

**15<sup>th</sup> June 2021, 1.00pm EST**  
**NAPB EC Meeting**

**Attendees**

David Bubeck	David Fang	Peggy Ozias Akins
Hannah Senior	Don Jones	Rich Pratt
Neha Kothari	JD Rossouw	Juan Gonzales
Chandler Levinson	Ksenija Gasic	

**Minutes from May Meeting**

Amendments received from Dave, Peggy and Ksenija  
Peggy Ozias Akins – moved to approve, Dave Bubeck seconded,  
Minutes approved

**Financial Update – Dave Bubeck for Don Jones**

Good healthy position, cash is nearly £100k up on last year. Balance sheet for May shared via chat (HS summarised below):

<b>Balance Sheet</b>	<b>5/31/2021</b>	<b>5/31/2020</b>
Cash	200,713.95	136,063.65
Investment Portfolio	81,623.76	45,605.50
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>282,337.71</b>	<b>181,669.15</b>
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	0	0
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>282,337.71</b>	<b>181,669.15</b>

**2021 Annual Meeting – David Bubeck**

Registration is live! Participants can now register, information is available for students wanting to submit a poster, but a link to the Cornell website from the NAPB site is pending. We're 60 days out as of today, a little later than hoped but still in good time to start marketing the event.

Marketing - Email message will be sent shortly to members, DB will send to African Association of Plant Breeding to inform they can join at the same rate as NAPB members. Committee Chairs offered to promote the event to the Southern African Plant Breeding Association, European and other international plant breeding organisations (IRRI, CYMMIT etc). Student session on Sunday –window for application has been extended – JD requested this is promoted too.

**Diversity Liaison - Juan Gonzales (diversity liaison GSWG)** – Juan has a marketing plan for the Diversity Scholarship, and a proposal to rename this scholarship the “George Washington Carver Award” to bring it on a level with the Borlaug Scholarship awards & feel less tokenistic. This was broadly supported although a question was raised about whether we need permission to use the George Washington Carver name. Concerned about timing if

we spend time clarifying this, Juan suggested running with the Diversity Scholar name for this year and pursue a change for next year.

#### **Incoming NAPB Secretary – David Bubeck**

97 votes already received – good response rate - but many seem not to have received the email. A reminder is due to be sent shortly, but many had not received the first email, so

*ACTION – Dave Bubeck to check on why the invitation to vote may not have been received.*

*Jose left the meeting 18.27*

#### **Membership Committee – David Fang**

May be able to achieve 500 members before August!

Reviewed objectives for 2021 – successes include new emeritus membership rate and more international members, but some goals have turned out to be not possible (eg auto renew of membership – ASCESS tech cannot support)

#### **Advocacy – Dave Bubeck for Bill Tracy**

The committee has been more active recently, building momentum. Dave was not sure about committee staffing – the secretary position was made vacant this year.

#### **Education Committee – Neha Kothari**

Achievements this year include hosing several workshops instead of webinars. These are more interactive, but a lot of work. Attendance is always less than registrations but the events are posted on YouTube and get a lot of hits. A 2 min video presentation is now mandatory for the student poster competition.

Neha requested more information about how many hits does the website gets – although active on social media this is important back-up information. All recognised that this is an area for improvement.

#### **Awards Committee – David Bubeck for Jim McFerson**

Some nominations coming in for 2021 Awards but more are sought. The nomination form on the website has the 2020 dates. Jim is working with Ben to fix this.

#### **Communication – David Bubeck for Zach**

Report has been submitted, good coverage, newsletters well received.

#### **Commercial Committee – JD Rossouw**

Talked through successes against 6 key objectives including a webinar on “Impact of Covid-19” and hosting a Sustainability Session at the annual meeting. Some matters will run into 2021-22 because they are more long term commitments.

JD outlined this committee's process for keeping momentum: they brainstorm ideas in June, discuss them in the August meeting (lots of attendees) so these are handed over ready to go with new chair immediately.

Dave added that there is UN Food System Summit in September, sustainability is a very timely theme to focus on.

**Borlaug Scholars – Dave Bubeck for Don Jones**

Has been active selecting scholars, appointed great awardees for 2021-22

**PBCC – Rich Pratt**

On the federal reporting cycle, so annual report will be after the NAPB annual meeting. As an interim update, activities include a video competition for grad students on genetic resources and surveying all departments that offer plant breeding degrees – how many plant breeding graduates are there and where do they find jobs?

*JD Rossouw left the meeting 13.01*

**Early Career – Chandler Levinson**

The ECWG activities this year included 3 webinars, coffee hours to establish relationships and forming a mentoring a circle (peer group) launching next month.

**Ksenija Gasic, 2023 meeting:**

Dates under consideration for the 2023 meeting are 20-26 May, to manage pricing issues so Ksenija sought feedback.

Dave suggested it is far enough out from the August 2022 meeting to get enthusiasm and fiscal / administrative issues can be carried out online in the normal cycle, but any other concerns to be raised to Ksenija / the EC.

**Meeting close at 1.07pm**