



2017 Alabama Section of ASABE Newsletter



Daniel Mullenix, Chair
Christian Brodbeck, Secretary
Lindsay Tucker, VC, Program
Bo Tucker, VC, Public Relations
David Blersch, VC, Membership

Corey Kichler, Past-Chair & VC Nominations
Timothy McDonald, Treasurer
Tom Way, VC, Awards/Recognition
Mark Dougherty, VC, Professional Development

Greetings from the AL ASABE Section Chair

Spring is right around the corner and so is our annual state section meeting. This year the meeting is set for March 31 through April 1 on the campus of Auburn University and our theme is Sustainability. The executive committee has worked diligently to put together an agenda that will be engaging and educational. We are changing the traditional program and including some special guests. We hope these additions will appeal to a broader audience and encourage further participation in our section.

This year the poster session, graduate student presentations and industry presentations will kick the meeting off in the morning session. We hope this will encourage students to participate in the entire morning session and join us for the afternoon tour. They will then be able to further interact with section members and hopefully see the benefits of continuing ASABE membership into their professional career.

The evening banquet this year will be a little different as well. We always enjoy hearing from a representative of ASABE at our banquet but unfortunately ASABE President Maynard Herron is unable to join us for our meeting this year. He sends his well wishes for a successful meeting. The banquet this year will be an exciting event as we recognize approximately 20 Biosystems Engineering students who are recipients of departmental scholarships. We will also have the opportunity to hear updates from the department, College of Engineering and College of Agriculture and recognize new Professional Engineers who recently passed the PE exam.

In closing, I would like to encourage each of you to reach out to **three** people you know who might benefit from getting involved with the Alabama Section of ASABE. We all know someone, professionally or otherwise, that is not currently involved with ASABE who can enrich to our section and our section them by becoming a member. Even if they are not a member of the international society, they can participate as a non-member in our meeting. Again, think of someone in your circle of influence you can invite to join us. If I can be of any assistance to you, please feel free to contact me. I look forward to seeing each of you on March 31.

Daniel Mullenix
danielm@agri-afc.com
(256) 560-1249



**Alabama ASABE Section
2017 Spring Meeting
March 31 - April 1**



Location:

Registration and Technical sessions will be held at the CASIC Building, 559 Devall Drive, Auburn, AL. The tour will depart from CASIC. The Banquet will be held at the McCartney Suite inside the Shelby Center Building on West Magnolia.

Agenda:

Friday, March 31

8:00 - 8:30am	Morning Registration
8:30 - 11:15am	Technical Session 1
8:30 - 10:15am	Undergraduate Poster Presentations
10:15 - 10:30am	Break
10:30 - 11:15am	Graduate Student Presentations
11:15 - 12:00pm	Technical Session 2 (2 PDH Credit)
12:00 - 12:30pm	Lunch*
12:30 - 1:30pm	Technical Session 2 continued
1:30 - 5:00pm	National Poultry Technology Center tour (2-3 PDH Credit)
6:00 - 9:00pm	ASABE Banquet**

Saturday, April 1

8:00-10:30am	ASABE Alabama Section Business Meeting - Corley Building Conference Room
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Registration Fees:

Member - \$45, Non Member - \$65, Student - \$25

*Senior Design students may join us for lunch for \$5.

**Additional banquet guest is \$15 per person.

Registration forms are due by March 24 to Tim McDonald at mcdontp@auburn.edu



BIOSYSTEMS ENGINEERING

2016 Alabama ASABE Business Meeting Minutes

April 2, 2016

Call to Order

Meeting brought to order by Corey Kichler

Approval of 2015 Annual Meeting Minutes

2015 business meeting minutes approved by Sushil Adhikari and seconded by Lindsay Tucker. Vote passed to accept meeting minutes as presented.

Old Business

Corey: Voluntary dues of \$10 were accepted with ASABE national dues. A couple hundred dollars were collected which paid for the newly designated P.E. awards presented to members who have passed the P.E. exam within the past two years.

Officer Reports

Chair Corey Kichler: Thanked Lindsay Tucker for speaking during Friday afternoon session. Good meeting overall. He asked for an update on Tom Corley from Tom Way. Dr. Way reported that after the Friday night banquet, Mr. Corley (soon to be 95) went for his umbrella, tripped over a table leg and fell to the ground. Dr. Way took him to Urgent Care and had him checked out. After a few stitches, Mr. Corley is doing well.

There were 27 attendees at the Friday night banquet. Corey wants to find a way to increase attendance at the banquet next year. The P.E. recognition was a great addition and the keynote speaker was good. We also need to get a list of past graduates to invite to speak and encourage them to get involved.

Secretary Daniel Mullenix: Daniel liked the tours and commented on GKN's other facility for possible tour next year. This may be a classified facility. The Neptune tour was very interesting and it was intriguing that water utilities cannot account for up to 30% of the water they provide to cities.

Treasurer Tim McDonald: Not present. Christian Brodbeck gave report. Balance before meeting was approximately \$4,286. Meeting expenses totaled \$1,383.42. Registration dues brought in plus voluntary dues from ASABE totaled \$2,074.50 with just over \$200 coming from voluntary dues. Current account balance is approximately \$4,700.

V.C. Awards/Recognition Tom Way: There were two potential awards to be given by the state section but no nominations were made. At the international level, fellow nominations are due April 15, 2016. Most other nominations due October 31, 2016.

Discussion: Steve Taylor suggested that we proceed with the two section awards, even though no nominations were made, by extending the nomination period and present awards at a departmental tailgating event during football season. Steve moved to reopen section award nominations for young engineer and distinguished engineer. Corey seconded the motion. The motion was voted on and passed.

V.C. Membership *Bo Tucker*: Bo reported that he wants to see the membership grow and involvement increase. He would like to see the department target students as they graduate and encourage them to get involved with the state section. Also, Bo wants the section to continue bringing back graduates to present during the technical sessions.

V.C. Professional Development *Mark Dougherty*: The state section's endowment funded two scholarships this year. They were given to Lucas White and Adella Kusta. Mark stated that \$21,000 in scholarship money was awarded to eight recipients through the Gill scholarship endowment this year. Approximately ten to 12 students recently took the F.E. with approximately three not passing.

Discussion: Diran Fasina asked if the section should require scholarship recipients to attend the banquet? He also wanted to know why the student leadership award wasn't awarded this year. Tom Way commented that this award is not formalized or in the by-laws but only committee guidelines need changing to present this award. Sushil commented that if the department recommends students for the leadership award then they are presented with a plaque.

V.C. Programs *Christian Brodbeck*: Christian stated that it was good to see what past graduates are doing professionally through the Friday afternoon presentations given. He reached out to some past graduates to inquire about them speaking and they asked to be added to the email list for future involvement but he had trouble getting contact information for some. Sixteen to 18 members registered for the tour and 35 people signed up for the banquet. He suggested asking for the registration forms one week in advance and breaking out the banquet separately on the registration form for accurate headcount for caterers. The tours were great and informative and the afternoon presentations were exceptionally good. He also suggested having a technical keynote speaker at the banquet for additional PDH to entice the membership to attend.

V.C. Public Relations *Lindsay Tucker*: Lindsay suggested sending thank you notes to companies that we toured. Lindsay also suggested asking past graduates to come back to speak during the technical session next year and ask them to become involved with the section. Lindsay reported that she sent out the newsletter and kept up with the correspondence. Marketing and the aesthetics of the newsletter could have been better. She wants to work to get email list more up-to-date, adding recent graduates and including advertisement for the meeting on the department's Facebook page.

Past Chair and Nominations *Sushil Adhikari*: Sushil commented that the poster presentations were nice. Former students commented they were better this year than years past. He also suggested doing a reunion of sorts for past graduates in conjunction with next year's banquet. Sushil wants to get undergraduates involved with afternoon technical presentations maybe requiring them to attend. He suggested switching technical presentations to the morning to coincide with undergraduate class period, then have the poster presentations, lunch and tours to follow in the afternoon.

Steve Taylor: Thanked Christian for organizing the dinner. Taylor announced that the 2016 outstanding student in the Biosystems department is Josh Pasantino, the 2016 outstanding faculty member in the Biosystems department is Dr. Ken Thomas, and the 2016 outstanding alumni in the Biosystems department is Danny Holmberg.

New Business

Buck Moore made a motion that sections 5 and 6 of the By-Laws be amended to make state section membership possible without national dues. Steve seconded. Corey is going to draft amendments to sections 5 and 6 of the By-Laws and submit to the executive committee for a vote.

Steve presented Bo and Lindsay Tucker with P.E. recognition plaques. He stated that the section will begin to recognize new P.E.s each year.

The department's centennial anniversary is in 2019. Steve is going to appoint a subcommittee within the department to work on a centennial celebration.

Sushil proposed the 2016-2017 officers as follows:

Chair – Daniel Mullenix

Secretary – Christian Brodbeck

V.C. Programs – Lindsay Tucker

V.C. Awards/Recognition – Tom Way

V.C. Public Relations – Bo Tucker

V.C. Professional Development – Mark Dougherty

V.C. Membership – David Blersch

Past Chair and Nominations – Corey Kichler

Treasurer – Tim McDonald

Meeting adjourned with a motion from Diran and a second from Clarence Johnson.