ASA Board of Directors Conference Call
January 5, 2011
(Call started at 11:00 AM Central Standard Time; ended at 12:10 PM)

The meeting was called to order by President Newell Kitchen. Board participants were:

Newell R. Kitchen, ASA President
Kenneth A. Barbarick, ASA President-Elect
Francis J. Pierce, ASA Past President
Alexandra N. Kravchenko, Biometry and Statistical Computing Section Board Rep.
Chad Lee, Education and Extension Section Board Rep.
Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
Robert M. Lacey, Program Planning Officer, ex-officio
James G. Coors, ASF Chair, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also participating:
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
James Giese, Director of Science Communications
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

A003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: It was moved by Bill Heer to approve the conference call agenda. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.

2. ACTION: It was moved by John Shanahan to approve the December 1, 2010 Board of Directors conference call minutes. Seconded by Fran Pierce. Carried unanimously.

3. Board members were requested to sign and return to Headquarters the Written Acceptance of Conflicts of Interest Policy for 2011.

4. The next Board conference call is scheduled for February 2 at 11:00 AM Central Standard Time.

5. The Board will meet May 16-17 in Madison, WI – arrive afternoon/evening on the 15th and depart afternoon on the 17th. Headquarters will provide details on hotel accommodations, etc.

A005 Committees
Newell confirmed appointments to the 2011 Nominations Committee; Organization, Policy and Bylaws Committee; Budget and Finance Committee; and Science Policy Committee.
ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation

The Board provided a vote of confidence on October 6, 2010 to support the ASF recommendation to consolidate the Beachell, Clark, Dixon, Johnson, Mott, Reed and Truog funds into a single Scholarship Fund and to consolidate the L.B. Nelson, L.R. Frederick and Bouyoucos funds to create an International Travel Study Fund, with a request for a progress report on the details.

Jim Coors provided a progress report and clarified that ASF is not proposing that existing named funds be eliminated, but that the dollars be consolidated. ASF recommends that there should be three priority funds - the Scholarship Fund, the International Travel Study Fund, and the Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute Fund - that would be actively marketed to the Societies’ membership as well as corporate supporters. Since the first two funds would be new, ASF recommends the following:

- Identify the Beachell, Clark, Dixon, Johnson, Mott, Reed and Truog funds under a general “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. Although individual account balances will be maintained, the combined account value is ~ $225,000. Jim provided further details on how the Scholarship Fund would operate.

Rob Mitchell suggested ASF reconsider the requirement that recipients of a scholarship be required to be a member of ASA-CSSA-SSSA for a minimum of 5 years as that will be difficult to enforce.

- Identify the L.B. Nelson, L.R. Fredrick and Bouyoucos funds under a general “International Travel Study Fund” that can be used to encourage international teaching experiences for students and instructors in agronomy, crops or soils. Although individual account balances will be maintained, the combined account value is ~$550,000. Jim provided further details on how the International Travel Study Fund would operate.

- Keep the Golden Opportunity Fund as a high priority fund in terms of promotion and soliciting additional funds for sustained growth. These scholarships would be for undergraduate students studying agronomy, crops or soils.

ASF also recommends that the current committees for the individual funds named above be combined into one committee for the Scholarship Fund and one committee for the International Travel Study Fund. Guidelines on how the committees would function will need to be established. Jim will work with Newell to draft a letter to current committee chairs affected by the proposal requesting their feedback.

Jim will present this progress report to the CSSA and SSSA Boards of Directors on their January conference calls. Upon receiving feedback from all three Boards, ASF will develop an action plan for implementation which will be presented to all three Boards for approval.

A101 Nominations

Fran reported that Sylvie Brouder and Sharon Clay are the President-Elect candidates for the 2011 ballot. He will work with the O&P Committee to develop a recommendation on revising the composition and function of the Nominations Committee, including the process for obtaining and selecting candidates. This will be an agenda item for the May Board meeting.
A201 Organization, Policy and Bylaws
1. The Board reviewed the approval guidelines for ASA Communities and recommended some editorial changes.

ACTION: It was moved by Chad Lee to approve the Approval Guidelines for ASA Community Creation Request Forms with some minor editorial changes. Seconded by Bill Heer. Carried unanimously.

2. The Board reviewed the document outlining services that ASA will provide to Communities. Fran Pierce encouraged the document contain a statement that details on services provided are available at Headquarters.

ACTION: It was moved by Ken Barbarick to approve the Services to ASA Communities document. Seconded by Fran Pierce. Carried unanimously.

3. The Board reviewed and took action on the following Community Creation Request forms:

   • ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the Agroclimatology and Agronomic Modeling Community. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.

   • ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the By-product Gypsum Uses in Agriculture Community. Seconded by Bill Heer. Carried unanimously.

   • ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the Model Applications in Field Research Community. Seconded by Rob Mitchell. Carried unanimously.

       Newell will contact the leaders of this Community and encourage them to consider a merger with the Agroclimatology and Agronomic Modeling Community.

   • ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the Spatial Statistics Applications Community. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.

A201.4 Strategic Planning
Newell plans to share his draft priorities from the Strategic Plan on the February 2 Board conference call.

A201.4.16.1 Division Alignment Transition Team
Newell reported that he has dismissed the Transition Team and thanked them for their service.

A201.4.17 Future Directions of ASA Publications Task Force
Warren indicated that his October 4, 2010 report was a working/guidance document with no specific recommendations.

A211 Budget and Finance
John reported a net income from operations for the eleven months ending November 30, 2010. Wes indicated the December 2010 statements will be posted mid to late January.
A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices

1. Warren presented a recommendation on procedure for appointment of the Editor-in-Chief and journal editors.

ACTION: It was moved by Rob Mitchell to approve the document, as amended. Seconded by Fran Pierce. Carried unanimously.

2. The Board will review Warren’s Editor-in-Chief report on the February 2 conference call.

A302 Agronomy Journal

The Agronomy Journal Editorial Board is working on a new proposed structure. A recommendation should be forthcoming to the ASA Board for consideration on the February 2 conference call.

Meeting adjourned.