



## Western Forest Genetics Association (WFGA)

Biennial General Meeting  
Seattle, Washington, USA  
June 24, 2015

### Attendance

Andrew Bower (President/Chair)	Keith Woeste
Deogratias Rweyongeza (Vice president/secretary)	Valerie Hipkins
Brad St. Clair (Treasurer)	Joan Dunlap
Andreas Hamann (Webmaster)	Jon Degner
Jessica Wright	Marie Vance

#### 1.0 *Present the agenda*

- Andrew Bower presented the agenda; agenda accepted as it.

#### 2.0 *Review the 2013 meeting minutes*

- Minutes reviewed and accepted without modification

#### 3.0 *President's report & discussion*

- i. Andrew Bower explained how the officers worked to organize the 2015 meeting in Seattle including subsidizing some of the costs by WFGA & student sponsorship.
- ii. Discussed and reconfirmed Alberta's commitment to host the 2017 meeting which will most likely be a joint conference with the Canadian Forest Genetics Association (CFGA).
- iii. To attract participants and as tentatively suggested at the 2013 meeting in Whistler, the plan is to hold the conference in Banff National Park.
- iv. Deogratias Rweyongeza (incoming president) will contact Dale Simpson (CFGA) prior to the August 2015 CFGA conference in New Brunswick (Canada) to discuss the joint conference proposal.
- v. Discussed the options for hosting the 2019 WFGA meeting in California
  - Agreed that the 2019 meeting must be in California

- WFGA officers to work out the details and explore joint hosting with other organizations.

#### 4.0 *Treasurer report*

Brad St. Clair (treasurer) presented the financial report which is summarized below (US \$)

##### **Operating Account (Bank of America Business Investment Account)**

Opening balance on July 2013	1,993.67
Income:	
Interest	3.06
Recovered costs from Whistle 2013 meeting	6,000.00
Surplus from Whistler 2013 meeting	4,315.57
Debits:	
Monthly maintenance fee (Aug 2013 – Feb 2014)	50.00
Chitchfield Award 2013	900.00
<b>Closing balance on May 31, 2015</b>	<b>11,362.3</b>

##### **Oregon State University Foundation Account**

Endowment Account current balance	20,523.51
Expendable Account current balance	6,249.11

#### **Discussion**

- i. The treasurer indicated that because WFGA is financially in good position, it is the right time to consider increasing the value of the Critchfield Award for the best student presentation from the current \$ 700 to a higher amount.
- ii. After discussing different options to attract and support students, it was decided that the Critchfield Award be extended to the second best student presentation instead of increasing the amount for the best presentation. Future awards will be as follows
  - a. Best student presentation                 \$ 700
  - b. Second best student presentation         \$ 300
  - c. Best student poster                         \$ 300
- iii. Keith Woeste moved a motion to accept the changes; Andreas Hamman seconded the motion; motion carried.
- iv. Consider sending a letter to universities with forestry programs to explain the Critchfield Award and ask them to send their students to the biennial meetings
- v. Continue to post winners of the award on WGFA website.

#### 5.0 *New business*

None

## 6.0 *New Vice President/Secretary*

- Brad St. Clair nominated Jessica Wright, USDA Forest Service
- Jessica unanimously elected.

## 7.0 *Winners of the 2015 Critchfield Award*

- Best student presentation: Jon Degner, University of British Columbia
- Best student poster: not awarded.

Meeting Adjourned

WFGA contacts:

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