Minutes of the C-1 Business Meeting
October 17, 2011

The C-1 business meeting was called to order at 3:30 pm by Mark Brick, Division C-1 Chair. The meeting was held at the Henry Gonzalez Convention Center, San Antonio, Texas in conjunction with the annual tri-societies meeting. An estimated 70 members were in attendance.

As the first order of business, Mark Brick announced that Pioneer Hi-Bred International had provided the coffee and snacks for the meeting and the group expressed their appreciation.

Division Officers were introduced as Chair-elect, Gina Brown-Guedira, Incoming Chair-elect, Jodi Scheffler, Past Chair, Georgia Eizenga and C-1 Board Representative, Jeff Pedersen.

Maria Gallo, CSSA President presented a Certificate of Appreciation to C-1 Division Chair Mark Brick for his service as 2011 C-1 chair. The President then presented several highlights from CSSA, including the Strategic Plan implementation and CSSA progress towards a digitized library. The Tri-societies Headquarters has a new business management entity called ACCESS with three executives. This structure allows Headquarters to develop programs rather than to manage the Tri-societies. Each society is charged proportionally for its services. Other associations and societies may use the services on a fee basis. Jeffrey Volenec will be the incoming CSSA President.

The minutes from the 2010 business meeting were reviewed. Karen Moldenhauer moved to accept the minutes and the motion was seconded by Jim Orf. The members in attendance voted to approve the minutes.

Jeff Pedersen, the C-1 Board Representative, reported on relevant items from the Board of Directors. Members are encouraged to become familiar with the Grand Challenge Statements posted on the website (https://www.crops.org/files/science-policy/issues/cssa-grand-challenge-2011.pdf ) and Division Chairs were asked where possible to incorporate the Grand Challenges into 2012 annual meeting sessions and symposia. As of August 2011, there are 5,238 members, down slightly from the 5,343 registered in 2010. The projected 2012 budget includes 2.04 million in expenditures, 2.02 million in expenses. The 2012 meeting will be October 21-24 in Cincinnati, Ohio.

David Baltensperger, Representative to the Science Policy Committee, reported that the Global Climate Change and Adaption position paper was complete and published in Crop Science. The next policy paper is on Bio-energy. There was some discussion on what would then follow. Suggestions included “Plant Impacts on Human Nutrition” as it affects human health and possibly “Biodiversity and Genetic Resources for Agricultural Development” or “Big Science” addressing large consortia collaborative projects to bring products to the producers. These policy papers are used as position statements to our politicians and policy makers. They help validate the Tri-societies as a legitimate organization to provide input for new laws and regulations.

There was discussion on holding a C-1 and C-7 joint session at next year’s meeting using one of the Grand Challenges as the overall theme. It was also announced that there would be a special
CSSA session “Translational Genomics” at the Plant and Animal Genome (PAG) meetings in January 2012 and Katrien DeVos would be the chair of the session. The National Association of Plant Breeders (NAPB) will also hold their meeting in Tampa 2013 and there was some discussion about having a joint meeting if timing allowed. Andrea Cardinal is the CSSA liaison with the NAPB.

Charles Brummer reported on CSSA journals. Mark Mandelbaum is the new Director of Publication. The Crop Science impact factor has risen in the last year from 1.7 to 2.0. One reason is the increase in review articles. There has also been a suggestion to put symposia into one of the journals. Plant Genome is growing slowly they are trying actively to solicit more articles. One problem may be the overlap in Crop Science C-7 and Plant Genome for articles. There may be a move towards online journals with an extra charge for anyone wanting a hardcopy. A new APP is available for i-phones and i-pads to read CSSA journal articles. One of the goals of the Journals and Books Committee is to develop a digital searchable library. Overall books are losing money and few are being submitted from C-1. There was a short discussion of possible topics for future C-1 books.

Kim Garland-Campbell gave a report for the Journal of Plant Registrations. There were 90 papers last year and there have been 72 so far this year compared to 80 at this time last year. There was one review article published and the journal is looking to increase the number of review articles and perhaps papers on germplasm or elite lines that were never registered, but have had a large impact and should be documented. The most common submissions were for wheat, sugarcane, cotton and turf.

During the report on Program activities in 2011 and 2012, it was again recommended to incorporate the Grand Challenges into sessions and symposia. There were 73 oral presentations and 73 posters for a total 143 in 2011, compared to 57 oral, 116 poster for a total of 173 presentations/posters in 2010. Attendance at the Sunday C-1/C-7 symposium “Genomic Selection Based on High Density Marker Data” was good, but down from past symposia. Discussion on the symposium included not having Sunday symposia in future or the need to have early and widespread pre-notification so attendees could make their travel arrangements accordingly. There was also discussion on having only one really high profile and focused symposium instead of two.

The Graduate Student Poster Competition was held on October 18, 2011. There were 26 posters with a team of 4 judges. There will be three cash award places and the winners will be posted on the C-1 Division website. First place was awarded to Peter V. Maloney, North Carolina State University with an award of $500 (poster No. 732). The poster was titled “Genetic Control of Stagonospora nodorum blotch in the AGS2000 x NC-Neuse recombinant inbred population” and was co-authored by Jeanette Lyerly, Rene Navarro, Gina Brown-Guedira, David Marshall, and Paul Murphy, Second place was awarded to Steven Becker from the Colorado State University with an award of $300 (poster No. 727). The poster was titled “Drought tolerant trait identification in synthetic hexaploid wheat” and was co-authored by Patrick F. Byrne, Scott D. Reid, and William L. Bauerle. Third place was awarded to Landon Ries, University of Minnesota, with an award of $150 (poster No. 730). The poster was titled “Fast-neutron
mutagenesis induced variation for protein and oil content in soybean” and was co-authored by Deth Naeve, Robert Stupar, James Orf, and Jung-Tsi Bolon.

Nominations for C-1 Incoming Division Chair elect were Mitch Tuinstra, Todd Campbell and Wayne Smith. David Baltensperger was nominated for CSSA Incoming President-elect.

The theme for the 2012 meetings will be “Visions for a Sustainable Planet” and a number of ideas were explored as possible symposium topics including a joint one with C-8 to highlight how we are using and will use genotyping.

The membership voted to adjourn the meeting about 4:30 pm.