

Committee and Liaison Reports  
AAPSE Board of Directors Meeting

Portland, Maine

August 19, 2007

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**Committee:** Articles of Incorporation/Bylaws  
**Report by:** Roger Flashinski, Chair (CES)

**Members:** Carol Ramsay, CES  
Carl Rew, SLA  
Ann Hazelrigg, CES

### **ACTIVITIES:**

The following actions were taken by the Committee since its last report in August 2005.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENTS**

In early 2006, the Board of Directors asked the Committee to explore a change in the term for President, offer several term alternatives for the Board's consideration, and to prepare the appropriate language in revising the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws reflecting this change.

### **WHY THE CHANGE?**

The current AAPSE Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws require the person seeking the President position to an overall term of 6 years (2 for President-Elect, 2 for President, and 2 for Past-President). As a result, it was becoming difficult to find people willing to run for President-elect and commit to a 6-year office term.

### **ACTIONS**

The Committee submitted two alternative proposals to the Board in late January 2006, each offering only a 1- year term as President. The Board responded in March saying that it would be beneficial to the organization to have a 2-year term as President but shortening up the overall term from 6 years to 4 years. In mid April, the Committee provided the Board another alternative that would encompass: 1) A 4-year maximum term for President (Elect, Pres, Past); 2) A 2-year term as President; and 3) A minimum of five Board members each year. To accomplish the last criterion the Committee's proposal included the creation of a Vice-President position. The new VP position would be completely separate from the President. The person serving in this role would perform the duties of the Pres Elect during vacancies in odd numbered years and the Past Pres duties

during vacancies in even-numbered years. The Board responded in late August by accepting the Committee's proposal with the exception of creating a VP position. Instead, they suggested adding a Board member regional representative to the Executive Committee to strengthen the EC during the vacancy year of President-Elect and Past President. The Board further requested that our Committee work on the wording of the A.I. and B.L. to incorporate the proposed changes so that it can be presented to the membership for their approval. The Committee provided the changed wording of the A.I. and B.L. to the Board on Dec 18, 2006. A summary of the significant changes, and a table of the proposed EC structure, are included below.

PROPOSED EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

December 18, 2006

Note: to follow an individual's term to completion, follow the same letter. For example, using the Current Office Structure, the letter "C" represents Ples who is President-Elect in the 2005/07, assumes the role as President in 2007/08, and Past-President in 2009/10.

**Current Executive Committee Office Structure**

Pros: -- 5 officers each year  
 -- elections held every other year

Cons: -- 6-yr term for President  
 -- difficulty in finding willing nominees for Pres  
 -- up to 3 new officers in election years  
 (60% turnover)

Office	Term/ Max Term	2005/07	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 . . .
Past Pres	2 yr/1	A	B	B	C	C	F	F	
President	2 yr/1	B	C	C	F	F	I	I	
Pres Elect	2 yr/1	C	F	F	I	I	L	L	
Secretary	2 yr/2	D	G	G	G/J	G/J	J/M	J/M	
Treasurer	2 yr/no limit	E	E/H	E/H	E/H/K	E/H/K	E/H/K /N	E/H/K /N	
Potential New Officers			2-3	0	1-3	0	2-3	0	. .repeating

**Proposed Executive Committee Office Structure**

- 1-year term President Elect
- 2-year term President
- 1-year term Past President
- Add Board regional representative to EC (appointed by Board)

Pros: -- 4-yr term for President  
 -- 5 officers each year  
 -- continue to hold elections every other year  
 -- greater continuity during transitions  
 -- greater institutional memory

Cons: -- Board rep not elected by full membership  
 -- up to 3 new officers in some elections  
 (60% turnover)

Office	Term/ Max Term	2005/07	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013 . . .
Past Pres	1 yr/1	A	B	--	C	--	F	--	
President	2 yr/1	B	C	C	F	F	P	P	
Pres Elect	1 yr/1	C	--	F	--	P	--	Q	
Secretary	2 yr/2	D	G	G	G/J	G/J	J/M	J/M	
Treasurer	2 yr/no limit	E	E/H	E/H	E/H/K	E/H/K	E/H/ K/N	E/H/ K/N	
Board Rep	appt/2	--	O	O	O/R	O/R	R/S	R/S	
Potential New Officers			2-3	1	0-3	1	0-3	1	. .repeating

Duties of Board Regional Representative:

- Performs the responsibilities of the President-Elect in odd-numbered year, and of the Past President in even-numbered year
- Performs other duties at the discretion of the President
- Shares responsibility in attending appropriate legislative hearings, EPA meetings, other organization/association meetings, etc. as deemed appropriate by the President

## **Proposed Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation and By Laws of the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators**

December 18, 2006

Submitted by Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws Committee:

Roger Flashinski, Chair

Carol Ramsay

Carl Rew

Ann Hazelrigg

To: Joanne Kick-Raack, AAPSE President

Attached to my December 18 email is this cover letter, a copy of the Articles of Incorporation and By- Laws (each edited with tracking marks), and a table comparing the current EC structure to the proposed EC structure. The primary purpose for revising the AI and BL is to reduce the 6-year term of President to a maximum of 4 years, yet maintain a 5-member Executive Committee by appointing a regional representative.

With this submission, our Committee has completed the task requested of us by the AAPSE Board. We will wait for the Board's response for further action.

The information below summarizes the significant changes and the reasoning for doing so.

### **ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION**

- Article V. Section 3
  1. Proposed: add regional representative to Executive Committee
  2. Reason: maintain a minimum 5-member Executive Committee annually

### **BY-LAWS**

- Article IV. Section 1
  1. Proposed: replaced wording describing when an elected officer starts term to incorporate the delayed start for President-Elect. Also, added statement when elections are held, and moved statement about length of terms to Section 3.
  2. Reason: President-Elect only serves one year in this role so a description when his/her term starts is necessary. In doing so, our Committee realized that there was no statement specifying how often elections are held. Finally, the length of term statements fit better under Section 3.
- Article IV. Section 3
  1. Proposed: simplified text describing the length of terms, and to better differentiate between term length and term limits.
  2. Reason: Again, the purpose is to describe the single year of service for President-Elect. We also deleted the language about terms being slightly longer (or shorter) due to timing of the first annual meeting in a calendar year. We state in Article IV, Section 1 of the ByLaws that terms begin after the first annual meeting of the calendar year so that should suffice.
- Article IV. Section 9
  1. Proposed: add regional representative to Executive Committee and describe appointment of regional representative. Also, add term length for Past-President

2. Reason: As stated in Article V, Section 3 of the Articles of Incorporation, the purpose of this change is to maintain a minimum of a 5-member Executive Committee during the vacancy years of President-Elect and Past-President. Being Section 9 is the first section that mentions the position of Past-President, we felt it would be in good order to list the term length here rather than in Section 3.

### **CURRENT STATUS**

The Committee has had no further direction from the Board since December 2006. Also, the proposed changes to the A.I. and B.L. have not yet been presented to the AAPSE membership for their vote.

### **ISSUES FOR CONSIDERATION:**

Other than the pending changes to the term of President, the Committee is neither aware of any issues for consideration nor does it suggest any recommendations that would require a change in either the Articles of Incorporation or the Bylaws.

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**Committee:** Auditing Committee  
**Report by:** Paul Baker, Chair, CES

**Members:** Carol Ramsay, CES  
George Hamilton, CES

### **Committee's Purpose:**

This committee audits the accounting records for the Association. Audits are conducted annually, at the national meeting.

**Summary of activities:** The committee will submit a report at the Annual meeting.

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**Committee:** Committee on Committees  
**Report by:** Catherine Daniels, Chair, CES

**Members:** Wayne Buhler, CES

**Committee's Purpose:** Liaison between the AAPSE President and AAPSE committee chairs and liaisons to relay requests for annual reports and other business.

**Summary of activities:** Compiled, edited, and emailed annual reports from committee chairs and liaisons to AAPSE Executive Board members before the 2007 Board of Director's meeting in Portland, Maine.

**Issues for consideration:** It would be useful for the board or executive council to consider drafting an official list of report criteria to better guide submissions. At present files arrive in a variety of formats, some even password protected, which cause delays in editing and compilation. Such a list has been useful for JPSE submissions and Mike Weaver would be an excellent consultant to the board in devising report criteria.

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**Committee:** E-Services  
**Report by:** Larry Schulze

**Members:** Bob Bellinger, CES  
Gary Fish, SLA  
Cindy Folck, CES  
Rich Pope, CEW  
Carol Ramsay, CES  
Mike Weaver, CES

### **Committee Charge**

To serve as a sounding board and an advisory body to the Executive Committee of the American Association of Pesticide Safety Educators (AAPSE) on matters relating to the web site, ListServ, potential on-line training, and other AAPSE-sponsored electronic initiatives.

### **Summary of Activities**

- a. **Website Upgrade.** The computer systems supporting the AAPSE and JPSE website files at Virginia Tech University have been upgraded this year by adding a second Apple RAID Array (3.5TB – capable of being expanded to 7TB) and a new Intel-based (a quad-core 64-bit Intel Xeon 64-bit server) Apple Xserve system. The new system has much faster processors. Once everything is moved over to the new server, the old server will be dedicated to backup and testing. Both systems are highly reliable.
- b. **Professional Development Support.** The AAPSE website hosted a link to the professional development webcasts for 2006 and will do the same in 2007. This is a matter of convenience to AAPSE membership. We are not running the webcasts from the AAPSE Server, although we have that capability if it is ever needed.
- c. **AAPSE Internet Link Policy.** The AAPSE Internet Link Policy has served us well. We do get requests (from members and others) to host a link on the AAPSE website. The policy has helped us avert conflict and

hard feelings. One thing that anyone seeking to add a link to the AAPSE site has to understand is that we only have a limited amount of space and capacity to do so. Approved links placed on the link page are limited to links that serve a purpose directly to the association. Links to program sites have a place to link through either the Washington State PSE web portal (PSE Programs and Media Links) or Virginia Tech's "pesticidelinks.org" database. Both of these sites are linked to the AAPSE links page.

- d. **AAPSE Online Member Search and Database.** We are in the process of going back and looking at that search engine to see if we can improve some of the small glitches that we have been stuck with due to limitations of the software and oversights in programming. The public interface is relatively good. The administrative side of the database (that which is used by the treasurer, webmaster, and listmaster to administer the membership information) is in need of some tweaking. We are seeking to improve the sort capabilities and some of the reporting function.
- e. **JSPE Web Files.** Although the Journal of Pesticide Safety Education (JPSE) is not part of the actual AAPSE website, it is linked to the site under publications as a functional and important service of AAPSE. Several years ago we moved the JPSE website to the same server as the AAPSE site to give us direct control over its content. Prior to that we had the site maintained by the Virginia Tech Library's Digital Learning and Archives Department. After constant conflict with that group due to their slow and inaccurate maintenance of the site, we agreed to allow the library to mirror our site. Even recently though the library hasn't been maintaining the mirror properly. After writing a letter to them in May requesting that they either maintain the mirror or no longer duplicate our content they fixed the content, but have not kept up with the most recent (2007 volume publication) changes on the JPSE site. We have asked them to link to our site only and stop storing content, but we have not gotten a response to that request. We have kept this relationship with the library because they include JPSE as part of a large electronic journal site they maintain. This gives us more visibility. We have tried to maintain this relationship without it affecting our function and it has been a continuing problem. As for the journal itself, it is as healthy as it has ever been since its inception in 1999. We have multiple submissions pending publication this year. BUT, we still need AAPSE member support to keep it sustainable. AAPSE members are highly encouraged to publish in JPSE.

#### **Issues for consideration by the AAPSE Executive Committee / Board of Directors:**

**JSPE Web Files.** See Summary note (e). Mike Weaver at Virginia Tech is maintaining communications with the Virginia Tech Library's Digital Learning and Archives Department. The linkage with the VT library is important to give greater visibility to the JSPE because of the large electronic journal site they maintain. No action is needed by

AAPSE here. We just want to keep you informed.

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**Committee:** Issues and Evaluations  
**Report by:** Ples Spradley, Chair, CES

**Members:** Larry Schulze, CES  
Charles Luper, CES  
Bob Gorman, former member (no longer with PSEP program)

**Committee's Purpose:** This committee is responsible for studying and developing position papers and analyses of pesticide legislative and regulatory issues and policies that affect the professional responsibilities of the Association's membership.

**Summary of activities:** The Committee drafted and submitted comments in support of AAPCO's petition on 25(b) labels to EPA in October, 2006. The Committee Chair also submitted AAPSE's official response to the EPA's Certification & Training and Worker Protection Issue Papers on June 13, 2007.

**Issues for consideration:** No known outstanding issues, problems, or concerns at this time.

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**Committee:** Membership and Public Relations  
**Report by:** Carol Ramsay and Randy Rivera, Co-Chairs, CES

**Members:** Bruce Williams,  
Dean Herzfeld, CES  
Mark Ferrell, CES  
Mark Shour, CES  
(Colleen Hudak-Wise, SLA)

**Committee's Purpose:** To support and facilitate promotion of the Association and its members, and ways to maintain and increase membership.

### 2007 Year Memberships

Current Membership as of June 2007	153 (up 9 from 2005)
Northeast Region	38
North Central Region	42
Southern Region	35

Western Region	38
Life members	3
Full members	134
Associate members	14
International members	2
Supporting members (\$100 dues)	10

**Summary of activities: 2005-2007**

- The membership committee updated the membership brochure and posted it to the web site. Most activity by the committee was conducted by member interactions with the AAPSE Treasurer.
- AAPSE Treasurer, Dean Herzfeld, sent out renewal notices and reminders for annual dues payments; the web site directory was updated accordingly. Thank you letters were sent to new members and renewing members. New members will receive lapel pins at the 2007 Workshop.

**Issues BOD should consider:**

- AAPSE BOD should consider new recruits and leadership for this committee and replace those who have served on this committee for greater than 4 years (Carol, Randy). Also, Colleen Hudak-Wise is no longer an AAPSE member and her position should be filled.
- With Worker Protection education, AAPSE BOD should consider whether the Association should recruit members from this sector and service their needs.
- A recruitment strategy should be considered for interested county agents that conduct applicator or WPS education.

**Committee:** Nominations and Elections Committee  
**Report by:** Carrie Foss and Phil Nixon, Co-Chairs, CES

**Members:** Margaret Tucker, SLA  
Ples Spradley, CES  
Andrew Thostenson, CES  
Natalia Clifton, CES

**Committee's Purpose:**

This committee seeks and nominates candidates for the offices of President-Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer.

**Summary of activities:** The Committee solicited for nominations and self-nominations for three AAPSE offices, President Elect, Secretary, and Treasurer. Sixteen nominations were received: four for President Elect, five for Secretary, and seven for the Treasurer office (see below). The committee ranked the potential candidates and agreed to contact the top-ranking candidates.

The final slate was prepared and each candidate submitted a statement, bio and photo for posting on the AAPSE website. Running for President Elect were Fred Fishel, Carol Ramsay, and Fred Whitford. Running for Secretary were Kathy Dictor and Jennifer Weber. Running for Treasurer were Scott Bretthauer and Dan Wixted.

The committee announced the slate via email. Dean Herzfeld agreed to email the ballots and collect and count the votes. The AAPSE election was conducted electronically beginning June 15 and ending June 29. George Hamilton recounted the votes.

Joanne Kick-Raack announced the new AAPSE officers: Carol Ramsay - President Elect, Jennifer Weber – Secretary, and Dan Wixted – Treasurer.

**Issues for Consideration:**

1. The AAPSE BOD may want to develop some guidance for N&E Committee reporting.
2. The AASPE President sets the election dates and forms the N&E Committee seven months prior to the next election. Would it be helpful to have the outgoing N&E Committee chair responsible for reminding and assisting the President with this task? Also, it might be helpful for the outgoing N&E chair to review the guidelines with the next N&E chair. Providing the new N&E chair with electronic ballots and nomination emails from the previous election could also make the transition smoother.

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**Committee:** Committee on Non-English Language Materials for Pesticide Safety Education

**Report by:** Jennifer Weber, SLA

**Members:** Becky Hines, CES  
Gerald Kinro, consultant  
Sabina F. Swift, CES

**Statement of the Committee's Purpose:** The AAPSE Committee on Non-English Language Materials for Pesticide Safety Education works on a variety of projects, resources, and studies designed to assess and meet the linguistic needs of people who handle pesticides or work in areas where pesticides have been applied.

**Summary of 2006-2007 Activities:**

**Bilingual Pesticide Label Terminology Pamphlet Soon to be Available in Several Languages.** In 2003, committee members developed a bilingual English/Spanish word bank that included approximately 750 pesticide-related terms pertaining to such topics as personal protective equipment, crops and crop pests, application equipment, environmental protection, and pesticide exposure. In 2005, Jennifer Weber used this word list to create a bilingual (English/Spanish) pesticide label terminology pamphlet that pesticide handlers could use during WPS training activities and when reading pesticide labels at their worksites. During the last year, Sabina Swift took the project further and organized the translation of the label terminology pamphlet into three additional languages spoken and read by growers in Hawaii. Thanks to Sabina's work, this pamphlet will soon be available in Ilocano, Lao, and Khmer. Sabina will continue to work directly with local growers to identify and meet their pesticide safety resource needs.

**Survey of Teaching Strategies for Educating Pesticide Handlers with Limited English Language Skills.** Becky Hines has been very active in her efforts to prepare Spanish-speaking landscape workers to take the pesticide applicator's exams in Washington. She has offered several test preparation courses focusing on pesticide safety, pest identification, laws and regulations, etc., but still notices how difficult it is for the Spanish-speaking landscape workers to pass the exams, despite the fact that the exams are provided in their native language. To gather more information about effective teaching ideas and strategies, Becky circulated a survey to AAPSE members to inquire about their experiences in working with pesticide handlers with limited English language skills. She received responses from 18 individuals representing 17 states and American Samoa. Most of the people stated that they provided material, training, and/or exams in Spanish. Samoan, Hmong, and Lao were also mentioned. Due to her interest in effective training techniques and resources in Non-English languages, Becky was invited to become a member of the committee.

**Research on Effectiveness of Testing Methods for Pesticide Handlers with Limited English Language Skills and Test Taking Experience.** Jennifer Weber recently finished her master's thesis on pesticide applicator exam formats and testing strategies. In her research she developed two assessment tools, a written, multiple-choice exam and a performance-based exam, and studied their potential in enabling non-certified pesticide handlers from different cultural, educational, and linguistic backgrounds to demonstrate their skills and knowledge in the safe use of pesticides. Her research also showed how a performance-based exam, which enables test takers to demonstrate their knowledge through hands-on tasks, designed to simulate work scenarios, can be easily aligned with the content of a standardized multiple-choice exam and offered as an alternative assessment tool for pesticide handlers. Recent interest in this study will enable Jennifer to run a small pilot test of both the multiple-choice exams and the performance-based exams in Arizona. Once she has completed the project and compiled her data, she will be happy to share the results with AAPSE members through a conference presentation or JPSE article.

**Future Directions.** One of the committee's first projects was the development of a list of pesticide safety educational materials, such as videos, booklets, and posters that are available in languages other than English. While the committee made an initial attempt to

create this list of materials, the original list needs a lot of work and updating. Gerald Kinro has offered to take the lead on recreating this list to include newer materials and to reformat it into a more user-friendly document.

**Issues for AAPSE Board of Directors to Consider:** Jennifer, Gerald, Sabina, and Becky would like to invite AAPSE members who have interest in the creation, development, or identification of Non-English language materials for pesticide safety education to join our committee. New committee members and fresh ideas are welcome at any time.

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**Committee:** Recognitions and Resolutions  
**Report by:** Sandra McDonald, Chair, CES

**Members:** Larry Olsen, CES  
Dean Herzfeld, CES  
Paul Baker, CES  
Larry Towle, SLA  
Richard Pont, US EPA  
Tom Delaney

**Committee's Purpose:** To solicit nominations for AAPSE Awards and recommend to the Executive Committee awards to be given by AAPSE.

**Summary of activities:** The committee has solicited nominations for the following awards:

- AAPSE Fellows
- AAPSE Honorary Membership
- AAPSE Distinguished Achievement in the Certification and Licensing Program Award
- AAPSE Distinguished Achievement in Education
- AAPSE Distinguished Achievement in Pesticide Safety Education by Industry Award
  
- AAPSE Education Materials Awards Program:
  - Promotional Materials
  - Short Publication
  - Long Publication
  - Newsletter
  - Series of Articles
  - Slide Set/Computerized Graphic Presentation
  - Radio
  - Video/Video Disk/CD
  - Television/Video conference
  - Computer Software/Application

- Web Page
- Mixed Materials

The committee has recommended four individuals to the Executive Committee for Recognition in 2007:

- 2007 AAPSE Fellows -- Mary Grodner and Patrick O'Connor-Marer
  - 2007 AAPSE Distinguished Achievement in Education - Larry Schulze
  - 2007 AAPSE Distinguished Achievement in the Certification and Licensing Program Award - Kathy Dictor
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# CTAG

Certification & Training Assessment Group — National Partnerships for Safe & Effective Pesticide Management through Education, Training & Competency Assessment

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## CTAG Reports to AAPSE

August 2007

Dear AAPSE Board & Membership:

I have collated the meeting summaries from the CTAG Meetings since the last AAPSE National Meeting held in Madison, Wisconsin in August of 2005.

Carol Ramsay, was responsible for putting together the meeting summaries for the:

- December 2005 CTAG Board Meeting in San Diego, CA
- June 2006 CTAG Board Meeting in Albuquerque, NM
- November 2006 CTAG Board Meeting in Charleston, SC

Roger Flashinski put together the meeting summary for our latest meeting held in Arlington, VA in June of 2007.

All of these summaries have been provided to the membership at large via the AAPSE list serve.

They are reproduced here in the following order:

June 2007 > November 2006 > June 2006 > December 2005

Best regards,

Andrew A. Thostenson, CTAG Co-Chair  
NDSU Pesticide Program Specialist  
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# CTAG

Certification & Training Assessment Group — National Partnerships for Safe & Effective Pesticide Management through Education, Training & Competency Assessment

## CTAG Board of Directors June 2007 Meeting Summary Report to AAPSE

### 1. Operational Issues

Expiring Terms & New Members. With the change in CTAG's charter last fall reducing the overall term of the co-chair position from 6 to 4 years (one year vice-chair, two years co-chair, one year past chair), Carol Ramsay's (WA-CES) term of past chair expired March 31, 2007. Roger Flashinski (WI-CES), whose term on the Board began March 31, 2007 along with Candace Bartholomew (CT-CES), Dave Duncan (CA-SLA), and Doug Jones (GA-SLA), was voted by the Board to serve as vice chair; consequently, his term is now extended until March 31, 2011. The Board will seek nominations this summer for an additional CES member to fill Roger's position.

### 2. EPA Updates

C&T/WPS Regulatory Changes. EPA distributed revised issue papers in May 2007, and set June 15 as the deadline for stakeholders to submit comments. As the charge for the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) subgroup on Worker Safety Regulatory Change comes to an end, they will be submitting a close-out report to the full PPDC with its recommendations; this report is expected in May 2008.

The issue of working under the direct supervision of a certified applicator is largely unresolved. There are limits in FIFRA preventing EPA from implementing training requirements in some industry segments. Given the lack of information about applications made under the direct supervision, several Board members will develop a survey to determine the current status of states' requirements. It is intended to distribute this survey at the summer AAPCO meeting and the 2007 C&T Workshop.

Regulatory Change Cost Analysis. Joe Hogue, OPP, shared with the Board their ongoing work in developing the cost analysis of implementing the proposed C&T/WPS regulatory changes. The costs focus primarily on the regulated community, rather than on enforcement (unless, of course, the regulation contains specific requirements for states). There are many data gaps, and OPP is developing a comprehensive list of those gaps to share with stakeholders and other organizations and ask them whether they are aware of any existing data.

PSEP Funding. EPA will maintain the pass-through funds at the full \$1.2M for the interagency agreement with USDA to fund PSEP in FY07. Ongoing program assessment between EPA and USDA regarding accountability and unspent funds is an area of focus, but relations between management continue to improve. EPA anticipates significant budget cuts in FY08.

The Pesticide Registration Improvement Act (PRIA) is up for reauthorization in 2008 and program stakeholders are working to get a portion of the fund to support PSEP. PRIA funds would be in addition to the pass-through funds; if approved, funds would be available in FY09.

CPARD – Certification Plan and Reporting Database. Beta testing of the new version is going well and should be ready for use this fall. The new version will have a standard set of reports, but not the option to create custom reports. A list of enhancements is being kept for incorporation into subsequent versions.

### **3. Workgroup Updates**

Exam/Manual Development. The Board agreed to distribute the end product of this workgroup, "A Flexible Process for Developing Effective, Integrated Licensure Tests and Pesticide Training Manuals" as a tool document. The white paper that was created in conjunction with this document will not be distributed because it is redundant of current EPA regulatory changes. Instead, relevant points contained in the white paper will be incorporated in a revised introduction to the tool document.

Continued Competency. FIFRA requires states to ensure continued competency of applicators, but has no description of a recertification program. Thus, this workgroup gathered input from states to describe their "ideal" recertification system. Based on the responses, the Board agreed to the following: 1) establish a maximum recertification period (e.g., 3-5 years) rather than a minimum period, 2) retesting should be offered as an option, 3) an oversight component to training is necessary (quality/impact of training, quality of trainers, etc.), 4) separate exams for certification and recertification would be unduly burdensome, and 5) recommend that at least 50% of credits come from core competencies, but remain silent on category-specific credits.

The workgroup will continue work to refine the results and to solicit additional responses.

### **4. Other Documents/Fact Sheets.**

Reciprocity. The white paper, "Conventional Reciprocity for Issuing Cross-Jurisdictional Pesticide Certifications: Definitions, Strategies, and Concerns", will be distributed at the 2007 C&T Workshop.

Funding Resource. The final draft of the fact sheet, "Non-Traditional Funding for Pesticide Safety Education Programs", will be distributed at the 2007 C&T Workshop.

Copyright. Endorsed by the Board, this new fact sheet, "Copyright and C&T", describes the legal requirements of state SLA and CES programs when using material created by others. With increased emphasis of sharing pesticide educational materials and exam among states, copyright is an issue that is largely misunderstood. The Board agreed to distribute the fact sheet at the 2007 C&T Workshop, and to have a breakout session on copyright during the Workshop.

### **5. E-labeling.**

Many registrants are distributing supplemental labeling (section 24c and 18s) via electronic means while OECA believes any electronic distribution of labels/labeling information is illegal. Although the Endangered Species Program is issuing bulletins electronically, they are considered labeling by reference on the label. The Board decided that this is an issue with the registrants, and not with CTAG.

### **6. Federal Agency Certification Plans.**

Federal agencies can develop their own certification plans but there is no requirement for states to accept federal agency plans. Most federal plans have not been kept up to date and there is confusion between federal agencies and SLAs on the state's authority in dealing with misapplications. Further input will be sought before the next Board meeting.

### **7. DOD Training Facilities.**

Heightened security is preventing non-military applicators from attending training programs held at military facilities. The Board questioned whether C&T program managers could attend a DOD training program to observe its content and delivery. This option will be pursued.

### **8. Next Board Meeting.**

The next CTAG Board meeting is scheduled for November 6-8, 2007. Location to be determined.



# CTAG

Certification & Training Assessment Group — National Partnerships for Safe & Effective Pesticide Management through Education, Training & Competency Assessment

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## CTAG Board of Directors November 2006 Meeting Summary Report to the AAPSE Board December 2006

Note from AAPSE Liaison to CTAG: Carol Ramsay's term on the CTAG Board will terminate prior to the next CTAG Board meeting and CTAG requests that AAPSE appoint a new AAPSE Liaison to CTAG. The current CTAG Board is listed at <http://pep.wsu.edu/ctag/board.html> as well as their terms

### 1. Operational Issues

Expiring Terms & New Members: The terms of Carol Ramsay, Past Co-Chair, Dean Herzfeld, and Kathy Dictor will expire on March 31, 2007. Roger Flashinski (WI-CES), Candace Bartholomew (CT-CES), Dave Duncan (CA-SLA) and Doug Jones (GA) will start their 3-year terms on April 1, 2007. CTAG will be voting for a new CTAG Vice-Chair in early 2007.

CTAG leadership terms were shortened: CTAG is reducing the term of service for the Past-Chair and Vice-Chair to one year only. The Past-Chair's one-year term will expire at the same time the Vice-Chair starts their one-year term. The CTAG Co-Chair will still serve for two years. Total term in a leadership role will not exceed 4 years.

### 2. EPA Updates

C&T / WPS Regulatory Change: Kevin reported on the activity of the Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC), PPDC Workgroup on Worker Safety Regulatory Change and the Worker Safety PREP Course. EPA anticipates new issue paper drafts will be circulated late Spring 2007, prior to the spring PPDC meeting. The date to publish the regulatory proposal has been changed to December 31, 2008.

PSEP Funding: Kevin reported EPA is working with USDA on a one-year IAG for FY 2007. Accountability issues are being discussed. Jim Parochetti will report to EPA on the current PPRS data reports. Jim Jones, Director of OPP, made a commitment to the PPDC to host a discussion regarding funding with a wide network of stakeholders. AAPSE was asked to help facilitate the meeting.

Core Manual & Exam and Aerial Exam: Dick Herrett reported on the release of the core materials and the current project for a national aerial exam. Implementation was discussed in significant detail: state-specific information, lead time and print quality for printers, release timing compared to training season timing, engaging all those who may utilize the products to avoid duplication of efforts, marketing the products to the states to achieve buy-in prior to release of the products, and lastly expectations on the part of the subject matter experts involved in developing the products.

Globally Harmonized System (GHS): Candace Bartholomew, as an AAPSE member, participates on the GHS Committee and gave an update on a recent workshop on GHS. EPA recognizes the expense for implementation will be greater than initially expected. They anticipated implementation dates of 2010-2012, which included revisions to all product labels and training materials/exams. Candace will keep CTAG apprised of how this effort moves forward.

CPARD – Certification Plan and Reporting Database: CPARD will be permanently housed with the Computer Resources Unit at Washington State University. WSU is working with NASDA and EPA to upgrade the system and to add reporting functions. Several CTAG members will beta-test the upgraded web database.

**Container and Containment Regulation Update:** The final pesticide container & containment regulations were published on August 16, 2006. EPA is currently working on a how-to-comply manual, and a guide for the regulations at a glance is available on EPA's website ([http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/container\\_requirements.pdf](http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/regulating/container_requirements.pdf)). One provision of the regulations is that if states cannot comply, they will lose primacy for their applicator certification program. EPA does not anticipate this becoming an issue for any state.

### **3. Conventional Reciprocity Update**

Andrew will repackage the reciprocity documents that CTAG has been working on for the past several years. He will include an introduction to clarify the purpose of the document is a tool and not part of the regulatory change process.

### **4. Exam and Manual Development Workgroup Update**

The workgroup circulated their drafts of both an issue paper and a model process document for consideration by the CTAG Board. CTAG plans to include final edits and comments in the document by late January and circulate the document to its partners (AAPSE, AAPCO, ASPCRO, EPA regions, TPPC) for their thoughts and input. It is CTAG's intent the documents set the stage for more collaborative efforts between exam and manual development and that the techniques discussed can be incorporated by states as they develop a better process over the years. Comments on the document will be discussed at the next board meeting.

### **5. Non-Traditional Funding Update**

The board evaluated the current findings provided by Andrew Thostenson and decided to add a PR piece to the document to explain its purpose and then publicize the document via listserves and the CTAG web site. The intent is for the document to be dynamic and invite people to contribute new ideas.

### **6. CTAG Web Site**

Carol will add a Useful Tools section to the web site to better direct people to the materials developed as tools. With Carol departing the Board, a new web site manager was recruited, Roger Flashinski. Roger will pass along to Carol any materials that need to be added to the CTAG web site.

### **7. Continued Competency Workgroup**

The workgroup provided a report on the survey conducted on how and why states manage their recertification programs, looking for strengths and weaknesses, and even suggestions for changes that coming from a national perspective could be beneficial. The Board encouraged the workgroup to continue its fact-finding and assess whether there are possible recommendations to make to EPA regarding minimal national standards for recertification. The board will be updated by January 31.

### **8. 2007 North American Pesticide Applicator Certification and Safety Education Workshop**

Planning has begun for the 2007 North American Pesticide Applicator Certification and Safety Education Workshop to be held in Portland, Maine August 21-23, 2007. Traditionally CTAG issues (exam development, etc) have been part of the agenda, so the Board considered potential agenda topics.

### **9. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held during the week of June 4-8, 2007 in Chicago, Illinois.



# CTAG

Certification & Training Assessment Group — National Partnerships for Safe & Effective Pesticide Management through Education, Training & Competency Assessment

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## CTAG Board of Directors June 2006 Meeting Summary Report to the AAPSE Board August 2006

### 1. Operational Issues

Expiring Terms & New Members: The terms of Jack Peterson, SLA representative and CTAG liaison to AAPCO, and Gina Davis, SLA representative, expired on March 31, 2006. Paul Liemandt fills the seat of SLA representative/AAPCO liaison and Janet Fults fills the SLA position; their terms end on 3/31/09. In addition, CTAG is adding one more SLA and CES representative to the Board. Nominations call will be sent out in August.

### 2. EPA Updates

Core Manual: NASDAF, as the cooperative agreement holder, holds the manual copyright. A motion to send a letter to NASDAF to recommend that on a case-by-case basis, NASDAF make an editable version of the manual available to SLAs/CESs upon request passed without exception. The letter will include a requirement for the SLA/CES to sign an agreement with NASDAF that stipulates that no original content can be deleted without express permission by NASDAF.

State Plan "Template": The "State Plan Template" was renamed the Certification Plan and Report Database (CPARD) to better reflect its function.

National Aerial Exams: NASDAF, NAAA and EPA are working together to develop an aerial core exam.

Performance Measures: EPA will use the reduction in human health incidents related to pesticide exposure as a primary measure, as mandated by OMB. Through grant guidance, the Agency is encouraging SLAs to develop relationships with their Departments of Health in order to get better or more data on the reporting of incidents.

### 3. Positive Identification Requirement for Pesticide Applicator Certification Exams

The Board unanimously approved the document with minor edits, but noted that this paper only deals with initial certification, as well as the importance of the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph. CTAG plans to release the final issue paper in July to partners and stakeholders.

### 4. AAPCO Emergency Reciprocity Update

The AAPCO emergency reciprocity document contains three major categories for reciprocity: agricultural plant and animal, public health and forestry. AAPCO presented this document to NASDA and received a favorable response. The document was approved by the AAPCO board and by the entire membership at the spring meeting, was distributed on the AAPCO listserv, and will be posted to their website.

## **5. Facilitating Conventional Reciprocity**

The Board discussed two documents for discussion, background information and Twelve Recommended Practices for Effectively and Efficiently Issuing Conventional Reciprocity Pesticide Certificates. Most states do not have reciprocity in their regulations; the process and whether or not it is conducted is generally at the policy level, although it does differ between states. NASDA is interested in facilitating or endorsing reciprocity between states, and would be a good tool to use to encourage some consistency or standards for reciprocity. This issue could also be included in the regulatory proposal being developed by EPA.

A report will be sent to AAPCO, ASPCRO, AAPSE and TPPC highlight CTAG's work work thus far, especially on recommendation #3: Clearly indicate on certificates, on internal databases, and on public access web databases that a certificate is based upon reciprocity. No single action would be more helpful and less difficult to do than this small act. It would prevent applicants from using a reciprocity certificate to jump from state to state, and it would quickly eliminate the need for a state to verify credentials.]

## **6. Content-Relevant Exam and Manual Development**

A process document for exam and manual development, and a document that outlines the challenges associated was disseminated by the workgroup and discussed. The Board indicated that it was impressed with the documents, and suggested that an issue paper be developed to outline definitions and a vision of what CTAG considers to be the standard process and why. The Board commented that the process document could be a tool that would allow anyone to jump into the exam/manual development process at any time. It is not a cost-prohibitive process, emphasizes flexibility and realism, provides guidance on developing defensible exams, and recognizes cost limitations across states. The document was called "approachable and practical". The workgroup will continue its fine efforts.

## **7. PSEP Funding**

The request for proposals (RFP) is being reviewed by EPA's Grants Office and General Council and is expected to be published in August or September. The funding will come from the FY 2007 budget. Proposals with wider geographical coverage and letters of support from relevant states will be given preference. Funding for the first year will be \$950,000 and subsequent funding will depend on EPA's discretionary budget. The Board proposed expanding the grant review panel beyond EPA personnel to include representatives of regulators, training specialists, and those who would benefit from the training. The Board suggested including representatives from USDA's American Distance Education Consortium (ADEC). Kevin said he would explore options for broadening the review panel. The CTAG Board asked to be kept informed of developments.

## **8. Proposed Regulatory Changes**

The Board discussed potential regulatory changes under consideration by EPA. Kevin shared the same presentation that he gave at the Western Region meeting in May and explained the inception and involvement of a PPDC Workgroup. The PPDC met the subsequent week and was requested to prioritize each of the 25 areas of regulatory change as high, medium or low. EPA will follow up with the subgroup by distributing issue papers and holding conference calls to discuss them, beginning with those with the highest level of interest. These issue papers will also be posted to the docket as public documents. The Board and other stakeholders are welcome to review the documents and provide comments. Representatives from most stakeholder organizations are represented on the subgroup and should be engaging the members of their respective organizations.

## **9. Pesticide Regulators Education Program (PREP)**

A Pesticide Worker Safety PREP focused on the potential regulatory changes is scheduled for September 11-14, 2006. This course will deal with both Worker Protection and Applicator Certification and Training. Background materials will be distributed to participants upon acceptance in order to prepare them to actively engage in the discussion. The Board's charge is to make sure that all major regulatory issues are included for discussion and to make sure that critical stakeholders are nominated by their supervisors.

## **10. 2007 North American Pesticide Applicator Certification and Safety Education Workshop**

Planning has begun for the 2007 North American Pesticide Applicator Certification and Safety Education Workshop to be held in Portland, Maine August 21-23, 2007. Traditionally CTAG issues (exam development, etc) have been part of the agenda, so the Board considered potential agenda topics. In addition, the planning committee is considering broad organizing themes. Traditionally, travel to the Workshop has been covered for one SL And one CES from each state. With the termination of the IAG with USDA to fund PSEP, some CES might not be able to attend. Kevin has committed to exploring options for funding travel to ensure that program stakeholders have an opportunity to attend and will report back to CTAG on what has been decided.

## **11. Ensuring Continued Competency**

The Board suggested developing a document similar to the Exam Administration Manual with best practices and guidance on establishing a strong recertification program. The workgroup should research other similar industries (certified arborist, certified nursery) and compare the recertification requirements. Additionally, information on how states that are not as involved in selecting speakers for recertification sessions know that the programs and/or speakers are worthwhile. Another concern is the language in which the recertification is conducted; with a growing Spanish-speaking applicator population, states might need to consider how much a Spanish-speaking applicator would learn from a course in English. The Board charged a workgroup to explore the challenges, benefits and requirements associated with recertification credits, recertification workshops and required retesting.

## **12. Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be held in November 15, 16, 2006 in Charleston, SC (location not locked in yet). More information on the dates and location will be made public as available.



# CTAG

Certification & Training Assessment Group — National Partnerships for Safe & Effective Pesticide Management through Education, Training & Competency Assessment

## Certification and Training Assessment Group (CTAG) Board of Directors Meeting December 13-14, 2005

### Meeting Summary

The CTAG Board of Directors met in San Diego, California on December 13-14, 2005. The following Board members participated in the meeting: Kevin Keaney, Carol Ramsay, Andrew Thostenson, Gina Davis, Jack Peterson, Dean Herzfeld, Jeaneanne Gettle, Kerry Richards, Kathy Dictor, Tim Drake, Richard Pont, and Michelle DeVaux, CTAG Secretary. Mike Fitzner, Director of Plant Systems for USDA-CSREES attended in lieu of Monte Johnson. Dick Herrett of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation (NASDARF) also attended the meeting. Several invited visitors attended the meeting: Kathy Davis, US EPA and Paul Liemandt, Minnesota Department of Agriculture.

#### 1. Operational Issues

AAPCO Presidency: Jack Peterson assumed the presidency of AAPCO upon the resignation of Steve Rutz. He will fill the presidency for the remainder of Steve's term, and then continue through the term for which he was elected.

Pesticide Safety Cooperative Agreement: EPA has entered into a 5-year cooperative agreement with the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture Research Foundation (NASDARF) to replace the expired agreement with the Council of Agricultural Science and Technology.

New CTAG members and expiring terms: Paul Liemandt was elected to fill the seat of SLA representative/AAPCO liaison (vacated by Jack Peterson) and Janet Fults was elected to fill the SLA position (vacated by Gina Davis).

Document updates: - The board reviewed Goals of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Report and the Tracking Document and suggested minor changes, additions and deletions.

#### 2. Status of EPA Programs

Endangered Species: In February and March a public meeting and a stakeholder conference will take place to address the changes to the regulation and associated information. The stakeholder conference will be held in conjunction with the Section 18 conference, and Jeaneanne has requested that it follow a train-the-trainer design to accommodate those states that are unable to attend. Arty Williams, now of the Environmental Fate and Effects Division, agreed to this proposal. Kevin, Carol, and Jeaneanne agreed to coordinate with Arty to discuss the upcoming events, the roles of engaged parties, and how CTAG and the Cooperative Extension Service can be involved.

Aerial Exams: EPA is in the process of developing a national aerial exam, in conjunction with the National Agricultural Aviation Association (NAAA) and NASDARF.

State Plan Template: Richard Pont provided an update sheet on implementation of the state plan template. The template will collect end of year reporting data. EPA's strategy for reviewing the data is to compare it to last year's to ensure consistency, and then to e-mail confirmation to the states. The Board suggested distributing a sheet on the accomplishments and successes of the template, such as Improved state plans, updated information, and easier reporting and plan approval.

Bad Actors Database: The Board debated whether or not to include a Bad Actors Database (BAD) as part of the state plan template. Jeaneanne suggested waiting until the template has been in place for at least 1 year before adding additional reporting requirements, especially with the anticipated burden of reporting on measures. Paul Liemandt, past president of AAPCO said this type of database would have high value, and AAPCO would likely support it, especially with a restricted access portion. Once the template hosting issues are resolved, the Board will begin to consider a tiered approach to incorporating the database as part of the template website.

PREP: The 2005 Worker Safety PREP held in Atlantic City, NJ in September 2005 got good reviews from participants on the content and involvement of OECA. Another Worker Safety PREP focusing on the rule changes under consideration by EPA has been scheduled for Sept. 11-14, 2006.

2007 National C&T Meeting: Kevin and Michelle will be meeting with Gary Fish and Jim Dill and bring together a planning committee for the August 21-23, 2007 meeting in Maine.

### 3. Updates

AAPSE Professional Development Meeting: The AAPSE Professional Development meeting will be held in conjunction with the NE PSEC in September 2006. Topics to consider include Social Marketing.

USDA PESP: Mike Fitzner, Director of the Plant Systems Section at CSREES attended the Board meeting in lieu of Monte and gave an update on PSEP from USDA's perspective and actively participated in discussions. The program leader responsibility for managing the funds passed from EPA to USDA to fund PSEP has shifted from Monte Johnson to Jim Parochetti, effective January 1, 2006.

CTAG Poster: A CTAG poster was developed for exhibit at the North American Pesticide Safety Education Workshop in Madison, Wisconsin, and was very successful. CTAG members from each region will ensure that the poster can be included as a display at their meetings.

Northeast Region Pesticide Safety Education Center (PSEC): Kerry gave an update on the success of the first PSEC training session and will share a PowerPoint presentation with the Board. Penn State is working on developing a new curriculum in order to allow participants to attend a second time.

### 4. Accountability Planning

Dean distributed a handout that was developed based on the responses received from the accountability planning proposal in Madison at the NAPACSEW and led a discussion on the issue. He offered to further develop the proposal and share it with potentially interested parties for future action. The board voted to solicit interest in the project more broadly, set a timeline (considering funding mechanisms), and offer letters of support from CTAG.

### 5. Department of Defense Update

The AFPMB is expanding its relationship with and in Texas and is considering similar action in Arkansas, inviting state applicators to attend DOD recertification sessions for credit. Golf course superintendents are looking for ways to ease reciprocity, as many are licensed in more than one state, and are considering partnering with DOD. Partnership would be especially beneficial for categories that are narrow, for which material and exam development is prohibitive at the state level. Carol suggested compiling a document (awareness piece) on what DOD is doing and sharing it as part of the agenda at regional meetings.

### 6. Funding Fact Sheets

After the fact sheet on non-traditional funding sources for CES was presented at the NAPACSEW, Andrew made it available electronically as a narrated PowerPoint or streaming PowerPoint. Carol

recommended putting a summary list of resources based on the fact sheets on the CTAG website with a link to the full presentation and fact sheets, and expanding the existing presentation with information from the presentation on funding resources for SLAs to make it more comprehensive. A list of traditional funding sources must be developed as well, including grants from EPA and USDA, because there are always people new to the certification and training program that can use the information. The board will send information on traditional sources to Carol or Kerry and non-traditional sources to Andrew. The compiled lists will be posted on the CTAG website and the presentation will be updated.

## **7. PSEP Funding**

The 2006 interagency agreement (IAG) package for \$1.2M has been submitted to EPA's grants office. 2006 is the last year of the existing IAG. EPA plans to maintain a non-funded agreement with USDA in the future to ensure an existing relationship and potential funding vehicle. Beginning in FY07, EPA plans to distribute funds for training of restricted use applicators in a different manner, probably through cooperative agreements. The board highlighted the need to take into consideration the indirect costs associated with any cooperative agreement. Kevin agreed to meet with EPA grants specialists to explore options to eliminate or maintain low indirect costs in any agreements. CTAG will continue to raise issues, potential impediments and things to consider in this process. Mike Fitzner made clear USDA's willingness to continue passing EPA funds through the inter-agency agreement.

## **8. Positive Identification for Exams**

Andrew circulated the latest version of this draft issue paper in the new CTAG style template. Andrew moved to adopt the draft issue paper with minor edits, Carol seconded the motion and it was approved to be circulated to AAPSE, AAPCO, ASPCRO and other partners for their comments.

## **9. EPA Regulation PowerPoint**

EPA has briefed management on potential areas for regulatory change (around 26 changes) to both applicator certification and worker protection and has received positive feedback. The Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC) subgroup on regulatory change will meet in early 2006. Carol recommended having a CTAG representative on the PPDC subgroup. Once PPDC is briefed EPA will seek active input from all stakeholders including CTAG, AAPSE, AAPCO, ASPCRO.

## **10. Facilitating Reciprocity**

The board decided to keep the below two issues separate and move forward on both tracks.

### Best Management Practices

Andrew began the discussion with a history of the issue development and an overview of the existing issue paper. CTAG is seeking to develop a best management practices document (BMP) for facilitating reciprocity to assist states in this area, rather than to attempt to implement requirements. Andrew will formalize the workgroup and focus on the following tasks: define terms, define processes, recognize obstacles and concerns. The next step would be to develop a guidance manual and have recommendations for tracking and recognizing reciprocal licenses from home-state licenses.

### Emergency Reciprocity

Paul Liemandt was invited to discuss the issue of emergency reciprocity between states, based on his work as the AAPCO President. Paul presented a draft issue paper on emergency reciprocity to satisfy a mandate from NASDA to have some procedures in place in the event of an emergency. CTAG gave some preliminary feedback and will send other comments to Gina.

## **11. Performance Measures**

### EPA Measures Development Process

Kathy Davis of EPA was invited in her role as co-chair of the EPA workgroup on Worker Safety Measures. The measures steering committee (high level management) has selected enforcement measures for the applicator certification program – demonstrated changes in behavior as measured through recidivism. Kathy indicated that a potential role for CTAG within EPA's measures process is to identify areas where the program is weak or realistic data is lacking.

### PPRS Indicators

Carol distributed a document on the USDA PPRS committee's (1999) suggestions for indicators. After explaining the content, purpose, and need for consistency in CES reporting, she suggested piloting a pre- and post-testing questionnaire and a 6 month follow-up questionnaire for trainers reporting in PPRS. Mike Fitzner gave a brief explanation of the development of PPRS under John Impson as a simple, web-based, easily accessible template for entering reporting data. Mike indicated that stakeholders that wish to change PPRS can. Jeaneanne offered to work with Sherry Sterling, coordinator of the EPA measures development process, to incorporate measures that are already supported by USDA data collected. It was recommended that PPRS indicators be considered by EPA during the reworking of the applicator training funding mechanism. The board agreed to continue to offer any support to substantiate data and information to protect the applicator certification and training program and its funding.

## **12. Ensuring Continued Competency**

EPA and states are tasked with ensuring applicator competency. This is done through testing, CEUs and mandatory workshops. The variety and rigidity varies greatly across the country. EPA plans to address this issue during the proposed regulatory changes. CTAG ask Kerry to form a workgroup with three subgroups to define each system (testing, CEUs, workshops), evaluate the benefits and drawbacks of each, determine what happens if an applicator cannot meet the state requirements, gauge variability between states, find out how states handle recertification for small categories, determine the system's efficiency and how it can be enhanced, and make recommendations to improve/enhance/modify each system.

## **13. Exam/Manual Development Workgroup**

EPA is considering addressing the quality and uniformity of exams during the regulatory proposal. CTAG formed a workgroup to research the issue of exam/manual development and prepare an issue paper on the terminology strategy, benefits and barriers for states and tribes. This group will prepare initial discussion points for the next CTAG board meeting. Tim Drake will co-chair the committee with Margaret Tucker (committee members include John Scott, Ron Gardner, Dean Herzfeld and Drew Martin).

## **14. Next Meeting**

The next board meeting will be June, 6, 7, 2006.

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**Report of the Liaison to the Environmental Protection Agency Working Group on  
Implementation of the Global Harmonization System for  
Chemical Labels**

**AAPSE Liaison:** Candace L. Bartholomew, CES

**Background:** The U.S. and other countries and stakeholders have worked to develop the Globally Harmonized System of Classification of Labeling of Chemicals (GHS), since 1992 when the UN Conference on Environment and Development endorsed the concept as a major activity. The GHS was completed in December 2002 and was adopted by the UN Economics and Social Council (UN ECOSOC) in July 2003. The Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Forum (APEC), of which the U.S. is a member, set a goal of implementation by 2006 to the extent possible. The GHS implementation for pesticides is also included in the NAFTA Technical Working Group five-year strategy.

The GHS is based on harmonization of major existing systems for chemicals in transport, in the workplace, pesticides, and consumer products, without lowering the level of protection afforded by those existing systems. Its scope includes all chemicals; however, it does not cover pharmaceuticals, food additives or pesticide residues in food, or cosmetics in the consumer use setting. These types of chemicals are covered in transport and in the workplace, consistent with current U.S. regulatory framework.

**Statement of Purpose:** An internal EPA OPPTS working group was formed in the summer of 2003 and began meeting to analyze and compare the GHS to current policies and to develop initial implementation recommendations. The working group is comprised of representatives of all OPP divisions, other key EPA offices, and state regulators and educators, it meets bi-weekly. The Liaison's task is to represent AAPSE's interests at these meetings.

**Activities since June 2006:**

In late July the Chair of the EPA Implementation Working Group called a meeting to discuss activities since the last meeting (Spring 2005) and plan a Stakeholder meeting for fall of 2006. Since the last meeting EPA has combined and analyzed comments from the white paper that was published in the Federal Register on August 4, 2004.

A stakeholder meeting was held on October 18, 2006. The AAPSE Liaison was invited to present AAPSE's concerns and impact of implementation on Extension Services and State Lead Agencies. A proposed timeline for implementation was presented along with specific benchmarks for achieving smooth implementation.

There has been no EPA Working Group activity since the stakeholder meeting.

The AAPSE Liaison was invited to present an update on GHS and potential impacts on Extension and State Lead Agencies at the Annual AAPCO Winter Meeting on March 6, 2007.

At this point in time there is no action necessary by the AAPSE Board of Directors.

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## **The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (TPSA)**

**AAPSE Liaison:** Pat Hipkins, CES

**The purpose** of this liaison is to represent AAPSE's interests to—and channel input from—TPSA. TPSA is an organization of federal, state and local governmental agencies, educational and research institutions, public organizations, private corporations, and individuals that are actively involved in different aspects of pesticide stewardship. TPSA serves as a forum to facilitate cooperation and increase the effectiveness, efficiency, and longevity of various pesticide stewardship efforts. While TPSA is working to become a clearinghouse for information about pesticide disposal and container management, it fosters stewardship throughout the pesticide product life cycle—from product manufacture and formulation through commerce, storage and use, to ultimate disposition of unwanted products and/or emptied containers.

### **Summary of key activities (July 2006 – June 2007):**

- Sent two position papers to USEPA:
  - “Pesticide Stewardship and Cause-Related Marketing” to Stephen Johnson, Administrator (April 2007); regarding the agency’s approval of “cause-related marketing” statements on federally-registered pesticide products labels (ex. statements such as “*Dedicated to a Healthier World*” and “*Help Clorox raise \$1 million for the American Red Cross*” on the Clorox product label.)
  - “Request to Reconsider Container Rule Change and Cost-Out the Impact of ACRC Failure” to Stephen Johnson, Administrator (June 2007); regarding the impact of a delay in container rule implementation and failure to support a mandated container recycling system.
- Continued to interact with in SFIREG’s Water Quality & Pesticide Disposal Committee, with emphasis on the importance of container recycling programs.
- Continued to work on several projects, including:
  - TPSA’s Pesticide Life Cycle Stewardship (PLCS) Initiative;
  - posting information about collection and disposal programs on the Internet in cooperation with Earth-911 (<http://earth911.org>) and three states (NC, PA, WA); and
  - summarizing the findings of TPSA’s National Pesticide Disposal Pilot Project which provide information regarding state program status (basic

funding, operations, and state pesticide registration fee information) and list the common characteristics of long-running, successful programs.

- Continued to plan and hold conferences to exchange ideas and technical information, facilitate stewardship issues, discuss concerns, and work together to solve problems.
  - held the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Working Conference on Pesticide Stewardship
    - Theme: Enhancing Pesticide Product Life Cycle Stewardship
    - Dates: February 25-28, 2007
    - Location: Reno, Nevada
  - planning the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Working Conference
    - Theme: TBA (topics will include Stewardship Communication, Waste Disposal, Container Recycling and Ag Plastics Management, and Spray Drift Minimization)
    - Dates: February 24-27, 2008
    - Location: Asheville, North Carolina
- Reorganized website (<http://tpsalliance.org/>) and business operations.
- Revised by-laws; major changes include:
  - all members from one organization membership may vote (vs. one vote per group);
  - a member who has resigned may reactivate his/her membership without cost during the time period covered by dues paid;
  - each member may select as many areas of affiliation as appropriate (to ensure broad representation of the membership on the Board);
  - a description of the duties of each standing committee.
- Continued to supporting and partner with the Distance Education for Pesticide Environmental Stewardship (PES) Project, an on-line self-assessment tool with educational modules (e.g., venue for CES credits, on-line training) as well as a pesticide information resource. (Syngenta provided seed money through the IPM Center at NC State. PES will target a national audience, with links to regional and local information.)

#### **Issues for consideration by the AAPSE Board:**

- TPSA would like to continue to develop a working relationship with AAPSE, and to involve active/interested contributors in leadership roles—especially in projects dealing with outreach disseminating technical information.
- TPSA encourages AAPSE members to become TPSA members and attend TPSA's annual conferences.
- If/when the AAPSE BOD has programs or efforts that involve the common interests of the two organizations, TPSA requests that AAPSE bring them to

TPSA. TPSA hopes that interaction and partnership with AAPSE will continue to advance the goals of both organizations.

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### **Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC)**

**AAPSE Liaison:** Amy Brown, CES

**Purpose / Description:** The Pesticide Program Dialogue Committee (PPDC), which meets in the spring and fall of each year, functions as the national advisory committee for U.S. EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP). Forty-three members serve on the PPDC, representing interests classified as user/grower groups, food processors, environmental/public interest groups, farm workers, animal welfare, chemical industry/trade associations, biopesticide industry, public health/nutrition, state/tribal government, academia/education/public foundation, consultants/private sector, federal agencies, and EPA lead region.

From EPA's perspective, no member is appointed as a liaison to a particular organization or group. However, even in years when more than one PPDC member is also an AAPSE member, AAPSE has designated one individual to serve as a liaison to AAPSE for purposes of reporting and to ensure that AAPSE's views are broadly represented.

### **Summary of activities since June 2005:**

Notes from the fall 2006 and spring 2007 meetings were sent from Amy Brown to AAPSE members via the Listserv. Highlights of particular interest to AAPSE over the past year include the following. Please see the individual reports for more complete information.

- In Spring 2006, EPA designated a Workgroup (WG) on Pesticide Worker Safety Regulations and named Amy Brown, Carol Ramsay, and Kerry Richards as members. The three AAPSE members worked together to solicit comments from all AAPSE members on all changes proposed. During a meeting held May 8, 2007, the Agency's changes in response to previous comments were presented to WG members by EPA. Ramsay, Richards, and Brown submitted members' comments to the AAPSE Board of Directors (BOD) along with their own editorial comments about the proposed changes and suggestions for AAPSE's action. A conference call between member of the AAPSE BOD and the three AAPSE members of the WG was held June 4, 2007. Ramsay, Brown, and Richards each presented various issues and considerations before the Board, and appropriate responses were discussed for each of the issues. The Board's purpose was to consider each issue, decide whether consensus could be reached, whether including summary of dissenting opinion was desirable for each issue, and to identify issues that could not be addressed fully within the short time frame

provided by EPA. The role of the three AAPSE WG members was to facilitate discussion, provide background on the Agency's thinking, take notes during the conference call, and provide a draft AAPSE response to the AAPSE EC. Ultimately, President-Elect Spradley submitted AAPSE's official response to the Agency prior to the June 15 deadline. Ramsay, Richards, and Brown submitted a separate, non-official response to EPA summarizing all comments received. EPA expects to further refine the proposed changes and present again to the full PPDC during the spring 2008 meeting.

- EPA has begun to allow cause marketing on pesticide labels. Cause marketing can be described as allowing advertising in favor of a social, environmental, or other "cause" to a product. An example is Clorox, which the Agency has allowed to display the Red Cross on its label along with a statement on how the Red Cross benefits people in emergencies. The subtle implication is that purchasing the product helps the "cause." During the May 2007 meeting, the PPDC was asked for input on developing guidelines for cause marketing of pesticides. Amy Brown spoke against cause marketing, at least on pesticide labels. Carol Ramsay, another AAPSE member on the PPDC, presented another opposition viewpoint on behalf of The Pesticide Stewardship Alliance (TPSA).

#### **Issues for consideration by the AAPSE Board of Directors:**

- Every two years, EPA is required to open up membership on PPDC. Current members must reapply, and others wishing to serve may nominate themselves or may be nominated by others. EPA is not obligated to choose individuals belonging to AAPSE to fill one or more of the slots from academia. AAPSE should continue to maintain a member designated by our organization (but not officially by EPA) as the AAPSE liaison. It is critical that this individual should maintain close contact with the AAPSE leadership, either through being a member of the Executive Committee, or by frequent communication.
- The PPDC is chaired by the Director of OPP. This spring, Jim Jones, former Director of the Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), was promoted to Deputy Administrator for the Office of Prevention, Pesticides and Toxic Substances (OPPTS). Debbie Edwards took over as Director of OPP. AAPSE leadership should cultivate a relationship with Ms. Edwards, who has been with EPA for 22 years, most of which she has served in senior level supervisory or management positions within OPP. From 1997 – 1999, Debbie served as an Agricultural Extension Specialist in the Peace Corps in Guatemala, where she taught students from university-level to elementary school about pesticide safety, U.S. pesticide regulations and sustainable agriculture. Debbie most recently served as Director of EPA's Special Review and Reregistration Division.
- EPA continues to move ahead with developing proposed changes to Worker Safety, comprising new elements of the program for both C&T and WPS. AAPSE should be prepared to provide feedback to Ramsay, Richards, and Brown, who all serve

on the PPDC Workgroup on this issue, within a very fast turnaround if and when more comment is requested.

- AAPSE may want to consider weighing in on the issue of cause marketing.
- It is clear that EPA, and the PPDC in general, view pesticide education as an appropriate function of a broad sector of sources, rather than just (or even primarily) PSEPs and SLAs. AAPSE should begin now to discuss how best to serve the interests and needs of these current and potential providers of pesticide education.
- Are there any items the Board wants the liaison to bring to the attention of the next PPDC meeting in fall 2007?

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### **State-FIFRA Issues Research and Evaluation Group (SFIREG) Pesticide Operations and Management (POM)**

**AAPSE Liaison:** Jim Criswell, CES

**Committee Members:** Cary Giguere (Region 1)  
Bonnie Rabe (Region 6)  
Leo Reed (Region 5)  
Regina Sarracino (Region 9)  
Jeanne Gettle (Region 4)  
Dave Fredrickson, Chair, SFIREG (Region 5)  
Georgia McDuffie, EPA HQ  
Liza Fleeson (Region 3)  
Jim Gray (Region 8)  
Samuel Jackling (Region 2)  
Chris Mason (Region 9)  
Tim Creger, Manager (Region 7)  
Steve Foss (Region 10)  
Al Havinga, EPA HQ  
Jim Roelofs, EPA HQ  
Grier Stayton

**Committee Purpose:**

To discuss issues related to pesticide label issues and pesticide policy.

**Summary of Activities:**

Attended the following SFIREG POM meetings:

October 2-3, 2006 Arlington, VA

April 2-3, 2007 Boston, MA

June 25-26, 2007 Arlington, VA

**Issue for AAPSE Consideration:**

I have sent reports of committee activity containing issues I deemed of interest to AAPSE members. I refer back to those reports.

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