

COSA Conference Call Minutes Dec. 17, 2009

Members present on conference call: Kathleen Delate, Liz Sarno, Justin Vanwart, and Joseph Heckman

Kathleen Delate reports that she is now on ASA Board of Directors (representing A-12--the Organic Management Systems division. Congradulations! Kathleen also reported that she had an excellent conference call with the Board.

Stefan Seiters opted out of his symposium idea for 2010. He needed to have a clear idea of topic and speakers early in December.

Stefan Seiters is collecting the roundtable discussion summaries from both 2008 and 2009. If you have not already sent these to Stefan, please do so. Thanks to Mark Boudreau for serving as roundtable facilitator discussion reporter for the 2009 session.

Annual report for COSA 2009 activities has been submitted to Tri-Society headquarters.

Kathleen Delate is organizing a symposium for A8 called: "Local/Regional Food Systems and Community Food Security: Making the Connection. COSA has agreed to co-sponsor this symposium.

Also a request came in from Tom Sauer after our conference call asking COSA to cosponsor: S205.1 symposium on *Perceptions of Soil in Media and the Arts: Integrating the Soil "Medium" into Current Cultural "Media"*.

Roundtable topics need to be submitted as a Z session ASAP. (J. Heckman wrote and submitted proposal. See copy below)

KNOW YOUR FARMER, KNOW YOUR FOOD: A LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM INITIATIVE FROM THE USDA, Dr. Kathleen Merrigan, USDA Deputy Secretary

a. Name

KNOW YOUR FARMER, KNOW YOUR FOOD: A LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEM INITIATIVE FROM THE USDA, Dr. Kathleen Merrigan, USDA Deputy Secretary

b. Purpose

The USDA initiative "Know Your Farmer, Know Your Food" compliments an A8 symposium on "Local/Regional Food Systems and Community Food Security: Making the Connection. After a keynote address from Kathleen Merrigan (or alternate official), COSA members would conduct its traditional roundtable discussions and report outcome to the main audience.

c. Length

An evening program that would run from about 6:00 to 8:30pm.

d. Outline

Program would highlight local organic and sustainable food from California and open bar followed by keynote presentation and roundtable discussion.

e. Description and size of audience

Anticipate a broad audience cutting across all divisions of ASA, CSA, and SSSA. Expected attendance = 200.

f. Preferred date and time

Nov 1, 2010. Monday evening is the traditional time for COSA Roundtable.

g. Co-sponsors

Committee on Organic and Sustainable Agriculture (COSA)

(Chair: Joseph Heckman, heckman@aesop.rutgers.edu)

A8 Division Chair, Kathleen Delate, kdelate@iastate.edu

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i. Detailed budget for session

Travel, lodging and per diem for invited speaker: \$1000.

Food for roundtable event: \$2000.

Total Request: \$3000.