

2020 SWSS Representative Report to WSSA Board of Directors

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The 2020 meeting was January 27-29 at the Beauv Rivage Hotel and Casino in Biloxi with 277 participants (101 student; 173 regular; 3 spouses). Despite rainfall, 25 golfers participated in the Sunday golfing to raise funds for Endowment. Like 2019, the 2020 meeting overlapped with the GCSAA annual meeting, therefore, participation of members involved with golf and sports turf weed management was negatively impacted. Graduate students that arrived Sunday were invited to participate in a professional development panel discussion with four newly hired weed scientists: two with industry and two with academia. The symposium "Collision between Wildlife Management and Weed Sciences: Challenges and Opportunities Abound" was part of the opening session as were three graduate student enrichment presentations. The graduate student luncheon featured D. Ashford with USDA speaking on leadership styles and being an authentic leader. The Weed Science Quiz Bowl, hosted by Tom Mueller, but again organized and executed by Sarah Mueller, resulted in a packed room. For the 2020 annual meeting there were 268 verbal presentations and 128 poster presentations. CrowdCompass mobile app used for the meeting, but printed programs were also available.

The SWSS board would like to adopt a harassment policy similar to that ultimately adopted by WSSA.

The 2021 meeting site will be the Hilton Knoxville/Knoxville Convention Center, TN January 24-28. The 2022 annual meeting will be at the AT&T Executive Education & Conference Center in Austin, TX January 23-27.

Respectfully submitted



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John Byrd
SWSS Representative