

**Joint Business Meeting of Divisions C1 and C8  
Crop Science Society of America  
Salt Lake City Convention Center, Room 150G  
November 9, 2005**

**Call to order, welcome, and approval of minutes**

The joint meeting of CSSA divisions C1 and C8 was called to order at 10:45am by Terry Coffelt (C1 Division Chair) and Jeff Steiner (C8 Division Chair). Both chairs welcomed everyone to the joint division meeting. Rex Bernardo was introduced as the 2006 chair for C1 and Michael Casler was introduced as the 2006 chair for C8.

The minutes of the 2004 joint division meetings in Seattle were read, and minor typographical errors were corrected. Bill Tracy moved that the minutes be accepted as revised. Jim Orf seconded the motion. The minutes were approved.

**Science Policy Office report**

Karl Glassner of the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Science Policy Office gave an update on potential reductions in research funding from Washington, D.C. He highlighted the Science Policy Action Alert (<http://www.sciencepolicyaction.org>) as a means of sending email messages to legislators, tracking a bill's progress and finding how one's legislators voted, and receiving legislative updates via email.

**Division reports**

For the C8 division, Dr. Steiner reported that the 2005 meetings included one symposium with six papers; one oral session with four papers; two poster sessions with 19 papers; and one special session in which Jeffrey McNeely gave the Calvin Sperling Biodiversity Memorial Lecture. All authors were present for their papers.

Two Crop Science manuscripts were chosen as C8 Outstanding Papers: (1) Rich, Patrick J., Cécile Grenier, and Gebisa Ejeta. 2004. *Striga* resistance in the wild relatives of sorghum. *Crop Sci.* 44: 2221-2229; and (2) Wang, Jiankang, Jose Crossa, Maarten van Ginkel, and Suketoshi Taba. 2004. Statistical genetics and simulation models in genetic resource conservation and regeneration. *Crop Sci.* 44: 2246-2253.

Henry Shands, CSSA incoming President, reported that the attendance at the 2005 Calvin Sperling Biodiversity Memorial Lectureship (C8) was only around 100. Having the lecture during the day (instead of during the evening) and printing the title of the lecture in the program book were suggested as ways to increase attendance at future lectures.

For the C1 division, Dr. Coffelt reported that the 2005 meetings included 2 symposia with 9 papers; 8 oral sessions with 49 papers; 11 poster sessions with 100 papers; and 2 special sessions (plant breeders' committee and farmer-breeder teams). No-shows included 1 oral paper and 12 poster papers.

### **Board report**

J. Paul Murphy, C1 Board Representative, reported on board activities on behalf of Ken Quesenberry, C8 Board Representative who also was in attendance. Dr. Murphy gave an update on the plans to restructure the ASA board. Specifically, it has been proposed that the ASA board be an agronomy-only entity, thereby adopting the model already in place for CSSA (crop science only) and SSSA (soil science only). The reason for this proposed change is to reduce the size of the board so that it could act more quickly on more issues. This change would require a modification of the ASA by-laws and the creation of a new Federation. Such a Federation will initially comprise the Tri-Societies; societies in allied disciplines such as plant pathology, entomology, weed science, etc., may join the Federation as partial or full members.

Dr. Murphy solicited comments on three names that have been proposed for the Federation: (1) Federation of Plant, Soil, and Environmental Science Societies; (2) Federation of Plant, Land, and Environmental Science Societies; and (3) Land Resource Science Societies Federation. The following were comments from C1 and C8 members in attendance: the name should not be a mouthful; the name should have a nice acronym; why is "agronomy" not included in the proposed names; why is "environment" is included in the proposed names but not in any of the current names of the Tri-Societies; equal representation of the societies in the federation, with chairmanship revolving among the member societies; preservation of identity of the societies in the Federation, along with a stronger voice in Washington D.C. Possible structures of joint meetings were discussed, should organizations other than the Tri-Societies be part of the Federation.

### **Budget report**

Dr. Murphy gave a brief report on subscription revenue and expenses for Crop Science and Agronomy Journal. Mean article length for Crop Science was 7.5 pages with a maximum greater than 20 for 2005. Beginning in 2006, the publication fee for Crop Science will be \$350 for articles of seven pages or less with an addition of \$50/page above 7 pages. Non-member subscription rates will likely increase by about 2% in 2006 and 2007.

### **Member Services report**

Dr. Murphy reported that CSSA membership has increased by 21% since 2002. Ken Quesenberry reported that there are 2000 Tri-society members that choose a C division as their first choice, but are not members of CSSA. A suggestion was made that we develop a mechanism to encourage these members of ASA to spend the extra \$10 to become official members of CSSA as well.

Kendall Lamkey reported that a Plant Genomics supplement to Crop Science will begin in May 2006. The supplement will be aimed at addressing basic research issues and Randy Shoemaker will be editor. Articles will be published on-line as they are accepted.

Dr. Murphy reported that Ann Marie Thro and Roy Cantrell are the nominees for chair of division C1. Jeff Steiner and Michael Casler requested volunteers for a second nominee for C8 division chair. Jeff Steiner introduced Kim Campbell and Bill Tracy as the chair-elect for divisions C1 and C8, respectively.

Respectfully submitted by Rex Bernardo and Michael Casler.