Western Society of Crop Science  
Business Meeting  
June 20, 2000

Call Meeting to Order and Approval of Minutes

Mark Brick, President of the Western Society of Crop Science (WSCS) called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm. The minutes from the 1999 business meeting as taken by Jim Krall, were distributed and approved (motion Jim Brewbaker, seconded Bob Zemetra).

Treasurer’s Report

The treasurer’s report was made by Bob Zemetra. As of April the WSCS account held by the American Society of Agronomy was at $3,695.51 (ASA). WSCS dues paid in April and May totaled $263.00 and were deposited into the ASA account. A question was raised concerning interest on the funds held by the ASA for WSCS. Dr. Lowell Moser representing CSSA/ASA said he would look into the question of interest on WSCS funds held by ASA. The final report, containing the 2000 summary including meeting costs and graduate student awards (estimated at $650.00) will be submitted to Dave Koch and the audit committee (chaired by Duane Johnson) for review.

Committee Reports

Election committee

After counting ballots from WSCS members, it was determined that the President Elect for the Society is David Wichman. As President Elect he will be responsible for the next year’s program at the University of Arizona. He will be president in 2001-2002.

Officers for 2000-2001

Mark Brick - Past President  
Dave Koch - President  
David Wichman - President Elect  
Mike Ottman - Secretary/Treasurer

Membership Committee

Ron Delaney reported that the new brochures were completed and distributed with approximate costs at $230.00. Based on membership totals at the meeting, membership in WSCS was up 40%. There was a discussion on printing extra copies of the brochure to be given to the membership committee member in each state. Ron estimated this would cost an additional $300.00
A motion was made by Bill Schillinger, seconded by Steve Fransen that new copies of the brochure be printed and distributed to WSCS members and copies distributed to the state representatives on the membership committee. After discussion the motion was passed.

There was a brief discussion on the status of the WSCS web site. It was suggested that the WSCS web site could be moved to the ASA server. It was further suggested that Ken Kephart, as Historian, investigate the advantages and disadvantages of moving the WSCS web site.

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee’s report was presented. Accounting for 1999 was approved by the committee and the committee report was accepted by the WSCS president.

Next year’s Audit committee will be chaired by Duane Johnson. Rob Cramer and Jeff Flake will also serve on the audit committee.

ASA Report

Lowell Moser past-president of CSSA gave greetings from the current CSSA and ASA president and gave a report on current activities at the national office. He discussed what CSSA was doing to reverse the trend in declining membership. This included setting up a CSSA ‘renaissance’ committee to evaluate how to reverse declining membership. It was pointed out that many professional societies are currently suffering losses in membership. Information on the activities of the CSSA renaissance efforts could be accessed on the ASA web site. Some of the efforts include townhall meetings to discuss the future of CSSA. One was held at the ASA meeting in Salt lake city last year and a second meeting is planned for the national meeting in Minneapolis this year. Overall ASA is solvent but the society wants to be prepared for the future. Currently membership in CSSA is down, ASA down but not as great as ASA and SSA starting to go down.

Other information included a new ASA membership services department with Luther Smith as the contact person. It was pointed out that Luther would be a possible contact person for moving the WSCS web site to the ASA server. Information on electronic publication of journals, current system did not work but a new approach would be proposed by the end of the year. A feasibility committee has been formed to determine if an electronic Journal of Plant Genomics should be started. There were also comments of ASA becoming more involved with Congress and issues at the federal level. Currently ASA has its own office in Washington D.C. just northeast of Union Station.

Old Business

None
New Business

Mike Ottman submitted an invitation to WSCS to meet on the campus of the University of Arizona in 2001. It was moved (Ron Delaney) and seconded (Shree Singh) to accept the invitation to meet at the University of Arizona. The motion was approved by acclamation.

Jim Brewbaker submitted an invitation to WSCS to meet at the University of Hawaii in 2002. After discussion it was moved (Mike Ottman) and seconded (Steve Fransen) to accept the invitation. The motion was approved unanimously.

Student Awards Competition Results

The chairman of the graduate student awards committee, Stephen Guy, announced the winners of the Albert K. Dobrenz Award for Student Paper-Presentation competition. There were 14 student presentations and based on the recommendations of the committee (Jim Brewbaker, Leon Welty, Ron Delaney and Stephen Guy) because of the excellent quality of the presentations and the number of presentations it was decided to give seven awards. The award winners were:

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Winner</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jamie Bailey</td>
<td>$150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zhining Wang</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Daniel Cervantes</td>
<td>$125</td>
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<tr>
<td>Melissa McClendon</td>
<td>$100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jaya Smith</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Robert Cramer</td>
<td>$50</td>
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<tr>
<td>Eric Geving</td>
<td>$50</td>
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Certificates were awarded to the winners and checks will be mailed at a later date.

Resolution

The following resolution was presented:

Be it resolved that the Western Society of Crop Science extends its deep appreciation to Bob Zemetra for the 2000 WSCS meetings, to the University of Idaho for the use of their facilities for the meetings, and to the University of Idaho Conferences and Events office for running both the pre-registration and registration for the annual meeting. Special thanks go to Thomas Koehler and Jenny Hansen of the University of Idaho wheat breeding program for facilitating the meetings and coordinating transportation for the meetings, barbecues and field tour. WSCS would like to thank Jack Brown, members of his rapeseed breeding program, and Roy Patten and Brad Bull of the farm crew for preparation and serving of lunch at the field tour. Thanks to Stephen Guy for coordinating the student paper competition and to all the students their presentations.
The WSCS would like to acknowledge Dave Koch for developing an interesting program and all the session moderators for keeping the sessions on time and facilitating discussions on the research that was presented. Thanks also go out to Kim Kidwell, Stephen Jones, and Kim Campbell for hosting the morning session of the joint WCSC/WWW field tour at the Washington State University Greenhouse and Spillman Farm.

The resolution was passed unanimously.

Other items included a report by the nomination committee on potential candidates for President Elect. The Executive committee contacted two individuals but one declined. At present there is one candidate, Bill Schillinger but President Mark Brick invited other nominations that he would then contact to determine their willingness to run for WSCS President Elect.

**Passing of the Gavel**

The gavel was passed from Mark Brick to Dave Koch. On behalf of WSCS Dave Koch presented a certificate of appreciation to Mark Brick for service to the society as president.

A motion was then made to adjourn the meeting, it was seconded and passed by acclamation.