

**Crop Science Society of America
Division C-6 Business Meeting Minutes
3 November 2009
David L. Lawrence Convention Center
Pittsburgh, PA**

The meeting was called to order by Division C-6 chair Geoff Brink at 4:20 pm with 45 members present.

Agenda items:

1. Officers were introduced: Geoff Brink, chair; Mark Sulc, chair-elect, Jim Muir, past chair, and Chris Teutsch, chair-elect for 2010.
2. Minutes from the 2008 meeting were approved as written (Lynn Sollenberger moved to accept the minutes, David Barker seconded the motion, motion carried).
3. CSSA President Ken Quesenberry's Report:
 - All members were encouraged to attend the CSSA awards. Ken asked everyone to encourage colleagues, especially younger colleagues, to join CSSA.
 - The CSSA leadership is looking for ideas on how to attract and serve colleagues from industry. Send ideas to Ken Quesenberry or Lynn Sollenberger.
 - The society should break even on the 2009 meetings.
 - There is a binding contract in place to purchase a new building in the Madison, WI area for headquarters.
 - Our division was encouraged to keep working on the C-6 website.
 - Ken closed his report by presenting a certificate of appreciation to Geoff Brink for his service as chair of C-6.
4. Report by C-6 board representative Lynn Sollenberger:
 - In-coming president of CSSA Joe Lauer is requesting input from CSSA members regarding the CSSA Grand Challenge Statements that were sent recently by email.
 - Feedback was requested regarding the text message delivery system provided during the 2009 tri-societies meeting. The reaction was mixed, some text messaging is OK, but too much is annoying.
5. Overview of 2009 Program:
 - 86 abstracts including 28 oral presentations and two symposia were presented. The forage tour for Wednesday was filled to capacity.
 - Scheduling was very difficult this year because sessions and symposia could not conflict with plenary sessions. Many divisions expressed frustration with this directive, so changes in this policy are expected for the 2010 meetings.

- Interest in a tour for the 2010 meetings was assessed; there was some support for it, but the interest was not overwhelming. The majority of those interested in a tour indicated they would support a Sunday tour, but not a Thursday tour.
6. Journals Report (Craig Roberts):
- *Crop Science* articles will be migrated from Highwire to Mark Logic, a new in-house system, in order to enhance control and cost savings.
 - Changes will be instituted in citing cultivars or germplasms used in research articles. Guidelines will be provided when this policy goes into effect.
 - In 2009, the acceptance rate for *Crop Science* has been 55% to date and 16 papers were published in C-6. Turn-around time is 29 days from submission to first review response to authors, and 62 days from submission to final acceptance. The journal impact factor has improved and is now typical for a journal of this type.
 - There have been 25 papers accepted or pending acceptance in *Forage and Grazinglands*, with a 54% acceptance rate.
 - A suggestion was voiced that *Forage and Grazinglands* be linked from the *Crop Science* website.
7. Robert F Barnes Graduate Student Competition Report (Jim Muir):
- Nine students participated this year, and all presentations were outstanding. Since the Barnes competition had just occurred that afternoon, the results were not yet available. It was anticipated that awards would go to the top five presenters determined by the panel of judges.
 - Discussion followed regarding the scheduling of the competition. The general consensus was to hold the competition on Monday so that the winners could be announced at the C-6 early morning meeting on Tuesday.
 - Jerry Nelson expressed concern on behalf of Bob Barnes that the policies and procedures for the Barnes Graduate Student Competition be formally incorporated into the C-6 bylaws, with the early Tuesday morning C-6 meeting being the venue for presenting the awards. Glen Aiken, Dwain Meyer, and Edzard van Santen volunteered to help Chair-elect Mark Sulc look into this matter and report back to C-6 at the 2010 meeting.
8. Nominations Report:
- Michael D. Casler of USDA-ARS in Madison, WI and R. Howard Skinner of USDA-ARS in University Park, PA will be on the next ballot for the Chair-Elect of C-6 in 2011.
9. Program Proposals for 2010 meeting:
- The 2010 meeting will be held in Long Beach, CA Oct. 31 – Nov. 4. Mark Sulc shared the ideas he had received to date for symposia and topical sessions, Additional feedback was requested. The interest in a tour had been discussed earlier.

- There was strong interest in a workshop dedicated to the use of Proc Mixed of SAS, which will probably be proposed as an all day event on Sunday. Edzard van Santen volunteered to help organize a proposal for the workshop to present to the 2010 program planning committee.
- There was discussion about changing the name of the “Forage and Grazinglands Breakfast” so the name better reflects the nature of the gathering as one that involves more than a meal (i.e., a guest speaker and announcement of awards for the Robert F. Barnes Graduate Student Competition). Mark Sulc suggested the name be changed to “Forage Roundtable”. A motion was made and seconded, and the change of name to “Forage Roundtable” carried by a unanimous voice vote.

10. Other Business:

- Jennifer MacAdam voiced concern regarding the lack of commercial availability of rhizobium inoculants for certain forage legume species. Discussion followed as to what C-6 could do about this. Dan Undersander volunteered to work with Jennifer to address this issue with the seed industry.
- Jennifer MacAdam shared with the group that she has developed an introductory course covering plant anatomy and physiology, including publication of a condensed text to supplement the course material. An on-line supplemental lab manual will be developed soon.
- Jerry Nelson announced that the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) for forage and grazinglands is progressing and a book will be published sometime next summer, followed later by an online resource.
- Geoff Brink emphasized the need for development of the C-6 website (<https://www.crops.org/membership/divisions/c06>). Support and training for updating this website is available. Jamie Foster from Texas A&M is willing to help with this effort, along with Edzard van Santen. Suggestions voiced included linking the *Forage and Grazinglands* journal to this website.

11. The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by R. Mark Sulc