

AAPSE Web Services, Listserv, and e-Journal Report Feb. 19, 2002

Committee Chair: Mike Weaver, Virginia Tech

The AAPSE web site (<http://aapse.ext.vt.edu>) is in its seventh year and has grown from a curiosity to a vital tool for the organization. The home page has gone through a transition from its first generation in 1995 to its present form. A cosmetic change was made in the fall of 2001 and a more substantial change is in the works. This change will allow the website to be controlled from a database and will allow committees and individual users to manipulate parts of the site according to certain privileges.

The web site was moved to a new server in December 2001. We are pursuing the registration of an ".org" address at this time. The cost of this change will be sent to APPSE. It will involve an annual fee for registration (around \$35.00/year) and the cost to redirect the ".org" address from a commercial site (around \$20.00/year). We are carefully researching the options in order to make sure that whatever vendor we pick is a long term and reliable choice. We are also exploring discount pricing which are associated with multi-year contracts for service. These are as high as 40% for a 10-year commitment.

Virginia Tech was encouraged by the Executive Committee, several years ago, to ask AAPSE for support funds to offset some of the costs that Virginia Tech has put and continues to put into hosting the AAPSE web site. These costs include a dedicated server, monthly costs of a dedicated internet line, part of a programmer position for server upkeep and software programming, and time to edit and post web documents and database information. The issue of monetary support has grown into a complicated issue that we do not wish to pursue at this time. We would, however, encourage the Executive Committee to reestablish an e-services advisory committee (similar to that originally established by Barry Brennan when he presided over AAPSE) with members representing the Executive Committee, the Membership Committee, the Webmaster, and other appropriate members -- with membership balanced by regions. Further, we ask that the Executive Committee allow the Webmaster to present this report verbally to the Executive Committee in the future. Many of these points require discussion and we are not getting that with the closed-door sessions currently held by the Executive Committee. This would allow us to address our organization's needs and member's concerns more efficiently and avoid the one-way communication process that exists at present.

The AAPSE listserv has 187 addresses registered as of February 19, 2002. Some members have more than one address to handle multiple e-mail addresses. This service is being revised and updated daily, in addition to several complete audits of all names annually. Members are encouraged to notify Carol Ramsay and Mike Weaver when their e-mail addresses change to avoid loss of this service.

There have been several significant changes to the Journal of Pesticide Safety Education since the Editorial Board met in San Antonio in June 2001. A new editorial board was appointed in November 2001. Many previous members were reappointed to the current board, which now has a two-year reappointment cycle. Former members were given several opportunities to reply to requests to them to confirm their interest in continuing to serve on the Board. Based on interest, membership status (eligibility), and members leaving the Board voluntarily, the Board now includes eight former members and four new members. The members are posted on the JPSE website. In addition, the Board appointed an Assistant Editor to handle grammatical reviews and an Associate Editor to coordinate content reviews. The Editor was renamed

“Editor-in-Chief” and is responsible for day-to-day operations of the Journal, setting policy, maintaining the JPSE website, coordinating the Board and other Editors, and final formatting of articles prior to publishing on the website. A new set of criteria for authors and reviewers was written by the Board and posted in February 2002. A new type of article was published in 2001(Volume 3) – a review article. The first review article, published by Mary Grodner, reviewed the National Aerial Applicator Training Manual (written by Tom Dean, UFL). Two other articles will be published for Volume 3 as soon as they are returned from authors, the Associate Editor, and the Assistant Editor. As in the past, we encourage AAPSE members to submit articles.

Since this report was last filed in June 2001. This information represents only the last eight months.