

MINUTES
CANADIAN SOCIETY OF ANIMAL SCIENCE
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
Tuesday July 14, 2009
Montreal, QC

1. CALL TO ORDER.

The Annual General Meeting of the CSAS was called to order by the CSAS president Johanne Chiquette at 12:40 pm on Tuesday July 14, 2009.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA (Johanne Chiquette).

No modification or additions to the agenda were proposed.

M/S/C: Johanne Chiquette/Chantal Farmer/All

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE 2008 AGM HELD IN GUELPH (August 13, 2008)

No changes to these minutes were suggested.

M/S/C: Johanne Chiquette/Shannon Scott/All

4. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES.

CSAS major Awards:

At the last CSAS AGM meeting (Guelph, 2008) it has been suggested to change the name of the “Technical Innovation and Production of Safe and Affordable Food”, as it is unclear what this title really means! Moreover, it was suggested to split the Award for “Excellence in Nutrition and Meat Science” into two – one for “Nutrition” and the other for “Meat Science”

No changes were made to these Awards names. Given the low number of nominees that we are receiving each year for these Major Awards, a suggestion was made to rather reduce the number of Awards to 3 (bronze, silver and gold). CSAS membership and companies will be consulted to see if they agree to have fewer Awards.

Undergraduate Awards:

This award was given to students of 8 universities in the fall of 2008. Starting from this year (2009), this award consisting of a framed plaque, one year subscription to CJAS and one year CSAS membership will be enriched with a \$100 cheque.

5. SECRETARY-TREASURER AND AUDITORS’ REPORT (MF Palin):

The financial report for 2008 shows that during that year total assets increased from \$157,997 to

\$187,970, total liabilities and equity increased from \$157,994 to \$187,969, total revenue decreased from \$29,182 to \$28,676, total expenses decreased from \$23,617 to \$23,170. The net income for the period decreased from \$5,565 to \$5,506.

The decrease in revenue was mainly due to a decrease in membership fees collected in 2008 (330 members, total of \$21,346). This has been a continuing trend during recent years.

The decrease in total expenses was mainly due to a lower payment for the World Association of Animal Production (WAAP) when compared with 2007 and a decrease in bank charges for that period.

The assets include the Toole-Sackville Conference Reserve. This reserve increased from \$89,670 to \$111,831 during 2008. This increase was mainly due to the transfer of surpluses of the 2006 and 2007 annual conferences in Halifax and Winnipeg in the amount of \$11,562 and \$10,000, respectively.

The 2008 annual conference (in Guelph) also made a surplus of \$5060.21, which will be transferred to the Society (Toole-Sackville Conference Reserve) in 2009.

The Balance Sheet of the Canadian Society of Animal Science, as of December 31, 2008, and the Statement of Income and Expenses for the year have been audited. Special thanks to Drs Shannon Scott and Alan Iwaasa, who performed the 2008 financial review.

M/S/C: Marie-France Palin/Julie Small/All

6. PROPOSED ACTONS WITH CSAS SURPLUSES (MF Palin):

In order to get higher interest income from our accounts, money will be transferred from the BPRS accounts to GIC, which will give higher interest rates.

We have to keep in mind that the society requires a substantial amount in the Toole-Sackville Fund, as due to the freedom of local organizers of the annual conference, deficits are possible. It has been suggested that balance in the Toole-Sackville Fund should at least be \$50,000.

At the last mid-year executive meeting (Orford, Feb. 21 2009), members of the executive have agreed to use 50% of the Conference surpluses to be redistributed among memberships. The other 50% would be deposited in the Toole-Sackville Conference Reserve. It was also decided that 50% of the surpluses made at an Annual Conference would be redistributed two years later (Eg. surpluses of the 2008 conference would be distributed in 2010).

Different suggestions were made on ways to redistribute Conferences surpluses among memberships. These suggestions are:

- ✓ Student scholarships paying parts of the travel expenses of students presenting results at the Annual CSAS conference. This could be implemented through the On-Line Conference registration page of the CSAS website. This could be implemented for the 2010 Conference. For this option, we need a committee to select the scholarship recipients.
- ✓ To pay for speakers invited to present at the CSAS Conference Symposia (Travel-2 nights-meals for 2 days-registration)

- ✓ Reducing the cost of the Annual CSAS Conference Banquet.
- ✓ To reduce the cost of registration to the Annual CSAS Conference.
- ✓ Leave it to the CSAS Executive members to decide what they will do with these surpluses.
- ✓ To pay for the lunch boxes, which are distributed at the AGM.
- ✓ To cover publication fees for review papers in CJAS.
- ✓ Free membership for students (new suggestion from AGM)

The whole membership will be consulted on these suggestions by E-mail.

7. APPOINTMENT FOR AUDITORS FOR 2009 (Johanne Chiquette):

Johanne Chiquette asked for volunteers to perform the 2009 CSAS financial review. Special thanks to Drs Shannon Scott and Gaëtan Tremblay, who accepted this task.

8. REPORTS.

a. Canadian Journal of Animal Science (Chantal Farmer)

Editorial Board:

Volume 88 (2008) was produced by an Editorial Board of 22 Associate Editors and Chantal Farmer as Editor-in-chief. Four Associate Editors completed their first terms in December 2008 and were appointed to a second 3-year mandate. Four Associate Editors finished their second mandate and were replaced. Three of these positions were filled by incoming Associate Editors in January 2009, namely, L. Adeola (Non-Ruminant Nutrition), M. Oba (Ruminant Nutrition) and J.E. Santos (Ruminant Nutrition). The position of L. Goonewardene, who acted as statistical consultant, was not refilled but instead a list of five people who agreed to act as statistical consultants was provided to all Associate Editors, these are R. Cue, S. Méthot, A. Shah, R. Tempelman and Z. Wang. S. Moore also announced that he would be unable to finish the last year of his second mandate and C. Ernst filled his position in Cellular and Molecular Biology as of March 2009.

Papers published in CJAS: The greatest number of published manuscripts was in the area of Ruminant Nutrition (28), followed by Non-Ruminant Nutrition (14), Physiology and Endocrinology (12), and Welfare, Behaviour and Management (10). Five reviews were published compared to none in 2007 and numerous articles were submitted to the Cellular and Molecular Biology section, yet acceptance rate was low largely due to the fact that many were from foreign countries. Overall, there was an increase in both total number of published papers (79) and total number of pages published (753) compared to the 3 previous years (i.e. 2008 vs 2005 to 2007).

Submitted manuscripts: The number of submitted manuscripts (130) decreased from the 151 seen in 2007 but is comparable to what was seen in 2006 (135) and exceeds the submission rate of 2005 (92). This decrease was seen only for full manuscripts but not for short communications.

Time for review process: The average time taken for the whole review process of manuscripts has been steadily decreasing over the past 4 years. Indeed, it took 136 days in 2008 compared to 171 days in 2007 and 220 days in 2005 for the review process of full papers.

Editorial board meetings follow-ups: The editorial board of CJAS held one conference call in

April 2008 and will be holding its first “in-person” meeting in three years, at the Montreal CSAS/ASAS annual meeting. The Editor-in-chief is still doing a regular follow-up every 6 weeks on all manuscripts for which the review process has been ongoing for over 5 months.

The Scientific Journal Committee (SJC) committee held its annual meeting in November 2008 in Ottawa and some important follow-ups are:

- ✓ The first memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the 3 AIC Scientific Journals and AIC was signed in 2008. This ensures that the journals could go on in the event that AIC would cease to function because of lack of funds. However, at present there are no signs that this would be the case. This MOU will have to be re-signed each year by the CSAS president and AIC.
- ✓ An updated/improved version of OSPREY was made available in March 2009.
- ✓ All CJAS back issues will be scanned this year; this is a great achievement for which the SCJ has worked really hard.
- ✓ A new platform was developed for the web pages of the 3 AIC journals and is now available. It includes a search engine as well as the possibility to get back issues (all of them will be available some time this fall). Papers “In Press” will also be available starting with the September issue of CJAS. This will now put CJAS on the same wavelength as other scientific journals...

M/S/C: Chantal Farmer/Robert Berthiaume/All.

b. Ghana/CSAS project (Frederick Obese/Shannon Scott)

The CSAS-Ghana Partnership Project Annual Report (April 2008-March 2009) was presented to CSAS members attending the AGM. A poster was also presented, showing the different projects.

Phase 2 of this project has been in operation for about 3 years. The project continues to focus on strengthening the capacity of the Ghana Society of Animal Production (GSAP) to enable it to undertake social development activities as well as mobilizing and empowering women’s groups to access information on sustainable technologies to enhance the shea nut-livestock production system.

Among the major activities of the year we can find:

- ✓ Increase in the number of women’s groups from 14 to 25; bringing the total number of women benefiting directly from the project to 350.
- ✓ Gender issues have been mainstreamed into all activities. The project provided financial assistance to 10 female final year students majoring in Animal Science and has also set up a mentoring program for females in most of the tertiary institution.
- ✓ The project has received £2,500 from the Orskov Foundation to assist women in sheep production.
- ✓ Community awareness on the effects of bush fires on the environment and on HIV/AIDS and common communicable diseases continue to increase.
- ✓ A total of 973 students have so far benefited from workshops on scientific writing and presentations sponsored by the project.
- ✓ Livestock feed packages based on shea nut cake and legume forages have been introduced in all project communities.

At the community level, two of the most important outcomes of this collaboration with GSAP have been the increased number of small ruminants owned by women and the corresponding increase in their income.

In December 2008, the Animal Research Institute of the Centre for Scientific and Industrial Research in Ghana, in collaboration with GSAP, invited and hosted the Canadian coordinator Dr. John Baah and 3 members of the CSAS (Drs. Zahir Mir, Priya Mir and Surya Acharya). Several seminars were delivered on various topics such as forage breeding and ruminant livestock products with altered fatty acid composition. Modalities for setting up international collaborations with Canada for agriculture research were also discussed.

The GSAP signed a memorandum of understanding with Bridges of Hope (BOH) International Network of Development Agencies Inc. in December 2008 under which BOH will continue to provide micro credit facilities to the project as well as to support activities targeted at alleviating poverty in the project areas. CSAS members interested in making donations to the project can do it through the BOH website (www.bridgesofhope.ca), where they can specify that the donations are for the CSAS-GSAP micro credit project. Tax deductible receipts will be issued for all donations.

Special thanks to the Canadian International Development Agency for their continued financial assistance and to AIC for their facilitating role. Members are encouraged to visit the project website at http://www.csas.net/nav_aic.htm for additional information on the project as well as the AIC website <http://www.aic.ca/international/index.cfm> for information on the international programs of the AIC.

M/S/C: Shannon Scott/Marie-France Palin/All.

c. President-Elect/Conference coordinator (Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein).

CSAS Conference in Montreal:

The president-elect has been in regular contact with the organizers of the 2009 annual joint meeting (Montreal conference).

Approved sponsorship for the CSAS banquet, business luncheon and symposia total \$28,250.00. Companies were less interested in providing funding this year which we assume has something to do with the global financial situation. It was because of this that CSAS was requested to support the CSAS symposia speakers for a total amount of \$8000.00 which was confirmed in April by the CSAS executive. With this funding the organizing committee expects to break even and be in a positive financial scenario.

Graduate students oral presentations were scheduled for Monday July 13th. The issue of non-CSAS executive members judging graduate student presentations was discussed and it was decided that only CSAS executive take part in the judging.

The CSAS Awards Banquet will be on Wed July 15th at \$60 per person. The results of the Graduate Student competition and annual CSAS major Awards will be presented during the Banquet.

The CJAS board meeting will be held Tuesday July 14th. Karen will attend this meeting as the liaison between CSAS and CJAS.

Upcoming CSAS Conferences locations: Discussions are currently being held regarding conference locations and venues for 2010-2012. See details in the «Other Business» section (below).

CSAS T-shirts: An agreement was made on the fabrication of T-Shirts (with CSAS logo) to promote the Canadian Society of Animal Science and to develop a feeling of belonging among members of the Society. Distribution of these T-Shirts (at \$20 each) will take place at the CSAS Banquet, to be held in Montreal.

M/S/C/Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein/Johanne Chiquette/All

d. Vice-president/Web master (Robert Berthiaume).

Since the mid-year meeting, in February, updates for the details of CSAS 2009 annual meeting in Montreal were added to the website. The web site has also been updated to include this year's nominees to the CSAS executive.

The link page has been updated to include the Exotic Animal Medicine for the Clinical Practitioner, Presented by the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians in Tulsa, Oklahoma (October 24-25, 2009).

We have had an additional 4 job postings placed on our website since February making the total postings for the year 19. Job postings are now systematically removed from the website after the deadline.

A number of messages concerning Awards nominations and other subjects were sent to membership.

Providing French versions of web documents:

Discussions and enquiries were made regarding the need of providing French versions of web documents; at this time none of the documents have been translated into French. The Canadian Meat Science Association uses Agriculture Canada personnel working in translation services whereas the Canadian Society of Bio Engineering uses a translation tool (Google). The quality of this translation is not very good. However, the AAFC solution would require that an AAFC employee submit the documents for translation.

It was suggested that this should be discussed and voted on by the CSAS members.

Special thanks to Frances Rodenburg from AIC for excellent service.

M/S/C/Robert Berthiaume/Julie Small/All

e. Membership (Ermias Kebreab).

Membership renewal: In October 2008, a 2009 Renewal Notice was sent to members that paid membership dues in 2007 and 2008. A further reminder was sent in December 2008 to encourage members that have not paid their dues to do so as soon as they can. In March 2009, a second notice from AIC was sent to potential members.

The list of CSAS members was checked to identify those who did not renew their membership. All of them (115 members) were contacted and most of them (56%) responded positively. The membership committee targeted international members, students and post-docs to encourage them to join the Society.

Membership profile summary: The society currently has 385 members (compared to 382 members last year and 345 the year before). Of these, 1 paid for 2010, 334 paid for 2009 (or are life members), and 50 last paid for 2008. There were 52 new members who joined in 2009 and 6 restarts.

Future activities:

- More efforts to recruit new national and international members and retain current members.
- Encourage students, post-docs, provincial employees and the industry to join the Society.
- Long-term impact by the members would be achieved by supporting the CSAS annual meeting (with contributed papers). A strong CSAS meeting is the best opportunity to encourage students and colleagues to join the Society.

M/S/C/Ermias Kebreab/Johanne Chiquette/All

f. Honours and Awards (Luigi Faucitano).

Graduate student competition: The abstracts for graduate students oral and poster competitions (Montreal Conference) were evaluated by the Awards Committee members (Luigi Faucitano, Ermias Kebreab and Marina Von Keyserlingk) with the help of Johanne Chiquette. All abstracts were accepted, except one for the poster competition. There will be 22 oral presentations and 19 poster presentations that will be judged by members of the Awards Committee with the help of Karen Schwartzkopf-Genswein.

Oral presentations are scheduled for the entire day of July 13th and will be made separately from the other presentations. The posters were divided into two groups and will be displayed over two consecutive days. Sponsors for these awards are Pfizer Animal Health (oral presentations) and CSAS (poster presentations).

CSAS Major Awards: The series of reminders to CSAS members and extension of the deadline by 2 weeks resulted in a higher number of nominees for the different awards compared to 2008. The proposed nominees for each award were distributed as follows: CSAS Fellowship Award: 2; Excellence in Nutrition and Meat Science: 6; Technical Innovation and Production of Safe Affordable Food: 3; CSAS Animal Industries Award in Extension and Public Service: 5 (ruminants) and 2 (non-ruminants); Young Scientist: 3.

Questions were raised about keeping the same number of major awards given the low number of nominees that we are receiving each year. Suggestion was made to have 3 awards (bronze, silver and gold). CSAS membership and companies will be consulted to see if they agree to have fewer Awards.

To increase the number of nominees for the Young Scientist Award, executive members all agreed to increase the number of years from the obtaining of Ph.D. to 10 years. This will have to be modified on the CSAS Website: To change «Nominees must have obtained their Ph.D. in the last 7 years» to «Nominees must have obtained their Ph.D. in the last 10 years»

Honorary Life Membership: AIC sent a list of 14 retired members from which to choose the 2009 Honorary Life Membership recipient. Due to lack of time, the recipient has been chosen after consultation with Johanne Chiquette, president of the CSAS executive committee.

M/S/C/Luigi Faucitano/Julie Small/All

Johanne thanks Ermias Kebreab and Luigi Faucitano for their dedication to CSAS and their excellent work as Membership Chair and Awards Chair, respectively.

g. Nominating committee (Johanne Chiquette for Priya Mir).

The Nominating Committee for 2008-2009 consisted of Priya S. Mir (Chair and Past-President), Mike Dugan and Tim McAllister (both were presidents in previous years).

Biographies were posted in April on the CSAS website and ballots were mailed to all members. A total of 87 ballots were returned and all were counted by Brian Freeze and Priya S. Mir. The competition was extremely close and all candidates did very well.

The new members of the 2009-2010 CSAS Executive are:

Vice President: Julie Robinson Small

Western Director: Alan Iwaasa

Eastern Director: Kendall Swanson

Director at Large: Paul Groenewegen.

Acknowledgement was made to those who nominated their colleagues for these positions. The nominees that were not elected are thanked for their willingness to serve the Society.

M/S/C/Johanne Chiquette/Shannon Scott/All

9. APPOINTMENT OF NOMINATING COMMITTEE FOR 2009.

Johanne Chiquette asked for volunteers to serve on the next 2009 CSAS Nominating Committee. Special thanks to Drs Kim Ominski and Bart Lardner who accepted this task.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

A) Involvement of CSAS with the World Association of Animal Production (WAAP):

Johanne Chiquette contacted Priya Mir (Past President) to discuss the pertinence for CSAS to be a member of the WAAP.

Dr. Priya Mir provided the following information about the WAAP:

«The World Association of Animal Production (WAAP) is an organization of animal science societies from around the world. The membership fees are about \$500/year and payable from CSAS funds. The association is sponsored by FAO. The member societies are in four blocks: the North America, the South America and Africa, Asia and Australia and the Europe blocks. A member from each block is represented on the executive of the WAAP. The WAAP produces a book on livestock science issues each year which has valuable data about livestock agriculture from different parts of the world. Every four years they hold a conference and along with either the European (EAAP) or American (ASAS or ADSA) meetings the executive meeting of the WAAP is convened. It is a

valuable organization to belong to. We have participated since its inception and it is a great opportunity to meet researchers from different parts of the world when they have their conference. The plenary and symposium lectures are wide and debate many world affecting topics (Eg. Effects of genetic manipulation on diversity. Effect on the gene pool). The last conference was in Cape Town, South Africa and the next one will be in 2012 in Beijing. There was no competing bid thus it was an easy decision. In 1993 the WAAP met in Edmonton AB. Canada.»

Executive members all agreed that CSAS should remain a member of the WAAP. Moreover, it was decided that a written report should be made by CSAS executive members who will attend upcoming World Conference on Animal Production (WCAP).

B) Upcoming CSAS annual conferences:

The 2010 Annual Meeting:

The Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA) has shown a great interest for a Joint Meeting with CSAS next year (2010) in Saskatoon. The CSA are planning to hold a Joint Annual Meeting with the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS), in June 20-24, 2010 at the University of Saskatchewan. Unfortunately, after consultation, it was not possible to find CSAS members available to act as local organizers for that Joint Meeting. Given the short delay for organizing next year CSAS Annual Meeting, a proposition was made to joint with ASAS in Denver, next year. Members of the executive committee will meet with ASAS Board members to see if this is possible.

The 2011 Annual Meeting:

A proposal for a joint meeting between the CSAS and the Canadian Meat Science Association (CMSA) in 2011 has been presented to the CMSA executive committee by Luigi Faucitano. The proposal has been well received. Moreover, Luigi Faucitano and officers of the CSAS executive had a conference call with Heather Bruce, the president of the CMSA executive committee, to discuss further about this proposal of joint meeting. This joint meeting would include the CSAS, CMSA and the Canadian Meat Council (CMC). The location of this Joint Annual Meeting remains to be decided. The CMSA/CMC holds their annual meeting in May, whereas the CSAS meeting is usually in July or August. The executive committee agreed on having the CSAS annual Meeting (joint Meeting with CMSA/CMC) in May 2011.

The 2012 Annual Meeting:

Johanne Chiquette contacted the President of ASAS. She was told that the ASAS 2012 Conference is already secure but that they are willing to discuss the possibility for future Joint Meetings with CSAS. The ASAS usually plan meetings four years in advance and locations for the next four years are: 2010 Denver; 2011 New Orleans; 2012 Phoenix and 2013 Indy. ASAS manifested their preference to have a joint meeting with CSAS when they are located in the northern part of the US or in Canada. ASAS Board members will meet with CSAS executive members (in Montreal) to discuss possibilities for joint meetings in the future (dates, venues, conditions).

Comments were made by executive members that CSAS meetings located in Canada are more accessible to CSAS members and that there is a risk of loosing our own identity if we join with ASAS and ADSA on a regular basis. It was suggested to consult the whole CSAS membership on

how often we should go with the Americans (every year, every two years or more).

11. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 14:05 pm

M/S/C: Johanne Chiquette/ Kendall Swanson/All.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie-France Palin, Secretary/Treasurer CSAS
November 30, 2009