ASA Board of Directors Conference Call
October 6, 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
Chad Lee, A-4 Board Rep.
Kathleen Delate, Provisional A-12 Board Rep.
Thomas W. Bruulsema, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.
Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
Lee E. Sommers, ASF Chair, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio
Also participating:
James A. Ippolito, Incoming Environmental Quality Section Board Rep.
Robert M. Lacey, Incoming Program Planning Officer
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
Fran Katz, Director of Publications
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

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

2. ACTION: It was moved by John Shanahan to approve the September 23, 2010 Board conference call minutes. Seconded by William Heer. 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. Fran encouraged Board members to review the draft agenda and send any additional items to him.

ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation
1. Lee Sommers presented the following recommendations on behalf of the ASF Board of Trustees:
   - Consolidate the Beachell, Clark, Dixon, Johnson, Mott, Reed and Troug funds into a single “Scholarship Fund” that can be used to provide scholarships to undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. students who are interested in pursuing careers in agronomy, crops or soils. The combined value is ~ $225,000.
   - Consolidate the L.B. Nelson, L.R. Frederick and Bouyoucus funds to create an “International Travel Study Fund” that could be used to encourage international teaching experiences for students and instructors. The combined value is ~ $550,000.
   - The Golden Opportunity Fund will be considered one of the three “high priority” funds by ASF in terms of promotion and soliciting additional funds for sustained growth. There is not a recommendation to combine this fund with the other Scholarship Fund at this time.
The ASF Board has reviewed the funds and Fund Agreements which govern the management and distribution of awards resulting from these investments. The funds would be consolidated, while continuing to preserve the naming conventions and donor intent, to enhance the stature and visibility of the award opportunities. Such consolidation would result in creating the top three priority funds that would be marketed to the Societies’ membership as well as corporate supporters.

The ASA Board provided a vote of confidence on the recommendations as presented.

The CSSA Board of Directors voted to support the recommendations on their October 5 conference call. Lee will present the recommendations on the October 14 SSSA Board conference call. Upon approval of all three Boards, ASF will contact the donors or their families to explain the consolidation of funds and seek their approval. A progress report will be provided at a future Board meeting.

2. Lee encouraged Board members to forward him names for potential appointment to the ASF Board of Trustees.

A201.4.16.1 Division Alignment Transition Team

1. Action was taken on the September 23, 2010 Board conference call to accept the ASA Leadership Transition Plan for Board Representatives with the exception of the Early Career Rep. and the Industry Rep. Newell and Deanna were to present a recommendation for filling those two positions on the October 6 Board conference call.

Per ASA Bylaws two nominees for the ballot shall be solicited from the Early Career Members Committee for the Early Career Rep. position on the Board. Two nominees shall be solicited from the Membership and Society Identity Committee for the Industry Rep. position on the Board.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Newell Kitchen that the Early Career Rep. and Industry Rep. positions on the ASA Board of Directors be filled as outlined in the Bylaws. Seconded by Kathleen Delate. Carried unanimously.

Based on the above action, two candidates for each position will be solicited from the appropriate committees to run on the Spring 2011 ballot. The Early Career Members Committee and the Membership and Society Identity Committee are ACS committees, thus only the ASA representatives on those committees will be asked to submit names of candidates. The successful candidates will begin serving immediately after the elections are final and will serve for the period 2011-2013 (a few months short of the 3 year term). The candidates will be encouraged to keep the dates open for the Spring 2011 Board meeting so if elected, they will be able to attend.

2. The Board reviewed the draft Section and Community Leadership Transition Plan on the September 23 conference call. Through one-on-one conversations and conference calls, Newell reported that the Education and Extension Section leadership has been determined and agreed to by all involved.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Newell Kitchen to approve the October 6, 2010 version of the Section and Community Leadership Transition Plan. Seconded by John Graveel. Carried unanimously.

The ASA Transition Plan for Board Representatives and the Section and Community Leadership Transition Plan have been shared with all who are listed on 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. Board members will be encouraged to participate in the on-line training as well.
A201.4.17 Future Directions of ASA Publications Task Force
Fran encouraged Board members to read the task force report and be prepared to discuss it at the November 4 Board meeting.

A211 Budget and Finance
The August financials were presented on the September 23 Board conference call. John Shanahan has prepared a brief budget summary as an information item for the Division Business Meetings in Long Beach. The 2011 budget is posted on the Board website; hard copies will be available for the November 4 Board meeting. Fran encouraged Board members to come to the meeting prepared to approve the 2011 budget.

A302 Agronomy Journal
Warren Dick reported that the following individuals are serving on an Agronomy Journal ad hoc committee to review the structure of the journal and recommendations for moving forward – Brent Godshalk, Jerry Hatfield, Lynn Sollenberger, Scott Staggenborg, and Arnold Bruns. Board members were encouraged to contact the committee if they have any questions.

A711 Program Planning
1. Newell Kitchen reported that everything is moving along well for the 2010 annual meeting. He requested Board members send him ideas on how to promote the ASA Breakfast/Awards Program/Plenary Address to ensure the event is well attended.

2. The Board reviewed the draft discussion items for the Division business meetings. The following items need some further work:
   • New Section/Community structure – Newell will develop a document providing some background information to help answer questions.
   • Annual Meeting – Division Chairs will be encouraged to announce session topics for the 2011 annual meeting. Bob Lacey will work with Ken Barbarick and Keith Schlesinger to develop a document to assist the Section/Community leadership with program development under the new structure.
   • Candidates for the 2011 ballot – Section leaders are to discuss/identify candidates for Section officers and provide the names of the candidates to their respective Board Rep. during the annual meeting. Newell and Deanna will cover the nomination process during the teleconference training for the new Section/Community leaders.

A800 Scientific Affairs
Fran Pierce reported on the Global Plant Council (GPC) meeting held July 28-29, 2010 in Montreal. The GPC is a coalition of plant science societies of the world that brings plant scientists together to work synergistically toward solving the pressing problems facing humankind and that speaks with a strong voice from a plant science perspective to inform the global debate on those problems.

ACTION: It was moved by Kathleen Delate that ASA become a dues paying member of the Global Plant Council and support them with an annual contribution of $1,000. Seconded by Jim Dunphy. Carried unanimously.

CSSA also took action to become a Founding Member of the Global Plant Council, thus the possibility of appointing one ASA-CSSA representative to the GPC for a 3-year term will be explored.

Meeting adjourned.