



ACSPSNA Newsletter

The Association of Chinese Soil & Plant Scientists in North America (ACSPSNA)

October 2010

Contents in this issue:

- 1. ACSPSNA 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes**
 - 2. ACSPSNA 2010 Annual Meeting Agenda**
 - 3. ACSPSNA Activities in 2010**
-

1. ACSPSNA 2009 Annual Meeting Minutes

The ACSPSNA 2009 Annual Meeting was held Monday, November 2, 2009 at the Convention Center, Pittsburgh, PA. Approximately 80 members participated and Drs. Dong Wang and Zhenli He presided the meeting. The following are minutes from the meeting.

- 1)** The ACSPSNA co-sponsored the following two symposia with the Soil and Environmental Quality Division of SSSA (S11) and the Environment Network for Chinese Students and Scholars (ENCSS).
 - a. Integrated Solutions to the Soil and Agri-Environmental Challenges Facing China in the 21st Century (Session No 125).
 - b. The Role of Science in Environmental Pollution and Climate Change - A Dialogue between the US and Sino Scientists (Session 255).

Seven scientists were invited from China and their keynote speeches at these two symposia were well received by the audience. The symposia provided a platform for the interactions among the soil, plant and environmental scientists and opportunities for future collaboration between US and China.

- 2)** Professor Fusuo Zhang from China Agricultural University and Professor Zucong Cai from Nanjing Soil Science Research Institute, Chinese Academy of Sciences gave a talk at the Association Annual Meeting on research collaborations and academic exchange between China and the US; and potential funding opportunities and mechanisms to support these activities. Their talk sparked much interest in future collaborations in research and graduate education.

- 3) Dr. Yuncong Li, a professor at the University of Florida was nominated and elected unanimously as the Secretary/Treasurer for ACSPSNA. **Welcome aboard, Yuncong!**

2. ACSPSNA 2010 Annual Meeting in Long Beach, CA



Please mark your calendar!

When: Monday, November 1, 2010, 6:00-8:30 PM
Where: Convention Center, Room 102B, Long Beach, CA

The 2010 ACSPSNA annual meeting will take place at the above time and location. We have the following three main items planned for the meeting.

- Zhenli He will report the association activities in 2010.
- Professor Min Zhang from Shandong Agricultural University will give a talk on “Inventing new controlled release fertilizers-my experience in China”.
- Professor Laosheng Wu from Zhejiang University will give a talk on the “1000 Talents Program” in China.
- ACSPSNA business meeting: Approval of 2009 meeting minutes, financial report, election of association official, and other items.

3. ACSPSNA Activities in 2010

- Per request by Zhenli He, the Association board (Zhenli He, Wengui Yan and Yuncong Li) had a call meeting in early 2010. At the meeting, the registration of the ACSPSNA as a non-profit organization, the transfer of ACSPSNA website from Oklahoma State University (OSU) to the University of Florida, membership fee rate increase, certificates of recognition and planning of the 2010 annual meeting were discussed.
- The by-law non-profit corporation of organization has been approved for the Association of Chinese Soil & Plant Scientists in North America (ACSPSNA) by the Florida Department of State, and the official title of the organization is: “The Association of Chinese Soil & Plant Scientists in North America Corp.”. Corp. or Corporation seems inappropriate but it is a must word for any non-profit organization. With this status, we can now open a bank account for the association and can accept donations directly to the Association account.
- The ACSPSNA website has been successfully transferred from the OSU to the University of Florida, the new website is: <http://trec.ifas.ufl.edu/ACSPSNA/>. Effort has been made to keep the original information and style. Any suggestion is welcome!

- Current rate of membership fee is too low to be able to support annual activity. It is suggested to raise membership fee from \$5 to \$10 for students/visiting scholars and from \$10 to \$20 for faculty/scientists. It is also suggested that members can acquire an honorary membership (good through life time) by paying a fee of \$200 (or \$100 to be finalized). An open discussion will be held for a final decision.
- It is discussed that the Association may create and issue a certificate (plaque) to a retired president of the Association, a speaker who is invited to give a keynote speech at the annual meeting of the ACSPSNA, a honorary member or any person who donates a significant amount of money to the Association fund for establishing awards and/or sponsoring a meeting/symposium.
- The Association may need a permanent treasurer to take care of the non-profit organization matter, which requires annual report to the Florida Department of State, and failure to do so may subject to penalty. In the past Dr. Qingren Wang has provided assistance in the application and is familiar with this matter. It is suggested that Dr. Wang can be a good candidate for the association treasurer.
- Others?

We look forward to seeing you in Long Beach!

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