

**Minutes**  
**Southern Section, American Society of Animal Science**  
**Annual Business Meeting**  
**Atlanta, GA**  
**February 2, 2009**

*Copies of the minutes of the 2008 Dallas, TX meeting, the 2008 pre-audit financial report, and biographies of the 2009 award winners were made available to attendees upon arrival to the meeting room.*

The annual business meeting of the Southern Section of ASAS was held in Atlanta Ballroom H of the Westin Peachtree Plaza starting at 5:10 pm on Monday, February 2 with Dr. Elizabeth Kegley, President, presiding.

The following items of business were transacted:

- 1. Call to order.** President Beth Kegley called the business meeting to order at 5:10 pm. She welcomed everyone to the 2009 Southern Section Meeting and recognized the current SS-ASAS officers (Chad Chase, past president; David Morrison, president-elect; Matt Poore, Secretary-Treasurer; Tom Welsh, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer Elect) and the program chairs. She then introduced Dr. Robert Stewart who was representing the University of Georgia for a local welcome.
  
- 2. Welcome to Georgia.** Dr. Robert Stewart from the Department of Animal Science at UGA (on behalf of the dept head ) welcomed the attendees to Georgia and encouraged everyone to do all they could to help stimulate the local economy during their stay. He described Georgia as being composed of two entities, 1) Atlanta and 2) the rest of the state. He indicated that Georgia has a very large agricultural economy, generating 8.5 billion in economic activity in 2007. In regards to animal agriculture, he indicated poultry was responsible for ½ of animal agricultural receipts, with much of the beef industry dependant on the poultry industry for their pasture fertilization program. This makes them complementary enterprises. He also indicated that Georgia has strength in both beef and dairy (each in the top 10 nationally). He also indicated that the equine industry is strong and growing in the state and that traditional animal science programs are now embracing the equine industry due to their growing numbers and economic impact. He discussed issues facing animal agriculture and animal science including high input costs, departmental budgets, etc., but indicated that UGA had a number of new facilities (a new arena, new beef cattle farm, etc.) because of their strong stakeholder support. He discussed Animal Science enrollment trends at UGA with increasing undergraduate enrollment, but changes in the demographics of incoming students away from traditional farm commodity interests and towards the pre-vet program, companion animals, recreational animals, etc. He also indicated that the Department of Animal Science at UGA had a stable and strong graduate training program.
  
- 3. Introduction of Past Presidents.** Dr. Kegley introduced the past presidents that were attending the meeting. They included Joe Fontenot, Tom Troxel, Chad Chase, Debra Aaron,

Don Ely, Ron Randel, and Bob Wettemann. Dr. Kegley then introduced Joe Fontenot as a national past president.

**4. Comments from ASAS President.** Dr. Kegley introduced Dr. Bob Wettemann, the current national president of ASAS. Dr. Wettemann indicated that it had been a good year for ASAS since the Centennial Meeting in Indianapolis. He indicated that we are in a great position being recognized as the #1 animal society in the world. He credited our many accomplishments to the fine staff and a strong strategic plan. Agreements and joint activities with other international (including Mexican, Canadian, and European) societies has been very good for our networking in international issues. The 2009 national meeting will be in Montreal, Canada and is a joint conference between ASAS, CSAS, and ADSA.

Dr. Wettemann indicated that membership is still down 6% from where it was in the early 2000s but that it was up 2% this year. Strategies that have been explored to strengthen ASAS have been to explore new species for comparative studies, enhancing international membership, and deciding to hire a full-time FASS Policy Director located in Washington for a critical role in representing the interests of Animal Science, Dairy Science, and Poultry Science (the job description for this important position is being worked on now).

Now the President of ASAS has the opportunity to write the annual action plan for the society. This year that plan includes the creation of a Public Policy Committee of the Board of Directors to hire the new Policy Director. There also is a new initiative in the action plan to develop a "sectional" meeting in the Pacific Rim, with this year's meeting in Beijing, China. This new endeavor will improve recruiting, bring in revenue and enhance the international reach of ASAS in Asia where there is great interest in Animal Science as well as many potential members. There also is a focus on increasing involvement of more young members in the business of the society. Dr. Wettemann encouraged young members to volunteer for program committees, and also encouraged the continued support from advisors for graduate students wishing to be active in ASAS.

Dr. Wettemann indicated that Dr. Steve Zinn is the new editor-in-chief for the Journal of Animal Science. Dr. Zinn is very concerned about the time it takes from submission to publication and is working on shortening that time.

Dr. Wettemann indicated there was a new international travel award (\$2500) for students or early career professionals (10 years or less after graduation) funded by the Wilson Pond Appreciation Club. He encouraged young members to apply for this travel award.

Dr. Wettemann also indicated that ASAS was designing a new website to improve the flow and appearance. He announced that the Southern Section Executive Committee had voted to change the Southern Section web site to match the national and that that process would be complete in several months.

Dr. Wettemann encouraged all to attend the meeting in Montreal. He stressed that passports were needed to travel to and from Canada, and that the time was short to get a passport if members don't have one. He encouraged everyone to review their passport to make sure it

would be valid at the time of the Montreal meeting. He indicated there now would be an option for on-site loading of presentations, but still encouraged presenters to submit their presentations electronically. He also indicated that upcoming meetings would be as follows: 2010, Denver; 2011, New Orleans; 2012, Phoenix; 2013, Indianapolis.

**5. Program Secretary/Treasurer's Report.** The report was given by the Secretary-Treasurer and Program Chair, Dr. Matt Poore. Dr. Poore indicated that the 2009 Southern-Section Meeting was a very diverse and strong program. He thanked the section chairs (Mike Brown, Les Anderson, Gregg Rentfrow, Stacy Gunter, Jeff Carroll, Gordon Carstens, Richard Browning, Don Mulvaney, Ken Coffey) and their committees, and the staff at National Headquarters including Paula Schultz and Loiose Audrith for all their help in organizing the program. He also thanked the University of Georgia for hosting the Academic Quadrathlon with the lab practicum and written exam portion being held at Athens, and the oral presentation and quiz bowl being held at Atlanta.

Dr. Poore pointed out the "extra" activities held in conjunction with the SS-ASAS meeting that help enhance the experience for attendees. These include the three "information exchange groups" which include; the Beef Cattle/Forage group (formerly SERA-36), SCC-72 Enhancing Reproductive Efficiency, and SCC-81 Sustainable Small Ruminant Production, and the Small Ruminant Committee of the National Animal Germplasm Preservation Program. In addition he pointed out that there was a special extension reception on Monday night, and a retirement reception Monday night for Dr. Gary Hill included in the official program. He encouraged individuals or groups planning special activities such as these to communicate with the Program Chair early so the events can be publicized in the printed program.

In reporting about the scientific program, Dr. Poore indicated that there was a break from the tradition of having only one session on Monday morning (the Graduate Student Competition). This was to help reduce subject matter conflicts during the remaining meeting time, and to give attendees a choice on what to attend Monday morning. The Extension and Ruminant Animal Production committees organized a symposium focused on the efficiency of beef production that was very well attended, and the Undergraduate Education committee also organized a symposium. All three sessions were well attended and the general feedback was that this was a good direction, and that the additional sessions did not detract from the Graduate Student Competition.

In all, there were 124 submitted abstracts and 9 invited papers presented. There was also one facilitated discussion session organized by the Extension Committee. This was a small decrease from the previous meeting in Dallas (142 submitted and 4 invited) but still made it the second most number of papers in the last 8 years. Of the submitted papers there were 2 in teaching and undergraduate education, 8 in the graduate student competition, 11 in the undergraduate competition, 12 in breeding and genetics, 20 in physiology, 8 in meat science, 16 in extension, 18 small ruminant animal production, 15 ruminant animal production, and 14 pastures and forages.

Total registration at the time of the business meeting was 137 professional, 55 graduate student, and 44 undergraduate student for a total of 236 (by the end of the registration on Feb 3 the total

was 140 professional, 58 graduate students, and 44 undergraduate students for a total of 242, compared to 167 professional, 63 graduate student, and 60 undergraduate for a total of 290 at Dallas in 2008).

Dr. Poore asked for a motion to approve the minutes from the 2008 meetings. The motion was made and seconded, and the minutes were approved as submitted. Dr. Poore then asked the attendees to look at the pre-audit financial report and asked for a motion to approve that. The motion was made and seconded, and the financial statement was approved without further discussion.

**6. Academic Quadrathlon Report.** Dr. Charlie Rosenkrans, Chair of the 2009 AQ Committee, gave the report. Seven teams competed this year including Auburn University, University of Georgia, Mississippi State University, North Carolina State University, Virginia Tech, University of Kentucky, and University of Tennessee. This was down from 11 teams in 2008. Timing of the national Block and Bridle Convention (being in Texas later in February) was thought to be the reason several teams did not compete this year.

The results were as follows:

Lab Practicum. #3 University of Kentucky, #2 Auburn University, and #1 University of Georgia.

Written Exam. #3 University of Kentucky, #2 University of Georgia, and #1 University of Tennessee.

Oral Presentation: #3 University of Kentucky, #2 University of Tennessee, and #1 Virginia Tech.

Quiz Bowl. #3 University of Tennessee, #2 Auburn University, #1 University of Georgia.

Overall. #3 University of Kentucky, #2 University of Tennessee, and #1 University of Georgia.

Dr. Rozenkrans congratulated all the participants and encouraged the various institutions in the southern region to continue to support and participate in the Academic Quadrathlon.

**7. Extension Report.** Dr. Les Anderson, Chair of the 2009 Extension Committee, gave the report. He indicated there was a very strong turnout for the joint symposium Monday morning and encouraged the membership to support the concept of having more than one session Monday morning. He indicated that at the facilitated discussion that was a follow up to the symposium, a plan had been developed for a multi-state webinar to be conducted to communicate about the important issues raised at the Symposium. He suggested that this would occur by April. He indicated that there again was a strong showing of the southern extension group at the meeting, and he thanked the International Brangus Breeders Association for sponsoring both the Extension Reception and Dinner held right after the business meeting, and the Extension Luncheon on Tuesday.

**8. Necrology report.** The report was given by Dr. Tom Troxel, Chair of the 2009 Necrology Committee. He indicated that the following names of colleagues who had passed since the last meeting had been submitted: Walter E. Neville of Georgia, John D. Smalling of Tennessee, and Horace R. Thomas of Virginia. No other names were brought forth by the attendees.

**9. Resolution Committee.** Dr. Debra Aarons, Chair of the 2009 Resolutions Committee presented 4 resolutions for consideration by the membership.

**Resolution No.1. Recognition of the Host of the 2009 Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting and the Southern Regional Academic Quadrathlon.**

**Whereas,** the 2009 Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science Annual Meeting was hosted by the University of Georgia in an outstanding manner, and **Whereas,** the Department of Animal and Dairy Science faculty, staff; and students contributed to the success of the meetings and ensured that participants in The Southern Regional Academic Quadrathlon had an educational and enjoyable experience: **Be it resolved:** that the Secretary of the Southern Section extend an expression of the Society's appreciation to the University of Georgia Department of Animal and Dairy Science faculty, staff, and students for their support and for the professionalism with which they hosted the meeting and academic competition.

**Resolution No.2. Recognition of Chairs of the Various Section Committees.**

**Whereas,** the primary purpose of the gathering of the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science is the exchange of research findings in animal production and philosophies and techniques for the teaching of animal science, and **Whereas,** the chairs of the various committees have played significant and professional roles in the success of the meeting: **Be it resolved:** that the membership express appreciation to the committee chairs for their role in making the meeting a success by a round of applause.

**Resolution No.3. Recognition of Sponsors and Supporters of the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science Professional Awards.**

**Whereas,** recognition of colleagues that have excelled in research, education, and(or) extension is an important part of the Society and sponsorship of awards requires cooperation and financial support from numerous organizations and businesses: **Be it resolved:** that the Secretary of the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science as well as the award recipients and the general membership extend appreciation to these sponsors for their generous support.

**Resolution No.4. Commendation of the Officers of the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science.**

**Whereas**, the officers of the Southern Section of the American Society of the American Society of Animal Science have worked to ensure success of the Southern Section through their leadership and positive attitudes: **Be it resolved:** that the membership of the Southern Section of the Society extend a sincere thank you and express our gratitude to our colleagues by a resounding round of applause.

The Resolutions Committee of the 2009 Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science moved to adopt the resolutions presented. All four resolutions were approved by the attendees by a round of applause.

**10. Nomination Committee and Election Report.** Dr. Ron Randel indicated that Dr. Bob Godfrey from the University of the Virgin Islands, and Dr. Brian Rude from Mississippi State University were candidates for the position of Secretary-Treasurer Elect. He reported that Dr. Bob Godfrey was elected, and introduced Dr. Godfrey to the attendees.

**11. Old Business.** Dr. Kegley discussed two items of old business.

First, the poll on the presentation of posters at the SS-ASAS meeting was discussed. The possibility of presenting posters has been discussed for several years, and last year the decision was made to conduct a poll of the membership to see if poster session(s) should be added to the Southern Section Meetings. There was about a 25% response of the members. Of the respondents, 78% indicated they would want the poster option, 50% said they would present more abstracts if posters were an option, and 60% said they would pay more to attend the meeting if posters were an option. Given the apparent support for the concept from the membership, Dr. Kegley indicated that the executive committee was continuing to consider the concept. It will be important to consider the implications of this on meeting space, cost, logistics, etc. and that posters may or may not be an option for the 2010 meeting in Orlando. There is still concern that the poster option would decrease oral presentations, and concern that we don't know if the respondents to the poll were individuals that regularly attend the southern section meetings. She indicated we would conduct a follow up poll to determine what regular attendees think about the poster option, and that if there is strong support the executive committee will try to further develop and implement the concept.

Second, Dr. Kegley indicated that there would be a new award presented in the Southern Section called the "Emerging Scholar" award. Details of the award will be up on the website when there is a call for award nominations, but briefly it will highlight a PhD student who will give a 30 minute presentation with 15 minutes for questions, and they will be highlighted in the official program. The nomination package will include an abstract of the proposed presentation, and additional supporting materials. The winner will be presented with a \$400 check.



**4. 2009 National Pork Board Innovation Research Award.** Sponsored by the National Pork Board, Des Moines, IA. Presented and chaired by David Morrison

Winner: Dr. Eric VanHeugten, North Carolina State University. Based on Abstract #28: Value of Combustion Ash from Swine Waste as a Phosphorus Supplement in Swine Diets

**5. 2008 Extension Award.** Sponsored by Boehringer Ingelheim, Vetmedica Division, St. Joseph, MO. Presented by Clyde Lane, committee chaired by Roger McGraw.

Winner: Dr. Eric VanHeugten, North Carolina State University.

**6. 2008 Young Animal Scientist – Education award.** Presented by Jerry Spears, committee chaired by Todd See.

Winner: Dr. Gretchen Hilton, Oklahoma State University.

**7. 2008 Young Animal Scientist – Research Award.** Presented and chaired by Clint Kriehbiel.

Winner: Dr. Michael Looper, USDA-ARS, Booneville, AR

**8. 2009 Distinguished Service Award.**

Not presented (no nominees).

**9. Recognition of Service to the Southern Section.**

Dr. Beth Kegley was awarded the President's service plaque for recognition of the dedicated service she has provided as an officer and as the 2008-2009 president of the Southern Section of the American Society of Animal Science.

After the award presentations, Dr. Morrison encouraged all members of the Southern Section to nominate their colleagues that were deserving of one of the awards.

The award program adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Respectively Submitted,

Matt Poore  
2008-2009 Secretary-Treasurer  
Southern Section ASAS