

Research at the U, Your Support Is Put To Work

Contributed by Roger Stewart CGCS, Chair RC Committee

One of the most active committees in the MGCSA is the Research Committee. Makes sense because providing funding for turf research is one of the key pillars that the Board of Directors uses to guide the association forward. This means that the Research Committee not only controls what research to fund, but also has the responsibility for raising a large portion of those funds each year. Our recent dues increase is funding used for member directed research or in other words; research that our membership tells us they need and want more information about. The Research Committee is also

responsible for raising funds through the MGCSA Research Scramble, MGCSA Rounds for Research and the gun raffles we have each year. Dr. Brian Horgan and his staff use those revenues to support the daily operation of the TROE Center at the University of Minnesota, as well as various requests for specific funding such as endowments, projects and proposals for research. In addition, a portion of the money raised at the MGCSA Research Scramble each year is used to fund scholarships granted by MGCSA each year through the MGCSA Legacy Scholarship program.

Currently we have three



Dr. Brian Horgan, center, receives a \$20,000 check earlier this year from Roger Stewart, CGCS, Chair of the Research Committee. From left to right committee members: Jeff Johnson, Chris Tritabaugh, Paul Eckholm CGCS Erin McManus Co-chair and Mike Manthy.



MGCSA sponsored Turf Technician Marion Gagliardi applies a growth regulator at the TROE Center. Thank you for your continued support of research at the University of Minnesota.

member directed research projects underway. They consist of a one year project on wetting agents, a multi-year project on winter damage protection and preparation as well as a two year project on growth regulators. We currently are wrapping up a five-year commitment to fund a graduate student endowment to support research at the University of Minnesota.

These are exciting times for turfgrass research at the University of Minnesota, and the MGCSA is poised to be at the forefront of opportunity as we look into the future. The Research Committee will be busy developing member driven projects, with your input, using email survey services as well as determining where our dollars will provide the best results and do the

most good. The possibilities really expand if the project at Les Bolstad Golf Course gets the go ahead in the near future. We want to be a part of the future of that project and a driving force for funding turfgrass research here in the state of Minnesota.

This year we have a robust committee made up of the following members: Roger Stewart – Chairman, Erin McManus Co-Chairman, Jeff Johnson, Chris Tritibaugh, E. Paul Eckholm, Jamie Bezanson, Mike Manthey, Brandon Schindele, Adam Murphy, Sam Bauer and Dr. Brian Horgan. I would be remiss if I didn't also mention the tremendous job our Executive Director Jack MacKenzie does providing administrative support to keep us on track.