

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

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

1. Call to order by Chairperson Mayson Maerz at 7:05 pm
 2. Adoption of Agenda as amended
 - **MOTION:** B. Harvey CARRIED.
 3. Adoption of minutes from October 2017 meeting
 - Minutes were distributed electronically prior to the meeting
 - **MOTION:** K. Head CARRIED.
 4. Business arising from the Minutes
 - none
 5. Correspondence
 - none
 6. Financial Report – D. Ewanus
 - financial report was electronically distributed by D. Ewanus prior to the meeting
 - ticket sales up and running, may be a few glitches
 - Financial statement has been slightly revised
 - **MOTION:** To adopt the revised statement to go to the auditor. B. Harvey - CARRIED
 - **MOTION:** accept Financial Report, E. Lammerding - CARRIED
 7. Committee Reports
- ASA - Carson Jorgensen
- Date for grad – Jan 26
 - Discussion re: Tommy Fraser award – SAGA would like more emphasis on it
 - Drag was successful- raised \$18,000. Will be donated to Children’s Hospital, Ronald McDonald House and Telemiracle. Cheque presentation to Children’s Hospital is tomorrow.
 - ASA is trying to get the word out that they do a lot in the community, examples:
 - Random snow shovelling,
 - Ronald McDonald house activities: baking with kids, Christmas jars in pantry
 - Upcoming events: Movember, Blood Drive, Winter Mixer, ASA Hockey tournament
 - Telemiracle meeting this week

- SAGA will put out notices looking for grads to be involved in bedpush

Reunion – M. Maerz

- Still missing a few chairs, 1943C, 1963S (Mayson will do this one), 2008S, 2013S, 2013C
- Tanya can help with emails
- Tanya hasn't had specific requests for tours yet but expects them to start in Dec
- Tanya talked to hotel and it is booking up quickly

Banquet/Mixer Report - Ewald L.

- Samples- Louis -same groups as last year. Will announce once all the details have been confirmed with TCU
- Program – Tanya will do it again but needs the information (bios etc) to put into it. Ewald will provide them.
- Table Cards – Tanya has the template and will make them up.
- Photographer and TCU booked for the next 4 yrs.
- Group photos – do the Honorary Life first
- Introductions – 60+ and possibly the 50yr
- Ewald will talk to Michael Raine – Western Producer re: attending. Irene suggestion: we have pictures and could do report for them.
- ASA will bring some yearbooks and other ASA articles to sell.
- **MOTION:** SAGA will provide 8 banquet tickets for ASA Exec members to attend banquet.
B. Cummins - CARRIED

Friday Event – Tanya N.

- Louis talked to Three Farmers and they are still on board to provide snacks for Friday eve.

Hockey – Billy B.

- Rink is all setup and good to go
- Refs will be hired
- ASA will be entering 3 teams – Carson will be taking deposits this year to help ensure people show up
- Expecting 8 teams
- Keith would like hockey schedule and rules for website when available

Newsletter – Ewald L.

- Should go out Dec 4 or 5th
- Dekalb-Monsanto is new sponsor

Development Office and Alumni Relations Report – Tanya N.

- Notice will be going out through social media to all grads re: Friday event
- Just waiting to confirm the exam breakfast dates
 - Carson noted that they are definitely appreciated

Crop Production Week – K. Head

- An invite to the networking event on Jan 8 will be sent to the SAGA executive

Membership/Website – Vern R.

- Report provided electronically (follows)
 - As a general report on membership, they continue to trickle in . Payment on line has helped greatly. Paying a fee has helped increase a sense of belonging and allegiance. This is my thought for the day
- Dennis reported that Steve (webmaster) has prepared a recovery document that will give us all the information, passwords etc that we would need to access the website in the event he is not able to perform that function.

Hall of Fame – Bryan H.

- Five candidates have been selected
- Investigating making the announcements as stand alone event (gets lost when done in conjunction other events)
- Banquet in April
- Membership has increased with the new structure

MAL – Irene A./Blair C.

- Agribition – will be at the John Deere Sale Ring again, looking for a sponsor

Past President – Louis B.

- Nothing else to report

President Report –Lucas R.

- Nothing else to report

MOTION: Accept reports: B. Cummins - CARRIED

8. New / Other business

- SAGA Scholarship
 - Report from Vern R (following)
 - The reunion activities have now been well established and perhaps now is the time to move ahead with other initiatives to give SAGA value. Mayson and I discussed the possibility of the Saskatchewan Agriculture and Bioresource Graduates Association supporting a scholarship fund in the college. This has the advantage of a group such as SAGA facilitating the gathering of many smaller funds into larger amounts to increase impact and the targeting of criteria under which they are given. I suspect that in many cases when called upon as alumni, scholarship giving unless it is a large amount it is like shoving it into a black hole. Facilitation and coordination and criteria establishment by SAGA would circumvent much of this perception.

Further to my discussion with Mayson I met with Hamish and Tanya and discussed this further. The proposal was well received by both and saw it as an extremely positive move. Issues such as charitable receipting were discussed. Options for this would be 1) SAGA apply for charitable status and do their own receipting and 2) agree to a system of channeling funds that the University could receipt with SAGA being a major facilitator and promotor of the scholarship fund. SAGA would not be involved in the selection but would be the setter of the criteria for its awarding and to which graduates. Think of it a scholarship for

- traditional Agriculture and one for non traditional aspects of Agriculture, supporting where it is needed most. While this idea needs much more ideas, discussion and thought, time is now for it to start so it can be rolled out for next year.
- Discussion: we would need to be committed, might be a way to raise profile with the non-traditional degrees/diplomas/certificates. If done with the link to U of S would be no overhead fee so the entire donation would go towards the scholarship fund.
 - Decided to form a committee to investigate: Mayson, Vern, Keith, Ewald, Carson
 - **MOTION:** SAGA investigate the feasibility of setting up a scholarship for students in College of Agriculture and Biosciences – K. Head – CARRIED
- Name Change
 - Suggested article for Newsletter (Vern R.)

In the last “SAGA” we talked about a name change and the need to recognize and reach out to all Saskatchewan Agriculture and Bioresource graduates. The college at last count offers 4 undergraduate degrees in; Agriculture, Agribusiness, Animal Bioscience and Renewable Resource Management along with 4 diploma programs and 2 certificate programs. To accommodate and recognize this new diversity the executive is recommending that we change the name formally at the AGM to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Bioresource Graduates Association. The family has grown and diversified and with this diversity comes greater strength.

It is also proposed that we retain the logo “SAGA” as it relates to the ongoing story of the Saskatchewan Agriculture and Bioresource graduates Association and is even more appropriate for the newsletter. To make this work we must all embrace this name change, while respecting our past heritage.

Your SAGA executive

Note: By retaining the logo we have continuity and the other wording changes that need to be done can be done relatively easily over time as we go through a year’s cycle.

- **MOTION:** To make the following Motion at the AGM:
Motion at AGM: To change the name of SAGA to Saskatchewan Agriculture and Bioresource Graduates Association with no change to the logo.
Blair C - CARRIED

9. Date of Next Meetings

- Tues Dec 21 at 7:00
- Tues Jan 02 at 700

10. Adjournment – 9:20pm Irene A.