

MINUTES FROM THE AGROCHEMICAL DIVISION COMBINED GOVERNANCE MEETING

ACS 227th ACS National Meeting – Anaheim, CA
Sunday, March 28, 2004 - 5:00 PM
Chair, Agrochemicals Division - Rodney Bennett

Program Planning

Rod Bennett called the meeting to order at 5:10 pm. Members in attendance introduced themselves, and Rod passed around a sign up sheet for the AGRO desk. The sign-up sheet is retained in the archives. We need volunteers to represent AGRO, answer questions about the division, sell books, and seek new members. Rod distributed copies of an AGRO "Reference and Training" notebook that he prepared to organize documents on Agrochemicals Division governance. Rod noted that he submitted nominations for ChemLuminary Division and Regional awards this year and called our attention to the initiative grants that can be up to \$5000 for one grant or \$7500 for two. The meeting continued with a discussion of programming.

Anaheim Update - Allan Felsot

There are 29 posters in the program and 120 papers in 4 symposia and two general sessions. The numbers compare favorably with last year when around 100 papers were on the New Orleans and New York meeting programs. For comparison, there are 140 papers in the Environmental division program and 161 in Ag and Food. Two other symposia of interest are:

Chemistry and Safety of Acrylamide in Food (AGFD), and Natural Products for Pest Management (AGFD). Environmental Chemistry designated three AGRO symposia of interest:

Agrochemical Issues in Urban Environment, Perchlorate Uptake in Plants, and Pesticide Risk Assessment: Conceptual to Quantitative Exposure Model. The Women Chemist's Committee and Younger Chemist's Committee cross-listed the Young Scientist Research Recognition Award Symposium. ACS is enforcing balanced programming at meetings, and Allan has distributed symposia over the entire meeting.

Philadelphia Program - Allan Felsot & Bill Hall

Abstract deadlines: May 3 – authors' deadline in OASYS; May 12 – symposium organizers; May 19 – Allan's deadline. On his return, Allan will begin working on the Philadelphia program and will send notices to the list serve to request papers. There are 12 subject symposia planned.

Standing Sessions include: Agrochemical Education Award Posters, General Posters, General Papers, Sci-Mix

and the Sterling Hendricks Memorial Lectureship Award which is co-sponsored with AGFD. The International Award for Research in Agrochemicals (sponsored by DuPont Crop Protection) will honor John Clark. The symposium has the theme: "The Yin and Yang of Pesticide Toxicology." There are 18 invited papers already on the agenda.

Other subject symposia:

Is Organic Food Better for You than Conventional Food?; Agrochemical Residues & Metabolism; Degradation & Metabolic Fate of New Crop Protection & Animal Health Products; Agrochemicals & Watershed-Scale Modeling: Solutions for Water Quality Management, Synthesis of Agrochemicals: Good Ideas that Never Made It to Products; Translation of Pesticidal Activity from Lab to Greenhouse to Field, Agriculture and Air Monitoring: Investigating Technologies for Measurement and Research; Metals Contamination in Agricultural Products and Soils: Methodology, Monitoring, Regulation, and Remediation; Innovative Products, Practices and Technologies Impacting Nutrient Use and Laboratory Analysis in the 21st Century; Mineral Nutrition and Plant Diseases--Interactions and Effects

The Academic Employment Initiative is a pilot program sponsored by ACS President Chuck Casey and the Graduate Education Advisory Board with the objective of providing an opportunity for academic employers to "pre-interview" and speak one-to-one with prospective faculty position applicants. The definition has been broadened to include people looking for academic positions – could be post-docs and recent graduates. Participants would submit a poster designated 'AEI' to a Division and it would automatically be assigned to a special section of Sci-Mix. The Program starts with the Philadelphia meeting.

Bill Hall noted that there is more FERT programming at Philadelphia than at any fall program in the last 5 years. M&E has a rule for the number of posters - limited to 10% of total papers. Agro makes \$600 per session available to symposium organizers for travel and registration expenses. Additional funding is possible if approved by the officers.

Beyond 2004, Allan Felsot, Bill Hall, Don Wauchope

Ideas for 2005 – send to Don Wauchope, copy in Allan Felsot

Proposed symposia for San Diego, Spring, 2005:

Antioxidants in Food--Relationship to Agronomic

Practices and Pests; Methods of Analysis

Organizers: Jim Seiber (USDA); Allan Felsot

(Washington State University);

“Risk Assessment” (idea under development--perhaps

focused on rural families; actual measurements of

exposure) Rich Fenske (University of Washington)

Young Scientists Research Recognition Award

Symposium;

International Award--BASF Sponsorship;

Phytophthora: Physiology, Ecology, and Control;

The role of Integrated Chemical Management in IPM:

Antagonisms, Synergisms (Potentiation), & Resistance

Management;

Forestry Pest Control & Management Chemicals

Biotechnology's Next Generation of Crop Protection

Characters;

FERT Proposals for San Diego:

Modeling & Risk Assessment--Tools for Managing

Agricultural Inputs & Food Safety;

Organic Farming & Nutrients--Productivity, Value &

Food Safety;

Innovative Technologies for Production and Analysis of

Specialty Fertilizers & Pesticides;

Proposed Symposia for Washington, DC:

Harmonization Issues in Regulation: Science & Global

Politics;

Pest Management by Government Agencies;

Public Health Pest Control Issues;

Management of Contaminants in Public Water Supplies:

Metals, Microbials, Agrochemicals;

Agrochemical Technology: What Will Be the State of

the Art in 2015?;

Agrochemical Research, Extension & Education: Who

will train the next generation? Who will conduct the

research? Who will fund?-- Bill Hall, Don Wauchope;

Ten year retrospective on FQPA - Dan Stout, EPA

NERL;

Harmonization issues in regulation of Crop Protection

Products – Rod Bennett, Al Barefoot;

Agrochemicals Technology: What will be the state of the

art in 2015? - Allan Felsot, Al Barefoot;

FERT Proposals for Washington:

Assessing Effectiveness of Agricultural BMPs on Yields & the Environment;

TMDLs & Plant Nutrients--Monitoring & Trading, Are They Working?;

Agriculture & Adjacent Ecosystems--Can They Both Be

Protected?;

New Nutrient & Soil Amendment Products Impacting

Agricultural Production & the Environment;

Long-range Programming:

Metabolomics (metabolic profiling), high field NMR,

mass spec, altered metabolite profiles due to disease

control (Will Ridley & Jim Seiber);

Mixtures: Toxicology and Risk assessment;

Formulation Issues (Adjuvants, etc.);

Stimulation of Pest Mgt. Strategic Plans;

Pest Control in Military Establishments/Areas;

Environmental impacts of agriculture – emissions from

ag operations, particulate matter, effects on adjacent

ecosystems;

Pest Control/Ag Issues by Tribes;

Alternatives to repellants, vector control;

Issues in Turf Management.

IUPAC Cooperative Activities - Ken Racke

Workshop 2005

2006 International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry will

be sponsored by the Pesticide Society of Japan. Ken is

looking for people to help with workshops and session

leaders.

2010 International Congress of Pesticide Chemistry

Ken would like to see the conference return to the US

and will need a specific proposal by fall 2005. Previous

experience showed importance of having good support

from ACS. There was discussion of potential costs and

the need for very intense effort and willingness, but we

agreed that it is worth pursuing a proposal. Ken agreed to

chair committee to prepare proposal. Jeanette Van Emon

and Don Wauchope volunteered to assist with

preparation of the proposal, which will include a venue

and tentative budget by August 2005. Don suggested

Washington DC in June 2010, which will give increased

likelihood of having government agencies participate.

Advisory Committee on Crop Protection chemistry

places emphasis on recommendations and projects and

evaluations of different areas. See website for additional

information on projects –

www.iupac.org/divisions/VI/cp6.html. IUPAC also

sponsors regional workshops and Ken provided

information on a workshop on crop protection chemistry

in Latin America during 2005.

Future Special Conference Committee - John Clark

Pan Pacific – both books are on track for submittal. Next

Pan Pacific would be 2008 and would be a collaboration

with both the Japanese Pesticide Society and the Chinese

Pesticide Society. ACS involvement in planning would

be highly desirable. ACS might be willing to help with a

smaller conference. Barry and Rod volunteered to write

a letter proposing ACS support for a medium sized

conference. Without ACS support we are not committing

to a Pan Pacific conference in 2008. The Pan Pacific

Conference could be brought into the ACS Pacific

Chemistry Conference. Since special conferences have greater appeal, this isn't preferred, but could be the choice since we need ACS involvement.

Long Range Program Planning - Herb Nigg, Dave Barnekow, Rod Bennett

Biotechnology Secretariat plans 4 years ahead, and it would be useful for us to look farther ahead. The new directions initiative grants from DAC could be used to help. Will Ridley and Jim Seiber agreed to look into long range programming with the Biotech Secretariat. Don Baker agreed to work on organizing AGRO programming at the Western regional meeting. Allan proposed occasional symposia focusing on a pest complex such as Phytophthora physiology, ecology, and control. John Clark volunteered to work on chemical management in IPM.

Executive Committee Reports

Secretary's Report -Aldos Barefoot

The minutes of the fall 2003 annual meeting were reviewed by the officers and delivered to the Picogram editor for publication. Candidates for office were notified of election results, and elected officers were certified to ACS. The annual report was prepared and reviewed by officers and submitted to the ACS before the March 15 deadline.

Treasurer's Report - Terry Spittler

Consolidation within the agrochemical industry continues to contribute to our membership decline as fewer companies are represented. Travel resources and opportunities are also declining in academia and government agencies. In spite of declining AGRO membership, the division programming and financial support remain viable. We are noticing a strong following from other disciplines attending specific symposia, and are reorienting our recruiting efforts to attract more multi-disciplinary chemists.

Several years ago, we implemented controls on our traditional social and program expenditures to keep them within the scope of our income. This eliminated the need to sell capital assets in the recently depressed market to meet operating obligations: we are benefiting fully from the investment appreciation now taking place. Annual support continues to be strong from our core of patrons, and our book royalties remain above \$8000/yr.

Although we have a large educational endowment directed towards our educational and outreach programs, we do not maintain separate operations and endowment reserves. We fund all of our established and optional functions from current income so as to maximize the amount in our working investment pool. In effect, our

current management strategy maintains active programming, social and recruitment efforts without depleting our reserves in unsettled times.

Fertilizer Subdivision Report - Bill Hall & Herb MacKinnon

In addition to more programming this year than in recent years, the FERT sub-division sponsored an Environmental Quality and Agriculture Conference. Many members have returned to the roll due to a membership drive that raised the visibility of the sub-division. There are now about 250 members, but FERT needs additional active members to maintain the level of programming. The Florida and California Pesticide Workshops could offer a venue for advertising FERT.

Councilor's Report - Barry Cross, Joel Coats, Nancy Ragsdale, Judd Nelson

At the end of 2003 the Society expects a net deficit of \$3.1 million, which is \$1.9 million more than the approved budget. There were substantial shortfalls in advertising revenue, investment income and print subscription revenue.

The Committee on Economic and Professional Affairs (CEPA) reported that ACS members are having to cope with a record high 3.5% unemployment rate for chemists. A career publication "Foreign Born Guide for Chemical Professionals" has been revised with a new chapter on post 9/11 immigration guidance. M&E reported that the New York Meeting attracted 14,351 attendees. Overlapping and competing programming remains a problem and some individuals have submitted a paper to multiple Divisions. A task force will review this issue. In keeping with the objective of the National Meeting Long Range Financial Plan, M&E and the ACS BOD approved raising the advanced registration fee to \$285 for 2004. Membership Affairs reported a decline of 1% membership in the ACS in 2004. ACS is in discussions with American Society of Chemical Engineers on activities that can be combined. A merger is not under consideration.

At the Anaheim Meeting there are three petitions under consideration:

1. Petition for Electronic Balloting for Councilors, and Alternates from Local Sections and Divisions.
2. Petition to change the Division Annual Report Deadline. The deadline would be moved forward to not later than Feb 15 rather than March 15.
3. Petition for Membership Requirements for Teachers. The amendment would allow membership to those "fully certified, licensed, or otherwise qualified as a pre college teacher of

chemistry or an allied science plus 3 years of employment as a chemistry teacher”.

The Agrochemicals Division supports all three petitions.

Membership Committee - Randy Weintraub & Chris Peterson

Randy and Chris propose to poll members to see if we are serving the members' needs. Last year they sent letters to 90 students inviting them to meetings. Don Baker proposed looking for international members since much of industry is moving out of the United States. Allan Felsot will check into SETAC recruiting practices. Rod moved that we hold a retreat at an ACS center to investigate ways to find new members and broaden the appeal of the Agrochemicals Division. Bill Hall seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Don Wauchope will work on the idea and report at Philadelphia.

Publications Committee - Laura McConnell

The PICOGRAM was successfully published this spring with 5 half-page ads and 6 full-page ads. Information on the AG-LIST and advertising in the PICOGRAM was included on the back cover. Thanks to Terry Spittler, AGRO is using a new printing company (The Printing Center, Cornell, NY) for the PICOGRAM instead of ACS. We will now be able to see proofs prior to printing. We have now also included the entire AGRO program in the PICOGRAM with titles and authors in front of the abstracts for the convenience of our members. Lists of previous award winners, previous Division Chairs, and lists of AGRO books were omitted to make room for the program. Laura would like help with the website. If there is an individual who would like to take over this task, please get in touch with Laura. A special thank you goes out to Allan Felsot for proofing the PICOGRAM prior to submission to the printers.

Jim Seiber reported that there has been an explosion in the number of manuscripts submitted to the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry as well as an increase in the number of pages published. The principal growth is in the Ag and Food area, while agrochemicals has remained stable. The electronic system has made submission easier. Willis Wheeler is the associate editor for the agrochemicals area. The need for reviewers is at a crisis point. Jim has placed advertisements for reviewers at the AGRO table. Symposia can be published if they do not qualify for publication as a book. The journal is trying to attract papers in metabolomics, proteomics and genetic materials.

Awards Committee - Jim Seiber

Jim Seiber has taken over the chairmanship of the Awards Committee from Joel Coats. Jim thanked Joel for 9 years of service as chair and for preparing the report for the Picogram. Steve Duke will receive the International award at the Spring 2004 meeting, John Clark at the Fall 2004 meeting. The committee is reviewing nominations for 2005. There was discussion of whether to continue the current practice of granting two awards each year. There are two sponsors of the award (DuPont and BASF), and both companies appear committed to their sponsorship. Jim asked us to consider three questions: 1) should the award be granted once or twice during each year; 2) should we give the award in a broader area of research than agrochemicals; and 3) should the company name be associated with the award. Jim was asked to discuss the award with the sponsoring companies and return with a report at the Philadelphia meeting. Rod suggested that we find a way to recognize sponsors. The executive committee agreed to write letters to the sponsors thanking them for support.

Finance Committee - Barry Cross

Last April there was concern expressed that there were significant losses in the Education Fund and we should consider a more conservative portfolio. At that time we were poised for an economic recovery and the potential for gains far outweighed the potential for losses, therefore no changes in fund allocation were adopted. We have now enjoyed a sustained year of economic and stock price growth and the Education Fund has nicely recovered its valuation. Now we face the situation where stocks are now well valued but can grow further with more economic growth. Our strategy should therefore be to begin now to transfer a percentage of our stock (suggested 10% now) into interest bearing securities such as inflation tagged treasuries. T. Rowe Price Spectrum Fund is a conservative investment vehicle and serves us well in good and bad economic cycles and should remain our vehicle for “near cash” investment. Income continues to decline from membership, the number of benefactors, and book royalties, but this has been offset by the Division's recently adopted cost saving measures and will be further helped by increased funding from the ACS to Divisions. Barry moved that the Finance committee talk to its investment advisor, restate our goals and restructure gains of the Educational Endowment Fund. Bill Hall seconded the motion.

Hospitality Committee - David Smith, Jeff Jenkins

Eight companies donated to support of the coffee lounge in Anaheim. On Tuesday evening we will once again join the Ag & Food Division for a joint social. All members, speakers and spouses are invited. The social will be held at Disneyland Hotel, Garden Terrace Room, Tuesday, March 29, 6-8 pm.

Nominating Committee - Jeanette Van Emon (2005 election); Rodney Bennett (2006 election) Balloting back on track for election by next meeting. Jeanette needs names for executive committee.

Public Relations Committee - Jeff Jenkins

Dr. Stephen Duke's International Award for Research in Agrochemicals has been noted in a public relations notice sent to five news organizations.

Education Committee - John Johnston

Young Scientists Research Recognition Award & Symposium:

There were five applications (12 in 2003) for the award. First Place went to Wei Zheng, University of California-Riverside; Advisor: Scott Yates (USDA). The Runner-Up was Keri Henderson, Iowa State University; Advisor: Joel Coats.

Next Competition: San Diego, Spring 2005

Deadline for receipt of applications: November 1, 2004

By-Laws Committee - Don Baker

Don is working to resolve discrepancies between by-laws and procedures. Any by-law changes should reflect what we actually do. Changes in by-laws must be sent to M&E before the annual meeting.

Committee on Patron Relations - Luis Ruzo

We have not yet received all the contributions from donors that we expect. There are only four contributors this year and contributions are down from previous years. Luis is working on a few other patrons.

E-mail Communications System - Tim Ballard & Terry Spittler set up the system using the ACS grant. There are about 1000 names on the list. Tim gets 2-3 dozen error messages after each e-mailing. Allan agreed to review the addresses and compare to those on the membership list. Al will provide FERT list to Bill Hall to correct email addresses.

Previous Business

Procedures Manual - Nancy Ragsdale

The manual is slowly coming to completion. An ad hoc review group met just prior to the business meeting. Nancy needs input from a few other people involved. Don can do preliminary review of concurrence between the by-laws and manual.

New Business

Regional Meetings - Rod will look for participants and encourage increased participation at regional and local section meetings.

National Chemistry Week - Rod participated in program for teachers and noted that we could use a specific program on agrochemicals for teachers. Don Baker is involved in science demonstrations in schools. Will Ridley can provide information for schools. Projector - Terry Spittler proposed we purchase a projector for use by Agrochemicals Division. Allan Felsot seconded the motion. During discussion it was noted that the projector should be used only for Agrochemicals Division business. The motion carried. The Secretary was asked to select and purchase a projector.

Rod Bennett adjourned the meeting at 10:28 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Aldos Barefoot, Secretary

