ASA Board of Directors Conference Call  
August 19, 2009  
(Call started at 11:00 AM Central Daylight Time; ended at 12:10 PM)

The meeting was called to order by President Mark Alley. Board participants were:

Marcus M. Alley, ASA President  
Francis J. Pierce, ASA President-Elect  
Steven E. Petrie, A-7 Board Rep.  
Tom W. Bruulsema, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.  
Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio  
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio  

Also present:  
Newell R. Kitchen, Incoming ASA President-Elect  
Fran Katz, Chief Operations Officer and Director of Publications  
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer  
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions  
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder  

A003 Board of Directors  
1. ACTION: It was moved by John Graveel to approve the July 1, 2009 ASA Board of Directors Conference Call minutes. Seconded by John Powell. Carried unanimously.

2. It was the consensus of the Board to cancel the September conference call. The next Board conference call will be held October 7 at 11:00 AM Central Daylight Time.

A201.4.16.1 Division Alignment Transition Team  
Newell Kitchen and Deanna Osmond presented the following recommendations:

- Official start date for the new organizational structure will be January 1, 2011

The Board will take official action on this recommendation on the October 7 conference call or at the November 5 Board meeting. In addition, Mark Alley will prepare a statement for the Divisional Nominating Committees explaining that 2011 will be a transition year and therefore, the terms of some of the Division officers (Chair-Elect and Board Rep) elected in 2010 may be affected by the restructuring.

- Divisions be encouraged to spend out current program enhancement funds (legacy funds) between now and the end of 2010. Any funds not spent by the end of 2010 will revert to a general Society-wide program enhancement pool. New disbursement model to be developed.

Newell will prepare a more detailed recommendation for Mark Alley to forward to the Board for comment and an electronic vote.
• Organizational structure will be Sections and Communities within Sections. Section Officers will include Section Board Representative, Section Team Leader, and Community Leaders. Three options were presented for the Section Team Leader – 3 year term; Senior and Junior Chair; current model of a Chair-Elect, Chair, and Past Chair.

Newell will flesh out the three leadership options and forward to the Board for feedback.

Steve Petrie encouraged the Transition Team to consider separating governance from the science in an effort to help define the roles and term of office.

A211 Budget and Finance
1. Steve Petrie reported that the statement of revenues and expenses for the seven months ending July 31, 2009 shows a net income from operations. In addition, the investment portfolio is recovering.

2. Steve Petrie reported on the August 4-5 B&F meetings in Madison. The 2010 draft budget will be revised based on discussions at the meeting and presented to the Board for approval. In addition, a very positive audit report was received at the August meeting. The B&F Committee also received a report from Smith-Barney on the investment portfolio. Although the ACSESS Board took action at its August 4 meeting to recommend that the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Boards of Directors remain with the 50-50 split between fixed income and equity, the B&F Committees are working on a motion to bring to the Board to allow a wider range for market fluctuations.

3. Per discussions at the August B&F Committee meeting, Fran Pierce encouraged the Board to actively pursue allocating additional dollars in the 2010 budget for the Science Policy Office. ICCA leadership will also consider allocating dollars for the Science Policy Office. Mark Alley, Fran Pierce, John Shanahan, and Ellen Bergfeld will bring a proposal to the Board.

ACS237 Membership and Society Identity
Due to time constraints, the list of suggested opportunities for adding value to membership developed at the May Board meeting will be discussed on a future conference call.

A290 Headquarters
Mark Alley reported that action was taken by the ACSESS Board at its August 4 meeting to continue to move forward and pursue purchase of a replacement headquarters building. Wes Meixelsperger informed the Board that all is moving along and he is in the final stages of preparing an offer.

ACS536 Washington Presence
1. As reported on the July 1, 2009 conference call, Mark Alley has been involved in discussions with NRCS regarding the potential of ASA managing a Mississippi River Valley project. A decision from NRCS on whether the project will be funded is expected in the near future.

2. Mark Alley requested Board members provide feedback on the Grand Challenges in Agronomy draft document within the week. Based on Board input, the document will be revised and forwarded to the Board for an electronic vote. Following Board approval the membership will be contacted for input on key questions that need to be asked to meet the grand challenges.

3. Mark Alley requested each Board member provide two names of individuals to potentially serve on panels that will review the initial grant applications for the NSF BREAD program.
A591 K-12 Committee
Mark Alley requested Board members provide names of individuals for potential appointment to the K-12 Committee.

A711 Program Planning
1. Fran Pierce reported that plans are moving along well for the 2009 annual meeting with an expected 10 percent reduction in attendance. Due to cost, the WEBEX broadcasts will occur one day only. Confirmation for the York Lecture and Monday morning plenary session is expected in the near future.

2. ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the Annual Meetings Planning Committee proposal. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.

ACTION: Moved by Fran Pierce to adjourn. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.