

Minutes 2002 W-6 Technical Advisory Committee
Davis, CA
August 1-2 2002

Attending:

Rich Hannan, WRPIS/W6, Pullman, WA
Harold Bockelman, NSGC, Aberdeen, ID
Jack Martin, Montana State Univ., Bozeman, MT
Kevin Jensen, USDAARS, Logan, UT
Shawn Mehlenbacher, Oregon State University, Corvallis, OR
Chuck Simon, USDAARS, NCGR, Davis CA
Reza Fatahi, visiting scientist, Oregon State University
Jennifer Petersen, Tomato Genetics Resource Center, Davis, CA
Carl Jones, Tomato Genetics Resource Center, Davis, CA
Roger Chetelat, Tomato Genetics Resource Center, Davis, CA
Ian Ray, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM
Robert Kruger, USDAARS, NCGR, Riverside, CA
Mark Brick, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO
Dan Parfitt, University of California-Davis, Davis, CA
Dave Ianson, NAPGRU, Palmer, AK
Kim Hummer, USDAARS, NCGR, Corvallis, OR
Robin Groose, University of Wyoming, Laramie, WY
Ralph Cavalieri, Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA (Admin. Advisor)
Bob Zemetra, University of Idaho, Moscow, ID
Malli K. Aradhya, USDAARS, NCGR, Davis, CA

Current W-6 Officers:

Bob Zemetra, Chair
Kevin Jensen, Vice chair
Jack Martin, Secretary

Thursday August 1, 2002

The meeting was called to order by Chair R. Zemetra at 8:00 am. Committee members and guests were introduced.

Committee Assignments:

Resolutions committee – Kevin Jensen, Dan Parfitt, Dave Ianson.
Nominations committee – Mark Brick, Robin Groose, Ian Ray.

Minutes of 2001 annual meeting:

Motion: Approve the minutes of the 2001 annual meeting with corrections to attendee and affiliation list and the terms of current officers. (Moved by Kevin Jensen, second by Dan Parfitt) Motion passed.

W-6 Administrative advisor's report - Ralph Cavalieri:

The FY 2003 W-6 budget was approved at \$354,000 at the Western directors meeting in March. The W-6 project was granted a one-year extension to submit for renewal. This will allow the W-6 project to coincide more closely with the ARS project renewal. It was noted that there will be increased emphasis on project impact in addition to scientific merit.

Plant Germplasm Resources Program – absent, see submitted report:

National Germplasm Resources Lab – absent, see submitted report:

Although there were no formal reports from national labs, Rich Hannan led a discussion about some emerging issues having impact on the germplasm system.

As of meeting time, both the House and Senate Ag Appropriations committees have included some new money targeting to some specific NPGS sites in the Western region.

An NPGS policy statement dealing with international germplasm exchange and distribution will be drafted in the future. There seems to be a wide range of opinion regarding germplasm exchange from individuals within the system. Opinions range from allowing free exchange even with countries that do not reciprocate, to moving toward specific bilateral agreements with individual countries.

APHIS now requires that all plant germplasm coming into the US must be accompanied by a phytosanitary certificate. Members were encouraged to make sure colleagues going on plant collecting trips were aware of this. Plant Exploration Office can provide a special import permit for plant exploration trips that should expedite this process of getting plant material back into the US.

The GRIN data base team will be upgrading to a “windows type” interface, which will utilize a browser interface. This should make for easier data entry for curators.

It was noted that some new positions have been added across the system. This was the result of congressional lobbying efforts sponsored by ASTA, ASHS, CSSA, universities, state governments and others.

National Center for Genetic Resources Preservation – absent, no report:

It was noted that the former National Seed storage laboratory has changed its name. This coincides with their expanding role into preservation of other life forms in addition to plants.

Natural Resource Conservation Service – absent, no report:

Forest Service – absent no report:

Bureau of Land Management – absent, no report:

Western Regional PI Station report and budget request – Rich Hannan (see submitted report and website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/ars/PacWest/Pullman/Reports.html>

The administrative unit oversees three sites; Western Regional Plant Introduction Station, Pullman, WA, National Temperate Forage Legume Genetic Resources Unit, Prosser, WA, and National Arid Land Plant Genetic Resources Unit, Parlier, CA. Research activities, germplasm acquisition and distribution, and personnel changes were summarized. Central Ferry farm is being expanded by 40 acres. Some land near airport was lost because airport expansion to meet expanded security needs. Land may be leased from private farmer to replace this. There is interest by W-6 to integrate GIS technology into acquisition efforts and accession characterization. There is currently no coordinated effort. But there was a special GIS meeting after the 2002 NPGS, PGOC meetings in Beltsville. Recent collecting trips have incorporated latitude – longitude coordinates with each collection site.

The FY 2004 budget was proposed as \$365,000. Motion: The W-6 TAC committee approves and endorses the proposed FY 2004 W-6 budget of \$365,000. (Moved by S. Mehlenbacher second by I. Ray). Motion passed.

National Clonal Germplasm Repository Corvallis, OR – Kim Hummer (see submitted report and website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/cor/news/2001/annual2001.html>

National Clonal Repository for Fruit and Nut Crops Davis, CA – Chuck Simon (see submitted report):

Tropical Plant Genetic Resource Unit Hilo, HI – absent, no report;

National Clonal Germplasm Repository for Citrus and Dates Riverside, CA – Robert Kruger (see website):

<http://www.ars-grin.gov/ars/PacWest/Riverside/documents.htm>

National Arid Land Plant Gerplasm Unit – R. Hannan for M. Jenderek (see submitted report):

This site is becoming increasingly important as a grow-out site in support of the entire plant germplasm system. Office facility was constructed this past year.

National Small Grain Collection Aberdeen, ID – Harold Bockelman (see submitted report):

National Artic Plant Germplasm Resource Unit – David Ianson (see submitted report):

State Reports:

Alaska – absent, no report

Arizona – absent, no report

California – Dan Parfitt (see submitted report)

Colorado – Mark Brick (see submitted report)

Idaho – Bob Zemetra (see submitted report)

Montana – Jack Martin (see submitted report)

New Mexico – Ian Ray (see submitted report)

Oregon – Shawn Mehlenbacher (see submitted report)

Utah – Kevin Jensen (see submitted report)

Washington – absent, no report

Wyoming – Robin Goose (see submitted report)

Business Meeting:

Plant Exploration – Kevin Jensen reported that twelve proposals were funded in the past year. He pointed out that exploration proposals have no money for evaluation of the plant material. Some discussion followed on where responsibility should lie for evaluation following collection. Members felt that plant material should be split when it comes in so that part goes to the collector for evaluation and part to the curator. This would ensure that the entire collection would not be lost. Kevin Jensen has been the W-6 representative to review all plant exploration proposals. The committee commended his past efforts and unanimously endorsed that he continue to serve in this capacity.

Regarding evaluations, Rich Hannan contacted Karen Williams, NPGS Plant Exploration Office, and was told that PEO does not fund evaluations associated with germplasm from plant collection trips.

Elections – Nominations committee recommended Ian Ray for secretary with existing officers to move up the officer chain (K. Jensen to Chair and J. Martin to Vice chair). Motion: The W-6 TAC committee accepts the committee's nomination. (Moved by R. Hannan second by S. Mehlenbacher). Motion passed. The officer slate for 2003-2004 will be Ian Ray secretary, Jack Martin vice chair, and Kevin Jensen chair.

Future meeting sites – Pullman WA had already been proposed as the 2003 meeting site. Meeting will probably be third or fourth week in June 2003. Motion: The proposed meeting site for 2004 will be Corvallis, OR. (Moved by M. Brick second R. Goose). Motion passed.

Reporting of user information – There is still interest in developing a standard reporting letter/form to be sent to users who request germplasm. There was discussion as to the value of standardized reports from germplasm users across regions. R. Hannan brought up issue of how to document “impact” from plant germplasm. Some suggestions included using GRIN to search variety registrations and PVP applications in conjunction with CGCs and TAC to provide this information.

Project rewrite – Target date for completing W-6 project rewrite is January 2003. Once the initial document is written members can view and/or edit it on line. It will be through the NIMS (National Information Management System) website. The URL is:

<http://www.lgu.umd.edu/login.cfm>

More specific details regarding the project proposal rewrite will be coming through email to TAC members.

Friday August 2

Resolutions committee report – The resolutions committee presented their report. See resolutions below.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 am. Members then toured the Tomato Genetics Stocks Collection and the NCGR facilities at Davis and Winters, CA.

Jack Martin
W-6 TAC secretary

Resolution 1:

Be it resolved that the W-6 technical advisory committee would like to thank Dr. Dan Parfitt at UC-Davis and Dr. Chuck Simon and associates at USDA-ARS National Clonal Germplasm Repository at Davis, CA for hosting an excellent meeting. (Moved by I. Ray second by S. Mehlenbacher). Resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 2:

Be it resolved that the W-6 technical advisory committee expresses appreciation to Dr. Tom Lumpkin for his many years of dedicated service as the Washington state representative on the W-6 technical advisory committee and contributions in support of plant germplasm preservation. (Moved by D. Parfitt second by I. Ray). Resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 3:

Be it resolved that the W-6 technical advisory committee thanks Stoney Wright for four years of service as the Alaska state representative to the W-6 technical advisory committee. (Moved by D. Parfitt second by I. Ray). Resolution passed unanimously.

Resolution 4:

Be it resolved that the W-6 technical advisory committee thanks Bob Zemetra for his service as chairman, vice chairman, and secretary on the W-6 technical advisory committee. (Moved by D. Parfitt second by I. Ray). Resolution passed unanimously.