

AEES 2009 Annual Business Meeting

Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon

June 25, 2009

Minutes prepared by Dan Hitchcock and approved at 2010 annual business meeting June 15 in Quebec City.

- Opening Remarks – Stacy Hutchinson (Kansas State Univ.), AEES President, welcomed the group to the business meeting in Corvallis
- Announcements
 - Accomplishments
 - List serve – Dan Storm (Ok. State) can provide more details
 - Tax ID number/Incorporation in Arkansas – Marty Matlock (Univ. of Arkansas) can provide more details
 - 2010 Meeting: AEES will hold its annual meeting in Quebec City as part of the 17th World Congress of the CIGR (International Commission of Agricultural Engineering) on June 13-17. Philippe Savoie (McGill University) will be on the conference planning committee, and Hutchinson and Jay Martin (Ohio State) have been communicating with him about meeting details and how AEES will be involved.
 - There was mention of a bus tour from the AEES meeting in Quebec City to the ASABE meeting in Pittsburgh. Details forthcoming...
 - The 2011 AEES Annual Meeting will be held in Asheville, NC, and organized by NC State Univ. (Greg Jennings)
 - It was noted (Matlock) that the Vice President is responsible for annual meeting planning and overall coordination
- Officer Nominations/Elections –
Officers for 2010:
Cully Hession (Virginia Tech) - President
Jay Martin (Ohio State) - Vice President
Stewart Diemont (SUNY – Syracuse) - Secretary/Treasurer (2010-2011)

There was discussion initiated by Matlock about extending the terms of President and Vice President for longer than a year for a longer term commitment and more continuity between years. No motion was made?
- Treasurer's Report – The coffers are still well into the positive. Marc Beutel (Washington State Univ), past treasurer, can provide more details. It was emphasized that these a portion of these funds could and should be used to assist with student travel expenses for upcoming meetings

- Moving Forward – Committee Restructuring

It was recommended that committee chair positions not only be represented by academia, but also by industry.

Committee reports were given from each of the following groups. Committee representatives based on information from the current website are given below:

- Enhanced Education

Education committee (Curricula, Body of Knowledge) 2009-2010

Luis Rodriguez, University of Illinois

David Blersch, University of Maryland

- Body of Knowledge (BOK) – Luis Rodriguez (Univ of Illinois) discussed the status of the body of knowledge compilation. He can provide more details.
- Curriculum Development
- Professional Certification – Matlock and Hession had some comments about how this could move forward; they can provide more details

Certification Committee 2009-2010

Steve Patterson, Bio by Design

Paul Frank, CH2MHill

- Enhanced Membership

Membership Committee (Meetings, Recruitment) 2009-2010

Christina Toms, Wetlands & Water Resources

Andrea Ludwig, Virginia Tech

- Meetings – the idea of teaming with IEES in 2012 was proposed. It was also suggested that, depending on the success of the 2010 meeting with CIGR, AEES might consider hooking up with an international conference every other year. It was re-emphasized that high student participation has always been a strength of the society, and we should assist students with travel expenses.
- Community Development – the point was made that there needs to be more participation from industry and other younger professionals in AEES

- Enhanced Identity

Identity Committee (Website, Journal) 2009-2010

Dan Storm, Oklahoma State University

Dave Austin, CH2MHill

- Website – Dan Storm (Ok. State Univ) has done an excellent job with the web site and listserv. A new listserv address will be forthcoming. The group present

for the business meeting voted in favor of changing the web address, which will now be: www.ecoeng.org

- Newsletter – we need to revive the newsletter series. Mark Simmons (Univ. of Texas Austin) commented that we could reach out to other professions (e.g. landscape architects) with the newsletter
- Journal – will continue to be offered with membership since it's a major draw to AEES.
- Dan Hitchcock (Clemson) suggested that, as a growing professional society, perhaps AEES should expand its executive committee by separating the secretary/treasurer position, not only to share the workload of this very busy position, but also to increase leadership opportunities for more members. This was agreed upon and Hutchinson asked if Hitchcock would be willing to serve as secretary for this next term. With no objections, Hitchcock agreed to serve in this role for 2009-2011. Stewart Diemont would remain as treasurer. It was reiterated that the secretary should be responsible for meeting minutes and the newsletter, among other organizational tasks.
-
- John Bolte (Oregon State) took a moment to thank all of the participants for making the trip and for their contributions to the conference. Bolte received a round of applause for his efforts in organizing the annual meeting in Corvallis.
- David Blersch (Univ. of Buffalo) commented on ways to strengthen the presence of ecological engineering in the science community, discussed his experience at the ASABE AIM earlier in the week and called to question how many scientists and engineers define ecological engineering based on the types of presentations given at ASABE. Many remarked that this was a cornerstone in the foundation of AEES and that our membership generally seeks an alternative to ASABE. Savoie (McGill Univ.) discussed the benefits of working with AEES, especially as a society with a good existing structure, to develop the profession of ecological engineering.
- Transfer of Power – the “gavel” was transferred from Hutchinson (past-President) to Hession (President)