

**Executive Board Meeting  
Tuesday, May 2, 2006  
Conference Call**

**APPROVED**

**Present:** Per Pinstруп-Andersen, Matt Holt, Jill McCluskey, Ron Mittelhammer, Alan Randall, Richard Sexton, Sally Thompson, Laurian Unnevehr

**Ex-officio:** Yvonne C. Bennett, Executive Director, Danny Pick (RAE editor), Stephen Swallow (AJAE editor)

**Guests:** Ericka Eregbu, Terri Haffner, Marilyn Moehlmann

**Absent:** Steven T. Buccola, Bruce McCarl, ex-officio (Choices editor)

Per Pinstруп Andersen called the meeting to order at 11:15 a.m.

**I. Welcome and President's Comments:** Per Pinstруп-Andersen welcomed the Board to the conference call. He said that preparations for the strategic discussion in July are moving ahead at good speed. He would like to talk about the following concerning the Foundation Governance vote: 1) the vote was very close, and a few people who voted against it have been very vocal. He would like to talk about anything the Board can do and 2) the Foundation Endowment Committee will meet in Long Beach at the same time that the Foundation Board usually meets. He also mentioned that some people are hoping for changes in the Fellows procedure (further down in the agenda).

**II. Agenda Review and Approval:**

A discussion of honoring John Kenneth Galbraith at the Long Beach meeting was added to the agenda.

The e-mail vote concerning the Extension Section track needs to be read into the minutes of this meeting.

Consent agenda item C was pulled out of the consent agenda and put right after the consent agenda.

Sally Thompson asked concerning Milwaukee (consent agenda item A1) – did the staff investigate accessibility/airfare to Milwaukee? Yvonne Bennett responded that airlines usually aren't part of the equation, and this far out it would be hard to have a reliable or valid study conducted. She also stated that Milwaukee is serviced by all major airlines and has Midwest Airlines which provides non-stop service to approximately 50 cities across the U.S. The item was left in the consent agenda.

**III. Approve of January 7-8, 2006 Minutes:** Laurian Unnevehr moved to approve the January 7-8, 2006 minutes. Ron Mittelhammer seconded. Motion carried.

**The following January 12, 2006 unanimous e-mail vote was added to the minutes of this meeting:**

"On January 12, 2006 the AAEA Executive Board of Directors reconsidered and unanimously agreed via e-mail vote to approve the Extension Section's track for the 2006 AAEA Annual Meeting as previously submitted. This action was taken at the request of the Extension Section leadership and after providing the AAEA Executive Board additional information for consideration."

**IV. Executive Director Update:** Yvonne Bennett updated the Board on the following items:

**A. Administrative updates.** Membership numbers stand today at 2,190, as compared to 2,251 a year ago. She speculated that it has leveled off because membership materials were sent out early this year. She thinks AAEA's core members stands at about 2,000. Other members

engage if they are going to participate in the Annual Meeting. Ben Senauer, Yvonne Bennett and Terri Haffner have had conversations concerning membership and the Membership Committee is working on anecdotal conversations to find out what people are thinking about AAEA.

**B. RAE Editorial Team.** Recently, Susan Offutt let Pinstруп-Andersen and Bennett know that ERS will no longer be able to support RAE as they have in the past. In 2007, one editor and the managing editor will need to be reappointed. A recommendation will be made at the July meeting (from Bennett and Kathryn Lipton). Danny Pick mentioned that the entire team will be stepping down in 2007, not just two people.

**C. Contract renewals with allied groups:** The WAEA contract renewal was signed in February and will run through February, 2009. The ACCI contract renewal was signed this week and will run through August, 2009. The AERE relationship has been and continues to be challenging, with operational and philosophical issues surrounding that contract. Bennett has not made a final decision about whether or not to renew the service agreement with AERE.

**D. Update on research concerning awards and Fellows:** Bennett reported that she is finding that most Associations don't restrict Board members from submitting award nominations, with the exception of the Tri-Societies.

**E. Business Office Staff:** Communications Coordinator Tami Kuhn was terminated on Friday, April 28. Since the Annual Meeting is 90 days out, it was decided not to replace Kuhn. After the Annual Meeting, Bennett will evaluate whether or not to replace her. Much of Kuhn's work has been reassigned to existing staff for the interim, with a lot being outsourced.

A lengthy discussion ensued about the AAEA/AERE service agreement renewal. It was the consensus that the Business Office operation and other partnering opportunities (i.e. the AAEA Annual Meeting) are and should remain separable. Per Pinstруп-Andersen and Yvonne Bennett will work together with the goal to maintain synergies with AERE outside of the service agreement relationship.

**V. Consent Agenda** – The following items were considered with the consent agenda:

- A. AAEA Annual Meeting Site Selections
  - 1. 2009 Annual Meeting – Milwaukee, WI
  - 2. 2010 Annual Meeting – Denver, CO
- B. AAEA Operating Policies
  - 1. Award Committee Chair
  - 2. AAEA Investment Committee
- D. International Section By-law Approval
- E. Extension Section Award Approval

**Ron Mittelhammer moved to accept the consent agenda items as presented, with the exception of item C. Matt Holt seconded the motion. Motion carried.**

**Item C** – After extensive discussion and clarification concerning the AAEA Foundation Endowment Committee proposal, **Laurian Unnevehr moved to fund the travel expenses for airfare and hotel as needed for those traveling to the meeting to attend the initial Foundation Endowment Committee meeting. This is a one time gesture to facilitate the transition to the new Governance structure. Alan Randall seconded. Sally Thompson called the question. Motion carried.**

Because of time considerations, item VII was taken out of order.

**VII. AAEA Fellow Selection Process:** Matt Holt brought to the Board two issues concerning the Fellows selection process. 1) does the Board need to be in the business of selecting Fellows and 2) if so, what kind of information should be solicited from the Fellow's Selection Committee to facilitate the

selection? He would like to visit the issue at the July meeting during the discussion of reducing the number of Fellows, and wanted to bring the issue to the Board on this call so that they could start thinking about the issue. Yvonne Bennett mentioned that Susan Offutt is working on their committee report to the Board. The item will be put on the agenda for the July meeting.

Matt Holt left the call at 12:35 p.m.

**VI. Presentation of 2005-2006 Unaudited Financial Results** – Marilyn Moehlmann reported that it was a great year, with a net income of \$147,750, almost \$119,000 of that from investment income. It was not necessary to take money from the opportunity fund this year. We haven't used all of the money allocated for the technology audit. Per Pinstrup-Andersen expressed his pleasure with the results.

**VIII. AAEA Foundation Governance:** Per Pinstrup-Andersen has received a few e-mails congratulating AAEA on the outcome of the recent Foundation Governance vote, and he has received a few that were very critical and emotional. The Board recognized the need to be more proactive and visible in conveying messages regarding the AAEA Foundation and the work begin done through grants from the Foundation. It was also recognized that the new Foundation Endowment Committee will play a critical role in defining and creating the future messages from the Foundation, especially as it relates to why we need the financial support and how the money is being spent.

**X. (Added Item) John Kenneth Galbraith memorial.** Galbraith passed away on April 29. AAEA will incorporate an appropriate recognition of Galbraith's death at the 2006 Galbraith Forum Luncheon.

**IX. Adjourn:** Per Pinstrup-Andersen adjourned the meeting at 12:57 p.m.