

2023 Southern Section Business Meeting Minutes

January 23, 2023

The 2023 American Society of Animal Science Southern Section Business Meeting was called to order at 5:45 PM Eastern Time on Monday, January 23, 2023 at the Hilton Raleigh North Hills in Raleigh, NC by President Daniel Poole.

Daniel Poole recognized the meeting sponsors and thanked them for their continued support of the section. Sponsors included: North Carolina Biotechnology Center, Elanco, University of Florida, ASAS Foundation, Randel Appreciation Club, North Carolina State University, University of Tennessee, Texas A&M University, University of Arkansas, Texas Tech University, Auburn University, Oklahoma State University, Noble Research Institute, Zinpro, Alliance for Grassland Renewal, Tuskegee University, and Merck Animal Health (17 total sponsors).

Next, Daniel Poole recognized Past Presidents of the Southern Section and National ASAS. The National ASAS staff were also recognized and thanked for their support of the Southern Section and success of the 2023 meeting.

Todd See (Department Head, North Carolina State University) gave the 'Welcome to North Carolina' overview. He gave an overview of the major commodities in North Carolina, and discussed the various focuses of North Carolina State University.

Teresa Davis, ASAS President, provided an update from National ASAS Board, where she highlighted the top 10 accomplishments of the organization in the last year. These included successful transition through the pandemic and increasing membership numbers, reinvigorated ASAS Foundation and giving efforts, revamping of membership communications, and journal advances and successes.

Daniel Poole next gave an update on the Southern Section. He highlighted new aspects of the 2023 Southern Section meeting and shared that approximately 30% of the meeting expenses were covered by our Sponsors.

Christy Bratcher (Southern Section Director to the National Board) provided an update. She shared that across the COVID-19 pandemic, ASAS reserves increased by \$250,000. Additionally, ASAS is initiating strategic planning sessions at the national level with all sections involved and working collaboratively.

Audrey Earnhardt and Maggie Justice (Graduate Student Directors; Texas A&M and Auburn University, respectively) gave an overview of the 2023 Southern Section Lunch and Learn. The speakers were Dr. Harmon, Dr. Hucheson and Dr. See, and there were 67 students registered. Additionally, approximately 80 students attended the Sunday night Meet and Greet. The incoming Graduate Student Director is Dallas Soffa (Texas A&M).

Joao Vendramini reviewed the 2022 ASAS Southern Section Business Meeting Minutes. A motion was made by Reinaldo Cooke to approve the minutes and seconded by Courtney Daigle. The motion passed unanimously. Vendramini also reviewed the financial report. In 2021, Southern Section increased net asset by \$1,601 for a reserve of \$32,051 (audited). In 2022, the Southern Section had an increase in net assets of \$2,500 (unaudited). The projected reserve for 2022 is estimated at approximately \$34,000.

Joao Vendramini gave the 2023 ASAS Southern Section Program Update and reviewed registration numbers. Registration total was 322 (up 77 from 2022) and there were 196 abstracts presented at the meeting (up 53 from 2022). This made the 2023 meeting the 2nd largest meeting in recent history.

Brandon Smith provided the Undergraduate 3MT competition update. There were 9 competitors. Winners were: 1) Katherine Parsley, University of Kentucky, 2) Emily Callender, Mississippi State University, and 3) Javin Davis, Virginia State University.

Rebecca Poole provided an update on the Graduate 3MT competition. For the master's competition winners were: 1) Molly Smith, Texas A&M University, 2) Cheyenne Mason, Tarleton State University, and 3) Brooke McAnally, Texas A&M University. For the PhD competition winners were: 1) Eduardo Colombo, Texas A&M University, 2) Rachel Scott, University of Arkansas, and 3) Shea Mackey, Texas A&M University.

Brandon Smith provided an update on the Academic Quadrathlon. There were 13 teams that participated in the regional competition (Auburn, Virginia Tech, NC State, University of Arkansas, Mississippi State, University of Mount Olive, Louisiana State, Oklahoma State, Tuskegee, Texas Tech, University of Florida, Texas A&M and University of Tennessee – Knoxville). North Carolina State University hosted the practicum. The committee thanked Carrie Pickworth for organizing the 2023 contest. The winners of the contest were: 1) Texas A&M University, 2) North Carolina State University, and 3) Texas Tech University.

Paul Beck gave the Necrology report for the section. The following Animal Scientists were recognized:

Richard Miles	University of Florida
Tony Oltenacu	University of Florida
Curtis Richardson	Oklahoma State University
C. Oran Little	University of Kentucky

Deidra Harmon provided the Extension Committee report. There were 38 attendees at the Extension Breakfast, which was sponsored by the Alliance for Grassland Renewal. The committee plans to continue their webinar series to train agents in the southern area. They have hosted 4 webinars with 105 participants. There were 6 abstracts presented in the Extension section, which was a decrease from previous years. The new chair is Vitor Mercadante (Virginia Tech).

There was no old business to discuss.

Kim Mullenix recognized and thanked the outgoing board for their service to the section which included Justin Rhinehart (Past President) and Audrey Earnhardt (Graduate Director). The current slate of officers were introduced:

President: Kim Mullenix, Auburn University

President-Elect: Joao Vendramini, University of Florida

Past-Present: Daniel Poole, North Carolina State University

Secretary-Treasurer/Program Chair: Nicole Burdick Sanchez, USDA-ARS, Lubbock, TX

Secretary-Treasurer Elect: Vitor Mercadante, Virginia Tech

Southern Section Director: Christy Bratcher, Texas Tech University

Graduate Director: Maggie Justice, Auburn University

Graduate Director: Dallas Soffa, Texas A&M University

Daniel Poole transferred the gavel to Kim Mullenix, who made a call for discussion of new business. No new business was presented.

Nicole Burdick Sanchez gave an update on future meeting sites and dates. The 2024 meeting will be held in Louisville, KY at the Omni Hotel from Jan. 28-30, 2024. Site selections for the 2025 and 2026 meetings are under discussion.

Kim Mullenix called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was made by Justin Rhinehart and seconded by Daniel Poole. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm. The business meeting was followed by the awards banquet in the hotel.