ADSA® Presidential Report

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ADSA is member-driven scientific organization whose members are involved with research, teaching, and outreach in advancing the sciences of dairy production and conversion of milk into a variety of highly nutritious dairy foods. “Member-driven” is the key term in my opening statement. In all we do, it starts with members who are engaged in the pursuit of excellence in dairy science. Our

professional membership numbers around 2,000 from six continents and more than 55 countries. In addition, undergraduate and graduate student members exceed 2,000. My goal is to highlight the accomplishments of ADSA members in 2013.

Journal of Dairy Science

In 1913, one hundred years ago, the president of the Official Dairy Instructors’ Association made a “. . . plea for the establishment . . .” of a journal for reporting of items of interest to the association (J. Dairy Sci. 1917. 1:1–3). A committee was appointed to study the recommendation, and four years later the first issue of the first volume of the *Journal of Dairy Science* was published. The first issue of the *Journal of Dairy Science* resulted from the recognition of need and a commitment to bring the idea to fruition. The first issue contained 83 pages, and the first volume 532 pages. In 2013, volume 96 will contain more than 8200 pages.

The Thomson-Reuters Impact Factor for 2012 ranked the *Journal of Dairy Science* third among 55 journals in the Agriculture, Dairy, and Animal Science category. The journal maintained its number one rank by Five-Year Impact Factor. The commitment to excellence by ADSA members continues the dissemination of research results to scientists of many disciplines beyond dairy through the *Journal of Dairy Science*. Growth of the journal in the past five years has been unprec-

edented, as noted above. As a result of critical reviews of submitted manuscripts by our members, the journal has maintained the quality of its content and timeliness of publication, despite the great increase in the number of scientific articles and number of pages published. For growth to continue, the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Dairy Science* needs more reviewers. If asked, please find time to serve as a reviewer. If you would like to volunteer, send an e-mail to Dr. Roger Shanks, editor-in-chief.

Memorandum of Understanding with American Society of Animal Science

In March 2013, ADSA and the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) for continuation of the Joint Annual Meeting (JAM) over the next four years with an option for a two-year extension after JAM in 2014. The major change in coming years is that ADSA will be responsible for conduct of JAM in odd-numbered years and ASAS will assume responsibility for JAM in even-numbered years. Delivery of a world-class meeting that focuses on science and members was never an issue for compromise from both societies. There may be some differences from year to year in how JAM is conducted but the Program Committee’s focus remains on science and scientists as the top priority.

JAM in Indianapolis

The JAM in Indianapolis was, by many measures, one of the most successful of all time. Attendance exceeded 3,300 scientists, a record for a two-society meeting, with attendees coming from 50 countries. Conduct of JAM, except its scientific content, was the total responsibility of ADSA, with staff from the Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS) supplying the human capital, knowledge, and expertise for the implementation and execution of meeting functions. By early August, accounts receivable for JAM 2013 were zero.

JAM 2014 will be held in Kansas City, Missouri, and will be managed by ASAS. ADSA will continue to have scientific programming and the usual ADSA-specific events for its members and guests in Kansas

City. In 2015, JAM will be in Orlando, Florida, and ADSA will again have responsibility for the meeting.

Membership

Current membership in ADSA exceeds 4,000, including more than 2,000 professional members. Women represent approximately 20% of our members.

Financial Position of ADSA

ADSA had a very good year in 2012. Total income for the association, excluding the ADSA Foundation, exceeded \$2.16 million from operations (journal, JAM, and membership). The gross margin from operations was approximately \$780,000. Cost for administration and governance was 22.1% of total operating income, within the target range for many corporations. Overall, the change in undesignated total net assets for the association exceeded \$300,000.

At year end, total assets stood at just under \$7.0 million and total net assets at \$6.4 million. Exactly half of the change in assets came from operations, demonstrating the strength of ADSA's business, with the balance coming from investment performance. The JDS Superfund represented \$4.05 million of the \$6.4 million, which put the Superfund at the halfway point in reaching its goal. Due in part to the strong 2012 performance, the ADSA board approved transferring \$510,767 to the Superfund at the 2013 annual board meeting.

ADSA Foundation

The Foundation had a very good 2012, thanks in large part to the continued interest in and financial performance of Discover Conferences. During 2013, Discover Conferences 25 and 26 delivered excellent, timely content on two topics—the young calf and dairy feed efficiency for sustainable dairy production. Both conferences achieved maximum attendance and were well-supported by corporate and industry contributions. The Discover Conference series is driven by

membership: one or more scientists propose a possible theme, submit the proposal, and once approved, develop program content. Discover Conferences 27 and 28 are scheduled for 2014. If you have an idea for a theme of a future Discover Conference, the submission process for your proposal is described on the ADSA website (<http://www.adsa.org/Meetings/DiscoverConferences.aspx>). Work up your idea with colleagues and submit a proposal to Dr. Larry Miller.

The Foundation offered an unprecedented opportunity in 2013 with their proposal to fund the update of the National Research Council (NRC)'s *Nutrient Requirements of Dairy Cattle* (7th rev. ed., 2001). The NRC required approximately \$400,000 to initiate a revision of the previous edition, of which at least 51% of the money must come from a financially disinterested party. The ADSA Foundation began its campaign with a pledge of \$204,000. Letters explaining the proposal were sent in mid-June, seeking pledges for \$19,600 each from 10 companies and not-for-profit organizations to achieve the total goal of \$400,000. More than 80 individuals attended a session on the NRC update process during JAM 201. At that meeting, the Foundation announced that a page on the ADSA website was created to receive ideas and topics for updates for consideration. The opportunity to provide input ran through September 30, 2013.

By the end of July, 11 corporate and not-for-profit donors had pledged \$19,600 each to fund the project. A Statement of Task was prepared by ADSA members and submitted to the Board of Agriculture and Natural Resources (BANR) for review and approval to proceed with the update. In mid-September, the update was approved. In early October, ADSA provided unedited suggestions to the NRC from 73 members or groups. In just four months, an idea discussed by the Foundation Board of Trustees became a major project that will ultimately benefit the dairy industry in all parts of the world. A group of dairy scientists, all most likely members of ADSA, will be in place by the end of 2013 to begin the production of the 8th revised edition of *Nutrient Requirements of Dairy Cattle*. That is the power of membership!