WSWS Board Meeting Minutes
March 12, 2012
Peppermill Resort Spa Casino
Reno, Nevada

Attendees: Vanelle Peterson, Tim Prather, Pete Forster, Tim Miller, Bob Stougaard, Rick Boydston, Joe DiTomaso, Kai Umeda, Phil Banks, Joe Yenish, Mike Ostlie, Pat Clay, Phil Westra, Jesse Richardson, Rod Lym, Corey Ransom, Cameron Douglass, Andrew Kniss, and Roger Gast. Brian Mealor, Sandra McDonald, Lee VanWychen, and Bill McCloskey joined in the afternoon.

President Vanelle Peterson called the meeting to order. Vanelle informed the Board that the minutes of the Summer Board meeting were approved in January 2012 via email. Vanelle stated that the operating guide indicates that she is supposed to notify board members how each person voted when conducting the on-line voting. She asked the Board if we can keep conducting the on-line voting the way we been doing it or if they want to be notified how each person voted. The Board thought it was fine the way she's been doing it and no one voiced opposition to it.

Peterson presented the agenda for the meeting and asked for a motion to accept the agenda.

Motion. Phil Westra moved to accept the agenda. Pete Forster seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Consent agenda

Education Committee – Scott Nissen, Chair

WSWS Education Committee Report

The Education Committee consists of the following individuals: Scott Nissen, Colorado State University (Chair); Sandra McDonald, Mountain West Pest, Inc.; Andrew Kniss, University of Wyoming; Andy Hulting, Oregon State University; Liz Galli-Noble, Montana State University; Mike Moechnig, South Dakota State University; and Ian Burke, Washington State University.

In its current configuration the expanded Education Committee has not official met as a group; therefore, one major goal of the education committee for 2012 is to have an official face-to-face meeting at the 65th Annual WSWS meeting in Reno, NV.

Items of interest:

The graduate level, online herbicide mode of action taught through Montana State University will only be offered in even numbered years starting in the fall of 2012.

Several universities in states that are part of the WSWS are currently participants in a program called AG* IDEA. These universities include Colorado State University, Montana State University, Kansas State University, North Dakota State University, South Dakota State University, Texas Tech and University of Nebraska. In very general terms this program offers participating universities the opportunity to offer a wide range of online classes taught at other universities at the same cost as classes offered through their home institution. In addition, the credits will be provided through the home institution eliminating issues associated with honor course credits from another institution. The Education Committee should explore the positive and negative aspects of making the MSU distance education course PSPP546 part of AG*IDEA.

> *AG*IDEA is universities collaborating to deliver online academic programs that capitalize on their technological and human capacities. Inter-institutional programs have the advantages of distributed risks, increased reach, and greater depth and scope.*

Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee – Andrew Kniss
No report submitted.

Legislative Committee – John Brock
No report submitted

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

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Pete Forster

Date of Preparation: 3/02/2012

Activities during the Year: Worked with WSWS Member Survey Team.

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

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

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Bob Stougaard

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

Necrology Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: John Roncoroni

Date of Preparation: March 1, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year: Record names of deceased WSWS members and friends of the society. Three names have been submitted: Jim Helmer, Bill Fischer and Jerry Asher.

Recommendations for Board Action: Read names of deceased into the minutes of meeting

Budget Needs: $0

Suggestions for the Future: none at this time

Current Committee Members: John Roncoroni, chair (2013); Eric Jemmett (2014); Jim Vandecoevering (2012)

Name of Person Preparing This Report: John Roncoroni

Nominations Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: Dan Ball

Date of Preparation: February 28, 2012

Committee 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 presented to the WSWS Board of Directors (BOD) for approval at the summer meeting held in August 2011. Biographical sketches and photographs of all candidates were requested, and posting on the WSWS website. Voting was conducted online through the WSWS website. The candidates for 2012 BOD positions are listed in the table, below with successful candidates indicated with an asterisk (*). Successful candidates were contacted by President Vanelle Peterson. Files with names of future, board nominees will be forwarded to the incoming Nominations Committee Chair, Kassim Al-Khatib.

Nominees for 2012 vote:

Nominees
President-Elect
Pat Clay (Valent) Roger Gast (Dow) *
Secretary
Andy Hulting (OSU) * Steven King (Bayer)
Research Section Chair
Ian Burke (WSU) * Andrew Kniss (UW)
Education and Regulatory Section
Brad Hanson (UCD) * John Fenderson (Monsanto)

Recommendations for Board Action: The WSWS President needs to appoint a WSWS member to fill the nominations committee vacancy being vacated when Ralph Whitesides rotates off committee assignment in 2012.

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: Solicit potential 2013 nominees from the general membership via email and through the WSWS website.

Current Committee Members: Dan Ball, chair (2013), Kassim Al-Khatib (2014), Ralph Whitesides (2012), and Joe DiTomaso (ex-officio).

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

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Public Relations Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: Deb Shatley (Effective 2012)

Date of Preparation: Feb 28, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:

- Brad Hanson accept interim chair duties for 2011
- Deb Shatley will assumed chair position effective 2012 for a 2 year term
- CEU requests have been made to California, Wyoming, Montana, Washington, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, Oregon, Arizona
- Cheryl Fiore will be resigning from the committee due to retirement

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: Rotate the Chair of the Public relations Committee every 2 years. New committee chair should to be decided upon prior to 2014 WSWS Annual Meeting and to be in place and active by said meeting.

Current Committee Members: Kelly Young, Brian Olson, Mark Ferrell, Bill Cobb, Rich Affeldt, Brent Beutler, Cheryl Fiore and Deb Shatley

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Deb Shatley

Sustaining Membership Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: Curtis Rainbolt

Date of Preparation: February 28, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:

- On August 25, emails were sent to potential new, current and past sustaining members soliciting funds to become or renew as sustaining members.
- On November 30, January 10 and February 21 reminders where sent to those who had not paid.
- Periodically thank you letters were sent to those who became or renewed sustaining membership.
- Phil Banks maintained a spreadsheet indicating payment status of sustaining members.
- On March 27, a total of 16 sustaining members had agreed to support WSWS with a total of $11,600. Those included AMVAC Chemical, Arysta LifeScience, BASF, Bayer Crop Science, Dow AgroSciences, DuPont Crop Science, Gowan Company, Helena Chemical Company, Marathon Agricultural and Environmental Consultants, Monsanto, PBI

Gordon, Syngenta, United Phosphorus Inc., Valent, Winfield Solutions, and Campbell Scientific.

Recommendations for Board Action: none

Budget Needs: none

Suggestions for the Future: none

Current Committee Members:
Curtis Rainbolt (current chair)
Pat Clay (2014 chair)
Seth Gersdorf (2012)
Need to elect new board member

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Curtis Rainbolt

Business Meeting

Secretary Report – Rick Boydston

No report submitted.

Business Manager's Report – Phil Banks

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Phil Banks

Date of Preparation: March 2, 2012

Activities during the Year:
During the year, I paid all bills, filed the required tax forms, maintained the membership list, and provided registration services for the Reno annual meeting and associated symposium, the 2011 and 2012 Noxious Weed Short Course, and the EBIPM Field School. The current financial status of WSWS will be presented to the Board and the Members at the Business Meeting. As of February 29, 2012, we have $ 331,939.32 in capital with an additional asset of $ 39,226.50 in unsold Weeds of the West inventory (we have already made a down payment of $ 58,945.00 for reprinting). We have approximately 50 copies in the WSWS Office and 2,500 at the University of Wyoming. We sold approximately 3,000 books during the year. We have started reprinting (10,000 copies) at a cost of $ 117,890.00 ($11.79/book delivered). By action of the Board at the summer meeting, 9100 copies will be delivered to the WSWS Business office and 900 copies will be delivered to the Univ. of Wyoming. We posted a positive return on our RBC investments of over $4,000.00 and received proceeds of $6,325.00 from the EBIPM course. We lost approximately $8,600.00 on the Noxious Weed Short Course.

Pre-registration for the Reno meeting has gone very smoothly although slow. As of 3/2/2012, we have 260 registrations (41 students, 218 regular members), 6 spouse registrations and 2 registrations for the Downy Brome Symposium. The Peppermill Hotel has been very accommodating for our needs and responsive to requests. The Local Arrangements Chair, Tina Mudd, was not able to complete the duties due to her relocation in a new job. The Business Manger's office has assumed most of these duties and will work with Jesse Richardson during the meeting to handle troubleshooting activities and enlisted the student scholarship winners to assist with registration and poster room set-up and teardown.

I worked with the Site Selection Committee for the 2015 meeting. They asked me to send the RFP to hotels in Seattle, Portland, Salt Lake City, Spokane, and Boise. We received nine proposals which were summarized and sent to the committee. The committee chose the Portland Hilton as the top choice and a contract has been prepared for approval of the Board of Directors.

Recommendations for Board Action:
A Weeds of the West sales committee needs to be created to enhance the sales of our publication. Sales out of the Business Office will need to be at least 1000 books/year to justify the storage of the large number of books out our location.

Budget Needs: The estimated budget for 2011-12 is attached.

Suggestions for the Future: Future estimates of our Weeds of the West assets (inventory on hand) will use the print cost of the books instead of the estimated sale price of the books.

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: None.

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Phil Banks

Western Society of Weed Science: Budget for 2011-2012 (April 1, 2011 - March 31, 2012)

	Actual 2010-11	Estimated 2011-12	Actual as of Feb. 29, 2012 2011-12
Annual Meeting Income*	$81,257.34	$80,000.00	$34,790.00
Expenses			
Annual Meeting**	$45,725.50	$45,000.00	$5,633.00
Website	$2,904.00	$3,000.00	$3,094.00
Accountant	$402.89	$500.00	$812.10
Insurance	$500.00	$500.00	$1,088.13
CAST dues	$1,500.00	$1,500.00	$1,500.00
WSSA Dir. Sci. Policy	$8,832.00	$8,832.00	$8,832.00
Business Manager	$20,000.00	$20,000.00	$20,000.00
Merchant Account	$4,000.00	$4,000.00	$1,886.00
	$83,864.39	$83,332.00	
	($2,607.05)	($3,332.00)	

*Includes registration fees, individual and sustaining membership dues, Industry meeting support.

**Includes hotel charges, travel, printing costs (programs), postage, etc.

Cash Flow for WSWS	4/1/11-2/21/2012
Category Description	
INFLOWS	
Annual Meeting Income	31,370.00
Bio Control Of Invasives Book	255.96
California Weeds Books	-60
EBIPM Course	6,325.00
Interest Inc.	212.57
Invasive Plants Book	140.31
Misc. Income	41.67
Noxious Weed Shortcourse	-20,925.73
Proceedings	155
Renewal Membership	1,255.00
Research Progress Reports	395.88
Royalty For Proceedings Or RPR	540
Student Travel Account	-3,525.00
Sustaining Member Dues	11,600.00
Weeds Of The West	-14,139.88
TOTAL INFLOWS	13,640.78
OUTFLOWS	
Annual Meeting Expense	2,013.02
Book Handling Fee	655
CAST Annual Dues	2,050.00
Deposit For 2013 Meeting	4,000.00
Director Of Science Policy	8,832.00
Insurance	1,088.13
Merchant Account	1,886.00
Misc. Expense	41.67
Newsletter	22
Postage	52.51
Service Contract	20,000.00
Stipend (Proceedings Editor)	750
Supplies	170.36
Tax Preparation	812.1
TAXES	30
Travel To Summer Meeting	2,948.43
Travel To WSWS Meeting	791.8
Web Site Host	610
Web Site Transactions	2,484.00

Weed Contest	208.13
Weed Olympics	2,100.00
WSSA Rep Travel	919.24
TOTAL OUTFLOWS	52,464.39
OVERALL TOTAL	-38,823.61

Net Worth Report

	2/21/2012
Account	Balance
ASSETS	
Cash and Bank Accounts	
Checking	24,671.70
Money Market	96,197.60
TOTAL Cash and Bank Accounts	120,869.30
Other Assets	
Asset approx. value of Weeds of West inventory 2600 books	39,226.50
TOTAL Other Assets	39,226.50
Investments	
RBC Dain Rauscher Acnt 1101-5709-9275	208,382.72
TOTAL Investments	208,382.72
TOTAL ASSETS	368,478.52
LIABILITIES	
Other Liabilities	
Liability	0
TOTAL Other Liabilities	0
TOTAL LIABILITIES	0
OVERALL TOTAL	368,478.52

Phil Banks presented the highlights from his submitted report. WSWS has about $400,000 in assets. An additional $58,000 in assets is not included for Weeds of the West (WOW) inventory new printing. He said that the new books will be coming about April 1, 2012 and we are selling about 3,000 WOW books per year. University of Wyoming and WSWS will both increase the price on new inventory by $1/book. Expects the number of books we sell go down, but will we will be making more/book than if University of Wyoming sells them. Banks indicated that we will need an active committee marketing the new WOW inventory. Vanelle acknowledged that Corey Ransom's former student went through the weeds list of WOW to make sure names are correct

with WSSA list of weeds names. Vanelle also thanked Joe DiTomaso and Tim Miller for helping edit the new edition. Peterson stated she would like to form a committee to make an electronic version of WOW that will still generate income for WSWS. Joe DiTomaso has agreed to be on the committee.

WSWS received $6,325 from Roger Sheley's course and we lost about $8,600 on the Noxious Weeds Short Course. The pre- registration for WSWS meeting has been slow. We currently have 260 (41 students, 218 regular members, 6 spouse, 2 downy brome symposium) preregistered. Mike Ostlie mentioned it is about same number of students as last year and up from several years ago.

Banks indicated that the Peppermill hotel has been good to work with. There have been just a few room changes, but nothing major. Local arrangements chair, Tina Mudd, moved from Reno, so we lost her as local arrangements chair. Banks took over the job from his office. Phil Westra asked if this is beyond Bank's duties and if he needed compensated or acknowledged. Banks said he was glad to do it. Vanelle indicated that the Board decided last summer to renew his contract slightly above what Bank's proposed and she acknowledged his dedication to the WSWS. The Board thanked Phil for taking on this role for the society. Banks said that Jesse Richardson is helping on-site and is next year's local arrangements chair in San Diego. Banks indicated that the Student Scholarship winners are also assisting at front desk with registration and with poster set up and tear down.

Phil indicated the Portland Hilton was the top choice of site selection committee for the 2015 meeting. He indicated that it is the same hotel as the WSSA met in last year.

In the future, Phil said he will present WOW as an asset in the Net Worth Report using the actual printing cost rather than our selling cost. As a result, it will appear as a reduction in assets in next year's report.

Phil presented the WSWS operating budget. Last year we lost $2,600. He estimates we will lose about $3,200 this year. We raised registration costs for this year's meeting, but registration is down a little bit. Income from WOW brings in about $6-8,000/year (3,000 books/year) profit and our investments with RBC are making money also. Phil Westra asked about sales trends of WOW and Banks indicated sales are dropping very slowly.

Tim Prather asked if there are other ways to encourage early registration. Banks mentioned WSSA has a three tiered registration rate (early bird 25% less, normal, late registration with penalty). Phil wasn't sure if it would encourage people to register earlier or not.

Program Committee Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: Kai Umeda

Date of Preparation: Business Meeting March 2012

Committee Activities during the Year: 2012 meeting program developed with: 84 oral papers; 79 posters; 2 symposia with 17 presentations; 5 general session presentations for total of 185 presentations. In comparison, 2011 meeting in Spokane had 103 oral presentations and 74 posters. Tim Prather, Education & Regulatory Section Chairperson, organized an "Impacts"

session. 2 symposia were organized: 1) an extension of the Horticulture Project is "Tree and Vine Weed Control: New Issues and Opportunities in the US organized by Richard Mann and DowAgro Sciences colleagues; 2) "Ecology and Management of Downy Brome in the West: What Can the Past Tell Us about the Future" organized by C. Brown, I. Burke, and J. Mangold as a stand-alone symposium that extends into Thursday afternoon. It has 9 presentations followed by a panel discussion.

General session organized with: Presidential Address by V. Peterson; WSSA Washington Report by L. Van Wychen; WSWS history by R. Norris; Ethical Challenge by R. Zimdahl; and Lake Tahoe aquatic weed management collaboration by L. Anderson for local flavor.

The WSSA online submissions process worked for members with very little or no complaints or problems. Many thanks to David Krueger for providing technical support and guidance.

Suggestions for the Future: Create "how-to" guide for online submission procedures for future program chairs.

Current Committee Members: Tim Prather (Ed & Reg Section Chair to submit officer report) Joe Yenish (Research Section Chair to submit officer report)

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Kai Umeda

Kai Umeda presented his report. There was one poster withdrawn, but others were added for a total of 79 posters and 84 presentations. He said we were lower on number of oral presentations this year but the number of posters was about the same as previous years.

Kai summarized the two symposia and indicated that a Florida participant requires travel assistance. The Thursday Downy Brome Symposia only had two people specifically registered for it. We didn't get as big a promotion for it as we originally wanted.

Kai summarized the General Session lineup of speakers and indicated everything was in order.

Kai Umeda said that the on-line submission of titles and abstracts works well, but there is a learning curve. Kai indicated that David Kruger was very supportive, as was Vanelle Peterson and Phil Banks. Kai thinks they need a manual or guide to help learn the system for new users each year.

Kai indicated that there are several budget needs; travel assistance for Zimdahl speaking in the General Session, the Florida speaker for the Tree and Vine Symposium, and one speaker from the Downy Brome Symposium.

Vanelle Peterson added that it helps to lock in symposia times at the summer board meeting so the symposia can be promoted more. Kai said he had trouble getting all the details into the program and as a result he didn't get much promotion of the Downy Brome Symposium.

Phil Banks said it would be good to know if we are having a symposia in San Diego as the hotel is wondering if we can release the room or not. Kai Umeda added that we need to come up with a hot local topic for a symposium in Colorado. Phil Westra said that glyphosate resistant kochia and kochia as a weed is a hot topic. Pete Forster thought we could bring a lot of outside people in for a kochia symposium in Colorado. Phil Westra suggested he, Pete Forster, and Andrew Kniss get together and come up with something.

Vanelle Peterson mentioned that we had several symposia the last time we were in San Diego, but we didn't get that many outside people. Phil Banks and Joe DiTomaso added that we had a large budget for Symposia speakers and it cost a lot of money last time in San Diego. Vanelle didn't know if there was a really hot weed topic for San Diego for a symposium. John Roncoroni is the Horticulture Section next year and he could probably expand their program according to Kai Umeda.

Research Section Chair Report

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Joe Yenish, Chair
Tony White, Co-Chair

Date of Preparation: March 10, 2012

Activities during the Year:

Discussion session topics and moderators for each of the five research sections include:

Section 1: Weeds of Range and Natural Areas
Moderator: John (Lars) Baker
Title: Cooperative Weed Mapping - Sharing Skills and Resources across Jurisdictional Boundaries

Section 2: Weeds of Horticultural Crops
Moderator: Hank Major
Title: What Role Does Horticulture Have in the Future of the WSWS?

Section 3: Weeds of Agronomic Crops
Moderator: Chad Asmus
Title: How Can Industry and Academia Work Together to Encourage Growers to Proactively Adopt Herbicide Resistance

Section 4: Teaching and Technology Transfer
Moderator: Gustavo Sbatella
Title: Adding Mobile Apps to the Weed Management Tool Box

Section 5: Basic Biology and Ecology
Moderator: William McCloskey
Title: Can the National Phenology Network Be Used in Invasive Weed Research?

Title and Abstract Submissions
All titles and abstracts were submitted via the wssaabstracts.com web site. Presenters were asked to: 1) upload their presentations to the website prior to the meeting, 2) email the presentations to the session chair, or 3) coordinate presentation delivery with the session chair in advance of the session.

A total of 182 research presentations (102 paper and 80 posters) were submitted for the 2012 meeting (Table below) which was a 4% increase from the 2011 meeting in Spokane, WA. Withdrawn papers have not been factored at the time of this report. Of this total, 35 submissions (19%) were entered in the student poster or paper contests – four less than in 2011.

Table. WSWS research poster and paper presentations submitted for the 2012 meeting in Reno, NV

Reno, NV (2012)	Papers		Posters	
	Total	(Student)	Total	(Student)
1. Range and Natural Areas	28	6	25	4
2. Horticulture	10	0	12	1
3. Agronomic	26	5	27	9
4. Teaching and Technology Transfer	3	0	5	0
5. Basic Biology and Ecology	12	8	11	2
Education and Regulatory	6	0	-	0
Symposium: Tree and Vine Weed Control:	8	0	-	0
Symposium: Ecology and Management of Downy Brome	9	0	-	0
	102	19	80	16
2011 Total (Spokane, WA)	*102*	*17*	*73*	*22*
2012 vs. 2011	*0%*	*+12%*	*+10%*	*-38%*

Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2012 meeting:

Section 1: Weeds of Range and Natural Areas
- Chair - Lars Baker, Lander, WY
- Co-chair – Todd Neel, Marblemount, WA

Section 2: Weeds of Horticultural Crops
- Chair – Hank Mager, Fountain Hills, AZ
- Co-chair – John Roncoroni, NAPA, CA

Section 3: Weeds of Agronomic Crops
- Chair – Chad Asmus, Newton, KS
- Co-chair – Joe Armstrong, Stillwater, OK

Section 4: Teaching and Technology Transfer
- Chair – Gustavo Sbatella, Madras, OR
- Co-chair – Kelly Murray Young, Phoenix, AZ

Section 5: Basic Biology and Ecology
- Chair – Bill McCloskey, Tucson, AZ
- Co-chair – Sarah Ward, Ft. Collins, CO

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 gave a brief synopsis of his report. He indicated that the on-line title and abstract submissions went smoothly. Some presentations are being submitted on-line. There were a total of 45 presentations submitted on the website to date according to Phil Banks. Some people still submit presentations directly to the project chairs at last minute or before.

Tim Miller and Pete Forster mentioned that they had a few problems loading presentations onto the site. Joe added that the Symposia speakers had the most problems loading titles/abstracts onto the system.

Joe Yenish said there was a drop in student posters, mainly in the Range and Natural section.

Vanelle asked Joe to inform Tony White that Todd Neil (Nat'l Park service) should be pulled into the loop so he knows his duties and responsibilities as the incoming chair.

Poster Committee - *moved off the consent agenda*

Officer or Chairperson Name: Roger Gast (2012 chair)

Date of Preparation: March 9, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:
Following the 2011 meeting, easels and poster boards were taken by Rich Affeldt in care of Marvin Butler for storage at OSU prior to the 2012 Reno, Nevada meeting. Marvin Butler will be delivering the easels/poster boards to the Reno meeting. The WSWS has a total of 93 poster boards and 48 easels.

Seventy nine (79) posters were originally planned for the 2012 Reno meeting. One poster was withdrawn prior to the meeting and there was also one late addition. Phil Banks has arranged for an additional 30 easels to be rented from the Peppermill hotel to make up the difference.

Joe DiTomaso has generously volunteered to transport and store the easels/poster boards (after the Reno meeting) in Davis, California until the 2013 meeting in San Diego.

Recommendations for Board Action:
The board should discuss plans for equipment delivery arrangements for the 2013 meeting in San Diego, California and out years. If budget allows we recommend purchasing approximately 35 more easels. We have 47 good easels and usually need around 70-80 easels each year.

Budget Needs:
Joe DiTomaso has volunteered to transport the easels and poster board to San Diego; however the board should have a backup plan for shipping from Davis to San Diego, and budget easel rental costs for the 2013 meeting if none are purchased. Alternately we recommend buying about 35 more easels – suggest budgeting $50/easel for a total of $1750.

Suggestions for the Future: None (other than above)

Current Committee Members:
Roger Gast (2012 chair)
Bob Finley (past chair)
Chuck Rice (chair elect)

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Roger Gast

Education and Regulatory Section Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: Tim Prather

Date of Preparation: 1/24/2012

Committee Activities during the Year:

A symposium on how we communicate the impacts of invasive plant species will be presented at the WSWS 2012 meeting. The topics include communication among our public both with awareness programs and social media, our legislative representatives with respect to crafting methods to acquire funding, University communication of impacts of programs for both extension and research, and how to communicate needs for funding of on-the-ground programs.

Recommendations for Board Action:

Still need a web version of the Education and Regulatory chair responsibilities.

Budget Needs:

Suggestions for the Future:

We should discuss the role of the Education and Regulatory section chair.

1) Why is the Education and Regulatory Section different from a Research Section Chair? The position seems to have evolved into the chair of a symposium and so perhaps we should discuss how to revise the position.
2) There does not seem to be a set of records to pass on to the chair elect. Should we delete reference to forwarding records?
3) What is to be communicated with the Public Relations and Education Committees?

Current Committee Members: Rich Affeldt

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Tim Prather

Tim Prather read through his report. He indicated that Roger Batt will not be able to make it to the meeting and Tim will fill in for him. Vanelle Peterson asked Brad Hanson to fill in as chair 2013 for Rich Affeldt, who changed jobs. The 2014 chair-elect position is still open. Several board members suggested Joel Felix. Joe DiTomaso indicated that we had decided earlier that

Brad Hansen will do it two years in a row. Vanelle Peterson preferred to find a different person next year. Kai Umeda had a list of 6-7 people already to consider for the chair elect. Vanelle asked for a motion that Joel Felix be asked to fill the chair elect position, but Kai Umeda informed the board that the president could just ask him and appoint him the position. Vanelle said she will ask Joel Felix if he will serve as chair-elect.

Student Liaison Report

Prepared by Mike Ostlie

Greetings! If you are a current or perspective WSWS member and are looking for a leadership role within the weed science community, consider nominating yourself (or another person) for the student liaison position. The position is a two year commitment in which you serve as the voice of the students within the society. The first year of appointment the liaison learns the position and gets familiar with the society. In the second year, the liaison becomes a voting member on the board of directors. The process is simple. Let me know via e-mail (mike.ostlie@ndsu.edu) if you are interested and during the student luncheon on Tuesday of WSWS meeting, we will vote for a new liaison. If you are planning to attend the next couple annual meetings, I highly encourage you to consider the position.

As you make your plans for the WSWS don't forget to sign up for the Student Night Out program. This program allows students to make connections with university, government, or industry representatives from around the country in a casual, relaxed atmosphere. To sign up for the event, follow the online instructions during the meeting registration process or talk to me during the first day of the WSWS meeting.

After the meeting is over, students can claim a $25 per night (for three nights) stipend to supplement hotel room costs at the meeting.

This year there will be a silent auction during the Monday reception. If you have any items you would be willing to donate to the auction send me (mike.ostlie@ndsu.edu) or Cameron Douglass (Cameron.douglass@colostate.edu) an e-mail. All proceeds from the event will go toward student activities and scholarships. Already there have been a few pretty good items offered for the auction. Keep it up!
I will see you in Reno!

Mike Ostlie outlined several proposed changes for the operating guide. He indicated the role of the chair-elect is changing and expanding. Mike suggested that we need to advertise the WSWS student group sites on website. About 40 students are registered for the meeting again this year. The majority of the students have signed up for student night out. Mike Ostlie thought that the electronic sign up has helped increase student participation. Mike suggested students be more specific on their interests when signing up for the student night out. He also suggested that we include industry rep locations and addresses so students can match their interests better.

Mike Ostlie said to contact him if anyone has silent auction items. He announced that they have 10-20 items for the silent auction, which will be done at the WSWS reception. The end of bidding will be announced, so people know when to get their final bids in. Mike decided to run the auction the entire time (6-8 P.M.) and will post winners at the registration desk.

Corey Ransom suggested that a schedule for student night out be listed in the meeting program. Roger Gast said he will include it in next year's program.

Phil Westra added that Mike Ostlie is now employed and no longer a student. Vanelle Peterson thanked both Mike Ostlie and Cameron Douglass for all their work and efforts as student representatives.

WSSA Representative Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: Tim Miller

Date of Preparation: March 1, 2012

The 2012 WSSA annual meeting was held February 6-9 in Waikoloa, HI. The meeting was very well attended, with 692 registered for the meeting with 108 registered as guests. BOD members from The West are Rod Lym (President), James Anderson (Director of Publications), Sarah Ward and Anne Légère (members at large), and Cody Gray (APMS Representative); incoming WSSA officers from The West are Joe DiTomaso (Vice President), and Ian Burke (Treasurer). Make-up of the BOD may change, with discussion that the number of Members at Large may decrease from four to two. The 2013 WSSA meeting will be a joint meeting with NEWSS and will be held in Baltimore, MD and the 2014 meeting will be a joint meeting with CWSS and will be held in Vancouver, BC. Location for the 2015 meeting is still being considered.

James Anderson reported that *Weed Science* and *Weed Technology* continue to be profitable for WSSA. *Invasive Plant Science and Management* is in its third year and was accepted by Science Citation Index Expanded and Current Contents/Agriculture Biology & Environmental Sciences to determine its impact factor. It is anticipated that both institutional and personal subscriptions of *IPSM* will continue to increase for this journal and that it will be profitable by Year 5. Abstracts of articles submitted to *Weed Technology* will continue to be printed in English and Spanish through 2012, but *Weed Science* and *IPSM* will not require these until at least 2013, if at all. Anne Légère conducted an initial needs assessment of whether to publish an on-line version of the Herbicide Handbook or continue with the printed book. A committee was put together to come up with a marketing plan for the 10th edition, which is at least a year from publication. Additional publications of interest are a book on *Adjuvants for Agrochemicals* and one on *Research Methods in Weed Science*.

Jill Schroeder continues to provide excellent service as Weed Science Subject Matter Expert at USEPA. She reported to the BOD on various aspects of her duties, in particular the WSSA sponsorship for a tour of the weed resistance management challenges in Missouri, Illinois, and Arkansas that occurred August 15-17, 2011. Jill, Kevin Bradley, Jason Norsworthy, and Bryan Young planned and conducted the tour for EPA and other agency personnel.

There was discussion about WSSA adopting the summary of the APHIS II Report on Herbicide Resistance as a position statement. The BOD made slight modifications to the current wording, which will now go to HRAC for their consideration. The BOD will vote on acceptance of this summary statement in the coming months. In other herbicide resistance action, Mike Owen is one of the lead WSSA contacts on The National Academy of Science Summit on Strategies to Manage Herbicide Resistant Weeds, set to convene May 10, 2012 in Washington, DC. David Shaw and John Soteres and the Herbicide Resistant Weed Education Committee developed a block of educational materials that was made available on the web to members (and non-members) for training audiences on herbicide resistance. There is also a desire to offer online Continuing Education credits for agricultural professionals viewing these materials. Discussions with Penton Media are underway.

Website director David Kruger is redesigning the WSSA website. Changes will include new graphics, a wider layout, adding a blog feature for communications to the President or other members, adding the capacity for committee webpages, and fully incorporating Weed images into the website.

Pat Clay has assumed duties as WSSA Representative for 2012-2014.

Tim Miller presented the WSSA report. Tim indicated that the hotel block for the WSSA Hawaii meeting was met easily. Tim mentioned that the WSWS is well represented on the WSSA board. He added that the Members at Large might be reduced to two rather than four on the board.

Tim said the WSSA journals Weed Science and Weed Technology are profitable and Invasive Plant Science and Management is *getting its impact factor and on schedule to become profitable.*

Tim indicated the Adjuvant publication is still being worked on and needs updated. It's been five years and need a new proposal according to Joe DiTomaso.

WSSA is also possibly publishing a new Research Methods in Weed Science (Nilda Burgess, but Tim Miller didn't remember if a decision was made or not. Joe DiTomaso thought they may be publishing it in a special issue of Weed Technology.

Tim Miller briefed the board on the upcoming Nat'l Academy of Science Summit on Strategies to Manage Herbicide Resistant Weeds, set to convene May 10, 2012 in D.C. Phil Banks will have registration forms for it at desk. Phil Westra said Dale Shaner is participating. Charlie Arntsen is involved too. Phil Banks read through a brochure that listed some of speakers at the D.C. event. Speakers included Jody Holt, David Shaw, and Harold Coble. Phil is sending the website for the event to the board via email.

Miller indicated that the WSSA Weed Resistant Education Modules are available on-line. They will also be offering continuing education credits in various states. Harry Cline is in charge of this and they have been approved in 17 states according to Joe DiTomaso. Currently, it is a five module set and it may be expanded.

Tim said that Dave Kruger is redesigning the WSSA website and to give Dave your input if anyone has any. Joe DiTomaso added that Michael Bowers is developing a CAP grant for herbicide resistance. Joe DiTomaso said that WSSA will meet in Vancouver after Baltimore and is looking at going to the Midwest rather than the west next.

Kai Umeda asked if the board had approved Vanelle Peterson's appointment of Pat Clay as our new WSWS representative on the WSSA board. Vanelle asked for a motion.

Motion. Tim Miller moved that Pat Clay be accepted as the new WSSA representative. Joe DiTomaso seconded. **Motion approved unanimously.**

WSWS CAST Representative Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: Philip Westra

Date of Preparation: March 4, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:

1. With the elimination of earmarks in Congress, CAST lost approximately $100,000 of operating funds which they are working hard to replace through alternative avenues. This

loss of funding has reduced the resource base for special topic publications which CAST frequently produces on a timely basis.

2. Phil Stahlman has been elected President Elect of the CAST Board of Directors. This entails a lot of work for Phil during difficult times for the organization, but also gives Weed Science a key voice in the operations of CAST.
3. David Shaw rolled out a new CAST Issue Paper titled "Herbicide-resistant weeds threaten soil conservation gains: finding a balance for soil and farm sustainability" at the 2012 WSSA meeting in Hawaii. Bob Wilson will make a similar roll out at the WSWS Reno meeting.
4. Phil Westra will work with several other people to develop a Commentary Paper on the growing need to attract more high quality graduate students into Agricultural Professional Degree Programs including those with a focus on molecular biology.
5. The WSWS is engaged in support of CAST activities in a variety of ways.
6. Phil Westra attended the CAST summer board meeting in Des Moines, IA.

Recommendations for Board Action:

Budget Needs:

Suggestions for the Future:

Current Committee Members:

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Phil Westra

Phil Westra presented the CAST report. The last CAST board meeting was in Des Moines, Iowa last summer. Phil indicated that CAST used to get earmark funding and now has lost about $100,000 in funding. Both individual and society memberships to CAST show a slow and steady decline. Funding for publications is hard to come up with. If anyone has an idea for a publication from CAST, you need to raise the money yourself and figure out the authors, etc.

Westra mentioned that a new publication is out which David Shaw coauthored "Herbicide-resistant weeds threaten soil conservation gains: finding a balance for soil and farm sustainability". Bob Wilson giving a presentation on it at this meeting.

Phil Westra said he has an idea for a new CAST publication "Emerging crisis of getting highly qualified domestic students to go into Agricultural sciences". He stated that students with molecular biology and plant breeding backgrounds will be in high demand.

Phil Westra added that opinion papers are usually shorter and around 10 pages or less and cost about $5-10,000. Larger lengthier publications are around $50-60,000/publication. CAST publications are brought forward by board members and their connections rather than top-down. Jo DiTomaso added that Monsanto partly funded one of the CAST publications and it is indicated on the paper.

Phil Westra asked board to let him know if there are particular topics from the WSWS that CAST should consider doing a position paper on. Tim Prather suggested that the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit program was an issue that might be a good topic for a CAST publication.

Immediate Past-President's Report – Joe DiTomaso

No report submitted.

Joe DiTomaso reported Lars Anderson as the only retirement. John Brock will also be acknowledged at the WSWS reception even though he retired several years ago.

President's Report

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Vanelle Peterson

Date of Preparation: March 9, 2012

Activities during the Year:
On January 3, 2012, the August Board meeting minutes were approved via an email vote of a majority of Board members.

The newly revised *Weeds of the West* has been printed and is at the binder. Seventy-three weed names were up-dated to match the Weed Science Society of America Composite List of Weeds. Thanks to Corey Ransom and Stephanie Christensen for coordinating and finding the changes needed, and to Joe DiTomaso and Tim Miller for reviewing the changes. Also thanks to Tom Whitson for his assistance and work in getting the changes incorporated and in coordinating the printing. Only 2 people have volunteered (Joe DiTomaso and Daniel Gluesenkamp, CalFlora) to be on the ad hoc committee to investigate moving *Weeds of the West* to an electronic format. Please let me know if you know anyone who would be interested in volunteering for this ad hoc committee. It will be active in 2012-2013 with me in my role as Past President.

It is an honor in the role of President to be able to inform those elected to WSWS President-elect, secretary and chair-elect of the Education and Regulatory positions, and recipients of WSWS honors and awards. I worked with Dan Ball, chair of the Nominations committee, Celestine Duncan, chair of Fellows and Honorary Members committee, and Jill Schroeder, chair of the Awards committee, to inform 2012 recipients of the election results and of the awards.

Tim Miller, WSWS representative to WSSA, rotated out of this position at the end of the February 2012 WSSA meeting. I appointed Pat Clay to serve in this position from 2012 through 2015 (rotate off at the WSSA annual meeting in February 2015). Thanks to Pat for agreeing as WSWS representative to WSSA for 3 years; it is a time consuming position but a rewarding one as well. It is important for WSWS to have a strong voice on the WSSA Board. I represented WSWS at the WSSA 2012 annual meeting and attended the regional Presidents breakfast.

The Student Scholarship program is relatively new and it became clear that there is a need for the Operating Guide to be updated around the responsibilities for the program. Mike Ostlie, Student Liaison, and I will be proposing changes to the Operating Guide to make the responsibilities more clear.

Rich Affeldt, chair-elect for the 2013 Education and Regulatory section has resigned due to a new job position. Brad Hanson, newly elected chair-elect for 2014, agreed to step in and be the section chair in 2013. However, that leaves the chair-elect for 2014 open. As the constitution

indicates I will appoint someone this week to the position. If you have any recommendations please let me know.

As of March 5, 2012 there were only 6 registrations for the WSWS Noxious Weed Short Course and the deadline for cancellation with the venue where the short course is held was approaching. During that week I had several meetings with Phil Banks, Sandra McDonald, Joe DiTomaso and Kai Umeda. Sandra calculated a new budget to reduce costs for the short course and the ad hoc committee compared that with costs spent to date. It was decided that if by March 11th there were 20 registrations in hand then the cost estimates would be taken to the Board for discussion about whether or not to cancel the course for April 2012. The Board will also have a discussion on March 12th about the long term feasibility of the WSWS Noxious Weed Short Course.

In preparation for the March Board meeting, I asked Luke Samuel to invite Stan Cooper, RBC Wealth Management, to discuss WSWS investments with the Board. The Board is considering changes to the investment portfolio at the recommendation of the Finance committee.

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

Recommendations for Board Action: approve Operating Guide changes (see below) Consider where to add authority on financial limits.

Budget Needs: none

Suggestions for the Future: none

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide: Made suggested changes to the Operating Guide on limits and authority of the President to approve use of WSWS funds and in the notification of awards.

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Vanelle Peterson

Vanelle Peterson presented her report. She acknowledged and thanked Corey Ransom's former student, Stephanie Christiansen for helping review weed names in the new edition of Weeds of the West. Joe DiTomaso and Daniel Gluesenkamp have agreed to serve on a committee to create an electronic version of Weeds of the West.

Newly selected WSWS Fellows Lars Anderson and Jody Holt were notified of their awards. Jody Holt won't be here, but Celestine Duncan will receive Jodi Holt's award and read Jodi's letter.

Vanelle indicated that the Operating guide for student scholarships is being prepared. She thanked Mike Ostlie and Cameron Douglass for helping with student operating guide.

Peterson announced that Tim Miller is rotating out of WSSA representative position and thanked Tim for his efforts. Pat Clay will be taking over the position.

Vanelle stated that Luke Samuel, finance committee chair, has arranged to have Stan Cooper talk to the board later today at 12:30 via phone conference.

Peterson reported that only six people had registered for Noxious Weed Short Course in Colorado and that WSWS would lose about $18,500 if they run the course for six people. Vanelle said she visited with Sandra McDonald about informed her that we couldn't afford to lose that

much. If Sandra runs the course with 20 people and a reduced number of instructors, we would lose $7,800. Sandra now has exactly 20 registered as of today (19 are from Colorado). Sandra had a two-year contract with WSWS and the Board needs to provide notification to cancel 1-year in advance of the course, which is held in April, so we need to decide as a board if want to continue or not.

Westra asked why the course is having a hard time getting participation. Joe DiTomaso indicated that the BLM, Forest Service, National Parks agencies used to be the main attendees. Now very few of them are coming but not sure why. Current travel restrictions on federal agencies are probably contributing to poor attendance. The venue probably isn't the problem. Steve Young's course was mainly attended by NRCS people. Sheley's course targets a different group and a lot less expensive ($75-80). Corey thought most of the attendees at Sheley's course were from Utah and Idaho and were not competing for same group of attendees.

Phil Westra posed the question "If we decide not to do the Short Course is that the end of it or do we find another provider for the course?" Joe DiTomaso indicated we need to discuss those issues with Sandra later today. Corey Ransom indicated that the Center for Invasive Plant Management was organizing education programs. Phil Banks said that they are competing for same group.

Joe DiTomaso said California runs their own programs and very few are leaving the state for training. Several board members thought it may be time to drop our involvement with the course given that many states/regions doing their own training programs. Last year 25 people registered for the Noxious Weed Short Course and is now down to 20 people.

Vanelle Peterson said she authorized some WSWS spending for the Weed Olympics. Vanelle added that there are no limits in the operating guide on the amount she can spend and she suggested that a spending cap should be considered.

Local Arrangements Committee Report

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Jesse Richardson, chair; Chuck Rice; (one vacancy).

Date of Preparation: March 11, 2012

Committee Activities During the Year: A change in Tina Mudd's job responsibilities meant that she could no longer serve as chair for the local arrangements committee. Jesse Richardson and Chuck Rice will fill in during the 2012 meeting.

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: Jesse Richardson

Phil Banks said there are a couple of extra projectors at registration desk if needed. Jesse Richardson will be circulating around during the meeting if anyone needs anything. Jesse Richardson is also working with the hotel in San Diego. Phil Westra stated that at previous meetings, lasers have gone dead. Phil Banks said that the moderators should supply lasers, but there are extras at the registration desk, if needed.

Finance Committee Report

Office or Name: Finance Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: Luke Samuel (Chair), Drew Lyon, Brian Mealor

Date of Preparation: March 1, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year: In 2011, the Finance Committee proposed several changes in fee schedules for the annual meeting that should help balance income/expenses associated with the annual WSWS meeting. The committee also proposed moving moneys managed by RBC Wealth Management into minimal cost CD's, money market accounts, etc. This adjustment would alleviate the 1% management fee and, although the investment returns may be slightly lower, it will maintain some financial growth while maintaining the required two years' worth of operating budget (approximately $180,000) in available, liquid accounts. The committee recommended that Business Manager Phil Banks manage these new investments. The committee has also reviewed the WSWS net worth statement, cash flow report, check book ledger, money market ledger, and RBC Wealth Management statement.

The committee will meet with Phil Banks, Business Manager, at the annual meeting in Reno to conduct an informal audit of the WSWS financial situation.

Stan Cooper of RBC Wealth Management is advising no changes to our investment approach at this time.

Investment value as of 1-1-11 = $198,057
Investment value as of 12-31-2011 = $199,876 (year-end value +.92%)
Investment value as of 1-27-2012 = $208,195 (up 5.11% from the 1-1-11 value)

Current Asset Allocation:
72% Bonds
27.6% Growth
0.4% Cash

Estimated Annual Portfolio Income: **$9,899, which is a yield of 5.10%**

Recommendations for Board Action: The Finance committee again recommends the Board evaluate the use of RBC Wealth Management for our investment portfolio. We pay 1% of managed assets, or about $2,000, per year to RBC Wealth Management for their services. There are much cheaper options including no-load, low cost mutual funds or ETF's that may be more appropriate for the society, however, this would require Board agreement on fund selection and a

slightly more active approach to investment management by the Board and Finance Committee. Alternatively, the Board could go with CD's managed by the Business Manager as previously described.

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: Continue to evaluate investment strategy;

Current Committee Members: Luke Samuel (Chair), Drew Lyon, Brian Mealor

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Luke Samuel

The following two reports were submitted by Stan Cooper.

Western Society of Weed Science
Portfolio Review, March 8, 2012

$198,057 1-1-11 Opening Value
$199,876 12-31-11 Year End Value (+.92%)
$210,629 3-7-12 Current Value (+5.37% Year To Date.)

Comparable Index Numbers for 2011 from the Wall Street Journal
0% S&P 500 (+2.12% with dividends.)
-1.0% Wilshire 5000
-1.8% NASDAQ
-4.7% Warren Buffet's Berkshire Fund
-20% Financials
-20% European Market
-21% Emerging Markets
-13% Japan
-20% Hang Seng China
-14% Commodities

Current Asset Allocation:
72.0% Bonds
27.5% Growth (of this, only 25%, or 6.88% of the total portfolio, is currently in the stock market)
.5% Cash

$9,877 Current Annual Dividend and Interest Income (4.71% Gross Yield.)
-2,484 Annual Management Fee
$7,393 Net Dividend and Interest Income

3.53% Portfolio Yield, Net of All Fees

Recommended Changes**:**

Sell $25,000 of Pimco Total Return (current yield 3.22%) move proceeds into Pimco All Asset All Authority fund (current yield 7.41%.)

Sell International Treasury position (BWX), move proceeds to Pimco All Asset All Authority.

(Second Report from Stan Cooper)

In anticipation of a Board discussion regarding the cost of doing business, please consider the following historical snapshots:

2007
+10.4% WSWS, net of Fees
+ 5.4% S&P 500

2008
-20.6% WSWS, net of Fees
-39.4% S&P 500

2009 March
-5.3% WSWS, net of Fees
-28.1% S&P 500

May 2010-July 2010
+ 3.2% WSWS, net of fees
-15.0% S&P 500

June 2011-October 2011
+ 4.8% WSWS, net of fees
-16.0% S&P 500

2003- February 2012
+6.4% WSWS total return, net of fees
+5.9% S&P 500

Current net portfolio income vs.: U.S. Treasury Bonds/ Bank C.D.'s

3.53% WSWS current *net* portfolio yield

0.13% 6 month U.S. Treasury Bills
0.21% 6 month Bank C.D.

0.19% 1 year U.S. Treasury Bill
0.44% 1 year Bank C.D.

0.29% 2 year U.S. Treasury Bond
0.61% 2 year Bank C.D.

0.85% 5 year U.S. Treasury Bond
1.45% 5 year Bank C.D.

2.90% CPI (Inflation)

What are the benefits of a buying a no-load mutual fund?

Using that approach, members of the society would become responsible and liable for managing the Society's assets. These members then become responsible for researching, selecting, buying, selling, tracking, recording and *defending* all decisions.

In my experience, managing money *part time*, by committee, is challenging at best, and is almost never truly effective, or satisfying, simply because every member of every committee has other responsibilities, on a full time basis, as employees or employers. Using a Financial Advisor, even though there is a cost, does help with the Fiduciary responsibility and does help provide continuity as Board members rotate on and off, and, finally, is there to provide ongoing, day to day monitoring of the portfolio, the markets and the global economy.

The board conducted a teleconference with Luke Samuel and Stan Cooper. Brian Mealor, member of the Finance Committee, also was present. Luke Samuel asked Stan Cooper to go over some of the risks and benefits of different financial management alternatives for the society. Stan Cooper began by summarizing the performance of our portfolio presented above. Stan Cooper outlined some of the benefits of having RCB managing our assets versus managing them ourselves. Vanelle Peterson indicated that we had modified our arrangements with RBC over the years and to summarize our current arrangement with the board.

Stan Cooper reviewed the performance of our portfolio currently valued at $211,574 and the percentages in various assets. He indicated that RBC was paid a $2,480 management fee. His fee drops to 1% if our portfolio exceeds $250,000. He mentioned he would like to sell $50,000 and shift to PIMCO 'All Asset/All Authority Fund'. He would like to sell our International treasury fund also and put that in the same PIMCO 'All Asset' fund.

Stan Cooper expressed concern about the staying power of the current market. He outlined historical snapshots indicating how their management was almost always better than the S&P500 (see report above). Stan believes there will be another serious correction in the market. He feels that numerous problems in the market haven't been addressed and corrected and he doesn't believe the current market is sustainable.

Stan pointed out that yields on short term bonds (CD's) are very low. RCB is buying high quality short term bonds. PIMCO is the largest bond manager in the world. Cooper believes the Government is artificially holding interest rates low and he predicts that the U.S. will soon be faced with the same problems as Europe with our large debt. Stan stated that the debt:GDP ratios are bad. According to Stan Cooper there are several ways out of it; Economic recovery, austerity, explicit default, a surprise burst of inflation, financial depression, and steady inflation.

The bottom line is there is a lot of risk according to Stan. He expects that the market may hit bottom before or by 2016. WSWS has limited good options on managing our money. RCB is being more conservative now than in the past.

Stan pointed out that our organization has boards or committees in which people rotate that are overseeing our finances. This has some inherent problems such as keeping long term records, consistency in investment strategies, making timely decisions, and putting a lot of responsibility and accountability on a few individuals.

Vanelle Peterson asked Luke Samuel if the Finance Committee is in favor of their recommendations of last summer of WSWS doing more management on our own. Luke stated they are just asking the questions and is up to the board on what we want to do. Vanelle Peterson stated that the past returns are quite impressive with RBC, and thanked Stan Cooper for his service. Joe DiTomaso asked if we can expect to maintain a 3.5% yield on our investments. Stan Cooper thought it could actually be higher with the suggested changes.

Brian Mealor suggested WSWS doesn't have the expertise to manage the society's finances ourselves and to keep the course with Stan. Phil Westra pointed out that our main goal is to retain our nest egg, not withdraw much money out, and be rather conservative managing our assets. Stan Cooper added that RCB's strategy is already is designed to sustain the funds currently held and that we could later shift into the market and grow once we get past the expected downturn in the market.

DiTomaso agreed that most of the information he has read indicates that the market is overextended now, and is expected to go down. Stan Cooper thought the market could possibly take a dive this year, but it could stretch into late in the year after the presidential election. Some credible people believe this market is manipulated and Stan said he is tending to believe it. He suggested it might be the Fed who is manipulating it as they need to keep the market stable.

Stan suggested that he attend WSWS in San Diego next year. Stan is forwarding several articles to Luke Samuel for the board to read. He added that RBC is rated the safest bank in North America. Stan will wait for Luke Samuel to tell him to go ahead or not with his suggested changes. Vanelle Peterson thanked Stan Cooper for his efforts and service he provides to the WSWS.

Vanelle Peterson led further discussion on the recommendation of finance committee to consider not using RBC and handling investments ourselves. Luke Samuel reiterated that they just wanted to ask the question on what is the best way to handle our finances. He said the Finance Committee is not comfortable managing our investments and the turnover on the committee is too great as well. Brian Mealor echoed Luke's comments. Vanelle Peterson was impressed by Stan's description that "We've never been here before" and the market is so scary now. Joe DiTomaso said Stan's comments on the markets reflect what he's been reading as well and suggested that we stay with Stan. Roger Gast added that we've been in this discussion before with the Finance Committee in the past and came the conclusion to stay the course with Stan Cooper. RBC really saved WSWS from losing a lot of money in 2008-09. Vanelle indicated that Phil Banks also had indicated that he didn't want to make the WSWS investment decisions at our last board meeting, but would be willing to carry out whatever investment decisions are made. Bob Stougaard indicated that there was discussion at the summer board meeting of having 1-year operating expenses in liquid accounts. Luke said he thought we wanted to maintain about $180,000 available in liquid accounts. It was felt by the board that RBC's accounts were liquid enough to satisfy this requirement.

Vanelle asked for a motion to change any of our management of investments. No motion was received. The board thought it was best to keep the course with Stan Cooper and RBC.

Brian Mealor asked if we need a motion to approve Stan's suggestions to move money into various investments that he outlined today. Vanelle Peterson said that the Finance Committee has the authority to approve Stan Cooper's recommended changes. The Finance Committee will be meeting with Stan Cooper later in the week to go over his suggestions.

Publications

I. Proceedings

Office or Committee Name: WSWS Proceedings Editor

Officer or Chairperson Name: Editor: Bill McCloskey

Date of Preparation: March 10, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year: Developed new procedures, produced the WSWS Proceedings for Publication in electronic formation (PDF) and sent the electronic document to the WSWS Business Manager. I also discussed changes in the wssaabstracts.com website report formats with David Kueger.

Recommendations for Board Action: Review and update Operating Guide procedures for producing the WSWS Proceedings; these suggestions were proposed in my report for the summer 2011 board meeting in Reno but I don't know if any action was taken (see suggested changes below).

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 WSWS Business Manager in an electronic form agreed to by the Proceeding Editor and Business Manager.

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: None

Current Committee Members: Bill McCloskey

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Bill McCloskey

Kai Umeda outlined that we have moved to electronic format for the WSWS Proceedings. Bill McCloskey has updated the operating guide for the Proceedings. The WSWS Proceedings came out in August, which was late. This was Bill McCloskey's first year at it and Phil Banks thinks it will get done quicker this year. Phil Banks added that members can access abstracts on the WSSA title site (past publications). The abstracts are available before the Proceedings are completed. However, members wouldn't be able to cite abstracts or have page numbers until the Proceedings are published. Kai Umeda said he thought they can have the Proceedings published by 1 ½ months after meeting. Deadlines for publishing the proceedings are in the new operating procedures.

II. Research Progress Reports

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Traci Rauch

Date of Preparation: February 28, 2012

Activities during the Year: The 2012 Research Progress Report is 101 pages. The number of reports submitted was 45 in 2012, 59 in 2011, and 63 in 2010.
Project 1 - 9 reports
Project 2 - 11 reports
Project 3 - 22 reports
Project 4 - 1 report
Project 5 - 2 reports
To continue encouraging submissions to the Research Progress Report, we included a note in the September newsletter and on the website. Reports were only submitted electronically. Most

reports were submitted in Microsoft Word format and some as pdf file type (Acrobat). A reply was sent upon receipt of reports. A pdf file was created from the reports and submitted to the webmaster to include on the website. The deadline was change until the first week of January. Reports were submitted from the following states:
Arizona
California
Idaho
New Mexico
North Dakota
Oregon
South Dakota
Recommendations for Board Action: The Board needs to look at this publication. The number of submissions has dropped below 50 reports. How many is too few for the reports? How many times was the 2011 Research Progress Report accessed on the website over the last year?

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Traci Rauch

Kai Umeda presented Traci Rauch's report. The Research Progress Report had 101 pages this year with 45 reports. Participation is still dropping off, with only a few states submitting reports. Tracy recommended that the board take a close look and determine how often the Research Progress Report is accessed on the web site by members. Banks added that he pays her stipend ($750) when the report is finished. Phil Banks said the cost of the Research Progress Report is pretty much a wash, and some libraries and companies still by a hard copy. Vanelle Peterson suggested that since we are not losing money on it, we probably should keep it as a service to the society. Traci Rauch is willing to take a lower stipend if the number of reports keep getting lower. Tim Prather said that it is historically a good document to refer back to and for extension type questions, it is a good resource. Phil Westra said that if Steve Gylling (ARM) could come up with a modified version of the ARM program that could help generate reports in the proper format, he would be more likely to participate. Corey Ransom likes the Progress Report as an opportunity for students to submit reports. Phil Westra said he will approach Steve Gylling if someone gives him a template of what a report needs to looks like. He will talk to Traci Rauch. Banks indicated that Phil Westra he can get instructions off the website for proper formatting for the Research Progress Report. Phil Banks added that Traci needs to update the instructions also.

III. WSWS Newsletter

Office or Committee Name: Newsletter Editors

Officer or Chairperson Name and Committee Members: Cheryl Fiore and Carl Libbey

Date of Preparation: March 5, 2012

Activities during the Year: Request and compile submissions to the newsletter for publication following the Newsletter Editor's Operating Guide

Project chairs and chair-elects for the 2011 meeting:

Recommendations for Board Action:

Budget Needs: Handled by Business Manager

Suggestions for the Future: None

Suggested Changes in Operating Guide:

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Cheryl Fiore and Carl Libbey

Kai presented Cheryl Fiore's report. Cheryl has requested submissions for the newsletter recently. The Newsletter comes out about quarterly. Carl Libbey will be taking over when Cheryl Fiore retires in the next year or so.

IV. Weeds of the West – Vanelle Peterson and Phil Banks discussed earlier.
No report submitted.

V. Biological Control of Invasive Plants in the U.S. – Phil Banks

Phil Banks informed the Board that this is a publication that WSWS took on many years ago. We received a $15,000 grant to publish the book. Oregon State University published it and WSWS was supposed to pay for the revision reprinting. WSWS gets a royalty on books that they sell. Phil said WSWS received about $3,000 over three years.

VI. Website

Office or Committee Name: Webmaster & Web Editor

Officer or Chairperson Name: Tony White

Date of Preparation: March 2012

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 March 1, 2011 through March 1, 2012 include:

- 9,472 visitors came to the website (very similar to last year).
- Website traffic sources come from direct traffic, referral sites, or search engines (nearly 1/3 equal from each).
- With 16,500 page views, the meeting pages were at the top of the list with 17% of all views as usual. Personal account pages and the online store were nearly tied for second (7%).

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

Online Proceedings & Research Reports. We are still working to obtain some missing proceedings and get the research reports posted online. While this was intended to be done in Fall 2010, some technical difficulties in getting files posted to the website server have made posting challenging.

WSSA Abstracts Website. The use of the WSSA Abstracts site to manage title/abstract submission for the 2012 Annual Meeting seemed to track well from a website prospective. I am open to feedback that I can pass along to David Kruger and his team to help further improve the system.

Website Activity in Progress. Continue to update a variety of pages for general content. The online store and member account pages will be updated soon.

Recommendations for Board Action: None.

Budget Needs: None.

Suggestions for the Future: None.

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Tony White

Kai Umeda presented Tony White's report. Google analytics is collecting website stats and we had about 9500 visitors, similar to the previous year. Vanelle- asked Tony about number of hits on the Progress Reports, but Tony said they don't collect that data. Tim Prather questioned whether it is a programming issue or why they are not able to determine actual hits on progress report.

Site Selection Committee Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: John Fenderson

Date of Preparation: February 20, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year: The site selection committee corresponded via email with Secretary Banks. The secretary sent RFP's to several cities across the Northwest region and received proposals back from 6 cities; San Francisco, Portland, Seattle, Salt Lake, Boise, and Spokane. San Francisco, Salt Lake and Spokane were deemed undesirable due to location/accommodations or the recentness of our last meeting. Boise, Seattle, and Portland were evaluated and the committee recommended the Hilton in Portland. We discussed whether there were negatives associated with this site since it hosted WSSA last year. We felt like it would not negatively affect attendance for WSWS in 2015.

Recommendations for Board Action: The committee recommends the BOD approve the Portland Hilton to host our 2015 WSWS meeting.

Budget Needs: None known at this time.

Suggestions for the Future: None

Current Committee Members: Steve Orloff, Carol Mallory-Smith (Chair 2012-13), John Fenderson

Name of Person Preparing This Report: John Fenderson

Phil Banks said that they received proposals from Spokane, Salt Lake, Boise, Portland, Seattle, and San Francisco. The Site Selection Committee decided on the Portland Hilton. It offered a competitive room rate at $129/night. Internet service at the hotel is included. The parking is expensive (15% off of $20/day).

Three proposals were received from Boise. The rooms were less expensive, but travel to Boise is probably a bit higher. Seattle was expensive. They received a proposal from the Sheraton in Salt Lake City but it coincide with the height of ski season so it was high priced.

Motion. Joe DiTomaso motioned that the Board approve Portland for the site of WSWS 2015 meeting. Bob Stougaard seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Vanelle Peterson asked if the board needs to approve money for travel funds for someone to check out the various facilities. Phil Banks stated that if a site selection committee member or board member is close by, they usually ask them to check out the facility. If not, someone on site selection committee or Phil Banks will travel to investigate it. Phil said that quite often the hotel will pay for someone to come and check out facility.

The 2016 meeting will likely be in a southwest location possibly. Kai Umeda will be assigning a new site selection committee member. The board suggested considering areas like Tucson and Albuquerque. Corey Ransom said he added a line to the operating guide about travel expenses to check out facilities.

Awards Committee Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: Jill Schroeder

Date of Preparation: March 4, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:
Scholarship Awards:
The committee and President Peterson received seven applications for the three WSWS Scholarships by the deadline of November 1, 2011. The committee reviewed the applications and made their recommendations to President Peterson on November 10, which was in plenty of time for the recipients to submit titles by the society deadline. Vanelle notified the recipients of their awards.
The committee has made their selections for the 2012 WSWS scholarships:
1. Ann C. Bernert
Oregon State University
University Honors College, College of Agriculture
Degree sought: Honors BS in BioResource Research with an International Degree (graduation 2015)
Advisor: Wanda Crannell
Title of Research: An investigation of the endophytic colonization in *Rubus armeniacus* and the implications for biological control.

2. Rachel Brownsey
University of California
Dept. Plant Sciences
Davis, CA
Degree sought: M.S. in Weed Science
Advisor: Joe DiTomaso
Title of Research: Germination and growth traits of *Dittrichia graveolens* (stinkwort): A foundation for developing management strategies

Marcelo Moretti
University of California
Davis, CA
Degree sought: PhD
Advisor: Brad Hanson
Title of Research: Glyphosate-paraquat resistant hairy fleabane (*Conyza bonariensis*) post-emergence control options for Californian orchards.

WSWS Member Achievement Awards:
The committee evaluated two new nominations before the December 1 deadline and had two nominations that carried over from 2010 for WSWS awards. We had nominations in four categories: Outstanding Weed Scientist-Private Sector, Professional Staff, Weed Manager, and Early Career.
We made the following recommendations to President Peterson on December 15:
OUTSTANDING WEED SCIENTIST – PRIVATE SECTOR
NOMINEE: Brett Oemichen
NOMINATOR: Don Morishita

PROFESSIONAL STAFF
NOMINEE: James Sebastian

NOMINATOR: Scott Nissen

WEED MANAGER
NOMINEE: Jerry Asher: nominated 12/2011 (please note: this nomination is posthumous; nominators had contacted Celestine about the fellow award. That award does not allow posthumous nominations; however, ours does not have any requirement. Therefore, they redirected the nomination to us)
NOMINATOR: Robert Abbey

EARLY CAREER:
NOMINEE: Andrew Kniss
NOMINATOR: Scott Nissen

Recommendations for Board Action:
Student Scholarships – the committee recommends that the board decide if the duties of the Awards Committee will continue to include this activity. In addition, changes to the President's operating manual need to include a clarification that the President will notify both the students who were selected to receive scholarships and the students who did not receive scholarships of the committee recommendation. All students need to know where they stand and need to know that the society values their work and potential as members of WSWS.

Awards – The board needs to be proactive and assist the awards committee in recruiting nominations for the WSWS awards. In addition, the President's operating guide needs to be amended to clarify that the President is responsible for notifying award recipients in a timely manner so they can plan to attend the WSWS meeting and receive their award.

Budget Needs: the same as in past years.

Suggestions for the Future: see above. The responsibilities of the committee need to be confirmed by the board. If the committee is to retain the responsibility for selecting Scholarship recipients, the Awards Committee Operating Guide needs to be amended to reflect this added duty.

Current Committee Members: Jill Schroeder, Jeff Tichota, Nelroy Jackson (rotating off)
Name of Person Preparing This Report: Jill Schroeder

Vanelle presented the report. The Awards Committee is handling the student scholarship awards too. The operating guide needs updated to reflect the way it's supposed to happen. Cameron Douglass is overseeing it.

The Student Scholarship winners were read by Vanelle. They received seven applications for the graduate student scholarship award. Last year they received nine.

Phil Banks asked if they are eligible to win more than once. Vanelle thought it was in the operating guide that they could only win once. Andy Hulting added that some students may not apply if they know travel to the meeting is already covered. However, it was pointed out that this award should not be considered a travel award that they money goes directly to the student.

Vanelle read the selections for WSWS member achievement awards.

Vanelle asked if the changes in the operating guide for the Awards Committee need board approval. Kai Umeda said they are supposed to be approved, but in reality, we usually don't. Corey Ransom said that any major changes will be brought to the board for approval, but minor changes won't.

Student Paper Judging Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: Jamshid Ashigh

Date of Preparation: 1/3/2012

Committee Activities during the Year: President elect Umeda supplied the list of titles submitted in early January. Based on numbers (19 papers – 16 posters including 4 undergraduate presenters) the committee decided, via email, to have two divisions in both Oral presentations and Posters, grouping on which project the presentation had been submitted. A mass emailing to WSWS members garnered 16 volunteers that will serve as judges for these presentations. Pre meeting listing of assignments were emailed to these volunteers to allow review of abstracts prior to arrival at the meeting. Meeting times for committee and judging panels have been scheduled.

Recommendations for Board Action: Recognize awards at Annual Business Meeting.

Budget Needs: Operating Guidelines state the cash amounts shown below:

Award	Number	Cash amount	Total Value
First Place	5	$ 100	$ 500
Second Place	4	$ 75	$ 300
Third Place	1	$ 50	$ 50
		Total Need:	**$ 850**

Suggestions for the Future: Since the award prices have been the same for a long time, the committee suggests that the board considers increasing the monetary amount of the awards.

Current Committee Members: Jamshid Ashigh (2013), Roland Schirman (2012), Guy Kyser (2014).

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Jamshid Ashigh

Kai Umeda presented the report. Abstracts were sent out for review to sixteen volunteer judges. Budget needs are $850 for various awards. Phil Banks added that plaques are also sent out to the winners.

Kai Umeda pointed out that the Student Paper Judging Committee suggested increasing awards to $300, $200, and $100 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place awards. Phil Banks added that other societies just give 1st and 2nd place. We give more awards only when a larger number are participating. Joe DiTomaso suggested that we raise the awards slightly, but not as much as suggested. Some discussion followed indicating that the award amount was probably not as important as the

distinction of winning and that students were not doing it for the money. Cameron Douglass added that there might be other ways of adding educational value to the student's participation, such as more constructive critique back to each student. Joe DiTomaso indicated the chair would have to organize this afterwards in order to write a paragraph back to students. It was pointed out that the evaluation forms do currently get back to the students. Andrew Hulting said there is often a large variability in the feedback from the judges. Vanelle Peterson added that we need to get this information back to the committee to consider these suggestions.

Motion. Kai Umeda moved that the WSWS student awards be kept at a total of $850. Phil Westra seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Fellows and Honorary Members Committee Report

Officer or Chairperson Name: Celestine Duncan

Date of Preparation: January 25, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:
Since the 2011 WSWS meeting (note the first 4 tasks were reported at the June 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. Committee chair 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*
5. An announcement seeking nominations for Fellows and Honorary Member was sent to Phil Banks for inclusion in the August WSWS Newsletter.

6. Reminder sent by Phil Banks to membership on 11/11/2011 for Fellow and Honorary Member submission deadline of December 1, 2011.
7. Committee members review nominations and selected recipients for Fellow Award. Results of the committee selection were sent to President Vanelle Peterson and Phil Banks on December 6, 2011. There were 5 nominations submitted for the WSWS Fellow Award and no nominations for Honorary Member. Scott Nissen, Don Morishita, and Celestine Duncan reviewed nominations based on criteria described in the WSWS By-laws. The committee selected Dr. Lars W.J. Anderson, USDA ARS and Dr. Jodi Holt, University of California at Riverside as recipients of the Fellow Award. If you have any questions please let me know

Current Committee Members:
Past President: Joe DiTomaso
Celestine Duncan, chair (2013)
Scott Nissen (2014)
Don Morishita- term is completed in 2012

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Celestine Duncan

Joe DiTomaso presented the report. Joe indicated that five nominations for the Fellow award were received and two were selected. Nominations that were not selected will carry over one year. Joe pointed out that on the WSWS website we need to change the written criteria to include the nominee's service to WSWS and not just to Weed Science.

Public Relations Committee

Officer or Chairperson Name: Deb Shatley (Effective 2012)

Date of Preparation: Feb 28, 2012

Committee Activities during the Year:

- Brad Hanson accept interim chair duties for 2011
- Deb Shatley will assumed chair position effective 2012 for a 2 year term
- CEU requests have been made to California, Wyoming, Montana, Washington, New Mexico, Kansas, Oklahoma, Oregon
- Cheryl Fiore will be resigning from the committee due to retirement

Recommendations for Board Action: None

Budget Needs: None

Suggestions for the Future: Rotate the Chair of the Public relations Committee every 2 years. New committee chair should to be decided upon prior to 2014 WSWS Annual Meeting and to be in place and active by said meeting.

Current Committee Members: Kelly Young, Brian Olson, Mark Ferrell, Bill Cobb, Rich Affeldt, Brent Beutler, Cheryl Fiore and Deb Shatley

Name of Person Preparing This Report: Deb Shatley

Kai Umeda presented the report. Kai indicated Arizona has been added to the list of states requesting CEU's. Cheryl Fiore retired and is resigning from the committee. The committee suggested changing the operating guide to rotate the chair every two years. Currently, each state that submits for credits has a representative on the committee. Kai Umeda said he would like this committee to help promote WOW sales and the Noxious Weed Short Course. He also thought they could help promote the symposia. Kai Umeda said that he will work with this committee in the coming year to broaden their scope.

Noxious Weed Short Course – Sandra McDonald

Sandra McDonald gave a brief synopsis of the 2011 Noxious Weed Short Course and what the situation is for the 2012 upcoming course. She has 20 people (19 Colorado and 1 Wyoming) signed up for this year. The majority of this year's participants signed up are from County Weed programs. Sandra said that she called the people previously on Celestine Duncan's waiting list, which were mostly federal agency employees. Most of those contacted thought it would be worthwhile, but many had budget driven travel caps. Some reported 15% reductions in travel budgets from previous year. Sandra indicated that Montana is starting a short course of its own. She said the timing of the course for Arizona people is a little too late.

Vanelle asked Sandra to go over the various scenarios of the budget for this year with different participant levels and number of instructors. Sandra had a hand-out that outlined the projected losses with different scenarios. With 20 participants, they could reduce the losses to around $7,000 by eliminating some of the out of state instructors. Joe DiTomaso and Bob Wolfe are two instructors that will probably be cut, but they could possibly Skype them in or something to keep them involved.

Joe DiTomaso mentioned that Sandra McDonald increased participants from 6 to 20 signed up in one week. Sandra said she did a workshop series with the Colorado Weed Management Association and got 12 new people to sign up at that meeting. Sandra thought we would break even if she can get to 30 participants. She said they had previously focused on the Federal agencies, but she could change the focus to more local (city, county, state, parks) type participants in each state. She suggested marketing the course with various individuals from WSWS in each state sending it out to their local people.

Joe DiTomaso brought up that there are so many other weed courses now in various states and the Noxious Weed Short Course has become a more Colorado course. Sandra said she didn't intend it to be that, but the Federal travel budgets have decreased for the time being. People seem excited about it, but she can't predict if it will be more non-Colorado people in future. Joe DiTomaso asked if she would continue with course if WSWS discontinues their support. Sandra said she'd continue to work with Colorado Weed Management Association and thought they had a need for a more general course.

Kai Umeda asked if she had been marketing a Weed Science course rather than just a "Colorado" course. Sandra said that many of the weeds they cover cross over to the entire west. They also have a range manager from Silvan Ranch that participates and can relate to land managers in various states. Sandra asked what others are hearing. Tim Prather didn't think the Idaho people were even hearing about it. Sandra said she couldn't find anyone to send to information to in Utah. Corey Ransom mentioned there is a Utah Weed Control Association.

DiTomaso questioned if they advertised a bit different is there is still a market there? Sandra McDonald said she should try sending directly to county weed people rather than just the state weed control associations. She sent advertising to a list of weed associations and doesn't know if they sent it on to the individual groups or not. Vanelle Peterson said that state employees often have restrictions on out of state travel. Sandra stated that the oil and gas companies require a full blown weed management plan and people are struggling on how to do these. She thought this could be a new market she needs to tap into in states like North Dakota.

Westra asked what the participation was at the Noxious Weed Course when it was at its peak. Joe DiTomaso said they had 36 participants and a waiting list for several years. Vanelle Peterson added that Celestine Duncan spent a lot of time marketing the course to certain agencies. Sandra McDonald said the Federal agencies have some recently hired people, but reductions in travel budgets are the main issue for the lack of participation.

DiTomaso asked if an on-line course was possible. It would cost a lot less to do it as a webinar. Tim Prather said that a live on-line course has been done. Sandra thought that one of the main selling points of the Short Course is that it is a hands-on course. She added that they could possibly could do it on-line and have live plants available at each site.

Bob Stougaard questioned why the WSWS was involved in this in the first place. There are a lot of extension programs similar to this that we aren't involved in. Vanelle Peterson said originally Celestine worked with the Montana Dept. of Ag and started a weed's course. When she changed jobs and left the Dept. of Ag, she kept the course going. She made arrangements with the WSWS to handle the finances/registrations. Phil Banks later established a contract with Celestine. DiTomaso added that the course was designed for the entire Western Region originally and was one reason that WSWS supported it. Steve Dewey and Rod Lym also were involved early-on. Federal agencies were the main participants and the course served a unique niche.

Westra asked if the price of Sandra's course is high or low compared to similar courses. Joe DiTomaso has a California course and thought the price was comparable. Several others on the board thought the price was priced similar to other courses offered around the west.

Vanelle Peterson said that in the short term, we need more registrations this year. She said that if Sandra drops two instructors it helps reduce our losses. Vanelle Peterson asked the board for a motion to decide whether to continue to support the course this year with numbers Sandra has given us (fewer instructors and a marketing push) or not.

Pete Forster asked how many options we are voting for. Are we voting on less instructors or full amount of instructors? Sandra stated that the course needs 11 more people registered to cover the cost of keeping instructors Joe DiTomaso and Bob Wolf and to break even.

Vanelle stated that the goal is still to recruit more people in order to cut our losses. Sandra McDonald will go back through the list again and make additional contacts. She has asked and will be asking key people in each state at WSWS to help recruit people for the Short Course. Vanelle stated there are two options; cancel our support or move ahead with two less instructors with a continuing push to market the course.

Westra suggested it may be a poor decision to pull DiTomaso as an instructor even if saving WSWS $1,000 as he is a big draw for participants. Westra asked is there someone who could replace Wolf and be effective. Sandra McDonald said that they could possibly Skype Bob Wolf or have some of the other instructors help cover that portion of the program. Sandy outlined several ways that she intends to recruit this week at the WSWS meeting. Sandra left the room and in order for the board to vote and have further discussion.

Additional discussion – Joe Yenish suggested not cutting back on instructors in order to make it a top quality program. This would make it a $10,000 loss instead of about $7,500. Andrew Kniss suggested it would be acceptable to drop two instructors if almost all are from Colorado anyway. Tim Miller suggested that we give Sandra a green light to minimize losses (continue to recruit) and keep instructors that she wants. Pete Forster added that if Sandra gets more registered this week, they probably won't be from Colorado. Phil Westra thought he could possibly pay for Joe DiTomaso's airfare to come to CSU for a seminar and then participate in the short course. Corey Ransom suggested that we not put an exact dollar number in the motion that we are willing to lose since Sandra's numbers could still change a bit depending on travel costs. No further discussion.

Motion. Joe DiTomaso moved that WSWS continue to support Sandra McDonald's Noxious Weed Short Course as presented in her proposal with the current 20 or more registrants and reduced number of instructors, unless additional arrangements can made to reduce further losses to the society. Kai Umeda seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Director of Science Policy Report

2012 WSWS Board Meeting -Science Policy Report
Lee Van Wychen, Director of Science Policy, National and Regional Weed Science Societies

Summary of 2011 Activities:

1. Generated support for USDA research funding through competitive grants (AFRI) and formula funds (Hatch, Smith-Lever) as well as integrated programs (Regional IPM): met with House and Senate committee staff and wrote coalition letters on behalf of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies;
2. Worked with interested coalitions to get 2/3's majority support in both the House and Senate for the NPDES legislative fix bill, H.R. 872. However, legislation remains blocked by one Senator from CA. Submitted letters of support on behalf of the National and Regional Weed Science Societies.
3. Generated support for Army Corps of Engineers Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP) and sent letters to House and Senate Energy and Water appropriations committee members. Was not successful in getting Rep's Fleming or Goemert to offer an amendment to restore funding in the House, but with Senate support from MS, NY, and VT, the final conference agreement provided $3 million in funding for APCRP in FY 2012.
4. Coordinated and co-organized support for National Invasive Species Awareness Week activities which occurred Feb. 26 to March 3, 2012. Rod Lym gave a presentation to Capitol

Hill staffers at the House Ag Committee titled: *Invasion Persuasion: Review of a Successful USDA program for defeating a wide-spread invader: TEAM Leafy Spurge*

5. Supported Public Awareness Committee activities and responded to press inquiries.
6. Continued educating agency and NGO stakeholders on herbicide resistance management.
7. Generated support for the Pesticide Safety Education Program (PSEP) through a technical paper, a joint press release with entomology and plant pathology, and a stakeholder meeting with AAPSE leadership
8. Attended and spoke at all the National and Regional Weed Science Society Meetings as well as the EPA Herbicide Resistance Education Tour in August.
9. Completed paperwork for $46K grant from APHIS for second herbicide resistance paper

The DSP and Science Policy Committee members were active with many other issues on a continuous basis in 2011. Notable issues that arose during the year that required support through letters, phone calls, and meetings included:

a) asking EPA OPP not take any regulatory action on atrazine based on the very limited, agenda-driven disinformation presented by the 'Save the Frog' petitioners
b) asking the White House Office of Science & Technology Policy to strongly oppose the requirement in the America Competes Act that seeks to make all scholarly publications (resulting from federally funded research) perpetually accessible to the public free of charge
c) asking EPA OPP to withdraw the proposed Public Interest Determination for the IR-4 Minor Crops Project and maintain the existing process.
d) asking APHIS BRS to support the determination of non-regulated status for Roundup Ready sugar beets. However, we also stressed the need to mitigate the evolution of glyphosate resistance through BMP's.
e) asking EPA OPP to support the use of MSMA in turf weed control
f) asking USDA NASS not to reduce the frequency of its chemical use surveys and associated reports

2012 Initiatives include-

1. Messaging for the National Academies of Science Summit on Managing Herbicide Resistance Weeds
2. Meet and discuss weed science priorities with new NIFA Director, Sonny Ramaswamy
3. Persuade USDA NIFA to fund an AFRI CAP grant for herbicide resistance
4. Investigate FY 2013 USDA budget proposal
5. Get APCRP funded again for FY 2013
6. Find Federal Agency funding for a white paper on invasiveness criteria for bio-energy species
7. 2,4-D issues: Support APHIS deregulation of trait, oppose NRDC lawsuit against EPA to ban 2,4-D.
8. Support NPDES Fix bill
9. Support PSEP funding and PRIA III reauthorization
10. Establish SME position within USDA and/or work to refill Parochetti's position

Lee joined the board and presented the attached report. He mentioned Senator Boxer is the one holding up the NPDES legislative bill. Tim Prather added that one county in Idaho has been shut down due to the permitting process. Lee asked for input during the week on the new USDA crop protection budget proposal which combines the funding of IPM programs and IR-4 funding in one group. Vanelle commented that a white paper on the invasiveness criteria for bio-energy

species wasn't enough. Joe DiTomaso added that he has organized a review paper in the new journal addressing this issue which will be published in 2013. Phil Westra asked if there was a cap on the Herbicide Resistance summit attendance and Lee said it was around 350 and that any interested people should get signed up soon.

Vanelle Peterson thanked Lee Van Wychen for all his efforts.

Vanelle introduced WSSA President, Rod Lym to the Board.

Rod Lym, WSSA president, said that the WSSA president previously would go to D.C. every year, but now that we have Lee Van Wychen serving as Director of Science Policy it isn't necessary and many new doors are open to WSSA due to our constant presence in D.C. Rod questioned why aren't there more regional weed society members that are also members of the WSSA. He stressed that it is hard to keep funding positions like Lee's if the WSSA membership is declining.

Rod Lym stressed that WSSA is doing a lot for all our regional societies. They are trying to increase membership with the North America Weed Management Association (NAWMA) and other weed societies. Hawaii was a successful meeting for WSSA. Rod indicated the WSSA is meeting in Baltimore in 2013 and meeting jointly with the Canadian WSS in Vancouver 2014. He thought they would be going to the North Central region in 2015, maybe Indianapolis. Possibly Savanna or Charleston in 2016 then maybe back out West in 2017.

Lym indicated that Allen Press and Allen Marketing contracts are up after this year. They would like feedback from the WSSA membership on whether to stay with Allen Press or not. The WSSA's Hilton contracts are also ending next year. Rod mentioned that Jason Norsworthy will be taking over as editor of Weed Technology.

Rod asked for input on what members would like to see WSSA do more of and less of. Vanelle Peterson asked about the WSSA registration fee being separate from the membership fee. Rod Lym said that WSSA is lucky when they break even on meetings unlike the regional societies. The registration is covering the meeting costs. WSSA membership fees cover the both the journals and other costs. WSSA sources of income are membership fees, journals, and Herbicide Handbook (new coming out in 2014). A new committee is evaluating the potential income from an electronic format.

Phil Westra asked if Allen Press's responsibilities for the journal are separate from the duties of running our meetings. Rod Lym said there are separate contracts for both. Rod said we would lose our copyright to the journals if discontinue with Allen Press.

Rod Lym added that he or someone from the WSSA board plans to attend all the regional meetings except possibly the Aquatic society.

Old Business

Symposium Committee Operating Guide – Corey Ransom

Changes to the Constitution and By-Laws for March 2012 annual meeting – Corey Ransom (moved from new business)

Change to Student Liaison description in constitution

Corey Ransom submitted the following report on changes to the Operating Guide and WSWS Constitution and By-laws.

Western Society of Weed Science Operating Guide Changes 2012

CHAPTER I, DUTIES OF OFFICERS AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors
Officers of the Society
President

- Changes in responsibility for summer board meeting arrangement
- Extended days for motion approval from 2 to 7.
- Notification of student scholarship winners.
- Move responsibility of giving biography information to proceedings editor to the chair of the Honorary Member and Fellow Committee

President-Elect
Secretary
Treasurer-Business Manager
Research Section Chairperson

- Ensure PowerPoint files are deleted from session laptops at the conclusion of the annual meeting.

Research Section Chairperson-Elect
Education and Regulatory Section Chair
Education and Regulatory Section Chair-Elect
WSSA Representative
Immediate Past-President
Members-At-Large
CAST Representative
Constitution & Operating Procedures Representative
Research Project Chairperson

- Ensure removal of PowerPoint files from session laptops at the conclusion of the annual meeting.

Research Project Chairpersons-Elect
Student Liaisons

- Complete revision.

CHAPTER II, DUTIES OF COMMITTEES AND EDITORS
Program Committee
Site Selection Committee
Local Arrangements Committee

- Reasonable expenses can be reimbursed for site visit.

Finance Committee
Nominating Committee
Fellows and Honorary Members Committee
Awards Committee
Public Relations Committee
Necrology Committee

- Send out request prior to meeting
- Notify President of passing of any members

Student Paper Judging Committee
Poster Committee
Sustaining Membership Committee
Legislative Committee
- Complete change by Joe DiTomaso

Herbicide Resistant Plants Committee
Publications Committee
Proceedings Editor
- Complete change by Bill McCloskey

Progress Report Editor
- Removed references to publication printing.

Newsletter Editor
Website Editor
Ad-Hoc Committees
Education Committee
- Updated by Joe DiTomaso

Symposium Committee

Needs to be accepted and integrated into other positions.

Added Appendix for specific forms and guidelines associated with awards.

CHAPTER III, APPENDIX OF ADDITIONAL COMMITTEE INSTRUCTIONS AND FORMS
WSWS Guidelines for Nominating Fellows
WSWS Outstanding Student Scholarship Program (description, instructions, and forms)

Proposed Changes for Constitution and By-laws

Student Liaison - Constitution

Article VII – STANDING COMMITTEES

Current:
Section 11. The Student Liaison Chairperson shall serve a one-year term beginning at the close of the business meeting at which they become Chairperson. The Student Liaison Chairperson-elect is voted into office by the student members of the Society and then ascends to the office of Chairperson in the second year.

Proposed:
Section 11. The Student Liaison is a two-year position; the first year as Chairperson-elect and the second year as Chairperson and voting member on the Board of Directors. The Chairperson-elect is voted into office at the annual student business meeting, then ascends to Chairperson at the end of the student business meeting the following year.

The Education Committee - Constitution

Article VII – STANDING COMMITTEES

Current:

Section 17. The Education Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and five additional members. Terms of office of this committee shall be: Chairperson appointed to a three-year term and five other members appointed to three-year terms, established to expire alternately so that at least four members continue over each year.

Proposed:

Section 17. The Education Committee shall consist of a Chairperson and five to seven additional members. Terms of office of this committee shall be: Chairperson and five to seven other members appointed to three-year terms, established to expire alternately so that at least four members continue over each year.

The Education Committee – By-laws

Artide VII - STANDING COMMITTEES

Current:

Section 16. The Education Committee shall be responsible for advising and guiding in the development and implementation of innovative dissemination of formal and informal weed science instruction.

Proposed:

Section 16. The Education Committee shall be responsible for providing information on educational opportunities to the WSWS Board of Directors and membership, and advising and guiding in the development and implementation of innovative dissemination of formal and informal weed science instruction.

Corey Ransom indicated he will make minor changes to the Operating Guide and get them posted on-line unless revisions are substantial. Corey indicated that the Student Liaison description is new. He indicated it is going to require a larger effort to revise the Symposium Committee guidelines (whether it is a standing or ad hoc committee, whether a portion of it belongs in the program committee, etc.). Kai Umeda indicated they needed more communication with Tim Prather and he could possibly coordinate the symposium with the Education and Regulatory section. Corey said he would send out an email indicating the proposed changes and if no one comments he will put it in the Operating Guide.

Corey Ransom also pointed out the proposed changes in the By-laws and Constitution for the Legislative Committee. They need to reflect that the committee has representation from all the different states needing continuing education credits.

Vanelle Peterson indicated that the board needs to vote on the wording going into the Student Liaison position description. Corey read it to the board (see report above). The chair would be a 2 year position and the chairperson-elect would be voted into office the following year. It clarifies that the chair is a two-year position and that they are a voting member.

Corey also read the proposed changes to the Education Committee (see report above) which proposed they have a chair and 5-7 additional members appointed to 3-year terms on alternate years. Cory also read the proposed changes to the Education Committee By-laws which added that they are responsible for providing information on educational opportunities to the board and membership, which broadens the scope of committee.

Vanelle asked about the proposed changes to the Legislative Committee. Joe DiTomaso said the changes to the Legislative Committee that were discussed at the last board meeting address the issue of having members on the committee representing the various Western states that could bring awareness to legislative issues going on in each state. Vanelle thought the proposed changes also had something regarding a change in the length of the member appointments to the committee. No one was able to recall exactly what the changes were supposed to be.

Vanelle asked for a vote on accepting the proposed changes that we take to the members at the business meeting on Thursday.

Motion. Tim Prather moved to accept the changes to the Constitution and By-Laws and Operating Guide as presented by Corey Ransom. Joe DiTomaso seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Member survey – Bob Stougaard

Bob Stougaard said that a copy of member survey was obtained from Phil Banks, but then found out that Vanelle Peterson and Pete Forster had already initiated a member survey. He indicated that we need to state what the objectives of the survey are before proceeding with it. Bob indicated Pete Forster has agreed to continue on with this survey.

Vanelle Peterson said that a lot of the pre-work was done at Summer Board Meeting and she presented the Past President's input at the Summer Board Meeting. She pointed out that the previous survey consisted of only four questions and was done in Colorado Springs. The original intent was to figure out why the membership was declining. Vanelle stated that she would like a survey completed between now and next meeting. Vanelle Peterson said she will be surveying (3-4 questions) at the general session at this meeting. Vanelle said that the membership in WSWS is trending down a bit and part of the survey is asking people why they are coming to the WSWS meeting and how we could improve the meeting.

New Business

Attracting New Members and Interest in WSWS.

Pete Forster – Pete stated that Vanelle had asked him to look into what people thought might generate some new attendance at future WSWS meetings. Pete said that he spoke with Tim D'Amato who suggested that WSWS organize and host symposia that appeal to state folks to get them to come to local WSWS meetings. Pete added that D'Amato also suggested that the Society of Range Management may have a need and we should reach out to that group. Pete thought that we should consider a combined meeting with them – either the national or state level Range Society groups. Pete added that the potential of attracting local folks was mentioned earlier by Phil Westra when he suggested having an herbicide resistant kochia workshop in Colorado Springs and that it could be expanded beyond just Agriculture.

Proposal to Sell Books through WSWS.

Vanelle Peterson announced a proposal to the society for selling books that originated from Joe DiTomaso. Joe DiTomaso said he has authored the 'Handbook for Weed Control in Natural Areas in Entire West' (Tim Prather and Tim Miller were also involved in writing the book). Joe

said that it is a 460 page book. He wants to keep the price about $30 and he is publishing the book through UC Davis. He thought that WSWS could potentially make profit on the book. The book would have to be inventoried and advertised through the society. He indicated that Phil Banks could buy small quantities (100 at a time) so there is not much risk. WSWS could make about $12/copy. There will be no royalties to authors.

Joe DiTomaso also owns an inventory ($22,000 worth) of the book 'Aquatic Weeds of the West'. He would like to get rid of his inventory and sell it to WSWS at $5/copy. It could possibly be bundled with Weeds of the West. He indicated that WSWS could buy 100 at a time, so there is little risk. Joe said he had visited with Phil Banks earlier about it, but wanted to run this by the board before proceeding.

Andy Hulting asked how this would affect Phil Bank's office staff and workload. Joe DiTomaso indicated that Phil Banks has a staff that can handle it and they would get a cut. Banks currently sends book orders to Joe DiTomaso and Joe fills the orders. Vanelle Peterson said that if we get additional inventory in, we would have to have to get the word out to help with sales. She said WSWS would have to have members willing to help to market the books. Vanelle Peterson indicated that we would be buying the books as a society and would need an agreement on how the finances would be shared so that the Board could look at it prior to deciding on the issue.

Vanelle Peterson indicated that they are trying to increase visibility of publications being sold through the WSWS website. Brad Hanson asked if they did co-packaging of books could one still have the option of buying single books. Joe DiTomaso said that people could still buy individual books the way they are setting it up.

Tim Prather added that we need to do a better job of marketing our books on the WSWS website, especially if we enter into this new agreement.

Joe DiTomaso plans to have the new book in print by the summer board meeting. He will get an agreement in writing with Phil Banks on how it will all work so the board can look it over and make a decision. Vanelle Peterson suggested that the board may not even have to vote on this, but would like to see something in writing.

Consideration of making the Member at Large position a nonvoting member on the board.

Pete Forster passed around a handout on the Member at Large position descriptions. Currently both positions are appointed by the incoming president-elect. There was a question from the membership 2 years ago about the number of voting members that are elected versus voting members appointed to the board and whether the Member at Large should be an elected or appointed position. The board has been alternating incoming present-elects between private and academia. Kai Umeda said that we currently have 7 elected and 4 appointed board members that are eligible to vote. Corey Ransom suggested it may be better to give up the voting privilege, but keep appointing the Member at Large. It would be possible that we could have a year where the incoming president could appoint 3 voting members to the board (WSSA rep, Member at Large rep, and CAST rep). Prather indicated he likes it the way it is currently and it hasn't presented any problems. It gives the incoming president a chance to appoint someone they can work with. Overall, the board thought it was working well as it is, so no further action was taken.

Change in the term of the Public Relations Committee chair.

(The Board discussed this earlier). Brad Hansen said that they made a number of changes to the Operating Guide last year. Corey read the description of the Public Relations Committee in the Constitution, which indicates that it consists of only 3 members with 3-year terms. The committee had proposed making the chair a 2-year term rather than 3. Brad Hansen said he didn't remember the Constitution being quite the way it was written. Brad said when he was on the committee, they tried to establish a chairperson and to get a volunteer to serve as the next chair. Kai Umeda said the Public Relations committee is unique since it has 6-7 people to oversee the continuing education units (CEU's) from all the various states, but only 3 official members. After some additional discussion, it was decided that Corey Ransom will work with the current chair, Deb Shatley, and will revisit the issue and prepare something for the summer board meeting.

Long Term Decision on Noxious Weeds Short Course.

Vanelle Peterson told the board we need to make a long-term decision on supporting the Noxious Weeds Short Course. Currently, we are on a year to year contract and need to inform Sandra McDonald in writing in advance (which would be in April 2012) if we intend to cancel the contract. We need to decide if we are going to terminate the contract or to figure out a different way to do the course so that we aren't losing money.

Joe DiTomaso suggested that we could terminate contract and then decide to if and how to rewrite it. Several members voiced that the WSWS is basically sponsoring a Colorado short course now as it will not be a regional course this year. It was pointed out that it was not our original intention to support a state course and to lose money (two negatives).

Cameron Douglass stated that we need to consider revising the course and use a different model using internet technology to attract a regional audience. We will continue to have to same problems unless we look at a different way to conduct the course.

There was some discussion as to whether there is still a market for the entire western region for the short course. If there is a market, how do we tap into it? We could alter the contract to give McDonald an opportunity to revise the course to make it more regional. Tim Miller indicated that we've lost the market of the Feds and many state people can't travel outside their home states. He thought that unless the Feds get involved again we can't really change the course content enough to make it a more regional course.

The downturn in the economy and the competition from all the other courses offered by various states have really made it hard to market the course. Yenish wondered if we actually fostered some competition from the Young and Sheley courses that went ahead and competed with the Noxious Weeds Short Course for participants. DiTomaso indicated he would like to come up with a different contract that allows Sandra a chance obtain a certain number of attendees prior to our commitment. Vanelle Peterson suggested that we should consider assigning this issue to the Education Committee. The chair of that committee is Scott Nissen.

Bob Stougaard suggested the possibility of branding the course. He pointed out that Extension faculty in various states have their own programs. What can WSWS offer to the state programs? Having a WSWS coordinated course would increase our visibility. DiTomaso said he couldn't see much benefit to the states and they already have their own brands and probably wouldn't go for it. WSWS could have a program already set up, but most states already have their own programs set up. Bob thought that having a program already set up by the WSWS that an extension person in the various states could utilize to run their course might be useful, especially if they weren't already running some sort of a program in their state.

Miller and Hansen thought the real need might be to have a virtual course. WSWS could have a library of modules that the states could use in their programs. Vanelle Peterson thought that the Education Committee could discuss this and maybe even coordinate it with WSSA Education Committee, which has been talking about doing something similar.

Tim Prather indicated that if we go forward with the course one more year, it would require a marketing plan. There is no current mechanism to pull the plug on the contract if McDonald doesn't have the needed registrations to avoid losses. The problem is that we need to pay her for her investment in time and it would be a risk for her if we write a contract that allows us to cancel if a certain numbers of participants aren't signed up by a certain date. We basically have to pay for her time up front if we have a contract with her.

Vanelle read current contract to the board. McDonald is reimbursed for time and expenses regardless of how many are registered. Reimbursement is payable on receipt of an invoice for various services. The WSWS can terminate the contract by giving the provider one year written notice to terminate contract (by April this year). Pete said we could terminate the contract and ask Sandra to come back to the summer board meeting with a new proposal with a different approach for marketing and conducting the course. Vanelle asked for a motion.

Motion. Pete Forster made a motion to terminate the contract with McDonald for the Noxious Weeds Short Course. Tim Prather seconded. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Vanelle Peterson said she will work with Phil Banks to get a written notice to terminate the contract. Vanelle will visit with Sandra McDonald to consider submitting a new contract proposal at the WSWS summer board meeting with new strategies on marketing and running the short course, possibly using new technologies. Vanelle will also suggest that Sandra work with the Education Committee on ways to be more successful marketing the course. It was pointed out that we still need to strive to make it a more regional program and not a Colorado program.

Vanelle Peterson adjourned the meeting at 5:10 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Boydston, Secretary, WSWS