

AOC Board Teleconference Minutes

Friday, December 5, 2008

The AOC Board teleconference was held on Friday, December 5, 2008. AOC President Zhongli Pan called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM PST (3:00 PM CST).

There were nine members in attendance and they were (alphabetically): Jude Liu, Zhongli Pan, Roger Ruan, Juming Tang, Donghai Wang, Lingjuan Wang, Ning Wang, Shaojin Wang, and Wei Zhang.

President Zhongli Pan inquired about suggestions and comments on the agenda and minutes of October 3, 2008 Board Meeting. Because there were no additional comments, the agenda and minutes were approved.

Yangling Base update

Chenghai Yang and Xiusheng Yang updated the situation of Yangling Base by emails before the meeting. Up to now, Yangling project is still alive. Qiang Zhang is visiting Yangling now and Zhongli will meet Hou Xi, the vice president of Northwest A & F University next week and hope to learn more about the project. As suggested by Juming Tang, Zhongli Pan will be involved in the committee to work together with the group. Chenghai will continue to be the Chair of Yangling Project Committee. The function of the committee will be reviewed next year.

E-Journals

Roger Ruan reported that the second issue of IJABE will be published on December 25, 2008. He hopes to publish 4 issues next year as scheduled and to list this journal in the EI/SCI database in two years. He also encouraged all the AOC members to submit their manuscripts to IJABE. Juming Tang proposed to improve the review system via the website instead of using emails and to establish as quickly as possible transparency systems and coordination mechanisms between editors, division editors and associate editors. Shaojin Wang suggested to check the sections of "Editorial Team" and "Associate Editors" in the IJABE website, only to post them when they are finalized, and to list all the names alphabetically.

Student activities of SAC

Wei Zhang reported that the SAC is planning to form two mentoring programs: one for prospective students in China to apply the U.S. graduate programs and another one for graduating students in the US to look for jobs. The first part will be paired one-on-one basis and could be undertaken by the AOC student members. But for the second part, most of the Board members thought that this might be not realistic for one-on-one basis due to limited time and narrowed research direction for the mentoring faculties. Ning Wang and Juming Tang suggested to form a small group in different areas, such as soil and water, structure and environment or food engineering, etc. They propose to continue to use BBS and forums to communicate instead of using emails. But they encourage the SAC to introduce or advise these platforms to AOC members through websites, email lists, articles in IMPACT newsletter.

Fundraising plan

Zhongli Pan reported the good news about having received US\$10,000 donated from CSAM. Both Zhongli Pan and Juming Tang proposed to put this money into the AOC foundation

account and only to use the interests to support the AOC operational costs and annually meeting activities. They also expressed their willing to get other donations from different sources, such as Consulate General of China in San Francisco and China Agricultural University.

AOC/ASABE meeting/China Exchange

Ning Wang and Lingjuan Wang are working hard on the China Exchanges session and have found some potential speakers both from China and USA. They will work together with Zhongli Pan and update the information of the session time and speakers at next meeting.

With no other new business, the AOC Board teleconference was adjourned at 2:00 PM PST by President Zhongli Pan. Next Board meeting will be at 1:00 PM PST (3:00 PM CST) on February 6, 2009.

Respectfully Submitted,

Shaojin Wang
December 5, 2008