

**SAGA Executive Meeting
Room 2D21 Agriculture Building
Wednesday, April 2, 2014
7:00 PM**

PRESENT: Blair Cummins (Chairperson), Grant Wood (Recorder), Bob McKercher, Art Delahey, Allan McDougald, Barb Larson, Darcy Jones, Vern Racz, Lucas Ringdal, Kerry Gerein, Whitney Cyca, Chris Unsworth, Dennis Ewanus, Ewald Lammerding, Keith Head

REGRETS: Jill Turner, Ken Sapsford, John Spencer, Curtis deGooijer, Mayson Maerz, Don Mitchell,

1. Call to order by Chairperson Blair Cummins at 7:00 pm
2. Adoption of Agenda
 - Agenda was circulated electronically prior to the meeting
 - **MOTION:** Racz / Larson - that the agenda to be adopted. CARRIED.
3. Adoption of minutes from March 5, 2014 meeting
 - Minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting.
 - McKercher suggested that last names be used in future minutes, as the minutes are a formal document. AIF.
 - **MOTION:** Lammerding / Racz - that the minutes to be adopted. CARRIED.

Business arising from March 5, 2014 meeting

- ACTION: Wood will talk to Hamish about coming to future meetings. Completed.
- ACTION: Cummins, Spencer, Wood will meet to talk about potential candidates for Vice-President. On-going.
- ACTION: Delahey said a Home Economics reunion class was booking a block of hotel rooms through the university, as were able to do so without having to put down a deposit. Art will check into this and report at a future meeting.
- ACTION: Unsworth & Cummins to coordinate a meeting with student organizations. Completed.
- ACTION: Cummins to approach Crystal Zvacek at the SIA office to discuss partnering on a regional SAGA membership outreach.
- ACTION: Cummins to contact Mayson Maertz re: suggestions / costs for updating the SAGA website.
- ACTION: Wood to talk to Trina Mortson about possibly doing some contract work for SAGA.
- ACTION: Spencer will speak with a solicitor to see if a non-profit organization can sell ads in a newsletter.

4. Reading and adoption of financial reports:

- financial report was electronically distributed by Dennis prior to the meeting ; Dennis presented the financial report
- **MOTION:** Lammerding / Larson – that the financial reports be adopted, CARRIED.

5. Correspondence / Website

6. Committee Reports

ASA – Report by Cyca

- reported that Kerry Gerein will be replacing Cyca as the ASA representative ; the executive thanked Cyca for her involvement in SAGA

College of Agriculture and Bioresources – No report

Membership Committee – Report by Racz

Reunion – Report by Cummins

- Suggestion was made to change the name of the reunion event, as all Ag grads are invited to the event ; will continue to have honour years, but future advertising will make it clear that all grads are encouraged to attend

Banquet/Mixer – report by Larson ; handout distributed

- Two options exist for TCU contract ; TCU will offer complimentary room rental with a minimum of 275 plates ; with less than 275 plates, the room rental will be \$1,000 (half the normal rent)
- Or a discount of 15% on 274 plates @\$31.95/plate before all service charges ; $274 \text{ plates} \times \$31.95 = \$8,757.04$; $15\% \text{ of } \$8,757.04 = \$1,313.56$
- **MOTION:** Jones / Larson that they negotiate the contract with TCU, and once rates are clarified, we choose the 15% option providing it is not capped at 275 plates. Carried.
- The event will be held downstairs at TCU in 2015 ; need to emphasize on registration that midnight lunch is included in registration fee

Curling – Report by Lammerding

- Lost \$159 on curling ; not an issue with executive

Hockey – Report by Ringdal

- The participants like the Waldheim rink ; Ringdal will check with Allen and other towns just in case the rentals are substantially lower and the quality of rink / service is the same
- Ringdal has requested assistance in selling memberships during the hockey tournaments ; should we consider adding a yearly fee per person onto the team fee – that way, all participants will have a SAGA membership ; to discuss at future meeting

Newsletter – report by Ewald Lammerding

- Materials for next newsletter due May 15

- 16 page newsletter now costs \$1.80 to print and over \$700 to mail ; we continue to gather email addresses so mailing costs are being reduced

Alumni – No report

Hall of Fame – Report by McKercher

- Garry Carlson was initiated in the Ag Hall of Fame ; First in Canada ?? ;
- McKercher asked if SAGA would consider being a Hall of Fame co-sponsorship
- MOTION: McKercher / Jones that SAGA pay \$400 to cover part of the \$1,400 fee associated with nominating a person
- Alex Kennedy, '82 diploma received an honorary life membership in SAGA

Crop Production Week (CPW)– Report by Head ; handout

- CPW considering its future as the umbrella organization for CPW member organizations
- CropSphere group very pleased with their inaugural event ; 846 people registered
- CropSphere includes: Sask Pulse Growers, Sask Canola, Sask Flax, Sask Oat Development Commission, Sask Barley Development Commission, and Sask Wheat Development Commission
- Some groups considering moving to Prairieland and holding their meetings during Crop Production Show ; will not likely happen till 2016
- Expected that 2015 format will be same as 2014 ; CropSphere will continue to meet at TCU from Monday to Wednesday

MAL – report by McDougald

- Al said that he is willing to help with finding reunion year chairs.

Past President – no report

President Report – no report

7. New / Other business

- The Working Committee on making SAGA more relevant to new grads coordinated its first event.
 - Five executive and two students meet at Louis on campus on March 26, 2014 at 5:00 PM ; good conversation ; info gleaned included the need to allow grads to join SAGA on website ; need to coordinate SAGA events outside of Saskatoon and sell memberships at these events ; suggestion to possibly co-sponsor an event at Farm Progress Show
 - MOTION: Larson / Jones that SAGA approach Seed Hawk to co-sponsor an event during the Farm Progress Show in Regina, June 18, which is the first day of the show
 - Expressed a need to advertise the reunion to all ag grads and not just the reunion years ; best way to market is via email
 - MOTION: Head / Lammerding that Cummins be reimbursed \$121.75 for fees incurred for the meeting at Louis ; carried

- Unsworth to create a Twitter and Facebook account for SAGA ; he will work with ASA to promote SAGA to all members ; it was suggested we should market SAGA to all ag grads ; we need to do a better job of communicating with SAGA members
 - When Ag grads do things / participate in events, we should Twitter that – promote social and professional interaction
 - Is there a need for a communications director? ; to be discussed at a future meeting
 - Need to define Trina's role
8. The next executive meeting will tentatively be held September 2, 2014, 2D21 Agriculture Building 7:00 p.m.
9. Adjournment – Lammerding