

**ASABE CA-NV Section
2020 Annual Meeting**

Date: Wed, February 12th, 2020

Location: SCE Energy Education Center, Tulare, CA

Minutes

Present: About 100 attendees

The following are web links to documents and photos pertinent to the 2020 Annual Meeting:

- [Meeting Announcement](#)
- [2019 Section Report](#)
- [Meeting Presentation slides](#)
- [Guest Speaker Maury Salz Presentation slides](#)
- [Photos](#)

5:00 PM Poster Competition and Reception

- **Registration.** Guests arrived and registered at the entrance.

Students in the poster competition setup posters while the rest of the guests mingled and engaged in conversation. Lynn Groundwater welcomed the attendees. She turned their attention to a table setup with information and t-shirts from the Inaugural Student Rally, held from Jan 17-20th, 2020 at UC Davis, and then to the Student Poster Competition.

- **Student Poster Competition.** Traeger Cotten explained the rules of the competition.

Each attendee was given a ballot and the choice to vote for their favorite undergraduate and graduate poster. Voting concluded at 6:00 PM. In total, there were 11 undergraduate student posters, all from Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo, and 5 graduate student posters, 3 presented by UC Davis students, 1 from UC Merced, and 1 from Fresno State.

6:00 PM Dinner. Poster presentation voting concluded. Dinner was served.

6:30 PM Business Meeting

- **Meeting kickoff and 2019 CANV Officer Introductions.** Hossein Edalati and Lynn Groundwater welcomed the guests to the Annual ASABE CANV Section Meeting and introduced the 2019 CANV Officers:

Chair – Hossein Edalati, UC Davis

Vice Chair – Lynn Groundwater, Provost and Pritchard

Secretary/Treasurer – Bo Liu, Cal Poly SLO

Past Chair – Dr. Balaji Seth, CSU Fresno

Program Chair – Traeger Cotten, Southern California Edison

Membership Chair – Tyler Barzee, UC Davis

Public Relations – Andrew Skidmore, CSU Fresno

Awards Chair – Dr. Reza Ehsani, UC Merced

Student/ Industry Liaison – Ferisca Putri, UC Davis

Career Development – Carolyn Jones, USDA NRCS

Technical difficulties with the AV system later in the meeting delayed parts of the business meeting.

- **2019 Section Report.** Hossein Edalati and Dr. Bo Liu provided the 2019 Section Report, summarizing major Section activities in 2019, provided the membership update, and the treasurer's update.

Activities in 2019 included the Annual Meeting, the ASABE Initiative Fund Application to request money for the 1st CANV Student Rally, approval of that funding application, the Annual Section Luncheon at the ASABE International Meeting in Boston, and 7 months of Student Rally Planning, culminating in the Rally in January 2020.

Bimonthly updates suffered as a result of the effort to put together the Student Rally. These updates need to resume in 2020. The Section also needs to work on better communication through the website and connecting employers with students.

Membership activity was good but there is room for growth. As of January 2020, the Section had 313 members.

In November 2019, the Section transferred its Wells Fargo Bank Account from a personal account to a business account. This account is the Section's General

Fund. The Section also opened a second account dedicated to the Student Rally. As of January 2020, the Section General Fund had \$5,313.17.

Hossein also turned the members' attention to the Section website and informed them that Section updates, meeting announcements, meetings, and other relevant material would be posted on the website.

- **Student Rally Update.** Carolyn Jones, Tyler Barzee, and Ferisca Putri updated the membership on the Student Rally. Details can also be found on the website's Rally page (<https://asabecanv.wordpress.com/rally/>).

In total, 47 students attended the Rally (7 from Cal Poly SLO, 1 from CSU Fresno, 10 from Modesto Junior College, 23 from UC Davis, 6 from UC Merced, and 1 from University Nevada, Reno). The Section had secured \$20,000 in funding for the first year and \$10,000 in funding for the second year contingent on securing 50% of the first year's budget in external sponsorship. Rally income, including registration fees and sponsorship, brought in \$6,130, which covered 80% of Rally expenditures of \$7,894. The 2019 and 2020 Rally Officers are as follows:

Position	2019	2020
Past President	NA	Tyler Barzee, UCD
President	Tyler Barzee, UCD	Jose Amezcua, Cal Poly SLO
Vice President	Ferisca Putri, UCD	Taylor Hunt, Modesto JC
Secretary	Israel Lemus, UCM	Brandon Salazar, UCM
Treasurer	Lucy Knowles, UCD	Luis Villanueva, Cal Poly SLO
Parliamentarian	Andrew Skidmore, CSU Fresno	Michael Souza, UCM
Regional Advisor	Bryan Jenkins, UCD	Peter Livingston, Cal POLY SLO

Rally sponsors included the ASABE Initiative Fund, Ag Industrial Manufacturing, Davids Engineering Inc, California Safe Soils LLC, Provost and Pritchard Consulting Group, Carolyn M Jones, Paul Burkner, University Park Inn & Suites, UC Davis BAE Department, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo BioResource & Agricultural Engineering Department, Modesto Junior College, and UC Merced.

- **Elections and 2020 Officer Team.** Carolyn Jones, on behalf of the Section Nomination Committee, which consisted of herself, Dr. Mohammad Sadek, and Steve Zicari, presented the list of 2020 Officer nominees. The members in attendance unanimously elected the following 2020 Officers:

Chair – Lynn Groundwater, Provost and Pritchard

Vice Chair – Tyler Barzee, UC Davis

Secretary – Charles Hillyer, CSU Fresno

Treasurer – Bo Liu, Cal Poly SLO

Past Chair – Hossein Edalati, UC Davis

Program Chair – Mohammad Sadek, Cal Poly SLO

Membership Chair – Julie Meyers, Davids Engineering

Public Relations – Irwin Donis-Gonzalez, UC Davis

Awards Chair – Sushant Mehan, Formation Environmental

Student/ Industry Liaison – Steve Zicari, California Safe Soils

Career Development – Carolyn Jones, USDA NRCS

- **School Updates.** Lynn Groundwater invited representatives from each school to give a brief branch update.

ASABE CANV School branches and school representatives were:

Butte College -- no representative present,

Hartnell College -- no representative present,

Cal Poly SLO BRAE Dept -- Peter Livingston (Department Head),

CSU Bakersfield Physics & Engineering Dept -- no representative present,

Fresno State IT Department -- Dr. Balaji Sethuramasamyraja (Dept Chair),

Modesto JC Ag & Environmental Sciences Dept -- no representative present,

UC Davis BAE Department -- Dr. Bryan Jenkins (Dept Chair), and

UC Merced -- Israel Lemus (Student Branch President)

- **Awards Presentation (Poster Competition, Anniversary Milestones, EOY).** Dr. Reza Ehsani announced the winners of the Poster Competition, the Engineering of the Year winner, and recognized ASABE membership anniversary milestones.

The following people were the winners in the student poster competition:

Place (Award)	Undergraduate	Graduate
1st (\$250)	Emma Gray, Cal Poly SLO <i>Operation of Pressure Relief and Surge Control Valves Related to Water Hammer</i>	Aldo Garcia, Fresno State <i>Optimizing Water and Nitrogen Use Efficiency in Processing Tomatoes</i>
2nd (\$100)	Gracely Speth, Cal Poly SLO <i>Variable Frequency Drives for Pump Control</i>	Hossein Edalati, UC Davis <i>The Impact of a Weeping Wall on the Mitigation of Methane Emissions from a Dairy Manure Lagoon in CA</i>

The following members were recognized for reaching anniversary milestones in terms of years of ASABE membership. Award certificates and pins were mailed to them directly from ASABE.

40 Years: Durham K. Giles, Raymond Marala, and Shrinivasa K. Upadhayaya

50 Years: Reid Borgwardt, Benjamin R. Olson, and Vashek Cervinka

60+ Years: Donaldson S. Taylor (61), William R. DeTar (63), John C. Siemens (63), Bill A. Stout (66), Willey H. Henson Jr (68), John R. Goss (69), and Wesley E. Yates (71).

Paul Burkner, PE was awarded the CANV Section Engineering of the Year Award for service to the members and especially Students of the CANV Section. His strong support and effort were invaluable in getting the Inaugural Student Rally off the ground. His company, Ag Industrial Manufacturing, was a key sponsor of the event and hosted a day of activities in Lodi, CA. He also sponsored the event and represented the CANV Officer team before the ASABE Board of Trustees.

- **Sponsor Appreciation.** Andrew Skidmore recognized and thanked this year's sponsors who supported the Student Rally and the Annual Section Meeting.

Those sponsors included: the ASABE Initiative Fund, Ag Industrial Manufacturing, Davids Engineering, Provost and Pritchard, California Safe Soils, Carolyn Jones PE, Paul Burkner PE, University Park Inn and Suites, UC Davis, Cal Poly SLO, UC Merced, and Modesto Junior College.

7:30 PM Guest Speaker: Maury Salz (Past President, ASABE / President, CLAAS)

- **ASABE Update.** Lynn Groundwater introduced our first guest speaker, Maury Salz, who gave the audience an update about ASABE.

His [presentation](#) can be found on the CANV Section website under updates. Maury introduced the ASABE leadership team and Board of Trustees. He also gave a breakdown of ASABE by membership type and affiliation. He discussed Society goals and how ASABE is trying to achieve those goals through meetings, journals, and the membership.

8:00 PM Keynote Speaker: Dr. Nadia Sabeh (President/Founder, Dr. Greenhouse Inc);

Presentation Title: Indoor Farming: A Field of Opportunity

- **Keynote Speech.** Dr. Seth introduced Dr. Nadia Sabeh who provided the keynote speech titled, Indoor Farming: A Field of Opportunity.

When Dr. Nadia Sabeh was a high school senior, she took physics to get out of school early. Then she discovered Biosystems Engineering at UC Davis and was soon enraptured by agriculture, mushroom farming, greenhouses, and HVAC. Today she's recognized as a world-renowned expert and leader in herfield, as she helps indoor farmers grow plants locally and precisely in a controlled environment. She shared her story and spoke about the future challenge facing farmers of feeding 9 Billion.

8:55 PM Closing Comments. Hossein ended the meeting with closing comments.

He urged the Section to keep the momentum from 2019 going and asked new officers to stay in order to exchange information, take a group photo. He also asked school representatives to check in and provide updated officer and contact information.

9:00 PM Adjourn

