A002. EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

January 12-14, 1970, Madison, Wisconsin

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m., January 12, 1970, by Dr. R. E. Blaser, President of ASA. The following additional Committee members were present: D. E. McCracken, CSSA President; C. I. Rich, SSSA President; C. A. Black, ASA President-elect; C. H. Hanson, CSSA President-elect; R. J. McCracken, SSSA President-elect; W. L. Nelson, ASA Past President; L. P. Reitz, CSSA Past President; and N. T. Coleman, SSSA Past President. Also present were M. Stelly, Executive Secretary-Treasurer; C. T. Dougherty, Assistant to the Executive Secretary; and S. M. Vancil and V. Cunningham, Recording Secretaries.

A001-100. OFFICERS AND ELECTED GROUPS

A002. Executive Committee (Refer to A201, ACS607)

(1) Dr. Blaser reported that the Interassociation Coordinating Committee (A202) had met the previous night and had reviewed the proposed agenda of the Executive Committees of the three associated societies. The items on the agenda of ASA were ranked in order of priority.

(2) ACTION: The minutes of the meeting of the Executive committee on November 9, 1969, and the minutes of the ASA Board of Directors on November 10 and 13, 1969 in Detroit were approved.

(3) Dr. Blaser reported that the next Executive Committee meeting was tentatively scheduled for June 22, 1970. If the agenda is not too long, the meeting may be postponed and the agenda incorporated into the agenda of the Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings in August. Dr. Blaser noted that the A211 Budget and Finance Committee probably will meet prior to the annual meetings in August.

(4) The Committee discussed a complaint that the meetings of the Board of Directors occupied an excessively long period of the annual meetings. They evaluated a suggestion that the second Board meeting be deleted but they decided to retain it for the time being. Dr. Black suggested that the Committee could meet on Thursday afternoon to consider reports submitted by committees meeting during the annual meetings and to prepare an agenda for a second Board meeting on Friday morning. He noted that this would extend the meetings by another day but it would reduce the length of the Board meeting as only those committees with written reports containing specific recommendations will be placed on the agenda. The Committee has been meeting on Sunday morning to determine the agenda of the first Board of Directors meeting on Sunday afternoon.

ACTION: Dr. McCloud moved that the Executive Committee members give serious consideration to the recommendation that they meet and prepare the agenda for the second Board meeting at the annual meetings. All items submitted to the Board would, under this system, be first presented to the Executive Committee. Seconded and carried.

(5) Dr. McCracken reported that the procedures used at the Board meetings in Detroit created some confusion as to the actual intent of the Board. He suggested that the President should informally accept reports on behalf of the Board and refrain from calling for a formal motion to “accept” them. Dr. McCracken also suggested that the minutes of the Board meetings should be expanded to give more background information on the individual subjects.

ACTION: It was the consensus of the Committee that the President should informally accept committee reports presented to the Board of Directors at the annual meetings and refrain from calling for a formal motion for their acceptance. Under present procedures, the President is requested to write a formal motion to “accept” the committee reports. The proposed change was approved by the Committee.

A014 — Extension Education (Refer to A201, ACS626)

A019 — Soil Mineralogy (Refer to A201)

A201-300. ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEES

A201 — Organization, Policy and Bylaws

(1) The Committee extensively reviewed the revision of the ASA Bylaws and recommended that amendments be incorporated before submitting the members for approval or rejection by mail.

ACTION: It was moved that the Committee incorporate a number of amendments into the revised version of the bylaws and that these amendments be itemized in the minutes of this meeting in order to facilitate changes in organization or policies of the American Society of Agronomy. Seconded and carried.

(2) Dr. Blaser noted that the objectives of Division A-4, as listed in the bylaws, were too restrictive.

ACTION: The objectives were restated to include the objectives suggested by Drs. Blaser and Black.

(3) Dr. Black reported that many industrial agronomists were not satisfied with the present name of Division A-4, Extension Education.

ACTION: Dr. Black suggested the President send a letter to the officers of Division A-4, informing them of the Executive Committee’s discussion on this topic and urging them to consider changing the name of the division, perhaps to “Division of Education,” thereby recognizing the importance of agronomists.

(4) The status of Division S-9 — Soil Mineralogy — was reviewed and discussed. Dr. Stelly reported that the question of permanent classification for Division S-9 was being considered concurrently with the bylaws issue, and if permanent status was accorded this division, the necessary amendments would have to be incorporated in the bylaws.

(5) The Committee discussed the definition of “student” as used in the bylaws.

ACTION: The Committee agreed to define the term “student” as used in the revised Bylaws as follows: “The membership shall consist of individuals actively interested in the objectives of the society and of sustaining member firms as defined in Article III, Section 3.”

(6) Undergraduate student members are registered by the headquarters office as members of the student class.

ACTION: The Committee authorized Drs. Blaser and Stelly to introduce a new class of membership designated “graduate student members” into the appropriate section of the bylaws.

(7) Associate membership is not defined in the bylaws. The bylaw definitions of emeritus members, life, honorary, and sustaining members were reviewed and discussed.

ACTION: The Committee authorized Drs. Blaser and Stelly to introduce a class of associate membership and to ensure that this was clearly different from affiliate membership.

ACTION: The Committee also authorized the proposed changes to the definition of emeritus, life, honorary, and sustaining members.