

MINUTES

*Executive Board, AOCABFE, conveyed via teleconference
January 31, 2003,*

Attendees: Rongsheng Ruan; Juming Tang; Yang Tao; Ning Wang; Chenghai Yang; Naiqian Zhang; Qiang Zhang; Ruihong Zhang; Yuanhui Zhang

Absent: K.C. Ting; Lin Wang; Maohua Wang; Hongwei Xin; Jiannong Xin; Guoqiang Zhang; Senwen Zhang;

Meeting was called in order by Naiqian Zhang at 3:05 pm (Yuanhui was late and minutes recording started at 3:10 pm)

1. Activities during 2003 ASAE Annual meeting:

- Juming proposed to seek fund from Chinese Consulate to sponsor the meeting – specifically, the raised fund will be used to offer free dinner tickets for invited speakers from Asia. AOC members should self pay the cost.
- Qiang and Yuanhui suggest that AOC make effort to hold most activities at one time slot, considering the busy schedule and attendance. Several options are discussed, include:
 - The meeting should be no longer than two hours.
 - Have award, lunch and business meeting together,
 - Setup the time limit for each guest speaker,
 - Need an Ad-hoc committee for the AOC meeting arrangement at Las Vegas. Naiqian suggested that the Meetings and Conferences Committee (MCC) should take charge and there is no need for an ad-hoc committee. Juming is the chair of MCC and he will champion the effort. Naqian offered to consult.
 - Ruihong suggested that the business meeting be formal in order to attract more attendance other than conventional AOC members.

The consensus was that the award, dinner, speeches, and business meeting be held in the same evening, preferably Tuesday. One option is to have all activities held in a Restaurant. The second option is to have the business meeting held in the Convention Center followed by a dinner at a nearby restaurant. The advantage of the second option is that the business meeting can be listed in the ASAE meeting program book to attract more attendants. The MCC is appointed to further investigate the options. President Zhangliang Chen of China Agricultural University was identified as a speaker on the dinner. The speech needs to be brief.

- Invited speakers: Ruihong updated the invited speakers for the East Asia Forum. Of the four invited, one has confirmed. Other three need written confirmation. It was agreed that Xiwen Luo, South China Agriculture University, should be added to the guest speaker list. On

another note, the guest speakers need to be diversified, not only from mainland China, but also representing Taiwan, Japan, Korea and other Asian countries.

2. Joint Publication with CSAE

Much of the time was spent on the issue of joint publication effort with the Chinese Society of Agricultural Engineering (CSAE). Roger Ruan reported to the board that there seems to be some resistance from CSAE Editorial Board to create a joint-journal with AOC. The discussion on the issue were largely speculations, some are itemized as following:

- financial concerns;
- Status and partnership of AOC and CSAE;
- Quality of the existing and future journal articles
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The Board suggests that further dialogue with the CSAE on the matter is needed. The following principles and bottom lines regarding the joint-journal are suggested by board members. The board recommend those who visit China in near future (Naqian plan to visit in April, and Chenghai in March) to convey the message to the CSAE counterparts:

Background: Since the beginning of 2002, some interest arise within AOC and the counterparts in China to help mainland researchers to publish their research results in EI- or SCI-sited journals. It is critical for many in China who are in promotion track. Via emails and discussions, two options were focused at: (1) Individual partnership between AOC researchers and their Chinese counterparts to write, edit from Chinese version papers into English one. (2) Establish a joint English journal to publish the peer reviewed articles, aiming at being included in EI or SCI, to create a platform for Chinese researchers at the international stage. Option 2 was later persuaded as an AOC team effort, headed by Roger Ruan as the publication committee chair.

Principle: The initial intent of AOC to establish a joint English journal with CSAE is to promote the ABE research in China via a high quality publication, and subsequently included the publication in EI or SCI. Only those papers with the quality of at least ASAE transactions may be selected by an editorial board. That way, the overall stature of CSAE and its researchers can be promoted to a new level. AOC has to have the responsibility to review and control the quality of the papers.

Bottom line: AOC is not interested, as an organization on the whole, in serving as English editors for the English version of CSAE Transactions. Individual AOC members may work with their collaborators in China to do so.

3. IMPACT Feature Articles

The featured article will be Qiang Zhang in the June issue IMPACT, and the feature story for the March issue is suggested to be about Dinlai Tao. Featured articles should also be diversified, members suggested, not only cover the AOC members, but also corresponding members or even student members.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:05 pm

Respectfully submitted by
Yuanhui Zhang
January 31, 2002