

**SAGA Executive Meeting
Room 2D21 Agriculture Building
Tuesday, Feb 07, 2017**

PRESENT: Lucas Ringdal (chair), Bryan Harvey, Mayson Maerz, Ewald Lammerding, Lucas Ringdal, Curtis deGooijer, Dennis Ewanus. Raelene Petracek
by phone: Louis Bossaer, Tanya Napper, Irene Ahner
regrets: Vern Racz

1. Call to order by Chairperson Lucas Ringdal at 7:05 pm
2. Adoption of Agenda.
 - **MOTION:** B. Harvey CARRIED.
3. Adoption of minutes from Jan 2017 meeting
 - Minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting
 - **MOTION:** I. Ahner CARRIED.
4. Business arising from the Minutes – none
5. Financial Report – D. Ewanus
 - financial report was electronically distributed by D. Ewanus prior to the meeting
 - will have a better idea of profit from reunion at next meeting – there are still outstanding bills
 - Change of signing authority – since Lucas is not readily available **MOTION:** was to keep as is (Dennis Ewanus- Treasurer, Bryan Harvey- Past President and Raelene Petracek- Secretary). Letter was drafted and signed attesting to the decision.
 - Sodbuster book
 - Need clarification on income from presales of books
 - SAGA keeps all money from sales and will get an invoice later for the printing of the copies we agreed to be responsible for
 - Dennis will meet with Jill and Steve to set it up on website
 - **MOTION:** accept Financial Report and Motion re: signing authority B. Harvey- CARRIED
6. Correspondence –
 - Ewald received request to place a job ad on our website.
 - Discussion around forming a committee to decide, how much work is it to do it, would we need Steve to do it, which costs \$50/hr or if someone from SAGA could do it.
 - Tanya suggestion – use Facebook or LinkedIn, cheaper and easier, they could just join and then post there. Has been done for the College. SAGA also has Twitter.
 - Decision: prefer not to use our website and will suggest they use our Facebook and Twitter
 - Grant Devine contacted Tanya with the following request

- He is presenting a seminar at the College Research Day March 17th and has proposed that the following be sent to SAGA members:

Dear SAGA members..if you had your choice of any ag related economic topic to be researched [fully funded] what would be your priority ?On March 17,I am presenting a seminar on economic research and am canvassing colleagues..thank you...Grant Devine'

- This would only go to email contacts and it would be made so that they contact him and we don't have to categorize or deal with responses
- Discussion and decision: he is a member and well recognized so we will advertise the event. We could also put a link on our Facebook and Twitte.
- **ACTION:** Tanya will draft a response for us to look at.

7. CAMA Sponsorship – Louis B.

- Discussion – worthwhile group but there are several groups and we can't afford to sponsor all so unfortunately the answer is no.
- Offer to put their information on our social media

8. Committee Reports

ASA - no report

Reunion – Louis B.

- Mayson is on board
- Have some Chairs already
- Will add request for Chairs to the Grant Devine email.

Banquet/Mixer Report - Louis B./Ewald L.

- Confirmed that Ewald will take on organizing the Banquet/Mixer
- Louis needs to talk to Barb S-C to see how the Distillers part went.
 - There was some additional money once the Distillers were paid and the corkage fee for TCU was calculated. TCU fee will be added to the total bill.
- Dennis and Vern had decided to refund the registration fee to the one person that wrote and complained (no one else put complaint in writing)
- Tanya passed on a question from someone requesting Canadian wine rather than Californian. We probably have no say in it since it is TCU bar.
- Ewald is going to look into getting Salon A next year in addition to the space we already had.

Friday Event & other College – Tanya N.

Friday night come-and-go

- 98 signed in but we expect there was close to 115 who showed up.
- Have surveyed for feedback and in short, the tours were well received, there will be more food and drinks for next year and we will provide more clear directions of where to go in future

Saturday banquet feedback

- Overall, everyone I have spoken to or heard from had a great time but there was a suggestion to have Canadian wines for purchase at the bar instead of just Californian (that might be for TCU to determine)

Events coming up

- There will be a college open house coordinated for Sunday May 21st in the early afternoon coinciding with the Alumni Association Centennial Reunion Weekend events. I will be sharing more of information about this as it becomes more defined and plan to share with all alumni of the college (not just SAGA members).
 - Discussion at meeting; Do we want to do a banner? There will be a monitor there so we could put something on it, ie just screen shot of Logo, suggestion: pictures of the reunion
- The college will be participating in Ag In Motion once again in July. Last year, SAGA had some information for visitors and an alumni gathering was coordinated for the Thursday from 4-6 PM. If you would like to pursue this again, the college would be happy to coordinate and communicate details.
- March 17, 2017 is the first annual AgBio Research Day. Grant Devine is the key note speaker and a communication about the event will be sent to alumni, staff, students and faculty to attend. See my earlier email about Grant's request to email SAGA members.
- Discussion at meeting; Tanya does the monitors in the building so she could put up a poster for grads mentioning that they are a member for a year. Once she has a schedule/poster she will share and we can put it up.

Hockey – Curtis de G.

- Passing the torch to Billy Brown.
- 7 teams signed up but of the 3 College really only had 2
- Profit of \$1042
- Trophies have been sent for engraving
- Venue discussion: would be nice to be closer but can't get in anywhere in Saskatoon and Waldheim is very accommodating

Newsletter – Ewald L.

- Got ~21 back of the 815 we mail out. Tanya has updated the database and sent to Vern
- Tanya offered to forward if she has a valid address
- Ads – Koch renewing
- May 15 deadline for next newsletter

Alumni – no report

Crop Production Week – no report

Membership/Website – Vern R.

- Report provided electronically prior to meeting
Names and addresses have been entered into the membership lists and await the sending of welcoming emails to new members. This and name corrections, should be completed by the end of February. In total we recorded 19 new life members and approximately 28 annual

memberships. The website works well in selling memberships and is superior to other means of transfer of funds. This point alone has made it worthwhile.

The website committee (Dennis, Keith and Vern) met with Steve our webmaster after the reunion and fixed aspects of the website while it was still fresh in our minds. The goal now is to enhance the website so it can be used and maintained with less effort.

Plans are for the development of the website to sell the books of Jill Turner. Contacts have been made and Steve has Jill's material. Dennis and Jill will meet with Steve shortly to accommodate this. Keith is gone for 2 months and I am away for 3 weeks. (Thank you Dennis)

The reunion with it's hiccups went well in spite of a lack of beef. The shortage of beef was less than perceived by some and was restricted to the last 2 tables at the most. As reported in the attached email after talking with those that were affected they were not totally unhappy but understood. It still was unfortunate. In Ewald and my meeting with TCU, they recognized their short coming in staff experience and food preparation. They made us offers of compensation either for this past year with a refund or better terms for next year. The majority of those that responded want to take the money now and not later. I agree.

However TCU was not all to blame when the numbers are looked at, plain and simple we let too many in who had not registered. Unfortunately, most of these were reunion honor year people. This needs to be discussed and need suggestions how we can avoid this happening again.

I should emphasize except for this glitch the reunion was one of the best as the venue was excellent.

TCU place has been booked for five years. The taster bars were good and in final analysis TCU bar did not suffer much as people used both to quench their thirst.

Hall of Fame – Bryan H.

- Last three inductees named: Bob McKercher, Wilf Keller, Donna Edwards
- Banquet Apr 22
- Open to anyone now

MAL – Irene A.

- Michael Raine (Western Producer) did not show at Reunion even though he had promised he would 3 days earlier
- Ewald will talk to him and see if we can put something in.

Past President – Louis B.

- Mayson went to Grad, went well, did a 5 min spiel. Suggestion: we could offer to present the Tommy Fraser award.

President Report –Lucas R.

- Lucas and Mayson met with Tanya, discussed the exam breakfast (8-9:30 every morning). We could be there, last time it was 10 days, will be shorter this time. Will need a reminder of the dates.
- Centennial Weekend

- Ag in Motion – will do again, had a corner in the beer gardens, was promoted through the College.
 - Suggestion: Reunion chairs send a message to their people for these events
- Question: If you are attending the Banquet should you have to purchase a membership?
Discussion and decision: it is an Ag Grad event and in the past the Ag Grad but not the guest needed a membership – will continue with that practice.

MOTION: Accept reports: E. Lammerding - CARRIED

8. New / Other business

- Twitter and Social Media- Mayson M.
 - Mayson was wondering how these work together.
 - Has some ideas for highlighting Ag Grads ie as we approach reunion, challenge the reunion years to send us something
 - We especially want to engage the younger years
 - Contact plan for year
 - Idea: 6 mos ahead we talk to young grads and get info about their ie uncle so we get info for the newsletter.
 - Mayson and Louis will come up with a calendar with things to do by month and circulate it.

9. Date of Next Meetings

- Tues March 07 at 7:00
- Tues April 11 at 7:00

10. Adjournment – 8:50pm Curtis deGooijer