From: Bill Baymgardt (11/23/1999)
To: arpas members

Broadcast Email
Hello, ARPAS colleagues.

Here are some brief comments on various subjects; hopefully, you will find some things of interest.

INTEREST IN ARPAS
Interest in ARPAS continues to grow from companies, organizations, and universities. Particularly from companies, we are receiving high interest on two fronts. First, the number of Corporate Sponsors is growing. Second, an increasing number of companies are expressing an interest in having all of their applicable staff take the exam and become ARPAS certified at one of the three levels available in the ARPAS portfolio: RAS/RAPS, PAS, or Board certified. Still another company arranged for the exam to be given to their national staff just this week. Other companies are in the planning stage regarding such issues.

CORPORATE SPONSORS
We have grown from five sponsors last year to 10 that are paid to date. In addition, we have six more corporations that are in final stages of agreeing on a level of sponsorship. Thus, I am hopeful that we will have 16 sponsors as we enter the new millennium. A list of the current sponsors follows. Be sure to tell representatives who you know just how much we value the partnership with the Corporate Sponsors. Opportunities for greater visibility of ARPAS sponsors include links for Platinum and Gold Sponsors on our re-engineered Web site (see later comment) and recognition of sponsors in ARPAS publications and at meetings. Discussion with corporate representatives, consultants, and others have resulted in several very valuable suggestions. One such suggestion is that we provide more visibility to the Code of Ethics that each member of ARPAS is bound to uphold. We are engaging in the development of a leaflet that would inform others of the advantages of selecting advisors, consultants, and supplier representatives who have earned certification credentials from ARPAS. When completed, we can provide appropriate such information packets to Corporate Sponsors should they choose to use them in their own program information. Secondly, in our communications about ARPAS, we are stressing the importance of a pledge to uphold the Code of Ethics. Thus, we are making it clear that ARPAS is built on demonstrated knowledge, continuing education, and agreement to abide by the Code of Ethics. This is the Code Competency of ARPAS!

As of 11/19/1999, the following companies have demonstrated their continuing commitment to the future of animal agriculture by becoming a Corporate Sponsor of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists. Annual levels of support include the following categories: Platinum ($2,500), Gold ($1,500), Silver ($1,000), and Bronze ($500).
Platinum:
QualiTech, Inc.

Gold:
Agway, Inc.
Church & Dwight Company
Monsanto
Roche Vitamins Inc.
Zinpro Corporation
Biovance

Silver:
Alltech, Inc.
Fort Dodge Animal Health

Bronze:
Purina Mills, Inc.

As I said, interest is high. Here is what Wayne Weiland, Director of Technical Services, Monsanto Animal Ag Business, said: "Monsanto Animal Ag is excited to have the opportunity to support ARPAS at the Gold sponsor level for 2000. Thank you for the opportunity to show our support of ARPAS. You have a great organization and should be commended on the standards you have set for your members and the industry."

RENEWAL OF INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP
Hopefully, you have sent in your dues for the year 2000. If not, please do so as soon as possible. No grace period is being allowed. This is the time to check that all of your information (address, phone, fax, and e-mail) is correct. As the FASS databases are now set up, it is necessary that each of us update information for each society to which we belong. Sending a change to one society at Savoy headquarters does not catch all. Each is an independent database! With continued growth in individual membership and corporate sponsorship and careful attention to cost containment, ARPAS will have a bright future. How about each of you getting at least one new member in 2000? If you know of anyone who has let his or her membership lapse, let Vicki Smith <vickis@assochq.org> (or me) know, and we will work to get him or her back into active status.

CEUs
Also, remember that you need to send in a listing of conferences & meetings with the hours of instruction (CEUs) related to each for 1999.

INTERACTION WITH DEPARTMENTS AT UNIVERSITIES
I try to maintain contact with departments of animal, dairy, and poultry science. I met with the heads at their invitation in January 1999. I have an invitation to provide an update and to discuss opportunities with them at their national meeting in January 2000. I have agreed to do that, either in person or by phone conference (depending on budget). On October 5, I sent a letter to all department
heads, covering three points. 1) With input from Bob Rogers of
Mississippi State University, chair of the Examining Board, we have
invited departments to submit questions that will be considered for
inclusion in the data bank of ARPAS exam questions.  2) We have asked
their level of interest in helping to structure a "general exam" to be
available for use by departments to test the knowledge of their
graduating seniors. Some states are now requiring such exams.  3) We
have invited them to make the ARPAS exam available to graduating
seniors and graduate students. Several departments have expressed an
interest in helping their graduates add to their "toolkit" as they
enter the job market.

ARPAS WEB SITE: < http://www.arpas.org/>
The ARPAS Web site is being re-engineered. We're getting good
cooperation from Ron Keller and Doug Mikkelsen of the Network
Services Department at FASS. It was decided not to spend much money
on updates that would only be temporary, but rather wait for the new
format and content. Hopefully, your EVP will be able to get the text
parts of the Web site reworked over the holidays. However, there are
many useful things on the Web right now. Here are a few. The
Professional Animal Scientist can be accessed on the Web. However,
you will soon need your user name and ID; so be sure you take that
information from your membership card and keep it by your computer.
If you can't find that information, please contact Vicki Smith at the
business office (<vickis@assochq.org>). The Code of Ethics is on the
Web site. Five sample questions for each PAS exam category are
available on the Web. Both an application form for new members and a
membership renewal form are available on the Web. The section
currently labeled "Handbook" contains much valuable information about
ARPAS, including constitution, by-laws, committee responsibilities,
and history. In January, the new version should be up and running!!
Among the new things will be a listing of meetings and conferences of
interest to ARPAS members and links to other relevant Web sites.

GETTING THE ARPAS MESSAGE OUT
This fall I have taken the message to the Minnesota Nutrition
Conference and to the Cornell Nutrition Conference. Conferences of
this type provide an important venue to get the word out about the
value of ARPAS and to interact with our customers. The reception has
been great!

CHAPTERS
The California Chapter invited me to provide an update and to
participate in their chapter's Continuing Education Conference on
October 28 & 29. Congratulations, folks; you have a dynamic and
exciting chapter! I realize that there are other active chapters, and
I look forward to hearing from all of you. If you provide us with a
brief summary of some of your programs and activities, we will pass
that on to the ARPAS membership at large. Opportunities exist for
other state or regional Chapters that can provide activities and
programs most relevant to their unique needs.

Well, I'd better quit before you stop reading. Let me hear from you.
My direct e-mail address is <bbaum@gte.net> or you can contact the
Business Office in Savoy at <arpas@assoehq.org>

Happy Holidays,

Bill Baumgardt
Executive Vice President, ARPAS