

Teleconference Agenda - May 22, 2008:

1. Welcome
2. 2007 Dallas Conference – Thanks to all for a successful meeting
 - SAAS’s largest number of attendees with largest number of GA participation
 - Registration history on web
 - SAAS’s by-laws, minutes, and conference information on web at www.saasinc.org
3. General Information 2009 SAAS Conference:
 - Will be held in Atlanta, Georgia
 - Saturday, January 31 through Tuesday, February 3
 - At the Westin Peachtree Plaza in downtown Atlanta
 - Walking distance to numerous restaurants, CNN, Coke Cola, etc.
 - Group Room Rates are Single and Double Rooms - \$144/night and Triple/Quad Rooms - \$164/night
 - Registration - SAAS participant’s registration fee was raised to \$60 and graduate student registration fee remains at \$5
 - Group registration tables will be in several locations
 - Normally settle up with each association on last day of the conference
4. Meeting Room Assignment Worksheet
 - Three Sheets
 1. Room Assignment – Daily/Hourly Room Assignments
Check Setup, AV needed, and Title – Review closely for needs
 2. Room Schedule – by Date and Time
 3. Contacts - Hotel
5. SAAS Responsibilities
 - Contract for block of sleeping rooms and amenities
 - Meeting rooms with setup, access to electricity, screen, podium, microphone if needed.
 - Registration forms, lanyards, name holders and blank association name tags – Certain groups bring their own
 - Sunday’s General Session/Reception – Super Bowl Party with meal
 - Saturday Night’s Meet and Greet Officers
6. Group Responsibilities:
 - Program content and written program
 - Equipment (computers and projectors)
 - Posters, Poster boards, setup and take down
 - Manning of individual registration tables
 - Food and Beverage – Arrangement with hotel and payment

7. Schedule/deadlines

- Participants Announcement Letter from SAAS's Data base
Nov 2008/ Early January 2009
- **I will need your organization's program in electronic format (MSWord format preferred) to include in the SAAS program by December 1, 2008.**
- **Deadline for group hotel rate is 5:00 pm (Eastern Time), January 16, 2009.**

8. New Multi Discipline Symposium - Ag Renewable Energy Opening Session and Symposium

Board appointed a committee: Virginia Morgan, Auburn, and HL Goodwin, Arkansas--please give them your thoughts and help.

Tentative program:

- General Session on Sunday, 3:30 – 5:00 pm, will set the tone for the conference. Invited keynote speakers--academic, industry, and federal.
- The Monday tentative schedule will include multi-disciplinary track that is separate and concurrent with the section sessions:
 - 8:00 - 10:00ish Technological Convergence
 - 10:00 - 11:45 Panel of Practitioners
 - 1:15 - 3:00ish Cooperative Approaches to Funding (Ag. Econ)
 - 3:00 - 4:45 Take it to the Market (wrap up session: Ag. Comm. and Ag. Ed.)

9. Questions/Open Discussion

- Possible another teleconference call in the fall as things progress.