

COSA 11/1/09 Business Meeting Minutes: Tri-Societies Meeting, Pittsburgh

In Attendance:

Joseph Heckman-Chair

16 attendees (see list following minutes)

Note: Mary Peet (USDA-Integrated Organic Program) will replace Diana Jenkins:
welcome Mary!

Call to Order

-Appointment Information: Joe will perhaps stay on as Chair again. Any other takers, please let him know. Kudos to Joseph for a great job in 2008-2009!

2009 Symposium: “Human Ecology and Organic Farming Systems”

- J. Heckman very successful at fund-raising (10K for symposium and Roundtable)
 - o \$2000 from Society; remainder from Organic Valley, NE-SARE, OFRF, Weston Price, Western SARE, PASA
- [post-meeting note: 75 in attendance despite conflicting organic symposium at exact same time]
- RAFS Editorial meeting—ask regarding publishing symposium Proceedings
[post-meeting note: K. Delate received ok from RAFS]

Symposia

- Should COSA do a symposium every year? Need to decide by late December.
- Need to raise awareness in Tri-Societies, but a lot of work (someone besides Joe)
- Find co-sponsors from other groups.
- Joe suggested F.H. King, ‘Farmers of 40 Centuries’
- Pat and Stefan suggested ‘Urban Ag/Poverty Issues’
- Justin: should there be a sub-committee on symposia?
[post-meeting note: **Deadline is December 16**]

ASA Re-Structuring and New Organic Division

- ASA re-structuring from divisions to ‘communities’
- Vote by all members on new structure mid-2010
- K. Delate advised by ASA administration that ‘Organic Management Systems’ will be given a provisional ASA division status if ‘communities’ do not go thru.
[post-meeting note: ‘Organic Management Systems’ was approved as a provisional division (A-12) at ASA BOD meeting on 11/5; will become ‘community’ with new structure in 2010; Pat Carr–2010 Chair of A-12]
- With new organic division, overlap between organic sessions will be avoided
- COSA will continue as a Tri-Societies group and have Roundtable each year
- New organic division/community will include ecological/biological/agroecological work (doesn’t have to be certified organic)
- Evolution of organic does not preclude ‘sustainability’
- With new communities, if a topic generates interest, members can be flexible enough to move forward with it

[post-meeting note: Communities will be organized into 'Sections': OMS can be in the 'Environmental Quality' Section or 'Ag. Production Section'; also 'Agroecology' proposed as new Section]

COSA Roundtable

2009 Roundtable: 'Organic Agriculture in New Zealand - A Model for Sustainability':
Hugh Campbell, University of Otago, New Zealand

[post-meeting note: excellent speaker; excellent attendance (80); good discussions at break-outs]

-Call for all break-out notes to be sent to K. Delate for write-up and possible combining with 2008 roundtable metrics notes/discussion

[post-meeting note: Cost of Roundtable reception: \$2070 (includes \$500 donation of food from Organic Valley)]

2010 Roundtable: Possible Roundtable Topics

--"Participatory Plant Breeding": speaker ideas: Tom Molner, Nut Breeder

--"University Organic Farms for Food Services" – Laura Sayre (Student Org. Farms)

--"Know your Farmer, Know your Food" – Kathleen Merrigan

--"Urban Organic Farms in L.A. Area" – Kathleen Merrigan

-Should take a NIFA theme for Merrigan with local and organic foods

- Could use video in case she can't attend

--"Equal Exchange" – Robert Wexler @ Washington

-Fair Trade coffee, Red Tomato (Michael Rozyne), Will Allen

--"Delivery Systems/Direct Marketing" – Whole Foods

-USDA mobile processor – Liz?

Sustainable Agriculture Award

- Discussion on a COSA 'Sustainable Research/Extension/Teaching Award' proposed as way to reward faculty/staff working in sustainable/organic ag (particularly for pre-tenure faculty)

- Graduate Student Award also proposed

- Pat will bring up at A-8 meeting asking how to get into the system

-Ann Marie to ask Fran Pierce

How to Increase Graduate Student Involvement

-Get more graduate students to attend COSA meetings in the future/be on board

-Could use 2 graduate students on COSA committee

-Self-nominated

- Joseph will send out requests for nominations for members

-Need to get Natural Resource Management people involved

COSA Meeting Attendees

Joseph Heckman - Rutgers - heckman@AESOP.Rutgers.edu

Mary Peet – NIFA – mary_peet@ncsu.edu

Pat Carr – North Dakota State University - Patrick.Carr@ndsu.edu

Laurie Drinkwater - Cornell University – led24@cornell.edu

Ariane Lotti - OFRF/National Sustainable Ag. Coalition - ariane@ofrf.org

Christina Tonitto – Cornell University - Christina.Tonitto@cornell.edu

Mary Stromberger – Colorado State University – mary.stromberger@colostate.edu

Chuck Francis – University of Nebraska-Lincoln – cfrancis2@unl.edu

Liz Sarno – University of Nebraska-Lincoln – esarno2@unl.edu

Mark Boudreau – North Carolina State University – markb@greenagroecology.com

Stefan Seiter – LBCC/Oregon State University – Stefan.seiter@linnbenton.edu

Cindy Cambardella – USDA-ARS-NLAE/ISU – cindy.cambardella@ars.usda.gov

Justin Van Wart – University of Nebraska-Lincoln – Justin.vanwart@huskers.unl.edu

Kathleen Delate – Iowa State University – kdelate@iastate.edu

Erin Silva – University of Wisconsin – emsilva@wisc.edu

Ann-Marie Fortuna – Washington State University – afortuna@wsu.edu