

**SAGA Executive Meeting  
Room 2D21 Agriculture Building  
Tuesday, November 5, 2013  
7:10 PM**

**PRESENT:** Grant Wood (Chairperson) (Recorder), Barb Larson, Trina Mortson, Darcy Jones, Allan McDougald, Gary Storey, Dennis Ewanus, Jill Turner, Bryan Harvey, Ewald Lammerding, Whitney Cyca, Keith Head, Bob McKercher, Vern Racz,

**REGRETS:** Ken Sapsford, John Spencer, Lucas Ringdal, Curtis deGooijer, Blair Cummins, Richard Gray, Mayson Maerz, Don Mitchell, Aaron Bouchard

1. Call to order by Chairperson Grant Wood at 7:10 pm
2. Adoption of Agenda
  - Agenda was circulated electronically prior to the meeting and distributed at the meeting.
  - **MOTION:** Bryan Harvey / Barb Larson - that the agenda to be adopted. CARRIED.
3. Adoption of minutes from October 2 meeting
  - Minutes were distributed electronically and were distributed at meeting
  - **MOTION:** Keith Head / Dennis Ewanus - that the agenda to be adopted. CARRIED.
  - Grant Wood reviewed the minutes

Business arising from October 2, 2013 meeting.

- Continue discussing how to attract more Ag grads to become members of SAGA ;  
**ACTION:** will discuss under other business
- Honorary Life pins – Blair Cummins gave Ewald Lammerding drawings of three potential pin designs that his wife created ; circulated to all present ; majority voted for the first design  
**ACTION:** Ewald will inquire at various stores as to the potential sizes for pins, and cost of pins based on numbers of 100 / 150 / 200 ; ideally would like about the size of a dime ; there are presently about 48 honorary life members in SAGA still living whom we could present a pin to ; Ewald will report back at the next meeting

4. Reading and adoption of financial reports:
  - financial report was electronically distributed by Dennis Ewanus a week before the meeting ; Dennis presented the financial report
  - balance in chequing account is \$3,535.78 as of Oct 31, 2013
  - Balance Value of Mutual Fund BMO # 0602 8045-857 as of Oct 25, 2013 is \$36,002.98
  - October 31 is the SAGA year end ; Dennis circulated the statement of assets and liabilities as of Oct 31, 2013 ; the operating statement for 2012-2013 ;

- **MOTION:** Dennis Ewanus / Bryan Harvey that Lawrence Peterson again be asked to review the books for SAGA (Lawrence has done this for several years)
- **MOTION:** Dennis Ewanus / Darcy Jones that SAGA purchase a \$100 gift certificate for Lawrence for his efforts and expertise.
- **MOTION:** Dennis Ewanus / Barb Larson - that the financial report be adopted.  
CARRIED.

#### 5. Correspondence / Website

- Grant Wood read an email from Al Scholz in which he submits his resignation from the board ; Al met with legal counsel who indicated being president of SAGA and executive director of SIA could put him in a position of conflict of interest ; the executive agreed and accepted Al's resignation
- Grant indicated the secretary position will be filled by John Spencer ; unfortunately John was ill and could not attend this meeting
- At the last Saskatoon branch meeting of SIA, correspondence was received from Morris Interactive (<http://www.morrisinteractive.ca/>) ; SIA is considering hosting a workshop using resources from this organization and asked if SAGA would allow SIA to market the workshop to all members ; the executive agreed that would be permitted

#### 6. Committee Reports

##### ASA - report by Whitney Cyca

- bed push for Telemiracles is coming up soon ; campaign is called 'Run it or fund it' ; pledge sheets are available ;
- **ACTION:** Whitney to send pledge forms to Trina who will send to all alumni
- ASA has booked Rutherford Rink for Jan 10 ; SAGA does not need to purchase liability insurance if the venue is booked by ASA

##### College of Agriculture and Bioresources – report by Trina Mortonson

- Annual Bean Feed Awards Celebration was held November 1 ; numbers of participants was good – over 270 people ; many students were presented with scholarships and donors were recognized ; Professor Terry Tollefson was awarded the NACTA (North American College and Teachers of Agriculture award ; Professor Hayley Hessel and Professor Grant Wood each received the Deans Excellence in Teaching award
- Keynote speaker was Susan Echlin, who with her husband started and operate Living Sky Winery (<http://www.livingskywinery.com>)
- sent out letters and info to most reunion chairs
- Trina has been corresponding with some reunion years who are having difficulties securing rooms ; she has given them names / addresses of alternate hotels close to the convention centre
- Trina received a call from an event entertainment company ; Saskatoon based ; offering to find entertainment for our event for a cost ; the executive decided not to follow up with this company as we do not need entertainment for the evening

##### Membership Committee - (Registrar, Membership, Website)



- Grant read an email from Al Scholz who was reporting on the Resume & Interview workshop held Oct 1 ; an invoice from the university has not yet been received, but SIA estimate the total cost of the event to be about \$1500, minus the \$500 in sponsorship, leaving a \$500 cost for each of the SIA and SAGA ; Grant indicated that he and Al had talked about co-sponsoring the event, but unfortunately had not brought this to a vote with the SAGA executive ; a discussion followed, with the executive indicating a desire not to pay the \$500 as they did not feel the event was marketed sufficiently as a joint SIA and SAGA event
- **MOTION:** that SAGA not pay the \$500 fee to SIA ; Barb Larson / Vern Racz ; carried
- **ACTION:** Grant to write letter to Al outlining the discussion
- Discussion on information for the Grad Packages for the College of Agriculture & Bioresources ; Grant Wood and Vern Racz duplicated a business card and letter to include in the grad packages for all ag grads for 2012 ; this should be reviewed and revised
- **ACTION:** Grant to check how many business cards and promo pieces we still have ; require a promo piece for each grad package and a business card to be placed on the table for each participant ;
- There was a tabled suggestion from a previous executive meeting that SAGA consider sponsoring a scholarship / bursary offered through the College of Agriculture & Bioresources ; discussion ; the executive agreed there are better uses of our funds and decided not to pursue this opportunity

#### Reunion

- Grant Wood to be contact for College and School 1944 and 2009 ; Grant has written letter to grads from the School and College of 1944 ; has asked for a photo and some interesting information from each person ; Grant will create a short powerpoint presentation to recognize these past grads during the banquet
- Trina continues to be excellent contact for reunion years, assisting where help is needed

#### Banquet/Mixer – report by Barb Larson

- fees have been established: \$70 for early registration and \$85 for late registration; early bird mixer is \$15 and \$20 at the door
- early registration – up till Dec 23
- late registration – Dec 24 till Jan 6
- registration will go live online on Nov 15 (Fri) and by phone on Nov 18 (Mon)
- as was done last year, 4:30 cocktails ; 5:30 banquet ; 8:00 photos ; 8:30 AGM ; 8:30 mixer

#### Curling – report by Ewald Lammerding

- met with Louis who will supply food for the curling event
- event will be promoted to students ; will do posters and email
- it was suggested to again host a 'learn to curl event' – early January – date TBA
- curling rink on campus is booked 5 – 11pm ; curling will happen 6 -10 pm
- meal = \$13 / plate ; charged \$15 last year ; remaining funds were applied to the cost of the evening munchies ; suggesting to leave the fee at \$15

#### Hockey - report submitted by Lucas Ringdal, read by Grant Wood

- will be held in Waldheim due to miscommunication with the Aberdeen rec center manager ; Waldheim rink costs less and a local hockey team with members of SAGA will be running a bar so they will be getting the proceeds
- captains from last year have been emailed ; three teams are confirmed from last year ; we are thinking 2 student teams again but we will have to get a confirmation as last year teams were playing together because they didn't have enough players

#### Newsletter

- please submit all information to Ewald Lammerding by Nov 15 - at latest
- unfortunately Ewald has received several obituaries
- Art Unsworth is including some information in the next newsletter which is specific to his graduation years
- **ACTION:** Trina to notify all reunion years that they are welcomed to submit info for the newsletter
- 'lost sheep' list has greatly diminished

#### Alumni - report by Bryan Harvey

- there is no agric grad on the U of S Alumni Association Board of Directors ; it was suggested we need to get someone back on the board for next year
- **ACTION:** Bryan will check website and see if a vacancy is coming due for 2014 ([http://alumni.usask.ca/association/board\\_of\\_directors.php](http://alumni.usask.ca/association/board_of_directors.php))
- had a very successful Alumni awards night ; two people from connected to the agriculture industry were honoured ; **The Hon. Charles (Charlie) Mayer, BSA'64**, received the 2013 Alumni Achievement Award ; Professor Emeritus Brian and Laurel Rossnagel both received the Honorary Alumni award (<http://words.usask.ca/alumninews/2013/09/30/alumni-achievement-award-recipients-to-be-recognized/>)
- Bryan feels there are many deserving potential award recipients but they may not be getting nominated ; Bryan suggests that our awards committee (**Hall of Fame?**) take on this responsibility for next year
- **MOTION:** Bryan Harvey / Barb Larson – that we charge the awards committee with the responsibility to review the criteria for nominating potential award winners, and then search for potential award recipients ; carried

#### Hall of Fame – report by Bob McKercher

- Met on Oct 25 ; main business was election of nominees to the Saskatchewan Agriculture Hall of Fame ; six people will be inducted in 2014 ; three of these are grads from the U of S College of Agriculture ; names cannot be released at this time
- Committee chaired by Rick Holm is looking at recommendations regarding the induction ceremony ; possibly changing it to a one-day event ; possibly altering the procedures at the induction
- Next meeting is the AGM in March, 2014



#### Crop Production Week – report by Keith Head

- Crop Production Week January 11 to 18, 2014 will be held at two venues, The Saskatoon Inn and TCU Place
- Meetings at the Saskatoon Inn include:
  - Canaryseed Development Commission of Sask
  - Sask Winter Cereals Development Commission
  - Sask Seed Growers Association
  - Sask Mustard Development Commission
  - CWB
  - Agri-Arm
  - Sask Fruit Growers Association
  - Sask Soil Conservation Association
  - Crop Production Week Special Session
- Meetings at TCU Place – CropSphere
  - Sask Pulse Growers
  - Sask Canola Development Commission
  - Sask Flax Development Commission
  - Sask Oat Development Commission
  - Sask Barley Development Commission
  - Sask Wheat Development Commission
- Crop Production Week Special Session has been moved from Wednesday to Thursday evening at 7:00 PM
  - Topic: “Managing Farm Costs: Strategies to get the best bang for your buck”
  - Speakers: Allyn Tastad, CGA, Hounjet Tastad Harpham Doug Faller, Policy Manager, APAS
  - Networking Session prior to Special Session for directors of member groups 5:30-7:00 PM

#### MAL

- No report at this time

#### Past President – report by Jill Turner

- Registration system is ready ; no staff in the office on Friday, Nov 15 so phone-in registration will begin on Monday, Nov 18 ; online ready to for Friday, Nov 15
- Working on the Honourary Life memberships for 2014 ; are suggesting a slightly different approach to how the awards are presented – who will introduce, how long they are allowed to talk ; followed by photo with Honourary Life member, SAGA President and the nominator

#### President Report – report by Grant Wood

- All is going well ; thanks to everyone for their hard work ; if anyone knows of a free source of advertising / marketing, please let Grant know.

- **ACTION:** Grant to contact Western Producer with information and see if we can get some free advertising for the reunion weekend

7. New / Other business

- Discussion on the role of the reunion weekend, the changing face of ag grads, and how SAGA can be more responsive to the needs of its membership
- a small committee was formed to further investigate this topic ; Grant Wood, Trina Morston, Al McDougald
- Grant Wood suggested that we need representation from the age category whom we are looking at bringing into SAGA ; he suggested possibly a pizza and pop evening from 6:30 - 8:00 pm ; there was general agreement this was a good idea and we will pursue it in January
- Trina indicated that in past years, a letter was sent to the parents of grads advising that a lifetime membership in SAGA would be an excellent graduation gift
- **ACTION:** Trina to send the letter this year as there was agreement it may draw more members into SAGA
- Bryan Harvey suggested we could send a letter to all grads, advising that if they send us their email address, their name would be put into a draw and one name would be selected to receive an annual membership in SAGA
- **ACTION:** Grant to draft email and Trina to send the email to all upcoming grads
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8. Next meetings: Tuesday, Dec 3 ; Jan 7 ; 2D21 Agric Building 7:00 p.m.

9. Adjournment – Barb Larson