CALL MEETING TO ORDER, AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
James Krall, President of the Western Society of Crop Science (WSCS) called the meeting to order at 2:02pm. The minutes of the 1997 business meeting, as taken by Russ Karow, were handed out to society members and approved by acclamation.

TREASURER’S REPORT
Wesley Mueller gave the treasurer’s report as outlined below:
Instead of setting up a new account each year with a different treasurer, the balance of funds were transferred to The American Society of Agronomy (parent organization to WSCS). They will do our accounting.
Amount forwarded to ASA from Russ Karow $2908.00
Income from conference $1917.00
Conference expenses (ex. student awards and some outstanding) $1416.50
Total $3408.50

Final report will be submitted to Mike Ottman (incoming society president) for his review, and to be turned over to the auditing committee (to be selected).

Wesley Mueller will find out the procedure for making deposits, and getting reimbursements and check requests from ASA.

COMMITTEE REPORTS
Election Committee
After tallying the ballots, it was determined that the new President Elect for the Society is Mark Brick. The duties of the President Elect is to be responsible for next year’s program. He will become President in 1999.
Officers for 1999-2000 are:
James Krall—Past President
Mike Ottman—President
Mark Brick—President Elect
Wesley Mueller—Secretary/Treasurer

Membership Committee
Ron Delaney chairs the committee. It was reported that he is working on a brochure. $300 was previously approved for the project. It will be coming out this coming year.

Previous to the meeting a mailing via ASA was done by David Krall. There was a follow-up mailing to respondents and members. Next year, it was decided to do 2 mailings, the first, a call for papers, and the second, an announcement to attend the meetings.
Mike Ottman will email ASA national offices with the information of where and when the next meeting will be, as well as a list of officers for 1998-1999.

Nominations were opened for 1999-2000 President Elect. It was moved and seconded to accept two nominees, David Koch and Wesley Mueller. Nominations were closed. Mike Ottman will prepare ballots to be mailed to the membership.

HISTORIAN’S REPORT
Ken Kephart, the Society Historian has moved to Montana. He has done well as historian, and is maintaining the WSCS web page. He has desires to become active in the society again. Mike Ottman will email abstracts and minutes of the meeting to him.

Ron Delaney and Andy Berry served on the budget auditing committee and Okayed last year’s budget.

Next year’s budget committee will be Duane Johnson, Glen Murray, Rulon Albrechtsen, and Russ Karow.

ASA REPORT
Betty Klepper, ASA representative for the Society reported that membership and journal subscriptions are two of the main concerns of hers. There will be a ballot initiative this coming year to decouple Crop Science Society from ASA.

In 1999, members will not have to take the journal as a condition of membership. Current ASA journals are available on the www. The amount of use the electronic journal received was not known.

The ASA is made up of 20 percent from foreign countries. A new member program will allow for foreign sponsorship in the USA by participating in a new program—1/3 from individual, 1/3 from sponsor, 1/3 from society.

OLD BUSINESS
The 1999 meetings will be held in Wyoming. The specific location is yet to be determined. It probably will not be held in Laramie because there is not much agriculture nearby. Two options include Torrington (southwestern Wyoming) and Powell (Big Horn Basin in northern Wyoming).

The 2000 meetings will be at the University of Idaho in Moscow. Every four years, the WSCS meets with the AAAS and Western Soil Science Society. The location of their meetings will be determined and initial arrangements will be made by Glen Murray.
It was determined that the dues of $10 for regular members and $1 for students are to remain the same for the coming year.

**STUDENT AWARDS COMPETITION RESULTS**

Mark Brick announced the winners of the Albert K. Dobrenz award for Student paper-presentation competition. They were Karl Lux—first place, Michael Walsh—second place, and Samse Pandiangan—third. Checks of $125, $100, and $75 will be mailed the three winners.

**RESOLUTION**

David Koch presented the following resolution:

Be it resolved:

that the WSCS wishes to thank the Cal Poly faculty and staff, specifically Wes Mueller, John Phillips, and Ed Seim, for organizing the meeting, conducting excellent tours, and excellent barbecue and the fine hospitality shown. The society also thanks the speakers for their thoughtful and informative presentations and the membership for their patience and attention, all of which contributed to a successful meeting.

It passed unanimously.

**PASSING OF THE GAVEL**

The gavel was passed from James Krall to Mike Ottman and the meeting was adjourned for 1 year.