

**ABRIDGED Minutes**  
**from the December 17, 2020**  
**APS Council Call**

**A. Call to Order (Gleason)**

Meeting called to order at 11:03 a.m. Central.

**Council present:** Mark Gleason, Ron Walcott, Lindsey du Toit, Courtney Gallup, Lawrence Datnoff, Jim Bradeen, Katy Stevenson, Ashok Chanda, Krishna Subbarao, David Gent

**Absent:** Amy Charkowski

**Staff:** Amy Hope, Carol Ericson, Linda Schmitt, Kim Davis, Kurt Rood, Greg Grahek, Erik Uner

**B. Financial Health (Davis)**

**RECEIVED** November statement.

The net profit from operations for the five months ended November 30, 2020 was \$260,243, which is \$99,624 better than budget and (\$74,051) worse than prior year. The gain on the sale of the building was \$612,851 and YTD realized/unrealized gains were \$817,201 which generated a total net profit after investments of \$1,690,295.

Total YTD revenue was \$2,111,724 which was worse than budget by (\$774,386), and better than prior year by \$144,365.

Total YTD operating expenses were \$1,851,481 which is \$874,010 better (lower) than budget and (\$218,416) worse (higher) than the prior year. The IYPH video production was paid for in August, pushing the innovation department over budget.

**NOTED** that the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan has been officially forgiven. The portion APS received has been received and will be recorded as income on the December statement.

**C. APS Journals Update (Grahek/Subbarao)**

Succession plans are underway and going well for four of our six journals. Each new Editor-in-Chief (EIC) is brought on a year in advance to shadow the current EICs. The APS *MPMI* Manual of Operations needs to be revised to harmonize with the existing IS-MPMI bylaws. The sequence for a successful candidate is as follows: 1) nomination by IS-MPMI board; 2) review and approval by APS Pub Board; 3) review and approval by APS Council.

A Best Student Paper Award will be given for each journal beginning with the 2020 volume. Council asked about the review process which will be handled by the EIC with their senior editors and Krishna explained that although it was subjective, each paper considered would be read thoroughly.

**NOTED** that Krishna will report back to Council as we gain more information and prior to any decisions being made.

The *Phytopathology* trademark appeal in China is expected by the end of March 2021. Updates to come.

Impact Factor (IF) calculations will be changing. Although APS and IS-MPMI are signed on to DORA (which deemphasizes IF), we still pay attention to this metric because authors from many countries are required to publish in journals based on IF. APS journals still lead in IF in the plant pathology journal

segment, except *Molecular Plant Pathology* leads the entire category with a 4.326 IF. With the transition to gold OA, we expect *MPMI* to be comparable or better when the IF numbers are posted in June 2022, or 2023 at latest.

Three APS journals do not yet have an IF. *Plant Health Progress* is being considered. *Phytobiomes Journal* will have an IF in June 2021, and it could become our highest IF journal at that time, if the preliminary data posted on the JCR site hold steady. *PhytoFrontiers* cannot apply until January 2022 and the earliest it would receive an IF would be June 2023.

#### **D. Office/Committee Updates (Gleason)**

Mark and the presidential team have been in discussions with Office of Education and Education Center and will share additional information as discussions progress. Overall, we're looking for a structure that will utilize our volunteer talent. Will share information with Council once available.

#### **E. Committee Communication Technology Update (Uner)**

Staff has looked at a few options and are meeting with Amy Charkowski in January to get her feedback on community sites. Will share more information with Council once available.

#### **F. Administrative Items (All)**

**MOTION:** to approve the November 19, 2020, minutes as submitted. *Seconded; motion passed.*

**MOTION:** to approve the Council responses to committee annual reports as received and for CALs to contact the committee chairs with the responses. *Seconded; motion passed.*

*Call adjourned at 12:02 p.m. Central.*