American Society of Agronomy Board of Directors Conference Call Minutes  
Nov. 4, 2018, 10:00am-Noon Eastern, Baltimore, MD

The meeting was called to order by ASA President Steve Evett.

Board Members Present:  
Steve Evett, President  
Jessica Davis, Past President  
Gary Pierzynski, President-Elect  
Alan Schlegel, Ag. Production Systems  
Jeff Coulter, Biometry & Stats Computing  
Dennis Timlin, Climatology & Modeling  
John Holman, Education & Extension  
Jim Ippolito, Environmental Quality/Prog. Planning Officer  
Sieg Snapp, Global Agronomy  
Tim Reinbott, Land Management & Conservation  
Paul Carter, Industry Board Representative  
Sally Flis, ICCA Board Rep.  
Mitch Hunter, Graduate Student Rep.  
Dan Sweeney, ASA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio  
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio  
Jeff Volenec, ASF Board Chair, ex-officio

Unable to Attend:  
Steve Petrie, Finance Representative

Also Participating:  
Sylvie Brouder, Incoming ASA President-Elect  
Maria Villamil, Incoming Biometry & Statistical Computing  
Susan O’Shaughnessy, Incoming Climatology & Modeling  
Kristen Veum, Incoming Land Mgmt & Conservation  
Haleigh Summers, Incoming Grad Student Representative  
Karl Anderson, Government Relations Director  
Susan Chapman, Member Services Director  
Bill Cook, Publications Director  
Susan Fisk, Science Communications Director  
Ian Popkewitz, IT/Operations Director  
Wes Meixelsperger, CFO & Meetings Director  
Luther Smith, Business Relations Director  
Sara Uttech, Governance & Membership Senior Manager  
Matt Wascavage, Publications Director

A003 ASA Board of Directors

1. ACTION: Motion by Tim Reinbott, seconded by Jeff Coulter, to approve the Nov. 4, 2018 ASA Board Conference Call Agenda and Oct. 16, 2018 ASA Board Minutes. Unanimous approval.

2. Steve Evett welcomed incoming ASA Board Members: Sylvie Brouder (President-Elect), Pat Carr (Agronomic Production Systems), Maria Villamil (Biometry & Statistical Computing), Susan O’Shaughnessy (Climatology & Modeling), Kristen Veum (Land Management & Conservation), Haleigh Summers (Grad Student Representative).

3. Steve Evett acknowledged our appreciation to outgoing ASA Board Members: Jessica Davis (Past President), Alan Schlegel (Agronomic Production Systems), Jeff Coulter (Biometry & Statistical Computing), Dennis Timlin (Climatology & Modeling), Tim Reinbott (Land Management & Conservation), Mitch Hunter (Grad Student Representative), Jeff Volenec (ASF Chair).

4. Ellen Bergfeld reviewed the ASA Strategic Plan and 2018 Departmental Goals, noting that there will be a new three-year Strategic Plan developed at the Spring 2019 ASA Board Meeting.

5. Jessica Davis facilitated a discussion on gender bias in the Society, noting that an SSSA task force is looking at the issue in terms of representation, recognition, and retention. Suggestions included:
   - Improve representation of women on committees and editorial boards.
   - Improve representation of women in our elections by nominating women, and also voting.
   - Add the topic of gender bias to the Department Head Meeting for their review and ask them for suggestions.
   - Improve recognition of women through Awards and Fellows:
     - Add an award session to the Annual Meeting, set aside time to nominate and help with nominations.
     - Since 1925, 2% of Fellows have been women, 11% for the past 10 years. We as a board can be more intentional, asking members to think about women who deserve to be recognized, and encouraging nominations of women
     - Review the current wording and intent of award criteria: are the descriptions encouraging, equitable, and inclusive? Is the wording biased in some way, especially the Fellow criteria?
     - Include gender bias, and the broader issue of inclusion, as a topic for the upcoming Strategic Plan.
ACTION: Motion by Jessica Davis, seconded by John Holman, to remove the requirement of having a nominator for all ASA awards, except Fellow. Motion carries with one dissent. Note: Reference letter needs to be hidden for self-nominations.

A211 ASA Budget & Finance
1. CFO Wes Meixelsperger reviewed the ASA 3Q 2018 Financials.
2. ACTION: Motion by Jeff Coulter, seconded by Paul Carter, to approve the 2019 ASA Budget. Unanimous approval.

A711 Program Planning
Steve Evett reported there will be Live Polling as part of the MySci Mtgs app, which is in response to the request for improved presentation quality and feedback from Mitch Hunter.

ACS237.2 Emeritus Membership Task Force
Gary “Pete” Peterson reported on the Emeritus Task Force: make members feel appreciated so they want to continue to stay active throughout their career and into their retirement years by building relationships in their early years.

A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies, and Practices
Directors of Publications Bill Cook and Matt Wascavage provided an update of the journal platform outsourcing proposal.

A537 Science Policy
The board welcomed Scott Angle, the new Director of USDA-NIFA, who provided remarks and fielded questions.

A691.1 Council for Agricultural Science & Technology—CAST
Steve Evett issued a call for nominations (including self-nominations) for the ASA representative to the Council for Agricultural Science & Technology (CAST) by Dec. 31, 2018.

A101 Nominations Committee
Steve Evett issued a call for 2019 ASA Candidates due by Dec. 30, 2018 for President-Elect, Board Reps., Section Vice Chairs.

Consensus to adjourn.