



WESTERN SECTION
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE

MEMORANDUM

Date: October 1, 2002

To: Members, Western Section American Society of Animal Science

From: Patrick Hatfield, President
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Subject: 2003 Western Section Meeting Announcements and Other News

Greetings. First, I'd like to thank the faculty, especially Dr. Jack Whittier, staff, and students of the Animal Science Department at Colorado State University for hosting the 2002 Western Section Animal Science meetings. The folks at CSU had the highest attendance for WSASAS meeting to date. The Wednesday Symposium: Beef Production on Western Pasture and Rangeland and the Extension Symposium were both great programs and well attended. The graduate competition presentations, awards barbecue and cowboy poet, tour of ARDEC, and of course, the outstanding oral and poster presentations rounded out an excellent set of meetings.

2003 Joint Meetings

The 2003 WSASAS meeting will be held in conjunction with the national ASAS, ADSA, and the Mexican Association of Animal Production (AMPA) in Phoenix, Arizona, June 22-26 (<http://www.fass.org/phoenix03/>). The national program staff and Dr. Elaine Grings (WSASAS Secretary-Treasurer) are planning an excellent program. The WSASAS graduate competition will be held early in the week. We will have a business/awards luncheon with Dr. Dennis Hallford as the keynote speaker (2002 distinguished service recipient). Because of the extensive program planned for this combined meeting, the WSASAS symposium and extension programs will not be part of the 2003 meeting. The committees are already working on programs for the 2004 WSASAS meeting in Oregon. Chairs for these two committees will stand for two years.

Awards

2003 marks the 3rd year of the WSASAS industry award. This award recognizes excellence in applied animal science research. The award is based solely on WSASAS proceedings. The criteria are: 1) applicability to current production systems, 2) potential for enhancing return on investment, and 3) new and innovative approaches to existing production problems. First, second, and third receive cash awards of \$400, \$300, and \$200, respectively. Directions for submission are in the WS Secretary-Treasurer letter included in this mailing and also posted on the WSASAS web page.

The 2002 WSASAS awards were presented to, Dennis Hallford, New Mexico State University (Distinguished Service), Ray Ansotegui, Montana State University (Distinguished Teacher), Steve LeValley, Colorado State University (Extension) and Thomas Geary USDA-ARS Fort Keogh LARRL (Young Scientist) and were sponsored by Roche Vitamins Inc., Elanco Animal Health, Fort Dodge Animal Health, and Cargill Animal Nutrition, respectively. Colleagues are encouraged to nominate WSASAS members for one of these awards for

2003. Eligibility requirements are posted on the WSASAS web site (<http://www.asas.org/western03/>). Nomination packets should be sent by February 5, 2003 to:

Dr. Jack C. Whittier

Colorado State University
105B Animal Science Bldg
Fort Collins, CO 80523

Graduate Student Competition Papers

In Fort Collins, the WSASAS executive committee voted to allow the host institution of future WSASAS meetings and the graduate competition committee to limit the number of graduate competition oral presentations. This will not restrict the number of graduate competition papers submitted for consideration, only the number presented. Papers not selected for presentation during the graduate competition session, will be schedule in an appropriate discipline session. The catalysts for this action suggested by the graduate competition committee are 1) reduce overlapping sessions with the graduate competition session without increasing overall meeting length, 2) reduce scheduling problems when graduate competition paper submissions exceed 12-15 papers, and 3) improve quality of presentations. This policy will not be imposed during the 2003 meetings in Arizona, but at this time plans are to impose a limit in Oregon in 2004. PLEASE – this is an important issue, discuss it with your colleagues, and come to the business meeting in Phoenix if you would like to take further action on this important topic.

The Executive committee also voted to increase the awards for the graduate competition. Starting in 2003 cash awards will be \$500, \$300, and \$200 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places, respectively. Guidelines for graduate competition papers are located at: (<http://www.asas.org/western03/>).

Graduate Institution Award

Thanks to the generous support by the Zinpro Corporation and the efforts of Connie Swenson and Bruce Johnson at Zinpro, 2003 will mark the first year of the Graduate Institution Award. This \$2000 cash award will be given to the WSASAS institution with the highest average score (combinations of proceedings and presentation) in the graduate competition session. A school must submit a minimum of three papers to the graduate competition session to be considered for this award. More than three papers may be submitted and presented in 2003. All papers will be included in calculating the institution's average score. Although the award is given to the winning institution, the money can only be used to benefit graduate students that participate in the WSASAS.

After our first year of experience with this new award and potential limiting the number of oral competition presentations, the graduate competition committee will develop a graduate/institutional presentation and evaluation guideline. The committee will forward their recommendation to the advising and coordinating committee for their consideration and then action by the WSASAS executive committee.

Committee assignments

Committee assignments for 2002-2003 are posted on the WSASAS web site. I appreciate the help of all you who have agreed to serve on these committees.

Western Section Proceedings

At combined national and WSASAS meetings, members have the option of submitting only an abstract or an abstract and proceedings paper. Proceedings papers are required for all graduate competition and industry award submissions. I encourage all WSASAS members and graduate students to write the proceedings. It's an excellent experience for graduate students and it's a major factor distinguishing WSASAS from the other sections

Future Meetings

In 2004, Oregon State University will host the WSASAS. The 2005, 2006, and 2007 meetings will be hosted by New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, Utah State University, Logan, and University of Idaho, Moscow, respectively. Thanks to the faculty at these universities for hosting future WSASAS meetings. The WSASAS Executive Committee and past WSASAS officers will be happy to help your institution in the planning stages.

We look forward to an excellent meeting in Arizona. If you have questions or concerns about the Western Section, please do not hesitate to contact me or other members of the Executive Committee. See you in Phoenix!