

NEWSletter

Northeastern Weed Science Society Winter/Spring 2020

Comments from the President



Art Gover

I hope you all enjoyed the 5th NEPPSC/74th NEWSS meeting in Philadelphia. I did, despite the fear of breaking the meeting. Your contributions – technical, social, spiritual - were tremendous, and I am looking forward to our next gathering in Gettysburg, January 4-7, in 2021. In addition to the work you all brought and shared, I will risk overlooking some and point out how grateful I am to the group that made it come together- Dan Kunkel, Caren Schmidt, and Theresa Piskackova from NEWSS; Sasha Eisenman and Adrienne Kleintop from NE-ASHS; and Karen Gartley with the NE Tri-Societies; and the gang that kept it together during the meeting – Kurt Vollmer, Thierry Besançon, Kate Venner, and Baylee Carr.

We had 126 titles submitted with 123 presented, breaking into 22 Student Posters, 20 Student Presentations, 30 Posters, 20 Agronomic papers; 20 Turf, Ornamental, and Non-crop papers; and 11 presentations in Fruit, Vegetable,

Important Information

July 29, 2020: Syngenta Canada and Guelph University, Guelph, Ontario, Canada

September 11, 2020: Title submission deadline

December 11, 2020: Deadline to reserve hotel room

Jan 4-7, 2021: NEPPSC meeting at the Wyndham Gettysburg, Gettysburg, PA

and Tree Crops. Elizabeth Mosqueda of Cal State Monterey Bay and Caren Schmidt crushed our flagship symposium, *Inclusion in Science*. I think they very effectively pushed it to that edge, or envelope, where those of us that primarily experience non-exclusion were able to engage this issue, and if not be transformed, at least get a glimpse that The Norm isn't. The Students continued their new tradition of organizing symposia addressing the issues they face transitioning to the "professional" phase of their careers, with *Overcommitted and Overstressed: A Primer to Our Future Careers*. We also had our inaugural Student Poster Slam. Our execution needs a little work, but the event was a success and it is my hope to continue it. Our "One Line Interview" event scheduled for Wednesday's Dessert Social was a bridge too far. I think collectively we were all fine with an evening of just hanging out and catching up after two full days. That event is in re-think mode. Stay tuned. Our Student reps Theresa Piskackova and Uri Menalled deserve much credit, but I want to emphasize how impressed I am with the collaborative nature of the students as a whole. I feel they've done a great job of becoming a

collective, rather than simply a gathering of three societies.

I was very pleased with the participation in the Student Poster and Presentation contests. We had manageable quantity, and notable quality. Thanks to Randy Prostack (Chair), Carroll Moseley, Shawn Askew, Hilary Sandler (subbing for Rakesh Chandran, whom we sorely missed), and Greg Armel for winnowing wheat from wheat to identify our winners (featured separately in this issue). On the poster side, Anthony Witcher led the team of Kate Venner, Matt Cutulle, Sandeep Rana, Vijay Singh, and our esteemed colleague and incoming NE-ASHS President Adrienne Kleintop, in a job well done covering the large group of entries with the always too-finite time in the Tuesday poster session.

I also want to call out our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Maria Gallo, President of Delaware Valley University. She was very generous with her time and talents on Tuesday, joining us for the Poster session (where five DelVal students were presenting), delivering a very engaging Keynote, and sharing her experiences at the Student Luncheon and the Symposium.

Before I describe what lies ahead for the Society this year, I need to acknowledge the inevitable transitions inherent in the annual meeting. Carroll Moseley gets to walk the plank from his tenure in the presidential arc to never-ending duties of the Past President pool. I benefitted from the chance to work with Carroll. It was clearly a case where our differences often meant I learned a better way to approach an issue, or at a minimum realized there was another way that I had not considered. Carroll is Gentleman, Humor, and Passion, and I look forward to continuing to work with him. Michael Flessner has served four years as Editor and has solidified and normalized our transition into a strictly electronic, and dual-format proceedings-while managing one the most productive lab teams in our society. Michael is the embodiment of Quietly Awesome. Get it done, done really well, and no drama. Theresa Piskackova served as Student Representative for the last three meetings, and I had the privilege of working with

her the last two. Two of her predecessors serve on the Executive Committee, so I can only gush so much, but her tenure was very successful, and saw an unprecedented level of student engagement and responsibility in the conduct of the conference (no pressure, Uri). This is certainly partly due to Carroll Moseley, Dan Kunkel, Caren Schmidt, and I seeking a greater level of participation by the students and creating that opportunity the last few years. Undeniably, it is also due to Theresa's dedication, focus, effort, and inherent personal qualities.

I finally turn to this year's business. Our 2021 venue is secured. We will meet at the Wyndham Gettysburg, January 4-7, 2021, with a program template similar to 2020. It is a really nice facility, with a lot of space, which we will have to ourselves. Rooms will be \$109, parking is free, and it's easy to find. It is also close to our geographic center. When we assigned a lat-long to the zip code for everyone registered for the 2019 meeting, our center-point was in Taneytown, MD. Clearly, we're not going to have the nearly-infinite variety of venues within walking distance as we do in Philadelphia, but we will have a free shuttle available to get you to the heart of Gettysburg, and for those willing to simply settle for the scintillating company of their colleagues rather than needing the apex of culinary creativity and ambience, there is an Appalachian Brewing Company about 100 steps out the front door. The in-house restaurant is fine as well and will stay open as long as you give them a reason.

The Collegiate Weed Contest will be July 29, hosted at the Syngenta research facility in Guelph, Ontario, by Syngenta Canada and Guelph University. This event will present logistical challenges as we need to cross an international border twice. Dan Kunkel has details on the Canadian visa process in his article in this newsletter. Unfortunately, the documentation requirements necessitate having your teams assembled early to allow time to complete the paperwork. Carroll Moseley will be leading the effort to maintain communication of the needed details with all the teams. This may

be burdensome, but it is a decision we made quite intentionally, to ensure we spread the effort of hosting the contest as wide as possible. The contest is an important part of what we do, but we don't have that many schools to share the load. We need to utilize fully the academic and industry resources we have to make sure we have a contest each year.

I just came to realize that our 2021 meeting is the 75th meeting of the NEWSS. Clearly, it is incumbent on the Board and me to appropriately commemorate this occasion. At this stage the best I can offer is "We're working on it." The Board and I welcome suggestions you have on activities and mementos. One element that would be really welcomed is your NEWSS-related photos. We will definitely need a looping slideshow at the socials. Please consider sharing your pictures of notable NEWSS personalities, particularly from Days Gone By, as well as from weed contests and annual meetings. Pictures of current 'senior' members when they were embarrassingly young is always a good vein to mine as well. All of you former public relations chairs, sift through those archives for gems you did not get to share in the newsletter. Askew must have a few GB of files from the 2016 contest alone.

The Endowment Committee will be finalizing the details to roll out the First Annual Student Writing Contest in conjunction with the annual meeting, as now that the Endowment is adequately endowed, we want to start awarding the students.

Other mileposts for this year:

- Title submission deadline for NEPPSC 2021 is Friday, September 11.
- The NEPPSC submission page on wssaabstracts.com will open August 1.
- Deadline for reserving your hotel room for the 2021 meeting is December 11. There will be a link at neppsc.org.
- NEPPSC meeting registration deadline is not set, but figure mid-December as in years past.

President-Elect's Report



Caren Schmidt

I would like to briefly recap the 2020 meeting and look ahead to the 2021 meeting. I am grateful to those of you that participated in the "Inclusion in Science" Symposium that took place on Tuesday, Jan 7. It included a keynote address by Dr. Elizabeth Mosqueda, Assistant Professor of Crop Management at California State University-Monterey Bay, documenting the impact of Diversity and Inclusion efforts that she led as a graduate student with the Western Society of Weed Science. Following the keynote, Dr. Mosqueda and I facilitated an interactive workshop exploring instances where our differences have impacted quality of life, understanding the definitions of diversity, benefits of inclusion, and what an inclusive environment should look like, exploring the ways in which implicit bias has impacted our work life, and creating action plans to become more inclusive in our daily lives. Following the Symposium, several members expressed interest in serving on the NEWSS Inclusion ad-hoc committee to explore/identify opportunities to be proactive in recruitment of underrepresented groups to our annual meeting and ways to create a more inclusive society and meeting environment to leverage our existing and future diversity.

The endowment fund committee has been very busy in 2019, now that the fund is available for disbursement. First, thanks to all of

you that have contributed to the fund over the years and thanks also for contributing to the 50/50 over the last two years to further increase the fund. With efforts led by Jeff Derr, the committee drafted a proposal for the implementation of the NEWSS Graduate Student Writing Contest. While still yet to be voted by the Board, the objective of the writing contest is to support the development of effective writing skills in our graduate students. Any graduate student currently enrolled in an MS or PhD Weed Science degree program in the Northeast or has completed an MS or PhD Weed Science degree program no more than 6 months prior to the contest submission deadline is eligible to participate. The submission needs to be an original document entirely written by the graduate student, although the student's advisor can aid in terms of reviewing the document/suggesting revisions. The submission could be part of the student's graduate research efforts or could be a literature review. Submissions will be judged based on writing skill, originality/creativity, technical accuracy, thoroughness of the topic, and relevance to the Northeast. Proposed submission date is November 1. Cash awards will be granted by the Endowment Fund at the next annual meeting. This will be the inaugural distribution of the fund. Stay tuned for further details.

For the 2021 meeting, we will follow a similar time format, Jan 4 through 7 in Gettysburg, PA. Monday afternoon will be committee meetings following by evening socializing. Tuesday through Thursday will consist of poster sessions, Symposia, breakout sessions and other meaningful activities. We may be switching things up a bit, so stay tuned. Title submission deadline for the 2021 meeting will be September 11, 2020. We will continue to use wssaabstracts.com to handle our submissions. Count on the Section Chairs and me to reach out to you to share your talent, data, and insights for the 2021 program.

I am also in search of the 2022 annual meeting location and a host for the 2021 collegiate weeds contest. Please reach out to me if you have any interest or insight. Lastly, I look

forward to seeing many of you at the summer collegiate weeds contest, to be held near Guelph in July. I will be communicating regularly with coaches to ensure successful international travel.

Vice President's Report



Jacob Barney

I am grateful for the opportunity to serve NEWSS over the coming years during the Presidential tour. I look forward to working with the Board and the membership to serve you.

One of my first orders of business is to begin brainstorming symposia ideas for the 2021 meeting in Gettysburg. I was inspired by this year's theme of inclusion and would like to build on professional development capacity that makes us all better weed scientists. I have been in discussion with the graduate students about possible themes and we are currently exploring "science communication" broadly. Communication is a fundamental component of our careers whether we engage with colleagues, stakeholders, policymakers, students, etc. I have participated in a variety of science communication workshops and have found them immediately useful. This could range from general approaches, messaging, improv skill

development, slide design, etc. I will continue this discussion with the graduate students and board and see what develops. I also welcome ideas from the membership as we are here to serve you.

Past-President's Report



Dan Kunkel

First, I wish to thank the Executive Board for all the support over the past three years, they really are a great group! Now as Past-President I expect one starts to feel activities wind down, especially knowing that there is a great board to carrying forward. Second, to Art, Caren, Theresa and all the others who planned the 2020 NEPPSC meeting – Great Job! I have heard nothing but positive things from the meeting. Finally, I want to remember to thank Carroll Moseley, Michael Flessner, and Theresa Reinhardt Piskackova for doing a really great job serving on the board, we will dearly miss them on the board and thanks to Kurt Vollmer as he transitions off the board over the next year for doing a great job on the “books”.

There will be many follow-up actions in the coming months, such as survey seeking further input into the next meetings. On my plate in the coming year are two main items. One to finish the update to the MOPs, Carroll did much of the work on them, so we want to finish them off and post them to the NEWSS website. And number two, ask you the NEWSS for nominations. It seems like some time off, but I

will be looking for nominations for the 2021 awards. Over the next few months please consider candidates for: Fellow, Award of Merit, Outstanding Educator, Outstanding Researcher, the Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student(s), and M. Garry Schnappinger Service Recognition award and let me know those who you think are deserving candidates. As Carroll mentioned at the meeting please provide robust nominations with the items noted in the NEWSS Manual of Operating Procedures.

Finally, the 2020 Weed Contest. Since the meeting will be in Canada everyone will need to plan early. The contest will take place on July 29th, just outside of Guelph Canada and is being sponsored by Syngenta Canada and the University of Guelph.

Please visit the Canadian government website to determine which documents are needed to enter Canada for the meeting at: <https://www.cic.gc.ca/english/visit/visas.asp> The website will provide a questioner to determine what documents you need and will guide you through the process. For the VISA application process, we do feel that it maybe better to refer to the meeting as a “Summer Agronomy meeting”, sometimes “weed contest” is miss understood... Our contacts for the meeting will be François Tardif at University of Guelph (ftardif@uoguelph.ca) and Harold Wright at Syngenta (harold.wright@syngenta.com). We will be working out invite letters etc. in the coming weeks and will send more information as it becomes available. Please see below for an example of what information may be needed for non-US citizens. Also remember, your papers will need to be in order to re-enter the US as well.

If You need a visitor visa (non-US citizen)

You're considered a business visitor and you need a **visitor visa** to travel to Canada. You **don't** need an eTA.

A visitor visa:

- is a sticker we put in your passport
- costs CAN\$100

You must **send certain documents** with your application:

- a letter of invitation from your potential business partner in Canada
- 24-hour contact details for that person

You may also need proof that you have a job. As a business visitor, you must show that:

- you plan to stay for less than 6 months
- you don't plan to enter the Canadian labor market
- your main place of business, and source of income and profits, is outside Canada
- you have documents that support your application

Processing times vary by country. You may need to [give your fingerprints and photo \(biometrics\)](#) with your application. Processing time **doesn't include** the time you need to give biometrics.

[Apply for a visitor visa](#)

We will be sending more information as it becomes available for contest travel.

Treasurer's Report



Kurt Vollmer

2020 Financial Report as of February 19, 2020

Savings Balance	\$31,865.22
Checking Balance	\$87,368.69
Endowment Fund	\$37,205.24
Total Net Assets	\$156,439.15

I hope everyone enjoyed the 2020 Northeastern Plant, Pest, and Soils Conference. The meeting generated \$36,580 in income. I estimate about \$35,653 in expenses which leaves a profit of about \$927. To date we have 12 sustaining members whose contributions total \$18,500. I'm also pleased to report that we have received \$1,960 in contributions to the education fund. Remember it's never too late to donate!

<https://www.newss.org/about/education-fund-donation>

The mailing address for NEWSS has changed. Please address all correspondence to:

**Kurt Vollmer, NEWSS Treasurer
P.O. Box 169
Queenstown, MD 21658**

Treasurer-Elect Introduction

Larissa Smith

Please welcome Dr. Larissa Smith into her new role as Treasurer- Elect. Larissa will be working with Kurt for the next year to learn our books before he rotates off the board in 2021.

Dr. Larissa Smith is originally from Ithaca, New York. She earned her B.S. degree in plant sciences with a concentration in plant pathology from Cornell University. She continued her studies at Cornell under the direction of Dr. Antonio DiTommaso, earning her M.S. degree focusing on the invasive vine pale swallow-wort. It was at this time Larissa became a member of NEWSS and participated in her first collegiate weed contest. Larissa is also a graduate of LEAD-NY; an intensive two- year program intended to inspire people to champion food, agriculture and natural resource industries. She spent five years between degrees as an extension specialist, coordinating the field crops extension program for New York State. In 2011, Larissa began her Ph.D. under Dr. Jacob Barney in the Department of Plant Pathology, Physiology, and Weed Science at Virginia Tech. Her research focused on evaluating the invasive potential of large statured perennial grasses for plant-based bioenergy. After completing her Ph.D. in the spring of 2014, Larissa was appointed Chief Science Officer at Leone BioVentures. Her work focused on overseeing the development of novel biological compounds for crop protection. Larissa and her husband currently reside in King Ferry, New York where she is employed as a Research and Development Scientist with Syngenta. In her free time, she can be found battling the extensive populations of (coincidentally) pale-swallowwort and Miscanthus that call her property home.

NEWSS Executive Committee 2020

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**Executive Committee, Chairs and
Representatives**

Art Gover	President
Caren Schmidt	President-Elect
Jacob Barney	Vice-President
Dan Kunkel	Past President
Kurt Vollmer	Treasurer
Larissa Smith	Treasurer-Elect
Thierry Besançon	Membership Chair
Lane Heimer	Editor
Katelyn Venner	Public Relations Rep.
Wesley Everman	Sustaining Membership
Matthew Cutulle	Research & Education
Uri Menalled	Graduate Student Rep.
Rakesh Chandran	WSSA Representative
Hilary Sandler	CAST Representative
Lee Van Wychen	Science Policy Director

**Committee Members
Chairs and Chair-Elects**

2021 NEWSS Program Committee

Caren Schmidt – President-Elect
Jacob Barney – Vice President
Uri Menalled – Graduate Student Rep.

Student Oral Papers:

Carroll Moseley – Chair, 2nd Past President

Student Poster Section:

Anthony Witcher – Chair

Poster Session:

Katelyn Venner – Chair

Agronomic Crops:

John Wallace – Chair
Lovreet Shergill – Chair-elect

Turfgrass, Ornamentals, and Non-Crop:

Anthony Witcher – Chair
Matt Elmore – Chair-Elect

Fruit, Vegetables, and Herb Crops:

Thierry Besançon – Chair
Kurt Vollmer – Chair-elect

**Program Committees for the 2021
NEWSS Meeting**

Site Selection Committee for 2022

Caren Schmidt	Vice-President
Art Gover	President-Elect
Kurt Vollmer	Treasurer

Awards Committee

Dan Kunkel	Chair, Past President
Carroll Moseley	2 nd Past President
Randy Prostak	3 rd Past President
Shawn Askew	4 th Past President
Rakesh Chandran	5 th Past President

Nomination Committee

Carolyn Lowry	Chair, Appointed
Lynne Sosnoskie	Appointed
Sandeep Rana	Nominated from floor
Matt Elmore	Nominated from floor
John Kaminski	Nominated from floor

Resolutions Committee

Jerry Baron	Chair
Mark VanGessel	Appointed
Jeff Derr	Appointed

Collegiate Weed Contest Committee

Caren Schmidt	President-Elect
Art Gover	President
François Tardif	2020 Host
Harold Wright	2020 Host
Katelyn Venner	Host in 2018
Stacey Pickard	Host in 2017
Jacob Barney	Host in 2016
Dwight Lingenfelter	Host in 2014
Uri Menalled	Grad Student Rep.
Wes Everman	Sustaining Membership

Archives Committee

Dan Kunkel Chair, Past President

Photo Award Committee

Hilary Sandler Chair
Erin Hitchner Volunteer
Rakesh Chandran Volunteer
Art Gover Volunteer
Shawn Askew Volunteer

Student Paper Awards Committee

Dan Kunkel Past President
Carroll Moseley Chair, 2nd Past President
Randy Prostack 3rd Past President
Shawn Askew 4th Past President
Rakesh Chandran 5th Past President

Poster Award Committee

Anthony Witcher Chair
Katelyn Venner Volunteer
Matt Cutulle Volunteer
Sandeep Rana Volunteer
Vijay Singh Volunteer

Weed Science Field Days Committee

Quintin Johnson Appointed by Pres-Elect

Past President's Committee

Dan Kunkel Liason with Exec. Board

Herbicide Resistant Plant Committee

Mark VanGessel Chair
Dan Kunkel
Dave Mayonado

Endowment Committee

Jacob Barney Chair, Vice President
Dan Kunkel Past President
Carroll Moseley 2nd Past President
Kurt Vollmer Treasurer
Larissa Smith Treasurer-Elect
Thierry Besançon Membership Chair
Randy Prostack 3rd Past-President
Renee Keese Appointed by President
Rakesh Chandran Volunteer
Mark VanGessel Volunteer
Jeff Derr Volunteer
Hilary Sandler Volunteer
Caren Schmidt Ex-Officio
Art Gover Ex Officio

NEWSS Board 2020



Top (left to right): Uri Menalled, Thierry Besançon, Wes Everman, Kate Venner, Larissa Smith, Hilary Sandler, Lane Heimer

Bottom (left to right): Caren Schmidt, Kurt Vollmer, Art Gover, Dan Kunkel, Jacob Barney

The NEWSSletter is compiled by Katelyn Venner, Public Relations Representative. Please contact her at katelyn.venner@basf.com with any corrections, suggestions, or items to be included in the next newsletter (Summer 2020). If you would like copies of any photos from the meeting, please let Katelyn know via email.

Editor's Report



Lane Heimer

The 2020 NEPPSC and NEWSS Proceedings are being completed by Former Editor Michael Flessner. The goal is to have the proceedings on the NEWSS Website and for distributed to our partner societies by April 1. Thanks to all who submitted titles and abstracts. Proceedings are published in electronic format only for ease of access. The searchable NEWSS Proceedings is in process.

For the 2021 Meeting, we will be using the new WSSA Abstract site for submission of titles and abstracts. Title and abstract submission are to be open August 1, 2020 with the title submission deadline being September 11, 2020.

Instructions on title and abstract formatting will be posted on the NEWSS website along with instructions for submission through the new WSSA Abstracts website

Mark your calendars for the 2021 NEPPSC Meeting

Title deadline: September 11, 2020

Abstract deadline: January 3, 2021

Slides deadline: January 3, 2021

Graduate Student Update



Uri Menalled

I could not be happier with the 2020 NEPPSC meeting! As a graduate student, I was able to meet old and new faces and come together over teamwork, inclusion, and science. This sentiment was echoed through the graduate student body, and thanks to the hard work of the society, this year had a record graduate student turnout.

On Tuesday, the meeting began with a keynote by Dr. Maria Gallo, president of Delaware Valley University. Dr. Gallo emphasized the importance of experiential learning and inclusion in the classroom. She noted that her rise to a leadership position was possible through teamwork and participation. These principles were echoed in the NEPPSC presidential address, which gave examples of member participation and stressed continued synergisms between the three societies.

Graduate students had the chance to network with each other, NEPPSC board members, and Dr. Gallo during Tuesday's graduate student luncheon. At the following business meeting, the students elected Maria Gannett as their 2022 representative. Maria served on the graduate student social committee for the 2020 meeting, and I am excited to work with her this year!

The following day, students and professionals from academia and industry gathered for the graduate student symposium,

Overcommitted and Overstressed: A Primer to Our Future Careers. During the first half of the event, students met alone to discuss the challenges they experienced and draft questions for professionals during the second half of the symposium. This event resonated with the conference's inclusion theme as many members shared similar challenges. As a grad student, it was relieving to hear from successful scientists who had similar struggles and worries when they were students. Collectively, we discussed how to mitigate stress and many of the themes of teamwork and communication, which Dr. Gallo and the NEPPSC presidents had discussed, surfaced again.

Maria and I are working with the board to formalize plans for the 2021 student symposium. We are thinking about a science communication workshop with an emphasis on model and data presentation. However, we welcome other ideas and encourage members to email them to me (udm3@cornell.edu). Looking forward, the board is also finalizing plans for a graduate student writing contest. The objective of the contest is to support the development of effective science writing skills. Tentatively, the competition will be open for M.S. and Ph.D. students in the Northeast before the 2022 meeting, so keep your whiskers up for the official competition rules!

I'm excited to see you all in Guelph, Canada for the Northeastern Weed Contest in July.

Sustaining Membership Report



Wes Everman

Sustaining member support is a critical component of our successful meetings. We appreciate those who have contributed and would like to take the opportunity to recognize each level of support. Our Platinum Sustaining Members, those who contributed \$3,000, consist of BASF, Bayer, and Syngenta. Gold Sustaining Members contributed at least \$2,000 and are Corteva and Valent. Our Silver Sustaining Members contributed \$1000, and include FMC, Gowan, and UPL. Our Bronze Sustaining Members contributed \$500 and include Nufarm, For-Shore Weed Control, AMVAC and LabServices. We greatly appreciate the contribution to our society. For those who would like to contribute in the future, or if you are looking for a way to support the society, please reach out to me. Thank you all and have a wonderful spring.

WSSA Representative Report



Rakesh Chandran

Let us set a goal of at least three awardees from NEWSS at the WSSA Meeting in 2021! We have nationally if not globally reputed Weed Scientists in our region but have not been very successful in recognizing them at the recent several WSSA meetings. Please consider nominating a deserving individual for one of the WSSA award categories listed below. The nomination deadline is September 30th (unless designated otherwise). Please refer to following table or click this [link](#) for additional details:

Award Category	Sub-Committee Chair
Early Career Outstanding Scientist	Franck Dayan
WSSA Fellow	Krishna Reddy
Honorary Member	Krishna Reddy
Outstanding Extension	Larry Steckel
Outstanding Researcher	Ramon Leon
Outstanding Teacher	Reid Smeda
Outstanding Graduate Student	Chris Marble
Public Service	Mike Barrett

Excellence in Journalism (For Media) (Deadline – October 31)	Carroll Moseley
John Jachetta Undergraduate Research Award (Deadline – December 20)	Mithila Jugulam
Graduate Student Travel Award (Deadline – October 31)	Calvin Odero

If you have general questions related to WSSA Awards, please contact me or our own Dwight Lingenfelter who serves as the Awards Committee Chair @ dxl18@psu.edu
In other updates, the WSSA Board of Directors (BOD) voted to move forward with the following decisions:

- Dr. Stanley Culpepper, Univ. Georgia, was elected at the Vice President
- Dr. Christian Willenborg, Univ. Saskatchewan was appointed as the new Director of Publications
- Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie, Cornell University, was elected as a Member-at-Large
- Dr. John Lindquist, Univ. Nebraska-Lincoln, was appointed as the WSSA Constitution and Operating Procedures Chair
- Dr. Jill Schroeder, with the EPA, was appointed as the CAST Committee Representative

The BOD also voted to approve the Award recipients at the annual meetings in Hawaii. The recipients will be announced at the meeting
A request from IWSS to increase WSSA support for student travel from 12k to 15k was approved by the WSSA BOD

The BOD also endorsed an Action Plan proposed by the Western Society of Weed Science (WSWS). The action plan is a blueprint to identify and implement the actions that address the spread of invasive and noxious plants that affect the sagebrush ecosystem, the framework of which will constitute Funding,

Policy and Regulation, Coordination and Cooperation including Data sharing, and Research and Reporting. This was an outcome of a summit organized by WSWs with participation from U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), Bureau of Land Management (BLM), and U. S. Forest Service (USFS) in Boise Idaho in the fall of 2015.

The International Weed Science Society meeting (IWSS Congress 2020 "Weed Science in a Climate of Change"; <http://www.iwss.info/>) will be held in Bangkok, Thailand from 21st to 30th June, 2020.

A recap of other developments related to WSSA since summer 2019:

During the summer BOD meeting, it was formally decided that WSSA Meeting at Arlington in 2023 will be joint with NEWSS. As of now other regional societies have no plans to join. It is expected that WSSA will make arrangements for our one-day meeting room needs for NEPPSC, and a reduced 1-day registration fee for our partners. Dr. Jacob Barney, our new Vice President will serve as the program chair for NEPPSC, and will represent the NEWSS at this joint meeting.

A Code of Conduct for meeting attendees is expected to be put in place by the WSSA. This code of conduct may have to be adopted by the regional societies to be incorporated into their respective MOP's. At the Hawaii meeting in 2020, the regular grad student oral presentation contest will be replaced by an Elevator Speech contest. WSSA plans to enforce penalties for author no-show for titles and abstracts submitted (removing them from programs and abstracts and banning the corresponding author at the following year meeting). The Student Travel program is a success. NEWSS student members are encouraged to send in more applications in future years. The WSSA is working with the Herbicide Resistance Action Committee (HRAC) on the new herbicide Mode of Action classification to harmonize herbicide MOA codes between HRAC and WSSA. The WSSA Abstracts fee for regional society breakdown was determined to be \$2000 for all regional societies

including the Aquatic Plant Management Society, and the Canadian Weed Science Society.

Director of Science Policy Report



Lee Van Wychen

Weed Science Societies Comment on EPA's Interim Process for Evaluating Potential Synergistic Effects of Pesticides during the Registration Process

Since 2015, EPA has used an interim process to evaluate the potential synergistic effects of 24 new active ingredient registrations due to patent office claims by registrants. None of these reviews have ultimately impacted an existing EPA ecological risk assessment. The results from the analysis of the first 24 active ingredients reflects that there is a low probability that claims asserting greater than additive (GTA) effects will impact ecological risk assessments for pesticide active ingredients. Therefore, the National and Regional Weed Science Societies support EPA's plans to evaluate the results of the interim process, and once a sufficient number of reviews are completed, to decide whether continuing the process has utility in evaluating ecological risk associated with product use. If the outcome of EPA's future evaluation demonstrates that the interim process does not have utility in evaluating ecological risk associated with product use, our societies agree that EPA and registrants should not exhaust additional time and resources in this

endeavor and suspend evaluations. [The National and Regional Weed Science Society comments are available here.](#)

WSSA Comments on Paraquat

The WSSA provided comments on the value and uniqueness of paraquat for weed management. We strongly support further education and awareness activities both on the label and through training. [Read the full comment on 'Registration review; Availability: Paraquat Dichloride Draft Human Health and Ecological Risk Assessments'.](#)

Congress Reaches FY 2020 Budget Deal

After months of delay, Congress passed a much-anticipated deal to fund the government through the end of FY 2020, which runs through September 30, 2020. The \$1.4 trillion package of discretionary spending bills, which was divided up into two “minibuses”, was finally delivered just before the holiday break after months of rigorous debate. The first minibus (H.R. 1865) included eight of the twelve appropriations bills, all covering domestic policy. The second minibus (H.R. 1158) was a four bill package focused on national security. The first minibus includes funding for the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA).

USDA-NIFA Appoints 6 National Science Liaisons

The USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture’s (NIFA) program portfolio and contact with their stakeholders, partners, and collaborators in Washington DC will continue, uninterrupted with the creation of six National Science Liaisons (NSLs). These six NSL’s have already been selected and will support NIFA’s national research, education, and extension portfolio; advance NIFA programs; and serve as expert resources. They are:

- Mathieu (Mat) Ngouajio, Ph.D. – plant production and protection, organic farming (**weed science**)
- Eric Norland, Ph.D. – natural resources and environment
- Bradley K. Rein P.E. – sustainable agricultural systems, technology, economics and social sciences

- Caroline E. Crocoll, Ph.D., CFCS – human sciences and 4H
- Mark Mirando, Ph.D. – animal health and production
- Mervalin Morant, Ph.D. – food safety, nutrition and minority serving institutions

WEED BINGO Now Available for Purchase!

WEED BINGO is the hottest new game out there that blends science, education, and trivia for 42 of North America’s most common and troublesome weeds. Each weed bingo card includes the weed’s common and scientific name, photo, and trivia.

WEED BINGO would make a great birthday or graduation gift for a plant science colleague or even your favorite entomologist! The game is a fun educational tool for ages 3 and up that will help raise awareness about weeds and invasive plants in managed and natural ecosystems.



WEED BINGO is produced by the Weed Science Society of America, with support from the Aquatic Plant Management Society, North

Central Weed Science Society, **Northeastern Weed Science Society**, Southern Weed Science Society and Western Society of Weed Science. Each game is \$14.95 + \$5 shipping and handling for domestic shipping.

To purchase a game, please go to: <https://wssa.memberclicks.net/books>

Research and Education Report



Matthew Cutelle

We had 23 people sign up for pesticide credits or CCA credits this past meeting. Please see table below for the breakdown.

State or CEU	# of People
Maryland	6
South Carolina	2
North Carolina	3
CEU	3
West Virginia	0
Connecticut	0
Pennsylvania	9

Membership Chair Report



Thierry Besançon

Out of a total of 169 people attending the 2020 NEPPSC meeting, 94 were regular NEWSS members, compared to 91 in 2019, 65 in 2018, 92 in 2017 and 161 in 2016. Our student membership increased from 19 members in 2019 to 29 in 2020, which is extremely encouraging. Currently, we have a membership at large consisting of 302 people in the updated directory (2018, 2019 and 2020 meeting attendees) and additional contact in the NEWSS listserv who do not consider themselves regular members of the society. All NEWSS communication is circulated to the entire list. Members-at-large who have not been active in the society in the past 3 years are removed from the directory if not registered at the next annual meeting, or if they have not paid member dues only for the current fiscal year or have since passed away.

Finally, if you know of a member who is not receiving communications from NEWSS, please let me know and I will add them to the list. Also, if you know someone who is not yet a member but could benefit from the Society, please encourage them to become a member and pass their contact information to me.

Thank you for keeping your contact information with NEWSS current. Please indicate any mail or any email address changes by sending an email to thierry.besancon@rutgers.edu.

NEWSS Annual Meeting	2010	2011	2012	2013 ^a	2014 ^b	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
Distinguished /Fellow	8	11	2	3	11	xx ^c	xx ^c	xx ^c	xx ^c	xx ^c	xx ^c
Dues only	12	11	9	Data not available	10	4	3	4	0	5	0
Invited Speakers	7	7	5	Data not available	3	5	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available	0
Regular Members	91	104	110	94	87	83	140	96	65	91	94
Retired or Retired and Distinguished /Fellow	3	3	6	3	23	11	Data not available	Data not available	1	1	1
Student members	19	21	29	26	34	24	21	26	15	19	29
Sustaining Companies	16	21	17	18	18	20	20	5*	7	10	12
Symposiums and Workshops	0	18	20	Data not available	13	6	0	0	8	6	0
TOTAL	156	196	197**	144*	190**	153	184	131	96	132	136

^a2013 Total = all in the 2013 column and number can be a double count of some member via Regular members possibly being part of the Sustaining Companies numbers. Also the numbers are from the WSSA/NEWSS combine meeting were many of the NEWSS members are/signed up as WSSA members.

^b2014, 2017 Total does not include the 100% of Sustaining Companies as not all attended; number used was 9 for 2014.

^c2015 to 2020 - Combined to make up the Retired or retired and Distinguished/Fellow line.

CAST Report



Hilary Sandler

Summary of 2019 Activities

In the first half of the year, CAST published three papers and hosted a series of

seminars in Washington, D.C., to coincide with each release. The publications' task force chairs presented on the behalf of CAST at their respective paper's events. The papers are • *Aquifer Depletion and Potential Impacts on Long-term Irrigated Agricultural Productivity*, Issue Paper 63, • *Enabling Open-source Data Networks in Public Agricultural Research*, CAST Commentary QTA2019-1, and • *Reducing the Impacts of Agricultural Nutrients on Water Quality across a Changing Landscape*, Issue Paper 64. In the second half of the year, CAST released three more papers • *Protecting Food Animal Gene Pools for Future Generations*, Issue Paper 65, • *Interpreting Pesticide Residues in Food*, Issue Paper 66, and • *Flujo de Genes en Alfalfa: Biología, Mitigación y Efectos Potenciales en la Producción*, Special Publication SP28SPA.

Forthcoming publications include: *GMO Free—The Impact on Consumers, Retailers, Farmers, and the Environment*; *Ground and Aerial Robots for Agricultural Production*:

Opportunities and Challenges; Interpreting Agricultural Chemical Pesticides Measured in Food or Milk; Impact of Recruitment and Retention of Food-Animal Veterinarians on the U.S. Food Supply; Protecting Food Animal Gene Pools for Future Generations—A paper in the series on The Need for Agricultural Innovation to Sustainably Feed the World by 2050; and The Microbiome’s Positive Impacts on Crops.

CAST announced Dr. Frank Mitloehner, a professor of animal science and an extension specialist at UC-Davis, as the 2019 Borlaug CAST Communication Award winner. Mitloehner is an active researcher and science communicator whose messages focus on the relationship between animal agriculture and climate change.

CAST had a staff change this year. *Managing Scientific Editor.* Carol Gostele retired from her role on May 31. She was part of CAST for 9 years and worked on more than 40 publications. Megan Wickham started her role as scientific editor on May 14. Megan comes from *The Ames Tribune* as a news assistant. *Student Assistants.* Caryn Dawson spent part of May in Rome, Italy, with the Iowa State University Dean’s Global Foods and Agriculture Leadership Program, and will completed an internship at the Henry’s Fork Foundation in Idaho. Delaney Ridgway, an Iowa State senior, is serving as a student assistant this summer. She helped with accounting, membership, and administrative work.

Update on 2019 Annual Meeting

In late October, CAST staff and board members (including yours truly) traveled to the University of Arkansas in Fayetteville to discuss research, future publications, and CAST business. Attendees toured the university’s plant and animal research labs and discussed topics such as the significance of blockchain technologies in food production and introducing alternative proteins— including cultured meat—to the U.S. marketplace.

A select group of graduate students attended the meeting and received recognition as this year’s CAST Science Communication

Scholarship recipients. The students participated in the three-day meeting and had the opportunity to connect with professionals in their research areas. The meeting ended with outgoing CAST President Dr. Gabe Middleton passing on presidential duties to Dr. Juan Tricarico for the upcoming year. Tricarico concluded the meeting with his vision for the organization, “CAST must continue building on its strengths: its history, scientific rigor, reputation, and membership.”



NEPPSC/NEWSS Meeting 2020
Philadelphia, PA



Incoming 2020-2021 President, Art Gover (above), welcomed everyone to the NEPPSC/NEWSS meeting at the start of the General Session and introduces our Keynote Speaker, Dr. Maria Gallo, President, Delaware Valley University (below, left and right).



Following the Keynote Address, the current presidents of each society (below left to right: Karen Gartley, NE-CSA, Dan Kunkel, NEWSS, and Sasha Eisenman, NE-ASHS) welcome everyone to the meeting.



NEWSS Symposium **Inclusion in Science**



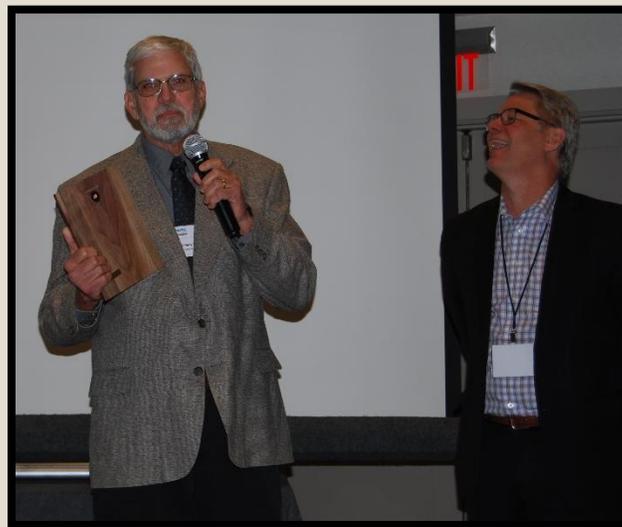
The 2020 NEWSS Symposium was entitled “Inclusion in Science,” and was presented in two sections. The first section, designed to be both a keynote presentation and an icebreaker, was entitled “Recruiting Underrepresented Students and Professionals to the Western Society of Weed Science” and was presented by Dr. Elizabeth Mosqueda, California State University – Monterey (bottom, right). Following Dr. Mosqueda’s presentation, Dr. Caren Schmidt, BASF (bottom, left), showed the group a moving video looking at diversity and implicit bias. This began the second half of the symposium, entitled “Diversity Drives Innovation: Understand the Value of Diversity, the Impact of Implicit Bias, and the Importance of Inclusion to Ensure People Have a Sense of Belonging and Can Contribute their Best Selves.” The goal of this symposium was to ensure that attendees walked away with a better understanding what it means to be inclusive and how to be more inclusive at work, at home, and everywhere in between. Many thanks to each person who shared a story of bias, and to our wonderful facilitators.



NEWSS Awards Ceremony

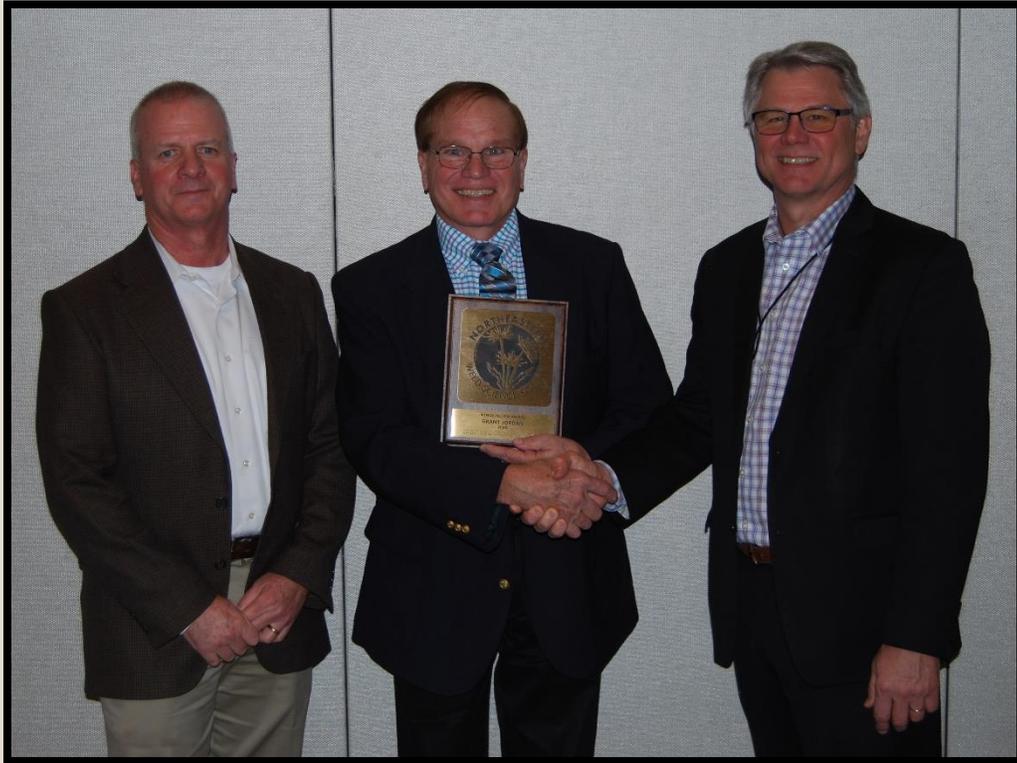
NEWSS Fellow Award – Thomas E. “Tommy” Hines

Tommy Hines (center) was recognized as a fellow by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



NEWSS Fellow Award - Dr. Grant Jordan

Dr. Grant Jordan (center) was recognized as a fellow by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



NEWSS Fellow Award – Dwight D. Lingenfelter

Dwight D. Lingenfelter (center) was recognized as a fellow by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



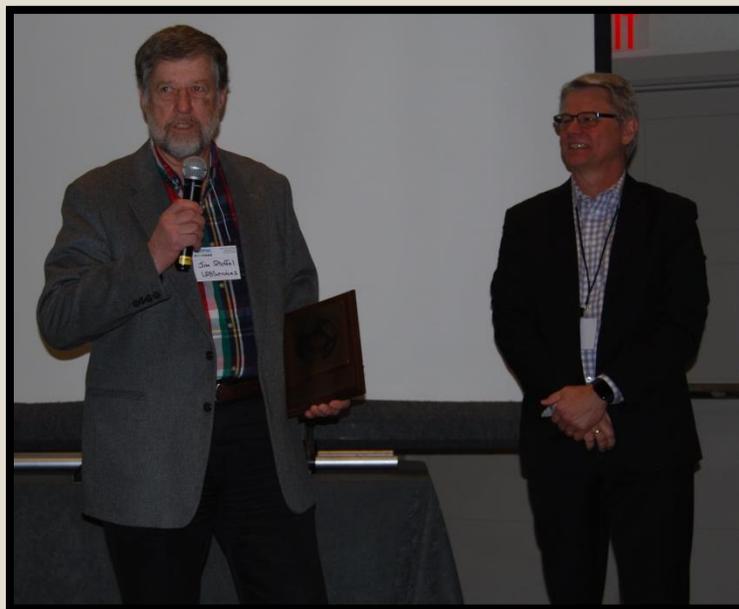
NEWSS Award of Merit – Dr. David J. Mayonado

Dr. David J. Mayonado (center) was presented the Award of Merit by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



NEWSS Award of Merit – James Steffel

James Steffel (center) was presented the Award of Merit by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



NEWSS Outstanding Educator Award – Dr. Jacob Barney

Dr. Jacob Barney (center) was presented the Outstanding Educator Award by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award – John Brewer (Ph.D.)

John Brewer (center) was presented the Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award (Ph.D.) by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award – Lucas Rector (M.S.)

Lucas Rector (center) was presented the Robert D. Sweet Outstanding Graduate Student Award (M.S.) by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right).



M. Gary Schnappinger Service Recognition Award – Dr. Rakesh S. Chandran

Dr. Rakesch Chandran (center) was presented the M. Gary Schnappinger Service Recognition Award (M.S.) by Past-President, Carroll Moseley (left) and President, Dan Kunkel (right). Dr. Jeffery Derr accepted the award on behalf of Rakesh since he could not make the meeting.



NEWSS Student Oral Paper Contest

1st Place: Katherine Deihl

Annual Bluegrass Weevil (*Listronotus maculicollis*), Overseeding, and Paclobutrazol for Annual Bluegrass (*Poa annua*) Control in Golf Fairways. KH Deihl, MT Elmore, JA Murphy, AM Koppenhöfer, and OS Kostromytska. Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ (61)



2nd Place: Maggie Wasacz

Evaluating Crop Response of Various Vegetable Species to Simulated Dicamba Drift. M Wasacz, MJ VanGessel, DJ Mayonado, and TE Besançon. Rutgers University, New Brunswick NJ (65)

3rd Place: Vasiliy Lakoba

Ecotypic Stress Response Differences in an Invasive Grass are Driven by Home Climate and Habitat. VT Lakoba and JN Barney. Virginia Tech, Blacksburg VA (57)



NEWSS Student Poster Contest



1st Place: Eric Jones

Investigating Potential Antagonism Between Sequential Applications of Dicamba and Glufosinate. EA Jones, WJ Everman, JT Sanders, DJ Contreras, M Granadino, and M Fajardo. North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC (16)

2nd Place: Eugene Law

Scientific Literacy in the Weed Science Classroom. EP Law, KM Averill, and A DiTommaso. Cornell University, Ithaca NY (14)



3rd Place: Theresa Reinhardt Piskáčková

Can Repeat Photography Be Used to Generate Weed Emergence Models? TA Reinhardt Piskáčková. S Reberg Horton, RJ Richardson, KM Jennings, R Austin, and RG Leon. North Carolina State University, Raleigh NC (13)

NEWSS Photo Contest

1st Place: Hilary Sandler

2nd and 3rd Place: Thierry Besançon



NEWSS Past Presidents Breakfast



Bottom row (left to right): David Mayonado, Renee Keese, Toni DiTommaso, Hilary Sandler,
Carroll Moseley

Top Row (left to right): Mark VanGessel, Tim Dutt, Dan Kunkel, Prasanta Bhowmik, Shawn
Askew, Jerry Baron, Jeff Derr, Randy Prostack

NEPPSC Social Events
Graduate Student Poster Slam

