

The Association of Chinese Soil & Plant Scientists in North America (ACSPSNA)

北美华人土壤及植物学者协会

<http://trec.ifas.ufl.edu/acspсна/>

The ACSPSNA 2015 Annual Meeting Minute

The ACSPSNA 2015 annual meeting was successfully held on Monday, November 16, 2015 in Minneapolis Convention Center, Room 102E, Minneapolis, MN. Dr. Qingwu Xue, on behalf of Dr. Guihua Bai, presided the meeting. Dr. Scott Chang also led some discussions during the meeting. The meeting started about 6:30 pm. The meeting minutes are as follows:

1. Dr. Qingwu Xue welcomed all our members to the annual meeting, and briefly introduced ACSPSNA.
2. Approval of 2014 meeting minutes – The 2014 meeting minutes were approved unanimously.
3. Qingwu Xue presented awards to ACSPSNA award winners this year:
 - Dr. Zhenli He for the ACSPSNA Distinguished Career Award
 - Dr. Zhiming Qi for the ACSPSNA Young Scientist Award
 - Ms. Meng Lin for the Excellent Graduate Student Award
4. Qingwu Xue congratulated Chinese scientists who received awards from tri-societies this year:
 - Dr. Peter J. Stoffella received the Kingenta Ag Sci Award (KASA)
 - Dr. Bingru Huang received the Tengtou Ag Sci Award (TASA)
 - Dr. William Pan received the Leo Walsh Soil Fertility Distinguished Lectureship award
 - Dr. Yan Jin received the Don & Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award
 - Dr. Dar-Yuan Lee was elected ASA fellow
 - Drs. Zhenli He and Deli Chen were elected SSSA fellow
5. Each awardee spoke about 5-min to share their successful experience. Drs. Huang and Chen were not able to attend due to time conflicts with other meetings.
6. Dr. Qingwu Xue welcomed invited speakers and three annual meeting attendants from China (3-5 min speech) to speak for a few minutes each:
 - Dr. Xuebiao Pan, Professor & Head, Department of Agricultural Meteorology, China Agricultural University
 - Professor Xiuju Wei, Director & Executive Associate Editor-in-chief, Transactions of the Chinses Society of Agricultural Engineering
 - Dr. Fengmin Li, Professor and Changjiang Scholar, Lanzhou University
7. Dr. Scott Chang presented the financial report. The balance of ACSPSNA account as of October 14, 2015 was \$3210.79. There were no questions raised about the financial report,

which was unanimously approved. Scott thanked Dr. Yongcong Li for his service to the Association in keeping the bank account until this year.

The followings are discussions during the business meeting:

8. ACSPSNA award issues - committee chairs – no further discussion about these issues.
 - ▶ The Past-President serves as the chair for ACSPSNA Distinguished Career Award committee, and the selection committee will be consisted of 5 past presidents.
 - ▶ The President-elect serves as the chair for ACSPSNA Excellent Young Scientist Award committee and the committee will be consisted of selected ACSPSNA officers
 - ▶ The Secretary serves as the chair for the Excellent Graduate Student Award committee and the committee will be consisted of selected ACSPSNA officers

9. Issues discussed and voted on:

- 1) Possible new website location?

Dr. Yuncong Li is currently managing our website located at the University of Florida. Due to recent system upgrade, the website was down for some time but is on now. Dr. Li's major concern is that he does not have too much time to keep updating the website. Also, he needs to learn on how to update the website. The possibility for a new website location was discussed. Since there were no volunteer to take over the website, most members agreed to keep the website where it is and explore other options through e-mail.
- 2) ACSPSNA dinner tradition, continue or just a meeting without dinner in future (hard to find the right place for the size of the meeting?)

This issue was discussed from both “oppose” and “support” perspectives. As a result of discussion and vote, most of our members were in favor of keeping the dinner. We will try to raise money or find other ways to cover the dinner. One idea is to have a cover charge for members who are not students or from mainland China to help reduce the erosion on our budget.
- 3) Dr. Chang presented the idea about automatically giving the ACSPSNA Distinguished Career Award to members who win Tri-society fellowships (maybe call that as an Honorary Distinguished Career Award) and leaving the Distinguished Career Award for less senior members (but those who are no longer eligible for the Excellent Young Scientist Award)?

Dr. Chang's idea was that the Association should use this award as a strategy to help less senior members to win bigger awards (such as fellowship) from the Tri-Societies. When our members apply for major awards from Tri-Societies, smaller awards will help them build up their CV, while for members who are major award winners already, this smaller award (the ACSPSNA Distinguished Career Award) may not help them very much anymore in their career. Dr. Chang's idea was that as a community we need to strategize to help members to succeed; the more members win major awards, the better for our Association. After some discussion of this issue, several members disagreed with that idea.

- 4) Sino-US Ag Forum Community Updates

Dr. Qingwu Xue updated the 2015 Community sponsored symposium entitled “Innovative Approaches and Technologies in Soil and Crop Management - Decades of China-US Collaborative Research” will be held on Tuesday morning (8:00-11:20am), November 17, 2015 in Hilton Minneapolis, Marquette Ballroom VII-VIII, Minneapolis, MN. He encourages our members to attend the symposium.

- 5) How to better connect with scientists in China & promote collaboration?

This issue was raised but not much discussion was made.

- 6) Change award plaque to certificate

Dr. Scott Chang suggested saving cost for making plaques by using certificate style for our awards. As a result of discussions, members wanted the officers to decide this matter.

- 7) Membership fee increase

It was decided a decade ago that the membership due is \$10 for students and visiting scientists from China, \$20 for postdoc and scientists working in North America, and \$200 for life members. The fee collected from members at registration can no longer cover the expense of dinner that is served after the ACSPSNA annual meeting due to increased price of dinner due to inflation. It was suggested by both visiting scientists and members that the membership fee should be increased accordingly.

The new membership fee was discussed and during the voting the majority of members were in favor of changing the fee. Starting in 2016, annual membership fee for scientists/postdocs from both North America and China will be \$30 and membership fee for student is still the \$10.

- 8) One member suggested setting up a WeChat group. The current officers will start the group with help from student representative.

- 9) Dr. Shuyu Liu, Texas A&M AgriLife Research at Amarillo was nominated and elected (by acclamation) as the Secretary/President-elect/President for ACSPSNA to serve the Association for the next 3 years.

- 10) Ms. Meng Lin, a Ph. D. student at Kansas State University was nominated and elected (by acclamation) as a graduate student representative for the Association.

- 11) Dr. Scott Chang announced that the ACSPSNA will serve dinner for members at a nearby restaurant (Asian Taste, 1400 Nicollet Ave. South, Minneapolis, MN). Sixty members attended the annual meeting and they all enjoyed the wonderful dinner.

The annual meeting was adjourned at about 7:40 pm.