

ACT MINUTES
SPRING 2007 MEETING
Norm Hopper, President ACT

ACT Minutes on-line at: www.AginTexas.org

Submitted by Dr. Randall Williams April 18, 2007. Special “thanks” to Dr. Williams.

Minutes of the “Official” meeting of the ACT; April 18 2007 @ ACU.

Call to Order- The 2007 Spring meeting of ACT was called to order by Dr. Norm Hopper (Texas Tech) on April 12, 2007 at Abilene Christian University in Abilene, TX. Minutes were approved as read.

ACT Meeting Budgets- Dr. Joe Townsend (TAMU) was unable to be at the meeting. A treasurer’s report was not given. Discussion was held concerning the two ACT accounts. The purpose of the account at Texas Tech University is unclear; some expenses have been paid for out of TTU account even though the initial purpose was just to earn interest on the money. Dr. Cepica suggested we move the money in the Texas Tech University account into an interest bearing account or combine the TTU money with the money at Texas A& M University. Dr. Cepica also suggested TAMU could oversee both accounts (keep two accounts and the bulk of the money be in an interest bearing account). Ted Ford suggested putting this as an item on the Fall agenda meeting. Randall Williams suggested moving the money after we become a 501c3 organization. It was moved and seconded to further discuss this issue at the Fall meeting. We need some background information and research on the accounts completed before the fall meeting.

Tax Free Status- The firm our lawyer, Tyree Collier, has changed firms. Joe Townsend has the information and is working with him to complete all necessary work to become a tax-free organization.

Texas FFA- Tom Maynard attended the afternoon meeting and briefed the group. There will be 16 new FFA chapters in Texas. Discussed plans for district leadership events. Scholarship application does include all portion of the ACT and the score requirement was lowered to 19. HLSR wants scholarship recipients to be evaluated that are from smaller, rural schools. State FFA Convention- Exhibits to be opened 2 hours earlier and be closed early due to the dance. Exhibits will open on Tuesday morning at 10:00 am. State Leadership Conference will be held at Weatherford College. Career development programs continue to evolve and grow as students build interest in certain areas of training. State Degree check is to be at Tarleton. Texas FFA membership is now passed the 62,000 benchmark.

Texas Journal of Agriculture and Natural Resources - Dr. Cepica complimented Tarleton State University’s handling of the Journal. From an earlier meeting, Dr. Williams said it was decided each of the Assoc. Editors need to be reviewed and decide if they are to stay

on the committee. Prairie View has not submitted or reviewed any manuscripts. The status of Prairie View as an ACT member institution needs to be reviewed because they are to host ACT Conference in the near future. It was questioned if they are current dues paying members. If Prairie View does not want to host 2010, TAMUC is willing to move up a year. The Associate Editors from each of the institutions were reviewed. A motion was passed to accept Dr. Grady Roberts as the Associate Editor at Texas A&M University, College Station. It was suggested that Dr. Don Topliff replace Dr. Thomason at WTAMU. A motion dealing with that change passed. Lubbock Christian University needs to be contacted about appointing an Associate Editor.

(from Dr. Kattes, TSU)-The Associate Editors of the TJANR met Thursday at 7:00 a.m. prior to the general meeting of the ACT board. The following items were discussed and presented to the ACT Board for action:

- 1) Editor-In –Chief and Managing Editor reports were presented.
 - a) During 2006, 24 manuscripts were received
 - b) Two have been published
 - c) Five have been accepted and are currently being processed by the Journal Secretary.
 - d) Two were rejected
 - e) Nine are with the authors for consideration of referee remarks
 - f) Two are with the EIC for second draft consideration
 - g) Four need of reviewers. Some of these manuscripts were received as long ago as July 7, 2006.
 - h) Currently the Journal has \$6,543.14 in its account.
- 2) The Board voted to leave the money in the Journal account.
- 3) The salaries of the EIC, Mgr. Editor and Journal Secretary were discussed. Dr. Kattes gave a brief summary of Dr. Lovell's duties. He believes Dr. Lovell spends at least one day a week working on reviewing articles. Jessica assists with formatting the articles so they are ready for print. The motion was passed. It goes into effect immediately.
 - a) The ACT board voted to raise the stipend for the editors from \$300.00 to \$500.00 per year.
 - b) The Journal Secretary's stipend schedule was approved as follows:
 - i) 1-6 months of service- \$100.00 per month
 - ii) 6-18 months-\$150.00 per month
 - iii) 18+ months- \$200.00 per month
 - c) The board approved the Editor-in-Chief and Managing Editor to use the money from the journal budget to travel to ACT meetings to make a report to the board.
- 4) Both the Associate Editors and the ACT Board discussed, at length, ways to get greater participation by ACT institutions regarding Journal exposure, manuscript submission and reviewers. Dr. Cepica expressed concern for the slow turnaround on

reviewing articles. We need to find a better process. On average 15 papers are submitted to the Associate Editors for review.

- a) Since the journal has become electronic we seemed to have moved away from our initial intention of serving the lay people. This would include our Extension and Experiment folks. It was proposed that we produce CDs and DVDs to distribute to ag teachers and county extension agents. CDs and DVDs can be handed out at Ag Teacher's Conference to save on postage. Dr. Hopper suggested that after each volume is completed a mass email could be sent to all ag teachers and county extension agents with a hot link for teachers and agents to click on. Dr. Cepica made a motion that we send the list to Dr. Ed Smith, Dr. Mark Hussey and Gerald Young and let them send the link to their agents and teachers. The motion passed. Expanding the list to include TCEQ, Ag Workers, TDA, Parks and Wildlife, Forest Service, Associate Editors, etc. was also discussed. Dave Kattes agreed to contact the point people at these organizations to make sure they understand the purpose and will agree to send out the journal link. Dr. Kattes will send an email to the Assoc Editors with a list of point people for additions. The motion was moved and passed
 - b) ACT Board President Norman Hopper, selected a committee composed of the EIC and the Associate Editors. This committee was charged with reviewing the current system of Associate Editors and considering options to get the TAES, TAEX, VATAT, TDA and other potentially interested agencies aware of and involved in the Journal. A one page report should be given at the Fall meeting.
- 5) The Board discussed which system of measurement will be accepted by the Journal. It was decided that either the metric or the English system could be used but the selected system should be consistently used throughout the manuscript.

National FFA Booth- Dr. Cepica moved to give the people who organize the National FFA booth up to \$2000 to make upgrades. The motion passed. The group will be Kayla Rathmann, Amber Stuteville, Emily Payne, Yolanda Quintanilla, and Dr. Kelley. Next spring the committee will bring a proposal to the board for additional upgrades.

HLSR- Grad Assistant Funding. Michael Cooper resigned from his position with HLSR. The show is closing down on Saturday March 22nd to avoid having the show on Easter Sunday. Discussion about the graduate assistantships sponsored by HLSR was brought up. The luncheon at HLSR was also discussed. Stanley Kelley has offered to oversee the graduate assistantships' report that is to go to HLSR. Dr. Gary Briers, TAMU, has the raw data from the study. Dr. Kelley will request the data from Dr. Briers. Dr. Cepica suggested that we attempt to complete the research by the Fall and then have the luncheon with HLSR in Houston in the Fall following the completion of the report. ACT can present HLSR with the packet of information and showcase the "right" students at the luncheon. A motion was made to fund a full ½ time assistantship (\$3000) and the publication costs to prepare the report for HLSR to Sam Houston State University (Stanley Kelley). Motion was passed. Kayla Rathmann will assist with the luncheon.

120 Hour Degree Program- A report from Dr. Randall Williams noted that beginning in Fall 2008 all colleges must implement the 120 hour degree programs. Accreditation and license could have up to 3-6 additional hours.

ACT CDE Committee-Area and State CDE events would offer the same awards. The committee sent a proposal to Tom Maynard and the Board of Directors to decide what award would be appropriate. Dr. Ford has not heard back from Tom. This is to take effect in 2008.

Discussion continued with Stanley Kelley briefing the group with comments concerning Clay Ewell and how well he executes payments and other various duties that his job includes. Dr. Ted Ford brought up on behalf of Clay Ewell to possibly change registration times so that Clay has more time to prepare for contests.

TJCAA Scholarships- Dr. Norman Hopper briefed the group on the scholarships that have previously awarded in previous years by HLSR. The McMillian Foundation (Ralph Ward) paid the scholarships and \$7,000 total was awarded. Discussion continued to award Junior College students scholarships in total of \$7,000. Dr. Norm Hopper is to prepare a proposal that ACT will fund \$1,000 in scholarship award money and that would continue to make the total awards \$7,000. The motion was made that ACT will fund \$1,000 towards the TJCAA Scholarships. The motion passed.

Fall ACT Meeting- TEXARKANA- September 12, 13, 14- Royce Granberry- Hotel Space is blocked at Comfort Inn and Suites.

TJCAA- Barry Jones (Weatherford College) discussed ideas to better prepare Junior College students for attending Universities. Dr. Ted Ford had suggested inviting Junior College Advisors and Faculty to Tarleton to discuss how to advise students for attending a university. All the other universities agreed to welcome Junior College advisors and faculty to their campuses as well.

Other business- Kayla Rathmann brought up discussion of the purpose of TxCasa. She suggested that TxCasa officers travel to National FFA Convention and work the booth. This would allow the TxCasa officers to become involved and have more of a purpose. Funds to cover partial travel expenses were requested. Discussion continued and a motion was made to table this topic until the fall meeting.

It was reported that the team of Dr. Randall Williams of TAMUK, Dr. Dale Perritt of SFASU, Mr. Todd Fuller of CBC, Dr. Norm Hopper of TTU and TTU student Kyle came in "next to first" in the turf management competition. It was unclear as to who was on the first place team but a student from WTAMU and ACT host Dr. Ed Brokaw of ACU were remembered to have been on it.

Please find attached several documents related to our initiative to have the Capacity Building Grants language for AASCARR (non-land grant) institutions included in the next Farm Bill. The language is currently in the CREATE 21

proposal which has recently been introduced into the Senate (S. 1094) by Debbie Stabenow (D-MI) and Robert P. Casey, Jr. (D-PA). **It is critical that we print these documents and present them to our legislators, or send them an electronic copy, urging them to support the CREATE 21 proposal or the language supporting the Capacity Building Grants section for AASCARR institutions if another proposal is adopted.** Docs were sent to you last week. Contact Norm Hopper with questions.

At this point Dr. Randall Williams presented outgoing ACT President Dr. Norm Hopper with his retiring President's Plaque. Elections for new officers were then held after a report from Dr. Williams from the nominating committee.

Nominations and Officer Elections-
 President- Dr. Ed Brokaw (ACU)
 President Elect- Mr. Doug Pierce (Blinn College)
 Secretary/Treasurer- Dr. Joe Townsend (TAMU)

Meeting was adjourned at 3:35 pm

**AGRICULTURAL CONSORTIUM OF TEXAS
 MEETINGS**

FALL

SPRING

1977 FORT WORTH	1978 NO MEETING
1978 SUL ROSS	1979 NO MEETING
1979 SAM HOUSTON	1980 NO MEETING
1980 TEXAS TECH	1981 SWT
1981 EAST TEXAS	1982 SHSU
1982 WEST TEXAS (WTAMU)	1983 SWT
1983 ASU	1984 SHSU
1984 SWT	1985 AUSTIN
1985 TEXAS A&I (TAMUK)	1986 AUSTIN
1986 SFA	1987 AUSTIN
1987 TEXAS TECH	1988 HLSR
1988 WEST TEXAS	1989 HLSR
1989 SAM HOUSTON	1990 HLSR
1990 SWT (TEXAS STATE)	1991 SALE
1991 SUL ROSS	1992 HLSR
1992 TAMU	1993 AUSTIN
1993 ACU	1994 FT. WORTH
1994 TSU	1995 AUSTIN
1995 PVAMU	1996 ASU
1996 TAMUC	1997 WTAMU
1997 TAMUK	1998 SFA
1998 TAMU	1999 TX TECH

1999 KILGORE
2000 BLINN
2001 HOUSTON CC
2002 TRINITY VALLEY
2003 WEATHERFORD
2004 TYLER JC
2005 FRANK PHILLIPS
2006 COASTAL BEND
2007 TEXARKANA - SEPT 12, 13, 14
2008 ODESSA - SEPT 10, 11, 12
2009 TOMBALL – SEPT 9, 10 ,11
2010 CISCO – SEPT 8, 9, 10
2011
2012

2000 SUL ROSS
2001 SFA
2002 TAMUK
2003 SWT (TEXAS STATE)
2004 TSU
2005 SAM HOUSTON
2006 WTAMU
2007 ACU – APRIL 11, 12, 13
2008 TAMU – APRIL 9, 10, 11
2009 ASU – APRIL 8, 9, 10
2010 PVAMU – APRIL 7, 8, 9
2011 TAMUC – APRIL 6, 7, 8
2012 SUL ROSS – APRIL 4, 5, 6
2013 TEXAS TECH – APRIL 10, 11, 12