

**SAGA Executive Meeting
Room 2D21 Agriculture Building
Tuesday, December 3, 2013
Call to Order 7:07 PM**

Present: Grant Wood (Chairperson), John Spencer (Recorder), Allan McDougald, Dennis Ewanus, Bryan Harvey, Ewald Lammerding, Keith Head, Vern Racz, Lucas Ringdal, Blair Cummins

Regrets: Ken Sapsford, Curtis deGooijer, Barb Larson, Trina Mortson, Darcy Jones, Gary Storey, Jill Turner, Whitney Cyca, Bob McKercher, Richard Gray, Mayson Maerz, Don Mitchell

1. Call to Order by Chairperson Grant Wood at 7:07 PM

2. Introduction of John Spencer as Recorder

3. Adoption of Agenda

- a. The agenda was circulated electronically prior to the meeting, with copies available at the meeting.
- b. Motion to Adopt appears to have been overlooked.

4. Business arising from the November 5, 2013 meeting:

- a. Aaron Bouchard was removed from the Executive list at his request as Lucas Ringdal and Curtis deGooijer have assumed his tasks.
- b. SAGA Pins –
 - i. Thanks were extended to Blair Cummins' wife, Marina, for drawing a design for these pins.
 - ii. The pins ordered are approximately 1" tall and are blue and gold in colour. The manufacturer is trying to find the Pantone colour for Agro Blue.
 - iii. The pins hopefully will be here for January, 2014.
 - iv. 100 were ordered at a cost of \$5.50 per pin plus taxes.
- c. Year End was October 31, 2013. Dennis Ewanus will review the financial statement as new business.
- d. Al Scholz has left the Executive due to a conflict of interest. Al is the Executive Director of the Saskatchewan Institute of Agrologists.
 - i. Blair Cummins will step up to serve as Vice President for the remaining months.
- e. Morris Interactive. A note will go out to the SIA members to determine their interest in a workshop.
- f. SIA Request for SAGA contribution towards the cost of the October 1, 2013 Resume & Interview Workshop.
 - i. Previous concerns related to lack of equal representation for SAGA and SIA – SAGA was in the backseat. This led to a rejection of the request from SIA.
 - ii. However, Al Scholz of SIA disagreed with this position and asked for SAGA to reconsider. He made reference back to the planning meeting minutes.
 - iii. Discussion followed as executive members debated how to reconnect to SAGA goals for the event.

- iv. **MOTION: That SAGA rescinds its motion of non-support. Harvey/McDougald. Carried.**
- v. **MOTION: That SAGA fund this project for this year only and search for an alternate appropriate event. Harvey/Racz. Carried.**
- vi. **ACTION: Grant Wood will email Al Scholz requesting an invoice so payment can be made.**
- g. Reunion Supplies. Materials can be stored at the back of the ASA lounge. Some materials appear to have been lost during the relocation of stored items.
 - i. **ACTION: Grant Wood and Trina Mortson will look for the lost items.**
- h. Reunion. Early Registration has begun.

5. Correspondence

- a. Bank Statement has arrived
- b. Telemarketer has made contact. This could be classed as nuisance mail.
- c. The Dean's office has advised SAGA that the Dean will not be able to attend the Reunion, as she will be away. She is prepared to do a video clip to be projected. This would require accessing equipment (projector, computer, screen etc.).
 - i. It was suggested that if the Dean can't come, we should get the Dean's office to pay for the cost of renting equipment.
 - ii. We should also get the Associate Dean of Academics to come live to represent the College. This would be Murray Drew.
 - iii. **ACTION: Grant Wood will check on the above. Grant Wood will check on the cost of AV equipment, so we will know what to bill the Dean's office.**
 - iv. The question was raised about contacting the Western Producer about the Reunion. This has already been done.
- d. Class of 1944. There are several of these graduates still alive. Grant Wood has sent a letter to all, asking for photos of them, plus info about their career, and if any of their descendants are / have attended the U of S. Very doubtful that any of the actual grads will be in attendance. This info will be displayed during the banquet.

6. Financial Report – Dennis Ewanus

- a. Only one item came in for payment, in the amount of \$100
- b. Materials are ready for the audit.
- c. **MOTION: Accept the financial report. Harvey/Cummins. Carried.**

7. Reports

- a. ASA Report – Whitney Cyca sent this report in.
 - i. 400 additional memberships have been sold to students. This seems like a lot.
 - ii. The Honorary Life Membership Boards have been found.
- b. Membership – Vern Racz –
 - i. Vern said he had no full report.
 - ii. He is having the cards mentioned at the last meeting made up.

- iii. SAGA needs to have a good handle on memberships sold at the Reunion venues, such as hockey or curling. Could people fill the forms out there? We need to be able to track people down after the fact.
- c. Curling – Blair Cummins –
 - i. Facilities for the event are still a big problem. The University facilities office has policies that are inflexible. Therefore, the ASA has to run the event so that it will be a student event.
 - ii. Having said this, SAGA is doing the draws. Whitney Cyca will send an email to the U of S to make sure the University remains on side. This should allow the facilities manager to deal with the question of liability.
 - iii. The fees to participate have been raised to \$20 from \$15 per person. There will be a clinic provided for new first-time curlers.
 - iv. Bryan Harvey suggested the use of push sticks for new curlers and asked if these can be rented. For example, the Nutana Curling Club has a large supply of these tools.
 - v. **ACTION: Blair Cummins will call the Nutana Curling Club to check on rental of push sticks for the SAGA curling event.**
- d. Hockey – Lucas Ringdal –
 - i. The rink at Waldheim will cost \$750 for the entire day, which is much cheaper than other facilities.
 - ii. There will likely be six teams, registered for approximately \$300 per team.
 - iii. Referees will still need to be hired, but the event should cover its cost and perhaps generate a small profit.
- e. Newsletter – Ewald Lammerding –
 - i. The newsletter went to the printer this morning. Electronic and printed versions of the newsletter are now available.
 - ii. The question of responses from the reunion honour years was raised – who is coming and what special events are planned? Good information has been received from the 1974 VSA.
 - iii. There have been a lot of obituaries. Ewald has had to do some editing to help them fit. It was suggested providing links to full obituaries to cut down on the size of the space committed to this part of the newsletter.
- f. Alumni – Bryan Harvey –
 - i. March will be the next opportunity SAGA will have to get someone on the Alumni Association Executive.
 - ii. Several names were suggested as potential candidates, including Jill Turner and Jessica Clay-Wruck.
- g. Hall of Fame – No Report
- h. Crop Production Week – Keith Head –
 - i. Keith said he didn't have much to add to last meeting's report.
 - ii. There is a spot on the event website with a link to buy tickets.

- iii. There are special sessions that should be attended. These are primarily at the Saskatoon Inn.
 - i. Member at Large – Allan McDougald – No Report.
 - j. Past President – Jill Turner – Jill's report was provided by Grant Wood.
 - i. 56 tickets have already been sold for the banquet.
 - ii. Honorary Life Memberships are ready to go.
 - k. President – Grant Wood – Grant stated that all seems to be going smoothly.
- 8. New Business:**
- a. Ewald Lammerding. German Cultural Club as a site for the Reunion Venue.
 - i. Ewald has checked out the site as a potential site. The food and beverage services are very good and the room/parking meets SAGA size requirements.
 - ii. Ewald tentatively booked the site for 2015. Discussion will continue on this matter.
 - b. Bryan Harvey. Methods of Implementing Personnel Cuts at the College of Agriculture.
 - i. During general discussion, it was apparent that virtually all those with knowledge of how the budget driven cuts at the College of Agriculture & Bioresources were implemented felt the methodology was draconian. Further, the College is becoming more controlling, such as taking over all websites. The College's advisory board has been disbanded. There are many rumours as to how it was decided where to cut positions.
 - ii. Discussion continued, with Bryan Harvey suggesting that a round table discussion should be held with the Dean and Associate Deans to discuss these issues.
 - iii. **ACTION: Individuals should send letters to the Dean's office relating to these issues as moved by personal conscience.** It was proposed that the date for this round table should be in February.
 - iv. **ACTION: Grant Wood will attend to arrange a round table at this time.**
- 9. Next Meeting: January 7, 2014**
- 10. Motion to Adjourn – Ewald Lammerding**