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MINUTES FOR INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Saturday, May 3, 2025 – 4:30 PM Eastern USA Time

ATTENDANCE –

Directors have voting rights; alternates can vote in their place if the director is absent

	Director		Alternate	
Australia	Bruce Higgs	✓	Clive Larkman	✓
Eastern Region NA	Keith Osborne		Elizabeth Dunham Erickson	✓
Europe	Tim Lawrance-Owen	✓	Fokko zur Mühlen	
New Zealand	Lisa Burton	✓	Hayden Foulds	✓
Southern Region NA	Brie Arthur	✓	Dennis Niemeyer	✓
Southern Africa	Miranda Deutchlander	✓	Jason Myburgh	✓
Western Region NA	Gayle Suttle	✓	Douglas Justice	

Non-Voting Executive Positions

Chair	Tom Saunders	✓
Treasurer	Donna Fare	✓
Editor	Bob Geneve	✓
President	Grant Hayman	✓
Vice President	Elizabeth Dunham Erickson	✓
Executive Director	Katie McDavid	✓

I. Welcome and Call to Order

Meeting was called to order at 4:45 PM EDT by the Chair.

II. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve minutes from the March 11, 2025 board meeting was proposed as presented by Bruce Higgs, seconded and approved.

A comment was made regarding the lack of names within the minutes. As per the International Office, this is done as per best management practices and to provide board members the confidence to vote and/or bring up concerns without having their names listed in the public domain with the respective comments and/or votes. We can begin listing the person for the first and second in motions again.

A resolution of thanks to Elsa du Toit (Southern Africa Region), Jim McConnell (Western Region of NA), Laura Miller (Southern Region of NA), David Sanford (Eastern Region of NA), Antony Toledo (New Zealand Region), and Tony Van der Staay (Australia Region) for their service as International Directors ending December 2024.

III. Financial Report

The FY 2025 budget, which was approved during the March 2025 meeting, was reviewed that showed \$79,100.13 in expenses, \$69,850 estimated income, with a \$9,250.13 deficit.

A discussion ensued for International to cover the expenses for the person responsible for the International Tour three years forward. This will ensure that the comprehensive tour planning will be completed well in advance of the tour. Elizabeth Dunham made a motion to approve economy travel and long-tour International Tour registration (double occupancy) for the tour coordinator, seconded, and approved. (Year 1 would be the President; Year 2 would be the Vice President; Year 3 is the year the planner's attendance is paid).

IV. Sponsorships

Sponsorships for regions and International were discussed. Bruce Higgs made a motion to develop a working group to develop equity in sponsorship disbursement at the International level, seconded and approved. Grant Hayes, Dennis Niemeyer, Bruce Higgs, Clive Larkman, Tom Saunders, and Donna Fare will present a proposal at the September meeting.

V. Executive Office Report

The International Office presented the work hours over the past four years. Below are the hours for 2022, 2023, 2024, and 2025. The website is nearing the testing stage. There will also be training options before launch for secretaries. Membership renewal and dues will be able to be paid through the website and will be recognized as a January – December membership year.

Month	2025	2024	2023	2022
January	18.33	23.58	31.42	18
February	19.25	15.2	11.17	22
March	23.25	28	16.75	23.5
Quarter Total	60.83	66.78	59.34	63.5
April	15.5	20.5	6.75	13.5
May		17.5	13.5	18.5
June		21.67	8.42	31.33
Quarter Total		59.67	28.67	63.33
July		15.5	9	2.5
August		13.5	20.83	4
September		29.33	12.25	20.75
Quarter Total		58.33	42.08	27.25
October		19	39	14.66
November		28.25	19	5.5
December		24.67	27	24.75

Quarter Total		71.92	85	44.91
Yearly Total		256.7	215.09	198.99

The Office reported that membership numbers will not be available until June 1, 2025. Numbers will be distributed through email when received.

The calendar of regional events for 2025, as follows:

- Southern Africa: March 25 – 27, 2025
- New Zealand: May 8 – 11, 2025 during International Tour
- Australia: May 28 – 31, 2025
- Western Region NA: September 16 – 19, 2025
- Eastern Region NA: October 14 – 17, 2025
- Europe:
- Southern Region NA: October 20 – 23, 2025

Future International Tour Dates:

- 2026 Eastern Region of North America (September 18 – October 2)
- 2027 Australia (Tour: September 9 – 25)
- 2028 Western Region of North America
- 2029 Europe
- 2030 Southern Region of North America
- 2031 Southern Africa
- 2032 New Zealand
-

VI. [Eastern Region International Tour 2026](#)

The International Tour will run September 11, 2026 through September 25, 2026 (September 18 – 25 for short tour). It will begin in Minneapolis then to Twin Cities then Madison then Milwaukee to Chicago then to Grand Rapids for conference. Highlighting the mid-west of the United States. Bailey is one of the large sponsors for the tour. There will be a stop at the Mall of America – the largest mall in America for some fun. A nice sculpture garden, tour of EPIC campus, and many other wonderful locations.

VII. [Australia International Tour 2027](#)

Australia commented that the tour will start in Perth on September 9, 2027 and run through September 25, 2027. Australia has a full lineup ready with tours, board meeting dates, etc. and will share with the International Office soon. The wildflowers will be wonderful during this time.

VIII. [Editor's Report](#)

The editor presented the publication submissions. A discussion was held on the papers on the website. Papers are in a pdf format and are searchable. The new website is working to

use search engine optimization in order to allow search engines to pick up the information in the papers.

Year	Number of Papers	Number of Pages	Regions contributing
2018	86	431	SA, JP, NZ, WR, SR, ER
2019	83 [92] (169)	398 [437] (518)	AU, SA, JP, NZ, WR, SR, ER, EU [Singapore], (India)
2020	12	94	SA, SR
2021	32	241	NZ, SR, ER
2022	56	395	SA, JP, AU, SR, ER, EU
2023	64	481	SA, JP, AU, NZ, WR, SR, ER
2024	83	607	SA, JP, AU, NZ, WR, SR, ER

Each region has its own release form for papers submitted to IPPS. The Executive Director will request all regions send a copy of their current release form to her by June 1, 2025. Bruce Higgs made a motion for Editor, Bob Geneve, to use the existing release forms and develop a release form that can be used in all regions, seconded and approved.

The editor briefed the board about the title of the Proceedings now that the name of the Society has changed. The current name is The International Plant Propagators' Society Combined Proceedings. A concern will be the library system ISBN number will change and make it more difficult to search previous years' proceedings. Bruce Higgs made a motion for the Editor to present the best path forward at the September meeting, seconded, and approved.

IX. **Committee Assignments**

The following members were assigned to the Long Range Planning Committee (to join Brie Arthur (chair), Keith Osborne, and Bruce Higgs):

Clive Larkman, Australia
 Hayden Foulds, New Zealand
 Gayle Suttle, Western Region

The following members are assigned to the Strategic Planning Committee (to join Brie Arthur, Lisa Burton, and Elizabeth Dunham Erickson):

Dennis Niemeyer, Southern Region of North America
 Fokko zur Muhlen, European Region
 Miranda Deutchlander, Southern Africa
 Gayle Suttle, Western Region of North America
 Bruce Higgs, Australia
 Tim Lawrance-Owen, European Region, Chair

Douglas Justice and Jason Myburgh (both not in attendance) will need assigned to a committee at the next meeting.

X. Regional Directors Reports

All documents listed below in the Minutes.

XI. New Business

The Society members voted in the last quarter of 2024 to change the name of the Society from The International Plant Propagators' Society to The International Plant Production Society. Six of the seven regions voted to change the name. There were 244 total yes votes and 76 total no votes with 320 total votes (almost 28% of the membership). All regions should update the name by the end of 2025. The official logo was discussed whether the country flags should be included. During the meeting, the Executive Director emailed the official logo with the correct color palette and font.

Voting Results

Region	Percent Yes	Non-Member Vote (did not count)
Australia	66%	5
New Zealand	83%	1
SRNA	89%	7
WRNA	35%	13
Europe	89%	0
Southern Africa	100%	1
ERNA	82%	19
		46

A discussion was raised about adopting a plan for allowing tertiary courses. New Zealand, the University of Florida, and Dr. Bridgen in Eastern Region are some main production courses provided online. This is a benefit to our membership to enable them to pursue additional education.

Notes were made that this is not a one-time webpage. It will need updated with dates, making sure the courses are still offered, etc. This will cost a few additional hours for the International Office (unless we have a volunteer to manage it) each year.

The second part of the discussion was whether International should be considering presenting its own webinars and charge for those that are not members.

A working group was created for the education aspect to have a full discussion on the benefits and costs of promotions (outside of IPPS sessions). This included Brie Arthur, Lisa Burton, Miranda Deutchlander, Bruce Higgs, and Grant Hayman (chair).

The webinar portion (within IPPS) will be discussed during the Strategic Planning Committee.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 PM EDT.

Next meetings were reschedule to the first Tuesday of the month:

September 2, 2025 at 2:30 PM Eastern Daylight Time

December 2, 2025 at 2:30 PM Eastern Standard Time

Reports for June Board Meetings

Australia Regional Report

Eastern Region Regional Report

Date: 4/12/2025	Region: Eastern Region	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Keith Osborne	keitho@ozwoodgardening.com
President	Shelby French	sfrenchdoerun@gmail.com
Secretary	Savanah Tanner	ippseasternregion@gmail.com
Treasurer	Savanah Tanner	ippseasternregion@gmail.com
Editor	Bill Barnes	bill@barnhortservices.com
Alternate Int Director	Liz (Dunham) Erickson	liz@knighthollownursery.com
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	202	189
Student	325	548
First time		
Retired		
Honorary	2	2
<i>Multiple membership</i>		
Primary member	NA	NA
1 st additional		
2 nd additional		
3 rd additional		
4 th additional		
<u>Comments:</u> The Eastern Region will begin using the recurring payment system for the 2025 Membership year, with each member renewing on their subscription date. The membership list was audited in December of 2024, with EST performing outreach to members with incorrect membership status’ per the incorrect list. Checks and balances put into place to monitor until the new website is functional. ER Board of Directors discussing moving back to hard annual renewal date for all members, but has yet to be decided on		

EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
Summer 2025	Area Meeting	anticipating 35 ppl
Comments: Area meeting planned for this summer, no details have been solidified as of this report.		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Paul Capiello and Steve Foltz	
Date	Oct 14-17,2025	
Venue	The Seelbach Hilton	
Attendance	Total	Anticipating 100-125
	Members	
	Non-members	
	Speakers, members	
	Speakers, non-members	
Number of papers		
No. of proceeding papers		
Tours	Pre-tour	<u>Full day:</u> Cave Hill Cemetery – walking tour of tree collections Roundstone Native Seeds - tour seed sorting/processing tour fields Downtown Louisville bourbon - distillery/tasting if desired/needed
	Conference tour	<u>½ Day Tour 1:</u> Riverfarm Nursery Yew Dell Botanical Gardens/Kentucky Artisan Distillery <u>½ Day Tour 2:</u> Buffalo Trace Distillery - Tour gardens/grounds Short distillery tour and tasting Summers Nursery - Small specialty grafting nursery and plant collection
	Post-tour	None
Comments:		
Next conference	Date	Sept 21-24, 2026
	Venue	Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids, MI
	Pre-tour	Frederick Meijer Gardens and Spring Meadow
	Conference tour	Walter’s Gardens Degrand Champs Garden’s Alive Mast Young Plants
	Post-tour	TBD
Comments:		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	Monthly electronic newsletter	
Website	Sec/Treas post news articles, events, job postings, etc.	
Facebook	Sec/Treas and Publicity Committee posts to Facebook	
LinkedIn	Sec/Treas manages	
Twitter	Sec/Treas manages	
Comments: Publicity Committee has been charged to take lead on social media postings and management		

AWARDS	
Item	Comments
Fellow	Nominee: Liz Dunham
Award of Merit	Nominees: Margot Bridgen Mark Bridgen Keith Osbourne Dale Pierson
2023 Award Winners	Charles Martin (Fellow) and Charles Tubesing (Award of Merit)
Comments: Committee has yet to place a final vote.	
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS	
Item	Comments
Student Conference Scholarships	The Membership Committee plans to offer Student Scholarships to the 2025 Annual Conference.
IPPS Eastern Region Foundation	The IPPS ER Foundation will award \$2,000 for the Research Grant, awardee TBA. Currently hosting submissions for the Academic Scholarship due June 1, and Internships Funding for Workers and Students due July 1.
Poster Program	The Poster Program during the 2025 Annual Conference will include a contest for the best poster.
IPPS ER Exchange	The exchange program is being promoted to membership, one applicant will be selected when application closes on June 1. Eastern Region Foundation will support with a stipend of \$2,000.
Comments:	
General Comments:	

Europe Regional Report

Date: 16.04.25		Region: Europe
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Tim Lawrance-Owen	timlowenschi@gmail.com
President	Clare King	clare.king@provendernurseries.co.uk
Secretary	Holly Jones	Holly.jones@britishgrowers.org
Treasurer	Tim Lawrance-Owen	
Editor		
Alternate Int Director		
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	37	35
Student	10	9
First time		
Retired	8	9
Honorary	1	1
Multiple membership		

Primary member	10	9
1 st additional	6	9
2 nd additional	3	4
3 rd additional	1	1
4 th additional		
Comments:		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
Comments:		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Clare King	
Date	8-10 October 2025	
Venue	Peterborough	
Attendance	Total	
	Members	
	Non-members	
	Speakers, members	
	Speakers, non-members	
Number of papers		
No. of proceeding papers		
Tours	Pre-tour	
	Conference tour	Nurseries in the area
	Post-tour	

Japan Regional Report

Final Report for Japan

Date: 13 Mar. 2025	Region: JAPAN	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director		
President	Masahiro Hayami	hana1214hayami@brown.plala.or.jp
Secretary	Akemi Mizutani	a.mizutani@verde-agribio.co.jp
Treasurer	Akemi Mizutani	a.mizutani@verde-agribio.co.jp
Editor	Masanori Tomita	tomita@ippsjapan.org
Alternate Int Director	Hiroki Ohashi	ohashi@agr.ehime-u.ac.jp
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	31	31
Student		
First time		
Retired		
Honorary		

Multiple membership		
Primary member		
1 st additional		
2 nd additional		
3 rd additional		
4 th additional		
Comments:		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
Comments:		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Takaaki Maeda	
Date	9-10 Nov. 2024	
Venue	Minami Kyushu University	
Attendance	Total	29
	Members	16
	Non-members	13
	Speakers, members	3
	Speakers, non-members	3
Number of papers	6	6
No. of proceeding papers	6	6
Tours	Pre-tour	
	Conference tour	10 Nov. 2024
	Post-tour	
Comments:		
The final conference was held in a warm, homely atmosphere. All the participants were sad to see the final tournament end.		
Next conference	Date	
	Venue	
	Pre-tour	
	Conference tour	
	Post-tour	
Comments:		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	No.74	
Website	IPPS (ippsjapan.org)	
Facebook		
LinkedIn		
Twitter		
Comments:		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
Comments:		
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS		
Item	Comments	
Comments:		
General Comments:		
We will hold a remembrance gathering on May 31st, and then close the chapter after confirming the remaining balance. The Japan chapter website will close at the end of 2025, and all activities will cease. Thank you very much.		

New Zealand Regional Report

Date: 12/05/2024	Region: New Zealand	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Lisa Burton	lisaburton140@gmail.com
President	Hayden Foulds	haydenfoulds@gmail.com
Secretary	Glenys Evans	secretary.ippsnz@gmail.com
Treasurer	Shirley Ogilvy	shirley@bruntwoodnurseries.co.nz
Editor	Jill Reader	jill@currantaffairs.com
Alternate Int Director	Hayden Foulds	
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	161 currently	197
Student	21	21
First time		
Retired		
Honorary	5	4
<i>Multiple membership</i>		
Primary member	N/A	
1 st additional		
2 nd additional		
3 rd additional		
4 th additional		
<u>Comments:</u>		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
14-16 Feb 2025	Nelson field trip	13
8 -10 November 2024	Hawkes Bay field trip	20
1-2 November 2024	Dunedin Symposium	60
<u>Comments:</u>		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Grant Hayman	
Date	4-7 April 2024	
Venue	Grosvenor Hotel, Timaru	
Attendance	Total	
	Members	84
	Non-members	10

	Speakers, members	11
	Speakers, non-members	3
Number of papers		12
No. of proceeding papers		3
Tours	Pre-tour	No
	Conference tour	Visiting 6 Nurseries & work shops
	Post-tour	No
<u>Comments:</u>		
Next conference	Date	8 - 11 May 2025
	Venue	Plymouth Int., New Plymouth
	Pre-tour	Yes
	Conference tour	Two half days visiting nurseries
	Post-tour	No
<u>Comments:</u> Upcoming conference is preceded by a tour for the International delegates		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	Good open rates 4 x newsletters per year	
Website	Some good feedback	
Facebook	Working on this	
LinkedIn		
instagram		
<u>Comments:</u>		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
Award of Merit	Ian Williams	
John Follet Award of Recognition	Not Presented	
President’s choice	Graeme Watts	
<u>Comments:</u>		
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS		
Item	Comments	
Western Region & New Zealand exchange	Kathryn Knight 2024, next participant not yet selected	
6 Pack Awards	2025 Recipients: Jessica Jack, Bianca Kitchin, Krystal Lamsdale, Dani McBride, Sophie Somerville and Emily Joseph (Western Region Exchange)	
	Hosted 2 South African students (Michelle Stanton @Liesel Nel)	

Comments: 6 Pack : Successful applicants have their conference registration, transport and accommodation provided for free plus they get to keep their Six Pack apparel and receive one year's complimentary membership to the IPPS New Zealand region	
General Comments: All conferences/field trips well attended and enjoyed, registrations completed via google forms, this is a great time saver. Annual Conferences, 2024 – Timaru 2025 – International Conference, Taranaki 8 th – 11 th May 2025 2026 – Dunedin 2027 – Bay of Islands	

Southern Region of North America Regional Report

Date: 4/1/2025		Region: Southern Region of North America	
REGIONAL OFFICERS			
Position	Name	e-mail	
International Director	Brie Arthur	brie@briegrows.com	
President	Michael Roe	michael.roe@magnoliagardens.com	
Secretary	Donna Foster	scplant@bellsouth.net	
Treasurer	Donna Foster	scplant@bellsouth.net	
Editor	Dr. Fred Davies	f-davies@tamu.edu	
Alternate Int Director	Dennis Niemeyer	dennis@ncwildflower.com	
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS			
Type	Current Year	Previous Year	
Basic individual	233	232	
Student	51	24	
First time	20	17	
Retired	0	0	
Honorary	0 - We no longer have this category. The 2 still alive pay active dues	7	
Multiple membership			

Primary member	N/A	N/A
1 st additional	N/A	N/A
2 nd additional	N/A	N/A
3 rd additional	N/A	N/A
4 th additional	N/A	N/A
<u>Comments:</u>		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
<u>Comments:</u>		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Dr. Cheryl Boyer	
Date	October 26-30, 2024	
Venue	Hyatt Regency Tulsa, OK	
Attendance	Total	204
	Members	95
	Non-members	109
	Speakers, members	7
	Speakers, non-members	14
Number of papers		
No. of proceeding papers		19. - all papers are proceedings
Tours	Pre-tour	Yes
	Conference tour	Yes
	Post-tour	No
<u>Comments:</u>		
Next conference	Date	October 19-23, 2025

	Venue	DoubleTree Orlando at Seaworld Orlando Florida
	Pre-tour	Yes
	Conference tour	Yes
	Post-tour	No
<u>Comments:</u>		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	Yes - Monthly, sent to members & non members	
Website	Yes	
Facebook	Yes	

LinkedIn	No
Twitter	No
<u>Comments:</u>	
AWARDS	
Item	Comments
Fellow	Robert Green
Sidney B Meadows	Kevin Gantt
<u>Comments:</u>	
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS	
Item	Comments
Exchange with Europe Region	Max McKeown
<i>Coach Vince Dooley Student Scholarship</i>	Teagan Young
<i>Vivian Munday Young Horticulture Professional Scholarship Work Program</i>	Hayden Lee, Kayla Morrison, Tanner Hamerling, Katelyn Raffler
<i>Margie Jenkins SR-IPPS Industry Scholarship Award</i>	Christina Reid
<u>Comments:</u>	
<u>General Comments:</u>	

Date: 4 April 2025		Region: Southern Africa
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Dr Miranda Deutschlander	deutsms@unisa.ac.za
President	Dr Andy Hackland	andy.frontierlab@gmail.com
Secretary	Ms Karen Eichholz	Keichholz7@gmail.com
Treasurer	Mr Hans Sittig	Hans@primegenetics.co.za
Editor	Prof Elsa du Toit	elsa.dutoit@up.ac.za
Alternate Int Director	Dr Andy Hackland	andy.frontierlab@gmail.com
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	20	18
Student	3	
First time	1	
Retired		
Honorary		
<i>Multiple membership</i>		
Primary member	18	14
1 st additional	13	12
2 nd additional	7	2
3 rd additional	4	1
4 th additional	1	
<u>Comments:</u> Total membership 2025: 68 (32 paid to date) Total paid memberships 2024: 47		

EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
N/A		
<u>Comments:</u>		
Nursery visit planned for 20 May 2025 at Frontier Lab, Cape Town		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Karen Eichholz	
Date	25 to 27 March 2025	
Venue	Cumberland Hotel, Worcester, South Africa	
Attendance	Total	37
	Members	20
	Non-members	10
	Speakers, members	2
	Speakers, non-members	5
Number of papers		7
No. of proceeding papers		
Tours	Pre-tour	35
	Conference tour	30
	Post-tour	27
<u>Comments:</u>		

Next conference	Date	March 2026
	Venue	Cape Town
	Pre-tour	TBC
	Conference tour	TBC
	Post-tour	TBC
<u>Comments:</u>		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	10 Newsletters sent Jan – Apr 2025	
Website	Regularly updated	
Facebook	Events and newsletters posted	
LinkedIn	N/A	
Twitter/X	N/A	
<u>Comments:</u>		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
N/A		
<u>Comments:</u>		

EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS	
Item	Comments
Australia/SA exchange 2024	Nosipho Ndlovu: Young SA horticulturist visited Australia May 2024
	Joshua Taylor: Young Australian horticulturist visited SA in March 2024
NZ 2024 SA scholarship	Liezel Nel & Michelle Stanton visited NZ October 2024
Australia/SA exchange 2025	Franzél Gruber selected to visit Australia May 2025
	Chloe Bawden: Young Australian horticulturist visited SA in March 2025
NZ 2025 SA scholarship	Wenza Ngobeni: selected to visit NZ October 2025
<u>Comments:</u> NZ - SA scholarship is a new exchange programme initiated by NZ Region in 2024	
<u>General Comments:</u> 	

Western Region of North America Regional Report

Date: 4/21/25	Region: Western	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail

International Director	Gayle Suttle	grlsuttle@gmail.com
President	Glenn Enomoto	Glenn.enomoto@gmail.com
Secretary	Brooke Palmer	brooke@agamsi.com
Treasurer	Brooke Palmer	brooke@agamsi.com
Editor	Ryan Stewart	Ryan.stewart@byu.edu
Alternate Int Director	Douglas Justice	Douglas.justice@ubc.ca
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year - 2024	Previous Year - 2023
Basic individual	72	57
Student	3	3
First time		
Retired	6	5
Honorary		
Multiple membership		
Primary member	15	14
1 st additional	26	24
2 nd additional		
3 rd additional		
4 th additional		
Comments: <u>I am semi confident these are accurate numbers. We have now transitioned to calendar year billing for all members and I know this will make our reports more accurate moving forward.</u>		
EVENTS		
Area meetings, technically an annual conference happened in January 2024 but that was reported on last year.		
Date	Event Name	Attendance

Fall 2024	Utah Area Meeting	30
Fall 2024	Northern CA Meeting	100
<u>Comments: Northern CA meeting was held with the UC Nursery and Floriculture Alliance</u>		
Annual Conferences: Reported on last year, repeat info below		
Main organizer	Glenn Enomoto, Gerry Spinelli, Loren Oki, Brooke Palmer	
Date	January 23-26, 2024	
Venue	Pechanga Resort and Casino, Temecula, CA	
Attendance	Total	141
	Members	54
	Non-members	74
	Speakers, members	6
	Speakers, non-members	21
Number of papers		TBA
No. of proceeding papers		TBA
Tours	Pre-tour	Plug Connection, Devil Mountain Nursery, San Diego Growers, Mariscal Cactus, Rain Forest Floral
	Conference tour	First Step Greenhouses, Olive Hill Greenhouses, Altmans Plants Fallbrook, Grubb and Nadler, Everde Growers
	Post-tour	None
<u>Comments:</u>		
Next conference	Date	September 16-19, 2025
	Venue	Langley, British Columbia
	Pre-tour	X
	Conference tour	X

	Post-tour	
<u>Comments:</u>		
We will be hosting the 2025 conference at the Coast Langley City Hotel & Convention Centre. We will have an awesome pre-conference tour and then two days of half day speakers and half day tours.		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Member newsletter	Monthly and as needed	
Website		
Facebook		
LinkedIN		
Instagram		
<u>Comments:</u>		
Working on getting more active on social media but it has been a weak point for us.		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
President’s Citation	Awarded to Jim McConnell at the 2024 annual conference	
<u>Comments:</u>		
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS		
Item	Comments	
New Zealand Exchange	NZ representative attended conference and did site visits across CA, WR representative went to the NZ conference in 2024	
Bruce Briggs Memorial Scholarship	Six students were awarded scholarships to attend the 2024 annual meeting. Recipients were from Oregon State, Cal	

	Poly SLO, University of Saskatchewan, and University of Wyoming,
<u>Comments:</u>	
<u>General Comments:</u>	
<u>We are hoping to have a good turn out at the annual meeting. We have streamlined newsletters, membership dues, and are hoping to get more active on social media. We will be participating in the North American exchange this year as well.</u>	

Investment Committee Report

International Plant Propagator's Society Investment Committee Report

Date: April, 2025

Total Value of Investments on March 31, 2025 - \$386,087.60

Committee Members: The committee currently has five members: Donna Fare chair, Alan Jones (2024 -2027 third term), Todd Jones (2024-2027 third term), Bill Barnes (2024-2027 second term) David Cliff (2022-2025 first term).

Next Scheduled Committee Meeting: July 15, 2025

Investment Allocation: The portfolio on March 31,2025 was apportioned with 72.4% invested in three equity index funds: Vanguard Growth & Income Fund, Vanguard Total Stock Mkt. Index and Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund. The remaining 27.6% is in two fixed asset funds, with 9% in Fixed Income and 18.6% in Short Term Reserves.

Performance:

Vanguard Growth & Income Fund Admiral YTD +0.91%

Vanguard Total Stock Mkt. Index Fund Admiral YTD + 1.11%

Vanguard Total INTL Stock Index Admiral YTD +5.24%

Vanguard Total Bond Mkt. Index Fund Admiral YTD - 2.75%

Vanguard Short Term Bond Index Admiral Fund +1.50%

Vanguard Federal Money Mkt. Fund YTD +1.05%

S&P 500 Index YTD -10.18%

Dividends received YTD \$1,770.95

Committee Actions and Evaluations:

The committee made a reallocation at our last meeting, increasing the fixed income holdings and slightly reducing the equity portion. This adjustment puts the fixed income portion of the portfolio at the upper limit of the policy allocation range.

The portfolio has had a lengthy run of stable growth, punctuated by declines from time to time. The committee recognizes that market fluctuations are a common occurrence and believes that the current investment policy allocations will continue to meet the policy objective to produce returns greater than inflation.

Committee recommendations:

We have no recommendations to make at this time.