

2006 NCR-167 Business Meeting minutes
Submitted by Marcelo Carena

A) MEMBERS ABSENT:

John E. Ayers, Pennsylvania, James B. Holland USDA-ARS, Raleigh, NC, Manjit Kang Louisiana, Ann Marie Thro USDA-CSREES, Matt Krakowsky, USDA-ARS, Tifton, GA, Ken Russell, University of Nebraska, Georgia Davis, University of Missouri, Kendall Lamkey, Iowa State University, Rex Bernardo, University of Minnesota, James Dodd, Industry Representative, Ken Grafton, Administrative Advisor.

B) ANNUAL MEETING:

The annual meeting of this multi-state committee (NCR-167) was held at the University of Guelph, 1307 Thornbrough, Guelph, Ontario, Canada on February 20-21, 2006. The meeting site and date were determined at the 2005 annual business meeting. Marcelo Carena, Martin Bohn (Chair of NCR-167), and Liz Lee moderated the 2006 annual meeting of NCR-167. Liz Lee took care of the local arrangements for NCR-167.

Dr. Bohn called the meeting to order at 6:15PM on February 20, 2005. The minutes from the 2005 meeting were unanimously approved.

Dr. Bohn gave an updated on the 5-year renewal of NCR-167, submission of annual reports, and 2006 meeting approval. A discussion followed on the general future direction of NCR-167. In particular, a general consensus was reached that the group should put forth greater effort to organize collaborative regional research and to work to promote greater exposure of the group to the public, the seed industry, and other maize research organizations. In response to this need, a consensus was reached that when possible, future meetings should be held in conjunction with other already established meetings such as ASA, ASTA, Illinois Corn Breeders School, Maize Genetics Conference, GEM. Dr. Edwards moved to meet jointly with the maize genetics meeting in 2007. Dr. Betran seconded the motion and motion was carried. In addition, tentative plans were discussed to hold the 2008 meeting in conjunction with the IL Corn Breeders School in Urbana, IL.

Clint Turnbull gave the treasurer's report in lieu of Dr. Lamkey. The NCR-167 committee did have \$1,845.00 in total expenses for 2005 (hotel) but the total income due to membership and meeting attendance was \$2,406.00. Therefore, the balance at the end of 2005 was positive (\$561.00) but leaving a negative account balance (\$-149.70) carried from 2004.

The group arranged a conference call with Daryl Lund, Executive Director (NCRA Office, University of Wisconsin) for an Administrative Report in representation of Dr Grafton. As a result of this conference call three were the topics addressed:

- 1) Replacement of NCR167 with NCCC: Dr. Lund reminded the group to decide whether NCR167 should become a coordinating committee (NCCC) or ERA (Education and Research). We voted to become NCCC in 2005 and Dr. Carena will communicate this to either Nicole Nelson or Ken Grafton.
- 2) HATCH/CSREES Budget report: It has been recommended to move Section 406 funds (9-10, water quality, food safety, pesticide, etc) to the National Research Initiative (NRI) budget as competitive grants.
- 3) Funding formula for HATCH funds: The way on which these funds are distributed to Experiment Stations. These are based on a formula based on acreage, production, and percentage of population involved in agriculture. However, this currently under risk since the president recommended transforming the formula into competitive funding programs.

Administrative structure of NCR167

The structure was changed as recommended in 2005. After discussion Dr. Edwards moved to have a program committee chair and a location committee chair. Motion was withdrawn. A second motion by Dr. Edwards was to develop four elected positions:

- a) CHAIR: Coordinates location, program, AA contact (liason), project renewal (every 5 years), publications, funding.
- b) CHAIR-ELECT: Replaces chair each year. Therefore, needs to work closely with Chair.
- c) SECRETARY/TREASURER: Term lasts the duration of the project (five years). Develops minutes and annual reports based on the feedback from members.
- d) WEB MASTER: Term lasts the duration of the project (five years)
Maintains the website and email list

Dr. Pratt seconded the motion and motion was carried

Elections

Elections for each of the positions were carried out. Dr Lamkey nominated Dr. Carena to be the new secretary via email. After this new structure was developed, Dr. Lee nominated Dr. Carena to become the new secretary/treasurer. Dr. Bohn seconded the motion and motion was carried. Dr. Edwards volunteer to become the web master. Dr. Chu nominated Dr. Coors to become chair. Dr. Betran seconded the motion and motion was carried. Dr. Pratt nominated Dr. Bohn to become chair-elect since the meeting for 2008 was proposed at Urbana, IL. Dr. Carena seconded the motion and motion was carried.

Since the 2005 report and minutes were not done the new secretary (Dr. Carena) will coordinate the development of 2005 and 2006 reports in the next six weeks based on the deadline given to our group. The new chair (Dr. Coors) will coordinate the 2007 annual meeting and will contact the AA for approval. The new web master (Dr. Edwards) will keep web site updated.

Elite public lines were tested across locations and maturities as usual and results were reported. Only the 400-600 maturity group did not have trials in 2005. Testcrosses were produced for 2006 testing. Therefore, Dr. Edwards moved to continue NCR trials. Dr. Betran seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

New business was reported. Dr. Edwards suggested the possibility to conduct an experiment as a group on the IBM population in order to confirm QTL x E interactions. Limitations were presented such as maturity in the northern Corn Belt. Dr. Lee suggested as an alternative to testcross the IBM population with an Iodent commercial tester. Dr. Edwards also suggested updating the book 'Compilation of NA Germplasm' into an electronic resource hosted by the Maize Genetics and Genomics Database. No decisions were made on these ideas.

Dr. Bohn moved to adjourn and Dr. Lee seconded the motion. Therefore, the business meeting was adjourned at 8:10PM.