RSEC Annual Meeting  
7 February 2010  
Denver, Colorado

**Business Meeting**  
In attendance: Representatives from 20 institutions.

Mike Borman (Oregon State University), Dan Rodgers (University of Wyoming), Ernest B. Fish (Texas Tech University), Mitch McClaran (University of Arizona), Lynn Huntsinger (University of California, Berkeley), Susan Edinger Marshall (Humboldt State University), Ward Brady (Arizona State University), Jordge La Fantasie (Fort Hays State University), Walt Fick (Kansas State University), John Taylor (University of Queensland), Shawn DeKeyser (North Dakota State University), Karen Launchbaugh (University of Idaho), Mort Kothmann (Texas A&M University) Edward Bork (University of Alberta), Pat Johnson (South Dakota State University), Barry Perryman (University of Nevada, Reno), Ken Fulgham (Humboldt State University), Laurie Abbott (New Mexico State University), Georgia Younglove (Chadron State College), Don Kirby (North Dakota State University).

**Executive Committee:**

Karen Hickman, President  
Georgia Younglove, Vice-President  
Laurie Abbott, Secretary

1. **Approval of 2009 minutes**  
Minutes approved
2. **Treasurer’s Report:** given by Don Kirby  
21 member institutions in 2009  
Membership renewal notices sent in early December and early January.  
Transactions report:

- **Savings account balance (1 Jan 2009):** $15,394.02
- **Checking account balance (1 January 2009):** $941.30

- **Receipts:**
  - 21 members institutions (2009) $1,050.00
  - 5 member institutions (2010) 250.00
  - Interest income (2009) 37.64
  - **TOTAL** $1,337.64

- **Payments:**
  - 2 teaching awards $2,000.00
  - ND Secretary of State 10.00
  - **TOTAL** $2,010.00

- Don suggested that having a list serve for RSEC would help to communicate with representatives of member institutions.
- The secretary will create an updated RSEC list serve.
- New member institutions: University of Alaska, Cal-Poly San Luis Obispo
- Don is retiring from his duties as RSEC treasurer. Since accounts are managed in North Dakota, Shawn DeKeyser will assume the position as treasurer.
2. **Historian’s Report:** Karen Launchbaugh

- Karen Launchbaugh will serve as historian/archivist and will maintain RSEC website.
- We need updated list serve for the RSEC representatives. Laurie Abbott will do this.

3. **Teaching Awards Committee Report:** Edward Bork, Chair

- Received 3 new nominations and 5 carry-over nominations (from previous year).
- Both the Early Career Teaching Award (Andres Cibils, NMSU) and Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award (Chuck Butterfield, Chadron State) will be awarded in 2010. (Secretary’s note: the identities of the award recipients were not revealed at the 2010 RSEC meeting, and the names are being included here for the sake of keeping records).
- The 2009 recipients were Alexander “Sandy” Smart, South Dakota State (Early Career Teaching Award) and Karen Hickman, Oklahoma State (Outstanding Undergraduate Teaching Award).
- Edward requests that the call for nominations is sent earlier in the fall to allow more time for submission and review.

4. **New/Old Business**

- **HEC Grant proposal:** Update from Karen Launchbaugh about the USDA HEC (Higher Education Challenge) grant submitted by RSEC members at 7 universities (K. Launchbaugh, U Idaho; S. Marshall, HSU; L. Abbott, NMSU; K Hickman, OKState; P. Johnson, SDSU; M. George, UC Davis; C. Call, USU).
  - Proposal seeks to address the increasing need for highly trained range professionals at time when the number of students receiving range-related degrees is decreasing.
  - Objectives are to: 1) transform range science and management curricula to meet the needs of current and future rangeland management professionals; 2) Maintain or increase the capacity of US universities to produce highly-qualified range graduates; 3) Increase student recruitment into range ecology and management programs.
  - Pat Johnson requested information from RSEC representatives about which institutions/departments offered range-related online courses, short courses, and special term courses.

- **Strategic plan:** Karen Hickman addressed the need to update the RSEC strategic plan. Decision to table this discussion pending information gathered by the HEC group.

- **Annual RSEC Membership Dues:** Karen Launchbaugh and Karen Hickman suggested that the cost of annual dues for RSEC member institutions is too low, and not sustainable. Historically, annual dues were higher, and lowered to $50 because the money was accumulating without being spent. Since the addition of the second teaching award (Early Career Award), RSEC now spends $2,000 for awards in years when both awards are distributed. RSEC does not have a budget. Executive committee will create a proposed budget.

- **Replacement of members on Teaching Award Committee:** Edward Bork and Georgia Younglove (2007-2010) rotated off of the Awards Committee. Susan Marshall and Karen Hickman volunteered to serve for the next three years. Pat Johnson is the Teaching Awards Committee Chair for 2011. Current members (dates of service):
  - Pat Johnson (2008-2011)
  - Barry Perryman (2008-2011)
  - Chris Call (2009-2012)
  - Walter Fick (2009-2012)
  - Susan Marshall (2010-2013)
  - Karen Hickman (2010-2013)
• **Election of New Secretary:** K. Launchbaugh nominated Chris Call, seconded by Pat Johnson. Unanimous vote in favor of Chris Call for RSEC secretary.
  
  - 2011 Executive Committee (incoming): Georgia Younglove (President), Laurie Abbott (Vice-President), Chris Call (Secretary). Secretary’s note: Jeff Fehmi, elected to RSEC Secretary in 2009 was called to military duty in Iraq, and asked to be relieved of his commitment as RSEC secretary. Executive committee nominated Laurie Abbott as replacement secretary in Fall 2009, who was elected to this position following balloting by email.

• **Round Robin:** Brief updates from RSEC representatives about current status of programs at their member institutions.

5. **Transfer of Leadership:** Karen Hickman passed the RSEC Presidency to Georgia Younglove.

6. **Meeting adjourned.**

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**Action Items for 2010:**

Historian Karen Launchbaugh will continue to update RSEC website.  
Laurie Abbott will update list serve of RSEC representatives.  
Executive Committee will draft proposed budget.