asked the Board if they had received any feedback on the new consolidated sessions (Range and Wildlands) at the 2011 Spokane meeting. Vanelle Peterson said everyone she visited with thought the combined section went well.*

*Joe also asked how the uploading of titles and abstracts through WSSA went. Several board members indicated it went smoothly when people followed directions. Tony White is working to make sure that the abstract submission site has good instructions. Tony White mentioned that we will need to arrange administrative access rights for himself and Kai Umeda for the online abstract/title submission system.*

*Joe Yenish mentioned one presentation was missing from WSWS Proceedings, but he will get it in to Bill McKloskey.*

*Joe indicated that he has contacted all section chairs for idea for discussion topics and he has reminded them of their duties. Vanelle Peterson asked Joe to remind each of the section chairs again of all their duties. Joe DiTomaso recommended that Joe copy and send the list of duties to each section chair.*

*Phil Banks added that he will have back up projectors at registration desk.*

*Corey Ransom said we need to add a sentence to the duties of the section chairs in the Operating Guide indicating that they are responsible to remove all presentations from the projectors after the meeting. Corey Ransom will make sure that is in the operation guide.*

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## **Education and Regulatory Section Report – Tim Prather**

**Office or Committee Name:** Education and Regulatory

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Tim Prather

**Date of Preparation:** July 29, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** Possible symposium

**Title:** Communicating both impacts of invasive plant species and our efforts to manage invasive plant

species.

**Justification and Objectives:**

Measuring impacts of invasive species continues to validate the effort invested in management and removal of those species. Communicating invasive plant impacts is necessary to acquire resources and to establish that resources are going to effective programs. Communication can be directed to legislators and to general public audiences. In order to have funding allocated to programs, not only is communication of impacts important but also having the ability to communicate how well similar problems have been solved is vital to successes.

**Target Audience:**

Public agency managers, faculty and industry/faculty involved in working with legislators.

**Length of Proposed Symposium:** 3 hours

**Proposed Titles and Speakers:**

Lies and more Lies: Evaluating the effect of our extension and research Molly Engle, OSU

What have you done for me lately? Marc Braverman, UC Davis

So what's it to me? Is there value in conservation? Tyron Venn University of Montana

What is society looking for? Laura Zuckerman (reporter, example)

Communicating invasive plant impacts Roger Batt, Idaho Weed Awareness

If you don't ask ... John Cantlon, DuPont

Communicating our message with upcoming challenges, Lee Van Wychen

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:** Rich Affeldt

**Recommendations for Board Action:** Approval of some funding to cover expenses of speakers.

**Budget Needs:** Anticipate we may need to pay travel for two or three speakers. I would anticipate \$1,200 for air fare, hotel \$400, meals \$200

**Suggestions for the Future:** I would like to see us keep the Title, Justification and the final presenter and topic list for the symposia in a file we could access at the web site. The file could be used to assist future program and section chairs during the decision process for symposia.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** In the operating guide that is on the WSWs web site we list the duties of the chair-elect but there are no duties listed for the chair. We need clarity on which manuscripts are to be edited for the proceedings. Finally, we need to outline what constitutes outlining a program for the society meeting.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Tim Prather

*Tim Prather summarized his report and indicated that he has contacted several speakers for a symposium titled "Communicating both impacts of invasive plant species and our efforts to manage invasive plant species." He thought finding a local person to speak would be good; perhaps a science reporter or someone working in an awareness campaign in nearby location. Vanelle Peterson suggested that Tim ask Tina Mudd tomorrow if she knows of anyone.*

*Vanelle mentioned that she recently heard an interesting speaker in Michigan talk on the impacts of the emerald ash borer that dealt with communicating the impacts to the public. Joe DiTomaso added there*

*is a remarkable story from Oregon about the firewood campaign that relates to emerald ash borer. Their slogan is 'Buy it where you burn it'.*

*Vanelle Peterson and Phil Banks indicated that they have \$1500 budget available for speakers for the Education and Regulatory section.*

*Tim Prather suggested that it would be nice to have a list of historical symposia as a running document so we can check on past symposium topics. It could possibly be added to the responsibilities of the program chair. It would make it easier to go back 4-5 years and check past topics and speakers so that they same topics aren't repeated too frequently. Phil Banks indicated it is listed in all the old proceedings and is easy enough to locate.*

*Vanelle Peterson added that an attendance chart for different sessions broken down by category would also be nice to have available, perhaps in a bar chart format.*

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## **Student Liaison Report –Mike Ostlie**

**Office or Committee Name:** Student Liaison

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Mike Ostlie, chair; Cameron Douglass, chair-elect

**Date of Preparation:** 7/14/2011

### **Activities during the Year:**

- Approve the WSWs student liaison operating guide
- Communication and a potential ad-hoc has been established between the officers of the various Weed Science groups involved with the WSSA; preliminary thus far
- Promotion of the student liaison to increase candidates
- Increasing social media presence via LinkedIn and soon Facebook
- Continuation of previous Student Night Out organization
- Investigating student funding sustainability

### **Recommendations for Board Action:**

- Suggest adding a silent auction to some portion of the annual meeting to benefit student opportunities within the society
- Approve updated Student Liaison and Student Scholarship operating guides
- Approve changes to description of Student Liaison in Board Constitution

**Budget Needs:** none

### **Suggestions for the Future:**

- Update the WSWs Student Travel Scholarship award application based on input and comments from the initial year
- Post liaison and scholarship operating guides on WSWs website where appropriate
- Announce scholarship application in late-summer newsletter
- Continue implementation of the Student Luncheon and Student Reception
- Re-assess election process/online voting options to increase participation

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** Minimal and elimination of redundancy

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Mike Ostlie and Cameron Douglass

*Mike Ostlie summarized his submitted report to the board. They have proposed to change the description of the student liaison position in the Constitution and he passed out a hard copy for the Board. They mostly changed some wording to help clarify the position. He indicated that they had also made some changes to the Operating Guide mainly for clarification of the duties and elimination of redundancies. They also assigned some duties to chair elect including updating of scholarship information and advertising for the chair elect.*

*Mike asked the board about how the submission deadline of November 1 worked for the Student Scholarship Award last year. He indicated that the Award Committee wanted a month before title and abstract deadlines, which is December 1. The board thought it worked fine and Mike suggested that Monday, Oct. 31 should be the deadline for this year. Vanelle Peterson indicated that the Award Committee wanted to make sure the students were handling the announcements for Student Scholarship Award deadlines and submission procedures. She added that Mike Ostlie make sure that is included in the Operating Guide.*

*Mike thought the number of Student Scholarship applicants is adequate as we had 8-9 applicants this past year. Mike stated that the student night out program over had over 50% student participation. Students were able to sign up during the WSWs registration process. Several board members thought the Student Night Out program was a success and worked well last year for both the students and the hosts. Phil Banks added there will be a checkbox on the registration form on-line form and the paper form that the students can download. Pete Forster suggested that they add another box to indicate the student's second choice among Government/Industry/Academic as there were no government hosts last year.*

*Mike Ostlie said he has been trying to increase communication with students from other weed science societies. He indicated they have set up an ad hoc committee on communication between students in the different societies. They first met at the WSSA Weed Olympics. Mike Ostlie added that they have created a LinkedIn webpage and a subgroup just for students in the society to increase interaction and communication among students. He said they have also considered a Facebook group too. Vanelle Peterson was surprised that some students in the Weed Olympics were not WSWs members. She wondered if there was a way to communicate to these potential student members about joining WSWs and opportunities within WSWs. Corey Ransom added that new students normally don't join until they come to their first WSWs meeting.*

*Mike Ostlie indicated that the WSSA invited local community college students to come to the meeting. He thought WSWs could do something similar and possibly include inviting high school students and people involved in student education in the local area of the meeting. Vanelle Peterson added that the Education Committee has expressed an interest in doing something similar.*

*Mike discussed several fund raising ideas that have come out of the ad hoc committee that was set up. One idea was an on-line allotment for donation to the WSWs student programs, but the committee didn't think this would be a big fund raiser. A popular idea was to host a silent auction for student scholarships and student activities. The auction could occur during reception on Monday night and if so, the Past President should be involved. Students would sell tickets for bidding on items. Joe DiTomaso added that the key to the success of an auction is getting donors. Tony White suggested merchandise that applies to*

*everyone and that has ability to travel easily. I-pads, wine, ski passes, golf course passes, rental vacation homes, etc.*

*Phil Banks added that they still have nine Weeds of the West signed copies from editors that could be donated. Joe DiTomaso thought that having students sell tickets would be good. Tony White added that if they have several cash donors, they can pool the money and go to a Best Buy or something and purchase larger items for a live auction.*

*Pete Forster thought they could have actual bidding during reception Monday night, but added that many members leave early to go to dinner. The Monday night reception goes from 6-9. He suggested having the bidding process early and ending just after retirement portion of the reception. They could post the winners the next day or at the luncheon.*

*Corey Ransom added that a tag on item listing donor, value, name of item should be on each item. Tony White has run a silent auction and they left off the estimated value of items as it can limit the bidding. Tony will send Mike a list of ideas for auction items. Mike Ostlie also routed a sheet around to the Board for auction item ideas. Vanelle Peterson added that we should be working toward a goal of an endowment fund for students.*

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## **Publications Reports;**

### **I. Proceedings – Bill McCloskey**

**Office or Committee Name:** WSWs Proceedings Editor – Publication Committee

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Editor Bill McCloskey

**Date of Preparation:** July 2011

**Activities during the Year:** Developed new procedures for producing the WSWs Proceedings Publication in electronic format (PDF). Editor produced 2011 meeting proceedings for WSWs Business Manager. Note: preparation of proceedings partly delayed due to learning curve which pushed work into busy field season; this will not be a problem next year (i.e., 2012 Proceedings).

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:**

**Recommendations for Board Action:** Review and update Operating Guide procedures for producing the WSWs Proceedings publication (see suggested changes below).

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:** Revise Operating Guide procedures for the proceedings publication.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** (see below)

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Bill McCloskey



## Operating Guide Suggested Changes:

### PROCEEDINGS EDITOR

The Proceedings Editor retrieves the Proceedings Abstract, Author Index and Keyword reports from the WSSA Title and Abstract Submission System (wssaabstracts.com) after the President-Elect completes the annual meeting program. After editing, these reports are compiled with the minutes from the three Board of Directors meetings, the various yearly Society annual meeting documents, and other information deemed important by the Board of Directors, into the Society Proceedings. He/she delivers the Proceedings electronically in a timely manner to the Business Manager for distribution.

#### TIMELINE FOR SPECIFIC DUTIES - PROCEEDINGS EDITOR

- July: Prepare a report for the Summer Business Meeting.
- March: Retrieve the Proceedings Abstract, Author Index and Keyword reports from the WSSA Title and Abstract Submission System (wssaabstracts.com) after the President-Elect completes the annual meeting program. Obtain last-minute program changes from President-Elect and Business Manager.
- March 1: This is a point of discussion – it appears that this function was accomplished via email and it was done by someone other than the proceedings editor. Who actually has this responsibility, it is still really done and is it actually done as described? Send letters to remind selected committee chairpersons to mail their reports for the Proceedings. These should include the Program Chair (General Session and Committee assignments); Research Section Chair (Project Discussion sections); Necrology Committee Chair; Education and Regulatory Chair; Symposium Chair (if any); Secretary (All minutes from Board of Directors meetings); and Chairs of all committees to include accurate reports that can be published in the Proceedings.
- March 1: Prepare a report for Board of Directors and General Business meeting regarding issues related to the Proceedings publication if any. The Board of Directors will determine at the annual meeting if the Proceedings will be dedicated to a member. Note that with our new electronic system there will not really be anything to report with respect to the upcoming meeting proceedings.
- April 10: General Session presentations, all business meeting minutes, photos of award winners, project discussion section reports, financial statement and registration list (from Business Manager) are due. Point of discussion and question. Does Phil think this is a realistic date?
- May 15: Submit the Proceedings to the WSSS Business Manager in an electronic form agreed to by the Proceeding Editor and Business Manager.

Revised

Below are the guidelines for the proceeding editor from the operating guide.

### PROCEEDINGS EDITOR

The Proceedings Editor receives abstracts and papers from the Website Editor and compiles them, with minutes from the three Board of Directors meetings, the yearly Society annual meeting, and other information deemed important by the Board of Directors, into the Society Proceedings. He/she has the Proceedings printed in a timely manner and provides copies to the Business Manager for mailing.

#### TIMELINE FOR SPECIFIC DUTIES - PROCEEDINGS EDITOR

- July 10: Prepare a report for the Summer Business Meeting to include cost of the annual Proceedings, number of copies printed, and an estimate of revenue based on pre-publication sales and past

number of copies sold. Estimate a budget for the fiscal year to include publication, shipping, and secretarial costs.

February 15: Receive from the Website Editor the index outline and all abstracts submitted online. Also, the Website Editor should send an electronic copy of the program presentation order so titles and authors can be put into the Table of Content without retyping. Select secretarial help.

March 1: Send letters to remind selected committee chairpersons to mail their reports for the Proceedings. These should include the Program Chair (General Session and Committee assignments); Research Section Chair (Project Discussion sections); Necrology Committee Chair; Education and Regulatory Chair; Symposium Chair (if any); Secretary (All minutes from Board of Directors meetings); and Chairs of all committees to include accurate reports that can be published in the Proceedings.

Prepare a progress report for Board of Directors and General Business meeting. The Board of Directors will determine at the annual meeting if the Proceedings will be dedicated to a member.

April 1: All submitted papers should be edited for format and be in final form.

April 10: General Session presentations, all business meeting minutes, photos of award winners, project discussion section reports, financial statement and registration list (from Business Manager) are due. An estimate of the number of pages and number of copies needed can now be made and a bid sheet sent to selected printers. Also, the cover photo and color should be determined. An 8-inch x 10-inch black and white of the cover photo must be made. The cover is made using a "full-bleed" technique.

April 20: Submit the Proceedings to the selected printer. Allow 10 to 14 days to prep photos, print copies, collate, and bind. Proof-read blue-line copy prior to final printing. Ensure that all photos and figures are on the correct pages with the correct captions.

May 7: Inspect printed Proceedings copies and ship to the Business Manager for distribution.

*Kai Umeda has been in contact with Bill McCloskey, the new proceedings editor. Kai indicated there are a lot of Operating Guide changes needed and the suggested changes are in the report Bill submitted. Corey Ransom has received the changes that Bill suggested and will be updating it. Kai Umeda indicated that the WSWs Proceedings have not been published yet. The deadline for publication was by middle of May. Phil Banks asked Bill about two weeks ago about the status of the Proceedings publication and Bill thought he would have it ready by now. All of the input for the Proceedings should have been submitted soon after the March meeting, so Phil wasn't sure why it was delayed so much. The board thought the delay in publishing the Proceedings has mainly been due to a steep learning curve for Bill. Hopefully, next year we will be more timely on getting the Proceedings published. Joe DiTomaso indicated that he would like the abstracts and titles to be accessible and citable sooner. Phil Banks indicated that the abstracts and titles are accessible on the website, but not citable.*

*Tony White indicated that the WSWS meeting minutes are posted on the website and may not be needed in the Proceedings. Phil Banks and Vanelle Peterson thought it would be best to keep them in the Proceedings as a permanent record.*

*Corey Ransom asked for permission to go ahead and post the changes to the Operating Guide. Vanelle Peterson told Corey to proceed.*

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## II. Research Progress Report – see Consent Agenda section.

*Joe DiTomaso reported that the Research Progress Report has been posted. Phil Banks indicated that Editor Traci Rauch published them a timely fashion.*

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## III. Weeds of the West – Joe DiTomaso

### **Proposal for future handling of *Weeds of the West* Joe DiTomaso**

I talked to Tom Whitson at length about how the Univ. of Wyoming handles the sale of *Weeds of the West*. The list of buyers includes all the other western state universities, particularly the land grant universities. It also includes many other smaller buyers that Dee at the Univ. of Wyoming has cultivated over a long period of time. Dee is unwilling to let anyone know who is on the list, including Tom. She has, in part, justified her position based on this list of buyers, which is why she is so protective of it. She would be very offended if we did not allow her to sell any books retail to folks on this list, which she has taken so long to develop.

In consultation with Tom Whitson and in an effort to increase revenue to WSWS I propose the following: WSWS will handle all sales to university bookstores in the western US. We can easily find out who the contact person is at these bookstores, but it will require our academics to tell the university buyer that they will be ordering *Weeds of the West* from WSWS in the future. Dee will continue to handle all other groups in which she sells the books. We will inventory most of the books, rather than the Univ. of Wyoming. *Weeds of the West* will sell at a price of \$15 a copy to University of Wyoming (as we agreed upon in the March 2011 Board meeting), but the wholesale price will vary for other buyers, depending on how many books they order (see below). The sales of books through the Univ. of Wyoming would still be used to support student scholarships at that University, but likely to a lesser amount if we sell to other universities. Tom was okay with that.

For our own sales, I propose:

≥100 copies	\$18 + shipping
50 – 99 copies	\$19 + shipping
20 – 49 copies	\$20 + shipping
10 – 19 copies	\$21 + shipping
5 – 9 copies	\$25 + shipping
<5 copies (retail sale)	\$30 + shipping

The retail price of *Weeds of the West* varies depending upon the bookstore. For example, the price at the Univ. of Wyoming is the lowest at \$24.95 per copy. The University of California, Davis, sells the book at \$35 per copy, Montana State Univ. at \$34 (although they are offering a discount of \$30.60 now). WSWS sells the book at \$34 which includes shipping so the actual cost is about \$30. Barnes and Noble and Amazon sell it at \$60. Thus, even a price of \$21 per book would represent a 40% discount if the book was sold retail at \$35 per copy.

I propose that Marathon receive \$2.50 per copy for all sales under 10 copies, \$2.00 per book for sales from 10 to 50 copies, and \$1.50 a book for sales above 50 copies. All sales should be in increments of 10 above 20 copies so that the boxes (which contain 10 books) can be sent without opening. This will make handling much easier for Marathon.

The advantage to this arrangement is that we will also be able to market the other books we sell, particularly *Weeds of California and Other Western States*, *Aquatic and Riparian Weeds of the West*, and *Invasive Plants of Range and Wildlands and Their Environmental, Economic, and Societal Impacts*. This may allow us much better opportunities to sell books and increase revenues.

#### ***Additional Comments***

Because we will offer more options both retail and wholesale, it will be important to increase the marketing of our products. For example, the sale of products needs to be highlighted much more on the website, including on the front page. In addition, we need to produce an attractive color order form that can be distributed at several meetings throughout the west that advertise the discounted sales and resources available.

#### ***Potential increased revenue***

It is difficult to estimate the number of sales to university libraries without information from the Univ. of Wyoming. Perhaps 1000 books a year are sold to these sources. With an average of \$21 per sale and subtracting \$2 that will be provided to Marathon, the increase in revenue would be about \$4 per book by 1000 books or \$4000 per year beyond what we already make. If this also increases sales of other books, the revenue goes up.

#### ***Caveat***

While I realize that this option also provides revenue for California Weeds which I own, my primary interest is in substantially increasing WSWs revenues from sales. Thus, I will present the proposal, but recuse myself from discussion (other than questions related to the option) or voting on what option to take, or how the second option might be revised should that be the direction the Board would like to go.

*Joe DiTomaso submitted hard copies of the above report listing proposed changes for Weeds of the West (WOW) to the board. Joe indicated that the board needs to decide whether to reprint WOW. There is a minimum of 10,000 copies for print runs. The books will sell at about \$15/copy. Phil Banks indicated that the current agreement between WSWs and Tom Whitson is a MOA and not a contract. Dee Bixby with University of Wyoming sells WOW to various buyers and retailers is somewhat protective of her customer list. Joe DiTomaso indicated that Tom Whitson discouraged WSWs from taking over as the sole seller of WOW and he added that sales support scholarships at University of Wyoming.*

*Joe DiTomaso added that another option would be WSWs only selling to extension offices and University Bookstores and have Wyoming sell the rest of books. Tom Whitson thought that might be acceptable. We could just do it without contacting Dee Bixby. We would maintain our inventory and sell at \$15 price. The wholesale price is 40% of retail price. Most universities would be buying from us at \$21/book. Joe thought that we could make a more money doing this.*

*It was also pointed out that WSWs makes far more money when we sell one of our other publications on website at the same time when customers order WOW. Currently, all books are available on the WSWs website and Joe DiTomaso fills the orders for his book. With the new proposal, we would have to be active in going to the various university book stores and extension offices to sell the book. Phil Banks said he sells to them at \$20/copy if they order 10 or more and the price is negotiable.*

*As proposed, we would be selling to Wyoming at \$15/copy. If Wyoming is able to sell the books for less, then it will be hard for us to convince them to buy from us at a higher cost. There was a question as to whether the University of Wyoming was in favor of the proposed changes. Phil Banks indicated that he likes WSWs having control of the WOW inventory and it will allow us to receive the money sooner. Dee will probably now order as needed since they have to pay up front rather than ordering such large volumes. Dee probably may retire soon and possibly they will turn it entirely over to WSWs. Phil thinks we could make about \$4,000 more per year and maybe more without much more effort.*

*Vanelle Peterson reminded the board that we need to make a decision whether to reprint WOW. There is about a six month lag time from when we put the order in to when we receive printed copies. Phil Banks added that we have 4,700 in inventory (as of April) and most are at Wyoming. About 1,000 have been sold since then. He indicated that it has taken about three years to sell out the 10,000 copies and it cost \$116,000 last time we reprinted. Phil Banks indicated that WSWs pays half when we place an order and we pay the rest when we receive the books. He indicated that WSWs has enough in money in the money market to pay half.*

*Joe DiTomaso added that a Handbook for Noncrop Weed Control is being published and will be sold through only three outlets (including WSWs). Bob Stougaard asked if new versions of WOW are proofed prior to reprinting and he suggested that it be reviewed before reprinting. Phil Banks indicated that the last time it was reprinted, an ad hoc committee was assigned to review it. Vanelle Peterson said that she would like to have a discussion on moving to an electronic version of WOW. It would be a paid electronic version.*

*Tim Prather asked if sales were constant for WOW. Phil Banks said that sales were slowly dropping off, but not too much. He indicated that they are currently selling between 2,000-3,000/year. Tim Prather suggested that we should be looking at an exit strategy. We will probably be having this same discussion again in three years. Corey Ransom indicated that he knows a former student that we could possibly hire to review genus/species changes (match with WSSA's Composite List of Weeds) and other changes/edits. Tony White suggested that we identify a stipend rather than pay by the hour to review the new reprint.*

**Motion.** Joe Yenish moved that the WSWs reprint 10,000 copies of Weeds of the West and make available a \$1,000 stipend for proofing it to match the plant listings with the WSSA composite list of weeds. Tim Prather seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

*Joe DiTomaso suggested that Phil Banks handle the WOW inventory for a handling fee of \$2.50/book. Books would be shipped to Las Cruces to Phil Banks. Tim Prather suggested that we accept the recommendation as proposed by Joe DiTomaso. The board will vote on this tomorrow.*

**Motion.** Tim Prather motioned that WSWs (Phil Banks) handle all inventory and sales of Weeds of the West, but will continue to provide wholesale price books to the University of Wyoming. Kai Umeda seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

*Further discussion. Tim Prather raised the question on how we interpret "all sales". Joe DiTomaso indicated that the University of Wyoming can still resale books as worded. Pete Forster questioned if anyone has looked into the cost of getting the book published? If the cost goes up we may have to increase our cost to Wyoming. Joe DiTomaso stated that no one has checked recently on the cost of reprinting. Phil Banks indicated that we can adjust the price based on the new publishing costs.*

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#### **IV. Biological Control of Invasive Plants in the U.S. – Phil Banks**

*Phil Banks updated the board on the Biological Control of Invasive Plants publication. WSWs initially put \$15,000 into reprinting this publication. Approximately \$3000 has been paid back in royalties to date.*

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## **V. Website - Tony White**

**Office or Committee Name:** Webmaster & Web Editor

**Officer or Chairperson Name:** Tony White

**Date of Preparation (include year):** August 2011

### **Committee Activities during the Year:**

Online Stats Integrated. Several years ago, an online analytics application through Google was established to help track website statistics. These stats can help us better understand where people are coming from, what they are looking for, and other information about WSWS website users. This is the essential feedback we can use to continuously improve the WSWS website. A few key stats from July 25, 2010 until July 25, 2011 include:

- 10, 072 visitors came to the website from 103 countries; 47% were new visits; Visitor numbers are slightly higher than last year.
- Website traffic sources come from direct traffic, referral sites, or search engines (nearly 1/3 equal from each).
- With 18, 700 page views, the meeting pages continue to be at the top of the list. The Short Course was also a popular site.

More website statistical data is available. Please contact me if interested.

### **Website Activity in Progress.**

- Navigation enhancements are currently being made as well as updated member only pages where contact and login information is displayed.
- Continue to update a variety of pages for general content.

**Recommendations for Board Action:** None.

**Budget Needs:** None.

**Suggestions for the Future:** None.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Tony White

*Tony White summarized his report. He indicated visitors to the WSWS website are pretty steady at about 10,000/year. Tony added that Research Reports have been posted. The email listserve that WSWS was previously using has been stopped because it was rather cumbersome to use and now Phil Banks has been sending messages on his own. Emails that members receive now will be standard emails from Phil Banks or Tony White rather than from a listserver.*

*Tony White added that the organizers of symposia need to post titles and abstracts to the WSWS site. The problem is that if symposia speakers are not WSWS members then they need to register and they frequently are familiar with how to use the system for loading titles and abstracts. Tony prefers that the symposium organizers to submit all titles and abstracts for the symposia as a block. Tony indicated that he has missed titles/abstracts in past from some symposia. Vanelle Peterson thought it was alright to have WSWS members submit their own and just have the symposium organizer submit titles and abstracts of nonmembers. He thought it was better not to have some individuals in the symposia submit their own titles and abstract and is better for the symposia organizers to submit them all or none. Tony warned that if they don't do it this way, that they (organizers) need to communicate very clearly with each of the symposium speakers about the submission procedures.*

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## Finance Committee Report – Luke Samuel

*Luke Samuel called on speaker phone to the board and summarized the Finance Committees recommendations to board.*

*He indicated that investments were up about 5%. RCB may make some changes in the next 6-12 months and feel there may be some decent opportunities.*

*Luke indicated that the annual meetings running in the red. They came up with the following recommendations to increase revenue.*

- 1. Increase general registration cost to \$230. (up \$25)*
- 2. Increase student registration cost to \$100 (up \$20) and gradually increase to half the cost of regular members.*

*Luke indicated other regional societies have higher registration costs than WSWs. Luke suggested that raising registration costs would make the WSWs more solvent without too much pain.*

*Joe DiTomaso indicated that we've discussed raising registration cost quite a bit in last few years. He stated that is it already difficult for people to come, but we probably need to increase to cover our costs. It's just a matter of when we do it. Luke said the Finance committee didn't feel raising the registration costs would prohibit many from attending the meeting as it is only a small fraction of the total cost of attending when considering the cost of travel.*

*Vanille asked Luke what the other regional societies registration costs where. Luke thought we were on the low end. Phil Banks indicated that the Southern was \$275/\$100 regular members/students. North Central was \$240/\$120. Vanille asked who pays students registrations. Several board members indicated that the majority are paid out of grant money of the advisor and not the student's own money. Phil Banks thought 1-2 students each year may come on their own money or need some reimbursement. Corey Ransom didn't think increased cost would affect student travel. Phil Banks added that we haven't raised our registration rate since Albuquerque (3 years ago) when we went from \$190 to \$205. Phil Banks indicated the Finance committee recommended increasing registration costs last year and the board voted it down. Vanille Peterson indicated that she voted against an increase last year as she was expecting we would have increased attendance and make up the money in Spokane. Joe DiTomaso stated that Reno will be an inexpensive hotel so this is a good opportunity to increase our registration costs.*

*Luke outlined that WSWs investments are currently managed by Stan Cooper with RCB services. He stated that the Finance Committee recommends reducing our cost of managing these investments by having Phil Banks invest the money into FDIC insured low cost CD's or money market accounts, which would also lower our financial risk and likely reduce our gains. He mentioned one of the goals of the WSWs is to have two years of operating budgets in liquid accounts readily available in liquid accounts. Phil Banks said he has discussed this with the finance committee previously and he manages several other regional societies' accounts. Phil indicated that we do not have a contract with Stan Cooper. Luke Samuel indicated that Stan Cooper currently charges WSWs 1% of total holdings with RCB which is about \$2,800/year. Luke indicated that the growth was 5.37% this year after the 1% was taken out for RCB.*

*Phil indicated that if the board decided to go with the Finance Committees suggestion, he would not actively manage stock/mutual fund investments and would just buy attractive CD's and ladder them not beyond 3 years. It was pointed out that with Stan Cooper, the returns are greater than with CD's and the returns he has generated more than offset the management costs to us. Cory Ransom noted that the issue should not be reducing the management costs, but it is how much risk we are willing to take for a*

*possibly higher return on our investments. Joe DiTomaso suggested we could ask Stan Cooper to do it on a per trade basis rather than percentage basis and find out what the cost would be.*

*Phil Banks indicated that originally Stan Cooper did not have a fixed fee and he charged us on a trade basis and we rarely made trades. He indicated that the board decided to change to a set fee about five years ago following the advice of Stan Cooper who suggested we get most of our holdings out of the stock market, which would have cost the WSWS a lot more to get out on a per trade basis. Phil Banks said that RCB primarily has our investments in bonds and fixed account funds and is fairly conservative in their approach. Luke added that about 70% of the funds are currently in short maturity bonds and the balance in mutual funds.*

*Tim Prather suggested we could take a portion of our profits and put into CD's to build liquidity desired and keep Stan Cooper on board. Tony White asked if there would be fees to take the profits or some of the money out of these accounts and place in CD's or money market. Phil Banks didn't think there would be a fee. Phil Banks indicated that most of our money with RCB is still pretty liquid and there would not be penalties to pull it out.*

*Phil Banks stated that our investments are at a low risk with Stan Cooper, but not without any risk. When the market turned several years ago we lost about \$20 to \$30 K and RCB reduced our overall losses, but didn't prevent losses over a course of about 9-10 months. If RCB took a big hit, we would lose the whole amount. If we go with a FDIC bank we are covered up to \$250,000.*

*Tony White suggested taking out one year's worth of operating costs (\$90,000) from RCB instead of two years' worth (\$180,000). WSWS currently has \$208,000 with RCB. Tony reiterated that the question is do we want the WSWS to maintain its finances or do we want to make money. Kai Umeda pointed out that historically Stan Cooper has made us money and our investments with RCB are fairly conservative. Joe DiTomaso thought we want to have some growth in order to do some of the future projects with students. Bob Stougaard suggested a similar approach as Tony W. and Tim P. to remove a portion our investments with RCB and put them into secured CD's and retain the rest with RCB. Corey Ransom stated that the issue is whether the board wants the WSWS to just maintain our money or to take some risk and possibly earn more of a return on our money and we shouldn't be focused on reducing the management fee.*

*Vanelle Peterson and Phil Banks both stated that our money market account pays almost nothing. Those dollars we have in it go for reinvestment of printing Weeds of the West and it can't really be considered as part of the WSWS operating costs.*

*Luke reiterated that the Finance Committee feels that Stan Cooper has done a great job managing the financial investments for the society. The committee's suggestions would bring us more in line with the other regional societies. Luke Samuel added that it comes down whether the WSWS is better off managing the investments ourselves and having some liquidity and reduced risk and what the long term goals of the society are.*

*Vanelle asked the board for a motion on the Finance committee's recommendation. Bob Stougaard thought we should know more in a couple of days once the legislature decides the debt ceiling issue. The decision of the legislature could affect interest rates.*

*Phil Banks stated that the NCWSS has largest amounts of money invested. NCWSS were heavily invested with Merrill Lynch has slowly converted to CD's with an FDIC insured bank. He reiterated that we can currently pull our money out of RCB with relatively short notice. It mostly comes down to the risk we are willing to accept. Phil Banks stated that he is a proponent of Stan Cooper's investment strategies and has a lot of confidence in his decisions.*

*Vanelle Peterson suggested that we consider having the Finance committee renegotiate our management fee with RCB first before moving any money out. Bob Stougaard and Joe DiTomaso both added that Stan*



*Cooper is making money for us. Tim Prather added that to go with CD's is not risk free if inflation increases.*

*Bob Stougaard asked if the board has the flexibility and ability to adjust our investments if something catastrophic happens in the markets. Phil Banks said we do.*

*Corey Ransom added that it doesn't make sense to try earning RCB's management fee back by investing in CD's as we will probably get less return with CD's. It will just be a more conservative approach. The decision shouldn't be about the management fee, but about the risk we are willing to take. Tim Prather agreed.*

*Phil Banks stated that when the WOW was published in 1990 the WWS suddenly had excess money coming in. Previous to that, the WWS was living hand to mouth. The Board decided in the mid 90's that we needed some financial advice and that's when Stan Cooper came in. Earlier with Stan Cooper we had certain fixed guidelines that we kept in various stocks/bonds/cash.*

*Vanille again asked the Board for a motion on Finance committee's recommendation. Tim Prather again stated the decision should be based on the risk issue and not the management fee of Stan Cooper.*

*Phil Banks added that our investments are more liquid now with RCB than they were several years back before the big market collapse. There weren't many good options where else to put our money at that time either.*

*Kai Umeda stated that we as a board have a financial responsibility to society and could lose money going with CD's. He thought it was better staying with RCB as they are meeting our requirements. Phil Banks added that we lost less than most investors did during the recession.*

*Bob Stougaard again thought we should consider moving a portion of our money from RCB and have Phil Banks invest it in FDIC insured CD's but not at the level that the Finance committee suggested. It would reduce some of our risks. Joe DiTomaso suggested that before making that decision we should ask Stan Cooper on what he recommends would be our best strategy. The board hasn't met with Stan Cooper for several years now.*

*Kai Umeda suggested the finance committee discuss with Stan Cooper what other management options we have, possibly going back to our previous type of management and negotiate his management fee. Joe DiTomaso added the old method of Cooper's management would eliminate some of our flexibility, doesn't reduce our risk, and may increase our management fees.*

*Tony White suggested that we should have an emergency fund available of about one year of operating expenses. Could pull that amount out and put it into CD's. Bob Stougaard agreed and stated it would reduce some of our risks. Joe DiTomaso thought something like four months of expenses would be more in line. Cory asked what it would cost for Phil Banks to put some of the money into CD's. Phil said it would be no additional cost and would be included as part of his normal contract.*

*Vanille Peterson once again asked for a motion. Kai Umeda reiterated the Finance committee has a policy of having two years' operating money into liquid accounts (readily available). Rick Boydston indicated the money in RCB is already in liquid accounts. Phil Banks agreed.*

*Phil Banks indicated that \$90,000 would be about one year of operating costs if we decide to move half of what the Finance committee recommends. Pete Forster thought \$90,000 was a larger sum than we needed to move from RCB to CD's. Corey Ransom brought up that we have long term contracts we are obligated to and we would have to find a way to meet those if the WWS investments lost a large amount.*

*Phil indicated that the ongoing large costs we are committed to are the Marathon contract (\$ ), Director of Science Policy (\$8 K), and two hotel contracts (\$55K to \$110 K each). Phil Banks indicated that we haven't put much new money into RCB for some time, but prior to him becoming the manager, we were pulling out money on a routine basis to keep paying our bills.*

*Joe DiTomaso indicated there was no board support for the Finance committee's recommendation. Vanelle echoed Bob Stougaard's suggestion that we take about one year of operation costs (\$90,000) and put into CD's.*

*Joe DiTomaso said he thought we should go with the recommendation to have the Finance committee go back to Stan Cooper and ask his advice on going to a lower amount invested with RCB. Mike Ostlie suggested we table the discussion and ask Stan Cooper to come talk to board in San Diego. Vanelle agreed and suggested we have the Finance committee contact Stan Cooper and ask him for his advice on the idea of moving some of the money out of RCB into secured CD's with Marathon managing them. She also would like them to ask Stan about what amount he would recommend to move out of RCB in secured CD's (if any).*

*Vanelle asked for a motion to address the Finance committee's recommendation to raise registration fees. Joe DiTomaso was somewhat concerned about the agency folks who might have difficulty attending the meeting with higher registration fees. Several board members thought the cost of the travel far outweighed an increase in our registration fees. Phil Banks indicated we typically have about 50 agency people attend the WSSA annual meeting. Joe Yenish asked what the member dues were and whether they could be raised. Phil Banks indicated they are relatively low and he recommended we not change them since there are not many benefits left for paying members and we might lose some people if we raise the membership fee.*

**Motion.** Tim Prather moved that we raise the registration rates of regular members to \$230 (up \$25) and students to \$100 (up \$20) as suggested by the Finance Committee. Bob Stougaard seconded.

*Additional discussion. Mike Ostlie suggested that registration costs for students remain the same, but reduce the amount of reimbursement for hotel rooms. Phil Banks said most students don't ask for the reimbursement for hotel rooms anyway. Mike thought that the newly proposed fund raising events and efforts could possibly be used to offset some of student registration costs. Joe DiTomaso stated that graduate student faculty advisors pay most of student registration anyway and we should go ahead and increase it. He would rather have the money that the students raise go directly to the students in the form of scholarships and awards. Corey Ransom agreed. No further discussion.*

**Motion passed unanimously.**

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## **WSSA Representative Report – Tim Miller**

No written report submitted.

*Tim Miller reported that Michael Barrett wants to reduce the number of WSSA committees. There are about 15 committees that are not very active and may be slated for elimination.*

*Tim indicated that the WSSA board had discussions on their next meeting which will be in Hawaii. Rod Lym is the program chair for the Hawaii meeting. The kick off meeting will be on Monday rather than Sunday partly because of the Super Bowl on Sunday. They are planning tours at starting at noon on Wednesday. Phil Moto is the local arrangements person. Joe DiTomaso asked how long presentations will be. Tim indicated that there was a split among the board whether presentations will be 15 or 20 minutes and Tim thought it would be decided by Rod Lym and depend on how many presentations are submitted. There are three symposia in the program; herbicide resistant crops, off target movement of herbicides, and no till, no chemical cropping systems. Monday will have committee meetings, awards, and general session. Tuesday will consist of posters and presentations. There will be Wednesday morning presentations and presentations all day on Thursday. There will also be a business breakfast meeting on Thursday rather than the normal pre reception meeting.*

*Tim indicated that Baltimore, MD will be the site of the 2013 WSSA meeting with Vancouver B.C. in 2014. They are looking at Puerto Rico as a possible site in 2015.*

*Tim briefly summarized WSSA finances. They seem to be in good financial standing and are giving \$1,000 to CAST for the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary. They currently have about \$850,000 in general funds and a \$300,000 endowment fund. They made available \$12,000 for student travel grants for IWSS in China.*

*Tim Miller stated there will be a national summit for strategies to manage herbicide resistant weeds in Washington D.C. in November of 2011. National Academy of Science asked for \$150,000 for the summit. HRAC is one of the sponsors. The WSSA Board thought we should be players in the process and settled on \$25,000 to help with some of the costs. Lee Van Wychen, WSSA Director of Science Policy, has been involved. Most of the speakers and instructors at the meeting will be WSSA members. The new WSSA herbicide resistance documents may be available for the summit, but it is a tight deadline. Tim thought that the WSSA might contact the regional societies to help with the cost too.*

*Tim Miller notified the board that WSSA membership rates will be going up next year to \$190 for print and \$170 for online journals. The student membership will be \$70/50. The meeting registration cost will be \$350 for early registration. The room rate at the Hilton in Hawaii is \$160/night.*

*Tim informed that board that the WSSA journals are doing well. They have granted IPSM approval to get the impact factor. The reviewers of the journals are now being sent letters for thanking them. James Anderson is talking to certain authors to publish special review articles. The WSSA will provide a stipend for the authors. Joe DiTomaso mentioned the SWSS had some push back last year about the IPSM journal. Phil Banks said that the money issue with IPSM was resolved with the WSSA board.*

*Tim added that a new editor for Weed Technology will be assigned after the Hawaii meeting as Neil Harker will be stepping down. The issue of publishing visual control ratings only was discussed. Vanelle Peterson stated that the SWSS asked if WSWS would join them in writing WSSA a letter expressing their concerns on this issue. Tim Miller clarified that they are still publishing visual control ratings data as long as some other measurements are also included. Researchers conducting turf research are especially concerned about those requirements.*

*Corey Ransom thought that the society was split on the issue of visual only evaluations and wasn't clear how the WSSA came to consensus on this new policy. Joe DiTomaso thought that Neil Harker made the policy for Weed Technology. Joe DiTomaso indicated that IPSM accepts subjective data. Tim Miller read to the board what Neil Harker has put in the guidelines. The policy states that subjective data (visual ratings) are acceptable if accompanied by other nonsubjective (quantitative) measurements.*

*This followed with discussion on whether WSWS should send WSSA a letter on whether we support the policy. Bob Stougaard stated that he was in favor of requiring quantitative data. Most thought that inconsistency of the journals is the biggest problem. Currently, reviewers are receiving the other reviewer's comments which help increase consistency. Joe DiTomaso stated that several members have stated to him that it is easier to publish in higher impact journals than in our own journals. Vanelle Peterson suggested that we write a letter indicating that we support having as much quantitative data as possible, but not rule out publishing papers with only subjective data. Corey Ransom added that previous studies that collected only subjective data before this requirement was implemented should still be publishable.*

*Vanelle Peterson suggested that she write a letter about our concerns with this policy, and that Bob Stougaard, Tim Miller, Corey Ransom, and Joe DiTomaso review her letter which will be sent to James Anderson and copied to Mike Barrett and Neil Harker. Tim Miller added that Neil Harker will be replaced this fall as Editor of Weed Technology and to submit names if you know of someone who you think would be suitable.*

*Tim Miller stated that Cody Grey, the Aquatic Plant Management Society representative, indicated that the Corps of Engineers is losing the research center in Vicksburg. They have voiced their concerns. Tim added that Cody Grey mentioned a situation at a lake in Florida that has an endangered snake kite that feeds on a snail that eats hydrilla. They are now allowing up to 30% hydrilla infestation on the lake before acting due to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife regulations and local groups protecting the kites.*

*Tim Miller indicated that Lee Van Wyche had submitted a Director of Science Policy report and Vanelle Peterson added that it had been posted on the website.*

*Tim Miller stated that IWSS is interested in having a representative on the WSSA board.*

*Vanelle Peterson reminded the board that Tim Miller will rotate off as our WSSA rep in February and we will need to appoint a replacement. It is a 3 year position with the WSSA summer board meetings usually held in July.*

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### **CAST Representative Report – Phil Westra**

*Vanelle Peterson summarized the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) report submitted by Phil Westra. Report is posted on the WSWS website. CAST has published various issue papers recently and are publishing Friday Notes each week on interesting topics. They are celebrating their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary and have asked for contributions from WSWS. Vanelle indicated that the WSSA is contributing \$1000 and the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) \$150. She asked the board if we would like to contribute something to show our support to CAST. Joe DiTomaso said he was in favor of WSWS contributing to CAST at a level somewhere between the WSSA and APMS. Phil Banks stated that the money would come out of our general operating budget.*

**Motion.** Pete Forster motioned that WSWS make a \$550 contribution to CAST for their 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration, specifically to sponsor a break. Kai Umeda seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

*Phil Banks will send the contribution to CAST and Vanelle Peterson will write a letter to go with the donation.*

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### **President's Report – Vanelle Peterson**

**Office or Committee Name:** President

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Vanelle Peterson

**Date of Preparation:** July 17, 2011

#### **Activities during the Year:**

I took office as President at the annual meeting on March 10, 2011 in Spokane, WA. All open committee appointments have been filled and are recorded in the list of 2011-2012 committees on the WSWS website.

On May 20, 2011, I sent the approved minutes (via email) from the March Board meetings and the business meeting in Spokane to Tony White, web master, for posting. The minutes of the March Board meetings can be included in the 2011 Proceedings and there is no need to approve the minutes at the 2011 summer Board meeting.

John Fenderson of the Site Selection Committee visited hotels in Colorado Springs to review their accommodations for the 2014 meeting. With his recommendation and on behalf of the WSWs, I signed a contract with the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Colorado Springs, CO for our 2014 annual meeting, and mailed it to Phil Banks. He filled in a few more details and mailed it to the hotel.

In June I met with Sandra McDonald, Scott Nissen and Joe DiTomaso about the WSWs Weed Short Course held in April in Colorado. We reviewed the evaluations and discussed successes and needs for 2012. Most of the evaluations were excellent and the course was well received. We discussed how to get more advertising out about the course and how to attract more individuals from the western U.S. Difficulties with budgets for potential students exist in these economic times. See Sandra's report for more details. Thanks to Sandra's hard work the WSWs Short Course is getting back on track!

Several WSWs teams and individuals signed up for the 2011 Weed Olympics in Knoxville, TN on July 26-27. There are 3 graduate teams (WA State University, KS State University, and OK State University) and 2 undergraduate teams (NM State University and OK State University – OSU has too few to be an "official" team). In preparation for the Weed Olympics awards, I held discussions with Phil Banks and Kai Umeda about the awards and plaques for WSWs teams. Based on their input I drafted an email to the Board members about my intentions to have Phil B. draw up checks and plaques for the winning WSWs teams and individuals. The proposal was to:

1. Give a certificate to each individual that participates
2. Have plaques made of the 5 teams to commemorate their participation
3. For individual awards (12 grads, 6 undergrads)
  - a. Graduate first place \$300, second place \$200, third place \$100
  - b. Undergraduate first place \$300, second place \$200
4. For team awards (3 grad teams, 1 undergrad team – NOTE: OSU had too few members to be an "official" team)
  - a. Graduate first place \$400, second place \$200
  - b. Undergraduate first place \$400

This is a total of \$2,100 for awards and not much more for plaques and certificates. Only Mike Ostlie responded that it seemed like a good proposal. On July 8<sup>th</sup> I gave Phil approval to write checks and have plaques made. I will represent WSWs at the Weed Olympics to give out the WSWs awards. At the time of this report the results of the Weed Olympic competition are unknown.

This brought up the fact that there is nothing in the Operating Guide about limits on amounts of funding that the President can authorize. This could be a discussion point at the summer board meeting.

In preparation for the summer Board meeting, on July 8<sup>th</sup> I met via phone conference with Luke Samuel, Drew Lyon and Phil Banks to discuss WSWs finances and the Finance Committees recommendations to the Board about the annual meeting registration and investments. Luke, Finance committee chair, will present their recommendations at the summer Board meeting via phone on Monday afternoon.

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2012 meeting:** Kai Umeda, President-Elect

**Recommendations for Board Action:** none

**Budget Needs:** none

**Suggestions for the Future:** none

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** Consider writing a section on limits and authority of the President to approve use of WSWs funds.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Vanelle Peterson

*Vanelle Peterson mentioned that WSWs students competed in the Weed Olympics. About \$2,100 were given out for awards. Two teams from the west (WA and NM) competed.*

*WSWs Awards:*

**Graduate students**

1st place – J.D. Riffel, Kansas State University

2nd place – Samantha Ambrose, Oklahoma State University

3rd place – Jared Bell, Washington State University

**Undergraduate Students**

1st place - Joni Blount

2nd place – Drew Garnett

**Graduate teams**

1st place – Washington State University (team members: Jared Bell, Misha Manuchehri, Nevin Lawrence, and Alan Raeder and coach, Ian Burke)

2nd place – Kansas State University (team members: Josh Putnam, J. D. Riffel, and Jessica Zimmerman and coach Dallas Peterson)

3rd place – Oklahoma State University (team members: Samantha Ambrose, Robert-Steven Calhoun, Matt Terry, and Lydia Tomlinson and coach Joe Armstrong)

**Undergraduate team:**

1st place – New Mexico State University (team members: Joni Blount, Andy Dyer, Drew Garnett, and Heather Bedale and coaches Phil Banks and Jill Schroeder)

*Vanelle read results of the National Awards from the Weed Olympics:*

**Graduate Student winner:** Jason Parrish, Ohio State

**Undergraduate Student winner:** Dan Tekiela, Virginia Tech

**Graduate team winner:** Purdue (team members- Jared Roskamp, Ryan Terry, Chad Barbham, and Paul Marquardt)

**Undergraduate team winner:** Guelph (team members- Thomas Judd, Adam Parker, Michael Vanhie, and Jessica Gal).

*Robert Norris was the elder statesman representing the WSWs and spoke at the banquet. The WSWs has never hosted a competition and we might consider hosting an event in the future.*

*Vanelle Peterson suggested the students that competed at the Weed Olympics should speak about their experience at the student's meeting at WSWs. Phil Banks suggested Vanelle Peterson send a letter from WSWs to the organizers of the event thanking them for their efforts.*

*There is nothing in operating guide indicating the levels that the President can spend or authority to spend on the student contest awards. Tim Miller thought the awards were a lot higher than those for our own student contests. Phil Banks indicated that the WSWs awards for student oral and poster are \$100, \$75, and \$50 (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup>). Vanelle recommended that Tim Miller make the suggestion to the student contest committee to come up with higher award amounts for the board to consider.*

*A LinkedIn account has been set up by students. Vanelle Peterson suggested the WSWS board setup a subgroup on LinkedIn. It is easier to track the entire conversation thread than with emails. Vanelle Peterson said she will have someone set up a subgroup on LinkedIn for the WSWS board.*

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#### **Site Selection – John Fenderson**

No report submitted.

*Vanelle Peterson presented the committee's findings. WSWS has a signed contract with the Crown Plaza in Colorado Springs for 2014. The site selection committee recommends the board approve travel for someone to visit the site. Vanelle said that we normally have a local person visit the site and Kai Umeda echoed that a local person is usually on the committee that can volunteer to do it. Phil Banks suggested that we change the Operating Guide procedures to allow for at least partial reimbursement for someone to visit future meeting sites. The biggest issue we usually have is accurately accessing the meeting space.*

*Vanelle Peterson read the list of site selection committee members. She indicated that we need to give the committee some future sites to focus on for the 2015 meeting. It was stated that WSWS meetings in Portland and Salt Lake had pretty good attendance in the past. Pete Forster suggested that we consider Boise, ID. Tim Prather thought the facilities at the Grove in Boise were pretty good and the downtown area has a lot of nice places. Tim Prather offered to do some investigating. Phil Banks added that he can send an RFP to Boise hotels and see if they can handle us. He stated that the poster area, general session, business breakfast, and breaks are the major space requirements for our meeting. Vanelle Peterson added that she would like Salt Lake and Portland to be considered along with Boise. Phil Banks said that Salt Lake in March has been high priced due to ski season the last few times we asked them to bid.*

*Phil Banks said he will get in touch with the site selection committee and send an RFP out in the fall. Vanelle Peterson added that we could appoint a site selection committee member from whatever site is eventually selected.*

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#### **Nominations Report – Dan Ball**

**Office or Committee Name:** Nominations Committee

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Dan Ball, chair (2013), Kassim Al-Khatib (2014), Ralph Whitesides (2012), and Joe DiTomaso (ex-officio)

**Date of Preparation:** July 21, 2010

**Activities during the Year:** The Nominations committee met via telephone conference call on May 5, 2011 to develop a list of potential nominees for WSWS Board elections. After discussion, a list of suggested nominees was developed. Ball followed up with phone calls and/or emails to potential nominees. A list of candidates agreeing to run for election was developed for presentation to and approval by the WSWS Board at the summer meeting in August 2011. At the time of this report, a second nominee still needs to be identified for President-elect.

Potential Nominees:

Potential Nominees
President-Elect
Pat Clay (Valent)

<b>Secretary</b>
Andy Hulting (OSU) Steven King (Bayer)
<b>Research Section Chair</b>
Ian Burke (WSU) Andrew Kniss (UW)
<b>Education and Regulatory Section</b>
Brad Hanson (UCD) John Fenderson (Monsanto)

**Recommendations for Board Action:** The Board needs to approve the list of candidates and prepare communications for voting by membership around October 15, 2011.

**Budget Needs:** None

**Suggestions for the Future:** Solicit potential nominees from the general membership via email.

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** None

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Dan Ball, Nominations Committee Chair

*Joe DiTomaso presented the report. Joe indicated that Pat Clay has agreed to run for president, but they have had trouble finding another industry person to run against Pat. Roger Gast was suggested, but he no longer lives in the West. Joe stated that Roger Gast remains active in the WSWS. Joe DiTomaso stated that the board needs to approve the slate and asked the board to suggest other candidates in case Roger says no. Vanelle Peterson said that we could wait and vote by email after Dan Ball has had a chance to contact Roger Gast to see if he will run.*

**Motion.** Joe DiTomaso moved that the board accept the slate of candidates as listed in the nomination committee's report with the addition of Roger Gast running for president. Tim Prather seconded.

**Motion passed unanimously.** *Joe DiTomaso added that if Roger Gast declines then we will have to find another candidate and conduct an email vote.*

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**Awards – Jill Schroeder**

**Office or Committee Name:** Awards

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:**

Jill Schroeder, chair (2013)

Jeff Tichota (2014)

Nelroy Jackson (2012)

**Date of Preparation:** July 8, 2011

**Activities during the Year:** please see report submitted by Nelroy Jackson in March 2011 that lists awardees and activities prior to the annual meeting; call for nominations for distinguished service awards will be revised and submitted to the newsletter and to the webmaster for posting on the website.

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:** N/A



**Recommendations for Board Action:** The committee received correspondence from President Peterson that we will be responsible for evaluating student scholarship applications for the 2012 meeting. Please confirm whether the operating guide and updating the call for applications for student scholarships will continue to be handled by the Graduate Student Liaisons (preferred). Please review whether the selection of student scholarship recipients is best handled by the Awards Committee or another committee.

**Budget Needs:**

1. \$3000 for the student scholarship awards.
2. None for the other awards, except for plaques

**Suggestions for the Future:**

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** The Awards Committee Operating guide has no reference to the committee's responsibility for reviewing and recommending the student scholarship awards. Please advise.

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Jill Schroeder

*Vanelle Peterson presented the report and said that the awards committee asked that we have the student committee prepare announcements to send out about scholarship awards.*

*Vanelle asked if the information about preparing announcements for scholarship awards had been added to operating guide and Mike Ostlie replied they were added.*

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**Director of Science Policy Report – Lee Van Wychen**

**Director of Science Policy Report  
WSSA Summer Board Meeting  
July 30-August 1, 2011  
Waikoloa Hilton, Hawaii**

### **Finances**

The Science Policy Committee (SPC) has a \$5000 fund that can be used towards science policy activities in Washington DC, or elsewhere that advance the objectives of the Science Policy Committee. To date, I used \$1,100 to bring in Dr. Richard Mack for two days during National Invasive Species Awareness Week to speak on Capitol Hill. An additional \$500 was used to co-sponsor the "Lunch-n-Learn" seminar series held in conjunction with the National Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research during NISAW. I anticipate about \$700 in expenses for travel and lodging for the Arkansas, Illinois & Missouri herbicide resistance tour with EPA. Many thanks to Barrett and Jachetta for covering their travel costs for several visits to DC this past winter. Donn Shilling has also visited DC several times at his own expense. Travel to the regional weed science meetings, APMS, and other speaking requests are reimbursed to me through the host society or organization.

### **Vacation/Sick Leave**

I have 3 vacation days and 1.5 sick days remaining after using approximately 10 days during May and June during the birth of my son and visits from both my wife's and my families.

### **Professional Development Training**

On August 25, I will begin 10 weeks of professional development training through the Dale Carnegie Course. The course will help me “strengthen interpersonal relationships, manage stress and handle fast-changing workplace conditions, while being better equipped to perform as a persuasive communicator, problem-solver and focused leader.” The Science Policy Committee is recommending an additional \$2,000 to pay for this training.

#### **DSP Action Items:**

1. Continue to generate support for USDA research funding and fight against the closure of more ARS research labs
2. Continue to generate support for Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Plant Control Research Program: will need another round of letters and visits on Capitol Hill
3. Continue to generate support for NPDES legislative fix bill, H.R. 872. We need to get 60+ Senators to vote yes. Current whip count in Senate is 45 yes, 12 leaning yes, 34 undecided, 4 leaning no, 5 no.
4. Finish the reporting and funds request paperwork for the APHIS II paper on Herbicide Resistance Management
5. Planning and organization of National Invasive Species Awareness Week with National Invasive Species Council. The next NISAW will be held Feb. 27 – March 2. 2012.
6. Continued herbicide resistance management education of agency and NGO stakeholders. Participation in the EPA Herbicide Resistance Tour in Arkansas, Illinois, Missouri in August and in the National Academies Herbicide Resistance summit in November.
7. Investigate Beachy Ag Research Coalition proposal.
8. Investigate and review any progress made by EPA, USDA and DOE in regards to their requirement under the Energy Independence and Security Act that requires a 3 yr review of the environmental and agricultural impacts of “cultivated invasive and noxious plants”.
9. Continue to monitor EPA spray drift and NMFS endangered species act consultation issues
10. Have discussion with WSSA Board about the Pesticide Safety Education Program

#### **FY 2012 Federal Funding Outlook is Dismal**

Most agencies and departments are looking at double digit percentage cuts compared to their FY 2011 funding levels. The House has passed 6 of its 12 appropriations bills and is currently debating a very contentious Interior-Environment bill. The Senate has only passed the noncontroversial Military-Veterans appropriations bill.

In the House passed version of the FY 2012 agriculture appropriations bill, both the formula funds and competitive grant line items took a 12-14% reduction compared to FY 2011. The only bright spot was getting the Regional IPM Centers funding boosted from \$3 million to \$4 million (See Table below).

I’m also very concerned about additional USDA-ARS lab closures and their impact on the weed science societies. The following 10 research facilities will be closed in FY 2012: Fairbanks, Alaska; Shafter, California; Brooksville, Florida; Watkinsville, Georgia; New Orleans, Louisiana; Coshocton, Ohio; Lane, Oklahoma; Clemson, South Carolina; Weslaco, Texas; and Beaver, West Virginia. Secretary Vilsack will have the authority to transfer a closed facility to an 1862, 1890, 1994 or Hispanic-serving agricultural college or university provided the institution agrees to maintain the facility for agricultural and natural resources research for a minimum of 25 years.

<u>USDA Program Description</u>	<u>FY 2010</u>	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012 House</u>	<u>Change 11-12</u>
	Dollars in Thousands			Percent
Agricultural Research Service	\$1,179,639	\$1,133,230	\$993,345	-12.3%

Economic Research Service	\$82,478	\$81,814	\$70,000	-14.4%
National Ag Statistics Service	\$161,830	\$156,447	\$149,500	-4.4%
National Institute of Food Agriculture	\$788,243	\$698,740	\$600,800	-14.0%
- Hatch Act	\$215,000	\$236,334	\$208,000	-12.0%
- Cooperative Forestry Research	\$29,000	\$32,934	\$30,000	-8.9%
- Improved Pest Mang't & Biological Control	\$16,185	\$16,153	\$14,000	-13.3%
- Ag and Food Research Initiative	\$262,482	\$264,470	\$229,500	-13.2%
- Extension Activities	\$494,923	\$479,132	\$411,200	-14.2%
- Smith Lever	\$297,500	\$293,911	\$259,200	-11.8%
- Integrated Activities	\$60,022	\$36,926	\$8,000	-78.3%
- Section 406	\$45,148	\$29,000	\$8,000	-72.4%
- Regional IPM Centers	\$4,096	\$3,000	\$4,000	33.3%
- FQPA Risk Mitigation (RAMP)	\$4,388	\$0	\$0	0%
- Crops affected by FQPA (CAR)	\$1,365	\$0	\$0	0%
- Methyl Bromide Transitions	\$3,054	\$2,000	\$0	-100%
- Organic Transitions	\$5,000	\$4,000	\$4,000	0%
Animal and Plant Health Inspection Serv. (APHIS)	\$904,953	\$863,270	\$790,000	-8.5%

### **Aquatic Plant Control Research Program**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Civil Works) has proposed to eliminate the Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) in the FY 2012 budget. This is the nation's only federally authorized program for research and development of science-based management strategies for invasive aquatic weeds. We are asking the Army Corps of Engineers and Congress to restore funding to \$4 million for FY 2012. The Corps' APCRP expertise and importance was on full display at a recent Congressional field hearing on efforts to control and eradicate giant salvinia. [The June 27<sup>th</sup> field hearing](#) was organized by Rep. John Fleming (LA-04) and held at Louisiana State University in Shreveport. Dr. Michael Grodowitz, Biomanagement Team Leader for the Army Corps of Engineers was called on to testify at the hearing. I'd also like to recognize fellow weed scientists, Dr. Randy Westbrook, Dr. Dearl Sanders, and Dr. Damon Waite for their testimony on behalf of the House Natural Resources Subcommittee on Fisheries, Wildlife, Oceans and Insular Affairs, chaired by Rep. Fleming. The Aquatic Plant Control Research Program funds the work of Dr. Michael Grodowitz, along with 18 other aquatic plant management researchers. But with APCRP slated to be zeroed out in FY 2012, we will lose the expertise and institutional knowledge of all of the Army Corps' invasive aquatic plant management researchers. This is simply unacceptable. We understand that the country is in fiscally tough times and everyone has to take some cuts and make some sacrifices. But, we are strongly opposed to eliminating the entire Army Corps Aquatic Plant Control Research Program! I will need your help to convince Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, Jo-Ellen Darcy, and Congress about the value of the APCRP. Expect an email from WSSA President Barrett in the near future asking for your support of APCRP.

### **NPDES permits**

Below is the current Senate whip list as July 29, 2011 for H.R. 872.

SENATOR				Y	Lean Y	Undecided	Lean N	N	SENATOR				Y	Lean Y	Undecided	Lean N	N
Mark	Begich	D	AK			x			Jon	Tester	D	MT			x		
Lisa	Murkowski	R	AK		x				Max	Baucus	D	MT	x				
Jeff	Sessions	R	AL	x					Kay	Hagan	D	NC		x			
Richard	Shelby	R	AL	x					Richard	Burr	R	NC	x				
Mark	Pryor	D	AR			x			Kent	Conrad	D	ND	x				
John	Boozman	R	AR	x					John	Hoeven	R	ND	x				
Jon	Kyl	R	AZ	x					Ben	Nelson	D	NE	x				
John	McCain	R	AZ		x				Mike	Johanns	R	NE	x				
Dianne	Feinstein	D	CA			x			Jeanne	Shaheen	D	NH			x		
Barbara	Boxer	D	CA					x	Kelly	Ayotte	R	NH		x			
Mark	Udall	D	CO			x			Robert	Menendez	D	NJ			x		
Michael	Bennet	D	CO			x			Frank	Lautenberg	D	NJ				x	
Joseph	Lieberman	I	CT			x			Jeff	Bingaman	D	NM			x		
Richard	Blumenthal	D	CT			x			Tom	Udall	D	NM			x		
Thomas	Carper	D	DE			x			Dean	Heller	R	NV	x				
Chris	Coons	D	DE			x			Harry	Reid	D	NV			x		
Bill	Nelson	D	FL			x			Kirsten	Gillibrand	D	NY					x
Marco	Rubio	R	FL	x					Charles	Schumer	D	NY					x
Saxby	Chambliss	R	GA	x					Sherrod	Brown	D	OH	x				
Johnny	Isakson	R	GA	x					Rob	Portman	R	OH	x				
Daniel	Akaka	D	HI			x			James	Inhofe	R	OK	x				
Daniel	Inouye	D	HI			x			Tom	Coburn	R	OK	x				
Tom	Harkin	D	IA		x				Jeff	Merkley	D	OR			x		
Charles	Grassley	R	IA	x					Ron	Wyden	D	OR			x		
Jim	Risch	R	ID	x					Bob	Casey	D	PA		x			
Michael	Crapo	R	ID	x					Patrick	Toomey	R	PA	x				
Richard	Durbin	D	IL			x			Sheldon	Whitehouse	D	RI				x	
Mark	Kirk	R	IL		x				Jack	Reed	D	RI			x		
Richard	Lugar	R	IN	x					Lindsey	Graham	R	SC	x				
Dan	Coats	R	IN	x					Jim	DeMint	R	SC	x				
Pat	Roberts	R	KS	x					Tim	Johnson	D	SD			x		
Jerry	Moran	R	KS	x					John	Thune	R	SD	x				
Mitch	McConnell	R	KY	x					Bob	Corker	R	TN	x				
Rand	Paul	R	KY		x				Lamar	Alexander	R	TN	x				
Mary	Landrieu	D	LA			x			Kay Bailey	Hutchison	R	TX	x				
David	Vitter	R	LA	x					John	Cornyn	R	TX	x				
Scott	Brown	R	MA		x				Orrin	Hatch	R	UT	x				
John	Kerry	D	MA		x				Mike	Lee	R	UT	x				
Benjamin	Cardin	D	MD					x	Jim	Webb	D	VA			x		
Barbara	Mikulski	D	MD				x		Mark	Warner	D	VA			x		
Olympia	Snowe	R	ME		x				Bernard	Sanders	I	VT				x	
Susan	Collins	R	ME		x				Patrick	Leahy	D	VT					x
Debbie	Stabenow	D	MI	x					Maria	Cantwell	D	WA			x		
Carl	Levin	D	MI			x			Patty	Murray	D	WA			x		
Amy	Klobuchar	D	MN	x					Herb	Kohl	D	WI			x		
Al	Franken	D	MN			x			Ron	Johnson	R	WI	x				
Claire	McCaskill	D	MO			x			Joe	Manchin	D	WV			x		
Roy	Blunt	R	MO	x					John	Rockefeller	D	WV			x		
Roger	Wicker	R	MS	x					John	Barrasso	R	WY	x				
Thad	Cochran	R	MS	x					Michael	Enzi	R	WY	x				

### **Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP)**

There are four principal agencies/organizations involved in conducting the Pesticide Safety Education Program. USDA-NIFA works with the EPA to provide administrative support and coordinate plans of work and annual reporting activities. EPA, as the regulatory agency, enforces pesticide laws through state lead agencies, often based in the departments of agriculture. Since 1975, EPA has had an interagency agreement with USDA to distribute funds to the state cooperative extension service for the purpose of training restricted use pesticide applicators. USDA-NIFA coordinates the support for state and territory Pesticide Safety Education Program coordinators and has developed a Web-based reporting system where they can submit plans of work and annual reports on activities such as funding, number of private and commercial applicators trained, and number of training materials developed. The American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) works with the PSEP and publishes The Journal of Pesticide Safety Education. Finally, the Association of American Pesticide Control Officials (AAPCO) works to encourage uniformity among the states in their pesticide regulatory programs. The AAPCO membership consists essentially of state and federal pesticide regulatory officials.

Table 1. Historical Funding of PSEP

<b>Funding Source</b>	<b>2002</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>2010</b>
EPA(discretionary funds)	\$1,880,000	\$1,200,000	\$800,000 \$500,000 (PRIA funds via EPA)
Other *	\$7,200,000	\$7,800,000	\$6,885,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$9,080,000</b>	<b>\$9,000,000</b>	<b>\$10,223,000</b>

“Other” includes, but not limited to, funds from state governments, USDA formula funds, and county governments.

Table 2. Number of Certified Applicators

	<b>2002</b>		<b>2006</b>		<b>2010</b>
private	709,177	private	596,018	private	404,251
commercial	419,581	commercial	429,009	commercial	487,071
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,128,758</b>		<b>1,025,027</b>		<b>892,140</b>

Issues include: Funding and structure/organization of PSEP.

*Tim Miller presented Lee Van Wychen's report. He stated there is a movement in the Senate that all aquatic pesticides be exempt from water quality issues (has passed through the House). If it passes, it would eliminate the need for permits through the NPDES permitting process. Several states have already implemented a permitting process.*

*Tim Miller added there will be an Herbicide Resistance tour in Missouri, Illinois, Arkansas, and Tennessee coming up this summer that Lee Van Wychen will be involved with. He also pointed out that Lee Van Wychen will be doing some professional training at end of the month.*

*Vanelle Peterson informed the board about a link to USDA Economic Research Service invasive species program.*

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**Poster Committee – Roger Gast**

No report submitted.

*Kai Umeda summarized a report from Roger Gast. The posters are at Oregon with Marvin Butler and he will transport them to Reno for the meeting. We are currently short on easels. There were 74 boards set up last year and 25 easels were rented from a 3<sup>rd</sup> party. Phil Banks said that we have 48 easels and 93 poster boards. He suggested that we consider purchasing 35 more easels, which run about \$50 each. Phil Banks recommended waiting to see how many posters are submitted. Phil said that some hotels supply easels without charges and he will ask the hotel about our options on additional easels. Phil added that if we buy more easels we will also need more boxes. The shipping costs are high, but we've been lucky enough to have members transport them. Tim Prather suggested that we purchase enough easels to at least fill up our three boxes. It was stated that the poster participation at the meeting has been increasing. There were 80+ posters in Hawaii and 60-80 is normal. Phil Banks agreed that we should purchase enough more easels to fill up our boxes.*

**Motion.** Tim Prather moved that WSWS purchase enough easels to fill up the current boxes with a maximum of ten. Mike Ostlie seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

*Phil Banks indicated that he would purchase the additional easels.*

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## **Fellows and Honorary Members – Celestine Duncan**

**Office or Committee Name:** Fellows and Honorary Member Committee

**Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members:** Celestine Duncan, chair; Scott Nissen, Don Morishita (members)

**Date of Preparation:** June 29, 2011

### **Activities during the Year:**

Since the 2011 WSWS meeting:

1. A minor change (change from Article XI to Article XIII) in operating guidelines for the committee were given to Joe DiTomaso for #5 of the guidelines: “#5 Consider Fellows nominees who are members of the Society and have contributed significantly to the field of Weed Science, regardless of age or length of membership, in accordance with the Society By-Laws, Article XIII, Sections 1 and 3”.
2. Don Morishita (past chair) suggested that the guidelines for nominating Fellows (located at end of this report) should be included in the Operating Guide since it provides an explanation of what activities constitute consideration for a Fellows nomination and the nomination process. Note: The information in the nomination criteria is different than the wording currently in the Operating Guide and By-Laws. They both state the nomination is based on contributions to Weed Science; whereas criteria for Fellow nomination are based on contributions to the WSWS which are similar, but not entirely the same thing. Does this need to be resolved?
3. At the board meeting in Spokane, members followed the advice of this committee and now require a CV and 2 additional letters of recommendation in addition to one from the nominator.
4. I missed the spring 2011 newsletter, so the following was emailed to all WSWS members on May 2, 2011 by Phil Banks along with guidelines for Fellow and Honorary Member nominations (posted on website and attached to email): “Now is your chance to nominate deserving colleagues as a Western Society of Weed Science Fellow or Honorary Member! Individuals nominated as Fellows must be a member of the WSWS who have given meritorious service to the society. Honorary members are selected from individuals whose activities have been largely from outside the WSWS, but who have significantly contributed to the field of weed

*science. Details regarding nominations are attached here or are available at the WSWs website: [www.wsweedscience.org](http://www.wsweedscience.org)*

5. The committee has filed the nominations that carry over to 2011. They include 1 member nominated in 2010, and 2 members nominated in 2011 that will be eligible for consideration in 2011/12.
6. An email was sent to Cheryl Fiore, WSWs newsletter editor, to request an announcement for nominations of Fellows and Honorary Members for inclusion in the next WSWs newsletter.

**Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:** Celestine Duncan (chair 2011/2012); Scott Nissen (chair elect- 2012/13)

**Recommendations for Board Action:** See #2 above for discussion

**Budget Needs:** none

**Suggestions for the Future:** Be sure that new chair has operating guides early in 2012 to meet spring newsletter deadline

**Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:** See #2 above for discussion

**Name of Person Preparing This Report:** Celestine Duncan

**See following information for discussion:**

**WSWS Guidelines for Nominating Fellows and Honorary Members**

Fellows of the society are members who have given meritorious service to the Western Society of Weed Science. The nominator must contact the member to be nominated and request them to prepare a concise [2-3 page] resume.

- a. The nominee must be involved in the process. The most pertinent information about the nominee can only be obtained from the nominee.
- b. The nominee's resume should be based on the WSWs guidelines approved by the Board of Directors (see below).
- c. Information from the resume will be used by the nominator in writing the letter of nomination.
- d. The nominator also is responsible for soliciting two letters of support for the nominee. The letters should be sent to the nominator and included in the nomination package sent to the committee.
- e. The nomination package should include the nominee's vita, the nominator's letter of nomination, and two support letters.

**SERVICE TO WSWs** – Please address the following points in the resume:

- a. Offices: President; Vice-President; Secretary, Research Section Chair; Education & Regulatory Section Chair; Editor; Other.
- b. Committees: Standing; Special; Ad Hoc.
- c. Presentations and Publications: WSWs – Papers, Proceedings, Research Progress Report Articles.
- d. Service to other Weed Science Societies: Weed Science Society of America; State Organizations.
- e. Academic Weed Science Endeavors: Teacher; Graduate Students; Refereed Publications; Extension Publications, Books; Popular Publications; Academic Weed Science Pursuits; Other.
- f. Industry Weed Science Endeavors: Sales and Marketing; Research and Development; Regional Manager; Product Manager.
- g. Other Meritorious Weed Science Service

## **WSWS Guidelines for Nominating Honorary Members**

**Honorary members are selected from individuals whose activities have been largely from outside the Western Society of Weed Science, but who have significantly contributed to the field of weed science.**

- The nominator must contact the person to be nominated and request them to prepare a vita.
- The nominator will then prepare a letter summarizing the nominee's contribution to the area of weed science with emphasis on how the interests of the WSWS have been served by this non-member.
- Include the vita with the letter of nomination to provide all pertinent information to the Committee.

*Joe DiTomaso presented the report. New guidelines were recommended for procedures and changes to the Operating Guide. Tim Prather stated that two additional supporting letters have been added to the requirement with the nominator letter. We used to require no additional letters. The board stated that the two carryover candidates will have to get two letters of support as well.*

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**Legislative – John Brock**

*Vanelle Peterson indicated that John Brock didn't submit a report.*

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## Noxious Weed Short Course – Sandra McDonald

WSWS Noxious Weed Short Course 2011

**WSWS Noxious Weed Short Course  
2011 Final Report  
Submitted by Sandra K. McDonald (Mountain West PEST)**

**Trainers** – Sandra McDonald, Scott Nissen, George Beck, Andrew Norton, Tim Miller, Joe DiTomaso, Bob Wolf, Terri Schultz, Tim D'Amato, and Bobby Goeman

**Summary** – The Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS) Noxious Weed Short Course is an intensive three-day introduction to current technologies and best management practices associated with noxious and invasive weeds in the Western United States. It is designed for local, state, federal, and private land managers throughout the Western US who desire a better understanding of invasive weed management.

The course was continued much as it has functioned in the past under the direction of Celestine Duncan. The 2011 course stressed ecologically-based invasive plant management and included monitoring and assessment, prevention, cultural, mechanical and chemical plant management using interactive sessions. A variety of training techniques were utilized including classroom lecture, hands-on demonstration, field plots, live weed and herbicide symptomology specimens, facilitated discussion, small group projects, educational games, and time for individual interaction with instructors.

### **Objectives**

1. To conduct a "hands-on" course providing Western land managers with knowledge and resources dealing with herbicide performance and behavior, weed ecology, and invasion processes.
2. To provide additional training in weed identification, herbicide formulations and calibration, herbicide absorption, translocation and mode of action, pesticide safety, ecological principles of weed management including biological and cultural control methods, weed mapping and monitoring, integrated pest management strategies, and restoration ecology
3. To provide participants with the opportunity to acquire Continuing Education Units (CEUs) from all participating states.

**Course Design** – Classroom lecture, discussion, laboratory and field exercises, hands-on activities, field plots and interactive assignments were utilized. The program was designed to encourage interaction between students and instructors. Activities provided networking opportunities for participants. Games provided fun and active reinforcement of course concepts. Sylvan Dale allowed the WSWS Short Course to establish permanent demonstration plots for use during the 2011 and subsequent Short Courses.

A variety of training techniques were utilized including classroom lecture, hands-on demonstration, field plots, live weed and herbicide symptomology specimens, facilitated discussion, small group projects, educational games, and time for individual interaction with instructors.

# **2011 WSWs Short Course Final Budget**

submitted by SK McDonald 7-21-2011

		Actual	if 40
Registration fees (\$650.00)	(24 participants + 1 cancellation)	\$ 16,250.00	\$ 26,000.00
WSWS Registration Services (\$25/person)		\$ 625.00	\$ 1,000.00
credit card charges (\$17.88)		\$ 447.00	\$ 715.20
MWPEST Meeting Administration (175 hours @ \$44/hour)		\$ 7,700.00	\$ 7,700.00
CSU Research Associate (143 hours @ \$25/hour + 22.4% fringe)		\$ 4,375.80	\$ 4,375.80
CSU Lathouse and Greenhouse rental		\$ 252.00	\$ 252.00
Sylvan Dale fees -\$75.00/participant		\$ 2,700.00	\$ 3,600.00
Sylvan Dale meeting room rental		\$900.00	NA
Training materials			
MOA Trays & materials		\$ 300.00	\$ 300.00
30 Aquatic Manuals @ \$10.00 each		\$ 300.00	\$ 400.00
Weed ID cheat sheets		\$ 97.24	\$ 97.24
Live Weed supplies		\$ 109.56	\$ 109.56
Biocontrol books - shipping		\$ 101.00	\$ 101.00
Attendee Notebooks & CDs (\$9.75)		\$ 234.00	\$ 390.00
Instructor Notebooks & CDs (\$9.75)		\$ 175.50	\$ 117.00
	Travel Lodging		
Travel & Lodging for Colorado Instructors			
Sandra McDonald (4 nights)	\$ - \$ 569.16	\$ 569.16	\$ 569.16
Scott Nissen (4 nights)	\$ - \$ 569.16	\$ 569.16	\$ 569.16
George Beck (mileage & meals)	\$ - \$ 181.44	\$ 181.44	\$ 181.44
Andrew Norton (mileage & meals)	\$ - \$ 181.44	\$ 181.44	\$ 181.44
Bobby Goeman (1 night)	\$ - \$ 142.29	\$ 142.29	\$ 142.29
Tim D'Amanto (1 night)	\$ - \$ 142.29	\$ 142.29	\$ 142.29
Janet Hardin (3 nights)	\$ - \$ 473.04	\$ 473.04	\$ 473.04
Terri Schulz (2 nights)	\$ - \$ 284.58	\$ 284.58	\$ 284.58
Joe Vassios (mileage)	\$ 61.20 \$ 181.44	\$ 242.64	\$ 242.64
Travel & Lodging for Out-of-State Instructors			
Tim Miller (3 nights & travel)	\$ 304.90 \$ 473.04	\$ 777.94	\$ 777.94
Joe DiTomaso (2 nights & travel)	\$ 609.46 \$ 284.58	\$ 894.04	\$ 894.04
Bob Wolf (3 nights & travel)	\$ 1,830.13 \$ 473.04	\$ 2,303.17	\$ 2,303.17
<b>TOTAL PROJECTED COSTS</b>		<b>\$ 25,069.94</b>	<b>\$ 25,969.14</b>
		<b>\$ (8,819.94)</b>	<b>\$ 30.86</b>

*Vanelle Peterson summarized Sandra McDonald's report. She stated that Short Course evaluations were strong. The registration numbers were down as there were 25 attendees and WSWs lost about \$8,000 due to lower registration numbers. Vanelle indicated that the overall economy was down so many Federal agencies are not participating as much. Vanelle Peterson said she had discussions with Sandra on how to market the Short Course better.*

*Joe DiTomaso added that Sandra McDonald is very organized and he thought that the course content was good. Silvan Ranch has a long term study site area that they can use in subsequent years. Tim Prather added that Scott Nissen was contacting instructors about utilizing the long term research site. Tim Miller also thought that it was a good program and he suspected participation would increase next year.*

*Tim Prather and Tim Miller both participated in the Nebraska short course too. Tim Prather thought there was too little time for the instructors. The clientele was more local (NRCS mainly) and there was not too much overlap with Sandra's course. Tim Prather added that it was geared more towards Great Plains clientele rather than Inter-Mountain. They think Steve Young will plan to continue the Nebraska course for several years.*

*Vanelle Peterson thought it would be beneficial to continue to encourage Sandra McDonald to include instructors from outside Colorado.*

*Pete Forster indicated that attendees were mainly from Colorado and Wyoming and that people from BLM, Forest Service, and the National Park Service need to be recruited. It was stated that Sandra McDonald has a marketing plan to do this.*

*Phil Banks stated that we have a two year contract for the WSW Short Course and if there is not more people next year we can decide whether to terminate the support of the program. The Board will know in March of 2012 what the registrations numbers are and can discuss whether to support it again. Phil stated that we would give one year notice if we decide to cancel our support. We are committed for up to 5% over the budget submitted. Tina Mudd can help advertise at various weed meetings she attends in the West.*

*Ecology Based Invasive Plant Management School (EBIPM) course (Park Valley, UT). The WSWs has no investment in this course. They are charging \$275 registration and 18 people signed up. Only three people have paid so far. The income from this course will offset the loss from Sandra McDonald's probably. Corey Ransom thought that the Park Valley location was a pretty remote site which may be a deterrent for some people.*

*Kai Umeda added that the Southwest states (AR, NM) are not participating much in the short course. The Farmington (4 corners) course organized by Larry Halry may impact Sandra McDonald's course attendance. Vanelle Peterson said that she will ask Sandra to include marketing to Southwest desert regions. Corey Ransom added that the Fish and Wildlife also has their own short courses now. Tim Prather said that they also have an on-line series. Joe DiTomaso thinks most of the reason for the low attendance is budgetary related due to the poor economy. Vanelle Peterson added that people from Fish and Wildlife have usually not attended in large numbers, but Sandra McDonald could still market to them.*

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**Local Arrangements – Tina Mudd**

*Tina Mudd introduced herself to the board and is the local contact for WSWs Reno meeting. She will be organizing some local tours. Vanelle Peterson outlined various people for Tina to coordinate with for the meeting including Kai Umeda and Pete Forster.*

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The board took a tour of the Hotel facilities.

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### **Old Business**

#### **Symposium Committee Operating Guide – Corey Ransom**

*Corey Ransom indicated that the Symposium Committee was not incorporated into the operating guide yet. Vanelle Peterson stated that we need to finalize and get it into the operating guide and post it.*

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### **New Business**

Discuss contract proposal extension with Marathon-Agric. & Environ. Consulting (expires on March 31, 2012)

*Phil Banks submitted a contract proposal to the WSWs board to continue as business manager. Vanelle Peterson stated she would like the board to make a decision on the contract. The biggest change in the proposal is raising the business management fee (\$2,500 increase). The agreement is written on a 2-year basis. This year will mark the end of six years of Marathon doing it. Phil Banks said we could put out a request for proposals to others and then make a decision. Phil Banks stated that he would like to continue his services to the WSWs.*

*Phil Banks stated that the main reason for the fee increase was due to tax increases in New Mexico. Vanelle Peterson stated that for the services we get from Marathon, it would be hard to find a better deal. Joe Yenish added that when we first contracted with Marathon there were few other options available. He added that Phil Banks has been able to take on more services to the society like selling WOW, etc. than previous business managers. Tony White stated that working with Phil Banks has been a great pleasure and would it be difficult to find someone better.*

**Motion.** Joe DiTomaso moved that WSWs renew Marathon's contract for two years at \$23,000/year and to include a statement that the WSWs Board expresses their appreciation for his past service. Tim Miller seconded. **The motion passed unanimously.**

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## **Selection of a local arrangements chair for Reno in 2012.**

*Vanelle Peterson stated that Jesse Richardson has already been selected.*

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## **Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws for March 2012 annual meeting – Cory Ransom** **Change to Student Liaison description in constitution**

*Vanelle Peterson said that she had already discussed this with Corey Ransom.*

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## **1-5 pm Strategic Planning – Vanelle Peterson and Strategic Planning Committee**

*Vanelle Peterson presented a PowerPoint on WWS Strategic Planning. She outlined the trends in attendance, which was broken down by program sections and employment groups. Holding meetings in nice places hasn't increased our attendance numbers over time, but increases the number of papers presented. Joe DiTomaso thought it is standard for people to present now if they are going to a meeting regardless of where it is held. The number of student presentations has been quite variable.*

*The Agronomic crops section always has a high number of presentations. Basic Sciences and Horticulture sections presentation numbers vary a lot. Are the names of the sections causing any problems attracting submissions? Rangeland was combined with Wetlands & Wildlands section and is now Range and Natural Areas. There has been a gradual increase in this section. The peak number of presentations in 2006 coincided with the introduction of aminopyralid.*

*It was brought up that the NCWSS might be competing with WWS for members from certain states. Vanelle Peterson pointed out that the add-on symposia have not really added to our membership. The Knapweed symposium in Coeur d'Alene was well attended. However, new members may come to the symposium without necessarily joining the society and attending future meetings.*

*Vanelle pointed out that the site of the WSSA meeting also may affect our attendance. We've made this known to the WSSA board. She added that we need to try to expand our sustaining membership. She asked if we are meeting the needs of the industry people, whose attendance has declined. We may have to consider new subject areas such as seeds and traits.*

*Vanelle indicated that a WWS member survey was conducted in 2004 and Phil Stahlman presented the results of the survey in his presidential address. A new survey was conducted in 2011 to WWS Board members and some former past presidents on Survey Monkey. We need to determine how our society will move forward.*

*The Board broke into the following three small discussion groups which were summarized in individual reports (presented by names in parenthesis):*

*1. Annual meeting (Tim Prather)*

*2. Retention and recruitment of new members (Bob Stougaard)*

*3. Leadership development (Cameron Douglass)*

### **WSWS Annual Meeting Discussion – submitted by Tim Prather**

Members; Kai Umeda, Joe Yenish, Mike Ostlie, Vanelle Peterson and Tim Prather.

This subgroup had the following input to improve our annual meeting. We have two sessions that often have low attendance at the annual meeting, the Biology and Ecology section and the Horticulture section. The biology and ecology section has some molecular biology and some genetic talks presented. The topic areas could be the core of expansion of the meeting to involve more genetics and more molecular biology. The section could be titled Molecular Biology and Plant Physiology. We could then consider the Biology and Ecology section to be focused to whole plant and interaction topics. Expanding to have the Molecular Biology and Plant Physiology section could bring additional people to the society, considering the society a second home, in addition to the individual's primary societal home. We could potentially bring additional scientists from academia and from private industry. The group thought the change could expand the society. The horticultural section would have better attendance if we could convince additional people to attend, for example farm advisors in California and also the vegetable specialist in California, Steve Fennimore. In addition, there is little representation of ornamental horticulture and turf at our society.

The group discussed inviting a couple of individuals to present at the meetings and those invitations would be to existing sections as invited talks. We would look to do this on an ongoing basis. We would advertise the invited section talks on a board at the registration desk and they would be noted in the program as well. We would then also want to involve the invited speakers in the discussion session and the topic should be relevant to the invited speaker's areas of interest. We also suggest that a short 1 page questionnaire about the speaker's experience at the meeting would be completed and submitted to the board. The information would help us reach out to additional potential members.

We should be sure to track new people who attend and recognize they came with a follow up email thanking them for attending and asking them to attend in the future. We also think we need to market our call for papers to additional audiences through CIPM in Montana, through agency listservers, NAWMA, and weed associations in various states; potentially commodity focused organizations as well. We also thought inviting administrators of commodity groups, particularly when there are topics of special interest to those groups should be considered. We should also be looking at who goes to WSSA from the west but not to WSWS. We may be able to convince additional people to attend.

For our online title and abstract submission we should provide a description of each section so that people have an easier time submitting and it may spark interest in someone thinking of attending to see where they may fit.

Finally, we could use the WSWS meeting to sponsor a proposal development session at the meeting. An upcoming call would be targeted and a core of people could lead the specific efforts and work with new partners to create competitive proposals. We would see this as a starting point and the group would then work together later to write the proposal. We would look at this

as something that would be advertised on the web site along with the annual meeting announcement.

### **Mentorship/Leadership Development Sub-Group– submitted by Cameron Douglass**

Members: Joe DiTomaso, Corey Ransom, Rick Boydston, Cameron Douglass, Vanelle Peterson

We started out by identifying four primary groups of WSWS members:

1. Academic
2. Students
3. Private industry
4. Government agencies

We then came up with what we thought were the primary obstacles to society members from those groups playing a leadership role in the WSWS. Finally, we tried to come up with suggestions or ideas that should be pursued.

**Overall Suggestions: We need to create a list of society members who are willing to be more active in the WSWS. We also need to identify who members are that are attending meetings and how they are being categorized, e.g. whom are we calling “government agency” society members?**

#### **Academics**

*Obstacle: There were no major obstacles identified by the group to leadership in the society by academics.*

*Discussion:* There are numerous opportunities in the WSWS for academics to be involved in positions of leadership, and involvement/activity in WSWS is seen by academics as having value (good for career advancement). Up until now new academics in the region are identified by the president and others and singled out for committee nominations, and eventually leadership positions. Invitations to pursue committee work and other opportunities are readily given out, but we thought that there could be the possibility of these invitations being extended to a small, connected group of academics?

This method of mentoring and fostering leadership among academics could be undesirable, especially since it means the society might be neglecting some members or non-members who would want to be involved more in the society. Are there academics or researchers that aren't involved in the society, or may not see a value in WSWS membership? Are there other universities that aren't traditional land-grant institutions who could be invited to become more involved in the society, and academics at these institutions that could be mentored for leadership positions?

***Suggestions: No major actionable suggestions for this group of society members.***

#### **Students**

*Obstacles:*

1. *Lack of leadership positions in the society for students, since the only two specified student positions are Student Liaison and Student Liaison Chair-Elect;*

2. *Timing – the only involvement many students have in the society is through the annual meeting, and it is likely that MSc students only have the opportunity to attend the meeting their second year. This compounds the issue of the lack of leadership positions since both Liaison positions are two-year terms, which would not be available or appropriate for MSc students attending a meeting the last year of their program. This means that the only students who have much involvement in leadership in the WSWs are PhD students.*
3. *Students may be unsure as to whether major advisors support active involvement in the WSWs and the pursuit of available leadership roles.*
4. *Students at different universities within the WSWs don't know each other very well, and outside the annual meeting do not have any opportunities to interact or be involved in/draw value from society membership.*

*Discussion:* There are clearly a lot of students participating at the annual meeting, but there do not seem to be very many students who pursue leadership roles or are all that active in the WSWs. It seems that there is a dis-connect between the rather minimal cash awards given out for the student paper contests and the more substantial annual travel awards – neither of which reward or recognize student involvement in the WSWs.

Is there a portion of the program (session, symposium) that we could involve students in? Could the WSWs offer a professional development opportunity or training/development course that is outside of the annual meeting? For example, industry representatives or members from government agencies could give a symposium on jobs their employers typically offer and what they would look for in potential employees.

#### ***Suggestions:***

***1. Re-brand the annual student travel award as an “Award of Excellence” that honors students for:***

- *Overall academic achievement (criteria could include GPA, classes);*
- *Involvement and level of activity in college/university and the WSWs;*
- *Research progress and overall scientific rigor.*

*The three awards could be further designated for recipients who are a PhD, MSc and undergraduate student, respectively to foster diverse student involvement in the WSWs.*

***2. Student liaison chair (Mike Ostlie) and the chair-elect (C. Douglass) need to brainstorm and reach out to students to get feedback on the following ideas:***

- *Professional development opportunities or social activities that the WSWs could sponsor outside of the annual meeting. These could be monthly or quarterly webinars, or informal, regional meetings and workshops.*
- *Identify WSWs committees that would be most appropriate to have a student member appointed to, most likely in an advisory role, likely for a one or possibly two year term. Possible committees that were suggested include the Education and Regulatory, and the Student Paper Contest/Award committee.*
- *Identify student members who would be willing to form ad hoc committees to assist student liaisons in carrying out the silent auction at the annual meeting.*
- *Identify volunteer opportunities for students at the annual meeting, for example, helping at the registration desk or setting up/taking down posters. These*



- opportunities could be associated with waivers for annual meeting registration for students who commit to a certain amount of time per meeting.*
- *Develop social networking avenues for WSWS student members, including LinkedIn and possibly Facebook.*
  - *Discuss ways to engage students earlier on in their academic research programs, especially MSc students. Possibilities could include promotional materials that are targeted at departments involved in weed science, for them to hand out to new students during orientation. Alternatives include communicating with graduate advisors taking on new students at institutions within the Western region, and proactively initiating communication with incoming students.*

### **Private Industry**

*Obstacle: The major obstacle that was identified by the sub-group was that management within private industry does not necessarily see employee involvement or leadership within the WSWS as a benefit or as serving a value to industry. As a consequence management within industry may not encourage or support employees that do take the initiative to play a larger role in the WSWS.*

*Discussion: The first point that was brought up was why so many of the industry representatives who were approached to be president-elect turned down the offer? One of the biggest hurdles to additional involvement by industry members was thought to be a lack of time that hindered the ability of these members to serve as leaders in the society. Could the society, or Phil Banks specifically, in some way alleviate some of the added administrative or logistical burden of industry members serving leadership roles in the WSWS?*

### **Suggestions:**

1. *Consider amending the WSWS operating guide to that the President needs to choose a Member-at-Large from the 'opposite' group of members (i.e. academics and industry).*
2. *Industry members need to approach this issue – and develop solutions – internally in order for suggestions to be most relevant and effective. As such, Vanelle Peterson offered to form an ad hoc working group led by Members-at-Large from private industry to initiate and facilitate this internal discussion. The goal would be for members of this working group to develop ideas or at least talking points over the next six months that could then be brought up to the larger society membership at the Reno meeting.*
3. *WSWS could send letters to supervisors/management acknowledging the important role that their employees play in the society, and presenting an argument for how this involvement provides an important value to industry. Local/regional/state weed management groups (e.g. CWMA/NAWMA) members could also provide input or perspective on this effort.*
4. *Discuss whether the pool of industry representatives who are taking an active role in the society at the basic level of society committee membership is sufficiently large. Current board members from industry could identify younger colleagues that could be invited to join WSWS committees, and mentor these colleagues into leadership roles.*

## **Government Agencies**

*Obstacle:* Agency members cannot go to every meeting, they only go to meetings that are close to them. Consequently it is very difficult for members from government agencies to serve 2-3 year long appointments in society leadership roles.

*Discussion:* WSWs needs to discuss and identify what benefit or service the society could provide to members such as those from public agencies that cannot go to every annual meeting in order for them to justify maintaining their membership.

### ***Suggestions:***

- 1. We need to generate a list of society members from public agencies so we can identify which agency active members are employed by. These society members could then be approached to help in recruiting/retaining society members from amongst their colleagues. This group could also be utilized to help develop recommendations for how the WSWs could better meet the unique needs of this group of society members.***
- 2. Discuss and identify ways to involve more members/non-members from government agencies in society activities (e.g. annual meeting) and governance. As part of this effort the board should identify agency representatives who are active in the WSWs and encourage them to take on a more active role in the WSWs.***
- 3. Discuss whether we need to re-define what “leadership” means for government agency employees. We need to engage agency members to become active in committees or other society roles (existing or those that could be formed specifically for this group of members) that do not have large time requirements. Once they show promise at the committee level they could be invited to play more significant roles. For example, could local agency members who are not active in the society be invited to become more active in planning and carrying out meeting activities? Additionally, local agency members who are active (such as Tina Mudd in Reno) could identify colleagues in public agencies that are not WSWs members who could be invited to attend and possibly assist in the local conference.***

## **Membership Expansion and Retention Discussion group – submitted by Bob Stougaard**

Participants: Phil Banks, Pete Forster, Tim Miller, Bob Stougaard, Tony White

**Abstract:** The strength of the WSWs lies with the annual meeting. Membership expansion and retention will require that the meeting provide for a broader base of topics. The addition of activities outside of the annual meeting, such as webinars, should also help with retention and membership expansion.

**Action points:**

- 1) Develop a symposium/seminar committee to select topics for a more general audience.**
- 2) Develop a series of webinars that follow up or build upon the annual meeting.**
- 3) Survey membership for professional development topics.**

**Retention:** It was observed that the WSWs trains a great many graduate students. However, there are few jobs directly related to our discipline and many former students often find jobs that are only marginally associated with weed science (e.g. seed companies, NRCS etc.). In order to

attract these individuals, and in some cases get approval from their employer, the annual meeting needs to present topics that are broad based in scope and appeal to a wider audience. It was felt that the best venue for this approach would be via the symposia and/or discussion sections. It was suggested that a committee be formed which would help select these topics and would be chaired by the past president.

Retention might also be fostered if the WSWs provided activities in addition to the annual meeting. Towards this end, it was suggested that WSWs sponsor webinars that follow up or build upon the annual meeting. These could be given periodically, and participants might be able to earn CEU's if an exam was given at the end. Some topics suggested included weed seedling ID, and herbicide injury diagnosis with each herbicide class being a separate webinar. Abstracts of the webinars could be published in WSWs proceedings. This could be a vehicle to broaden membership involvement in the society by soliciting the participation of graduate students. It was suggested that presenters also include individuals from those companies or entities that WSWs wishes to recruit as individual members and/or as sustaining members. Examples include AgriPro, WestBred, Coors and Cargill.

*Professional Development:* It was recommended that WSWs sponsor professional development workshops or symposia to be held prior to or directly after the annual meeting. Topics could include leadership development, techniques pertaining to statistics, and field and laboratory procedures. It was suggested that a survey be sent to the membership to solicit ideas to *help them do their job*. Presenters should include both industry and university personnel. Once again, it was suggested that presenters include individuals from those companies or entities that WSWs wishes to recruit as individual members and/or as sustaining members.

*Collaboration:* Several entities were identified as possible collaborators. These included the Western Weed Workers, Western Wheat Workers, Western Crop Science Society, Western Soil Science Society, as well as regional plant pathology and entomology groups. It seems that the greatest hindrance to collaboration is scheduling, which is to say, some group would need to hold their meeting at a different time.

#### Outline next steps.

*Pete Forster and Bob Stougaard agreed to help identify people to carry some of these ideas forward. Vanelle Peterson added that it she would like to survey all WSWs members. The ad hoc group can help develop the next survey.*

*Some discussion followed on whether WSWs should hire a professional facilitator. Tim Prather added that his wife has conducted these types of surveys. If the survey wasn't too long, Tim Prather thought he could get his wife to work on it with him. Cameron Douglass indicated he was willing to help with it. Vanelle Peterson offered to help with it. Once the survey is written they will pass it by the full board later.*

*More discussion followed on how the survey should be conducted. Phil Banks indicated that he can send the survey via email to those not attending the meeting. Those attending the meeting could get a paper copy. Tim Prather added someone would have to tally up all the paper copies. It was suggested that we could offer it to people via Survey Monkey on line prior to the meeting and target those that prefer by paper at the meeting. If get we get a good response then we could*

*forego the paper copy at the meeting. Vanelle Peterson added that Survey Monkey is free. She can use also her account to do the analysis of the survey.*

**Meeting adjourned at 5 pm.**

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Boydston, WSWS Secretary