

**SAGA Executive Meeting
Room 2D21 Agriculture Building
Tuesday, Dec 21, 2017**

PRESENT: Lucas Ringdal (chair), Keith Head, Carson Jorgensen, Dennis Ewanus, Ewald Lammerding, Bryan Harvey, Mayson Maerz, Raelene Petracek,
by phone: Tanya Napper, Billy Brown,
regrets: Vern Racz, Irene Ahner

1. Call to order by Chairperson Lucas Ringdal at 7:02 pm
2. Adoption of Agenda as amended
 - **MOTION:** B. Harvey CARRIED.
3. Adoption of minutes from November 2017 meeting
 - Minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting
 - **MOTION:** K. Head CARRIED.
4. Business arising from the Minutes
 - Saga Scholarship
 - Report provided electronically prior to meeting:

The Scholarship Committee is charged with the task of determining the feasibility of SAGA setting up a scholarship for students in the College of Agriculture and Bioresources.

There are two options for setting up a scholarship:

1. SAGA sets up the scholarship through our website using our credit card system to receive donations to the scholarship fund.
2. The second option is to set up the scholarship through the University system with the donations going directly to the university.

The Scholarship Committee has explored these options and recommends that if a scholarship fund is set up it should be done through the University system.

The Committee makes this recommendation for a number of reasons. If we did this on our own it would require SAGA to obtain status, as a charitable organization so that tax receipts could be issued. It would also require that we (ie the Treasurer) track, invest and manage the funds, as well as issue the tax receipts. We would also need to receive student applications, select the recipients and award the scholarships. This is much more than a volunteer organization can expect to do effectively and consistently over the long term.

Option 2 would allow donations to go directly to the University. The University would issue the tax receipts and invest the funds in SAGA name and account so SAGA would not be responsible for the funds.

The Scholarship Committee met with Hamish Tulloch, College Development Officer, on Dec 11. Hamish outlined the process, requirements, and restrictions involved with setting up a scholarship through the University system.

We would set up a link on the SAGA website that would go directly to a University site set up specifically for donations to the SAGA scholarship. The university would receive the funds, issue tax receipts, and manage the funds. There is no overhead charged for this service. The university targets an average return of about 6% on scholarship funds.

The College of AgBio would receive the student applications, select the recipient(s) based on the scholarship criteria, and present the scholarship(s) at the annual Bean Feed in the fall.

The University has some requirements for scholarships that it manages:

- Once established, the criteria for the scholarship cannot be changed as long as there are funds in the account. It is very important to do a proper job of setting up the criteria so that they will cover as many eventualities as possible, as well as meeting SAGA's objectives for the scholarship.
- Scholarships within the endowment system are quite inflexible. It is recommended that the SAGA scholarship be outside the endowment system where there is more flexibility in things like the amount of the scholarship.
- For an academic award there is a basic requirement of a 75% average.
- Because of the large number of awards presented at the Bean Feed, SAGA would not be able to make the award, or get any "air time" during the process. We would be in attendance and sit with the recipient(s).
- SAGA would require the permission of the recipient(s) to publicize the award in our Newsletter, on our website, or in the press. Refusal by the recipient to cooperate has not happened before and has been positive towards publicity.

The Committee discussed various options with Hamish. These include the number of annual awards ie perhaps 2 per year with one going to a 2nd year and one to a 3rd year student. The program could be expanded to include the Diploma grads as soon as funds are available.

We also discussed the possibility of the awards being rotated through the various degree programs in the College as a means of recognizing the increasing diversity in the College.

The two major areas usually considered for scholarships are academics and leadership. There are currently a large number of scholarships that have leadership as a major criterion. We should find some other aspect to key on.

Hamish will take our ideas to the College for its response and then provide us with an outline of possible formats for the scholarship.

With that information in hand, the Committee will investigate possible criteria for the scholarship and how it might be structured.

Respectfully submitted,

Vern Racz, Ewald Lammerding, Carson Jorgenson, Mayson Maerz, Keith Head
Scholarship Committee

As an addendum our ASA rep suggested year 2 and year 3 as being the financially leanest years at university.

Discussion:

-Important to keep it as flexible as possible because once it is set up it can't be changed as long as there is money in the fund

- if there isn't enough money in the fund – the scholarship won't be handed out
- possibility of SAGA to put money in as startup
- donations through Alumni office can be directed to the SAGA scholarship. We could also put a link on our website that would go directly there.
- Option – give the information to the Reunion Chairs and suggest this as an option.

MOTION: The feasibility of a scholarship be presented at the AGM – K. Head - CARRIED

5. Correspondence

- none

6. Financial Report – D. Ewanus

- financial report was electronically distributed by D. Ewanus prior to the meeting
- Books have been audited and signed, just need to be approved at AGM.
- Complimentary tickets:
 - 8 for ASA
 - 1 for Alumni Assoc
 - Each Honorary Life recipient + guest
 - Lorence Peterson + 2 extras
 - Dean and guest
 - Harold Chapman + guest
- **MOTION:** To provide one free banquet ticket to graduates who graduated 65 or more years ago. B. Harvey - CARRIED
- **MOTION:** accept Financial Report, K. Head - CARRIED

7. Committee Reports

ASA - Carson Jorgensen

- ASA will provide two teams for the hockey tournament
- Buckles will be available soon
- The 8 banquet tickets have been assigned
- ASA will bring some clothing (for sizing), what else? Suggestion: flags, yearbooks
- Carson cleaned the backroom of the lounge, one treasure found was curling trophies which will be resurrected. Will be mostly students but SAGA will be invited
- Grad Jan 20
- Toy drive Dec 01-15
- Bringing in Canola Fields and High Heels
- ASA selling articles – will put a link on the ASA site, need to set it up yet
- Cookie jars and cooking with the kids at Ronald McDonald House on Thurs
- Had a very good response to the facebook posts lately
 - eg. The \$10,000 donation to the Jim Pattison Children's Hospital received 7300 hits/shares
- Bedpush
 - Page is set up, will send a link to use. It will go the Telemiracle site and add to Agro total. There will be a note to put SAGA in your name so they can tell who is SAGA.

- Carson has a sponsorship letter, looking for donation items, food, banner etc, money
- Will be a Silent Auction at Grad
- Tanya suggested a post on Facebook with ie “we donated, you can too”
- **MOTION:** That SAGA donate \$200.00 to the ASA toward the Bedpush – D. Ewanus - CARRIED

Reunion – M. Maerz

- Will be checking the registration list and following up with the chairs that aren’t well represented.
- Louis is looking after the sample groups involved

Banquet/Mixer Report - Ewald L.

- Re: Sask wines at banquet. There is only one and they will be involved at the sampling – if we want to supply wine TCU charges \$4.50/person corkage
- Table placards – will make up a few new ones
- Tanya will send the invite to the Alumni Association Representative
- We need to make sure Lucas knows the agenda for the evening
- Blair is in charge of making up the small plaques (including replacing the missing one) for the Honorary Life board and the individual ones.
 - Decision was made not to take the large wall plaques as there is too much risk in damaging them and/or losing the small plaques. We may try to take a large photo/poster of them.
- Tanya and Ewald will make sure there are enough ribbons etc
- Mayson will take photos of the presentations etc
- Reminders:
 - People need to be allowed in to attend the AGM
 - 2017 ASA grads do not have to buy membership for one year.

Friday Event – Tanya N.

- Scheduled from 4-7pm but there were many there at 3 last year.
- Tanya still hasn’t had anyone asking about tours of the CLS and Dairy Barn, just the usual Friday tours. She will send an email to the chairs to remind them that if they want those specific tours to please plan them.
- Tanya suggested setting up both lounges with refreshments and displays just to spread everyone out (was kind of crowded last year and hard to see the displays).
- ASA may have the bed in the atrium

Hockey – Billy B.

- Billy will contact rink again to confirm all is in place
- Refs are all hired
- Games start at 7:30 to try to get done in time for banquet
- Have 7 teams for sure, maybe 8
- Billy to pick up fundraising items
- Trophies – Curtis should have them.

Newsletter – Ewald L.

- Asked about the font size (some is smaller than usual), consensus was that it is OK

Development Office and Alumni Relations Report – Tanya N.

- Thanks to all who have attended the breakfast program

Crop Production Week – K. Head

- Invite to the networking reception on the Monday will be coming out.

Membership/Website – Vern R.

- Report provided electronically (follows)
 - The membership list is up to date and will enter all those from the Reunion in due course

Hall of Fame – Bryan H.

- Nothing new to report

MAL – no report

Past President – no report

President Report –Lucas R.

- Nothing else to report

MOTION: Accept reports: M. Maerz - CARRIED

8. New / Other business

- None

9. Date of Next Meetings

- Tues Jan 02 at 7:00pm (from November minutes)

10. Adjournment – 8:55pm B. Harvey