

2010
One Hundred and Second Annual Report
Of the American Phytopathological Society

Annual Meeting

The 102nd Annual Meeting of the American Phytopathological Society was held at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, August 7-11, 2010. Over 1500 attendees representing 38 countries were present. President Barb Christ welcomed participants to the APS plenary session "Looking to the Future: Possibilities and Challenges in Plant Pathology."

The session featured speakers from outside plant pathology, touching on topics such as diplomacy and science, the historical significance of plant pathology, and the importance of building networks to help scientists communicate with each other.

Andre Drenth of The University of Queensland, Brisbane, Australia

Dr. Drenth provided a history of plant pathology and its connection to human historical events, from the first recorded instances of plant diseases to plant pathology's increasing role in understanding everything from food yield to ecological preservation.

Ian Mulvaney of Mendeley.com, London, United Kingdom

Dr. Mulvaney spoke of the importance of building social networks and communications channels, specifically for plant pathologists, designed by us to meet our research needs. He offered examples from other disciplines of new venues for sharing research papers online to more effective ways to search for and locate news and updates in the field. Most importantly, he challenged plant pathologists to think about their own unique needs and what the world of technology can do for them.

Kerri-Ann Jones, Assistant Secretary of State for Oceans and International Environmental Scientific Affairs, Washington, D.C. Dr. Jones addressed the session on the importance of international networks for scientific communities and the roles our professional societies can play.

Awards and Honors Ceremony

APS regularly honors individuals who have made significant contributions to the science of plant pathology. The awards were presented this year at the Opening General Session of the APS Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, to allow membership the opportunity to extend well wishes and congratulations throughout the meeting. In addition, a special tribute to the late Nobel Laureate and revolutionary plant pathologist **Norman Borlaug** was also presented at the Opening Session. The following were honored as this year's APS award recipients:

APS Fellows: Peter J. Cotty, Yigal Elad, Robert L. Gilbertson, Raymond D. Martyn, Jr., Sally A. Miller, Timothy D. Murray, Krishna V. Subbarao, Frank F. White, Roger P. Wise

Excellence in Extension Award: Gary G. Grove

Excellence in Industry Award: N. Beth Carroll

Excellence in Teaching Award: Scott E. Gold

Ruth Allen Award: Rosemary Loria

William Boright Hewitt and Maybelle Ellen Ball Hewitt Award: Nian Wang

Lee M. Hutchins Award: Robert R. Martin

Noel T. Keen Award for Research Excellence in Molecular Plant Pathology: Gregory B. Martin

Syngenta Award: Sarah J. Pethybridge

Additional details on the awardees are available at www.apsnet.org/members/awards/

Recognitions also included the APS Foundation International Travel Award, 10th I.E. Melhus Symposium Presenters, the Schroth Faces of the Future Early Career Professionals Symposium Awards, the Raymond J. Tarleton Student Fellowship Award, the Pioneer Fellowship in Plant Pathology Award, the APS Student Travel Awards, and the APS Public Policy Early Career Internship.

At the **President's reception**, the following members were recognized for completing their terms in Council, Offices, Boards or Special Committees:

APS Foundation Chair: George Abawi
Potomac Division Councilor: Kate Everts
Southern Division Councilor: John Rupe
Senior Councilor-at-Large: Mike. Boehm
Immediate Past President: James Moyer
Publications Board Chair: Margo Daub

Public Policy Board Chair: Jacque Fletcher
Plant Health Progress Disease Editor-in-Chief: Mike Matheron
APS-PMN Oversight Committee Chair: Brian Olsen
Adhoc Governance Committee: Mike Boehm (chair), Margo Daub, Tom Mitchell, Steve Nelson, John Rupe, Joyce Loper, Greg Shaner

Recognition was also given to those councilors who completed their APS Council service, due to governance structure change, but will continue serving the society in their given APS leadership roles.

Pacific Division Councilor: Jim Adaskaveg
Caribbean Division Councilor: Maria Mercedes Roca
North Central Division Councilor: George Sundin
Northeastern Division Councilor: Wade Elmer
APS Press Editor-in-Chief: Margery Daughtrey

Plant Disease Editor-in-Chief: Mike Davis
Phytopathology Editor-in-Chief: Nik Grunwald
Phyto News Editor-in-Chief: Doug Jardine
MPMI Editor-in-Chief: Gary Stacey

Finally, **Michelle Moyer** and **Dija Selimi** were the recipients of the APS Outstanding Volunteer Award. This award recognizes volunteers who have done a tremendous job for the society and who are not serving on Council or chairing a board or committee.

Report of the Business Meeting

The annual APS Business Meeting was held on August 8, 2010, in the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, North Carolina, with President **Barb Christ** presiding. The miraculous talents of APS Staff and volunteers assured a seamless transition in venues when the anticipated Opryland Hotel was flooded three months earlier.

Year in Review

Christ kicked off the session noting how APS is a catalyst for “Creating Possibilities,” the theme for her presidential year and the meeting. She noted that APS is all about serving its members. Ideas from new initiatives come directly from the membership and are implemented in an effort to continue to create possibilities for members. A few such possibilities she indicated included: strong leadership, building our community and networking, best serving our members and science, creating possibilities for the next generation and connecting with our global membership, further growing the society, and creating professional and personal relationships. She then took a look at the past year’s possibilities.

Governance

- Constitutional amendment ratified in May
- 91% of voting members approved
- Streamlined governance with reduction from 22 to 12 members on APS Council
- New structure allows APS to better navigate challenges and opportunities
- Implementation of structure official at end of meeting
- New Divisional Forum formed (**David Schmale** and **George Sundin**); representatives from each of the six divisions to engage collaboration among divisions
- Restructured Nominating Committee (**Jim MacDonald**); cross-section of membership as representatives for in-depth process of talent identification and nominations solicitation

New Initiatives

- Visioning Forum (**Chris Mundt** and **Linda Kinkel**)
- Annual Meeting Models (**Anne Dorrance**)
- APS-CSPP Working Group (**Yulin Jia**)

Continuing Initiatives

- Leadership Institute (**Rick Bostock** and **Chris Smart**)
- International Seed Federation (**Phyllis Himmel**)

USDA Interactions

- USDA NIFA Stakeholder Participation (**John Sherwood**), based on member feedback, in coordination with the APS Public Policy Board; APS comments focused on ensuring RFAs meet the challenges of fundamental agricultural research and support the vibrant and integrated research communities to address both current and future challenges
- IPM Voices (**Soumaila Sanogo**); feedback into new IPM Voices visioning process

Moving Forward—APSnet

- Re-imagined, rebuilt, and forward-thinking
- Two years to prepare/create with more than 100,000 pages, 20,000 images, and cutting-edge technology
- Easier to navigate/search, new features, and database upgrade
- Live after meeting
- Premiere “APSnet—The Smart Site” movie shown during the meeting
- Collaboration tools coming in Phase Two

Society Affairs

Membership

APS membership as of June 30, 2010 was 4845, a slight decrease from the past year.

- The percent of membership residing outside the United States was 34%, with 12% of the international members being from Canada.
- Examination of APS’ future showed an increase in student membership with 623 students, with a slight decline in post doc membership to 251 post docs. Together, they represent 18% of membership.

Membership by Category:

Regular members - 3157

A decline of 117 from 2009.

Student members - 623,

An increase of 36 from 2009. The only category to show growth this year.

Post-doctoral members – 251,

A decrease of 7 from 2009.

Groups – 161

No change from 2009.

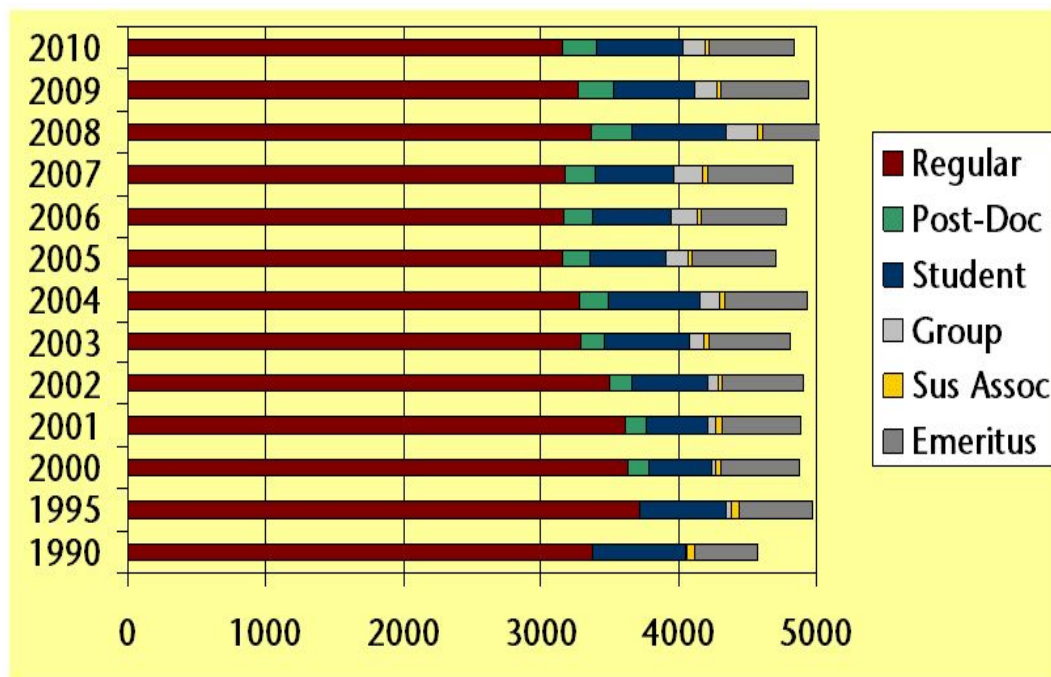
Sustaining associates - 27,

A decrease of 3 associates from last year.

Emeritus/life members - 624,

A slight decline from last year.

APS Membership Count by Type 1990-2010



Deceased Members – July 2009- July 2010

George N. Agrios
Robert Aycock
O.W. Barnett
Norman E Borlaug
John S. Boyle
N. Dwight Camper
Mary L. Cheadle
Donald F. Crossan
Maria R. Davis

Johan Dekker
W. Harley English
Marco A. Flores
Efrat Gamliel- Atinsky
R. Gene Gilbert
Fred A. Gray
John Robert Hardison
Richard L. Kiesling
Christopher J. Lamb

H. Arthur Lamey
Larry L. McDaniel
John J. McRitchie
GopiK. Podila
Saul RichMalcolm
C. Shurtleff
James F. Tammen
Lois H. Tiffany
David M. Webster

Financial

The APS Report of the Treasurer for 2010 will be published in the February issue of Phytopathology News.

Future Annual Meeting Sites

- 2011 APS/IAPPS Joint Meeting, Honolulu, HI, August 6-10, 2011
- 2012 Providence, Rhode Island, August 4-8, 2012
- 2013 Austin, Texas, August 10-14, 2013

Report of Council Meetings

Midyear: President **B. Christ** presided at the 2010 Midyear Council Meeting held at APS headquarters on February 19-21, 2010. The primary directive brought forth from this meeting was the unanimous acceptance of the ad hoc Governance Committee report to approve structural changes within Council and endorse membership approval of the constitutional amendments required to implement the change. Aside from this pioneering decision, other topics broached by Council were by-products of previous initiatives, as well as, actions/requests obtained from committees, boards and offices biannual reports. From the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC) the following recommendations were received: cash conservation continue into FY 2011; make the development of new revenue sources a top priority for the Society; APS Press asked to develop a business plan for development of electronic communications; and mandate Plant Management Network (PMN) to be budget neutral from this year forth. From the Office of Electronic Communication and APS staff, an update to the Content Management System/APS Website was given. This will be the third incarnation of APSnet. Council also discussed opportunities for enhancing future societal revenue streams. Examples provided included: E-Pubs, allowing a customer driven web platform to search across our product base and bundle electronic products (books, individual chapters, articles, images) specific to their need; future annual meeting models, tweaking the current format to lessen financial outlay while maintaining the positive aspects that attract people to our meetings; and the addition of fee based segments to the APS Education Center. Charges were relayed to established as well as new ad-hocs to assess the benefits and feasibilities of each of these topics. President-elect **J. Sherwood** relayed to Council the leadership initiatives that will be addressed at the 2010 annual meeting. Monsanto will hold a career development workshop for graduate students and post-docs in Nashville. The Leadership Institute will also conduct a one-day workshop in Nashville targeted to early career professionals.

Annual: President **B. Christ** presided at the 2010 Annual Council Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, August 6 and August 11, 2010. Persons completing terms on Council are listed in the Report of the Business Meeting. Highlights of boards/offices /standing committees were provided orally or electronically. The cash conservation plan, a well attended national meeting and a fiscally conservative staff contributed to the unexpectedly high surplus for FY10. Council recognized the changes in governance that would be occurring at the national meeting following membership endorsement of the amended APS Constitution. Councilors attended meetings of the boards, committees and offices to ensure each group was aware of the new networking role within the governance structure. Other topics Council addressed were: adoption of a set of "Guiding Principles in Developing a joint Annual Meeting with the American Phytopathological Society"; endorsement of the new business plan provided by APS Foundation; updated by Public Policy Board through Kellye Eversole with current priorities, status, and time allocation provided; discussion of how PPB will adapt to address the current budget climate, i.e. creating interagency opportunities, develop consortia to fund initiatives through non-USDA agency competitive programs, explore new opportunities to increase funding, plant advocates (OSTP, fellowships, etc.).

Fall Strategy Session. President **J. Sherwood** presided as APS Council came together September 13-15 in Jekyll Island, Georgia, to begin the process of focusing on societal initiatives and opportunities using the new governance structure. Under the guidance of the Strategic Plan and the Financial Strategic Plan, liaison roles were assigned to each member of Council to various boards, offices, committees assuring representation of the broad membership. Actions addressed included: approving the Divisional Forum as an APS standing committee/Society Internal Relations committee, appointment of an ad hoc committee to review affiliates and representatives of APS to be chaired by Vice President **M. Boehm**, shortening the open access period for *Plant Disease* to 12 months, appointment of the membership committee initially as an ad hoc charged to define their mission, responsibilities, and representation, and, finally, Council continued the discussion of diversifying income, needing to expand our "customer" base outside of our society, to prepare for the future and to provide those leaders with the resources to meet those challenges. Recommendation was made to form an advisory body to Council, an opportunistic, entrepreneurial, think tank which will have the means of tracking impact. An ad hoc to develop the process will first be formed.

Significant Motions passed

1. From Publication Board: Time to open access for *Plant Disease* is changed to 12 months, consistent with the policy for *Phytopathology* and *MPMI*.
2. From Council: The APS President to establish an ad hoc subcommittee to define composition, mission and strategic goals for the proposed Membership Forum.
3. From Council: Establishment of a registration category for undergraduate students be added to registration forms starting with the 2011 meeting; and the registration include membership in the society for one year, free of charge for students who pay registration at the reduced cost for the entire meeting.
4. From Exec: APS would provide \$5,000 for the Biology Department at the University of Alabama- Huntsville for a memorial when established in honor of Dr. Gopi Podila and Dr. Maria Ragland Davis.
5. From Council: Abstracts of the annual meeting, published online with a unique identifier associated with the journal "Phytopathology," will be considered published in *Phytopathology*.
6. From Council: APS will extend an invitation to meet jointly with MSA and SON in 2013.
7. From Foundation: APS Council will allocate \$11,000 to the Foundation to allow it to fund an additional 22 named student travel awards to support travel to the APS national meeting in Hawaii in 2011. Foundation will match these funds with \$11,000 from the Foundation endowment, thus making a total of 44 awards available for 2011.

New Council members for 2010

Vice President: Michael J. Boehm

Junior Councilor-at-Large: Walter F. Mahaffee

Divisional Councilor: David G. Schmale III

Publications Councilor: Anthony P. Keinath

Status of Appointed Committees

Formed Ad Hoc

APS-CSPP Working Group (Y. Jia, Chair)

Nominating Committee (J. MacDonald, Chair)

Annual Meeting Models (A. Dorrance, Chair)

Membership Forum (A. Talley, Chair)

Review of the Manual of Operations (D. Beadle, Chair)

Formed Society Internal Relations Committees

Divisional Forum (G. Sundin, Chair)

APS Leadership Institute (R. Bostock, C. Smart, Co-Chair)

Visioning Forum (C. Mundt, L. Kinkel, Co-Chair)

Reappointed

ad hoc APS-ISF Collaboration on the Codification of Pathogen Races / Strains Commonly Used in the Seed Industry (P. Himmel, Chair)

Completed

ad hoc APS Governance Structure (M. Boehm, Chair)