

17 November 2020, 1.00pm EST
EC Meeting

Present: Dave Bubeck, Peggy Ozias-Akins, Ksenija Gasic, Don Jones, Benjamin Trampe, Hannah Senior.

Minutes from October Meeting

Error corrected - Graduate Student Working Group request for \$650 amended to “3 minute thesis” rather than “poster competition”

Minutes Approved - Moved Ben, Seconded Ksenija.

ACTION – Hannah to maintain an Action Log for review at each meeting.

2020 Meeting & Future

There was a discussion about where the 2023 meeting might be held and at what time of year in order to optimise attendance, range of crops and regional variation. Clemson has been put forward (end June, start July would work best for peach season but is challenging for row-crop pollination season). Charleston better from transportation? Are there other options?

ACTION – Dave talk to Tom Lubberstedt about date and timing for Iowa State meeting (2022)

DECISION – leadership will run for a full 12 months even if meeting occurs in a month other than August.

ACTION – Dave Request Communications Committee to send a message to the Membership inviting suggestions for 2023 meeting location, and seek preferences for timing.

New Committees

Diversity - needs focus to ensure information is passed from one set of management to another; if there's no clear leader it can fall through the gaps. Could it be allied to an existing Standing Committee? Eg Graduate Student Working Group has worked hard to recruiting students in underrepresented groups. Or could Borlaug Scholars Committee connect with this?

ACTION – Dave - Discuss with Don Jones & Sarah whether Diversity could sit within Borlaug Scholars

Nomination and Board Development – All recognised that the nominations process should be opened up and members should have a vote on who is appointed to NAPB Secretary. The current leadership could narrow nominations down from long list for 2-3 people to vote upon, and candidates could be invited to prepare a brief bio / statement of ambition for the role.

To ensure year-to-year consistency it was felt the bylaws should be amended, perhaps to something like the following process:

- Open nominations for all secretary position in June with a description of the role and the relevant committee goals and aspirations (eg per Oct minutes) in newsletter.

- Nominations to be made by SurveyMonkey (or similar) to allow easy collation
- Nominations for Committee Secretary – existing committees can narrow down & vote to the appoint their incoming secretary
- EC secretary nominees provide brief bio / objectives, and these are circulated along with online voting.

ACTION – Dave to review bylaws regarding nominations / selecting officers

Finance

Current assets stand at \$266,000 only \$4k less than in 2019.

TriSocieties / ACSESS

Dave is organising a meeting with the TriSocieties leadership and invited the whole EC to attend.

Website - Cost of changes to the Borlaug Scholars application process online might cost \$1000 but will lead to a better application process. A proposal will be put forward before the next meeting, to be voted on by EC by email. Time sensitive as new applications start in January.

ACTION – Dave send suggested agenda for meeting with TriSocieties for discussion by email.

ACTION - Ben to liaise with Dorrie Main regarding her offer to help update the website. We need to understand how this will fit with Acsess.

Cornell / 2021 Meeting

The EC were unsure how much has happened to date – the first meeting has not occurred. Need to ensure Steve has had opportunity to review feedback from the last meeting so that if we resort to virtual, they have planned for it

ACTION –Dave follow up with 2021 Meeting Planning team.

Webinar topics 2021

Suggestions for webinar topics that illustrate value of membership through the year, beyond the meeting, were sought. Examples:

- A good discussion was had in Georgia with Susan Mayne of FDA – could a “town hall” meeting with her / similar other figures + EC + Committee Chairs be recorded and turned into content?
- A round-table discussion with Bernadette Juarez
- Discussion with USDA re Ag Innovation Agenda.

ACTION – Dave bring this topic to the next meeting and ask the committee chairs for Education, Early Career and Graduate to prepare some ideas. (Workshop happening imminently for Early Career and Education)

AOB

- Ksenija attended the [USDA Stakeholder Meeting](#) – is there an opportunity to submit a position from NAPB before January?
- Emeritus rate was agreed at 50% of Professional Rate

ACTION – Dave check bylaws to see whether Emeritus rate can be introduced without further complications.

ACTION – Ben add Emeritus rate to website.

Meeting closed at 14.06