

September 18, 2002

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

This memo serves as an update on AAPSE activities since my last report to you in April 2002. We have made a lot of progress on several fronts.

1. Roger Flashinski and his committee are drafting language to present to AAPSE members for the vote on whether members who are already retired should be able to be elected as officers and regional representatives to the Board. Currently, our language states that retired members cannot be elected to office, although if a member retires after the election (as in the case of Win Hock, our current President-Elect), he or she may serve the full term. You should hear more from me on this issue within the next couple of weeks. According to our Articles of Incorporation, we must wait 60 days after sending out the exact wording of the issue(s) to be voted on, so the vote will take place approximately two months after you first read the proposed amendments.
2. Pat Hipkins, chair of the last Nominations and Elections Committee, is close to completion of a document to guide future N&E Committees. This represents a very large effort, particularly on Pat's part, as it pulls together all of the details from past experience and ties them into future needs unique to conducting elections electronically. The document is organized as a timeline so that Committee members can figure out the timing necessary for pertinent tasks by working backwards from the proposed election date. The Executive Committee has commended Pat and her committee for their work – we believe this will be an important aid, particularly as we move into this new method of conducting our elections electronically *per* the Board's recommendation last March. The document will eventually be posted on the AAPSE web site, and will be distributed to the Board and to members of the incoming N&E Committee.
3. Carrie Foss has accepted my invitation to serve as chair of the new N&E Committee -- the Board recommended that a member of the last Committee should chair the new Committee to help things run smoothly. Janet Fults, Andrew Thostenson, and Ron Gardner will serve as the representatives from the Western, North Central, and Northeast regions, respectively. The Southern region will be electing its representative to this committee very shortly.
3. Remember, we are holding our first electronic vote for regional representatives to the Board this fall. The current regional representatives are responsible for setting up the process within each region. You should be hearing from them shortly.
4. The Membership Committee is proceeding with ordering AAPSE membership pins. Joanne Kick-Raack asked the Board for comment on several potential designs.
6. The Urban IPM Education and Outreach Committee, established at the recommendation of

the AAPSE Board of Directors (BOD) in March, has accepted its charge as both a fact-finding and recommendations committee. Some initial work has been done *via* conference calls regarding issues and the focus of the committee. It was decided that the initial focus of the committee would be to develop a guideline document that would identify key issues associated with the implementation of a School IPM Program on a statewide basis. The committee is comprised of Ed Crow (Chair), Maryland Dept. of Agriculture; Jim Criswell, Oklahoma State University; Gary Fish, Maine Board of Pesticides Control; Carrie Foss, Washington State University; Carl Martin, Arizona Structural Pest Control Commission, and Clyde Ogg, University of Nebraska.

7. The Committee on NonEnglish Language Materials for Pesticide Safety Education has accepted its charge to review, develop, and identify pesticide safety materials that effectively serve the diverse linguistic needs of our clientele. Jennifer Weber is chairing this Committee. Members include Annika Forester, Jeff Jenkins, Pablo Kalnay, Bob Kessler, Gerald Kinro, Bruce Paulsrud, Myron Shenk, Suzanne Snedeker, and Sabina Swift – all AAPSE members; as well as the following non-AAPSE members: Peyam Barghassa, Bilingual Specialist NC Dept. of Ag. & Consumer Services; Vera Soltero and Grace Robiou, US EPA; and Hugh Smith, HI Ag. Research Ctr. Note that AAPSE committees usually consist only of AAPSE members. However, in this case, it was determined that additional outside expertise would greatly add to the ability of the Committee to accomplish its tasks.

Five subcommittees have been formed, with associated tasks as follows:

- i Subcommittee 1 will identify and create a list of pesticide information resources available in non-English languages. Sabina and Jennifer are developing an Ilocano version of the video Pesticide Safety for Small Farms (currently available in English, Spanish, Hmong, and Lao). Myron distributed a preliminary list of resources during the North Central meetings.
 - i Subcommittee 2 is developing a bilingual English/Spanish “word bank” that can be used to help develop pesticide resources. This resource is planned for a debut at the national meeting in Hawaii next year.
 - i Subcommittee 3 will identify trends in language needs and literacy issues throughout the US and its territories. Hugh has done extensive surveys of the language needs in Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa, Micronesia and Northern Marianas.
 - i Subcommittee 4 will investigate the availability of funds, resources, and services for translating pesticide information resources.
 - i Subcommittee 5 will investigate the availability and effectiveness of pesticide applicator exams for limited-English speakers and readers. Currently under review are Peyam’s Spanish translations of exams for North Carolina.
8. Based on members’ feedback, I’ve informed Jack Neylan that the information he sent to us concerning misuses and mixed stands of crops was passed on to our clientele. The most common response was sending the information on through various media to county agents, campus specialists, and other Extension staff. Several states also developed articles for their newsletters to growers, applicators, and pesticide industries, and some are covering it in recertification sessions. Although they did pass the information on, several states

commented that the likelihood of a pure stand is very low. Some states maintained that their Extension personnel are very careful to make recommendations only in line with the pesticide label, and that compliance with label directions is always specified. In short, AAPSE showed that we can be a reliable partner in publicizing this type of information even when there is disagreement as to its level of priority.

9. Larry Schulze, representing AAPSE, made a presentation to US EPA personnel, including Steve Johnson, Assistant Administrator; Susan Hazen, Deputy Assistant Administrator; Adam Sharp, Associate Assistant Administrator; Jim Jones, Deputy Director, OPP; and Debbie Edwards, Acting Director, OPP Registration Division. Larry reiterated AAPSE's concerns on the issues surrounding Section 25(b) registration. EPA is now thoroughly aware of both educational and regulatory implications ensuing from such registrations. The Executive Committee discussed the situation during our scheduled telemeeting on August 12. On the EC's recommendation, I have written to Steve Johnson on behalf of AAPSE to express our thanks to him and his staff for meeting with Larry. I stated that, while we still have some concerns, we are also cognizant of the many reasons for EPA's position on this issue, and that we hope to continue to work with EPA on many issues surrounding pesticide safety education. I've also written to Marv Lawson, President of AAPCO, to keep him up to date on AAPSE's position.
10. Based on members' feedback, I've reported to Jack Neylan that the information he sent to us concerning misuses and mixed stands of crops was passed on to our clientele. The most common response was sending the information on through various media to county agents, campus specialists, and other Extension staff. Several states also developed articles for their newsletters to growers, applicators, and pesticide industries, and some are covering it in recertification sessions. Although they did pass the information on, several states commented that the likelihood of a pure stand is very low. Some states pointed out that their Extension personnel are very careful to make recommendations only in line with the pesticide label, and that compliance with label directions is always specified. In short, AAPSE showed that we can be a reliable partner in publicizing this type of information even when there is disagreement as to its level of need.
11. Representing AAPSE in an official capacity, Larry Olsen attended a meeting of the Minor Crop Farmer Alliance (MCFA) in Washington, DC on May 8. A number of chemical companies have combined resources to complete generic studies to respond to EPA's spray drift and worker exposure rules. The meeting was intended as an update. Larry's input centered on involving USDA to provide educational materials for workers based on the technical information. In case you'd like to read Larry's report, I've attached it with this memo as another RTF file.
12. Myron Shenk has been heading up an *ad hoc* committee to review and make suggestions on the Performance Planning and Review System (PPRS) for Monte Johnson. Myron has collected comments and will soon be issuing recommendations. Myron reports that comments generally centered on the following five issues: (1) indicators, especially the idea of increasing numbers; (2) inability to change goals and objectives from year to year; (3) the difficulty inherent in trying to estimate percentages of trainees who plan to adopt practices; (4) the cost of surveying trainees to verify percentages of who actually modified behavior; and (5) why we are changing the system so soon after implementing it.
13. Courtesy of an invitation from Monte Johnson, I made a presentation August 21 to the Migrant Worker Interagency Commission in Washington, DC. About 50 people were

present from various agencies and organizations. After Monte spoke about PSEP, I discussed AAPSE's role in presenting pesticide education to various audiences, including how we interface on issues of importance to migrant workers. I informed them of various AAPSE committees and liaisons working on issues germane to workers, including the Issues and Evaluations Committee, our International Harmonization/Classification of Pesticide Labels liaisons, the Urban IPM Education and Outreach Committee, pesticide security, spray drift, and, of course, the Committee on NonEnglish Language Materials for Pesticide Safety Education. Monte had also asked me to fill them in on the Pesticides and national Strategies for Health Care Providers Initiative. Monte and I both thought it was a good opportunity to show off our programs.

14. The Recognitions and Resolutions Committee has been finalized and members have received their charge. Through no fault of the Chair, Sandra McDonald, it has taken a long time to get this committee in place. I am pleased to report that Larry Olsen, Dean Herzfeld, Paul Baker, Larry Towle, Tom Delaney, and Richard Pont have all agreed to serve AAPSE in this capacity. The Committee will recommend to the Board a list of awards (which may, of course, be expanded in the future), and procedures for nominating and choosing award recipients.
15. Carol Ramsay and Dean Herzfeld have completed the AAPSE-sponsored survey on pesticide security. The results were presented at the 2002 annual National Pesticide Stewardship Association (NPSA) meeting in Seattle in August. When the results are fully analyzed, the paper will be submitted for publication. A reporter from Pesticide and Toxic Chemical News (PTCN) has written an article on the survey, based on the NPSA presentation and interviews with a few AAPSE members.
16. Pat Hipkins, our liaison to NPSA, reports that NPSA elected its first Board of Directors. NPSA has 'slots' on their board for various groups: waste management industry, recycling/plastics industry, pesticide registrants, SLAs, universities, etc. Mary Grodner was chosen as the higher education representative to NPSA's Board. Although Mary is, of course, an AAPSE member, Pat will continue as AAPSE's official liaison. NPSA has stated that it wishes to have close ties to and communication with AAPSE.
17. I have saved the most pleasurable news until last. Ed Vitzthum and Jake MacKenzie have been recognized by AAPSE for their contributions to AAPSE and to pesticide education in general. During the March meeting, the Board conferred a Life membership on Ed for his service to AAPSE and pesticide safety education over the years. This summer, the Board approved a certificate of appreciation for Jake, recognizing his strong support of our Association. Both awards were made on the basis of unanimous decisions by the Board. Announcement of both awards was delayed while we sought a way to deliver them in person at meetings. In the end, both had to be sent through the mail, but the method of delivery does not diminish our sincere appreciation of Ed's and Jake's contributions.

In closing, I want to say how pleased I was to be able to attend each of the regional meetings this year. Each has its own character and purpose, but I found all of them extremely beneficial in terms of both my own education and, of course, exchange of great ideas among our members.