



Science & Policy Committee Tuesday, December 4th, 2018

Call to Order at 3:00 pm (CST) by Committee Chair, Andrew Sharpley sharpley@uark.edu. Seven committee members attended.

- The Committee discussed the status of two ongoing projects. The “Flood Management” white paper is progressing under the guidance of **Clark Gantzer** and he has provided a list of related publications, which is shared with the Committee for possible additions.
- **Andy Manale** discussed the status of the “Conservation Principles” book. The Committee agreed to define and solicit authors for each chapter, then develop a book proposal for submission to a publisher. In addition, **Andy Manale** felt it would be both appropriate and feasible to look for opportunities to fund this project by acquiring funds to hold two chapter-writing meetings, to facilitate completion of the book.

It was agreed that a face-to-face meeting would help meet writing timelines and interaction among chapter authors, which would result in a coherent product. Assigned lead authors of each chapter would be encouraged to get co-authors. The book will be written in a manner that reaches and relates to a broad audience. **Clark Gantzer** will prepare a bibliography of related textbooks to determine the need and style for this book, to ensure it builds on (and not duplicates) prior books. **David Speidel** suggested each book chapter have reference to “real-world” applications of the principles.

- The possibility of engaging guest speakers to present to the Committee was discussed. These speakers could present during regularly scheduled conference calls or on an independent basis, depending on availability. **Naveen Adusumilli** also suggested that some of these presentations could be done as a webinar, hosted by SWCS to gain a wider audience participation. Initial ideas of topics include someone involved in **the recent IPCC report** (see <https://www.ipcc.ch/sr15/> https://report.ipcc.ch/sr15/pdf/sr15_spm_final.pdf) and the importance of the **new Farm Bill** and what role SWCS might play in educational outreach.
- Identify partners and grants for education and outreach efforts of SWCS.
- Proposals for a Science and Policy session and the Annual Conference in Pittsburgh were called for. **Lindsay Yasarer** organized the session last year, which consisted of “flash” presentation (8 minutes) followed by discussion. This session was so popular with attendees that discussion continued past the end of the session and into the break! Ideas for this year in Pittsburgh are requested. The deadline for submission to Headquarters is January 9, 2019.
- The committee recommends SWCS reach out to **Scott Angle**, the new Director of NIFA to perhaps speak and be involved in the 2019 Conference in Pittsburgh. The main thought was to provide opportunities for Scott to be engaged with the Society. Given his soils background, he will be a good advocate for soil and water conservation.



- **Andy Manale** suggested a topic of future S&PC discussion be the opportunities and challenges to influence regulation that may come out of the new Farm Bill, which influence SWCS activities; i.e., soil and water conservation. **Mohammad Khakbazan** suggested this could be the topic for the Science and Policy Session at SWCS-Pittsburgh. And **Scott Angle** might be invited to be a part of this.
- The S&PC welcomes the return of Jorge Delgado to the Committee and new member **Amanda Brown**, a watershed coordinator for the Polk County (Des Moines area) Soil and Water Conservation District.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:30 pm (CST).

The next conference call for the S&P Committee is scheduled for mid-January as the regularly scheduled call would be New Year's Day and I would expect most could not make a call that day!! A Doodle will be sent out to set a date mid-January that is most convenient to everyone.