

Maize Genetics Cooperation Board of Directors
February 1, 2024 on Zoom
Meeting Minutes

BoD members present:

Marna Yandean-Nelson (Chair)
Wojtek Pawlowski (Incoming Chair)
Erin Sparks (Treasurer)
Andrea Eveland (At Large Member and ANC rep)
Thelma Madzima (At Large Member)
Laurie Smith (Secretary)
Jay Hollick (Outgoing Chair)
Mike Muszynski (Communications Director)
Jeff Ross-Ibarra (At Large Member)

Meeting began 12pm Central Time

Motions in blue

1. BoD meeting minutes

Motion made and seconded to approve Jan. 10 2024 BoD Meeting Minutes. Unanimously approved (8 yes votes)

2. 2024 Awards (report from Chair of Awards and Nominations Committee)

- a. Record number of nominations for awards this year so decisions were more difficult than ever
- b. Proposed awardees in four categories:

Candidates chosen by ANC for other community awards:

Cooperator Award:

Team award: Carson Andorf, Darwin Campbell, John Portwood, MGC/Maize GDB

Leadership Award (2 this year):

Mark Lubkowitz, Saint Michael's College
Ruth Wagner, Bayer Crop Science

M. Rhoades Early Career Award:

Rubén Rellán-Álvarez, NC State University

L. Stadler Mid Career Award:

Jinsheng Lai, China Agricultural University

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Motion made and seconded to approve awardees selected by ANC. Unanimously approved (9 yes votes)

- c. Lifetime Achievement Award (BoD chooses based on ANC recommendation). ANC advances 3 candidates this year and presents a case for making awards to all 3 even though this is more than the usual 1-2 per year: Jesus Sanchez Gonzalez, Vicki Chandler, and Curt Hannah.

Motion made and seconded to make Lifetime Achievement Awards to these three candidates, also to consider for 2025 and beyond whether MGC can offer financial support for attendance at the Maize Meeting where the award will be made. 9 votes in favor (unanimous).

3. Discussion of document outlining the process for responding to CoC violations at MGM 2024

A workgroup composed of 3 BoD members and representatives from CODIE and the Maize Meeting Steering Committee worked on revision of the document outlining the process for reporting Code of Conduct violations, and the process to be followed when such reports are received. Revisions were made in light of recommendations of the Inclusive Conference Workgroup of the NSF Roots and Shoots project, our past experience, and to clarify the role of the professional ombudsperson we will have at the 2024 conference. The document was thoroughly discussed and some additional revisions and clarifications were made accordingly. Upon approval by the BoD, this document will be posted on the MGC conference website.

Motion made and seconded to approve the document as it now stands (for 2024). Unanimously approved (9 votes in favor).

Motion made and seconded to appoint three BoD members to the subcommittee referred to in this document who will have the job of investigating and responding to CoC violations. Motion passed with 8 votes (unanimous).

Meeting adjourned 2:00pm Central