



MINUTES

ASA Governing Board Meeting

Via Zoom, Wednesday, July 7th, 2021 (2 pm EST)

In attendance: Lorena Lopez, Maria Navajas, Patricia Pietrantonio, Carlos Barreto, Beto Perez de Leon, Ray Fisher, Monica Farfan, Guest: Carrie De Jesus (SOA)

Not in attendance: Kaitlin Campbell, Alexandra Revynthi, Paula Lado

Recorded and submitted by Lorena Lopez (President)

1. Discuss election or appointment of a new archivist. The new archivist will take over the Bylaws, Newsletters, Presidential files, meeting details and some other miscellaneous data (all hard copy).
 - a. Beto suggested we ask for a volunteer instead of elect or appoint someone.
 - b. We all agree we should ask for a volunteer to be the new archivist. This person will take the responsibility, as the new recipient of the hard copy archives, of digitalizing the most important documents if not all.
 - c. Ray suggested asking Ashley Dowling if he wants to take the role as the new archivist. Ashley may be able to get support from students to digitalize the documents as well as deposit the hard copy documents in the library of the Entomology Department at University of Arkansas. Ray will contact him.
 - d. If Ashley is not able to take on the role, we will ask the membership for a volunteer to be the new archivist.
 - e. An estimate for shipping of the hard copy files will be necessary later.
2. **Symposia subcommittee** update:
 - a. Deadlines:
 - i. Speakers' attendance format confirmation: **Sep 15th**.
 - ii. Patricia mentioned that Shahid has already asked all speakers from the omics symposium about their presentation format and has email Becky (ESA symposia coordinator) to confirm their presentation format.
 - iii. Lorena mentioned all speakers in the Advances in Acarology and the Sustainable Ag symposia have already confirmed their presentation format.
3. **Webinar subcommittee** update (Beto, Ray, and Alexandra):
 - 2021 month webinar series featuring acarology experts from around the globe.
 - Starting on **September 2021** through March 2022 (no webinar in November).
 - One acarologist per continent representing any of 6 disciplines and 1 webinar per MONTH:

Discipline	Continent
Mite ecology	North America
Mite management (IPM)	South America



Systematics	Europe
Genomics	Africa
Ticks	Asia
Other parasitic mites	Australia

a. Title ideas?

- a. All board members will send the title ideas to the subcommittee for them to decide the final title.

b. Shortlisted speakers?

- a. The subcommittee sent a shortlist with 9 speaker names from different continents and acarology subfields.
- b. Beto mentioned Arne Jannssen seems to have agreed already to make a presentation for the series. He also mentioned we should establish a fix date and time every month for all speakers before contacting them.
- c. Lorena suggested that Arne should be considered from the 1st webinar in September. She also mentioned we should work with each of the speakers to set up the most appropriate date and time for each based on the country they are located. Most of the board agreed.
- d. Ray mentioned we should prioritize by approving/disapproving the list, then contact the speakers, they fill any absences (if any), then set up date and time.
- e. Lorena suggested we should have a description and title before contacting potential speakers.
- f. Carlos mentioned that 2 of the speakers have very similar research and a change should be considered.
- g. Monica suggested to include more women in the list. All the board agreed we should try to get more diversity in the list.
- h. Ray mentioned there were only 8 women in the list out of 38 nominees.
- i. Based on the comments of the board, the list is not approved, and the subcommittee will revise the entire list
- j. For this revision, all board members will send more names of women working in acarology with diversity research background and more acarologist from South American countries
- k. The subcommittee will revise the new suggestions and came up with a new shortlist.

c. Platform? Zoom?

d. Advertisement?

- a. Lorena volunteers to make a flyer with a brief description of the webinar series and send it to the subcommittee.

4. Social Media subcommittee update (Carlos and Lorena):



- a. Board member profiles on Twitter to recognize our governance roles.
 - i. Carlos will send again the details of the Twitter blurb to the board to get information from the remaining members.
 - b. Suggestions about our Facebook page.
 - i. Carlos suggested we could claim the Facebook page as ours if it was created as a business page and not as a personal page.
 - ii. We do not know exactly how it was created.
 - iii. Monica suggested to ask Daniel Nielsen about the credentials. She will contact him.
 - c. Any content to include on the website?
- 5. Student group, SOA update (Carrie)**
- a. Student table?
 - i. Carrie mentioned SOA had their first official meeting with 5 student members and they will have their second meeting tomorrow.
 - ii. The already contacted ESA and have a table reserved for the 2021 ESA annual meeting.
 - b. T-shirt and sticker designs?
 - i. SOA will discuss designs, providers, and prices in future meetings.
 - ii. Lorena mentioned Carrie will be a guest in all governing board member meetings to give updates regarding SOA.
- 6. Mite Specialist Group (MSG) update (Ray).**
- a. Ray mentioned the group was successfully created and he has been included in a chain of emails with them, but no meetings have been conducted so far.
- 7. Other business?**