

December 17, 2001

TO: AAPSE members
FROM: Amy E. Brown
RE: Progress report

This memo serves as an update on AAPSE progress since my last report to you in September. AAPSE continues to be active in providing comment and consultation on a number of issues, and some of this activity has required appointment of yet more liaisons and committees.

With the recent positive vote on voting eligibility, AAPSE has taken another step in improving our association. By unanimous approval of all full members who voted, the requirement for a single voting representative from the states on issues including elections and other matters of governance has been eliminated. All full members in good standing will now be eligible to vote on all AAPSE matters. In addition, several editorial changes to the Articles and By-Laws were approved. The new version of the Articles and By-Laws has been posted on the AAPSE web site.

I am sorry to report that the Executive Committee has decided to cancel the AAPSE Professional Development Conference tentatively proposed for June 2002 in Des Moines. Based on the recommendation of the Planning Committee headed by Pat O'Connor-Marer, the Executive Committee's perception was that it would not be feasible to offer such a conference tied to any of the regional meetings in 2002. AAPSE remains committed, however, to the concept of offering professional development opportunities for our membership. We plan to work closely with EPA-C&T to identify topics, sites, and dates for future conferences. I thank Pat and his committee (Kathy Dictor, George Hamilton, Rick Hansen, Joyce Hornstein, Joanne Kick-Raack, and Carol Ramsay) for their consideration of this issue.

As a consequence of cancelling the Professional Development Conference, we have rescheduled the AAPSE Board of Directors and General Business Meetings, which also had been planned for Des Moines. Instead, we will meet in conjunction with AAPCO at their spring meeting in Arlington, Virginia. The 2002 AAPSE Board Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 10th, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The 2002 AAPSE General Business Meeting will follow from 4:00 to 5:30 PM Sunday, March 10th. Both meetings are open to all AAPSE members. This year, Committee Chairs and Liaisons will be asked to submit written reports to the Board at least two weeks prior to the meeting, and the agenda will be largely based on items identified in the reports. The agenda will be publicized through the AAPSE ListServ prior to the meetings. Details will be posted on the AAPSE web site and sent out through the AAPSE ListServ as soon as AAPCO and AAPSE have worked out the procedures for registering. In the meantime, information on the hotel (and the AAPCO program, should you wish to attend it) will be posted in January on the AAPCO Home Page at <http://aapco.ceris.purdue.edu/>.

Win Hock, who, as President-Elect, chairs the Issues and Evaluations Committee, submitted AAPSE's comment on EPA's proposed drift language on December 12, 2001. Significant

contributors to this effort included Carol Ramsay, Bob Wolf, Gina Davis, Andrew Thostenson, and Sherman Takatori. The document will soon be posted on the AAPSE web site.

I am very pleased to report that Win has been appointed to represent AAPSE on the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee. AAPSE had tried unsuccessfully to seat a member on this committee since its inception. I am sure having representation at this level will be exceptionally helpful on both sides.

I have appointed two new liaisons at the request of other agencies/organizations. Susan Whitney will serve as AAPSE's liaison to the renewed effort on Endangered Species. She will help review outreach documents being developed by EPA and will represent AAPSE's interests. Pat Hipkins has agreed to serve as AAPSE's liaison to the National Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (NPSA). This organization hosted a national meeting in Memphis last month that covered some issues of special interest to AAPSE. Carol Ramsay organized and moderated an invited panel of presentations on Audience Assessment and Novel Delivery Methods featuring presentations by two other AAPSE members (Pat Hipkins and Susan Whitney) in addition to herself and a colleague from Washington State University. While AAPSE and NPSA do not share any official relationship, AAPSE is designated as an allied association and will work through Pat to continue to address issues of concern to both associations. AAPSE was recognized during the opening plenary session as a key group in developing the NPSA conference.

One of the sessions at the NPSA meeting was a workshop moderated by Amy Breedlove, (Policy & Regulatory Service Branch, Field & External Affairs Division, EPA-OPP). Amy developed a list of questionable types of label statements that she had gleaned from the request I sent out via the AAPSE ListServ earlier this year. The feedback our members provided through that process helped her identify language that was of the most concern to AAPSE members. Some very good discussion resulted, with some solid suggested solutions for some of the problem language, and at least a better understanding of implications of other language. Amy Breedlove expressed a desire to continue to work with AAPSE to identify statements and categories that can be improved.

NPSA also hosted two sessions on chemical security issues. Amy Brown presented the results of the survey of AAPSE members regarding approaches they are taking to address this issue. The presentation has been submitted for posting on the AAPSE web site.

The AAPSE Executive Committee met in Memphis, and a great deal of time and effort was spent working on what we hope is nearing a final version of AAPSE's Strategic Plan. When finished, this document will provide the framework for all that AAPSE does and wants to accomplish within the next few years. Naturally, we expect the plan to need updating as the organization grows and matures. We plan to distribute the document to the Board for review and comment early in the coming year.

The Journal of Pesticide Safety Education (JPSE) is nearing finalization of revisions to submission guidelines for authors. Mike Weaver, Editor-in-Chief, reports that there will indeed be a 2001 issue of the Journal. In addition, the Editorial Board is in the process of staggering the

service terms for the editors to ensure new input while still maintaining continuity. Changes include the appointment of Wayne Buhler to replace Suzanne Deatheredge from the Southern Region, and Catherine Daniels to replace Terry Miller from the Western Region.

At the request of Mike Weaver, the Executive Committee is developing procedures for maintaining and revising the AAPSE web site, and has recommenced some changes to continue to improve the user-friendliness of the site. Some changes were instituted on Mike's own initiative. The Executive Committee thinks the revisions have been and will be helpful and hopes you will think so, too.

As planned, I met with USDA in October to discuss issues of shared concern and to explore avenues of future cooperation. Monte Johnson arranged for Dennis Kopp (Plant Section Leader) to join our meeting, and both Ted Wilson (Deputy Administrator for Plant and Animal Systems, CSREES) and Mike Fitzner (National Program Leader for IPM) dropped in. The meeting was very positive in tone. Monte asked AAPSE to take the lead in reviewing the PPRS to develop new indicators of accomplishments/progress. Win Hock is now appointing several AAPSE members to work on an Issues and Evaluations Committee with that objective. The Committee will seek input from non-AAPSE members as well. Monte also reported that he has set up a committee to review the pass-through funding formula. Although Monte has named Dr. Mike French, Assistant Director, Cooperative Extension, Arkansas, to chair of committee, members have not yet been appointed. Monte has recommended an AAPSE member to serve on the committee, however, and AAPSE will in any case keep in close contact with USDA on the review.

In November, I met with Kevin Keaney and Jeanne Heying. Jay Ellenberger Associate Director, Field & External Affairs Division, EPA-OPP), Ronald Jackson (Communications Branch, EPA-OPP), and Amy Breedlove dropped into the meeting at various times. Anne Lindsay and Richard Pont had planned to join us but were unavailable. Kevin, Jeanne, and I agreed to work closely on future AAPSE Professional Development meetings, as mentioned earlier in this memo. Kevin noted that the Certification and Training Advisory Group (CTAG) has also considered the need to change the funding formula. AAPSE is recommending that the CTAG subcommittee and Monte's committee communicate on this issue. Amy Breedlove, Jay Ellenberger, and Ronald Jackson expressed interest in feedback from our Association on pesticide security, label language, and CCA-treated wood, respectively.

Regional representation on the Board changes on January 1 of each year as newly elected members begin their terms. I want to thank Candace Bartholomew, Northeastern Region; Jim Criswell, Southern Region; and Jennifer Weber, Western Region for their input and service to AAPSE over the last two years. Replacing these good citizens on the Board are Kerry Richards, Don Renchie, and Charlie Nagamine, respectively. Our newly "promoted" senior reps thus will be Gary Fish, Pat Hipkins, and Janet Fults. In the North Central Region, Gina Davis and Andrew Thostenson will both be staying on, as Andrew was reelected to a new two-year term. To ensure that we have full discussion of issues of concern to our membership, I am asking members to contact their regional representatives at any time over the next couple of months to inform them of issues to be brought before the Board. I hope to see many of our members in Arlington at the AAPSE meetings in March.