

**AAEA Teaching, Learning and Communications Section.**  
**Minutes from the Annual Section Meeting**  
**Sunday, July 29, 2007**  
**Portland, Oregon**

Members in attendance: Jay Akridge, Andrew Barkley, Jim Bereilien, Mike Boland, Gary Cooper, Cheryl DeVuyst, Frank Dooley, Molly Espy, Marshall Fraiser, Mike Gunderson, Cole Gustafson, Lisa House, Aaron Johnson, Conrad Lyford, Mary Marchant, Leah Greden Mathews, Rich Sexton, John Siebert, Clark Springfield, Matt Stockton, Michael Wetzstein, Christine Wilson, Al Wysocki

Co-chair Christine Wilson called the meeting to order at 4:10 p.m.

- a. Minutes from the 2006 Annual meeting were approved as read
- b. Membership was reported to be 86 members in 2007
- c. The section is in a financially secure position, so it was agreed that no change in dues was needed

AAEA Board Representative Richard Sexton reported to the membership

- a. Lisa House will replace him as Board Representative beginning next year
- b. A process of votes on a name change are upcoming
  - a. Agriculture will stay in the name
  - b. American is too constricting and will be removed
  - c. Words like Food, Natural Resources, and Applied are under consideration to be added
- c. The entirety of the AAEA management will soon be under Executive Directors Inc.
  - a. The transition has been mostly smooth
  - b. The transition saved the Association from investing in new computers for the main office
- d. The meetings will continue to delegate a great deal of authority and autonomy to sections for the content of tracks
- e. The board rejected funding for the Young Professional Teaching Academy due to rules that deny Foundation Funding for pre-conference workshops

Two applications for senior co-chair were distributed.

- a. Dixie Watts Reaves was elected senior co-chair elect, she will serve as senior co-chair for 2008-2010
- b. Mike Gunderson was elected secretary
- c. Mike Boland will serve as the section representative to the AAEA Nominating Committee

Program Track for 2008

- a. The 2007 TLS Section Track was highlighted on page 108 of the program
- b. The following ideas were given for 2008 sessions:
  - Distance education, website design, scholarship of teaching, course design, 'I survived my first year of teaching,' experiments in the classroom, graduate student teaching/webinar, managing advising roles with extracurricular activities, service learning, accreditation
- c. Those considering organizing a track were reminded that partnerships with other sections are encouraged
- d. Chair Wilson thanked those that had helped with 2007 sessions and encouraged members to be responsive to requests to participate in 2008 sessions
- e. Cheryl DeVuyst will organize the section track for this next year

#### Young Professional Teaching Academy (YPTA)

- a. Chair Wilson thanked Drs. Boland and Wilson for organizing the YPTA this year
- b. There were 22 attendees at the YPTA this year; they were a good mix of Ph.D. students and new assistant professors
- c. There were three speakers, Molly Espy, Andrew Barkley, and Mary Marchant
- d. It was suggested that next year the organizers consider having some concurrent sessions to appeal to a broader crowd and possibly include some tips about graduate student teaching/publishing
- e. Due to the intended permanent nature of the YPTA, the section will look to promote it as such rather than as a pre-conference workshop
- f. Due to the financial stability of the section, the section agreed to allow a small honorarium be paid to attract a speaker to the YPTA

#### Other Topics

- a. The membership agreed to Dr. Mariah Tanner Ehmke using the section listserve to solicit responses to a survey

Meeting was adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Gunderson