

**Minutes SAGA Executive Meeting
Room 2D21 Agriculture Building
Tuesday, March 03, 2020**

Prepared by: Raelene Petracek

PRESENT: Jason Fredette (chair), Keith Head, Morley Ayars, Gratton O'Grady, Ewald Lammerding, Carter Altwasser, Henry deGooijer, Raelene Petracek
by phone: Irene Ahner,
Regrets: Bryan Harvey, Mayson Maerz, Hamish Tulloch, Jo-Anne Relf-Eckstein, Eric Johnson, Ward Headrick

1. Call to order by Chairperson Jason Fredette at 7:02 pm
 2. Adoption of Agenda
 - **MOTION:** M. Ayars. CARRIED.
 3. Adoption of minutes from January 2020 and February 2020 meetings
 - January 2020 minutes as ammended -MOTION – E. Lammerding. CARRIED
 - February 2020 minutes as ammended- MOTION -I. Ahner. CARRIED
 4. Business arising from the Minutes
 - Change of signing authority still outstanding – to be organized in the next few weeks.
 5. Financial Report – D. Ewanus, M. Ayars
 - Financial Report was electronically distributed by D. Ewanus prior to the meeting.
 - Discussion Re: using an accounting package vs Excel
 - Excel – need to understand accounting
 - Accounting package – just fill it in – advantage if the next Treasurer is not an accountant
 - **ACTION:** Morley to investigate options and prices.
 - **ACTION:** Irene to contact Lorence Peterson any thoughts he has on accounting packages
 - **MOTION** The Treasurer's report as circulated: D. Ewanus CARRIED
 6. Correspondence
 - None
 7. Committee Reports
- Scholarship – K. Head
- Nothing new to report
 - Waiting for report from Hamish
 - Ewald will become the new contact person for the Scholarship.
- ASA – C. Altwasser
- Range Team went to Denver, placed 2nd of 25!

- Bedpush starts Thurs. They are at \$35,500 as of now. Goal is \$45,000.
- Calcutta Bowling – SAGA team won! Thanks for attending.
- Elections will be held in the next few weeks, new PRO will attend the April meeting.
- **MOTION:** Increase the SAGA support of the ASA Calcutta bowling to \$370.00. J. Hauer - CARRIED

Reunion Report – J. Fradette

- See President’s Report:

Banquet/Mixer Report – E. Lammerding

- Pins that were handed out at the reunion
 - SAGA pins were popular
 - **ACTION:** Ewald to look into the price of making more pins and possibly pens.
 - **ACTION:** Ewald will talk to Hamish re: the 10,20,30 etc pins – we think they were made for the Uof S 100th anniversary – see if they still have them
- Photos- need to find a way to streamline the pictures.
- Mixer
 - Discussion on why attendance is still low
 - Had a complaint about paying \$20 membership plus \$20 cost for mixer
 - Suggestion/thought: possibly remove the \$20 cost to get in and just pay for the annual membership if they don’t already have one.

Friday Mixer Event Report - H. Tulloch

- No report.
- Noted at meeting that the students really enjoyed the event

Hockey – C. Anderson

- John was there in the morning, said it seems to have gone well

Newsletter – E. Lammerding

- Deadline May 14/15
- John will be assisting

College of AgBio Alumni and Development Office Report –

- No report

Crop Production Week – J. Relf-Eckstein

- No report

Membership/Website – K. Head

- For the next person, Keith provided:
 - Membership (Registrar) Guidelines
 - SAGA Website Maintenance, Procedures and Protocols

- Discussion re: separating Membership and Website
 - Recently it was the same people on both committees.
 - Past – there were two on website
 - Treasurer needs to be on the website committee – important
 - Membership/website need to work together
 - Membership - Henry
 - Website involves keeping it up to date, Empty Saddles, Reunion, Exec etc
 - Members on the committee now are: Morley, Henry, Ewald, ???
 - ACTION: one more person with some web savy to do the website updates is required
- Designation of Diploma and Degree Grads – report provided by K. Head

The question has arisen regarding the appropriate means of differentiating between diploma and degree grads now that the School of Agriculture no longer exists.

The Alumni Association differentiates by using “AGRIC” for diploma grads and “BSA” for degree grads. That is also how SAGA differentiates diploma and degree members in the official membership list. However, such descriptions are a bit cumbersome for casual usage such as in Newsletter articles.

Hamish has researched the changes that saw the end of the School of Agriculture and how the diploma students were assimilated into the College. His report is attached below.

In summary, the School ended as an administrative unit in November 1998, but students continued to receive Diplomas in Vocational Agriculture until 2003 when the last students graduated from the School’s program. From 2003 to 2007 diploma classes were separate from degree classes. Starting in 2008 diploma students took the same classes as degree students and 2010 was the first year that students graduated from the current diploma program.

There are several options to consider:

1. Continue using “S” for diploma grads and “C” for degree grads
2. After 2003, when the last diplomas in Vocational Agriculture were awarded, use “D” for Diploma and “B” for Bachelor
3. After 2003 no longer differentiate between diploma and degree grads, simply indicate the year of graduation

Interestingly, the first recorded use of “S” and “C” to designate School and College grads, respectively, was in the Sept 1983 edition of the SAGA (Vol 171), and then used only sparingly until the March 1987 edition (Vol 183), after which the designations were used on a regular basis. However, for the previous 50 years only a member’s year of graduation was noted with no differentiation between School and College grads.

Hamish’s summary:

Hi Keith,

I am just following up on your question from the last SAGA meeting related to the end of the school of agriculture diploma. Sorry for the slow response on this but I’ve been picking away at understanding the background whenever I can find a spare moment and there has been quite a bit of material to review. I should have anticipated this but it’s not as simple as one might expect/hope. I have attempted to summarize the history below.

The School of Agriculture was officially disbanded as an administrative unit in November 1998 through a Council vote. However, students were given some time to finish off the diplomas they started under the school so the that program carried on for some years afterwards. In addition, the diploma was revised in 2001 in an effort to make it more attractive to students. A number of changes were implemented but the most notable were that the program length was reduced from 3 years to 2, an agribusiness major was added, other programs were renamed and the term length was extended to align with the regular academic session. The instructor complement from the previous three year diploma remained basically unchanged in this revised diploma. The last graduating year for students from the school's program was 2003 (this marked the end of the vocational agriculture diploma). This was also the first year that students in the college graduated from the revised two-year diploma - so for a few years we had two different diploma programs being offered at the same time. I don't know how the students within these two diploma programs viewed themselves. I suspect their appreciation for the back-end administration of the program was somewhat limited and didn't contribute much to their sense of identity – These students were still very distinct from the rest of the college's student population. In spite of the revisions to the diploma it didn't achieve its primary objective of attracting new students - by 2003 enrollment in the diploma declined to the program's lowest level at just 87 students. Consequently the diploma program underwent a comprehensive review (this mostly took place in 2006-2007) and led to the new diploma programs currently in place, which are based on the standard bachelor degree courses.

As you can see there were a number of significant transition points associated with the school and the diploma. The changes that occurred in the diploma program and the overlap between the programs makes it difficult to draw a hard line between them. The point where the new diplomas started to be based on the same courses as the bachelor degrees is significant to me - since this is the point that students in the diploma and the degree became part of the same cohort. Even though the diploma students had been part of the college since 1999 they were still very separate from the rest of the student body until the course material was merged. 2010 was the first year for students graduating from the current diploma programs. I believe that those diploma grads have a stronger identity with the college than the others that existed since the demise of the school.

I hope you were able to follow all this history and it's useful to you but just let me know if you have any questions. For the purposes of organizing the reunion I can't think of any simple way to handle all the variants of the diplomas. From a practical perspective, it makes some sense to treat all the graduates (bachelor and diploma) from 2010 onward as one group but please let me know your take on this.

Also, I'll get you the list of graduates with their graduation years that we talked about at the last meeting as soon as I can.

○

- This is Keith's last meeting but he has offered to help the next person
Thankyou Keith for all of your work over the years.

Hall of Fame –

- No Report

MAL – I. Ahner, J. Hauer

- Noted that there was a writeup of the Hon Life in the Producer
- Message from Mayson:
 - Organized a trip to Bladworth to meet up with the Bedpush on Thursday

- Have pictures to add to the Facebook posts

Vice President –D. Belisle

- No report

Past President –E. Johnson

- Report provided

The interview process for the Dean has begun. Two of the three candidates have been interviewed with the remaining candidate to be interviewed in mid-March. I will be recommending two candidates for the 2021 Honorary Life Memberships at the April meeting. I have also started a list of potential candidates for future HLM consideration.

President Report –J. Fredette

- Report Provided:

Recently we have had some turnover in our SAGA executive. It is important that we keep our executive positions filled and continue to find new members step forward, especially if we can find some younger grads that may have connections with recent graduating classes. Since our last meeting I am pleased to report that in Henry de Gooijer C 83, has indicated that he is willing to join the SAGA executive taking on the membership role. Thank you Henry .

This month I had the opportunity to be part of the 2020 SAGA bowling team along with Keith Head, Blair Cummins and Ewald Lammerding, attending the ASA Telemiracle bowling night. Again the ASA has demonstrated a community spirit in holding this event and raising dollars for a good cause. This was a good evening and a maybe reminder to SAGA members to take time to attend these types events with the students. I met many of the students, some of which I am sure to be seeing in Industry circles soon.

The search for a new Dean for the College of Ag and Bioresources is underway and SAGA was invited to attend and comment on the public presentation made by the three final candidates. I suggest that following the conclusions of these presentations, and at our April meeting, we have an agenda item to discuss what we heard following which I could put together SAGA comments to be forwarded to the search committee.

And as we approach the last few scheduled SAGA meeting of the year, just a reminder to the Executive members:

- that we should start finding next year's grad chairs. Some of you had some suggestions from the reunion weekend. Can we get those forwarded to Deanne and I to start populating the list and contacting people.
- We need to sort out the Communication role on this executive and formalize a person to lead that task.
- We need to discuss any summer events that SAGA may participate in and get plans in place.
- Suggestion at meeting: A committee be formed to help with contacting reunion chairs so that each have 3 or 4 to contact rather than the VP. John, Jason and Irene volunteered. Note: eventually Deanne needs to be the point person for all of the chairs.
- **ACTION:** Jason will send out an email.

- At meeting:
 - Bowling was great
 - Search for Dean
 - SAGA was invited to the public portions
 - Jason will send a response from SAGA thanking for the invitation and giving some thoughts

MOTION: Accept Reports: M. Ayars CARRIED.

8. New / Other business

- **Social Media:**
 - Committee will be formed:
 - Mayson, Louis and possibly Deanne
- **Analysis of Membership List**
 - To see which years are up/down etc
 - Look at the change over the years
 - Henry and Hamish have discussed the flow of information.
- **Archive**
 - Report provided by K. Head

The records of SAGA are lodged with the University of Saskatchewan Archives, Rm 301, Murray Memorial Library. The records contain documents dating back to the beginnings of SAGA and are the history of SAGA.

Items that should be lodged with the Archives include:

- AGM Minutes and Agendas c/w committee reports
- Executive Minutes and Agendas c/w committee reports
- Audited year end Financial Statement
- Honorary Life Member biographies (Banquet Program)
- SAGA Newsletters published during the year
- Other significant documents ie Constitutional amendments, special reports, scholarship Terms of Reference, etc

All these documents from a President's term should be collected by the Past President and lodged with Archives. This will keep the archives current and ensure no documents are lost.

Several items have been found and assembled for lodging with the Archives (see Contents of Archive Box Mar 3, 2020 attached as separate document).

With the assistance of Ewald and pack rats Terry Gates and Bob McKercher we have collected all the Newsletters from Volume 223 to 271 (April 1999 to Dec 2019). There is now a complete set of Newsletters from 1935 to 2019.

Some of the missing Executive and AGM minutes have been located. However, there are still some missing:

- **Executive Minutes:**
 - 2001 – Mar 30 (incomplete); May 25; Oct 19
 - 2002 – Feb 15

- 2009 - Jan 6
- Feb 2013 to Dec 2019
- **AGM Minutes:**
 - 76th AGM 2011 to 85th AGM 2020
- **Honorary Life Member Bios (Banquet Programs)**
 - None have been archived since about 2001

9. Date of Next Meetings

- TUESDAY April 7th
- TUESDAY September 15^h

10. Motion to adjourn I. Ahner at 8:45 PM