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September 30, 2020

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**WELCOME
New
Members!**

Welcome to our
new, reinstated,
and
student-transfer
members added
to the
ASABE family in
the month of
AUGUST

Click to see
who's joined
your
professional
network!

[From the Executive Director](#)



One of ASABE’s organizational goals is to “cultivate a diverse, thriving, and engaged membership.” Over the years, we have taken a number of steps to advance this goal. With the recent creation of the IDEA committee, dedicated to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access, I look forward to these efforts really taking off. This work is timely and useful. However, when asked whether we are actually becoming a more diverse organization, we only have anecdotal evidence at hand. The membership application and membership renewal process asks

only about the applicant's age, and whether the applicant is male or female. As a result, we have very limited demographic information about our members.

Starting with the fall membership renewal process, and when new members join, we will begin including a few additional, optional questions to obtain a fuller understanding of who our members are and how they define themselves. Providing this information will be completely voluntary. Access to this information will be strictly limited for both ASABE staff and Society leadership, and we will report member demographic data only in aggregated form, with complete anonymity.

I understand that not everyone will want to provide personal information at this level of detail. I also understand that, without more detailed member data, we will not be able to measure the effects of our efforts to become more diverse and more inclusive nor determine whether we should modify our member services or provide new services. Watch for the expanded demographic information request when you renew your membership, and please respond as fully as you feel comfortable. Thank you for your ASABE membership.

Darrin J. Drollinger
Executive Director

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Highlights of the Board of Trustees' Summer Meetings

Earlier this summer, the ASABE Board of Trustees convened via videoconference for its regular meetings held during the Annual International Meeting. President Sue E. Nokes and incoming President Candice Engler presided over the opening and closing board meetings, respectively. Here are some of the key actions and notes of those meetings.

The Board approved formation of a new standing executive-level committee on inclusion, diversity, equity, and access (IDEA). Also approved was a policy on honors and recognition that advances the importance of ethical conduct of awardees.

Focused-fundraising proposals were accepted for a NASEM-BANR study on circular economies and also the normalization of student competition award levels. Both were forwarded to the ASABE Foundation for further action.

The financial report indicated that the balance of ASABE’s restricted reserve currently totals 59.2% of 2019 operating costs, well above the standing goal of 50% of the prior year’s operating budget. Society income for 2020 includes a federal Payroll Protection Plan loan, which is anticipated to convert to a grant at year’s end. The board expressed appreciation during these uncertain times for the careful stewardship of the restricted reserve.

Annual meeting registration totals for 2020 were discussed, along with the status of venue contracts for the 2021, 2022, and 2023 meetings.

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magazine**
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educator

ASABE member Anne Dare joined the meeting to review the efforts of the USDA Agriculture Innovation Agenda Intersociety Task Force, being led by the Tri-Societies. Dare and **Past President Steve Searcy** represented ASABE on the task force, which was formed to develop a response to the [Agriculture Innovation Agenda](#).

Visit the ASABE website for [additional meeting highlights](#), including council and Foundation notes.

Questions about any of these activities can be directed to Executive Director [Darrin Drollinger](#) or President [Candice Engler](#). As always, and especially this year under President Engler, we encourage you to [#GetInvolved!](#)

—ASABE Board of Trustees 2019-2020

—ASABE Board of Trustees 2020-2021

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Nye Graduate Fellowship Recipients Announced

ASABE is pleased to announce recipients of the 2020 John C. Nye Graduate Fellowship.

Because of the very high volume of applications received and a very generous anonymous donor, the selection committee was able to name two honorees this year:

Ibukunoluwa Ajayi-Banji is a PhD candidate at the North Dakota State University
Lisbeth Vallecilla Yopez is a PhD candidate at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Each recipient will receive a \$1,750 scholarship to be used to support their ongoing pursuit of a doctorate degree. Congratulations to our two outstanding honorees.

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Leadership Training Webinar



Are you a committee officer? Or contemplating such a role? Simply curious about the lay of the land surrounding our 200+ committees that carry out the important work of the Society?

Join us Wednesday, October 28, 3:00 to 5:00 pm (EDT), for a committee leadership training webinar, open to all interested ASABE members. Discussion will center on the structure of the Society, the practical side of organizing and documenting committee activities, the basic benchmarks that are used, and how you can inspire and effect positive change for your peers and for the Society.

[Registration](#) is required and limited to 100 participants. For more information contact [Jean Walsh](#).

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Why Publish in the ASABE Journals?



Garey Fox, editor in chief of ASABE journals, has produced a video to encourage submissions to our journals. Many changes have been made to improve the process.

Let ASABE help improve your contribution. [Submit your manuscript](#) today!

[See the video.](#)

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National Irrigation Symposium Collection

A large special collection of articles to be presented at the [National Irrigation Symposium](#) will be published in the fourth, fifth, and sixth issues of our journals. Some are already online.

You can [begin reading now](#) and come back later when more are published.

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Thanks to Our Journal Editors and Associate Editors

We would like to thank the members of the editorial review team within each technical community. The sustained excellence of ASABE journals depends on the dedicated, volunteered contributions of these highly qualified editors and associate editors working together with many volunteer reviewers.

For the list of editors, see www.asabe.org/JournalEditors.

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Ag Tech and Systems Management Students Featured

The current issue of *Resource* is the latest edition of EXPLORE—a special issue that profiles the degree programs and career opportunities available in ag technology and ag systems management. Written mostly by students and recent graduates, EXPLORE provides firsthand advice on choosing a degree program, finding internships and extracurricular activities, and landing that first job.

Read the latest *Resource* issue using a [PDF](#), [E-reader online](#), [mobile app](#), or read [past issues](#).



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Nominate Now for 2021 ASABE Major Awards

The nominations deadline is quickly approaching! Please complete your submissions for all ASABE major awards by the deadline, October 31.

The complete list of [major awards](#) provides all the details you'll need for each award.

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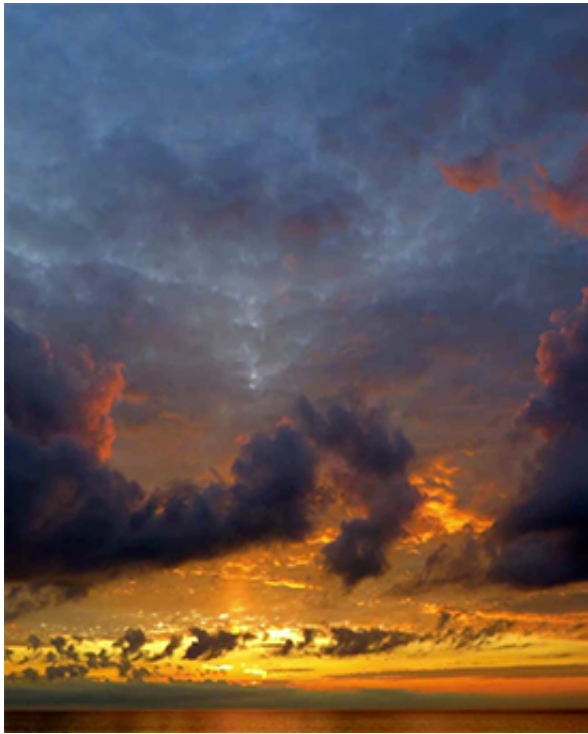
Looking for Volunteer Opportunities? AIM 2021 Could Use Your Help!

Are you interested in becoming more involved with the Society and specifically, more involved with AIM? Contact your [technical community program chair](#) for volunteer opportunities.

Watch for the call for abstracts to open in October. We are looking forward to an outstanding 2021 Annual International Meeting in Anaheim, Calif., July 11-14!

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Have You Snapped a Great Photo This Year? Submit It to VisualChallenge10



It's last call for entries for VisualChallenge10! Submit your images by October 5. The best images will be selected by ASABE staff and published in the January/February 2021 issue of *Resource* magazine.

Here is your chance to convey and celebrate the beauty of your work, your research, or your technical community. Submit as many entries as you want. All entries should be original work, and the image resolution must be 300 dpi or greater.

E-mail your entries, as attachments, to [Melissa Miller](#). Write *VisualChallenge10* in the subject line, and include a title and brief description for

each image. If necessary, include a name for crediting the image and written assurance that permission has been granted to submit and publish the image.

Find more information and see the winning entries from previous Challenges, visit www.asabe.org/VisualChallenge.

Previous VisualChallenge entry (above) courtesy of ASABE member Paula Steiner.

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Journal Article Indexing

How can you be sure your ASABE article is reaching the widest-possible audience?

Our journals are indexed for search engines by various discovery services. We also send our journal metadata to CrossRef and register a DOI number for each article, which makes the articles easy to find and cite. In addition to the indexers, others obtain our metadata directly from CrossRef, further expanding the exposure your article receives.

Read more at www.asabe.org/DiscoveryServices.

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Got a Bright Idea? Let's Get Engaged!

Have you or a colleague ever mused about a great new service or product that you wish ASABE offered? During an ASABE committee meeting, has conversation ever surfaced a shortcoming of an existing digital tool that could be tweaked to better meet your needs? A new feedback form now makes it easy to capture those bright ideas and send them off for prompt attention.

We want to make engagement with your Society easy and rewarding, and your suggestions will help us achieve that. The form can be used for all manner of issues, from reporting a broken link on the website to proposing development or acquisition of new digital tools for committee work. Once you submit the form, we'll do our best to provide a personal response within two working days.

Thank you for taking the time help us make ASABE products and services the best they can be.

Find more [here](#).

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Nebraska Team Wins Irrigation Grant for African Smallholder Farms

An interdisciplinary University of Nebraska team led by the Daugherty Water for Food Global Institute (DWFI), has received a three-year, \$1 million grant from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to advance access and education around smallholder farmer irrigation in Africa. IFAD, an international financial institution and specialized agency of the United Nations, invests in the prosperity and resilience of rural communities throughout the world. Small-scale agriculture, a proven method of poverty reduction, is central to their development model.

The grant, partially matched and co-funded by DWFI, will focus on work in six countries: Rwanda, Ethiopia, Burundi, Senegal, Niger and the Gambia. Collaborating closely with local partners, the team will explore whether identified business models for providing irrigation to smallholder farmers are inclusive and sustainable within their existing markets. As well as supporting entrepreneurs working with smallholder farmers, the program will share information gained from the research with young professionals, students and others who are interested in agricultural entrepreneurship.

[Full story](#)

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CAST to Present Annual Communicator Award



Join the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology (CAST) and CropLife Foundation when they honor the 2020 Borlaug CAST Communication award winner on the occasion of the 2020 Borlaug Dialogue, hosted by the World Food Prize Foundation. The [online event](#) takes place October 13, 1 p.m. (EDT).

The 2020 award winner, Alexa Lamm (in photo), associate professor of science communication at the University of Georgia's College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, will present on *Effectively Communicating Science in*

Times of Crisis. Q&A session to follow.

ASABE is a longtime supporter of [CAST](#). ASABE members regularly contribute to CAST publications, and several have been honored with CAST awards, the most recent being Marty Matlock, University of Arkansas, who received the Borlaug Cast Communication award in 2018. Currently sitting on the CAST Board of Representatives on behalf of ASABE is Alex Thomasson, Mississippi State University. [Contact Thomasson](#) with any questions about CAST activities or ASABE's involvement.

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Recent Standards Activities

Proposed Projects

- X377WD, Withdrawal of ANSI/ASAE S377, Application of Remote Linear Control Devices to Lawn and Garden Ride-On Tractor Attachments and Implements
- X658, Test Methods of Metered Seed Systems for Precision Single-Seed Drill Performance

Press Releases

- September 17, 2020, ASABE Announces New International Standard for Towed Agricultural Vehicles
- September 18, 2020, Standard to Evaluate Seeding System Accuracy Being Proposed by ASABE ([view ASABE media release](#))

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