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MINUTES FOR INTERNATIONAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS CONFERENCE CALL

Tuesday, June 11, 2024 – 3:30 PM Eastern USA Time

ATTENDANCE –

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

	Director		Alternate	
Australia	Tony Van der Staay	✓	Bruce Higgs	✓
Eastern Region NA	David Sanford	✓	Keith Osborne	✓
Europe	Tim Lawrance-Owen	✓		
Japan	Peter Waugh		Hiroaki Ohashi	
New Zealand	Antony Toledo	✓	Lisa Burton	✓
Southern Region NA	Laura Miller	✓	Brie Arthur	✓
Southern Africa	Jason Myburgh	✓	Elsa du Toit	
Western Region NA	Jim McConnell	✓	Gayle Suttle	✓

Non-Voting Executive Positions

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

I. **Welcome and Call to Order**

Meeting was called to order at 3:32 PM by the Vice Chair/Treasurer.

II. **Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve minutes from February 24 and 26, 2024 board meeting was proposed as presented, seconded and unanimously approved.

Action Items will be discussed later during International Office Report and Committee Reports.

III. **International Office Report**

The International Office stated the hours for work over the past year would be posted in the minutes and questions or concerns can be discussed at the next meeting. Below are the hours for 2022, 2023, and 2024.

Month	2024	2023	2022
January	23.58	31.42	18
February	15.2	11.17	22
March	28	16.75	23.5
Quarter Total	66.78	59.34	63.5
April	20.5	6.75	13.5
May	17.5	13.5	18.5
June		8.42	31.33
Quarter Total		28.67	63.33
July		9	2.5
August		20.83	4
September		12.25	20.75
Quarter Total		42.08	27.25
October		39	14.66
November		19	5.5
December		27	24.75
Quarter Total		85	44.91
Yearly Total		215.09	198.99

The Office reported on membership numbers for the regions. Below is the respective information with a comparison to last year. Total membership is up to 1,312 members with 510 students (compared with 1,170 members with 736 students; up 12% from 2023).

					Change from 2023	
Region	Members	Students	2023 Members	2023 Students	Member	Students
Southern	239	24	220	67	8.6%	-64.2%
Australian	134	5	120	2	11.7%	150.0%
Eastern	344	417	284	605	21.1%	-31.1%
European	68	9	66	7	3.0%	28.6%
Japan	31	0	34	0	-8.8%	0%
New Zealand	180	19	181	22	-0.6%	-13.6%
Southern Africa	95	3	92	2	3.3%	50.0%
Western NA	221	33	173	31	27.8%	6.5%
Totals	1,312	510	1,170	736	12.1%	-30.7%

The calendar of regional events for 2024 was noted, as follows:

- Western Region of NA: January 23 – 26, 2024
- Southern Africa Region: February 23 – March 8, 2024
- New Zealand Region: April 4 – 7, 2024
- Australia Region: May 22 – 25, 2024
- Eastern Region of NA: September 24 – 27, 2024
- Europe Region: October 9 – 11, 2024
- Southern Region of NA: October 26 – 30, 2024
- Japan Region: November 8 – 9, 2024

Future International Tour Dates were noted and will be uploaded to the IPPS website:
2025 New Zealand (Tour: April 27 – May 11)
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 Japan (if still a region, if not, add India here if a formal region by this time, if not, move back to SRNA and list above)

Action Item: Upload International Tour Dates to website; update Regional Tour dates with any known 2025 dates

The Executive Director presented Google Statistics for the Proceedings (as requested from the prior Board Meeting) for March 5 – June 2, 2024 (past 90 days) as 592 views, 308 users with 1.92 average views per user. It was also noted that the majority of website views are still from desktops.

Action Item: Look into Google Analytics to see whether it still has historical data regarding number of views on Proceedings before they were publicly available vs. after made public

A discussion was held regarding the Name Change Vote Process. A document has been drafted and shared with the Board. It was noted that in order to pass, 2/3 of membership in a region must approve the change and then 2/3 of region (which at 7 regions, excluding Japan, requires 5 regions for approval) must have voted to approve.

The Board decided that the document that will be shared with membership should be sent back to the Executive Committee to re-edit and include a potential voting calendar, and also ways of distributing the information. Another meeting will be called in July or August to discuss further.

Action Item: Edit Name Rebrand Document and create calendar

The Operating Manual was distributed with the Board for comments and edits prior to the meeting.

New Zealand noted that President should be maintained as titled President and that person is known as a mentor and it is very prestigious. Southern Region agreed.

Several edits were added below. A Motion was presented to approve the Manual with the below edits, seconded, and passed.

Edits to the Manual:

1. President and Vice President titles remain the same.
2. President, as advisory, to include providing historical information.
3. The Chair does not have voting privileges.
4. The President and Vice President terms are not one-year terms but for one cycle of the International Tour until the conclusion of the next International Tour.

A note was made that the Board needs to address in Constitution and Bylaws that the Chairman cannot vote but can be the breaking vote in a tie.

Action item: Update Chairman voting restrictions in Constitution/Bylaws

IV. [New Zealand International Tour 2025](#)

New Zealand stated they are finalizing everything for the tour. The dates are April 27 – May 11, 2025 for the long tour and May 4 – 11, 2025 for the short tour. May 4th, 5th and potentially 8th are options for the Board Meeting(s). The New Zealand Annual Conference will run May 7 – 11, 2025.

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

The Eastern Region is still planning with preliminary dates starting September 18 in Detroit, Michigan. The tour will then head to Grand Rapids, Michigan for the ER Annual Conference from September 22 – 24, 2026. On Friday, September 25, the tour will head to Chicago, Illinois for three days, culminating in St. Paul, Minneapolis with departure on Friday, October 2, 2026.

VI. [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. Please report these dates to your regional secretaries and Boards to avoid regional conferences during these dates.

VII. [Treasurer's Report](#)

Current Fiscal Year income and expenses were shown.

Investment Committee Report was distributed prior to the meeting. Thanks were made to the Committee for creating the report.

In order to maintain the integrity of the Committee, the committee members would like to have Alan Jones and Todd Jones serve another term. This would require an adjustment to the Operating Manual to “Committee members do not need to be board members; they will serve for three years and can be reappointed.” Motion proposed, seconded, and passed.

Motion to reappoint Bill Barnes to a second three-year term on the Investment Committee, seconded, and passed.

Action item for future – increase participation in Investment Committee.

VIII. Editor’s Report

The 2023 Proceedings is finished and uploaded onto the website. There was a delay with Eastern Region only hiring an editor in March and Western Region not responding to the edited versions. There are 64 (56 last year, 34 in 2021, 25 in 2020; 97 in 2019 (before covid), and 86 in 2018). The Editor would like to get back to 85-100. As such, we need to encourage Europe to submit papers as they are not represented in the Proceedings as they were prior to the pandemic.

IX. Regional Directors Reports

All documents listed below in the Minutes.

X. Committee Reports

a. Strategic Planning Committee

The Strategic Planning meetings have gone very well. The compiled document was distributed prior to the meeting. The Committee plans to schedule another meeting soon.

It was noted that the mission statements from the Operating Manual and the Strategic Planning Document do not match. A motion to correct the Manual’s Mission Statement to the existing Mission Statement (listed in the Constitution and Bylaws). Motion passed.

XI. Other Reports/Comments

New Zealand provided information on some online Horticulture courses that others can share, if interested. Other board members noted the courses are great and well-developed. One board member noted there are other IPPS members who have online horticulture courses and we should try to avoid promoting specific ones at the exclusion of others.

XII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 5:36 PM.

Next meetings:

September 10, 2024 at 3:30 PM Eastern Time

December 10, 2024 at 3:30 PM Eastern Time

Reports for June Board Meetings

Australia Regional Report

IPPS International - Regional Report

Date: 3/06/2024		Region: AUSTRALIA
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Tony VanderStaay	tvanders@westlandnurseries.com.au
President	Clive Larkman	larkman@larkmannurseries.com.au
Secretary	Pam Berryman	pam@ipps.org.au
Treasurer	James Burnett	Jab342000@gmail.com
Regional Editor	Ranjith Pathirana	Ranjith.pathirana@adelaide.edu.au
Propagator Editor	Matt Mills	
Alternate Int Director	Bruce Higgs	Bruce.higgs@bigpond.com
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	134	122
Student	5	2
First time	15	13
Retired	2	
Honorary	6	6
Multiple membership		
Primary member		
1 st additional		
2 nd additional		
3 rd additional		
4 th additional		
Comments: Zoe Williams is our Social Media Editor and is doing a fabulous job posting up 'news snippets' onto the IPPS Facebook page. Zoe is in the process of setting up an IPPS Australia Region Instagram page as well.		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings Field Trip at Boomaroo Nursery in March 2024 proved to be very successful. Future Area Meetings are being planned and organized.		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
Comments:		

Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Ray Parker	
Date	22 nd to 25 th May 2024	
Venue	Ballina RSL, Ballina	
Attendance	Total	137
	Members	65
	Non-members	25
	Speakers, Sponsors	36
	Six Pack, Students, South Africa Exchangee	11
Number of papers	25	
No. of proceeding papers	Ranjith Pathirana – Proceedings Editor will be following up after Ballina Conference 22 nd to 25 th May 2024	
Tours	Pre-tour	19 th to 22 nd May 2024 – 25 attendees
	Conference tour	Friday Nursery Visits x 108
	Post-tour	N/A
Comments: PC Tour - Was an exciting and interesting Itinerary with visits to Tamborine Mountain Wholesale Nursery, Crystal Waters Nursery, Mt Nathan Nursery (wholesale production), Mount Nathan Winery, Boyd’s Bay Nurseries, Limpinwood Nursery, Gondwana Nursery. A fabulous time was had by all. Conference - Interesting mix of speakers was organized. Guest speaker Donna Sharam was very vibrant and entertaining. All attendees enjoyed their experience and time at this years conference in Ballina.		
Next Conference	Main Organizer	Jose Puthiyaparambil
	Date	28 th to 31 st May 2025
	Venue	Riley CAG Hotel Cairns
	Pre-tour	Yet to be confirmed
	Conference tour	Nursery Visits yet to be confirmed
	Post-tour	None organized as yet
Comments: A Pre Conference tour is being planned to take in the Daintree as well as an evening sail boat cruise before dinner.		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	‘The Propagator’ published quarterly	
Website	www.ipps.org	
Facebook	IPPS – Young Propagators	
LinkedIn	YES	
Twitter	YES	
Comments:		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	

Australian Award of Honour – David Hancock Edward & Mary Bunker Award – Karen Smith ‘Steve Vallance Pewter Tankard Award’ - Dermot Molloy Rod Tallis Awardee – Lisa Wightwick Anita Boucher – ‘Best Paper’ Award – Lisa Wightwick	
Honorary Life Membership 2024	Michael Gleeson
VALE	
<u>Comments:</u>	
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS	
Item	Comments
South Africa Exchangee	Joshua Taylor – Peninsula Growers
South Africa Exchangee	Nosipho Ndlovu – SANBI Kirstenboch National Botanical Gardens, South Africa
<u>Comments:</u>	
<u>General Comments:</u>	

Eastern Region Regional Report

Date: May 20, 2024	Region: Eastern Region, North America	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	David Sanford	dls30@psu.edu
President	Matt Palmieri	matt@chesapeakenurseries.com
Secretary	Savanah Tanner	ippseasternregion@gmail.com
Treasurer	Savanah Tanner	ippseasternregion@gmail.com
Editor	Bill Barnes	bill@barnhortservices.com
Alternate Int Director	Keith Osborne	KOsborne@walkerind.com

MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	344	284
Student	417	461
First time	21	40
Retired	NA	NA
Honorary	1	1
<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 2024 Membership year. Student list has been audited for the end of year 2023, as has the Disabled members list. The Eastern Region used the recurring payment system for the 2024 Membership year, with each member renewing on their anniversary date.		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
7/2024	Area Meeting: hosted by Kyle Banas and Pizzo Native Plant Nursery	45 expected, capacity for 80
TBA	microMeetings will return this fall, date TBA	Expected: 20-25
<u>Comments:</u> microMeetings to resume in fall 2024.		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Brian Decker and Shelby French	
Date	September 23-37, 2024	
Venue	Marriott Columbus OSU	
Attendance	Total	
	Members	
	Non-members	
	Speakers, members	
	Speakers, non-members	

Japan Regional Report

IPPS International - Regional Report

Date: 13 May 2024	Region: JAPAN	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Peter Waugh	peterwaugh1841@gmail.com
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	34
Student		
First time		
Retired		
Honorary		
Multiple membership		
Primary member		
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
<u>Comments:</u>		
Annual Conferences		
Main organizer	Masahiro Hayami	
Date	14-15 Oct. 2023	
Venue	Shiga Prefecture Gender Equality Center	
Attendance	Total	18
	Members	13
	Non-members	5
	Speakers, members	3
	Speakers, non-members	3
Number of papers	7	6
No. of proceeding papers	5	6
Tours	Pre-tour	
	Conference tour	15 Oct. 2023
	Post-tour	
<u>Comments:</u>		

Next conference	Date	9. Nov. 2024
	Venue	Miyakonojoh City, Miyazaki Pref.
	Pre-tour	
	Conference tour	10 Nov. 2024
	Post-tour	
<u>Comments:</u>		
Japan region last conference		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	No.72	
Website	IPPS (ippsjapan.org)	
Facebook		
LinkedIn		
Twitter		
<u>Comments:</u>		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
<u>Comments:</u>		
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS		
Item	Comments	
<u>Comments:</u>		
<u>General Comments:</u>		
The Japan region will end this year. We will be maintained Japan region website until the end of 2025, but next year membership fees etc. will not be paid to the international board.		

New Zealand Regional Report

IPPS International - Regional Report

Date: June 2024		Region: New Zealand	
REGIONAL OFFICERS			
Position	Name	e-mail	
International Director	Antony Toledo	antony@multiflora.co.nz	
President	Hayden Foulds	haydenfoulds@gmail.com	
Secretary	Glenys Evans	secretary.ippsnz@gmail.com	
Treasurer	Shirley Ogilvy	shirley@bruntwoodnurseries.co.nz	
Editor			
Alternate Int Director	Lisa Burton	lisab@op.ac.nz	
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS			
Type	Current Year	Previous Year	
Basic individual	180	188	
Student	19	25	
First time			
Retired	11	11	
Honorary	4	4	
<i>Multiple membership</i>			
Primary member			
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	
Sat. 2 nd November 2024	Dunedin Symposium		
Fri. 8 th of November 2024	Hawkes Bay		
Feb 2025	Nelson field trip		
<u>Comments:</u>			
Annual Conferences:			
Main organizer	Grant Hayman		
Date	Thurs. 4 th April to Sun. 7 April 2024		
Venue	Grosvenor Hotel		
Attendance	Total	102	
	Members	86	
	Non-members	16	
	Speakers, members	10	
	Speakers, non-members	3	
Number of papers	12 including workshops		
No. of proceeding papers	7		
Tours	Pre-tour		

	Conference tour	Nurseries in the area, Matai Nursery, Headford Propagators, Bushtown, Rooney Group warehouse operations, Trevor Griffiths Rose Garden
	Post-tour	-
<u>Comments:</u>		
Next conference	Date	Thur.8 th to Sun.11 th May 2025
	Venue	New Plymouth International Hotel
	Pre-tour	Sun.27 th April to Wed.7 th of May 2025. Short tour Sat.3 rd to Wed. 7 th May 2025.
	Conference tour	Nursery visits & practical sessions
	Post-tour	No post tour
<u>Comments:</u>		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Newsletters	Approximately 50% open rate	
Website	Member feedback is better	
Facebook	Likes, 437	
<u>Comments:</u>		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
John Follet Award of Recognition	Ian Williams, presented by IPPS NZ President, Lisa Burton	
President's Choice	Graeme Watt (Wattie), presented by the outgoing President, Lisa Burton.	
<u>Comments:</u>		
Positive feedback		
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS		
Item	Comments	
Six Pack program	Awarded to, River Foster, Lucy Hellewell, Kate Herman, Joel Clement, Kat Lord & Boston Swan (Western Exchange)	
Western Exchange	2024 Conference – Boston Swan	
Inter-Regional Scholarship/ Symposium & Field trip.	Inaugural scholarship awarded at the South African International Conference 2024, to Michelle Stanton & Liezel Nel. Program near completion and will be held, 25 th October to 16 th November, combining Nursery visits, Dunedin Symposium & Hawkes Bay Field trip	
<u>Comments:</u>		
We have had a successful year with good attendance to field trips and conference, we have introduced more practical sessions at conference as a result from previous years feedback. The practical sessions were well received and a reminder to our organization of how important these really are.		

Southern Region of North America Regional Report
 IPPS International - Regional Report

Date: 6/1/2024	Southern Region, NA	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Laura Miller	lmiller@ag.tamu.edu
President	Dr. Cheryl Boyer	crboyer@ksu.edu
Secretary	Donna Foster	scplant@bellsouth.net
Treasurer	Donna Foster	scplant@bellsouth.net
Editor	Dr. Fred Davies	f-davies@tamu.edu
Alternate Int Director	Brie Gluvna Arthur	brie@briegrows.com
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	232	220
Student	24	67
First time	17	28
Retired	0	0
Honorary	7 (not included in the 232	7 (not included in the 232
<i>Multiple membership</i>		
Primary member		
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
<u>Comments:</u>		
Annual Conferences:		
Main organizer	Dr. Cheryl Boyer	
Date	October 26-30, 2024	
Venue	Hyatt Regency Tulsa	
Attendance	Total	TBA
	Members	TBA
	Non-members	TBA
	Speakers, members	TBA
	Speakers, non-members	TBA
Number of papers		TBA
No. of proceeding papers		
Tours	Pre-tour	Yes
	Conference tour	Yes
	Post-tour	No
<u>Comments:</u>		
Next conference	Date	October 19-23, 2025
	Venue	DoubleTree Orlando @ Seaworld
	Pre-tour	Yes
	Conference tour	Yes
	Post-tour	No
<u>Comments:</u>		
COMMUNICATION		

Item	Comments
E-newsletter	Monthly, sent to members & non members
website	Yes
Facebook	Yes
<u>Comments:</u>	
AWARDS	
Item	Comments
Fellow	TBA for 2024
Sydney B. Meadows Award of Merit	TBA for 2024
Student Competition	TBA for 2024
<u>Comments:</u>	
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS	
Item	Comments
<i>Coach Vince Dooley Student Scholarship</i>	TBA for 2024
<i>Vivian Munday Young Horticulture Professional Scholarship Work Program</i>	TBA for 2024
<i>Margie Jenkins SR-IPPS Industry Scholarship Award</i>	TBA for 2024
<i>Exchange Program with Europe Region</i>	TBA for 2024
<u>Comments:</u>	
<u>General Comments:</u>	

Southern African Regional Report

Date: 2024/06/05	Region: Southern Africa Region	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Jason Myburgh	jason@atnursery.co.za
President	Dr.Miranda Deutschlander	deutms@unisa.ac.za
Secretary	Callan Erasmus	secretary.ippssa@gmail.com
Treasurer	Gaye Thorpe	treasurer.ippssa@gmail.com
Editor	Hans Sittig	hans@primegenetics.co.za
Alternate Int Director	Prof.Elsa Du Toit	elsa.dutoit@up.ac.za
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	38	40
Student	3	3
First time	2	
Retired		
Honorary		
Multiple membership		
Primary member	21	20
1 st additional	21	20
2 nd additional	11	10
3 rd additional	4	4
4 th additional		
<u>Comments:</u>		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
<u>Comments:</u>		
The date for our Western Cape Winter Workshop will be confirmed .		
Annual Conferences:		
Main organizer	Elsa Du Toit	
Date	28 th Feb 2024 to 1 March 2024	
Venue	Devon Valley Hotel in Stellenbosch	
Attendance	Total	61
	Members	44
	Non-members	17
	Speakers, members	2
	Speakers, non-members	1
Number of papers	10	
No. of proceeding papers	Still to be handed in	

Tours	Pre-tour	28 th Feb 2024- Stellenbosch Western Cape Nursery Visits- Arboreta,Samgro and Fall Creek
	Conference tour	29 th Feb 2024/1 st March:Nursery Visits- Bristle Nursery,Trees SA AND Nonke Plants
	Post-tour	1 st March (afternoon):Nursery Visits- Radical Seedlings, Alimandi and Cape Garden centre
<u>Comments:</u> The 2024 Annual Conference turned out to be a very successful, special and memorable conference for SA Region as we had the opportunity to host the International Conference. Our Local delegates had the opportunity to meet IPPS Members from different regions within the IPPS family and open up a wider range for networking to share and learn.		
Next conference	Date	TBA
	Venue	TBA- Worcester, Western Cape
	Pre-tour	TBA
	Conference tour	TBA
	Post-tour	
<u>Comments:</u> The Meeting for the 2025 Conference is taken Place on 11 th June 2024, Thereafter every 2 nd Tuesday a follow up meeting will take place. The Date and venue eg will be made available after 11 th June 2024 meeting.		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Facebook	Regularly forward posts from other regions to IPPS SA page. 706 page followers.	
Website	Information for International Tour and Annual Conference is on the site. Bookings can be made online.	
Newsletters	3 Newsletters to members. Monthly distribution of FloraCulture International magazine & newsletters.	
<u>Comments:</u>		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
Special Recognition Award	Hans-Jurgen Sittig	
<u>Comments:</u>		
EXCHANGE PROGRAMMES / SCHOLARSHIPS / GRANTS		
Item	Comments	
Australian Exchange	Presentations of the Exchange student program was held during the 2024 Conference at Devonvalley in Stellenbosch Cape Town. Nosipho was elected to represent the IPPS Southern Africa region in Australian . She departed middle May 2024 to Australia. Nosipho will be sharing her experience at the Next Annual Conference in 2025.	
New Zealand Exchange	New Zealand gave the opportunity to host our other 2 Exchange Students nominees, Liezel Nel and Michelle Stanton in their region. The date still needs to be confirmed.	

Western Region of North America Regional Report

IPPS International - Regional Report

Date: 6/7/24	Region: Western	
REGIONAL OFFICERS		
Position	Name	e-mail
International Director	Jim McConnell	Jim.mcconnel@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	Gayle Suttle	grlsuttle@gmail.com
MEMBERSHIP NUMBERS		
Type	Current Year	Previous Year
Basic individual	151	120
Student	33	31
First time		
Retired	7	5
Honorary		
Multiple membership		
Primary member	32	22
1 st additional	31	26
2 nd additional		
3 rd additional		
4 th additional		
<u>Comments:</u> Difficult to gauge paid members by year due to rolling renewal dates. WR is planning to switch to the same renewal date for all members starting in 2025 to streamline membership numbers.		
EVENTS		
Field trips, workshops, seminars, area meetings		
Date	Event Name	Attendance
Fall 2023	Utah Area Meeting	40
<u>Comments:</u>		
Annual Conferences:		
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 Greenshouses, Altmans Plants Fallbrook, Grubb and Nadler, Everde Growers
	Post-tour	None
<u>Comments:</u>		
Next conference	Date	Fall 2025
	Venue	British Columbia
	Pre-tour	X
	Conference tour	X
	Post-tour	
<u>Comments:</u> Steven Folkerts will organize. First VP.		
COMMUNICATION		
Item	Comments	
Member newsletter	Bi-monthly	
Website		
Facebook		
LinkedIN		
Instagram		
<u>Comments:</u>		
AWARDS		
Item	Comments	
President’s Citation	Awarded to Jim McConnell at the 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>WR hopes to encourage area directors to host more area meetings and change the annual meeting back to the Fall.</u>		

Investment Committee Report

Date: June 9, 2024

Total Value of Investments on May 31, 2024 - \$363,564.82

Committee Members: *Chair* Donna Fare, Alan Jones (second term), Todd Jones (second term), Bill Barnes (first term) David Cliff (first term)

Date of Next Scheduled Committee Meeting: September 12, 2024

Investment Allocation: The portfolio is currently apportioned with 75.3% invested in three equity index funds: Vanguard Growth & Income Fund, Vanguard Total Stock Mkt. Index and Vanguard Total International Stock Index Fund. The remaining 24.7% is in two fixed asset funds, with 9.4% in Short Term Bonds and 15.2% in Short Term Reserves.

Performance:

Vanguard Growth & Income Fund YTD +7.8%

Vanguard Total Stock Mkt. Index Fund YTD + 5.15%

Vanguard Total INTL Stock Index Admiral YTD +1.95%

Vanguard Total Bond Mkt. Index Fund YTD - 3.20%

Vanguard Short Term Bond Index Admiral Fund +0.32%

Vanguard Federal Money Mkt. Fund YTD + 2.22%

S&P 500 Index YTD +11.03%

Dividends received YTD \$2,337.76

Committee Actions and Evaluations:

The committee makes reallocations to the portfolio as needed to maintain the Investment Policy principles. At our last committee meeting on February 19, 2024, no reallocations were needed.

Since the creation of the Investment Committee in 2016 we have enjoyed the advantages of a long-term investment horizon, which makes the inevitable periods of market decline less concerning and has allowed us to grow the portfolio. We also have a carefully constructed Investment Charter, approved by the International Board, that provides asset allocation parameters. These parameters provide guidance for the Investment committee to collaboratively make portfolio adjustments as needed.

This trifecta of a long-term investment horizon (three to five years), a Board approved investment strategy, and collaborative committee actions has served the Society well since the establishment of the Investment Committee and we anticipate it will in the future.

The committee is currently functioning well and has five members including two founding members, Alan Jones, and Todd Jones; both have completed their second term. Committee members believe that in the interest of stability it would be helpful to have Alan and Todd serve another term. Both

Alan and Todd have agreed to continue serving. This is possible with a change to the Investment Charter and with reappointment by the Board.

Committee recommendations:

The investment committee has two recommendations it would like the board to make. The committee requests that the board amend the Management section of the Investment Policy:

The current policy reads: "Committee members do not need to be board members: they will serve for three years and can be reappointed for an additional three-year term."

Proposed policy change: Committee members do not need to be board members; they will serve for three years and can be reappointed.

The committee requests that the board appoint Alan Jones and Todd Jones to serve another term and reappoint Bill Barnes to serve his second term.