

Minutes: AOC Board Teleconference

Friday, November 4, 2005

The AOC Board teleconference was held on Friday, November 4, 2005. AOC President Ruihong Zhang called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM PST (3:00 PM CST).

There were 11 members in attendance and they were (alphabetically): Shufeng Han, Changying Li, Zhongli Pan, Donghai Wang, Joan Wu, Chenghai Yang, Xiusheng Yang, Naiqian Zhang, Qin Zhang, Ruihong Zhang, Jun Zhu.

President Ruihong Zhang inquired about suggestions and comments on the minutes of September 4, 2005 Board Meeting. There were no additional comments and the minutes were approved.

Next, Xiusheng led a discussion on the theme and potential speakers for the China Exchange Session at the ASABE Annual Conference. The following items were discussed.

- Whom to invite. Several suggestions were made and a few names were mentioned, including Mr. Maoliang Lin, Dr. Xiaoping (Adjunct Professor, State Key Lab of Estuarine & Coastal Research East China Normal University), and Deputy Director of Chinese Academy of Agriculture. It was recommended that mixed speakers residing in the US and from abroad should be invited in order to avoid unexpected “no show” or low attendance due to unforeseen time conflict or visa issues. The discussion was ended with Quisheng encouraging all meeting attendees to provide him with names and complete contact information of potential speakers for the China Exchange Session.
- Major themes. It was suggested that a presentation on the joint venture and scientific exchanges between Zhejiang University (a Key 985 Institute) and UC Davis to be made and that Ruihong may be involved in the organization. It was also suggested that a report on the undergraduate student exchange with Jilin University should be presented and that Naiqian may be in charge of the coordination.

Chenghai then opened discussion regarding AOC membership.

- Decision was made that email should be sent to members reminding professional members to pay dues. Student members only pay a one-time membership fee (\$5) upon joining AOC and do not need to pay annual dues thereafter as long as they maintain the status of active AOC student member. Upon graduation and assuming a professional position, a former student member should start to pay annual membership fees should he or she remains interested and active in AOC. This decision shall become official after the November 4, 2005 Board Meeting.
- Discussion was also brought up about AOC Honorary Members. Currently, there are two Honorary Members, one of the two is Dr. Ramish Kanwar. However, Dr. Kanwar has not been actively participating AOC activities likely because of his extremely tight schedule at and off the ASABE meetings. Yet another reason could be that AOC has not been active in approaching him and inviting him to our program activities. It was then proposed that a committee be formed with a task to formulate and evaluate policies (e.g., term policies—should we set a 3-year duration for Honorary Membership or make it life-long?) Jun (Dr. Jun Zhu) was nominated to serve on (or lead) the committee.
- Decision was also made on establishing a student email list and updating AOC student website. Changying explained the needs for updating the AOC student website and stressed that students welcome timely news and reports on recent development in AOC, including position openings,

faculty status, and scientific and technical exchanges with Chinese scholars and governments. Web posting for AOC student members is evidently more timely than the IMPACT Newsletters and may also have different focus and contents. Ruihong suggested Changying to contact Dr. Shaojin Wang for adequate coordination and to ensure that relevant news and information goes to the right avenue. The Board regarded this issue important and it should be revisited at the next Board Meeting.

The issue of E-Journal was revisited. Roger was not able to attend the Board Meeting. He provided brief information to Ruihong prior to the meeting.

- No new information has been received from the Chinese side.
- Yingquan, who is involved in editorial activities of the *Trans. CSAE* expressed desire to promote E-journal.
- The Board decided to revisit this issue at the next meeting.

Shaojin was not able to attend the meeting due to time conflict. Ruihong introduced the contents of the forthcoming issue of the IMPACT Newsletters.

- The major contents were approved.
- Dr. Shulin Chen at Wahsington State Univesrity was chosen as the faculty member to feature. Possible candidates to feature for the future are Drs. Yuanhui Zhang and Jinglu Tan.

The next meeting was tentatively set for the second week of January, 2006. (The meeting time was consolidated to 1–2 PM PST (3–4 PM CST) Friday, January 13, 2006, after a series of email exchanges among the Board members and the President.)

With no other new business, the AOC Board teleconference was adjourned at 2:15 PM PST (??) by President Ruihong Zhang.

Respectfully Submitted,

Joan Wu
AOC Board Secretary [2005–2006]