











































**April 20th 2021, 1.00pm EST
NAPB EC Meeting**

Attendees

 HS	Hannah Senior (me)		
	Bubeck, David (Host)		
	J.D. Rossouw @ Bayer		
	Mark Sorrells		
	1425****759 Zara York		
	Benjamin Trampe		
	david fang		
	Debora Menicos		
	DJones		
	Jones, Zachary		
	Ksenija Gasic		
	Neha Kothari		
	Peggy Ozias-Akins		
	Rich Pratt		

Minutes from March Meeting

Minutes approved – Moved Don, seconded Benjamin, no objections

Action Log – Brief discussion about updates on the action log – a few updates received.

Annual meeting – David Bubeck

- It was confirmed that the 2022 Iowa meeting will be in person, 8-11 August
- There was discussion about whether the annual meeting should be held at a different time of year. August is busy for many plant breeders, but alternative times of year have drawbacks such as clashing with other meetings, falling outside of growing season (for field trips) etc. Ksenija said it would find it helpful to know the membership's preferences for 2023

ACTION – David to add time of year for future annual meetings to agenda for upcoming meeting

Financial Update – Don Jones

Strong financial position, cash in hand has increased about \$60,000 due to 2020 annual meeting being held online, which reduced expenses. \$80,000 has been invested for long term growth.

Annual Meetings – Mark Sorrells & David Bubeck

- Web page will go live – April 30th, Seed World have the images and registration link.
- Most other matters in hand. The engagement of Seed World seems to be going well.
- There was a discussion about who should have their registration fee waived, now the ability to offer this is in place. A draft set of guidelines of who should be offered free registration has been prepared - the parameters drawn quite tightly. Once this is agreed the document will be added to the documentation handed on for future meetings.
- Understanding who is a / will be an NAPB member at the start of the meeting when they pay to register cannot be automated by ACSESS. This, along with auto renewal of membership is unlikely to be possible unless we change service provider.
- The 2023 meeting is confirmed as being held at Clemson. Dates tbc
- Discussions are under way via JD Rossouw for Bayer to host 2024. There was debate about whether this should involve co-hosting with the Danforth Institute (engaging with Ag Start-Ups) or with the University of Illinois. Collaborating with the Danforth Institute was on balance considered valuable, but bridges could still be built with the University of Illinois

ACTION – JD will reach out to the University of Illinois to participate eg to invite speakers, but explore co-hosting with the Danforth Institute

Centre for Food Integrity – David Bubeck

- Dave recapped on the EC & CC webinar on Responsible Use Guidelines for Gene Editing. Some private industry participants are concerned that it could turn out to be another but self-imposed regulatory system. The intentions are good but it might result in making life more difficult for little extra benefit. How the auditing process would work is not really clear.
- It was considered a good idea to share this initiative with the membership, but after the 2021 Meeting, by which time the Responsible Use Guidelines will be completed.
- Some were reluctant to complete The Centre for Food Integrity questionnaire because it was not clear whether responses were taken as being individual or on behalf of employers.

Secretary Nomination – David Bubeck

- The revised, more standardised process for nominating future NAPB Secretaries was discussed. The candidate list will be finalised by April 30th. The EC and CCs were encouraged to nominate candidates, to Dave Bubeck, from within those already active in the NAPB.
- The shortlist will be discussed, after vetting for willingness to serve, at the May EC meeting.
- A shortlist of two nominees will be put forward for voting by the membership from June 10th to July 10th. The results will be shared at the 2021 Annual meeting.

- This new process will be documented and added to the Leadership folder on the website as part of forming a library of NAPB processes.

Membership Committee – David Fang

- Retirees would like reduced membership fee. This was agreed in November but has not been added to the website.
- The membership committee proposed an Early Career rate - after graduation many students don't renew membership even though they remain in plant breeding field. It was discussed that ASA CSA SSA have an early-career rate for 7 years after PhD which has helped retain early career members.

ACTION – David put proposal for Early Career rate to EC to consider.

ACTION –David Fang consult Benjamin Trampe over how to add to the website

Advocacy Committee – David Bubeck on behalf of Bill Tracy

Planning on nominating some students to participate in Washington trip

Education Committee – Neha Kothari

- Proposed that a 2 minute video should be mandatory for participation in the poster competition, instead of optional (as last year). This would be good practice to develop video skills, provides content for NAPB social media / youtube, & prevents those with poor connectivity being disadvantaged. Also keeps everyone strictly to 2 minutes.
- There was discussion about waiving registration for international student participants –in practice these registrations were financed via donations.

ACTION – Neha put proposal to EC for extending participation to international students.

Awards Committee – Jim McFerson

Broadly on track, working with Ben to get the website set up.

Communications Committee – Zach Jones

Work has begun on the next newsletter items for inclusion are welcomed by the end of the month. Information about the 2021 Meeting will be included when received from Mark Sorrells.

Commercial Committee – JD Rossouw

Seminar on April 9th went well - student organised. Further sessions are planned on Networking and getting ready for industry roles and (for the Annual Meeting) a Sustainability session.

Borlaug Scholars – Don Jones

37 Graduate and 9 Undergrad nominations for Borlaug Scholars positions have been received. Voting occurs at the end of this month.

PBCC – Rich Pratt

First stage of graduate video competition entrants is wrapped up, will be able to share fairly soon. All are high quality. Ranked videos, developed helpful hints about how to improve.

PBCC is supporting an initiative started by Iowa State to put some standardisation into plant breeding curricula.

Grad Student Working Group - Zara York

One more webinar is coming up, and another social with the APBA. The research competition will happen in June as an afternoon-evening event to allow for social interactions and questions.

Early Career Working Group - Debora Menicos

The ECWG put forward an idea for a Mentoring programme consisting of small groups of 4-6 people across career stages.

ACTION – Deb send proposal to EC and CCs regarding mentoring programme.

The meeting closed at 14.17