ASA Board of Directors Conference Call
July 6, 2011
(Call started at 11:00 AM CDT; ended at 12:30 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
- Chad Lee, Education and Extension Section Board Rep.
- J. Mark Powell, Global Agronomy Section Board Rep.
- Frederick F. Vocasek, ICCA Registrants Board Rep.
- Robert M. Lacey, Program Planning Officer, ex-officio
- Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also participating:

- Steven E. Petrie, Incoming Finance Board Rep.
- Tony J. Vyn, ASA Representative to CAST
- James Giese, Director of Science Communications
- Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy
- Mark Mandelbaum, Director of Publications
- Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
- Sara Uttech, Manager-Communications and Community Programs
- Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

Board members unable to participate:

- Robert J. Lascano, Climatology and Modeling Section Board Rep.
- Warren A. Dick, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
- James G. Coors, ASF Chair, ex-officio
- Sharon A. Clay, Incoming ASA President-Elect

A003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: It was moved by Ken Barbarick to approve the conference call agenda. Seconded by Fran Piece. Carried unanimously.

2. ACTION: It was moved by John Shanahan to approve the May 17, 2011 Board meeting minutes. Seconded by Bill Heer. Carried unanimously.

3. The next Board conference call is scheduled for August 3 at 11:00 AM CDT.

4. The Board will meet during the Annual Meeting in San Antonio on October 20, 9:00-11:00 AM.

A010 Communities
Newell reported that the first Community Connection conference call was held on June 28. They are fully engaged with the 10 points on the Response Plan of Action resulting from the May Leadership Retreat.
A201 Organization, Policy, and Bylaws

1. Following up on discussions at the May Board meeting, Fran presented the proposed nomination process for ASA President-Elect. If approved, the composition of the A101 Nominations Committee would be: ASA Executive Committee with current President serving as Chair; voting Board members not represented through Sections (Early Career, Finance, Industry, and ICCA Reps.); and the Presiding Chairs from each of the ASA Sections.

ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the nominations process for ASA President-Elect, as presented. Seconded by Ken Barbarick. Carried unanimously.

2. Following up on discussions at the May Board meeting, Fran presented the ASA Distinguished Service Award proposal.

ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to create the American Society of Agronomy Distinguished Service Award as outlined in the award guideline. Seconded by Rob Mitchell. Carried unanimously.

ACTION: It was moved by Fran Pierce to approve the combined ASA Division Alignment Task Force, the ASA Division Alignment Transition Team, and the ASA Bylaws Revision Team as the first team recipient of the ASA Distinguished Service Award for 2011 for their outstanding contributions to the ASA structure realignment. Names of staff that participated in the restructuring effort will be removed from the list of recipients as they are not eligible for Society awards. Seconded by Ken Barbarick. Carried unanimously.

A211 Budget and Finance

1. John reported net income from operations for the five months ending May 31, 2011.

2. The B&F Committee has received the 2012 draft budget in preparation for the August meeting. It is anticipated that the final budget will be submitted to the Board in September to allow time for review prior to final approval at the October 20 Board meeting in San Antonio.

3. In 2010 the B&F Committee set aside some dollars in the Member Services budget - miscellaneous line item - to invest in transitioning to the new structure. The May 16-17, 2011 ASA Leadership Visioning Retreat was funded with those dollars. Fran encouraged the Board to consider setting aside some dollars in the 2012 budget for continued investment in transition to the new structure. He clarified that the discretionary funds would be separate from the Reinvest ASA funds.

ACTION: It was moved by Ken Barbarick to set aside $50,000 in the 2012 budget for discretionary purposes. Seconded by John Shanahan.

AMENDMENT: It was moved by Fran Pierce that spending the $50,000 discretionary funds will require Board approval. Seconded by Ken Barbarick. Carried unanimously.

AMENDED ACTION: It was moved by Ken Barbarick to set aside $50,000 in the 2012 budget for discretionary purposes. Spending of the funds will require Board approval. Seconded by John Shanahan. Carried unanimously.
4. The Board approved the Reinvest ASA concept in December 2010. Action was taken at the May 2011 Board meeting to approve the policy and guidelines for managing ASA assets. The next step in the process is to develop guidelines for implementation. Bill Heer, John Shanahan, and Rob Mitchell volunteered to work with Fran, Ellen, and Wes to develop the procedures and process for implementation. Fran will present the committee’s recommendation on the August 3 Board conference call.

A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices
1. Mark Mandelbaum introduced himself and provided a brief vision for his role as the new Director of Publications. Due to time constraints, he followed up with an email to the Board outlining his background, what attracted him to the position, and his vision regarding editorial activities.

2. The ASA, CSSA and SSSA Editors-in-Chief will meet with Mark Mandelbaum at Headquarters prior to the August Budget and Finance Committee meetings. Warren will provide an update on editorial activities on the September 7 Board conference call.

A537 Science Policy
Fred reported that the Science Policy Committee met via conference call on June 15. Agenda items included:

- Update on the Farm Bill – potential of huge impact on ASA and ICCA’s
- Potential topics for position statements to be developed over time – biofuels, water policy
- Nutrient Stewardship Summit follow-up – ASA and ICCA signed on to a letter submitted in response to the notice in the Federal Register submitted by the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service requesting comments regarding the Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) survey. Relative to the questionnaire, these comments specifically addressed questions related to nutrient management to ensure accurate data collection regarding nutrient source, rate, timing, and placement. The letter can be found at https://www.agronomy.org/files/science-policy/testimony/ceap-survey-questionaire-comments-2011.pdf
- Save our GPS – An FCC waiver has been issued to a holding company proposing to establish a nationwide broadband network. It has been reported that the network will cause overwhelming interference to GPS, all precision ag applications will be affected. Therefore, a coalition has been formed to challenge the waiver as FCC will open the comment period for only 30-45 days. Karl will meet with his counterpart at the American Society of Biological and Agricultural Engineers and perhaps pursue a joint response.

A691.1 CAST
Action was taken at the October 7, 2009 ASA Board meeting to continue ASA membership in CAST for 2010 in the Large Scientific Societies category with a membership fee of $3,000 per year. The Board was to review CAST membership beyond 2010 at a future meeting. It was noted that CSSA and SSSA have discontinued membership in CAST.

Tony Vyn, ASA liaison to CAST, provided an update on CAST activities. He encouraged the Board to continue ASA’s membership in CAST as it has a solid history of an interdisciplinary approach in assembling, interpreting, and communicating information to legislators in Washington, DC as well as the general public.
Fran reminded the Board of some lively discussions that have taken place in the recent past regarding CAST and questioned whether those concerns have been alleviated. In addition, ASA is making additional investments in their Science Policy Office. It was the consensus of the Board that Tony and Newell talk with Karl Glasener to determine if the previous concerns have been addressed. Newell will report back to the Board on the August 3 conference call. The request from CAST for monetary support of their 40th annual meeting will also need to be addressed.

A711 Program Planning
Bob reported that the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA program planners met in May to finalize the schedule for the San Antonio meetings. A meeting has been scheduled for ASA leadership including Section and Community Leaders on October 16, 2:00-4:00 PM. A follow-up meeting is scheduled on October 19, 3:00-4:00 PM to discuss what worked well and ideas for next year under the new structure.

Meeting adjourned.