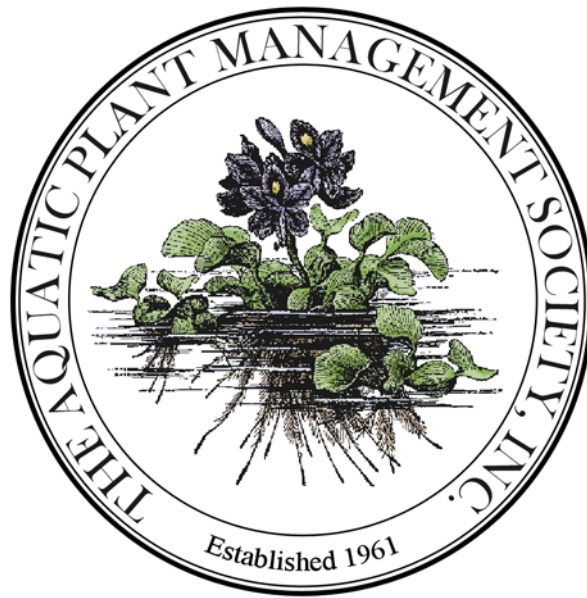


# **The Aquatic Plant Management Society**



**Midyear Board Meeting  
Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront Resort  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
January 13, 2015**

## **AGENDA**

Meeting of the Board of Directors  
Hilton Myrtle Beach Oceanfront Resort  
West Ballroom A & B  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
January 13, 2015

*~ Continental breakfast provided ~ 7:30 a.m.*

8:00 a.m.      Call to Order  
10:00 a.m.      Morning Break  
12:00 p.m.      Board Room Lunch  
12:30 p.m.      Reconvene Board Meeting  
1:00 p.m.      Tour of Hotel facilities with Emily Constantine  
1:30 p.m.      Reconvene Board Meeting with Meeting Planning Report  
3:30 p.m.      Afternoon Break  
5:00 p.m.      Adjourn  
6:30 p.m.      Dinner at Vintage Twelve

**8:00 a.m. CALL TO ORDER** - President Cody Gray

**ROLL CALL** - Secretary Jeff Schardt  
Seating of Proxies  
Recognition of Visitors

**MINUTES** from the Board of Directors meetings held July 13 and 16, 2014 and the Annual Business Meeting held July 14, 2014 in Savannah, GA, and subsequent email Board of Director votes to be considered and approved by the Board.

**REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT** - Cody Gray

**REPORT OF THE TREASURER** - Jeremy Slade

**REPORT OF THE SECRETARY** - Jeff Schardt

**REPORT OF THE EDITOR** - Jay Ferrell

*Approval of Officer Reports*

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Awards - Mike Netherland  
Bylaws and Resolutions - Jim Schmidt  
Education and Outreach - Jeff Schardt  
Exhibits - Craig Aguillard  
Finance - John Gardner  
Legislative - John Madsen  
Meeting Planning - Tommy Bowen

Membership - Joe Vassios  
Nominating - Mike Netherland  
Past President's Advisory - Mike Netherland  
Program - Rob Richardson  
Publications - Jay Ferrell  
Regional Chapters - John Madsen  
Scholastic Endowment - Tom Warmuth  
Strategic Planning - John Rodgers  
Student Affairs - Rebecca Haynie  
Web Site - Karen Brown

## **SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

AERF - Carlton Layne  
BASS - Gerald Adrian  
CAST - Joe Vassios  
NALMS - Terry McNabb  
RISE - Joe Bondra  
Science Policy Director - Lee Van Wychen  
WSSA - Cody Gray

*Approval of Committee and Special Representative Reports*

## **OLD BUSINESS**

Vandiver report on FL legal reviews of Bylaws  
Tommy Bowen report on Salisbury Lakeville presentations from July  
Discussion / decision on APMS Administrative Assistant position  
Discussion on transferring funds from General Account to Scholastic Endowment Account

## **NEW BUSINESS**

Modifications to Oral Presentation meeting room logistics and speaker introductions

**5:00 p.m. ADJOURN** - President Cody Gray

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**7922 NW 71<sup>st</sup> Street**  
**Gainesville, FL 32653**  
**[www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org)**

**2014-2015 Officers and Directors**

**Officers**

**President** - Cody Gray  
United Phosphorus, Inc.

**President Elect** - Robert Richardson  
North Carolina State University

**Vice President** - John Madsen  
USDA - ARS, EIWRU

**Immediate Past President** - Michael Netherland  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers ERDC

**Treasurer** - Jeremy Slade (1/3)  
United Phosphorus, Inc.

**Secretary** - Jeffrey Schardt (2/3)  
FL FWC (retired)

**Editor** - Jason Ferrell (2/3)  
University of Florida

**Directors**

Michael Masser (3/3)  
Texas A&M University

Joe Vassios (3/3)  
United Phosphorus, Inc.

Rebecca Haynie (2/3)  
SePRO Corporation

Vernon V. Vandiver Jr. (2/3)  
University of Florida

Dick Pinagel (1/3)  
Aqua-Weed Control

Ryan Wersal (1/3)  
Lonza

**Student Director**

Erika Haug  
North Carolina State University

## 2014 – 2015 Committee Chairs and Special Representatives

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Chair</u>	<u>Representative</u>	
Awards	Mike Netherland	AERF	Carlton Layne
Bylaws and Resolutions	Jim Schmidt	BASS	Gerald Adrian
Education and Outreach	Jeff Schardt	CAST	Joe Vassios
Exhibits	Craig Aguiard	NALMS	Terry McNabb
Finance	John Gardner	RISE	Joe Bondra
Legislative	John Madsen	WSSA	Cody Gray
Meeting Planning	Tommy Bowen	Science Policy Director	Lee VanWychen
Membership	Joe Vassios		
Nominating	Mike Netherland		
Past President's Advisory	Mike Netherland		
Program	Rob Richardson		
Publications	Jay Ferrell		
Regional Chapters	John Madsen		
Scholastic Endowment	Tom Warmuth		
Strategic Planning	Bo Burns		
Student Affairs	Rebecca Haynie		
Web Site	Karen Brown		
Newsletter Editor	Jeffrey Schardt		

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**January 13, 2015**

**Myrtle Beach, SC**

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# **THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

## **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**July 13, 2014**

**Hilton Savannah DeSoto Hotel**

**Savannah, Georgia**

The Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc., met on Sunday, July 13, 2014. President Mike Netherland called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Officers and Directors present at roll call were:

Mike Netherland, President  
Cody Gray, President Elect  
Rob Richardson, Vice President  
Terry Goldsby, Immediate Past President  
Sherry Whitaker, Treasurer  
Jeff Schardt, Secretary  
Jason Ferrell, Editor  
David Isaacs, Director  
Larry McCord, Director  
Michael Masser, Director  
Joe Vassios, Director  
Rebecca Haynie, Director  
Vernon Vandiver  
Elizabeth Edgerton, Student Director

Others in attendance during portions of the meeting:

Tommy Bowen, Meeting Planning Committee Chair  
Bill Culpepper, Guest  
Terry McNabb, NALMS President and Representative  
Ken Manuel, Guest - former APMS President  
Jim Schmidt, Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Chair  
Bill Torres, Meeting Manager  
Craig Aguillard, Exhibits Committee Chair

## **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the Midyear Board of Directors meeting held on January 14, 2014, in Savannah, GA and e-mail votes discussed since the Midyear BOD meeting were considered by the Board for approval.

***David Isaacs motioned the Board to accept the Minutes and post-Midyear email votes as written. Larry McCord seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Netherland referred to several APMS accomplishments during the previous year:

- 1) The herbicide resistance White Paper and PowerPoint Lessons are posted on the APMS web site and linked to the WSSA web site. These resources summarize steps taken by aquatic plant managers relative to herbicide resistance management and contrast aquatic plant and crop management venues with which most people may be familiar in terms of resistance management.
- 2) The APMS web site and social media content information initiatives with NCSU are underway (and are explained further in these Minutes under the Web Site Committee report).
- 3) The Plant Camp and Lakeville initiatives are underway for the Carolinas (and are discussed later in these Minutes).
- 4) APMS has considerable financial resources available and needs to take steps toward finding meaningful outreach and education initiatives. Considering an Executive Assistant to coordinate and monitor commitments of the Society should also be a priority.
- 5) Netherland recognized the efforts of the Meeting Planning Committee and Meeting Manager in organizing and operating the Annual Meetings. The team led by Chair Tommy Bowen and Bill Torres has proven invaluable to the smooth operation of Annual Meetings.
- 6) Finally, Netherland recognized the efforts of Sherry Whitaker during her six year tenure as APMS Treasurer.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Sherry Whitaker summarized the account balances. As of July 2, 2014 the General Account had a balance of \$467,081.82 with \$105,065.99 in checking and \$362,015.83 in general investments. The Scholastic Endowment Account had a balance of \$76,524.80 with \$177.08 in checking and \$76,347.72 in investments. The combined assets for the APMS total \$543,606.62.

Whitaker referred to the favorable audit report for 2011-2012 conducted by Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans and Company, LLP. This incorporates recent checks and balances incorporated by APMS for spending. Discussion concluded with notifying the Membership at the Annual Business Meeting regarding the recent Society incomes and plans to apply funds to meaningful education and outreach initiatives.

Finally the Board acknowledged Sherry Whitaker's six years of voluntary service to the Society as Treasurer by presenting a \$500 cash award, approved by the Board.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Schardt reported that Minutes from the previous five years (APMS Year 2008/2009 – 2013/2014) have been posted on the Members Only section of the APMS web site and that the five years of Minutes previous to that (APMS Year 2003/2004 - 2007/2008) will be posted prior to the 2015 Midyear Board Meeting.

PRIDE Industries of FL printed the 2015 Annual Meeting Program. APMS will pay for the printing and Duke Energy once again agreed to reimburse APMS for the printing cost. Schardt provided Membership logistics. An exact count of Membership is difficult until after the Annual

Meeting given new memberships at the meeting, but Membership is approximately 305-310 as of the 2014 Annual Meeting.

## **EDITOR'S REPORT**

Editor Jay Ferrell reported that the Allen Press PeerTrack submission system is complete and functional. Abstracts are sent to Ferrell who forwards to Associate Editors for review. APMS accepts about 54% of articles submitted which is on par with other reputable journals. Most articles that are rejected are done so before sending to Associate Editors. Associates reject about 20%. APMS receives about 50 submissions per year. The time from first notification that submissions are received until authors are notified after APMS review is about 107 days for 2013. The goal for 2014 is in the 70 day range to provide a streamlined service for potential authors.

The current list of Associate Editors includes: John Madsen, Mike Netherland, Ryan Wersal, Jason Ferrell, Mike Grodowitz, Chris Mudge, and Eric Dibble. The Associate Editors will handle the technical review aspects of publication, while the Editor's role will be to organize and expedite the administrative side of publication. The July 2014 issue of the Journal will be printed and shipped by mid August, bringing the Journal back onto schedule. The January 2014 issue had several errors, especially in a table in an article from Mudge. Several errors were reported to Allen Press, but only 3 were corrected. This incident will be addressed to prevent future occurrences. Several articles were published both in the July 2013 and January 2014 Issues, likely as a result of the APMS Editor transition, so this will be resolved. All invoices are issued and funds collected for the Journal. Consequently, the Journal is now up to date.

*Cody Gray motioned the Board to accept the Officer Reports. The motion was seconded by Jay Ferrell. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

## **COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Awards:** Chair Mike Netherland announced two awards that will be presented at the Awards Banquet during the Annual Meeting: Jim Schmidt - T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service Award and Justin Nawrocki - Outstanding Graduate Student. Others will be announced at the meeting.

**Bylaws and Resolutions Committee:** Chair Jim Schmidt advised that there were no Board-recommended Bylaws changes. He recommended that a Florida attorney should review the APMS Bylaws for consistency with Florida law – APMS is incorporated in the State of Florida.

*David Isaacs motioned the Board to retain legal counsel to review APMS Bylaws from a Florida attorney for consistency with Florida law. The motion was seconded by Larry McCord. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

Vernon Vandiver was tasked to locate an attorney for the Bylaws review and report to the Board with an approximate cost for this review for Board approval.

Schmidt suggested that establishing a paid Administrative or Executive Secretary position for the Society would likely not require a Bylaws change since this position would administer Society activities that are already covered under the Bylaws. However, duties need to be incorporated in the Operating Manual. Schmidt also recommended that a resolution or preamble be developed for the White Paper and PowerPoint modules on herbicide resistance management posted on the APMS web site to demonstrate the APMS commitment to this issue.

**Education and Outreach Committee:** Chair Jeff Schardt reported that the APMS herbicide resistance management project that was begun at the 2013 Annual Meeting is completed with the White Paper and PowerPoint lessons posted on the web site.

Plant Camp #9 was held in mid-June 2014 in Florida with attendance of two teachers, one from North Carolina and one from South Carolina, sponsored by APMS. Their presence was coordinated with the South Carolina APMS Chapter. Again teachers commented that this was the most informative and relative instructional course they had attended. Schardt expressed concern that Plant Camp and the Lakeville activity have generated energy for the Carolinas, but it is localized and may need a long-term supporter or champion from the state level to continue. It is difficult for SCAPMS or businesses like Duke Energy or Santee Cooper to carry this task alone. Ken Manuel advised that Anne Ellis, the teacher that attended from Plant Camp, will present Lakeville at the teacher resource center in Salisbury, NC in late July.

Terry Goldsby announced that TVA is reenergizing its efforts, including educational opportunities for invasive plant management, in the TVA reservoir system and may be interested in Lakeville. Goldsby will work with TVA to gauge interest and report back to the Board.

**Exhibits Committee:** Chair Craig Aguillard reported that 27 Exhibitors (two more than last year) and three non-profit organizations will exhibit at the Annual Meeting. Overall meeting sponsorship revenues are down from last year, perhaps reflecting the APMS Treasury level and perceived reduced need for Annual Meeting sponsorship funds. Many sponsors are at the Silver level (\$5,000) or the Bronze Level (\$2,500), so no one sponsor is assigned to the major meeting functions. All Silver sponsors are recognized for each major event; all Bronze sponsors are recognized for the breaks and continental breakfasts. The contributor level sponsor funds will provide trolley service for some of the off-site functions. Two exceptions are Applied Biochemists, Lonza that specifically requested to sponsor the Guest Tour and SePRO that requested to sponsor the Student Luncheon. Each company paid extra for this specific sponsorship.

**Finance Committee:** Chair John Gardner recommended reallocating funds from the General Account to the Scholastic Endowment Account. The Board generally agreed with this direction. Student investments are paying off - 20 students are attending the 2014 Annual Meeting. Further discussion will take place during the Annual Meeting toward Board action during the post-Annual Meeting Board meeting.

**Legislative Committee:** No report.

**Meeting Planning Committee:** Chair Tommy Bowen reported that the Committee was

exceptionally busy during the first part of the year, planning annual meetings for the next three years. The block of rooms for the Annual Meeting sold out at the end of May necessitating booking 20 rooms at the Country Inn and Suites. This is good news that APMS met the estimated room block, but presents a problem that not all delegates can stay at the conference hotel. Bill Torres asked the Board to discuss increasing the requested block of rooms or total number of room nights for the 2015 Annual Meeting. Discussion followed on the total room nights sold for the previous three meetings (~390 room nights). APMS would have to sell 80% of the block or pay for the difference. This may be a joint meeting with SCAPMS so the total room nights required may be much higher than 390. Requesting 500 room nights would require selling 400 room nights ( $80\% \times 500 = 400$ ).

***Larry McCord motioned the Board to increase the room block at the 2015 Annual Meeting in Myrtle Beach to 500 room nights. Michael Masser seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

The 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is contracted with the Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort at Kingston Plantation, SC. The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting is contracted with the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, MI and APMS has negotiated a rate of \$134 / night. The 57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting is booked with the Daytona Beach Hilton at \$139 / night. The lower rates demonstrate some of the benefit of booking early.

**Membership Committee:** Chair Joe Vassios reported that 45 responses were received from a recent survey of the APMS membership on member demographics and preferences for timing for the Annual Meeting. The July Annual Meeting was preferred by 44% of the Membership that responded. This data is preliminary and will stay open for several more months. Fifty-eight percent thought that the Certified Lake Manager idea may be a good idea.

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Terry Goldsby reported that the slate of candidates and their biographies were published in the Newsletter 30 days in advance of the Annual Business Meeting as required in the Bylaws. The slate will be brought before the general membership at the Annual Business Meeting for a vote of approval or revision. The nominees are as follows.

Vice President	John Madsen
Treasurer	Jeremy Slade
Director	Ryan Wersal
Director	Dick Pinagle

**Past President's Advisory Committee:** No report.

**Program Committee:** Chair Cody Gray announced that there will be 20 student presentations representing 10 universities at the Annual Meeting. Gray discussed the difficulty in placing all student presentations by 2:00 pm on Tuesday to ensure the vote for the best three presentations is complete before the Tuesday evening Awards Banquet. Gray also tried to alternate student presentations with non-students to allow evaluators to complete assessments for each student presentation. He ended by acknowledging that this is a good situation in that student support is a core focus of APMS.

**Publications Committee:** There was no report in addition to the Editor's Report.

**Regional Chapters Committee:** No report until the post-conference Board meeting.

**Scholastic Endowment Committee:** Netherland referred to Chair John Gardner's written report. There are several items donated for the Basket Raffle during the Awards Banquet.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** No report. The next Strategic Planning Session is scheduled for January 2017 for approval in July 2017.

**Student Affairs Committee:** Chair Rebecca Haynie reported that 20 students will present at the Annual meeting, 15 who have never presented at APMS. Ten universities are represented. Three students are from Trent University in Canada. Former student, Sarah True-Meadow, now with U.S. EPA, will present at the Student Luncheon. Thirteen students will participate in the post meeting student tour. APMS will cover van expenses, meals and an extra night hotel room for each student participating in the student tour. Students will judge the non-student poster competition.

**Website Committee:** APMS funded North Carolina State University to improve the APMS profile both on the web and via social media content, including Twitter, Blog, and LinkedIn page. Twitter has 90 followers. APMS still needs more content on the web site. The Board asked that Brett Hartis attend the Midyear Board meeting to provide an update on intended direction for the web site.

**AERF:** Representative Carlton Layne advised that the report would be given during the General Session.

*After a 15-story journey down the stairs and about a 45-minute fire alarm delay, the Board Meeting reconvened at 1:35 pm in the Oglethorpe Ballroom.*

**BASS:** Representative Gerald Adrian advised that the BASS Conservation Award was presented to the Oconee Lake Bassmasters for their project to establish willow in three Corps of Engineers reservoirs. The APMS Board voted to provide a travel stipend to one member of the winning organization for the best Conservation Project to make a presentation during the 2014 APMS Annual Meeting. That presentation was omitted, but will be scheduled for 2015 along with the 2015 project winner. AERF and APMS have agreed to sponsor the 2015 project at the same levels as 2014.

**CAST:** Netherland referred to the CAST Commentary Paper for which APMS provided \$5,000 in funding (*Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants and Algae in the United States*). CAST will release the Commentary Paper the same week as the APMS Annual Meeting and John Rodgers will present the paper during the Wednesday Session. There is an extensive list of citations associated with paper for future reference.

**NALMS:** Representative Terry McNabb advised that APMS and NALMS are trading exhibit space to set up displays at each entity's annual meeting. The 2014 NALMS Annual Meeting will

be held in Tampa in November. McNabb discussed that there will be a Plenary Session on lake management with McNabb providing a NALMS perspective, the President of the American Fisheries Society discussing lake management from a fisheries perspective, and Mike Netherland presenting from aquatic plant managers' points of view. McNabb ended with discussion on revising the NALMS position on herbicide use in lakes.

**RISE:** No report.

**WSSA:** Rob Richardson agreed to participate as the APMS second representative in quarterly conference calls with WSSA. Cody Gray will remain the APMS contact on WSSA.

*Cody Gray motioned the Board to accept the Committee and Special Representative Reports. Larry McCord seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

**Old Business:** No Old Business was addressed.

### **New Business:**

#### **1. APMS Executive Assistant**

President Netherland initiated discussion about creating an APMS Executive Assistant. This would be a paid position to fill the Secretary duties plus additional organizational and operational functions, including overseeing completion of APMS initiatives and general operating duties as well as tracking progress of APMS funded projects. Current APMS models include the stipend paid to the Editor for on-time Journal publication and the contract with the APMS Meeting Planner. Additionally, other societies have a similar position.

The Board agreed that a minimum time frame of two years was reasonable for a trial period, giving ample time to establish and evaluate structure. While APMS is on strong financial footing, this is not a full time position, and a level of compensation needs to be developed along with a procedure or duty manual. Types of duties discussed included: tracking funding and significant decisions, coordinating various milestones for the Annual Meeting Program, and setting up teleconferences, along with current Secretary duties.

#### **2. Committees**

President Netherland discussed the need to better staff APMS Standing Committees and the need to evaluate the relevance of all current committees. Two committees with little activity are Publications and Legislative. Each has duties that are covered elsewhere: the Journal, Education and Outreach, and Web site for Publications, and the Science Policy Director report, AERF, CAST and RISE for the Legislative Committee. Netherland tasked the Committee Chairs to come up with 2-3 members for each Committee.

#### **3. APMS Graduate Student Research Grant**

The Board discussed meaningful projects for APMS to fund with approximately \$540,000 in total assets. The APMS Graduate Student Research Grant is issued every other year at a rate of

\$20,000 per year for each of two years. An award was issued in 2014 and funds are sufficient to issue another award in 2015, if relevant proposals are received.

***Michael Masser motioned the Board that APMS award the Graduate Student Research Grant each year. Terry Goldsby seconded the motion.***

Discussion ensued about the expense that this decision may pass to Regional Chapters that currently provide half of the biannual research grant. There was some discussion that the alternate year award could be funded entirely by APMS to allow chapters to honor their student scholarship commitments.

***Terry Goldsby motioned the Board to table the previous motion until the post-conference Board Meeting after Rob Richardson can poll the Regional Chapter representatives at the meeting. Rob Richardson seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

***Michael Masser motioned the Board to adjourn. Terry Goldsby seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

The Board meeting adjourned at 2:52 p.m.

# **THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

## **Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting**

**July 14, 2014**

**Hilton Savannah DeSoto  
Savannah, Georgia**

The Annual Business Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. was held on Monday, July 14, 2014. President Mike Netherland called the meeting to order at 4:15 p.m.

### **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the 2013 Annual Business Meeting held in San Antonio, Texas on July 15, 2013, as well as Minutes from the previous 5 years were available online during the conference for review and consideration by the general membership. There was no discussion regarding these Minutes.

### **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Netherland welcomed delegates to the 54th Annual Meeting of the Aquatic Plant Management Society. Netherland discussed that the APMS Annual Meeting is the Society's largest annual expense as well as the greatest source of income and that the income is possible from the contributions of sponsors. The second biggest expense is the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant. The recipient for the 2014 Grant will be announced at the July 15 APMS Awards Banquet. The Grant is a two-year, \$20,000 per year grant shared with APMS and the Regional Chapters. The Grant brings along and retains students for long-term involvement in APMS and aquatic plant management activities.

APMS awarded funds to North Carolina State University with Brett Hartis as the lead to increase APMS web and social media content. Other APMS members worked with the Council of Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) to develop a Commentary Paper on the Benefits of Controlling Aquatic Plants. CAST provides information to key policy makers and administrators. Lastly, Netherland summarized APMS funding the South Carolina Chapter in sending two teachers to the Florida Plant Camp and developing the Lakeville activity for Carolina students. Plant Camp is a five-day intensive workshop introducing teachers to aquatic plants and their management. Lakeville incorporates curricula and materials learned from Plant Camp into an interactive classroom activity demonstrating students' knowledge of aquatic plants along with public speaking and critical thinking abilities in assessing what a lake would look like after the introduction of various assemblages of native and invasive plants and animals. The APMS mission is education and all of these projects support the mission.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Sherry Whitaker summarized the account balances. As of July 2, 2014 the General Checking Account had a balance of \$105,065.99 and \$362,015.83 in the General Investment

Account. The Scholastic Endowment Checking Account had a balance of \$177.08 and \$76,347.72 in the Investment Account. The combined assets for the APMS total \$543,606.62.

Whitaker advised that APMS was audited as required and the audit report was good. The audit was performed by Winston, Williams, Creech, Evans, and Company, LLP. Whitaker reported that APMS initiated a check-and-balance procedure recommended in previous audits whereby all purchases and payments made by the Secretary are also approved by the President.

Netherland advised the Membership that at the advice of the APMS Finance Committee, the APMS Board will move additional funding from the General Account into the Scholastic Endowment Account to fund additional student initiatives.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Secretary Jeff Schardt reported that one duty of the Secretary is to keep records of the Society. Minutes of the five previous years Board and Business Meetings have been posted on the APMS web site for members to access. The five years previous to that will be posted within the next few months. The Secretary also keeps track of membership after dues are paid. Twenty-eight new members joined APMS during the previous year, and perhaps an additional 10-15 may join at the 2014 Annual Meeting. Therefore, the net APMS Membership is approximately 320-325.

## **EDITOR'S REPORT**

Editor Jason Ferrell advised the Membership that Journal of Aquatic Plant Management is a few days from going to the printer; with a delivery in the next few weeks. There have been 24 journal submissions thus far in 2014 – roughly equal to previous years with about 50 submissions per year. APMS has about a 50% rejection rate for journal submissions – similar to other societies like APMS. The Allen Press PeerTrack System is now fully integrated, helping to expedite journal publishing. Traditionally APMS has taken about 110 days from article submission by the author to the Editor responding back with the first set of edits. That is reduced to 60 days for 2014.

*Carlton Layne motioned to accept the Officer Reports. Larry McCord seconded the motion. The motion was approved without dissenting vote.*

## **COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Awards:** Chair Mike Netherland encouraged all members to attend the Awards Banquet on July 15 to congratulate the many award recipients that will be recognized this year.

**Bylaws and Resolutions Committee:** Chair Jim Schmidt announced that there were Bylaws change proposals to consider this year. Schmidt reported that the Board agreed to a legal review of the Bylaws to ensure they are consistent with rules and regulations of Florida – the state in which APMS is incorporated. Vernon Vandiver will take the lead on this task. The APMS Operations Manual is up to date due to efforts of Past Presidents.

**Education and Outreach Committee:** Chair Jeff Schardt gave an update on Plant Camp 2014. Two teachers, one from South Carolina and one from North Carolina attended this year with the intent to then take the Lakeville activity back to schools or learning centers in those states. APMS is a sponsor of Plant Camp and is funding the development of Lakeville in the Carolinas with SCAPMS coordinating the activities.

Schardt also reported that APMS members drafted a 16-page White Paper on herbicide resistance management after last year's Annual Meeting's special session on this subject. The paper was sent for review and editing and is now completed and posted on the APMS web site along with three PowerPoint Lessons that summarize sections of the White Paper.

**Exhibits Committee:** Chair Craig Aguillard thanked the APMS Exhibitors and Sponsors. Twenty-eight Exhibitors and three non-profit entities are registered for the meeting.

**Finance Committee:** Chair John Gardner reported that APMS investment funds did well this year. Investments are balanced about 50/50 (investments/bonds) making this a fairly conservative portfolio. The market performed well with an 11% rate of return. Gardner referred to the Treasurer Report for account totals.

**Legislative Committee:** No report.

**Meeting Planning Committee:** Chair Tommy Bowen solicited input from the Membership regarding the 2014 Annual Meeting venue. Bowen reported the 2015 Annual Meeting will be held at the Hilton Oceanfront Resort in Myrtle Beach. The 2016 meeting will be at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan, and the 2017 meeting is scheduled for the Hilton on Daytona Beach. The three year scheduling is to keep hotel room costs low (in the \$134-\$139 per night range) by committing early. The 2018 meeting will be within the Northeast APMS Chapter boundaries – Bowen solicited suggestions for meeting sites for that event.

**Membership Committee:** Chair Joe Vassios advised that the Committee is conducting an online APMS Membership questionnaire for feedback on meeting locations and other items of interest. Forty-five responses have been received and Vassios requested members who have not responded to please do so soon.

**Nominating Committee:** Chair Terry Goldsby read the slate of Officer and Director Candidates recommended by the Nominating Committee and APMS Board for approval by the general Membership. The slate (listed below) was advertised in the APMS Newsletter 30 days prior to the Annual Business Meeting with candidate biographies to meet notification requirements.

Vice President	John Madsen
Treasurer	Jeremy Slade
Director	Dick Pinagel
Director	Ryan Wersal

President Goldsby asked if there were additional nominations from the floor.

*Craig Aguillard motioned to close nominations from the floor and accept the Slate of Delegates as recommended by the Nominating Committee. Jim Schmidt seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

**Past President's Advisory Committee:** Chair Terry Goldsby mentioned that there would be a Luncheon for Past Presidents on July 15 at which time an estimated eight Past Presidents will address current issues facing APMS. Mike Netherland, current APMS President, will attend the meeting and report back to the Board at the post-Annual Meeting Board of Directors meeting.

**Program Committee:** Chair Cody Gray announced that there are 44 oral presentations and 11 posters on the Program. The Program includes 20 student presentations. All of the oral student presentations must be completed by noon on Tuesday to complete judging for the student presentation awards on Tuesday evening.

**Publications Committee:** No report.

**Regional Chapters Committee:** No report. The Regional Chapter breakfast has been changed to a luncheon on Tuesday afternoon. Chapter updates will be provided during the Program.

**Scholastic Endowment Committee:** Chair John Gardner thanked all contributors and participants in the Silent Auction and Awards Banquet Raffle that generate funds for APMS scholarship activities, including lodging at the APMS Annual Meeting. Five items are available for the Basket Raffle – three are donated, so the Society did not incur costs acquiring these items.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** No report. The next Strategic Planning session is scheduled for 2017.

**Student Affairs Committee:** Chair Rebecca Haynie announced that 20 students, representing ten universities are presenting at the 54th Annual Meeting – 15 who have not previously presented at APMS. APMS provides lodging and a book of the student's choice for presenting at the meeting. Thirteen students and three guests from U.S. EPA will attend the post-meeting student tour sponsored by Estate Management – a local aquatics management entity. Highlights of the tour include visits to the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge, the Landings, and Ford Plantation to view habitat management activities.

**Website Committee:** Chair Ryan Wersal reported that the web site framework is developed, including online payments. The next step is to expand social media content.

**AERF:** Representative Carlton Layne briefly reported that AERF continues to work with APMS on student related initiatives including Plant Camp.

**BASS:** Representative Gerald Adrian reported that APMS and AERF jointly sponsored a conservation award with BASS. The Lake Oconee Bassmasters won the award for their revegetation projects in four different lakes in Georgia. APMS and AERF will continue to sponsor the award next year that will be presented at the Bassmasters Classic in February. The Classic will be on Lake Hartwell on the Georgia / South Carolina line. Gene Gilliland is the new

BASS Conservation Director, formerly assistant chief of the Fisheries Division of the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. BASS is interested in an APP for weed identification and will work with Mike Masser at Texas A&M since A&M has already developed a similar APP. The BASS conservation award winner will present on the 2015 APMS Program in Myrtle Beach.

**CAST:** Representative Ryan Wersal reported on the CAST Commentary Paper entitled “Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants and Algae in the United States”. This is an APMS and Chapter sponsored project that started in 2012. The Paper will be rolled out on July 15, posted online at the CAST web site, and used to inform Congressional staff and legislative policy makers.

**NALMS:** Representative and current NALMS President Terry McNabb reported that APMS and NALMS are collaborating to share display space at each society’s annual meeting and encouraged members to visit the NALMS booth. There will be a plenary session among NALMS, APMS and the American Fisheries Society at the NALMS annual conference in Tampa, FL in November 2014.

**RISE:** Sam Barrick reported that Allison Donaghy will present on the Program on Wednesday, highlighting Clean Water Act revisions (the definition of Waters of the U.S.) and the Endangered Species Act.

**WSSA:** Representative Cody Gray discussed that APMS is a Chapter of WSSA. The new Herbicide Handbook edition is available online at the WSSA web site.

*James Boggs motioned to accept the Committee and Special Representative reports.  
Tommy Bowen seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

**Old Business:** None

**New Business:** None

*Ryan Wersal motioned to adjourn the Annual Business Meeting. Dharmen Setaram seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

# **THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED**

## **Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting**

**July 16, 2014**

**Hilton Savannah DeSoto Hotel**

**Savannah, Georgia**

The Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc., met on Wednesday, July 16, 2014. President Cody Gray called the meeting to order at 1:01 p.m.

Officers and Directors present at roll call were:

Cody Gray, President  
Rob Richardson, President Elect  
John Madsen, Vice President  
Mike Netherland, Immediate Past President  
Jeremy Slade, Treasurer  
Jeff Schardt, Secretary  
Michael Masser, Director  
Joe Vassios, Director  
Rebecca Haynie, Director  
Vernon Vandiver, Director  
Dick Pinagel, Director  
Ryan Wersal, Director  
Erica Haug, Student Director

Others in attendance during portions of the meeting:

Tommy Bowen, Meeting Planning Committee Chair  
John Gardner, Finance Committee Chair  
Ken Manuel, Guest - former APMS President  
Bill Torres, Meeting Manager

## **MINUTES**

There were no Minutes to approve.

## **PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

President Gray welcomed new members to the Board as well as visitors.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer Jeremy Slade is working with former Treasurer Sherry Whitaker to transition into his new role. The new APMS business address will be at the University of Florida Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants in Gainesville, FL. Slade advised that APMS has a lease on a swipe credit card machine for \$30 / month. This device must connect to a computer. Slade and Whitaker are looking into a device that connects to an iPad for more convenient charges such as

ticket purchases at the Awards Banquet. The credit card swipe lease is in its first year of a 4-year lease. The Board tasked Slade to call the company to see if APMS can end this lease. Slade will also check the security of the iPad connection and the charge per use – approximately 2.75% per transaction.

## **SECRETARY’S REPORT**

Secretary Schardt advised that the Annual Business Meeting Minutes demonstrating the election of a new Treasurer need to be approved and forwarded to the State Bank of Michigan as soon as possible to document that Slade is the APMS Treasurer and authorized to make financial transactions for the Society. Schardt will process the Minutes and forward for Board approval the week after the Annual Meeting.

## **EDITOR’S REPORT**

No report.

*John Madsen motioned the Board to accept the Officer Reports. The motion was seconded by Michael Masser. The motion passed without dissenting vote.*

## **COMMITTEE AND SPECIAL REPRESENTATIVE REPORTS**

**Awards:** No report.

**Bylaws and Resolutions Committee:** No report.

**Education and Outreach Committee:** No report.

**Exhibits Committee:** No report.

**Finance Committee:** No report beyond the pre-conference Board meeting. See Scholastic Endowment Committee Report in these Minutes for finance information related to Annual Meeting activities.

**Legislative Committee:** Netherland addressed that the Water Resources Reform and Development Act increased the cap for U.S Army Corps of Engineers funding for control and research from \$15 to \$20 million, but expanded control to all species – plants and animals including Asian carp and zebra mussels as well as power washing vessels in western states.

**Meeting Planning Committee:** Chair Tommy Bowen asked for comments on the hotel. He commented that 220 registered for the meeting making this one of the most attended meetings for APMS. There were 35 on the Guest tour and 25 for the Ghost tour. There is difficulty expanding on the room block for Myrtle Beach so the Committee is checking with the hotel next door for overflow accommodations. There was discussion that many Board members were late getting hotel reservations, so the Committee offered to make reservations for Board members. Board members can then adjust check in / checkout times.

The Board reviewed several Midyear Board meeting dates and settled on Tuesday January 13 at the Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort at Kingston Plantation, with the 12<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> for travel. Other topics discussed included: providing bottled water at the breaks; Jeremy Slade bringing labels or ribbons to attach to name tags to identify APMS Officer, Directors, Committee Chairs, and students at the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting; ensuring a lavalier microphone is available for the meeting room and all wires are securely fastened and anchored to the floor; specify that all presentations must be in PowerPoint and do not include imbedded videos without prior approval from the Program Chair; require that all presentations are downloaded in the computer at least one day prior to the presentation to ensure playback compatibility; ensure a qualified operator is attending the projector during the presentations.

Discussion concluded with suggestions for the 2018 Annual Meeting sites. Suggestions included Providence RI and Portland ME.

**Membership Committee:** No report.

**Nominating Committee:** No report.

**Past President's Advisory Committee:** Chair Mike Netherland reported that 8 past presidents and the current president attended the Past Presidents' Luncheon. The Past Presidents encouraged APMS to expand the Graduate Student Research Grant by increasing the frequency of the award provided funding remains available. The Past Presidents suggested allocating funds into the scholastic endowment fund and paying appropriate initiatives from this fund rather than the general fund to demonstrate the Society's commitment to students and education. They agreed with the concept of an APMS Executive Secretary provided specific duties are developed. Smaller expenditures should be tracked to document APMS financial commitments.

There was discussion to review the value of the \$5,000 payment to WSSA and the Science Policy Director. John Madsen reminded the Board that the Science Policy Director can provide more services as APMS provides direction.

**Program Committee:** Chair Rob Richardson asked the Board to provide suggestions for Keynote speakers and topics for presentations. Cody Gray advised that APMS agreed to fund travel for Bassmaster Conservation Award winners and perhaps the BASS Conservation Director. Ken Manuel suggested inviting the North and South Carolina teachers that attended 2014 Plant Camp in Florida to give an update on Lakeville progress in the Carolinas at the 2015 meeting. Erica Haug was tasked with contacting students regarding their preference to begin the Student Tour on Wednesday morning or wait until after the meeting and depart Wednesday afternoon.

**Publications Committee:** No report.

**Regional Chapters Committee:** Chair Rob Richardson reported that representatives at the Regional Chapter President's Luncheon were receptive to the expanded APMS Graduate Student research Grant provided there was not an additional cost to the Regional Chapters. When asked what APMS may do for the Chapters, some indicated that assistance with Regional Chapter web

sites might benefit. Chapters may affiliate with the APMS web site with APEX (APMS Web Master) providing assistance at a reduced cost. The APMS online payment platform may be available to the Chapters this way as well. Richardson suggested that the President and Vice President also attend the Regional Chapter Luncheon to provide better continuity through the years.

**Scholastic Endowment Committee:** Chair John Gardner reported that the basket raffle generated \$4,270 in ticket sales. APMS spent \$992 for raffle items, for a net income of \$3,278. The Silent Auction brought in \$2,650 for a combined \$5,928 raised for Scholastic Endowment between the two events.

**Strategic Planning Committee:** No report. The next Strategic Planning Session is scheduled for January 2017 for approval in July 2017. John Rodgers suggested approaching Bo Burns to lead the next Strategic Planning session as Rodgers will likely not be available.

**Student Affairs Committee:** No report. The Student Affairs Committee Chair was participating in the Student Tour at the time of the Board meeting.

**Website Committee:** Ryan Wersal agreed to stay on the Committee but a new chair needs to be appointed. Karen Brown agreed to Chair the Committee for the next year. Brett Hartis from North Carolina State University, who is developing social media content for the web site, will also be on the committee.

**AERF:** No report.

**BASS:** No report.

**CAST:** Representative Ryan Wersal reported that the Commentary Paper sponsored by APMS, and APMS Chapters on the “*Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants and Algae in the United States*” was posted on the CAST web site July 16, 2014 and had been opened 1,700 times during the first four hours.

**NALMS:** No report.

**RISE:** No report.

**WSSA:** Rob Richardson agreed to participate as the APMS representative in quarterly conference calls with WSSA.

***Ryan Wersal motioned the Board to accept the Committee and Special Representative Reports. Michael Masser seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

**Science Policy Advisor:** Lee VanWychen called in to report on several issues related to APMS.

1. October is the final comment period on WOTUS – the revised definition of Waters of The U.S. – an important definition in the implementation of NPDES regulations. RISE will also comment on this definition and APMS will assist if/when called upon to comment.
2. NPDES fix bill did not make it into the Farm Bill.
3. APCRP funding. There was a \$4 million dollar allocation for the current year for Corps research. The Water Resources Reform and Development Act increased the cap from \$15 to \$20 million, but the authorization was \$4 million. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers did not request funding. A caveat of the allocation is funding of boat cleaning stations.

### **Old Business:**

#### **1. Annual APMS Graduate Student Research Grant award.**

Discussion was tabled from the Pre-conference Board meeting held on July 13 regarding awarding the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant on a more frequent basis than current schedule of one Grant every other year. Comments on the increased frequency include:

- 1) a current recipient of the Grant cannot reapply for another Grant until the current two-year Grant has expired;
- 2) APMS should not commit to awarding a Grant every year, but rather issue Grants on an annual basis provided funds are available in the APMS accounts, and relevant proposals are received;
- 3) consider issuing two Grants in one year if two exceptional proposals are received that year;
- 4) consider funding more than \$20,000 per year for one Grant;
- 5) stipulate that Regional Chapters will not be asked to contribute toward the Grant more often than every other year so that Regional Chapters are not asked to contribute more than they already do.

***Michael Masser motioned the Board that APMS offer an annual two-year Graduate Student Research Grant in the amount of \$20,000 per year contingent upon sufficient available funding and appropriate proposal submitted. Vernon Vandiver seconded the motion.***

Discussion confirmed that APMS may pay out as much as \$40,000 per year to cover two concurrent Grants, each of which will pay out \$20,000. This will allow flexibility to award more than one Grant per year or not award a Grant during a year that funds are not available or appropriate proposals are not received.

***The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

**New Business:**

**4. APMS fund student travel to the Annual Meeting**

There was discussion regarding APMS paying for travel to the APMS Annual meeting in addition to housing, books, and the student tour. This concept did get much support. There were many students at the 2014 Annual Meeting. The Program director has discretion to pay travel for an exceptional speaker regardless if a student or not.

***Rob Richardson motioned the Board to adjourn. Ryan Wersal seconded the motion. The motion passed without dissenting vote.***

The Board meeting adjourned at 4:03 p.m.

## THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, INCORPORATED

**Teleconference and email votes considered by the Board of Directors of the APMS since the Post Conference Board meeting held on July 16, 2014.**

### **1) Approve 2014 Annual Business Meeting Minutes**

On July 21, 2014 Secretary Jeff Schardt sent the following message to the Board.

*President Gray asked that the Minutes of the APMS Annual Business Meeting be drafted and approved by the Board as soon as possible to demonstrate the transition of former APMS Treasurer Sherry Whitaker to newly elected Jeremy Slade. The draft Minutes of the Annual Business Meeting, at which this transition was voted and approved by the APMS Membership, is attached. Please review and let me know if you have any changes as President Gray will soon call for a motion to approve these Minutes and forward to the State Bank of Michigan (with which APMS banks) to document the current APMS Treasurer.*

***Ryan Wersal motioned the Board to approve the 2014 Annual Business Meeting Minutes as drafted by Secretary Schardt. Michael Masser seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 10-0 vote.***

### **2) APMS Purchase of a Computer for the Treasurer**

On August 1, 2014 President Gray sent the following message to the Board about the purchase of a computer proposed by newly elected Treasurer, Jeremy Slade. Slade wrote:

*I talked with Sherry today and she said that the Society does NOT have a dedicated computer. I want to see if I could purchase one this week so when I go to meet with her next Tuesday we can download all of the necessary programs that I would use. This would include the software for the credit card reader we'd use at the meetings, data management tools (invoices, receipts, etc.) and Quickbooks. The computer would be used for the duties of the APMS Treasurer and during the registration at the annual meeting.*

There was considerable discussion regarding the need for the computer and possible data storage options that generated the following additional justification from Treasurer Slade

*1. A computer is needed to house the Society's financial records, access bank information, run credit cards during the year for membership as well as the registration desk for registering attendees, printing invoices/budgets/membership packs, etc. I will not have a fax machine and most of the membership information is relayed through email and the membership documents will be saved on the computer.*

*2. Quickbooks (financial accounting software) is computer based so this will need to be loaded to a computer to operate.*

*3. The credit card machine which the Society has a lease for the next three years can only be operated while connected to a computer. This will be used throughout the year to run credit*

*cards for payments made to the Society. It will also be used at the registration desk during the annual meeting.*

*4. I cannot use my UPI issued computer to perform duties not related to UPI business. Even if I wanted to use it, I'd have to get approval to download software such as Quickbooks and the credit card machine. This will likely not get approved and if it did and something happened to my machine is the Society going to replace my UPI computer?*

*5. At this time, I'm not versed on "cloud" applications nor do I feel comfortable putting the Societies financial information "out there".*

*6. Backup data could be kept on an external hard drive until more suitable backup methods (investigated by the BOD) could be recommended. The external hard drive would also need to be purchased by the Society.*

*7. Finally, How do I access the previously mentioned "cloud" based applications without a computer? The protocol of why the computer (i.e., tool) is needed is outlined in the Society's Operating Manual under Treasurer's duties. In the meantime, we can work on developing an SOP.*

***Jeremy Slade motioned the Board to approve the purchase of a dedicated computer for the Society to be used by the Treasurer for day-to-day operations, including financial bookkeeping and during the annual meetings at the registration desk. Purchase amount is not to exceed \$600 including cost of the computer and taxes. Rebecca Haynie seconded the motion. The motion passed by an 8-4 vote.***

### **3) Approve Committee Recommendation to Award an APMS Graduate Student Research Grant**

On August 19, 2014 President Cody Gray informed the Board that formal Board action is pending to award the 2014-2015 APMS Graduate Student Research Grant. This award provides \$20,000 per year for a two year period to support graduate student research. Mike Netherland was in charge of selecting judges, which included five APMS members, for the proposals. The judges were unanimous in recommending Dr. Scott Nissen of Colorado State University as the recipient of the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant.

***Mike Netherland motioned the Board to award the 2014-2015 APMS Graduate Student Research Grant entitled "Exploring the Physiological Basis of 2,4-D Tolerance in Northern Watermilfoil x Eurasian Watermilfoil Hybrids" to Dr. Scott Nissen of Colorado State University. Vernon Vandiver seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 13-0 vote.***

### **4) Herbicide Resistance Management Resolution**

On September 15, 2014 President Cody Gray forwarded the following message to the Board from Secretary Schardt. At the July 13 Board meeting I was tasked with drafting a Resolution for

Board approval to accompany the APMS white paper and PowerPoint lessons posted on the APMS web site regarding herbicide resistance issues in aquatic plant management. Attached is a draft for Board consideration.

*Whereas the Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. (APMS) is a professional society whose members represent a broad cross-section of government, academic and private industry involved in research, educational, and operational aspects of aquatic plant management; and*

*Whereas the control of aquatic plants is frequently achieved via the application of U.S. EPA-registered herbicides; and*

*Whereas herbicide resistance is being increasingly documented in terrestrial and crop production weed management; and*

*Whereas many of the herbicides registered for aquatic use are from modes of action in which resistance has been reported in terrestrial and crop production applications; and*

*Whereas several occurrences of herbicide resistance have been documented for aquatic weeds controlled with herbicides from three different modes of action:*

*Now, therefore, be it resolved, the APMS Board of Directors, in an effort to provide understanding and guidance to resource managers and other stakeholders responsible for controlling aquatic plants, developed the following white paper and corresponding PowerPoint lessons entitled: "Herbicide Resistance in Aquatic Plant Management" to compare and contrast aquatic and terrestrial herbicide use patterns, identify resistance management strategies currently applied by aquatic plant managers, and suggest strategies to consider for future herbicide stewardship and resistance management.*

***John Madsen motioned the Board to accept the herbicide resistance Resolution as written and post on the APMS web site as an introduction to the APMS white paper and PowerPoint lessons on Herbicide Resistance Stewardship in Aquatic Plant Management. Joe Vassios seconded the motion. The motion passed by a 13-0 vote.***

**Report of the Present**  
**Cody J. Gray**  
**APMS Winter Board of Directors Meeting**  
**Myrtle Beach, SC**  
**January 13, 2015**

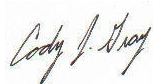
Welcome to Myrtle Beach. It has been fairly quite regarding my responsibilities while serving to-date, which is due in large part to the hard work and effort of those of you on the Board and those serving in our critical committees. I have been tasked to approve our expenditures and general operating expenses, largely centered on our annual meeting and journal.

I was able to attend the South Carolina APMS meeting and gave an APMS update. I attended the Florida APMS meeting, but was unable to give an update to some other commitments while at the meeting. I have made arrangements to attend the Northeast APMS, Midwest APMS, and Western APMS meetings with full intentions of giving an APMS updates as these meetings, as well.

I was extremely happy about the attendance and participation from our graduate student members at our recent APMS meeting in Savannah. The number of presentations and papers given and their high quality really shined. The additional graduate student stipend APMS will be awarding this year can do nothing but enhance these activities and strengthen our society. Being a member of multiple other societies, I can emphatically state the APMS does more for its graduate students than any other society, which we should all be very proud of.

In closing, I want to state that it has been humbling and an honor to be your President and I look forward to serving the society in the coming months.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Cody J. Gray", written in a cursive style.

Cody J. Gray

January 3, 2015

To: Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS)

From: Jeremy Slade

Subject: Report of the Treasurer

**General and Scholastic Endowment Accounts.**

**Enclosure 1** is a summary of the General and Scholastic Endowment Accounts. All totals\* are as of the date of this report.

**\*Investment Portfolio Performance and Balances:** See Finance Committee Report.

**2014 Income and Expenses.**

**Enclosure 2** is a summary of income and expenses for the period January 1, 2014 through December 31, 2014.

**2015 Budget.**

**Enclosure 3** is a preliminary budget for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015 which estimates a net income (deficit) of -\$10,900.

**Audit and Federal Return.**

All APMS financial records and related information will be made available to Winston, Williams, and Creech, LLP to conduct an audit of our financial statements as of December 31, 2014. In addition, they will prepare our federal information return for the year ended December 31, 2014. I expect Winston, Williams, and Creech, LLP to issue their independent auditor's report and complete our information returns no later than March 15, 2015. The estimated fees for these services should not exceed \$6000.00.

**3 Enclosures**

The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.  
General and Scholastic Endowment Accounts  
December 31, 2014

General and Scholastic Endowment Accounts

General Accounts

Checking	\$36,123.60
Investment	\$345,887.61

Total General Accounts	\$382,011.21
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Scholastic Endowment Accounts

Checking	\$177.08
Investment	\$73,462.45

Total Scholastic Endowment Accounts	\$73,639.53
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Total General and Scholastic Endowment Accounts	\$455,650.74
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10:51 AM

January 2, 2015

Cash Basis

# The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.

## Income and Expense Report

January through December 2014

	Jan - Dec 14
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
<b>Annual Meeting Income</b>	
Contributions	49,739.75
Delegate 1-Day Registration	400.00
Delegate Pre-Registration	25,850.00
Delegate Registration	6,095.00
Event Tickets	735.00
Exhibit Fees	19,600.00
Guest Pre-Registration	2,340.00
Guest Registration	775.00
Student Registration	300.00
Annual Meeting Income - Other	1,899.18
<b>Total Annual Meeting Income</b>	<b>107,733.93</b>
<b>Education/Outreach Income</b>	<b>1,900.00</b>
<b>Journal Income</b>	
Page Fees	17,535.00
Royalties	225.16
Subscriptions	6,800.00
<b>Total Journal Income</b>	<b>24,560.16</b>
<b>Membership Income</b>	
Individual	16,415.00
Student	160.00
Sustaining	7,500.00
Membership Income - Other	10.00
<b>Total Membership Income</b>	<b>24,085.00</b>
<b>Scholastic Endowment Income</b>	
Contributions	150.00
Graduate Assistantship	4,000.00
Raffle & Silent Auction	6,917.00
<b>Total Scholastic Endowment Income</b>	<b>11,067.00</b>
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>169,346.09</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
<b>American Express Annual Fee</b>	<b>120.00</b>
<b>Annual Meeting Expense</b>	
Audio Visual Equipment	3,000.00
Banquet	18,091.93
Deposit	9,000.00
Entertainment	2,161.25
Guest Tour	2,485.00
Host Chapter Reimbursement	4,442.74
Program	1,589.75
Student Guest Rooms	5,434.49
Student Tour	875.74
Annual Meeting Expense - Other	40,514.45
<b>Total Annual Meeting Expense</b>	<b>87,595.35</b>
<b>Awards</b>	
Poster Award	100.00
Awards - Other	1,639.56
<b>Total Awards</b>	<b>1,739.56</b>
<b>Contributions</b>	<b>995.23</b>
<b>Corporation Annual Report Fee</b>	<b>61.25</b>
<b>Credit Card Merchant Processing</b>	
Card Fees	5,082.90
Terminal/Printer	479.36
Credit Card Merchant Processing - Other	351.00
<b>Total Credit Card Merchant Processing</b>	<b>5,913.26</b>

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**Income and Expense Report**  
 January through December 2014

	<u>Jan - Dec 14</u>
<b>Dues</b>	
AERF	2,000.00
RISE	500.00
WSSA	6,212.00
<b>Total Dues</b>	8,712.00
<b>Education/Outreach</b>	17,329.49
<b>Insurance</b>	
Board of Dir. & Gen. Liability	2,024.00
Commercial Bond	222.86
<b>Total Insurance</b>	2,246.86
<b>Journal Expense</b>	
Editor Stipend	4,000.00
Manuscripts	324.60
Journal Expense - Other	18,372.23
<b>Total Journal Expense</b>	22,696.83
<b>Meeting Planner</b>	
Current Year Meeting	1,980.00
Meeting 2 years out	1,828.36
<b>Total Meeting Planner</b>	3,808.36
<b>Miscellaneous</b>	534.99
<b>Postal Service</b>	
Post Office Box Fee	73.00
Postage	179.89
<b>Total Postal Service</b>	252.89
<b>Printing and Reproduction</b>	
Letterhead, Envelopes, Invoices	237.95
<b>Total Printing and Reproduction</b>	237.95
<b>Professional Fees</b>	
Accounting	5,554.55
Consulting	322.00
<b>Total Professional Fees</b>	5,876.55
<b>Scholastic Endowment Expense</b>	
Graduate Assistantship	20,000.00
Reverse Raffle	992.67
Student Books	1,460.34
Student Poster Award	600.00
Student Presentation Award	900.00
<b>Total Scholastic Endowment Expense</b>	23,953.01
<b>Supplies</b>	735.56
<b>Travel</b>	
Board Member Travel to Meetings	4,832.70
President's	491.74
<b>Total Travel</b>	5,324.44
<b>Website</b>	
Administration	3,000.00
<b>Total Website</b>	3,000.00
<b>Winter Board Meeting</b>	
Meals	781.00
Travel	822.72
Winter Board Meeting - Other	2,358.57
<b>Total Winter Board Meeting</b>	3,962.29
<b>Total Expense</b>	195,095.87
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	-25,749.78

10:51 AM

January 2, 2015

Cash Basis

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**Income and Expense Report**  
January through December 2014

	Jan - Dec 14
Other Income/Expense	
Other Income	
Other Income	20.00
Total Other Income	20.00
Net Other Income	20.00
Net Income	<b>-25,729.78</b>

<b>Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
Annual Meeting Income	105,300.00
Journal Income	18,000.00
Membership Income	24,000.00
Scholastic Endowment Income	18,000.00
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>165,300.00</b>
<b>Expense</b>	
Annual Meeting Expense	78,000.00
Awards	1,600.00
Contributions	600.00
Dues	9,000.00
Fees	4,700.00
Insurance	2,300.00
Journal Expense	16,000.00
Postage and Shipping	400.00
Printing and Reproduction	100.00
Professional Fees	6,000.00
Scholastic Endowment Expense	44,000.00
Supplies	500.00
Travel	3,000.00
Website	5,000.00
Winter Board Meeting	5,000.00
<b>Total Expense</b>	<b>176,200.00</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>-10,900.00</b>

**Secretary Report**  
**Mid-year Board of Directors Meeting, APMS**  
**January 13, 2015**  
**Hilton Oceanfront Resort, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**

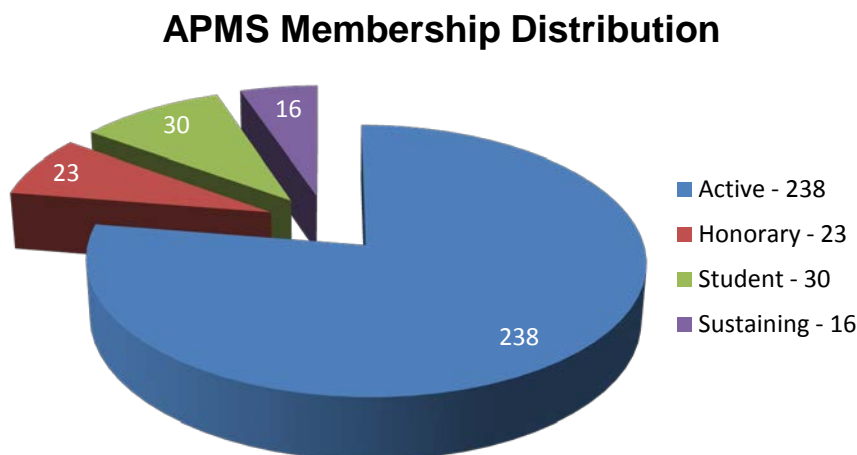
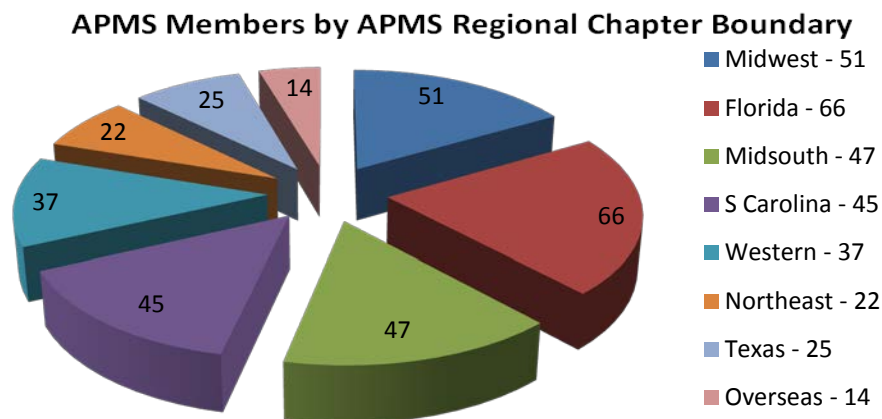
Submitted by: Jeffrey D. Schardt

The following tasks have been completed since the Savannah, GA Post-conference Board Meeting

**Database and Website Updates:**

I mailed welcome letters and the latest Journal issue to 32 new members that joined APMS since the 2014 Annual Meeting. Sixteen are students who presented papers or posters at the meeting and received one free year APMS Membership in return. Twelve of the 16 new Active Members joined at the APMS Annual Meeting. Estimated Membership as of December 31, 2014 is presented in the table to the right. This reflects dues payment through 2013. A breakdown of APMS Membership is presented in the charts below.

Category	Number
Active	238
Honorary	23
Student	30
Sustaining	16
<b>Sub-Total</b>	<b>307</b>
Subscription	40
<b>Total</b>	<b>347</b>



### New Members for 2014-2015

#	Name	State	Date Joined	Type	ID
01	Josh Bowen	North Carolina	07-23-14	Individual	1993
02	Jeremy Crossland	Florida	07-23-14	Individual	1994
03	Tony Dodd	Georgia	07-23-14	Individual	1995
04	Geer Dubose	South Carolina	07-23-14	Individual	1996
05	Erika Haug	North Carolina	07-23-14	Student	1997
06	Matt Huddleston	South Carolina	07-23-14	Individual	1998
07	Tim Lyons	South Carolina	07-23-14	Individual	1999
08	Tim McDuffie	Florida	07-23-14	Individual	2000
09	Carroll Moseley	North Carolina	07-23-14	Individual	2001
10	Syndell Parks	Michigan	07-23-14	Student	2002
11	Tracie Richardson	North Carolina	07-24-14	Individual	2003
12	Nate Robinson	Ohio	07-24-14	Individual	2004
13	Michael Blankinship	California	07-24-14	Individual	2005
14	Scott Tucker	Australia	07-24-14	Individual	2006
15	Haley Woelfel	Texas	07-24-14	Student	2007
16	Caroline Wylie	Canada	07-24-14	Student	2008
17	Julie Baniszewski	Florida	07-24-14	Student	2009
18	Alyssa Calomeni	South Carolina	07-24-14	Student	2010
19	Carl Della Torre	Florida	07-24-14	Student	2011
20	Bridgett Haram	Georgia	07-24-14	Student	2012
21	Kyla Iwinski	South Carolina	07-24-14	Student	2013
22	Chris Mynatt	Texas	07-24-14	Student	2014
23	Ryan O'Hanlon	Texas	07-24-14	Student	2015
24	Audrey Pleva	Maryland	07-24-14	Student	2016
25	Lindsey Schulte	Michigan	07-24-14	Student	2017
26	Jay VonBank	Illinois	07-24-14	Student	2018
27	Nicholas Weisflogg	Canada	07-24-14	Student	2019
28	Kevin Fouts	Georgia	07-24-14	Student	2020
29	Warren H. Wagner III	Georgia	08-19-14	Individual	2021
30	Stephen Micinski	Louisiana	09-03-14	Individual	2022
31	Philip McCloud	Illinois	11-29-14	Individual	2023
32	Bill Houle	Connecticut	11-29-14	Individual	2024

**Membership Invoices:** Sustaining Membership invoices and letters including information on APMS accomplishments for 2014 and projections for 2015 were mailed to 16 current Sustaining Members on January 2, 2015. Invoices for 2014 Active and Student Membership dues were mailed electronically on January 2 and dues payments are now being received by the Treasurer and forwarded to the Secretary for posting on the Membership database.

I will work with APEX Web Studios in 2015 to send annual dues invoices via the APMS online database. We currently cannot sort among each membership class (Active, Honorary, Student, and Sustaining), so invoices were sent electronically from an Excel file this year. Sending Active and Student dues invoices electronically saves about \$150 in postage and materials. This also will facilitate sending a follow up notice to pay dues 2-3 months after the original notice in January.

#### **Secretary Duties and Time Allocations:**

The following table provides a breakdown of Secretary duties and approximate time allocated to these tasks during the year. I currently spend about 17% of a full time equivalent position.

## APMS Secretary Duties and Approximate Time Allocations 2014 / 2015

Duty (Begin January 1)	Hours
Annual Membership Dues Invoicing	
Update invoices, mailing lists for students and active	16
Letter / Invoice to Sustaining Members	8
Update Membership database (5 min. per member)	24
Process new Member (enter into database / welcome letter - 30 min. per member)	20
Midyear BOD Meeting	
3-4 email notices to submit reports - draft Agenda	2
Compile reports including Secretary Report	8
Prepare Board Book and post on web site - gather supplies	4
Attend Meeting – travel to and from / 1 day meeting (8 hours)	24
Draft Minutes and Tasks and Motions (Minutes = 2x BOD Meeting)	16
Program	
Update previous Program (BOD info, Awards, Sustaining Members)	8
Paste Abstracts and edit / format title, author affiliation (~60 @ 30 min. ea.)	30
Organize abstracts 1/page by: topic, student, oral/poster - fwd. to Program Chair	6
Enter new event, sponsor, exhibitor, venue room, Agenda-at-a-Glance info	16
Draft to Program Committee, edit Committee Draft, prepare web site & print draft	16
Draft to printer, review price quotes, approve final draft for print, receive, ship	4
Annual Meeting	
Prepare Committee sign-up book, ballots (in case needed), Agendas for 3 meetings	2
Board Book prep similar to Midyear BOD Meeting (3 issues above)	14
Attend Board, Business, and Annual Meetings (Saturday - Thursday)	48
Draft minutes (2x (Pre- 6 hrs., Business - 1 hr., Post- 3 hrs.), Tasks and Motions	20
Post Annual meeting	
Thank student presenters - welcome letter to new students - free 1 yr. membership	6
Notify Journal subscribers of next year prices - update form, send letters. emails, etc.	8
Document email votes - summarize issue, Board notification, vote tabs. (~ 2 hr. ea.)	16
Prepare address lists for Allen Press to mail Journals - 2x / yr	2
Update / inform Board on Membership logistics - foreign, state, chapter, etc.	4
Update Board member contact info on various lists and forms	2
Coordinate and provide info to Newsletter editor 3x / year ( 2hr / issue)	6
Send APMS thank-you letters to PLMA donators	2
Answer queries about Journals, claims, new addresses	4
Post Office / supplies store	8
Participate in and post projects on web site	20
Maintain journals, ship display and materials	2
	366 hr. (18%)
Possible New Duties to Acquire	
Track progress of Society projects and expenditures	16?
Advertise Graduate Student Research Grant, notify recipient	4
Prepare and post 3 call for papers ??	4
Review and proof web site postings for consistency w/ policy and keep current	40
Contact Chapters - APMS update on Annual Chapter Program - send display (2 hr/Chapter)	14
Promote Membership / Subscriptions - keep subscription list current / expand	40
	118 hr.
Total	484 hr. (23%)

**2015 Budget:** As outlined in the APMS Operating Manual, I have included a breakdown of expenditures for 2014 for the Office of the Secretary. Also below is the attached budget estimating expenditures for the Office of the Secretary for 2015.

**Secretary Expenditures: January 1, 2014 - December 31, 2014**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Shipping</b>	<b>Travel</b>	<b>Supplies</b>	<b>Amount</b>
01/03/14	Stamps / overseas invoice postage			19.10
01/15/14		Hotel - Midyear BOD		302.94
01/15/14		Gas - Midyear BOD		42.50
02/14/14	New Member Journals			18.70
04/17/14	New Member Journals			3.50
05/02/14	New Member Journals			9.33
06/27/14	New Member Journals			17.50
07/17/14		Hotel Annual Meeting		822.10
07/18/14		Gas - Annual Meeting		44.02
07/28/14	New Member Journals			111.76
08/22/14	New Member Journals			2.66
09/08/14	New Member Journals			2.87
12/05/14	New Member Journals			5.74
<b>Total</b>				<b>\$1,402.72</b>

**Proposed Budget for 2015 - Office of the Secretary**

<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Estimated Cost</u></b>
Shipping and Mailing:	
Journal claims, invoices, letters, meeting materials, stamps, etc.	\$200
Office Supplies:	
BOD and annual meeting supplies, envelopes	\$50
Secretary Travel Expenses:	
hotel, meals, gasoline	\$ 1,475
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$1,725</b>

**Travel Breakdown**

<b>Expense</b>	<b>Mid-year</b>	<b>Annual</b>
hotel	367	918
meals	25	25
travel	70	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$462</b>	<b>\$1,013</b>

Editor Report – Journal of Aquatic Plant Management  
January 2015 Board Meeting  
Jason Ferrell

The January issue is the largest in recent memory, containing 21 articles. The Jan 2008 issue had 19 articles, but the common numbers are 8-13 per issue.

As of December 8, 2014, we are ahead of schedule for a January 6<sup>th</sup> mailing.

All invoices have been sent.

**APMS Mid-Winter Board of Directors Meeting  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
January 13, 2015**

**Report of the Awards Committee**

Chair: Michael D. Netherland

The APMS recognizes members for various contributions via the presentation of awards during our banquet at the annual meeting. Criteria for the various awards are listed in the ops manual. Per the ops manual, I need two more members to volunteer to participate on the committee. This recognition is important and the Committee is seeking nominations for the following awards:

President's Award – *nominated by Dr. Gray*

Honorary Member Award

T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service Award - (*Jim Schmidt 2014*)

Max McCowen Friendship Award – (*Tommy Bowen 2014*)

Outstanding Graduate Student Award – (*Justin Nawrocki 2014*)

Outstanding Research or Technical Contributor Award

Outstanding International Contribution Award

Outstanding JAPM Article Award

During the Banquet we also recognize our outgoing Directors, the Student Presentation Awards, the Exhibitors Excellence Award.

**From the Ops Manual**

**Awards Committee**

1. Be comprised of not less than three (3) voting members of the Society.
2. Prior to the Annual Meeting, the Chair shall solicit through the Newsletter and Website or shall make recommendations to the Board, nominations for membership awards qualifying in accordance with Chapter IV, Section A of this Operating Manual.
3. Prior to the Annual Meeting, arrange for the purchase and inscription of plaques, certificates, and other items to be presented at the Annual Meeting.
  - a. Honorary Member Award – check with the Bylaws and Resolutions Committee for candidates.
  - b. President's, T. Wayne Miller Distinguished Service, and Max McCowen Friendship Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any. APMS Operating Manual updated March 2013

- d. Outstanding Graduate Student Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
- e. Outstanding Research and/or Technical Contributor Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
- f. Outstanding International Contribution Award – check with current President as to recipients, if any.
- g. Outstanding JAPM Article Award – check with current President or Editor as to recipients, if any.
- h. Student Presentation Awards – coordinate with Student Affairs Committee.
- i. Exhibitor's Excellence Award – coordinate with Exhibits Committee.
- j. Outgoing Officers and Directors – coordinate with the Nominating Committee.
- 4. At the Annual Meeting, coordinate participation, qualifications, criteria and student panel judge selection for the (non-student) Best Poster Award.
- 5. Utilize and update, as necessary, the APMS Award/Honors Procedures and Criteria found in Chapter IV, Section A of this Operating Manual, and assist in determining copy on plaques, certificates, etc.
- 6. Provide the Membership Committee annual lists of Awards and Honor recipients for entry into the Society's permanent record and posting on the website.

**Bylaws**

Respectfully

Michael D. Netherland

# THE AQUATIC PLANT MANAGEMENT SOCIETY, Incorporated

POST OFFICE BOX 821265  
VICKSBURG, MS 39182-1265 U.S.A.  
[www.apms.org](http://www.apms.org)

December 29, 2014

To: The APMS Board of Directors

From: Jim Schmidt, Chairman – APMS Bylaws and Resolutions Committee

Committee Members: Ken Manuel, Toni Pennington, Lee Ann Glomski and David Isaacs

RE: Bylaws and Resolutions Committee Report

Dear President Gray, APMS Officers & Directors:

## Bylaws

1. No formal Bylaws internal amendments have been put forth by the Board during or since the July Board meetings or thereafter. However, this Committee extends its gratitude to Dr. Vernon Vandiver for his efforts in securing a legal review of the APMS Bylaws at our request. Per the attached letter from Bruce Brashear, Esq. of Brashear & Associates, PL, a law firm in Gainesville, we are pleased to report the Bylaws are consistent with FL law and compliant with FL statutes. With that said, however, Mr. Brashear's letter does provide two recommended changes/additions to our Bylaws to acknowledge our responsibilities as they pertain to IRS tax laws as cited below

I would, however, suggest two changes to the bylaws relating to compliance with IRS regulations. Since the Company is a 501(c)(5) organization, it seems to me that the inclusion of a statement in Article II - Society Objectives, to the effect: "The Society will operate under Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code" would be desirable because it would make this explicit. Similarly, I suggest amending Article XVIII -Dissolution, to read as follows:

The Society shall have perpetual existence, but if dissolved, its assets shall be donated to a non-profit organization or Institution qualified under Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to be selected by the last Board of Directors to be sued for research or education outreach on aquatic plant management.

It is this committee's recommendation to the APMS Board that we adopt the suggested language in Article II and Article XVIII, respectively (note "sued will be changed to "used" in the last sentence – attorney's Freudian slip). Upon your approval, we will publish these amendments in the next newsletter in time for a membership vote at the annual meeting in July.

2. As previously cited in the Board action notes, several changes were discussed at previous meetings and tabled pending further action and/or discussion. These items would require Bylaws changes, and are being kept in this report as a reference, should further actions on them occur:
  - a) Providing the Board of Directors authority to establish membership dues rather than the current system of membership approval at the annual meeting and/or harmonizing annual dues payment with the Annual Meeting (vs. Jan. 31<sup>st</sup>).

## **Article XII**

Section C. *Membership dues. Dues amounts for each membership category shall be proposed by the Board of Directors and voted upon by the membership at the Annual Business Meeting. Annual dues are due by Jan. 31<sup>st</sup> and shall in no case be paid later than the first full day of the annual meeting to qualify for the full rights and privileges of membership in that calendar year.*

- b) Proposal to eliminate (or consolidate) “dormant” committees. All current Standing Committees are listed in the Bylaws along with descriptions of their primary purpose(s) & duties plus required minimum number of members. Some further designate required participation by a Director or Officer.
- c) Utilization of an Administrative Assistant to the Secretary and the Treasurer to perform assigned duties. (Should this be briefly stated in the Bylaws as an option, or only incorporated into the Ops Manual?)

## **Resolutions & Petitions**

- 1. No petitions for Honorary Membership were presented to this Committee for consideration, adoption and/or presentation thus far for 2015. The Board and general membership is encouraged to continue to be diligent in identifying potential candidates (“retiring members”) to ensure no deserving colleague is missed. As we all know, it is difficult to get people to the annual meeting once they have officially retired.

## **Operating Manual**

As has been previously established, it is the Immediate Past President’s responsibility to take the lead in reviewing and revising the “Ops” Manual to ensure any changes and/or added tasks, procedures and responsibilities are detailed in the document and are in compliance with the Bylaws. To my knowledge, the last changes reviewed and posted were those prepared by Dr. Linda Nelson, dated July, 2012. I trust our Past Presidents have since carried out this task. We need to continue to ensure these decisions and policies get picked up in the Ops Manual, as it is a living document. Used as a reference guide, it can save a lot of time at Board Meetings.

Regretfully, I will not be attending the Winter Board Meeting. The beach sounds inviting. Have a great meeting.

Respectfully,

*Jim Schmidt*

Jim Schmidt  
Chair, APMS Bylaws Committee

# BRASHEAR & ASSOC. PL

*C o u n s e l o r s   A t   L a w*

925 N.W. 56<sup>th</sup> TERRACE, SUITE C  
GAINESVILLE FL 32605-6451  
TELEPHONE: 352/336-0800  
FACSIMILE: 352/336-0505  
BBRASHEAR@NFLALAW.COM

BRUCE BRASHEAR, JD  
PETER C. FOCKS, JD

OF COUNSEL:  
LARRY D. MARSH, JD, LLM

November 7, 2014

Vernon V. Vandiver, Jr., Ph.D.  
Professor Emeritus  
Agronomy Department  
University of Florida  
9715 N.W. 63rd Lane  
Gainesville FL 32653

Dear Vernon:

You have requested that I review the bylaws of The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. (the "Company") for consistency with Florida law.

I reviewed the Company's bylaws of amended as of July 15, 2013. Your bylaws comply with the requirements of Florida statutes.

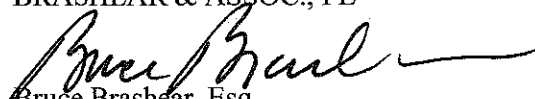
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Please let me know if you have any further questions, or if I can provide any other information.

Sincerely,

BRASHEAR & ASSOC., PL

  
Bruce Brashear, Esq.

**Education and Outreach Committee Report  
Mid-year Board of Directors Meeting, APMS  
January 13, 2015  
Hilton Oceanfront Resort, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**

**APMS Brochure and Membership Booklet**

The Education and Outreach and Web Site Committees have worked closely this year, revising the APMS Membership Brochure and Membership Booklet and posting on the “Join” section of the APMS web site.

**Minutes**

We have scanned and posted several more years of Minutes under the Members Only / Documents tab on the web site. There now are 10 years of Minutes posted, dating back to APMS Year 2004-2005. Corresponding Board Members and Committee Chairs are also listed for each APMS calendar year. We may be able to go as far back as 2001-2002. We can search the Minutes through the years and list Board-authorized expenses other than Annual meeting costs and post them on the web site - or break down by education and outreach projects - if that seems of value to the Board.

**Resistance Stewardship White Paper**

The Board’s Resolution on *Herbicide Resistance Stewardship in Aquatic Plant Management* is posted in the “Resource” section of the web site along with the corresponding White Paper and PowerPoint Lessons.

**Plant Camp**

Mike Netherland, Carlton Layne, and Jeff Schardt spoke with a stakeholder group at Guntersville Lake, AL on October 28, regarding aquatic plant management and educational opportunities. The group is interested in sending a local teacher to FL Plant camp in 2015. We will have further discussions with the local Guntersville stakeholders in January. Although this may be a small region, Guntersville plant management has been a source of considerable discussion during the years.

**Board Action:** The Board needs to contemplate financing an AL teacher’s attendance at FL Plant Camp in 2015 as APMS did with Carolina teachers in 2014. This would be contingent upon the local Guntersville stakeholders as well as the MidSouth APMS Chapter supporting / promoting the initiative.

**Allen Press Journal Advertising**

Subscriptions to the *Journal of Aquatic Plant Management* have declined to fewer than 40 from about 60 several years ago. Part of this decline is due to SWETS Subscription Service going out of business in 2014. I have contacted several libraries that subscribed through SWETS – most are seeking a new service and assured they will renew. In light of this, we decided to send the January 2015 Journal issue to seven libraries that subscribed through SWETS while awaiting their renewals through another service. However, SWETS subscribed for several entities for which we had no name or address - Allen Press forwarded the Journal to SWETS and SWETS forwarded to the subscriber.

**Board Action:** The Journal represents a considerable source of income to APMS. A one-year advertising service with Allen Press to solicit additional subscriptions costs, \$495, the price of 2.5 annual subscriptions. APMS should consider paying for the advertising service for a one-year trial membership to see if we can generate additional Journal Subscribers.

**From:** Martha Chapin [mailto:mchapin@allenpress.com]  
**Sent:** Tuesday, December 23, 2014 1:01 PM  
**To:** Schardt, Jeffrey  
**Subject:** Journal of the Aquatic Plant Management Society - Allen Press Buyers' Guide information

Dear Jeff,

Annielaurie and Bill Tofflemire indicated you were interested in the Allen Press Buyers' Guide to promote your journal to libraries. I am attaching a copy of the 2015 rate card with basic information, along with a proposed insertion order form for your ad.

The Buyers' Guide is online 24/7/365 and is an important reference source for journal titles, publication information such as frequency and rates, and contact information for institutional subscribers. It is completely indexed by Google and fully searchable by title, subject, and keyword.

If you wish to become an advertiser just sign the attached insertion order form and return it as a PDF attachment with your e-mail, or you can fax it to my attention at 785-371-4509. We will get you logged in, and I will send you a form to complete that contains the information you wish to appear in your ad. You will also need to let us know which journal cover you would like to appear in your ad. We will input the information, send you a PDF of the proposed ad, and make it live upon receipt of your approval.

Please do not hesitate to call or e-mail if you have any questions.

Sincerely,  
Martha Chapin  
Allen Press, Inc.  
PH: 800-627-0932, ext. 461  
E-mail: [mchapin@allenpress.com](mailto:mchapin@allenpress.com)

Martha W. Chapin, Sales Program Manager  
Allen Press, Inc. - 810 E. 10th Street - Lawrence, KS 66044 USA  
PH: 800-627-0932, ext. 461 / PH: 785-843-1234, ext. 461  
FAX: 785-843-1226

Allen Press Sweeps 2013 Gold Ink Scientific and Medical Journals Category  
Please note Allen Press will be closed December 25 & 26



# BUYER'S GUIDE

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*"Many of the high-quality journals that we already subscribe to are listed in the catalogue. Along with descriptions, the abstract and indexing information is especially helpful. It's a lot neater and easier to use than direct mail from an equal number of publishers!"*

— Pam Gelineau,  
Periodicals, Johnson State  
College Library

The Allen Press *Buyer's Guide to Scientific, Medical, and Scholarly Journals*™ is an online subscription catalogue of international scientific, medical, and scholarly journals representing societies and publishers. A *Buyer's Guide* listing:

- Features complete journal descriptions, pricing, contact information, abstracting/indexing data, and more
- Promotes new subscription sales, renewals, and accurate payment
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- Completely indexed by Google and fully searchable by title, subject, keyword, or country

## Benefits of Advertising in the *Buyer's Guide*

The *Buyer's Guide* is ideal for societies or associations, commercial publishers, and university presses because it exposes your journals to hundreds of librarians at major universities, research centers, and medical libraries in more than 60 countries. Allen Press helps to expand the reach of your publication's information by advertising in library publications, distributing information at library and industry conferences, and executing e-mail and print campaigns to potential subscribers and agencies.

Since its introduction more than 30 years ago, the Allen Press *Buyer's Guide* has included many leading scholarly societies and professional associations in the fields of medicine, earth sciences, biology, social sciences, physical sciences, and the humanities. Any field of study can be included. The catalogue has become one of the most respected sources of journal information for serials librarians and subscription agents worldwide.

## Rates

Number of Journals Listed	1–3	4–9	10–14	15+
Cost per Journal	\$495	\$455	\$425	\$395

Online listings include current year pricing and one future year's pricing. Listing duration is for 12 months from time of purchase.

## How to Participate

To include your journal(s) in the *Buyer's Guide*, simply contact [BuyersGuide@allenpress.com](mailto:BuyersGuide@allenpress.com) and a representative will work with you to create/update your advertisement with all of the information agencies and subscribers need. You can add/edit your journal(s) listing at any time of the year.

## Finance Committee Report

2015 APMS Winter Board Meeting  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

Both investment accounts have provided a positive YTD return through 11/30/14. During the last quarter, funds were transferred from equities into bonds to maintain an evenly balanced portfolio between the two investment classes.

Our investment bank is making all investment decisions and as Finance Chair I'm reporting the results of those investments to the board through these reports. If the board desires advice on current and future investments or wishes to change our investment plan I will arrange for our banker, Dennis Leyder, to call into the next board meeting to answer any questions and take direction from the board.

John Gardner  
Finance Committee Chair

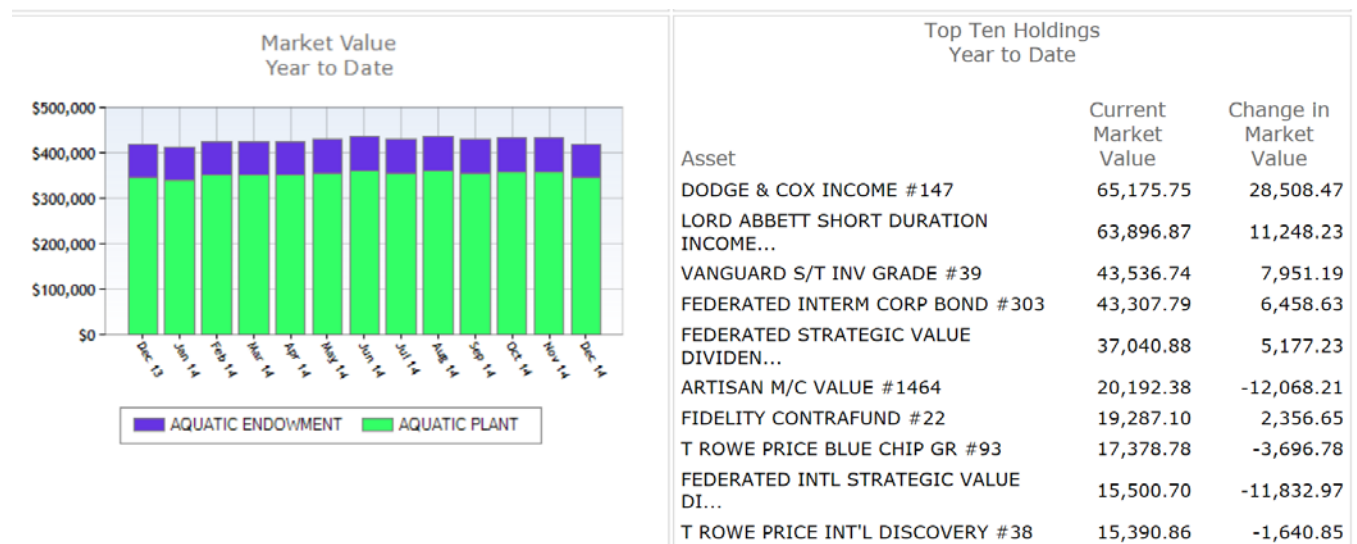
### APMS Primary Investment Account

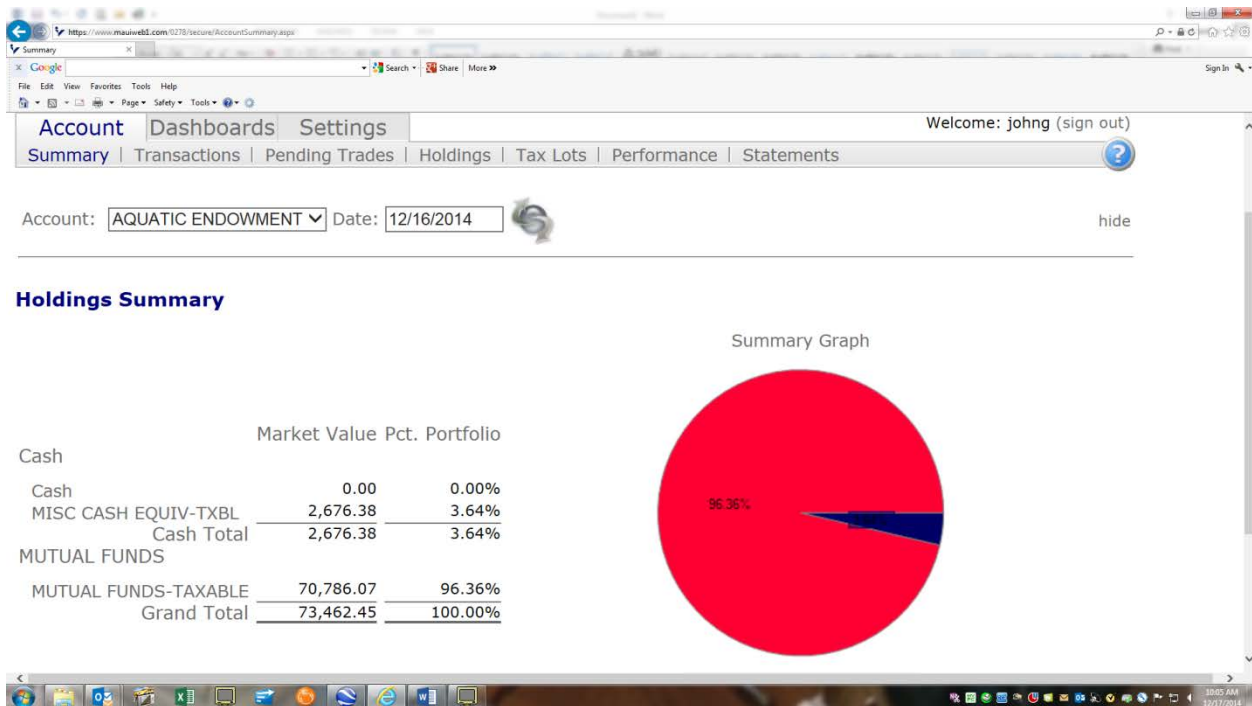
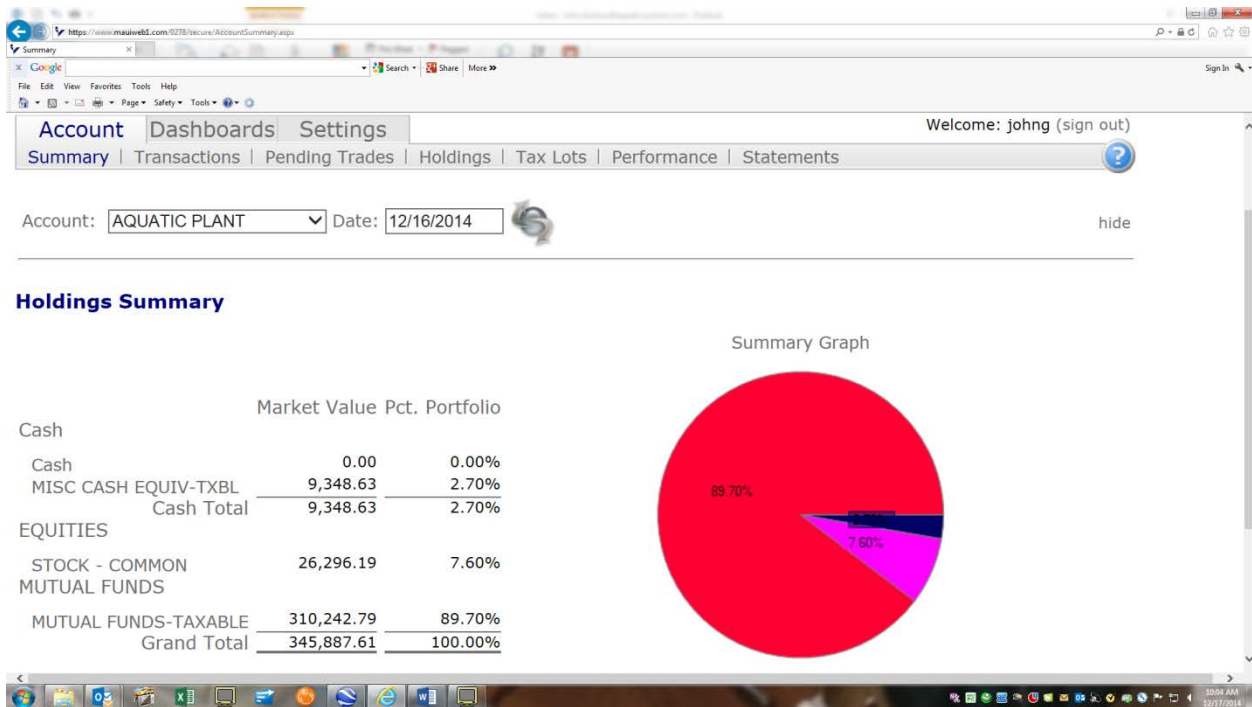
Balance as of 12/16/14: \$345,887.61  
YTD performance through 11/30/2014: +3.61

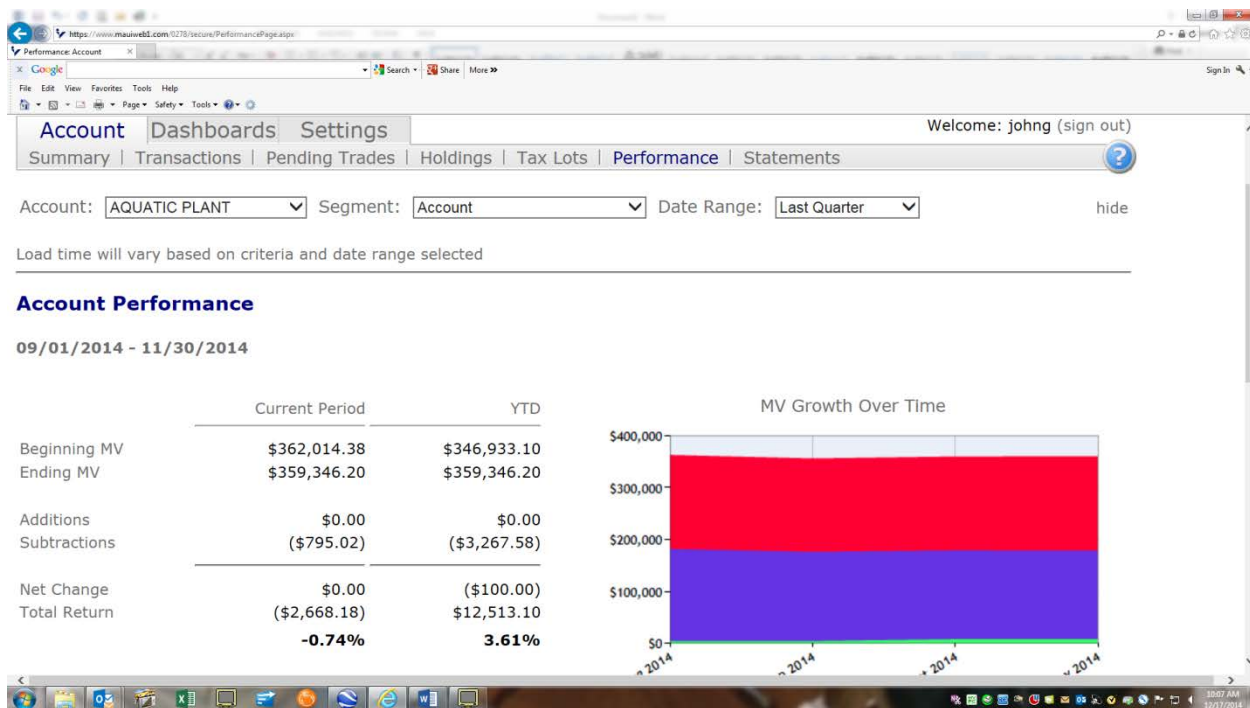
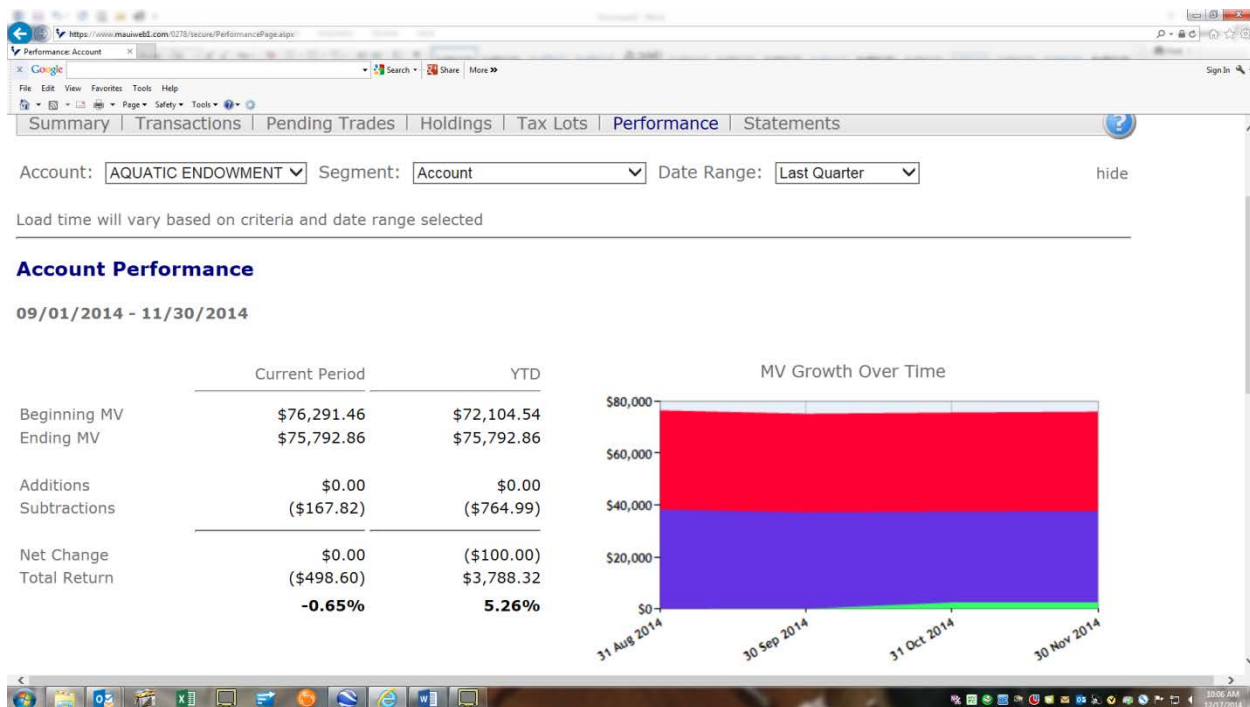
### Scholastic Endowment Investment Account

Balance as of 12/16/14: \$73,462.45  
YTD performance through 11/30/2014: + 5.26%

**Total Investment Value 12/16/14: \$419,350.06**







December 17, 2014

To: Board of Directors of the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS)

Subject: Report of the Meeting Planning Committee

**Committee Members:**

Craig Aguillard, Linda Nelson, Cody Gray, Sherry Whitaker, Troy Goldsby, Bryan Goldsby, George Selden, Tommy Bowen (Chair)

**54<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 13-16, 2014, Savannah, Georgia**

Enclosure 1 provides detail income and expenses from our annual meeting in Savannah this past July. Our income from this meeting was \$16901.32.

**55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 12-15, 2015, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**

Enclosure 2 is a preliminary budget for the 55<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. This budget is based on an attendance of 175 delegates and guests. Registration fees, exhibit fees, and sponsorship levels are the same as last year. A net income of \$18494.87 is estimated for this annual meeting.

**ACTION ITEM.** After discussion by the Meeting Planning Committee (MPC) and reviewing meeting cost estimates supplied by Bill Torres, the Committee recommends no change to registration costs for the 2015 meeting.

Enclosure 3 is an addendum to the original Hilton contract that increases the room nights reserved from 390 to 515 room nights. The Committee continues to finalize the guest tour, information for the web site, articles for upcoming newsletters, and soliciting donations for meeting sponsorship. In addition, the Committee is coordinating with Bill Torres concerning our meeting requirements and will be coordinating with APMS officers and committee chairs regarding other meeting necessities (exhibits, registration, audio/visual, student rooms, raffle/silent auction, etc.).

**56<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 17-20, 2016, Grand Rapids, Michigan**

The 56<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will be held at the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel in Grand Rapids, Michigan. The contract has been signed.

**57<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 16-19, 2017, Daytona Beach, Florida**

The 57<sup>th</sup> annual meeting will be held at the Daytona Beach Hilton in Daytona Beach, Florida. The contract has been signed.

**58<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, July 2018**

**ACTION ITEM.** The Meeting Planning Committee recommends the Board approve travel for Bill to conduct site visits to Buffalo, New York, Hartford, Connecticut, and Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. Bill's travel may take up to four days.

3 Enclosures

Tommy

**The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.**  
**Profit & Loss**

January 1 through November 24, 2014

Enclosure 1. Income and Expenses, Savannah 2014

**Annual Meeting Income**

Contributions	49,739.75
Delegate 1-Day Registration	400.00
Delegate Pre-Registration	25,850.00
Delegate Registration	6,095.00
Event Tickets	735.00
Exhibit Fees	19,600.00
Guest Pre-Registration	2,340.00
Guest Registration	775.00
Student Registration	300.00
AERF Reimbursement	1,899.18
<b>Total Annual Meeting Income</b>	<b>107,733.93</b>

**Annual Meeting Expense**

Audio Visual Equipment	3,000.00
Banquet	18,091.93
Deposit	9,000.00
Entertainment	2,161.25
Guest Tour	2,485.00
Program	1,589.75
Student Guest Rooms	5,434.49
Host Chapter Reimbursement*	5,700.00
Student Tour	875.74
Annual Meeting Expense - Other	40,514.45
<b>Total Annual Meeting Expense</b>	<b>88,852.61</b>

**Meeting Planner**

Current Year Meeting	1,980.00
<b>Total Meeting Planner</b>	<b>1,980.00</b>

**Total Annual Meeting Expense & Meeting Planner** 90,832.61

**Net Income** 16,901.32

\*Estimate as waiting we're for invoice from Midsouth APMS

## Preliminary Budget

55th Annual Meeting, July 12-15, 2015, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina

**Income/Expense**

**Income**

Exhibitor Fees	17,500.00
Registration	
Delegate	35,750.00
Guest	2,600.00
Student	-
Tickets	-
Total Registration	<u>38,350.00</u>
Sponsor Contributions	<u>52,000.00</u>

Total Income	107,850.00
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**Expense**

Audio Visual*	3,200.00
Food and Beverage	
Banquet	11,890.00
Board of Directors Meetings	1,906.00
Past Presidents' Luncheon	630.00
Poster Session Reception	5,090.00
President's Reception	8,370.00
Refreshment Breaks	19,210.00
Applicator Box Lunch	800.00
Regional Chapters Presidents' Luncheon	630.00
Student Affairs Luncheon	<u>840.00</u>
Sales Taxes / Service Charges	17,239.13
Total Food and Beverage	66,605.13
Guest Tour	2,600.00
Meeting Signage	1,200.00
Student Tour	1,000.00
Poster Boards	400.00
Program	1,500.00
Meeting Planner Fee	1,650.00
Student Guest Rooms	5,500.00
Host Affiliate Society Reimbursement	<u>5,700.00</u>

Total Expense	<u>89,355.12</u>
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Net Income	<u><u>18,494.87</u></u>
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12/20/14  
Enclosure 2

## **Preliminary Budget**

**55th Annual Meeting, July 12-15, 2015, North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina**

\* Florida Event Planning and Meeting Service estimated A/V costs. Hotel quote \$8800.



## AMENDMENT TO QUICK CONFIRMATION AGREEMENT

This is an Amendment to the Quick Confirmation Agreement ("Agreement") between Aquatic Plant Management Society by its agent, Florida Event Planning & Meeting service ("Group" or "you" or "your(s)") and Myrtle Beach Leasing, LLC ("Owner"), d/b/a Hilton Myrtle Beach (the "Hotel" or "we" or "us" or "our") for the Aquatic Plant Management Society, scheduled for July 11-16, 2015.

The parties hereby agree to amend the Room Block provision as follows:

### FROM:

ORIGINAL SLEEPING ROOMS and RATES ("Room Block")						
Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort	Single/Double Rate	Sat, 7/11/15	Sun, 7/12/15	Mon, 7/13/15	Tue, 7/14/15	Wed, 7/15/15
Run of House	\$164.00	40	110	110	110	20
Hospitality Suite	\$164.00	1	1	1	1	1

TOTAL SLEEPING ROOM NIGHTS RESERVED: 390      TOTAL ANTICIPATED SLEEPING ROOM REVENUE: \$63,960.00

### TO:

REVISED SLEEPING ROOMS and RATES ("Room Block")						
Hilton Myrtle Beach Resort	Single/Double Rate	Sat, 7/11/15	Sun, 7/12/15	Mon, 7/13/15	Tue, 7/14/15	Wed, 7/15/15
Run of House	\$164.00	40	130	130	130	40
Hospitality Suite	\$164.00	1	1	1	1	1
Royale Palms	Single/Double Rate	Sat, 7/11/15	Sun, 7/12/15	Mon, 7/13/15	Tue, 7/14/15	Wed, 7/15/15
Two Bedroom Oceanview Condos	\$369.00	8	8	8	8	8
Total Units Per Night		49	139	139	139	49

TOTAL SLEEPING ROOM NIGHTS RESERVED: 515      TOTAL ANTICIPATED SLEEPING ROOM REVENUE: \$92,660.00

Revised Summary Of Minimum Revenue Anticipated By Hotel Based on This Amendment	
Total Anticipated Sleeping Room Revenue:	\$ 92,660.00
Total Minimum Food and Beverage Revenue**:	\$ 20,000.00
Total Anticipated Meeting Room Rental Fees:	\$ Waived
"Total Minimum Anticipated Revenue":	\$ 112,660.00

\*\* Does not include gratuities, service charges, labor fees, applicable federal, state or local taxes or any other fees outside of food and beverage product sales

All commitments and obligations of the Agreement based on revenue are amended to be based on the Revised Summary above, including, but not limited to: Concessions based on achieved Revenue; Function Space charges; and Food and Beverage and Sleeping Room Performance and Cancellation.

All commitments and obligations of the Agreement based on revenue will be based on the Summary Of Minimum Revenue in the Agreement, despite the adjustment of the room block in this Amendment, including, but not limited to, Concessions based on achieved Revenue, Function Space charges, Food and Beverage and Sleeping Room Performance and Cancellation.

**REVISED MEETING SPACE AGENDA:**

The parties hereby agree to amend the Schedule of Events and Function Space Charges as follows:

Date	Start Time	End Time	Description	Room	Exp
Sat, 7/11/2015	7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Hospitality	Suite 406	2
Sun, 7/12/2015	7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Hospitality	Suite 406	2
Sun, 7/12/2015	7:30 AM	5:00 PM	Meeting	Palisades H	25
Sun, 7/12/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Office	Meeting Planner's Office	5
Sun, 7/12/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Registration	Group Registration South	4
Sun, 7/12/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibits – 29, table top displays	Palisades DEF	29
Sun, 7/12/2015	7:00 PM	9:00 PM	Reception - Heavy	Dunes Ballroom	125
Mon, 7/13/2015	7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Hospitality	Suite 406	2
Mon, 7/13/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Plant ID Room	Palisades G	
Mon, 7/13/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Registration	Group Registration South	4
Mon, 7/13/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Office/Speaker Room	Meeting Planner's Office	5
Mon, 7/13/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	General Session	Palisades ABC	160
Mon, 7/13/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibits	Palisades DEF	0
Mon, 7/13/2015	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch	Palisades I	30
Mon, 7/13/2015	5:30 PM	7:00 PM	Reception	Dunes Ballroom	150
Tue, 7/14/2015	6:30 AM	8:00 AM	Breakfast	West A	20
Tue, 7/14/2015	7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Hospitality	Suite 406	2
Tue, 7/14/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Plant ID Room	Palisades G	
Tue, 7/14/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM		Arcadian 5	5
Tue, 7/14/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Office/Speaker Room	Meeting Planner's Office	5
Tue, 7/14/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	General Session	Palisades ABC	160
Tue, 7/14/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Exhibits	Palisades DEF	0
Tue, 7/14/2015	8:00 AM	5:00 PM	Registration	Group Registration South	4
Tue, 7/14/2015	11:30 AM	1:00 PM	Lunch	Palisades H	15
<b>Tue, 7/14/2015</b>	<b>6:30 PM</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>Duck Races</b>	<b>Splash Lazy River/Embassy Suites</b>	<b>140</b>
<b>Tue, 7/14/2015</b>	<b>7:30 PM</b>	<b>9:30 PM</b>	<b>Reception/Dinner</b>	<b>Palmetto Pavilion/Embassy Suites</b>	<b>240</b>
Wed, 7/15/2015	7:00 AM	11:00 PM	Hospitality	Suite 406	2
Wed, 7/15/2015	7:30 AM	5:00 PM	Classroom	Palisades I	50
Wed, 7/15/2015	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Registration	Group Registration South	4
Wed, 7/15/2015	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	Exhibits	Palisades DEF	0
Wed, 7/15/2015	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	Office/Speaker Room	Meeting Planner's Office	5
Wed, 7/15/2015	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	General Session	Palisades ABC	200
Wed, 7/15/2015	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	Plant ID Room	Palisades G	
Wed, 7/15/2015	12:00 PM	4:00 PM	Meeting	Palisades H	25

\*\*\*\*\*Note the agenda items in **Bold** are scheduled at the Embassy Suites – a 5 minute walk down the oceanfront boardwalk from the Hilton or guest may drive their own car or take the shuttle based on availability.\*\*\*\*\*

All other terms and conditions of the Agreement not expressly referred to above remain in full force and effect.

**ACCEPTED AND AGREED TO:**

By: Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Florida Event Planning & Meeting Service  
Tallahassee, FL 32312

**HOTEL:**  
Myrtle Beach Leasing, LLC  
d/b/a Hilton Myrtle Beach  
10000 Beach Club Drive  
Myrtle Beach, SC 29572

By:

*Cody J. Gray*

Name:

*Cody J. Gray, APMS President*

Dated:

*11/7/14*

**By Hilton Management LLC, its Managing Agent**

By:

Director of Group Sales

Name:

Dated:

Venue Information	<p>Myrtle Beach Hilton</p> <p>9800 Queensway Boulevard, Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, 29572</p> <p>877-360-0799</p>						
Meeting Dates	<p>Saturday : July 11, 2015</p> <p>Sunday: July 12, 2015</p> <p>Monday: July 13, 2015</p> <p>Tuesday: July 14, 2015</p> <p>Wednesday: July 15, 2015</p>						
Guest Room Information	Rate	\$164.00 single/double					
	& Tax	12%					
	Rate available	3 days pre and post Meeting dates					
	Reservation cut- off Date	June 18, 2015					
	Room Block	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Total
		40	110	110	110	20	390
	Reservation Link	Personalized Group Page or 1-800-876-0010					
Food and Beverage Information	Guaranteed Commitment	\$20,000					
	Service Charge	22%					
	Tax	16.75%					
	Attrition	85%					

Concessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• one (1) complimentary room night per every 40 revenue room nights actually utilized</li> <li>• 4 upgrades to Deluxe Oceanview at group rate July 11-15 2015</li> <li>• 2 King Deluxe Suite Upgrades at group rate July 11-15 2015</li> <li>• Complimentary self parking included in the rate discounted from \$8.99 per day</li> <li>• Comp internet per day not included in the rate discounted from \$9.95 per day</li> <li>• Comp meeting space in Jan 2015 for board meeting for 15.</li> <li>• Comp Dinner in Vintage Twelve for Board Members at January 2015 Board Meeting</li> <li>• 1 Hospitality room at the group rate July 11-15 2015</li> <li>• 3% increase off of the 2013 catering menu prices</li> <li>• Complimentary event &amp; function meeting space in the Palisades Conference Center in exchange for a \$20,000 Catering Minimum</li> <li>• Continental Breakfast includes Assorted sliced fresh fruit, Buttermilk Biscuits, Sausage Gravy, Assorted Pastries, Breakfast Sandwich (ham &amp; cheese croissant or sausage biscuit), Butter, Fruit Preserves, Orange, Apple, Tomato Juice, Freshly Brewed Regular, Decaffeinated Coffee, Hot Specialty Teas 14.00 per person. Discounted from \$17 per person.</li> <li>• Complimentary guest room from July 11- 15, 2015 for the Florida Event Planning &amp; Meeting Service Event Planner</li> <li>• No charge or patch-in fee for group using their own computers and projectors</li> <li>• 25 Complimentary 6 foot Exhibit Tables provided by hotel</li> </ul>
Due Dates	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• July 9, 2015 - inform Hotel of the exact number of people who will attend functions.</li> </ul>

**APMS Mid-Winter Board of Directors Meeting  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
January 13, 2015**

**Report of the Nominations Committee**

Chair: Michael D. Netherland

Members: David Isaacs, Ken Manuel, Jeff Schardt, and Jeremy Slade

The Nominations Committee is pleased to recommend the following slate:

**Vice President: Dr. John Rodgers – Clemson University**

**Director: Dr. Brett Hartis – Tennessee Valley Authority**

**Director: Dr. Ryan Thum – Montana State University**

The Committee discussed many other worthy candidates and I feel the future looks bright in terms of having a good talent pool with individuals who would like to serve on the BOD. As outgoing chair, I think we need a special recruiting effort to identify an individual from the Northeastern US to serve on the APMS BOD.

Respectfully

Michael D. Netherland

**APMS Mid-Winter Board of Directors Meeting  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
January 13, 2015**

**Report of the Past Presidents Advisory Committee**

Chair: Michael D. Netherland

Aside from the annual update following the Past-Presidents luncheon, this Committee has typically been inactive. As Chair, I did not break precedent.

The 8 Past Presidents who attended the luncheon encouraged APMS to expand the Graduate Student Research Grant by increasing the frequency of the award provided funding remains available. **The BOD approved this at the post conference BOD meeting**

The Past Presidents suggested allocating funds into the scholastic endowment fund and paying appropriate initiatives from this fund rather than the general fund to demonstrate the Society's commitment to students and education. **We have not taken an action on this, but as Past President I feel we should heed this advice and reduce our General Fund.**

The Past Presidents agreed with the concept of paying an APMS Executive Secretary provided specific duties are developed. They also recommended that smaller expenditures should be better tracked to document APMS financial commitments.

Respectfully submitted,

Michael D. Netherland

Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Winter Board Meeting, January 13, 2015  
Vice President's Report

1. Notices regarding the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant have been posted in the APMS newsletter (October 2014). I will send out another notice to the newsletter and the webpages after the board meeting.
2. I was delegated the task of following up with chapters for contributions to last year's graduate student research grant. I have not done that yet, but will do so after the board meeting.
3. (In lieu of a separate Regional Chapter report). I did not contact regional chapters before this meeting, but will be sure to do so before the annual meeting, both when I contact them regarding the Grant last year, and about a month before the annual meeting in July.
4. (In lieu of a separate Linked In report). The APMS Linked In group currently has 995 members. It is getting wider use as a site for job postings in our industry. Discussions continue to be the central point of interest, with an average of 3 new discussions per week and about 6 comments. Most discussions have relatively few comments, but every so often a discussion topic will really take off. Growth is fairly steady at one to two new members per week. Demographically, most would describe themselves as entry-level (29%), involved in either research (21%) or operations (10%), and widely distributed geographically, including internationally. Environmental services (49%) rated as the single highest category of industry. Twitter feeds from the AERF and APMS sites regularly appear on the Linked In site, increasing the range of those commentaries.

**Progress report: A Quantitative Genetics Approach to Identifying the Genetic Architecture of Herbicide Susceptibility, Tolerance, and Resistance in Hybrid Watermilfoils (*Myriophyllum spicatum* x *sibiricum*)**

**This project addresses two focal questions:**

- 1) What is the evolutionary potential for watermilfoil populations to respond to herbicides (i.e., evolve resistance)? Specifically, do hybrid watermilfoil populations have greater evolutionary potential for resistance (sub question 1) and how does that potential compared to pure parental EWM and NWM (sub question 2)?
- 2) What is the genetic architecture of reduced herbicide sensitivity? Specifically, is reduced sensitivity determined by a small number of genes with large effects, or a large number of genes of small effects? And, what genomic region(s) are associated with herbicide susceptibility, tolerance, or resistance?

**Progress to date –**

Lindsey-Ann Schulte was recruited as the graduate student for this project, and she entered the Biology Program at GVSU in Fall, 2013. Data collection for this project has been completed and currently analyses and manuscript writing has begun.

Lindsey got to work right away on her thesis research, in addition to balancing her course load. She collected and maintains a number of clonal genotypes of Eurasian, northern, and hybrid watermilfoils from across the country. She has completed 2,4-D screening experiments to compare the broad sense heritability for 2,4-D response by these different taxa (sub question 2 above). She has completed four experimental blocks, which we are currently analyzing.

In addition to the above, Lindsey has also completed 2,4-D screening experiments on a larger group of hybrid genotypes. She completed three experimental blocks, analyzed the data, and submitted a manuscript of the results to the journal of Evolutionary Applications (sub question 1 above). She presented preliminary results of this experiment (one block) at the Midwest Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting in March 2014. She presented results from the full dataset at the Joint Aquatic Sciences Meeting in May 2014 and the National Aquatic Plant Management Society Meeting in July 2014. The purpose of this study is to determine the evolutionary potential of hybrid watermilfoil and to identify hybrids that exhibit different 2,4-D susceptibilities for use in breeding studies to understand the genetic architecture of 2,4-D susceptibility (Question 2).

MEMORANDUM

TO: APMS Board of Directors

FROM: John Rodgers, Chair-Strategic Planning

DATE: December 22, 2014

SUBJECT: New Chair for Strategic Planning

I have served as Chair of the Strategic Planning Committee since its inception. It is time for the Strategic Planning Committee to change leadership. We propose that Mr. Bo Burns be approved by the BOD as the new Chair of the APMS Strategic Planning Committee. I have agreed to help Bo in this transition. Mr. Burns is a dedicated member of APMS and the Strategic Planning Committee and his vision in this role will be a valuable asset to the Society. Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

*John H. Rodgers, Jr.*

John H. Rodgers, Jr., Ph.D.

## STUDENT AFFAIRS REPORT

**Date:** January 5, 2015  
**Committee:** Rebecca Haynie, Chair  
Chris Mudge, Co-Chair  
Leif Wiley  
Brett Bultemeir

### Student Presentations, 2014:

- 20 student presenters, 15 of which had never presented at an APMS meeting, from eleven different Universities: NC State, University of Florida, University of Georgia, East Carolina, TAMU, GVS, Trent University (Ontario), Colorado State, Clemson, and University of Western Illinois.
- Leif and Chris did a great job recruiting to get our numbers up to 20.
- Poster Contest:
  - Judges: Jamie Morgan, Joe Lucovich, Lyn Gettys, Ray Valley, and Joe Vassios
  - Winners: 1<sup>st</sup> Place, Kallie Kessler, Colorado State; 2<sup>nd</sup> Place, Jay VonBank, University of Western Illinois; 3<sup>rd</sup> Place, Haley Wofel, Texas A&M
- Paper Contest:
  - Judges: Brett Bultemeir, Ken Manuel, Chris Mudge, Ben Willis, Sarah Meadows
  - Winners: 1<sup>st</sup>: Lindsey-Ann L. Schulte, Grand Valley State; 1<sup>st</sup>: Kyla Iwinski, Clemson University; 2<sup>nd</sup>: Julie A. Baniszewski, University of Florida; 3<sup>rd</sup>: Justin Nawrocki, North Carolina State University

**Recruitment:** We will send the call for student papers in February and personally contact local (Southeast) colleges and universities to increase participation. We will send the announcement to all chapters to include in newsletters, websites. Chris and I welcome any efforts and/or ideas to increase student participation.

**Accommodations:** Each student presenter received a complimentary student room. As students register, Chris and I will compile a list by gender and arrival/departure date. Student rooms will then be reserved by Bill Torres and the confirmation numbers sent to the students. This process has been working well. Overflow at the Hilton in 2014 caused some minor headaches. We will need a plan in place should we need to deal with overflow in 2015.

**Books:** Each student will receive a textbook of his/her choice related to aquatics. We will have the books sent to a local APMS member (Santee Cooper?) and arrange payment with the treasurer.

**Luncheon:** SePRO will sponsor the 2015 student luncheon. Chris Mudge will begin recruiting a speaker for the lunch. The past 2 years we have had early-career, former student members speak to the students. We welcome input on speakers.

For the 2014 meeting, all students attended the luncheon (on Monday). Sarah True Meadows spoke to the students about the importance of students in the APMS organization and her new role at EPA. Chris Mudge gave opening remarks. Ms. Emily Schroder and Ms. Beth Benbow, biologists in EPA's Herbicide Registration division, also attended the luncheon and general sessions, courtesy of AERF.

Erika Haug, NC State University, was elected by her peers to serve as the 2014-2015 Student Representative. Outgoing Student Representative, Elizabeth Edgerton, Texas A&M, did an exceptional job!

**Judges:** We will be recruiting judges for student contest(s) during the coming months. We had good participation by the students for judging exhibits and nonstudent posters. We will enlist students to help again this year.

**Tour:** The 2014 Student tour was well-attended and successful. We had 13 student participants, 3 EPA staff members, and 4 chaperones participating in our student tour of local aquatic plant management activities. The tour was sponsored by APMS and was planned and hosted by Estate Management Services, Inc. of Brunswick, GA.

We will work with Larry McCord as our local expert to coordinate the tour and explore lodging alternatives. We will visit coastal and inland application sites and will have a draft agenda put together by March 1. Depending on the number of participants and our tour guides, van rental may not be necessary. We ask the board to support student lodging and meals for the tour.

- If needed, we will work with Bill Torres coordinate with the hotel to include an extra night of lodging for the students (Wednesday night) and to provide box lunches for the students (and guides) participating in the tour.

## APMS WEBSITE COMMITTEE REPORT

By Karen Brown, University of Florida/IFAS Center for Aquatic & Invasive Plants (CAIP); 352/273-3667;  
[kpbrown@ufl.edu](mailto:kpbrown@ufl.edu)

Submitted December 17, 2014

I assumed the role as Chair of the Website Committee at the request of President Cody Gray after the annual meeting in Savannah. Since that time, we (mostly Jeff Schardt and I) have accomplished the following routine tasks:

- Updated the [Officers](#), Directors, Committee Chairs and Special Representatives
- Updated the [Awards](#) page to reflect the 7 awards presented at the 2014 meeting
- Updated the Annual Meetings to reflect the 2015, 2016 and 2017 meetings (with site photos) and moved the 2014 information to the [Archived](#) meetings
- Added the Program and Abstracts to the Archived meetings page for 2013 and 2014
- Made all the necessary changes to facilitate the change in Treasurer from Sherry Whitaker to Jeremy Slade (including changing the APMS contact address from Vicksburg, MS to the UFL/CAIP address in Gainesville, FL)
- Added Jeff Schardt's [APMS by the Decade](#) publication from the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary meeting in 2010 to the [About Us](#) section of the site
- Added a [JOIN](#) tab to the home page navigation bar and moved it toward the top to provide more visibility
- Updated the [How to Join](#) page and respective forms to reflect the new contact address
- Updated the [Sustaining Member](#) page to add one new member
- Updated the Institutional Subscription information on the [Journal](#) page
- Responded to or referred various queries sent to the website via the Contact link at the bottom of all web pages
- Jeff Schardt submitted four years' worth of board meeting minutes going back to 2004-2005 and they have been added to the [Members Only/Documents](#) section of the website
- The 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter invoice (\$750) from Apex WebStudio was received and forwarded to Treasurer Jeremy Slade for payment; a revised invoice was requested and received with the new Treasurer's address.

Please let me know if you have any suggestions for the website. Also, it would be good for all officers, board members, and committee chairs to check their portions of the website to make sure all information is accurate. Contact me at [kpbrown@ufl.edu](mailto:kpbrown@ufl.edu) as needed. Thank you.

## Improving Communication/Cooperation Among Aquatic Professional Societies

Mark V. Hoyer, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, School of Forest resources and Conservation, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32653. E-mail: [mvhoyer@ufl.edu](mailto:mvhoyer@ufl.edu)

Terry McNabb, Aquatechnex, LLC, PO Box 3548, Couer d'Alene, ID 83816. E-mail: [tmcnabb@aquatechnex.com](mailto:tmcnabb@aquatechnex.com)

Mike Allen. Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, School of Forest resources and Conservation, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32653. E-mail: [msal@ufl.edu](mailto:msal@ufl.edu)

Michael D. Netherland, USACE ERDC Environmental- Laboratory, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, 7922 NW 71st Street, Gainesville, FL 32653. E-mail: [mdnether@ufl.edu](mailto:mdnether@ufl.edu).

At this year's North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) 34<sup>th</sup> International Symposium in Tampa, Florida, a session was held to discuss how NALMS, the American Fisheries Society (AFS), and the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) could better communicate/cooperate using the strengths of each society to help better manage aquatic resources. While the societies maintain varying membership sizes (AFS ~ 6,000, NALMS ~ 1,000, and APMS ~ 500), working together should increase the impact of managing the same natural resources. Representatives of each society gave the following presentations followed by an open discussion with approximately 70 participants. The consensus was clear that more collaboration and communication among our societies would improve the value to our collective members. Presentations included:

*Introduction on the Overlap among Three International Aquatic Professional Societies NALMS, AFS, APMS (Mark Hoyer, NALMS President 2010)*

*Improving Communication Between All Lake Management Interests, the NALMS Perspective (Terry McNabb, NALMS President 2013 and APMS President 1997)*

*Benefits of Cooperation Between Aquatic Professional Societies AFS, NALMS, and APMS (Mike Allen, AFS Representative)*

*Common Interests That Link the Aquatic Plant Management Society with NALMS and AFS (Michael Netherland, Immediate Past President of APMS)*

Mark Hoyer started the session by showing how the mission statements of each society use different language but the primary action statements (AFS "Conservation and Sustainability", NALMS "Management and Protection", and APMS "Environmental Stewardship") point to a shared goal of protecting natural resources now and into the future. An analysis of publications was performed by searching eight key words from the last five years in each Society's peer-reviewed journal using THOMSON REUTERS Web of Science. While there was considerable overlap among the journal articles, there was also considerable specialization (Table 1). The amount of overlap shows considerable common

interest while the areas of specialization demonstrate that each society could help the other with specific management expertise.

Table 1. Percentage of all publications for the last five years (January 2009 to December 2014) found using eight key words and THOMSON REUTERS Web of Science in each society's peer-reviewed journal. Bold print indicates the largest percentage within a journal.

Key Words	AFS	NALMS	APMS
	Percent of Total Papers		
Fish	<b>81</b>	8	6
Habitat	40	13	10
Aquatic Vegetation	3	3	14
Water Quality	5	<b>45</b>	1
Phosphorus	1	21	7
Nitrogen	2	14	7
Oxygen	5	5	2
Herbicide	0.1	0.5	<b>37</b>

Mark also pointed out that each society has a magazine (AFS *Fisheries*, NALMS *LakeLine*, and the Florida Chapter of APMS has *Aquatics* which is distributed to all APMS members). The magazines contain general information on the current activities of each society along with professional articles on aquatic resource management/research that would be of interest to all groups. Each of these magazines exists in an electronic format that, with little or no expense, could easily be shared among the three societies, vastly increasing information exchange among the three memberships.

Terry McNabb focused his presentation on the overlap of the three societies and how information from each one helps him in the management efforts he puts forth on a daily basis as a business owner. He feels all three societies do a good job promoting the management of aquatic resources; however, much more could be accomplished by better communications among them using each society's strengths toward the common goal of protecting natural resources.

Terry pointed out that toxic algae (e.g., golden algae, *Prymnesium parvum*) is becoming more important to aquatic plant managers while also impacting fish populations on a large scale (VanLandeghem et al. 2013). Both APMS and AFS have little expertise in toxic algae and could benefit from the experience of NALMS in this area. For more than a decade NALMS has worked with and hosted multiple Blue Green Algae Initiatives (<http://www.nalms.org/home/programs/blue-green-algae-initiative/blue-green-algae.cmsx>).

Mike Allen suggested that developing stronger ties with related professional organizations that focus on lake management and aquatic habitats could provide better education for all members, more shared science among our sub-disciplines, and better understanding of the

full range of tools available for improving fishery resources. He suggested a few opportunities and mechanisms for improving collaboration among societies including:

- Holding special symposia and/or joint chapter meetings that can focus professionals, especially at the local level, on pertinent resource management issues of common interest. Holding joint meetings of the national societies would be impossible due to logistical issues; however, NALMS has 14 State Affiliate groups (NALMS 2014, <http://www.nalms.org/home/members/affiliate-members/nalms-affiliate-members.cmsx>, accessed 2014), APMS has 6 Regional Chapters (APMS 2014, <http://apms.org/regional-chapters/>, accessed 2014) and AFS has four Divisions and 44 Chapters (AFS, <http://fisheries.org/units/units>, accessed 2014) that show considerable geographical overlap where it might be possible.
- Membership for all three societies is static or declining, and it is hard for individuals to be members of all three. Explore the potential to bundle memberships, such that total membership of all three societies could improve.

Mike Netherland pointed out that all issues related to the management of aquatic plants, and especially the spread of invasive aquatic plants, is of great importance to all three societies. From his experience, the most common concerns expressed by NALMS and AFS members regarding organized aquatic plant management programs revolves around the following:

- Controlling too much vegetation
- Impact to non-target native vegetation
- Loss of habitat for fish
- Potential for managed lakes to switch from macrophyte to algae dominated systems

The APMS feels that improved communication between these three societies could help facilitate meaningful dialogue that would allow aquatic managers and researchers to better understand and address the concerns expressed above. Increasing linkages among APMS, NALMS and AFS members would insure broader perspectives when addressing aquatic invasive plant issues.

Approximately 70 individuals enthusiastically participated in the session discussion that followed the presentations. The one resounding consensus was that the three societies would all benefit from increased communication. Many suggestions on how to make this happen were brought up and discussed – some easier to accomplish than others. We will list some of these ideas, both the easy and the more difficult, that could be accomplished if the Executive Boards of each society agree and work together. We recommend one Executive Board member from each society establish some form of regular communication together (e.g. conference calls) and, report back to their respective boards.

Some of the easier ideas to accomplish that need to be discussed and hopefully approved by each Executive Board are as follows:

- Each society should provide space in their respective magazines (*Fisheries*, *LakeLine*, and *Aquatics*) for editorial articles from the leadership of the other societies. This

would be easily accomplished as Presidents from AFS and NALMS already write an article for their respective magazines that could be adjusted for the other societies' magazines and it would be a good idea for the APMS President to start. This simple task would give members information on the current status and, to some extent, direction of the other societies that may be of interest.

- The web sites of each society should have direct links to each other.
- Many individuals cannot travel to more than one meeting per year due to money and time limitations. Therefore, each society should organize and sponsor a core information session at the annual meetings of the other societies (e.g. APMS could hold an aquatic invasive plant control session at the NALMS and AFS annual conference). This would allow multiple concentrations of information at each annual meeting adding areas in information that are generally not available.

Some of the more innovative suggestions to increase communication among societies are as follows:

- Membership for all three societies is static or declining and it is hard for individuals to be members of all three. Members are looking for more value in a membership. Explore the potential to bundle memberships so all three societies can benefit while increasing communications.
- Currently AFS and NALMS use Taylor and Francis for publishing their professional journals. AFS also uses them for publishing the *Fisheries* magazine. If NALMS and APMS would work toward using Taylor and Francis to publish their journal and magazine, it could be easier to share professional information. All three magazines are provided in an electronic format so sharing would be with little or no cost.
- It would be difficult to hold shared national society conferences due to timing of meetings and size. However, joint meetings with state chapters could be feasible and beneficial. Encourage regional and state chapters of each society to collaborate.

Many other suggestions were made during the discussion for increasing communications among societies. However, the ideas listed above are a good start for increased dialogue. Now, each society's membership needs to communicate their desire to move forward with this initiative to their respective Executive Boards.

## Literature

VanLandeghem, M.M., M. Farooqi, B. Farquhar, R. Patino. 2013. Impacts of golden alga *Prymnesium parvum* on fish populations in reservoirs of the Colorado River and Brazos River basins, Texas. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 142:581-595.

Aquatic Plant Management Society  
Winter Board Meeting, January 13, 2015  
Vice President's Report

1. Notices regarding the APMS Graduate Student Research Grant have been posted in the APMS newsletter (October 2014). I will send out another notice to the newsletter and the webpages after the board meeting.
2. I was delegated the task of following up with chapters for contributions to last year's graduate student research grant. I have not done that yet, but will do so after the board meeting.
3. (In lieu of a separate Regional Chapter report). I did not contact regional chapters before this meeting, but will be sure to do so before the annual meeting, both when I contact them regarding the Grant last year, and about a month before the annual meeting in July.

4. (In lieu of a separate Linked In report). The APMS Linked In group currently has 995 members. It is getting wider use as a site for job postings in our industry. Discussions continue to be the central point of interest, with an average of 3 new discussions per week and about 6 comments. Most discussions have relatively few comments, but every so often a discussion topic will really take off. Growth is fairly steady at one to two new members per week. Demographically, most would describe themselves as entry-level (29%), involved in either research (21%) or operations (10%), and widely distributed geographically, including internationally. Environmental services (49%) rated as the single highest category of industry. Twitter feeds from the AERF and APMS sites regularly appear on the Linked In site, increasing the range of those commentaries.

## **APMS Social Media Outreach – 2014 Report (Brett Hartis)**

### **Introduction**

In February 2014, the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) launched its social media outreach initiative in congruence with a similar initiative by the Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Foundation (AERF). The purpose of developing various social media platforms was to better reach the memberships of both the APMS and AERF. Furthermore, outlets such as Facebook and Twitter have been used to reach persons not currently affiliated with the Society in attempts to better inform the general public of Aquatic Plant Science and potentially garner new members from various other related disciplines. Two blogging outlets have also been developed by both APMS and the AERF to share original material and promote discussion. The Societies' previously existing LinkedIn page has also been used to share the various original material created while also sharing job opportunities and opening up a forum for discussion of various material. Sharing of resources between the two groups has greatly aided in helping make information available to the general public while also creating an open environment for discussion and enjoyment. Below we summarize the numbers associated with the APMS outreach initiative. The AERF outreach initiative has been in integral part in creating such social outreach for APMS as discussed below, however their achievements will be highlighted in a separate report.

### **APMS Blog (via Wordpress)**

The first post following the launch of the APMS social media outreach was made on February 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014. Since that date, 39 blog postings and announcements have been made featuring various topics. The majority of blog postings feature summaries of past JAPM articles. The summaries are intended to take what is traditionally a "hard read" for members outside of the science, and make the work more understandable and applicable to the everyday reader. For example, the first post (02/21/14) "How "Dry" to "Die"? – An Interesting look at Eurasian Watermilfoil Dessication and Viability" summarizes the Evans et al. paper "Fragment viability and rootlet formation in Eurasian watermilfoil after desiccation" from JAPM. This posting was then shared over both AERF Facebook and APMS twitter feeds and was subsequently shared over 40 times by various groups including state wildlife divisions, USFWS and others. As this article has spread, it has likely made individuals aware of Eurasian watermilfoil deissication and potential of establishment. Although most blog postings are original summaries of JAPM articles, the blog also features industry updates, plant profiles, regional meeting updates and summaries, as well as seasonal articles relating to common aquatic plant management issues during certain times of year. Each blog posting has "point-backs" that will lead the reader back to the original journal articles, citations, and information available on the APMS website. Metrics for the APMS Blog can be seen below.

### **APMS Twitter**

The APMS twitter page currently has 131 followers (figure 1) who regularly share material and information presented on the twitter page - @APMSociety. Several metrics can be used to measure the level of activity, interaction, use of content, ability to search, and value as a source of information to

others. Each metric and the corresponding category can be found in table 1 and will be discussed below.

<b>Metric</b>	<b>Value</b>	<b>Avg or %</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Category</b>
Tweets per day	2.15			Activity
Retweet	262	51%		Interaction
Mentions	397	77%		Interaction
Replies	45	9%		Interaction
Links	227	44%		Use of Content
Hashtags	152	29%		Search
Tweets Retweeted (X)	175	34%	232	Valuable Source
Tweets Favorited (X)	163	32%	195	Valuable Source
*X = # of times				

With 517 tweets (2+ tweets per day on average, 7 days a week), @APMSociety garners mentions in 77% of its tweets (397 mentions) from various followers and users including USFWS, Teton Weed, WSSA, OIPC, Oregon Wildlife, UF IFAS, and many others) and retweets of approximately 51% (262 retweets). The @APMS tweet history can be found in figure 1. @APMSociety has been linked to other outlets by other users a total of 227 times (44% linked per tweet) and has had 175 tweets retweeted a total of 232 times. The total reach of @APMSociety is over 9,511 accounts, the majority of which are group accounts with large capacity followers (Florida FWC, USFWS, Ducks Unlimited, etc). The various metrics described above can be summarized in Figures 2a – d. The APMS twitter feed along with the AERF Facebook and Twitter feed (@AERFAquatics) most often share blog topics, but also feature weekly games and postings. Such postings include the #ManagementMonday, which discusses various aspects of aquatic plant management, the #WhatsItWednesday, which features photographs of some element relevant to aquatic plant management for users to “guess” and the #ThrowbackThursday which features photos of APMS past meetings and members as well as old photos of aquatic plant management. These are all weekly features tweeted on the @APMSociety page and subsequently shared by our followers. The APMS Twitter page and followers continues to grow as more people find their way to the page through other outlets. A mentions map of those who have mentioned @APMSociety in their own posts reveals users across the United States (Figure 3) and abroad (Figure 4).

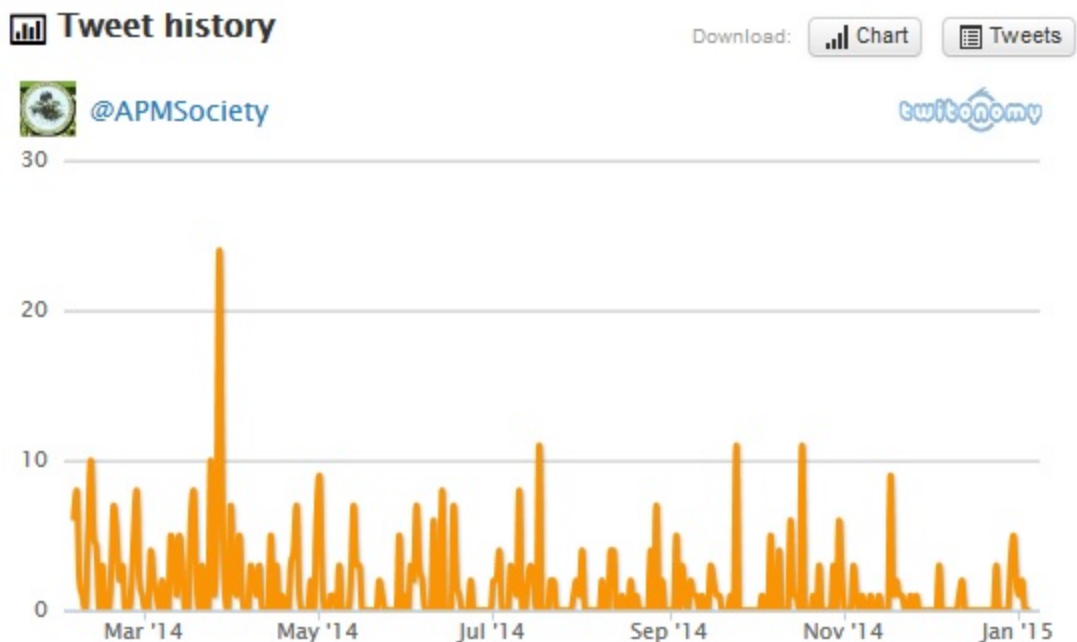
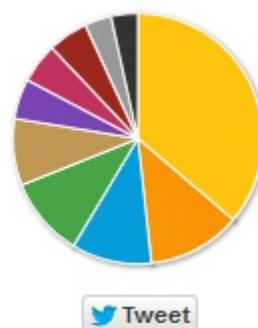


Figure 1. @APMS Tweet History

### # Hashtags most used

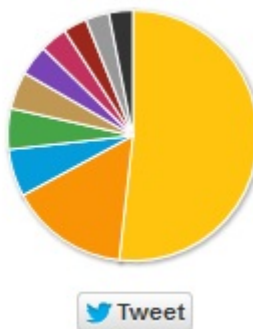
#whatisitwednesday	21	#hydrilla	7
#apms	6	#aquatics	6
#invasive	5	#aquaticplantmanagement	3
#invasives	3	#throwbackthursday	3
#invasivespecies	2	#giantsalvinia	2



a.

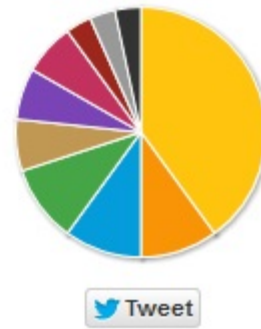
### @ Users most mentioned

 @AerfAquatics	118	 @PLANT_CAMP	35
 @APMSociety	14	 @MyFWC	12
 @ncsu_cals	11	 @NCWildlife	9
 @mndnr	8	 @CaliforniaDFW	7
 @UGAWarnell	7	 @LDWF	7



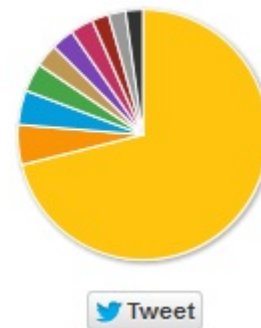
b.

### 🗨️ Users most replied to



c.

### ↕ Users most retweeted



d.

Figure 2. a.) #Hashtags used, b.) Most mentioned users, c.) Users replied to, d.) Most retweeted

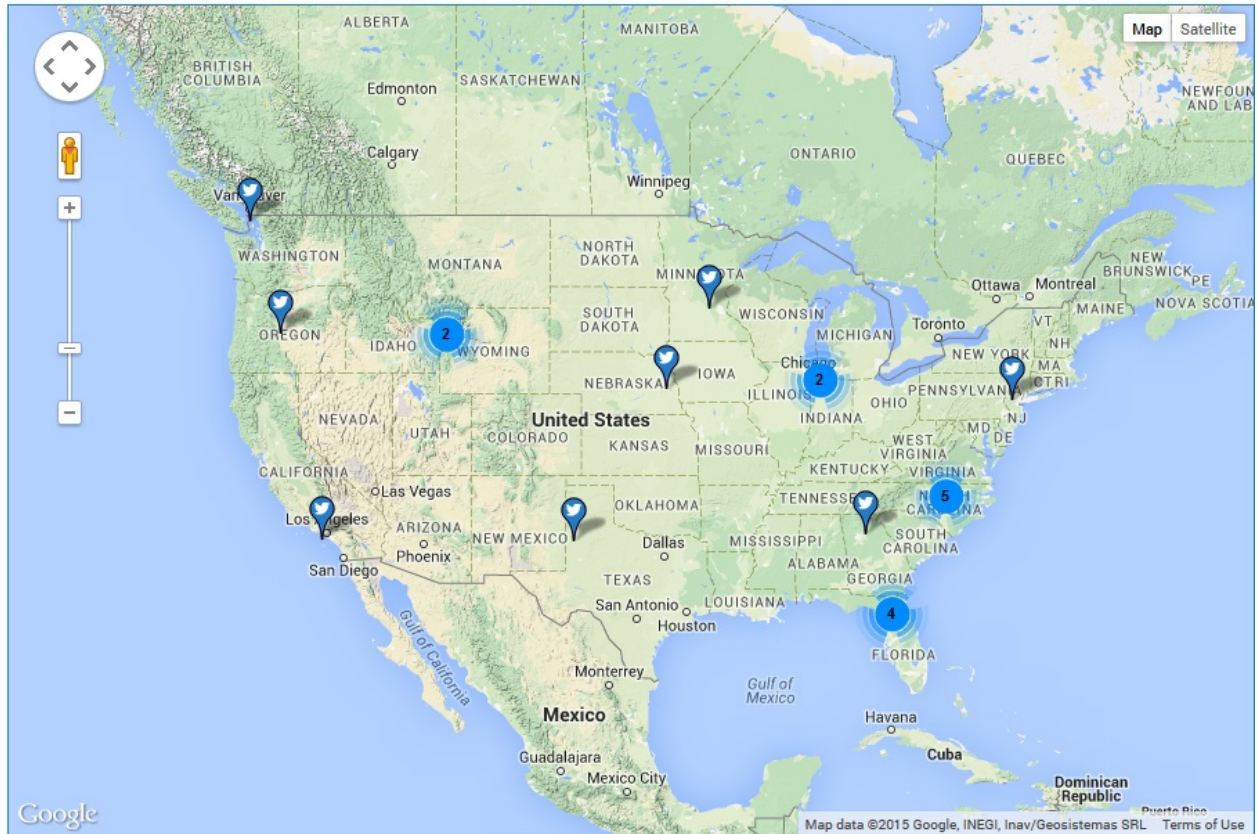


Figure 3. Mention map of users in US.

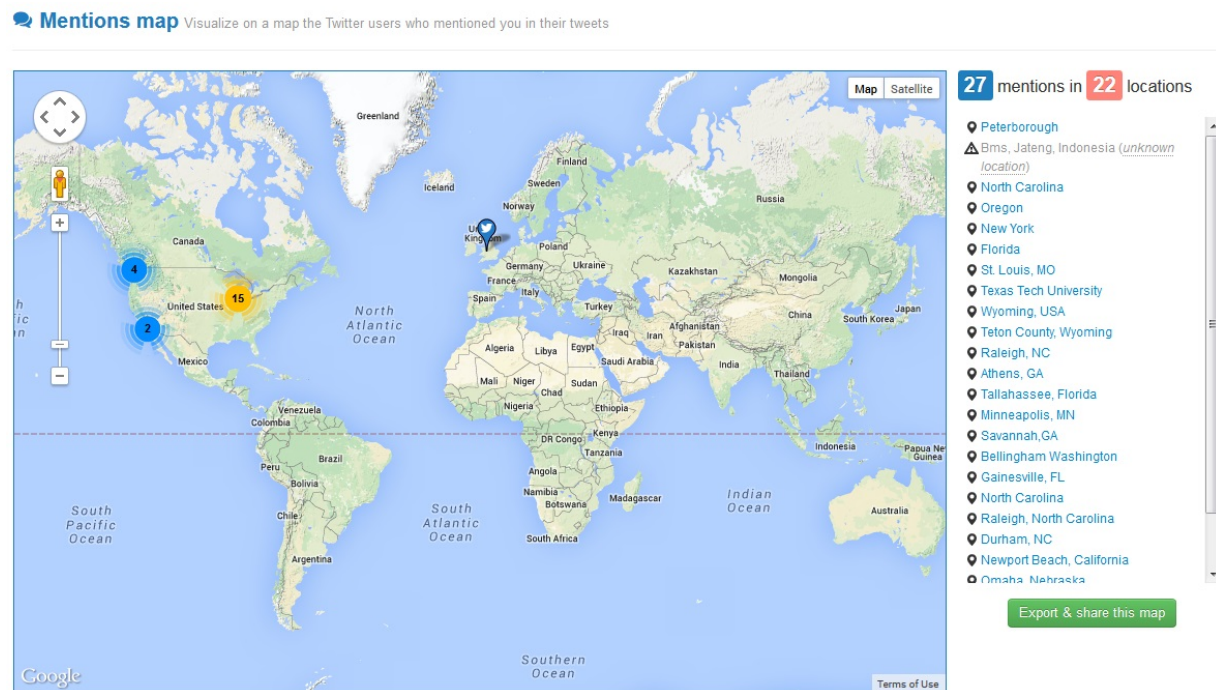


Figure 4. Mention map of users abroad.

## APMS LinkedIn

The APMS LinkedIn page had been previously formed prior to the launch of the APMS social media outreach. The page, moderated by Dr. John Madsen, continues to be a meeting place and more importantly, a forum for discussion of various topics in aquatic plant science. Since incorporation of other social media sites, the LinkedIn page has also become a place for discussing the APMS blog postings in a constructive environment. With nearly 1,000 members (figure 5), this site continues to host various discussions in aquatic plant management while also serving as a place to share ideas and job opportunities. Past seniority reports of those using this group suggested mainly senior level position use, however the most recent report shows an increase in entry level position use of the APMS LinkedIn page. The majority of members come from a research background, however other groups are well represented (figure 6). The majority of members identify with “environmental science” industry (figure 6). After the initial development of the page, member growth rates have remained steady with a 50% week over week growth rate (figure 7). Discussion rate has remained fairly steady however comments have increased over time (figure 8).

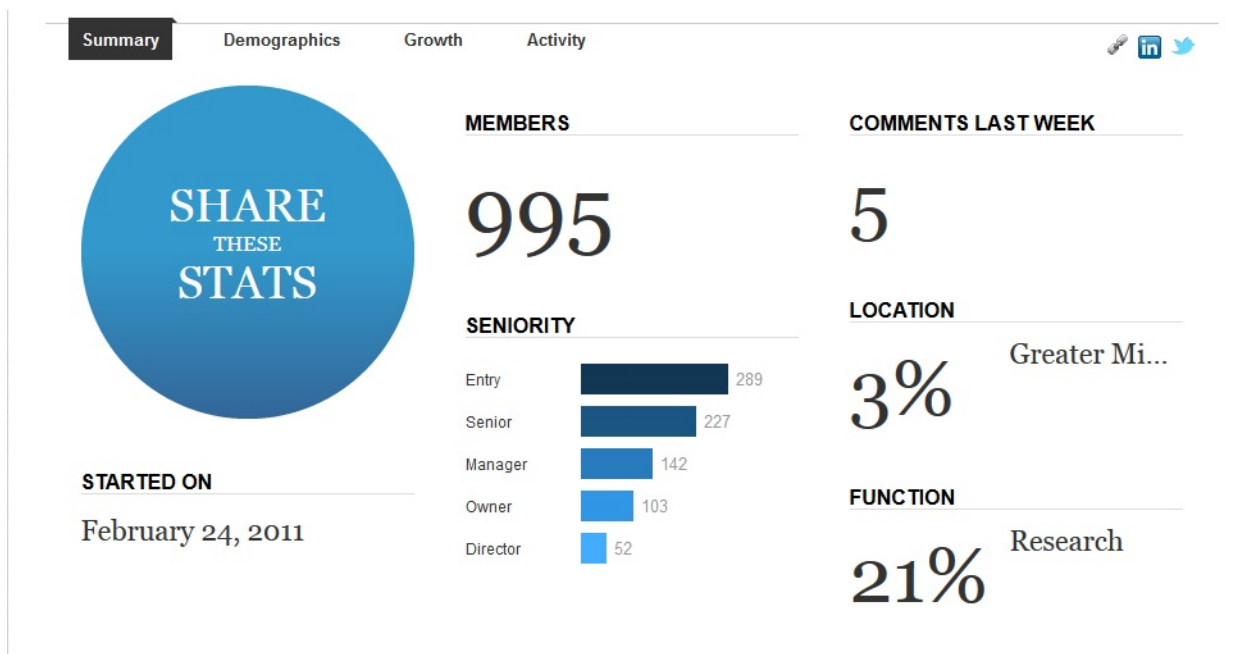


Figure 5. Summary of Members.

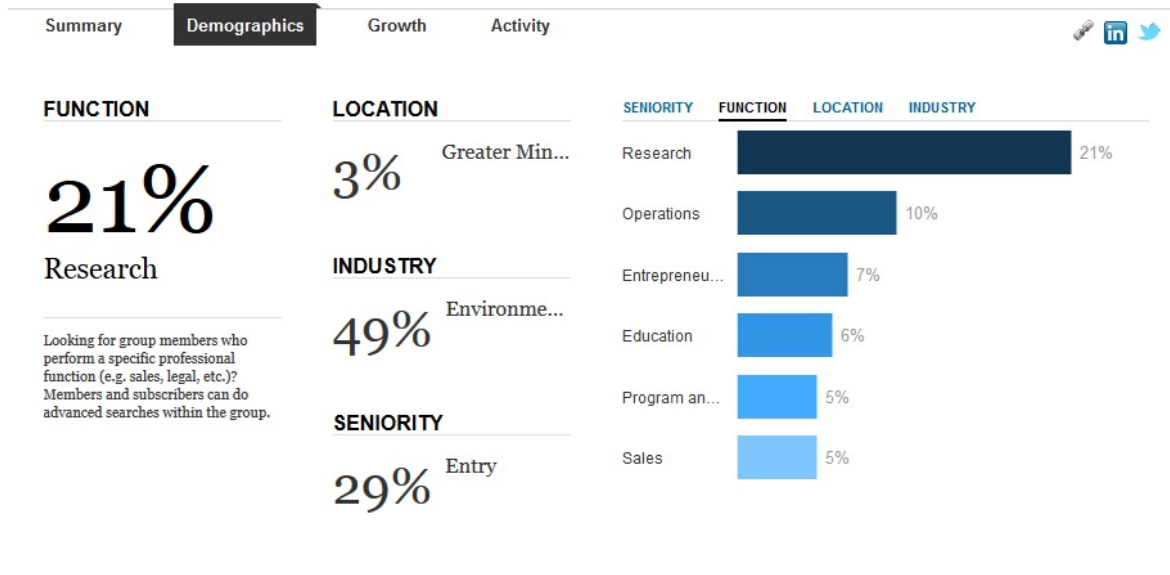


Figure 6. LinkedIn Group demographics by function

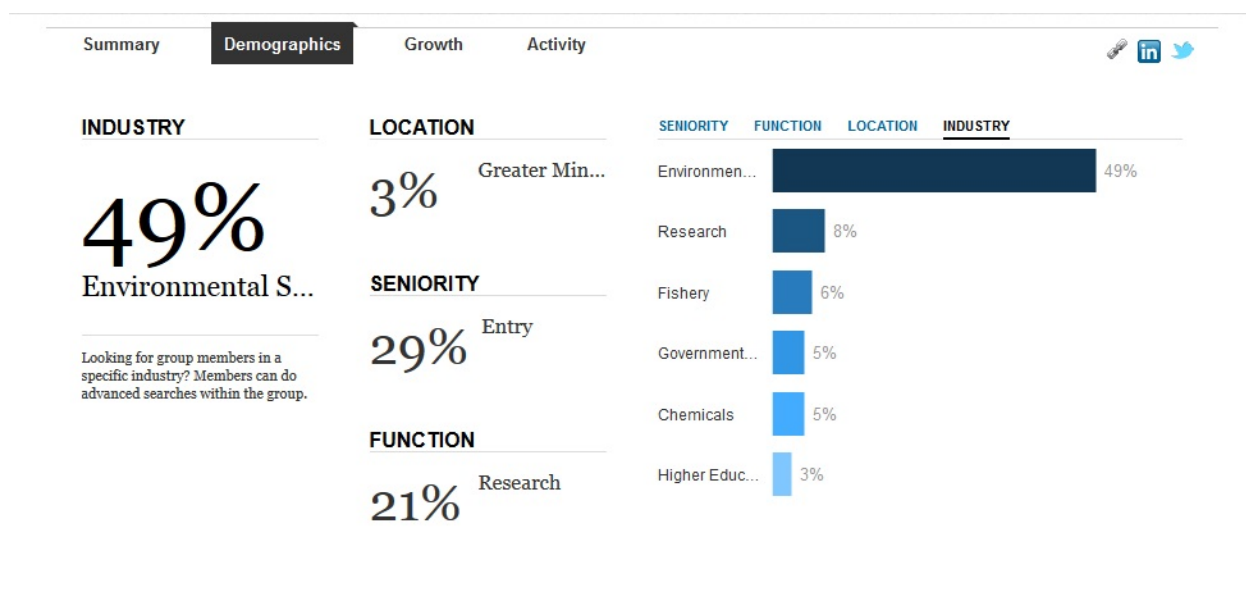


Figure 6. LinkedIn group demographics by industry

#### NEW MEMBERS

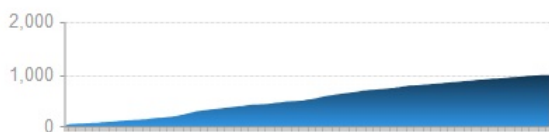


#### MEMBERS

995

Like any community, a LinkedIn group might be close-knit or vast, brand new or already thriving. Explore this group to see if it's right for you.

#### TOTAL MEMBERS



#### NEW MEMBERS LAST WEEK

0

Figure 7. New membership and growth of LinkedIn group over time.

#### COMMENTS AND DISCUSSIONS

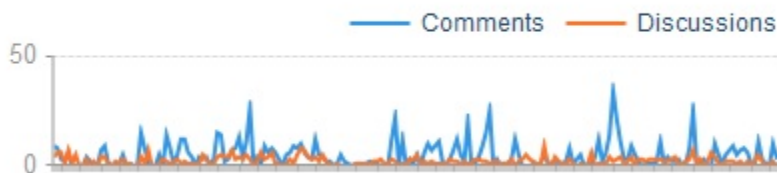


Fig 8. Comments and discussions over time.

#### Conclusions

In its first year, the various APMS social media outlets have greatly influenced the way that members and the general public receive information about the Society and the science. In the extremely complex and diverse disciplines of Aquatic Plant Science and Management, it is important that we provide information in an informative, but timely manner for the interested public while also making such content palatable to that group. Each individual site has its own identity, yet provides a segway to the others with the ultimate goal of bringing interested individuals and groups back to the Society's homepage.

#### Suggestions

A means of tracking how individuals are using the APMS social media sites needs to be developed in the near future. Although retweets, follows, shares, and comments are easily tracked, a means to determine which sites are producing the most traffic are needed. This can easily be achieved by the webmaster to track the origin of incoming traffic (whether it is from twitter, linked in, a google search, etc). Members can also be surveyed at annual meetings to test for awareness to the new social media outlets. These numbers will be vital to determine where emphasis should be placed.

Secondly, original material for the blog is intended to provide members and non-members a look into the science. Although posting developed as summaries give insight on past works, there needs to be more of a push to show what the Society is CURRENTLY doing. This will take the effort of various members doing research funded by the Society and require that research reports be given in the form of a blog posting from those supported. Several attempts to contact supported students conducting research under various regional chapters yielded few replies. A suggestion that students be required to submit summaries of their current research should be made, especially when those students are members of APMS and supported by the society. This original material is vital to the continuation of the blog as past articles to summarize are finite and the information therein must be current.

Lastly, advertising of APMS Social Media activities should be paramount via their various newsletters. In order for the existing membership to become aware of these outlets, there must be some advertising through traditionally used methods to reach members. Furthermore, the continued use and improvement of ALL outlets depends largely on the membership as a whole. Members are strongly encouraged to send information to the page moderator(s) when they come across content or have some of their own to share. These outlets were designed to share content, promote discussion, and increase awareness, and in order to accomplish these goals, there must be contribution beyond the site/ page moderators. This will greatly aid in providing quality, relevant content in the future to ensure the growth of the Society and the science which it supports.

### **Future Direction (Rob Richardson)**

Brett Hartis will be moving into the TVA position in January. He has indicated that he is willing to serve as Twitter coordinator for both APMS and AERF. He did not think he would be able to continue content generation on the blog as part of this TVA position. Content generation is the difficult part and the board should discuss value of the 2014 content in relation to expense.

## **CAST Report**

APMS Mid-Winter Board Meeting

Joe Vassios

January 13, 2015

The function of CAST as stated by their mission statement is: "CAST assembles, interprets, and communicates credible science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public."

The 2014 CAST Annual Meeting was held October 28-30 in Indianapolis, IN. John Madsen, Ryan Wersal, and I were all in attendance at the Plant Work Group Meetings, and I assumed the APMS CAST Representative duties from Ryan at that meeting.

Our commentary paper "Benefits of Controlling Nuisance Aquatic Plants" was rolled out during the 2014 APMS meeting in Savannah by Dr. John Rodgers. Please see additional information and facts regarding this paper below:

- Paper Chair: Kurt Getsinger, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Vicksburg, MS; Eight-member task force
- Press release was sent to 10,732 e-contacts resulting in 3,017 opens/interactions, 45,579 online impressions, and 269 online pickups
- After high toxin levels were discovered in water from Lake Erie on August 2<sup>nd</sup>, a tap water ban left residents of Toledo, Ohio, to rely on bottled water for the weekend; this Commentary was sent out to various people around the country, from Toledo administration officials to state Departments of Agriculture, to people suggested by the Aquatic Plants Task Force
- Regional APMS and related societies have been offered flyers and weblinks
- 1,211 hits on this paper's webpage and 1,002 on the Ag quickCAST as of 10/1/2014

These results indicate that this paper was effective in spreading information on the benefits of control aquatic plants to a number of different stakeholders. Due to the impacts of high toxin levels in Lake Erie this past summer, the Plant Working Group has agreed to work on a proposal for an additional paper looking at the Impacts of Harmful Algal Blooms and Water Quality. I will be preparing a paper proposal to move forward within CAST during the next several months.

Additional papers in preparation or under consideration by the Plant Working Group include the following:

- *Crop Protection Contributions toward Agricultural Productivity; Ag Innovation series*
- *Considerations for Developing a Rational Framework for Selecting Biofuel Feedstocks*
- *Understanding Potential Impacts of Climate Change on Cropping Systems*
- *UAV Applications in Agriculture*

These papers were selected by the Plant Working group as pressing issues in the agricultural industry, and the group will be working to refine these concepts into beneficial documents.

An additional aspect of the functioning of CAST is to help attract additional members to contribute to the CAST mission, including private companies, societies, and individuals. I believe that that our membership as part of CAST has been beneficial with our ability to have their support in publishing a paper on nuisance aquatic plants, and the opportunity to work toward another paper on harmful algal blooms. I would encourage other APMS members to continue to contribute to the mission of CAST.

Respectfully submitted,

Joseph Vassios

## **Improving Communication/Cooperation Among Aquatic Professional Societies**

Mark V. Hoyer, Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, School of Forest resources and Conservation, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32653. E-mail: [mvhoyer@ufl.edu](mailto:mvhoyer@ufl.edu)

Terry McNabb, Aquatechnex, LLC, PO Box 3548, Couer d'Alene, ID 83816. E-mail: [tmcnabb@aquatechnex.com](mailto:tmcnabb@aquatechnex.com)

Mike Allen. Fisheries and Aquatic Sciences, School of Forest resources and Conservation, IFAS, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL 32653. E-mail: [msal@ufl.edu](mailto:msal@ufl.edu)

Michael D. Netherland, USACE ERDC Environmental- Laboratory, Center for Aquatic and Invasive Plants, 7922 NW 71st Street, Gainesville, FL 32653. E-mail: [mdnether@ufl.edu](mailto:mdnether@ufl.edu).

At this year's North American Lake Management Society (NALMS) 34<sup>th</sup> International Symposium in Tampa, Florida, a session was held to discuss how NALMS, the American Fisheries Society (AFS), and the Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS) could better communicate/cooperate using the strengths of each society to help better manage aquatic resources. While the societies maintain varying membership sizes (AFS ~ 6,000, NALMS ~ 1,000, and APMS ~ 500), working together should increase the impact of managing the same natural resources. Representatives of each society gave the following presentations followed by an open discussion with approximately 70 participants. The consensus was clear that more collaboration and communication among our societies would improve the value to our collective members. Presentations included:

*Introduction on the Overlap among Three International Aquatic Professional Societies NALMS, AFS, APMS (Mark Hoyer, NALMS President 2010)*

*Improving Communication Between All Lake Management Interests, the NALMS Perspective (Terry McNabb, NALMS President 2013 and APMS President 1997)*

*Benefits of Cooperation Between Aquatic Professional Societies AFS, NALMS, and APMS (Mike Allen, AFS Representative)*

*Common Interests That Link the Aquatic Plant Management Society with NALMS and AFS (Michael Netherland, Immediate Past President of APMS)*

Mark Hoyer started the session by showing how the mission statements of each society use different language but the primary action statements (AFS "Conservation and Sustainability", NALMS "Management and Protection", and APMS "Environmental Stewardship") point to a shared goal of protecting natural resources now and into the future. An analysis of publications was performed by searching eight key words from the last five years in each Society's peer-reviewed journal using THOMSON REUTERS Web of Science. While there was considerable overlap among the journal articles, there was also considerable specialization (Table 1). The amount of overlap shows considerable common

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- Loss of habitat for fish
- Potential for managed lakes to switch from macrophyte to algae dominated systems

The APMS feels that improved communication between these three societies could help facilitate meaningful dialogue that would allow aquatic managers and researchers to better understand and address the concerns expressed above. Increasing linkages among APMS, NALMS and AFS members would insure broader perspectives when addressing aquatic invasive plant issues.

Approximately 70 individuals enthusiastically participated in the session discussion that followed the presentations. The one resounding consensus was that the three societies would all benefit from increased communication. Many suggestions on how to make this happen were brought up and discussed – some easier to accomplish than others. We will list some of these ideas, both the easy and the more difficult, that could be accomplished if the Executive Boards of each society agree and work together. We recommend one Executive Board member from each society establish some form of regular communication together (e.g. conference calls) and, report back to their respective boards.

Some of the easier ideas to accomplish that need to be discussed and hopefully approved by each Executive Board are as follows:

- Each society should provide space in their respective magazines (*Fisheries*, *LakeLine*, and *Aquatics*) for editorial articles from the leadership of the other societies. This

would be easily accomplished as Presidents from AFS and NALMS already write an article for their respective magazines that could be adjusted for the other societies' magazines and it would be a good idea for the APMS President to start. This simple task would give members information on the current status and, to some extent, direction of the other societies that may be of interest.

- The web sites of each society should have direct links to each other.
- Many individuals cannot travel to more than one meeting per year due to money and time limitations. Therefore, each society should organize and sponsor a core information session at the annual meetings of the other societies (e.g. APMS could hold an aquatic invasive plant control session at the NALMS and AFS annual conference). This would allow multiple concentrations of information at each annual meeting adding areas in information that are generally not available.

Some of the more innovative suggestions to increase communication among societies are as follows:

- Membership for all three societies is static or declining and it is hard for individuals to be members of all three. Members are looking for more value in a membership. Explore the potential to bundle memberships so all three societies can benefit while increasing communications.
- Currently AFS and NALMS use Taylor and Francis for publishing their professional journals. AFS also uses them for publishing the *Fisheries* magazine. If NALMS and APMS would work toward using Taylor and Francis to publish their journal and magazine, it could be easier to share professional information. All three magazines are provided in an electronic format so sharing would be with little or no cost.
- It would be difficult to hold shared national society conferences due to timing of meetings and size. However, joint meetings with state chapters could be feasible and beneficial. Encourage regional and state chapters of each society to collaborate.

Many other suggestions were made during the discussion for increasing communications among societies. However, the ideas listed above are a good start for increased dialogue. Now, each society's membership needs to communicate their desire to move forward with this initiative to their respective Executive Boards.

## Literature

VanLandeghem, M.M., M. Farooqi, B. Farquhar, R. Patino. 2013. Impacts of golden alga *Prymnesium parvum* on fish populations in reservoirs of the Colorado River and Brazos River basins, Texas. *Transactions of the American Fisheries Society* 142:581-595.

**Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) – Report to the APMS Board of  
Directors  
2015 Winter Board Meeting – Myrtle Beach, SC**

Not much to report or major things happening since July 2014.

I will have additional information to report once the WSSA holds its annual meeting the second week in February.

Future WSSA Board of Director meetings:

Feb. 7-8, & 12, 2015 – WSSA Annual Board Meeting – Lexington, KY

Future WSSA meeting schedule:

- 2015: Feb. 9-12, 2015 – Hilton Lexington Downtown, Lexington, KY
- 2016: Feb. 8-11, 2016 – Sheraton Puerto Rico, San Juan, PR
- 2017: Feb. 6-9, 2017 – Hilton El Conquistador, Tucson, AZ

Respectively submitted,

Cody Gray

**Director of Science Policy Report  
APMS Mid-Year Board Meeting  
Myrtle Beach, SC. Jan. 13, 2015**

**2014-15 Science Policy Committee Members**

1. Lee Van Wyche	Director of Science Policy	WSSA
2. Donn Shilling	Chair	WSSA
3. Joe DiTomaso	President	WSSA
4. Dallas Peterson	President-elect	WSSA
5. Kevin Bradley	Vice President	WSSA
6. Jim Kells	Past President	WSSA
7. Michael Barrett	EPA Liaison	WSSA
8. David Shaw	E-12b Chair	WSSA
9. Jeffrey Derr	CAST rep	WSSA
10. Harold Coble	At-Large	WSSA
11. Janis McFarland	At-Large	WSSA
12. Jill Schroeder	At-Large	WSSA
13. Michael Horak	At-Large	WSSA
14. Cody Gray	President	APMS
15. Rob Richardson	President-elect	APMS
16. John Hinz	President	NCWSS
17. Mark Bernards	WSSA Rep	NCWSS
18. Greg Armel	President	NEWSS
19. Prasanta Bhowmik	WSSA Rep	NEWSS
20. Scott Senseman	President	SWSS
21. Robert Nichols	Legislative Chair	SWSS
22. Drew Lyon	President	WSWS
23. Chad Clark	Legislative Chair	WSWS

**Discussion Items**

1. Superweed Definition
2. National Weed Survey
3. APCRP
4. Herbicide Resistance Summit II
5. EPA Herbicide Stewardship Program
6. EPA Spatial Aquatic Model

**Updates**

1. Election Changes
2. FY 2015 Appropriations
3. WOTUS
4. NPDES
5. USDA-ARS NPL for Weed Science
6. WSSA-USDA NIFA Liaison
7. Foundation for Food and Agriculture
8. NISAW – Feb. 22-28, 2015

**1. Superweed Definition** –How do we correct the scientific misinformation online and in dictionaries, while still capitalizing on the press coverage that has helped increase awareness of weed resistance issues?

**WSSA DRAFT: Superweed-** A slang term used to describe a weed that has evolved characteristics that make it much harder to manage than previously due to the repeated use of the same management tactic. Poor use of best management principles, particularly lack of weed management diversity, can lead to superweeds.

The most common use of the term refers to a weed that has become resistant to one or more herbicide mechanisms of action ([www.weedscience.org](http://www.weedscience.org)) due to their repeated use. Repeated use of the same mechanical, biological, or cultural management tactics has also led to superweeds (e.g. barnyardgrass mimicking rice morphology or prostrate dandelions in a mowed lawn).

Two common misconceptions about superweeds are that they are the result of gene transfer from genetically altered crops and that they have superior competitive characteristics. Both of these superweed myths have been addressed by the Weed Science Society of America (WSSA) at [www.wssa.net/weed/wssa-fact-sheets](http://www.wssa.net/weed/wssa-fact-sheets).

The WSSA has created a variety of free educational materials and recommendations concerning weed resistance and how to avoid it, available at [www.wssa.net/weed/resistance](http://www.wssa.net/weed/resistance).

**2. National Weed Survey**. We will be conducting a national survey of the “most troublesome” and “most common” weeds. The current **DRAFT SURVEY** is at: [www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014weeds](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/2014weeds)

During the 1st year we will collect baseline data for all weed management categories: 1) grass crops; 2) broadleaf crops; 3) horticultural crops, ornamentals, and turf; and 4) natural areas, range, pasture, rights-of-way, and aquatic. In subsequent years, we will survey one management category, and thus begin a four year rotation. Initially, I was just going to identify one extension weed scientist in each state to be the lead for all categories. But that thought has evolved into creating an online survey where any member of a National or Regional Weed Science Society can log in to enter the most common and troublesome weeds for the management systems they are familiar with. The goal would be to compile the survey data each year and make it available publicly. **Question:** Would you take time to do this survey? Should there be separate categories for resistant weed biotypes? **What are the appropriate aquatic plant management categories? Rivers? Lakes? Irrigation?**

**3. Aquatic Plant Control Research Program (APCRP)**. The FY 2015 Energy and Water Appropriations, just passed by Congress as part of the “Cromnibus”, includes \$4 million for APCRP within the Army Corp of Engineers. While we are happy that the Senate once again added funding for APCRP, we need to take advantage of the new Water Resources Reform and Development Act of 2014 (WRRDA) that became law in June, which increased APCRP’s authorized funding from \$15 million to \$20 million per year. One concern I have is that WRRDA expanded the legislative authority beyond just aquatic plants to all aquatic invasive species. But instead of fighting against that, we’ll have to use that in our pitch to help grow the funding and get the ACOE leadership and the administration to actually request money for

APCRP for FY 2016. **One other question I have for the APMS Board** is if anyone has heard of any interest or push to establish watercraft inspection stations on the Columbia River Basin in Idaho, Montana, Oregon, and Washington? These were a new line item in WRDDA authorized at \$20 million per year.

**4. Herbicide Resistance Summit II.** Sept. 10, 2014 in Washington DC. Webcasts of the entire summit are at: <http://wssa.net/weed/resistance-summit-ii/>. A special open access issue of *Weed Science* in the works. Both USDA and EPA have pointed to WSSA as their go to source of science based information for herbicide resistance management. **Discussion of feasibility of Area-Wide Management (AWM) programs.** A successful example would be the TEAM Leafy Spurge AWM program in the Dakota's, Montana, and Wyoming. The Sugarbeet Growers Association is looking for assistance with a community-based pilot program for proactively managing herbicide resistance. A second pilot effort is being developed, targeting elimination of Palmer amaranth in Iowa. There have been many successful Cooperative Weed Management Areas (CWMA's) in the western U.S. for managing invasive weeds. Can this concept be successfully deployed for counties? States? Regions?

**5. EPA's Herbicide Stewardship Program.** EPA's registration requirements for Enlist Duo represents precedent setting requirements for a Herbicide Resistance Management Plan. In the future, the agency intends to apply this approach to weed resistance management for all existing and new herbicides used on herbicide-tolerant crops. **Are there concerns you have heard?** The pesticide Stewardship Program (SP) requirements include extensive surveying and reporting to EPA, grower education, and remediation plans. EPA asked WSSA to comment on the proposed stewardship program for Enlist Duo. Those comments are at: [http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/WSSA-EPA-Enlist-Duo-Comments\\_FINAL.pdf](http://wssa.net/wp-content/uploads/WSSA-EPA-Enlist-Duo-Comments_FINAL.pdf) We identified a number of significant concerns in the SP proposal for Enlist Duo and EPA addressed all of them. WSSA will continue to work with EPA and discuss its goals for a herbicide resistance management SP and how to determine its effectiveness. Other requirements on the Enlist Duo label included restrictions to avoid pesticide drift. These requirements include a 30-foot in-field "no-spray" buffer zone around the application area, no pesticide application when the wind speed is more than 15 mph and only ground applications are permitted. The Enlist Duo registration will expire in six years, allowing EPA to revisit the issue of resistance.

On Dec. 12, APHIS signed off on dicamba tolerant soybeans and cotton. EPA's proposed registration requirements for crop traits are expected to be released shortly. WSSA will likely submit comments on those registration requirements as well. **It is expected that EPA will require a herbicide resistance management plan for all future herbicide registrations and re-registrations.** In the upcoming year, glyphosate and several ALS inhibiting herbicides will undergo registration review.

**6. EPA Spatial Aquatic Model (SAM).** EPA had to hold off on making the test version of the model available to the public until they could get an information security plan approved and in place, which should be wrapped up in January. After that, they'll make the test version of the model available for evaluation and ramp up discussions through the Share Point site for the SAM Workshop. If you haven't connected with the Share Point site, email Nelson Thurman, Senior Science Advisor for SAM at [thurman.nelson@epa.gov](mailto:thurman.nelson@epa.gov)

After people have had time to test the model, there will be a follow-up workshop/webinar to the next Environmental Modeling Public Meeting (EMPM), which will take place sometime in March/April, 2015. An initial consultation with EPA's Science Advisory Panel (SAP) on the test model will occur in the fall of 2015. Feedback from the workshops and SAP will be used to build out a national version of the model.

The first workshop/webinar from this fall is available at:

<https://epa.connectsolutions.com/p96dadwj6wc/>

Time	Topic
0:04:05	Welcome – Jim Cowles, Associate Division Director, EFED
0:08:40	Introduction/background – Nelson Thurman
0:28:03	Model Overview – Meridith Fry
0:54:57	Data Overview – Shelly Thawley and Gabe Rothman
1:39:15	Model Evaluation Plans – Chris Koper
1:55:15	Model Demonstration and Discussion – Meridith Fry
2:45:46	Questions, Next Steps and Wrap-up – Nelson Thurman

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### **Updates**

1. Election Changes
2. FY 2015 USDA Appropriations
3. WOTUS
4. NPDES
5. USDA-ARS NPL for Weed Science
6. WSSA-USDA NIFA Liaison
7. Foundation for Food and Agriculture
8. NISAW – Feb. 22-28, 2015

**1. Election Changes.** With the November 4 elections in the rear view mirror, there is a new campaign on Capitol Hill for committee leadership assignments. Due to a 20 year old self imposed House GOP rule that limits its committee chairs to three terms, nearly half of the current chairs in the House will have to step aside, including Ag Committee Chair Frank Lucas of Oklahoma. Michael Conaway of Texas will take over as House Ag Committee chairman. He grew up in Odessa, TX and was a member of Odessa Permian High School football team that won a state championship in 1966 (which eventually led to the movie “Friday Night Lights”). He has a B.A. in accounting from Texas A&M. He worked at Price Waterhouse after serving in the army, and then was the chief financial officer for Bush Exploration. Rep. Colin Peterson of Minnesota will remain as the Ranking Member of the House Ag Committee.

The Chair of the House Natural Resources Committee, Doc Hastings from Washington, will be retiring and the new chair will be Rob Bishop from Utah. Bishop grew up in Kaysville, UT, just north of Salt Lake City and has been a lifelong resident of the district that he will be representing for the 7<sup>th</sup> term in Congress. Bishop will seek to extend the expiring Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILT) and Secure Rural Schools (SRS), two programs that provide critical funding to rural counties across the West, which includes funding for invasive weed management. Support for those programs is broad and bipartisan, but finding funding and agreeing how the money is spent will challenge the new Natural Resources Committee chair.

For the House Appropriations Committee, the “cardinals” or subcommittee chairs for Agriculture and Rural Development, Energy and Water Development and Interior and Environment will remain the same. They are Robert Aderholt (AL), Mike Simpson (ID), and Ken Calvert (CA), respectively.

In the Senate, Thad Cochran of Mississippi, the current Ranking Member of the Senate Ag Committee, will be named as the new Chair of the Senate Appropriations Committee, a position he occupied from 2005-2007. Sen. Pat Roberts of Kansas will be named as the new Chair of the Senate Ag. Committee. As House Ag Committee Chair in the 1990’s, Roberts was a driving force behind the “freedom to farm” commodity policy in the 1996 Farm Bill. He is a fourth generation Kansan from Topeka, KS, has a journalism degree from Kansas State, and served four years in the Marine Corps. He was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1980 and then to the Senate in 1996 where he has served since. Senator Roberts has been a proponent of research and technology and had led efforts in promoting food safety and biosecurity. Sen. Deb Stabenow of Michigan, the current Sen. Ag Committee Chair will likely be the Ranking Member. For the Senate Ag Appropriations Subcommittee, Sen. Roy Blunt from Missouri will take over as chair after having served as the ranking member. The new ranking member spot will probably go to either Jon Tester (MT) or Jeff Merkley (OR). Sen. Blunt grew up in rural southwest Missouri and served in the House of Representatives from 1997-2011 until he was elected and sworn in to the Senate.

Senator Lisa Murkowski of Alaska will take over as chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee. She is a 3<sup>rd</sup> generation Alaskan and the first Alaskan-born Senator to serve the state, where she has served as Senator since 2002. It’s no secret that Sen. Murkowski’s top priority will be energy development. She unveiled her plan almost two years ago: [Energy 2020: a Vision for America’s Energy Future](#), which calls for opening up federal lands for energy exploration among other initiatives. However, Sen. Maria Cantwell from Washington, expected to be the committee’s ranking member, will run strong opposition to the chair’s proposals. Murkowski’s committee also has jurisdiction over most of the federal land management agencies, but don’t expect much camaraderie between her and Interior Secretary Sally Jewell as they have already disagreed on a proposed road through a remote Alaskan wildlife refuge that the Senator considers a life-and-death issue for local residents. Either way, Sen. Murkowski will play a huge role in shaping Energy and Natural Resource policy in the next session of Congress because not only will she be the top authorizer, she will also be the top appropriator for land management issues as chair of Senate Appropriations for Interior-Environment.

Finally, the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will have a 180 degree opposite agenda when Sen. Jim Inhofe from Oklahoma takes over the gavel from Barbara Boxer of California, who will slide down to the ranking member spot. However, Sen. Inhofe will only be chair for 2 years under Senate GOP rules since he chaired the committee from 2003 – 2007. You can expect an array of oversight hearings on Obama administration environmental policies such as expanding the scope of the Clean Water Act and the science underpinning federal environmental rules. Sen’s Inhofe and Boxer are about as far apart as you can get on the ideological spectrum and there will be no shortage of polarizing drama in this committee.

**2. FY 2015 USDA Appropriations.** The “old” Congress passed the “Cromnibus” before leaving town for the year, which funds the federal government for FY 2015 (for most agencies). Things look pretty good for USDA budget items overall with NIFA, APHIS, NRCS, the Economic Research Service (ERS), and National Ag Statistics Service (NASS) all receiving higher budgets compared to FY 2014. Within NIFA, the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) grants program increased 2.8% from \$316 million to \$325 million. Meanwhile, FY 2015 funding for the Hatch Act (\$244 million), Smith Lever 3b and 3c (\$300 million), and the IR-4 program (\$11.9 million) remain the same as last year. The new Farm Bill that was passed in February also revived 2 programs that would have expired. The Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) will get \$80 million per year in mandatory funding. The Organic Agriculture Research and Extension Initiative (OREI) will get \$20 million per year.

**3. “Administrative Rule” Clarifying Waters Of The United States (WOTUS).** On April 21, the EPA and Army Corp of Engineers jointly published an “administrative rule” meant to clarify what are “Waters Of The United States” (WOTUS). The proposed rule would expand Clean Water Act (CWA) jurisdiction to almost all waters in the United States subjecting thousands of streams, ditches, and other “small” waters to federal permitting and citizen lawsuits, including those on agricultural property. The expanded jurisdiction and the imprecision of the terms used by the agencies will result in significant added legal and regulatory costs. To minimize the potential effect on agriculture, EPA issued an “interpretive rule” at the same time as the “administrative rule” on WOTUS, which specifies 56 NRCS conservation practices that farmers must do to qualify for the CWA exemptions for dredge and fill permits. However, this “interpretive rule” only added confusion. NRCS has more than a 160 approved conservation practices. Would the remaining 104 NRCS conservation practices still be considered normal farming practices? Or would they be subject to citizen lawsuits under the administration’s new WOTUS rule? Thankfully Congress “ditched” EPA’s interpretive rule of NRCS approved conservation practices with a rider in the “Cromnibus” that was passed on Dec. 12. However, the “administrative rule” that greatly expands EPA’s authority under the CWA is still moving forward. While the Certified Crop Advisors asked WSSA to submit comments on the administrative rule that closed on Nov. 14, the Science Policy Committee decided to steer clear of the legal controversy for the time being. EPA Administrator McCarthy has said that the CWA exemptions for ag stormwater runoff and irrigation return flow will be upheld. We’ll see. The bottom line is that EPA (and ACOE) are going to adopt the rule, whether we like it or not. The issue is going to be settled between the administration and the new 114<sup>th</sup> congress and that’s where the National and Regional Weed Science Societies will likely expend our efforts.

**4. NPDES Fix Bill** There will be renewed effort to get legislation passed that would “fix” the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements that resulted from a 2009 Circuit Court ruling. There is bipartisan support in both houses of Congress that would clarify Congress’s intent for the regulation of pesticides applied to or near water. The NPDES permits impose additional resource and liability burdens on small businesses, farms, municipalities, state agencies, and federal agencies. The National and Regional Weed Science Societies have supported a legislative fix for this issue since the Circuit Court ruling and will continue to support efforts to resolve this issue going forward.

**5. USDA-ARS NPL for Invasive Pests of Crops.** Dr. Rosalind James started at end of March in Beltsville, MD. She worked previously at the USDA-ARS Bee Biology and Systematics Lab in Logan, UT as a bee pathologist. Joe DiTomaso, Mike Barrett, Donn Shilling and I met with her to discuss the National and Regional Weed Science Society's recommendations for the NP304 Crop Protection research program. She will be attending and speaking at the WSSA annual meeting in Lexington.

**6. WSSA – USDA NIFA Liaison** – Dr. Donn Shilling, University of Georgia, was selected as the first ever WSSA – USDA NIFA Liaison. He is finalizing details of his liaison visits to USDA, which will begin in 2015.

**7. Foundation for Food Agricultural Research (FFAR)** Authorized as part of the 2014 Farm Bill. FFAR is non-profit, nonfederal entity that will leverage public and private resources to increase the scientific and technological research, innovation, and partnerships critical to boosting America's ag economy. Congress authorized up to \$200 million which must be matched by non-federal funds as the Foundation identifies and approves projects. FFAR's 15 member board was selected this summer. It will be chaired by Dan Glickman, former U.S. Secretary of Ag. Two FFAR board members we are hoping for support of weed science issues are Dr. Doug Buhler, Director of AgBioResearch and Senior Associate Dean for Research for the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, Michigan State University and Dr. Mark E. Keenum - President, Mississippi State University. The full FFAR Board of Directors is at: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/FFARBios2014.pdf>

**8. National Invasive Species Awareness Week (NISAW) – Feb. 22-28, 2015** In September, we learned that Lori Williams would be retiring as the Executive Director of the National Invasive Species Council (NISC). Chris Dionigi of NISC is serving in that role in the interim. As for NISAW, I am working with Phil Andreozzi, NISC's Assistant Director for International and Regional Affairs. We are coordinating some state focused webinars during the week as well as planning a NISAW Awards Ceremony, and an Invasive Species Kid's Day at the U.S. Botanic Garden. Please see [www.nisaw.org](http://www.nisaw.org)

Aquatic Plant Management Society (APMS)  
Directors Report (Vernon Vandiver, Jr.)  
Submitted for 13 January 2015 APMS Board Meeting  
Myrtle Beach, South Carolina  
2 January 2015

Old Business

- A. Prior to the APMS Annual Meeting last July in Savannah, I discussed with Mike Netherland and Cody Gray the possibility of inviting one of the officers from the Command Section of the US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District for one of the opening presentations at the Savannah Meeting. Both Mike Netherland and Cody Gray asked me to proceed with the invitation.

The Commander, Savannah District, COL Thomas J. Tickner initially had agreed to speak, but just prior to the Meeting, a conflict developed in his schedule. Then LTC Tom Woodie, Deputy Commander, Savannah District, agreed to give our opening presentation at the Savannah Meeting. At the final Board Meeting in July, Cody Gray asked me to write a letter of thanks to the Command Section, Savannah District. **The letter of thanks to LTC Woodie is attached to finalize my Board task.**

- B. At one of the July 2014 APMS Board Meeting sessions, I mentioned that I knew an attorney in Gainesville, FL that should be well qualified to review the APMS bylaws to ensure the bylaws were in compliance with any applicable statutes. At the previous Board Meeting, and during this current Board Meeting, the need to have the bylaws reviewed by an attorney for compliance had been discussed and agreed upon in concept.

After returning to Gainesville, FL I contacted Bruce Brashear. Esq. of Brashear & Assoc. PL who agreed to conduct the review of the APMS bylaws. When Mr. Brashear completed the review and sent me the final document, I forwarded this final document to Cody Gray. **The final document from Bruce Brashear. Esq. detailing the APMS bylaws review is attached to finalize my Board task.**

## New Business

I wish to suggest that the Board consider discussing under New Business several items that should enhance the audience experience during the during the APMS Annual Meetings' presentations. (As Bill Torres has been a friend of mine for many years, I called him to ask if he would mind if I made these suggestions for discussion, even though I do not think my suggested discussion topics overlap with what we ask Bill to do as meeting planner. Personally I feel Bill does an absolutely superior job as our meeting planner, and I wanted to make sure I did not imply otherwise to anyone.)

- A. Bill Torres tells me that the APMS already hires the hotels' audio visual staff for such things as installing the projection screens. As hotel ballrooms generally are not professionally hard wired for video projection, could we consider having the AV staff duct tape down all the electrical and AV wires we necessarily have to pull around on the ballroom floor? It makes for more secure connections, and additionally reduces a potential tripping hazard.
- B. Could we consider renting a lavalier microphone for use by the speakers at the podium? Many speakers walk away from the fixed podium mike and cannot be heard very well.
- C. Could we consider preparing a short "Instructions to Speakers" handout for use during our Annual Meeting?
  - a. Include:
    - i. use lavalier mike
    - ii. "please observe time limit on presentation"
    - iii. "when asked a question from the audience, please always repeat the question in full"
  - b. If email is sent from Program Chairman to speakers, perhaps the "Instructions to Speakers" could be included
  - c. Additionally the "Instructions to Speakers" handout could again be given to the speakers when they bring their digital copy of their presentation to the AV operator
- D. Could we consider preparing a short "Instructions to Moderators" handout to be given to each moderator before their session?
  - a. Include:
    - i. assist the speaker put on the lavalier mike
    - ii. reminding the speaker that when the speaker is asked a question from the audience, to please always repeat the question in full
  - b. If email is sent from Program Chairman to speakers, perhaps the "Instructions to Moderators" could be included

## VERNON V. VANDIVER JR.

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9715 NORTHWEST 63RD LANE ■ GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA 32653-6808

12 October 2014

LTC Thomas Woodie  
Deputy Commander  
US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District  
100 W Oglethorpe Ave  
Savannah GA 31401-3604

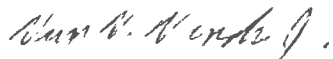
Dear LTC Woodie:

On behalf of the Aquatic Plant Management Society Board of Directors and its membership, I wish to extend our sincere appreciation to you for your opening presentation of the 54th Annual Meeting held at the Hilton Savannah DeSoto. We know you have many demands on your time, so we are especially grateful that you gave us the opportunity to meet you and to benefit from your briefing.

Many of our members are weed control professionals in one or more segments of the industry. We also have water managers represented in our membership. These groups benefitted greatly from your description of the design and operation of the Savannah District's water resources. I personally found the information you presented on how the water-use priorities change as the reservoirs' levels change very interesting and helpful.

Again, thank you very much for your significant contribution to our Annual Meeting program. It was also a pleasure to have our informal visit with you prior to the start of the meeting.

Regards,



Vernon V. Vandiver, Jr.  
Colonel, USAF (Ret.)

cc: COL Thomas J. Tickner

# BRASHEAR & ASSOC. PL

*C o u n s e l o r s   A t   L a w*

925 N.W. 56<sup>th</sup> TERRACE, SUITE C  
GAINESVILLE FL 32605-6451  
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BBRASHEAR@NFLALAW.COM

BRUCE BRASHEAR, JD  
PETER C. FOCKS, JD

OF COUNSEL:  
LARRY D. MARSH, JD, LLM

November 7, 2014

Vernon V. Vandiver, Jr., Ph.D.  
Professor Emeritus  
Agronomy Department  
University of Florida  
9715 N.W. 63rd Lane  
Gainesville FL 32653

Dear Vernon:

You have requested that I review the bylaws of The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc. (the "Company") for consistency with Florida law.

I reviewed the Company's bylaws of amended as of July 15, 2013. Your bylaws comply with the requirements of Florida statutes.

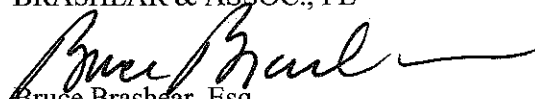
I would, however, suggest two changes to the bylaws relating to compliance with IRS regulations. Since the Company is a 501(c)(5) organization, it seems to me that the inclusion of a statement in Article II - Society Objectives, to the effect: "The Society will operate under Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code" would be desirable because it would make this explicit. Similarly, I suggest amending Article XVIII -Dissolution, to read as follows:

The Society shall have perpetual existence, but if dissolved, its assets shall be donated to a non-profit organization or Institution qualified under Section 501(c)(5) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, to be selected by the last Board of Directors to be sued for research or education outreach on aquatic plant management.

Please let me know if you have any further questions, or if I can provide any other information.

Sincerely,

BRASHEAR & ASSOC., PL

  
Bruce Brashear, Esq.

## BRASHEAR & ASSOC., PL

925 NW 56th Terrace, Suite C  
Gainesville, FL 32605

Tax Identification No. 59-3560780

voice: 352-336-0800  
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The Aquatic Plant Management Society, Inc.  
c/o Vernon Vandiver  
9715 N.W. 63rd Lane  
Gainesville FL 32653

November 07, 2014 DUE ON RECEIPT

Aquatic Plant Soc 1097  
Invoice #20494

### Professional services:

Date	Init.	Description	Hours	Amount
9/18/2014	BB	Review By-Laws and relationship to other Florida entities; telephone conference with Vernon Vandiver	0.50	
11/7/2014	BB	Review Florida Non-Profit Statutes re: By-Law requirements; draft letter to Vernon Vandiver	0.42	
For professional services rendered			0.92	\$322.00

Balance Due:

\$322.00

### User Summary

Name	Hours	Rate	Amount
Bruce Brashear	0.92	350.00	\$322.00

The balance is DUE UPON RECEIPT. Balances remaining unpaid after thirty days accrue a late charge of 1.5% per month on the unpaid balance. There is an initial thirty day grace period applied. We accept payment by Visa and Mastercard for our clients' convenience. Please call our Bookkeeping Department between 10:00AM and 5:00PM should you wish to pay by credit card or to discuss any questions regarding this Invoice.

Thank you.