ASA Board of Directors Conference Call
September 23, 2010
(Call started at 11:00 AM Central Daylight Time; ended at 12:15 PM)

The meeting was called to order by President Fran Pierce. Board participants were:

Francis J. Pierce, ASA President
Newell R. Kitchen, ASA President-Elect
Marcus M. Alley, ASA Past President
Chad Lee, A-4 Board Rep.
Kathleen Delate, Provisional A-12 Board Rep.
Thomas W. Bruulsema, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also participating:
Kenneth A. Barbarick, Incoming ASA President-Elect
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

A003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: It was moved by Chad Lee to approve the conference call agenda. Seconded by Kathleen Delate. Carried unanimously.

2. ACTION: It was moved by Jim Dunphy to approve the August 4, 2010 Board conference call minutes. Seconded by Chad Lee. Carried unanimously.

3. The ASA Board of Directors will meet during the Annual Meeting in Long Beach on Thursday, November 4, 7:00-9:00 AM. Board members were encouraged to send agenda items to Fran Pierce. An orientation on roles and responsibilities of the Board will be included.

A211 Budget and Finance
John Shanahan reported a positive net income from operations for the eight months ending August 31, 2010. He is in the process of writing a brief budget summary as an information item for the Division Business Meetings in Long Beach.

A201.4.16.1 Division Alignment Transition Team
1. The ASA Bylaws election closed September 16. Fran Pierce reported the Bylaws revision was affirmed by a large majority (90%) of those who voted.
2. The Board reviewed the ASA Leadership Transition Plan for Board Representatives as well as Section and Community leadership developed by Newell Kitchen and Deanna Osmond. The Transition Plan represents hours of one-on-one conversations with current Board and Division leadership. Rather than appointing the Early Career Rep. and Industry Rep. to an initial 3-year term on the Board, it was suggested that two nominations for each position be solicited from the appropriate committees. The four candidates would then be forwarded to the current Board for a vote. Fran Pierce requested Newell and Deanna consider the suggestion and come back with a recommendation for filling the Early Career Rep. and Industry Rep. positions on the October 6 Board conference call.

Tom Bruulsema recommended that the ICCA Board Representative be included in the Agronomic Production Systems Section discussions relative to determining the need for the professional practitioner community.

ACTION: It was moved by Kathleen Delate to accept the ASA Leadership Transition Plan for Board Representatives, as presented, with the exception of the Early Career Rep. and the Industry Rep. Seconded by John Graveel. Carried unanimously.

Following further Board approval on the October 6 conference call, the Transition Plan will be shared with all who are listed in the document outlining the next steps. Teleconference training will be held in mid-October to equip Division/Section leadership to present the new structure at their Division Business Meetings in Long Beach.

ACTION: It was moved by Mark Alley that the Board express appreciation to Deanna Osmond and Newell Kitchen for their extensive and high quality work with developing the Leadership Transition Plan for Board Representatives and Section and Community leadership. Seconded by Tom Bruulsema. Carried unanimously.

A201.4.17 Future Directions of ASA Publications Task Force
Warren Dick will provide a report on the October 6 Board conference call.

A302 Agronomy Journal
The call for nominations for Agronomy Journal Editor appeared in the June CSA News with a July 21 deadline for receipt of nominations. Warren Dick received three nominations and forwarded his recommendation for Editor to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee reviewed the nominations and approved Warren’s recommendation, thus the candidate is presented to the Board for ratification.

ACTION: It was moved by Kathleen Delate to accept Warren Dick’s recommendation to appoint Brent Godshalk to a 3-year term as Agronomy Journal Editor. Seconded by Rob Mitchell. Carried with 12 in favor, 1 opposed, 1 abstained.

Some Board members requested the vote be delayed until the October 6 conference call when Warren Dick would be available to participate in the discussion. It was reiterated that although Warren was not available to be on this conference call, his recommendation for Editor was forwarded to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee reviewed all the nominations and approved Warren’s recommendation which is now being presented to the Board for ratification.
ACTION: It was moved by Robert Lascano to table the motion until the October 6 conference call. Seconded by John Shanahan. Failed with 3 in favor, 11 opposed.

Warren Dick will proceed with writing a formal appointment letter to Brent Godshalk.

Fran Pierce informed the Board that Brent is in the process of appointing a committee to review the editorial process for Agronomy Journal. Warren Dick will be requested to keep the Board informed of the committee’s progress.

AC309 Plant Management Network Joint Executive Committee
Jim Dunphy was one of ASA’s representatives at the PMN Joint Executive Committee meeting, August 19-20, 2010. The ‘Focus on Potato’ and ‘Focus on Soybean’ sponsored programs have been successful, therefore, they are looking into expanding their sponsored programs to include corn, peanut, and other crops.

ACS528 Minorities in Agronomy Committee
The SSSA Board of Directors took action to change the name of the ACS528 Minorities in Agronomy Committee to Diversity in Agronomy, Crops, Soils, and Environmental Sciences Committee. As this is an ACS committee, the ASA and CSSA Boards are requested to take similar action. The reason for the name change is to make it more positive, less restrictive to membership, and recognize the other Societies. In addition to changing the name, it is recommended that the committee charge be rewritten to expand on the positive activities of the committee and make it more relevant to today’s membership.

ACTION: It was moved by John Graveel to change the name of the ACS528 Minorities in Agronomy Committee to Diversity in Agronomy, Crops, Soils, and Environmental Sciences Committee. Seconded by Kathleen Delate. Carried unanimously.

A711 Program Planning
1. Newell Kitchen reported that plans are moving along well for the Annual Meeting in Long Beach and per Keith Schlesinger attendance should be good.

2. Board members were encouraged to forward Fran Pierce items for discussion at the Division Business Meetings in Long Beach. The Board will have an opportunity to review and approve the discussion topics on the October 6 Board conference call.

3. The call for nominations for ASA Program Planning Officer appeared in the August CSA News with an August 31 deadline for receipt of applications. Three applications were received and reviewed by the Executive Committee. Newell Kitchen reported that Bob Lacey has accepted the position of ASA Program Planning Officer effective January 1, 2011.

A800 Scientific Affairs
Due to time constraints, a report on the July 28-29 Global Plant Council meeting in Montreal will be an agenda item for the October 6 Board conference call.

Meeting adjourned.