

NAPB Annual Meeting Business Session 2.30-3.30 EST, 19th August 2021

Attendees:

The screenshot displays a list of attendees for the NAPB Annual Meeting Business Session. Each entry includes a profile picture, a name, and a status icon (a red slash, a square, or a combination of both). The attendees are listed in three columns:

- Column 1:** Mark Sorrells, Matthew Davis, Patricio Munoz, Paul Zankowski, Peggy Ozias-Akins, Potts, Sarah, RAEGAN HOEFLER, Rick Harrison, Robert Duncan, Robin Goose, Sarah Turner-Hissong (she/her), Thomas Lubberstedt, Todd Campbell's iPhone, Ugochukwu Ikeogu, Valerio Hoyos-Villegas, Dr., Virginia Roseanna Sykes, Wayne Smith, Yu Ma, Yvonne Manning, Zach Hinds, Zara York.
- Column 2:** Donn Cummings, Ed Kaleikau, Eloy Corona, Falk, Kevin, Istvan Rajcan, J.D. Rossouw @ Bayer, Jack McCarty, Jim McFerson, Jodi Scheffler, Jones, Zachary, Juan Gonzalez, Kate Evans, Ksenija Gasic, Lance Merrick, Lena Wilson.
- Column 3:** Hannah Senior (me), SWG Support Kristine (Host), Ksenija Gasic, AJ Ackerman, Amanda Hulse-Kemp, ann marie thro, AOLIVEIRA, Bubeck, David, Cleiton Antonio Wartha, Danmaigona Clement, Catherine, David Baltensperger, david fang, Deb Menicos, DJones, Donn Cummings.

1. Welcome, Summary of 2020-21, Overview – Dave Bubeck

Dave highlighted some successes and challenges

- Virtual Meeting & all–virtual organisation this year
 - Benefits of virtual attendance are recognised – can we retain some of this when we return to in-person meetings?
- The organisation has greater financial robustness than 12 months ago and is investing for the future
 - But would like to grow membership and in particular retain more graduate student members as they go into their first roles.
- A great programme of Borlaug Scholars, Diversity Scholars (for whom the name will change!) and Award winners
- Future Meetings are taking shape:
 - Iowa State – 2022
 - Clemson – 2023
 - Bayer & University of Illinois – 2024

It is recognised that the timing of the annual meeting is not ideal for some – there is an ongoing discussion with members about this.

Thomas Lubberstedt was welcomed as incoming Secretary. As David Bubeck moves into being Past President, Peggy Ozias Akins steps off the Executive Committee & was thanked for her work. Dave and Peggy reflect on of the privileges of EC participation – the diversity of crops, public perspectives & people that the organisation spans.

Replacement web editor is sought as Ben Trampe will step down.

2. New President Address & Committee reports

Ksenija thanked her predecessors & outlined a number of aspirations for the year ahead.

Advocacy Committee – Ksenija Gasic represented Bill Tracy as outgoing chair. Key achievements in 2020-21, and thoughts about priorities for the coming year were discussed:

- Support increased funding for cultivar development in the public sector
- Increase funding for plant breeding training
- Raise awareness and priority for national germplasm collection to maintain genetic diversity
- Support appropriate uses of technology in connection with plant improvement.

The Washington trip this year was not able to go ahead due to covid restrictions, it is hopeful that next year this will recommence. The 2021 Committee is:

Secretary	Yvonne Manning
Vice Chair	Bridget Mainz
Chair	Robin Groose
Outgoing Chair	Bill Tracy

Membership Committee – David Fang as outgoing Chair shared accomplishments. Membership stands at 475, a 6% increase on 2021. A key achievement in 2020-21 included introducing an Emeritus membership rate. Ideas for 2021 were discussed including

- Establishing corporate membership
- More international members

The 2021 Committee is:

Secretary	Qianni Dong
Vice Chair	Amritpal Singh
Chair	Brian Leckie
Outgoing Chair	David Fang

Communications Committee – Zachary Jones presented accomplishments from the last year including the work done on the newsletter content & connectivity. They have worked closely with the Early Career & Graduate Student working groups.

A focus for the coming year will be to work with the other committees to improve social media presence with a coordinated plan across NAPB, and increase visibility among non-plant-breeders.

Secretary	<i>tbc – if interested in volunteering contact Alison</i>
Vice Chair	Brian Gardunia
Chair	Alison Thompson

Outgoing Chair Zach Jones

Education Committee – Neha Kothari presented accomplishments from the last year including the organisation of 7 webinars and workshops and the Student competitions at the Annual Meeting which this year included a 2 minute video. Going forward the outgoing chair of the Education Committee will sit with the Meeting Planning Committee to help with continuity in these activities. The winners of the 2021 poster competition were announced.

Secretary	Valerio Hoyos Villegas
Vice Chair	Kevin Falk
Chair	Amanda Hulse-Kemp
Outgoing Chair	Neha Kothari

Early Career Working Group – Deb Menicos, shared accomplishments from this year, which included webinars (see YouTube channel), well attended coffee hours and the peer-to-peer mentoring circles.

Secretary	Nicholai Strauss
Vice Chair	Chandler Levinson
Chair	Sarah Turner-Hisson
Outgoing Chair	Deb Menicos

Commercial Plant Breeding Committee – Rick Harrison, incoming chair, presented the committee's accomplishments for the year. These included promoting private sector internships to Graduate Students, the Sustainability Session held at the Annual Meeting. Goals for next year include maintaining and building on these goals, also an opportunity to develop more focus on the AgTech domain and the impact of climate change for plant breeding.

Secretary	<i>tbh – if interested in volunteering contact Rick</i>
Vice Chair	John Gill
Chair	Rick Harrison
Outgoing Chair	JD Rossouw

Graduate Student Working Group – Zara York as Chair, presented 2020-21 accomplishments including the webinar series, graduate student survey and diversity enhancement award as well as the social media activities. Goals for the coming year include a focus on celebration of diversity throughout the organisation, a series of guest speakers on professional development, and a Graduate Student Survey. *Several leadership & officer positions are vacant - – members interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact Zara.*

Awards Committee – Jim McFerson, as Chair, commented on the excellent quality of nominations in a standardised format which made fair evaluation of award winners possible. He encouraged more nominations. *Some committee members wish to roll off, creating vacant positions– members interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact Jim.*

Borlaug Scholars – Don Jones as outgoing Chair, highlighted that the mentoring sessions were excellent and one of the key accomplishments of the last 12 months. Scholars and mentors, he noted, are highly active within NAPB in other roles. Nominations for next year will open in January.

Secretary	Chandler Levinson
Vice Chair	Sarah Potts
Chair	Allen Van Deynze
Outgoing Chair	Don Jones

Review of 2020/21 Year, David Bubeck

- The pattern of alternating the monthly meetings between the Executive Committee and Executive Committee + all Committee Chairs seems to work well and will be maintained.
- 313 members registered for the 2021 annual meeting in 2021 vs 339 in 2020 – a slight decline in total participants, but for 470 members this is a high proportion and indicates how active the membership is.
- Dave thanked SeedWorld for their work in running the online annual meeting.
- There was a recognition that increasing continuity from year to year in annual meeting preparation is an ongoing goal, with changes already in train to achieve this.

Strategic Plan Review – Todd Campbell.

Todd Campbell, as a recent Past President, formed an ad-hoc committee to review the strategic plan which NAPB adopted in 2019. Dave Bubeck will take on the review next year. The committee broadly found the organisation to be on track with the 6 goals set out in the strategic plan. Recommendations include:

- Incoming committee chairs & officers refer to this plan to ensure their activities are aligned with its objectives.
- Discussing and planning for paid staffing should continue “treading lightly”
- Collaborations eg with PBCC, ASTA, Tri-Societies and Seed World are valuable, and new collaborations eg with ASHS, are important.

Website Re-Development – Ksenija Gasic.

An overview was given of the work-in-progress to update and reinvigorate the NAPB website, work carried out by Washington State University. The goal is to make the new site more user friendly, more modern in appearance, and easier to manage.

The objective is that the site will be finalised by 30th October and will go live in November. Consultation will happen from the end of August.

A new web editor is sought – members interested in volunteering are encouraged to contact Ksenija.