



## Global Stewards

# ASABE 2016-2017 Annual Report



As agricultural and biological engineers, we accept a generous measure of responsibility in the work that we do. We're entrusted with the safety of those who operate the machinery we create and those who work in and around the structures we design. We put much thought into the strategies and practices we create for managing the natural resources we share with our fellow human beings. We accept this responsibility because we care and, moreover, because we strive to be good stewards.

I chose the theme of stewardship for my tenure as president as a way to support and highlight that aim.

Likewise, ASABE strives to be a thoughtful steward of the responsibilities and resources with which our members, and the outside world, entrust us. The projects and progress of the past year demonstrate that the Society takes its stewardship seriously.

We have been prudent in our financial activities over the past year, as evident in the Statement of Financial Position included on the last page of this report. Revenues and expenses have been stable, and our Restricted Reserve has been strong enough to support numerous Initiative Fund proposals.

We continue to make strides in the ASABE Global Initiative launched in 2014 with the aim of providing a platform for leadership and engagement in the food-energy-water nexus. In October 2016, we hosted our first Global Initiative conference outside the US, "Engineering and Technology Innovation for Global Food Security," in Stellenbosch, South Africa, with the support and participation of numerous stakeholders from across the globe. A white paper to be published in 2017 captures the primary ideas and recommendations that emerged from the conference.

Planning is now well underway for the next event, which will focus on global water security and will take place in Hyderabad, India, October 3-6, 2018.

Stewardship often dovetails with leadership, and such is true in the role we play in standards and technical activities. As of June 22, 2017, all new agricultural machinery sold in the United States is expected to be compliant with 49 CFR Part 562, Lighting and Marking on Agricultural Equipment. This requirement, as written by the US Department of Transportation, directly points to the specifications and content of two ASABE standards: ASAE S279.14, Lighting and Marking of Agricultural Equipment on Highways, and ASAE S390.4, Definitions and Classifications of Agricultural Field Equipment.

In addition, ASABE is providing leadership to the feed-machinery industry as administrator of the US technical advisory group for ISO/TC 293. The US Department of Commerce has committed funding to help subsidize costs associated with our engagement in this industry sector, an area that previously has not been actively involved in standardization. Over the next five years, the department's Market Development Cooperator Funds, along with strong support from the American Feed Industry Association, will give a huge boost to US engagement in this work.

In our role as a leading source of research publishing for the profession of agricultural and biological engineering, ASABE is striving to balance the needs of the Society, its authors, and the publishing community in making federally funded research accessible. Certain recent journal articles are now marked for public access, some for a limited time, in the ASABE Technical Library. These articles may be downloaded without a site license, but may not be posted to other websites, except as allowed by our copyright policy. Optional open access rights may be purchased per article.

ASABE draws members from around the globe, who present an array of opportunities and challenges for engagement. Responding to extensive membership research, we were pleased to launch a new online membership application form that will facilitate outreach to new and reinstating members throughout the world. The so-called smart-form walks the applicant through the enrollment process, automatically calculating dues according to demographic information, such as home country and age, and streamlining an application process that user research identified as --a barrier to membership. In addition, our Digital Strategies task force has made significant progress in assessing our target digital presence and identifying the gaps to be bridged to better communicate who we are and what we do.

While our professional member numbers have contracted slightly, we've continued to see consistent student numbers year-over-year, with 2016 totals



Engineering and Technology Innovation  
for Global Food Security  
24 - 27 October 2016  
Stellenbosch, South Africa  
An ASABE Global Initiative Conference



virtually the same compared to 2015. The end of 2016 brought encouraging news for student retention, as we saw a 5% increase over 2015. The annual meeting continues to attract students and young professionals, who made up nearly 40% of meeting attendees in 2016. The outlook for 2017 is equally promising, suggesting our efforts to

enhance student programming at the meeting, like the addition of the AEM Student Awards Breakfast, appear to be making a difference.

The ASABE Foundation is a key partner in advancing the goals and mission of the Society, and in recent years the Foundation has made a concerted effort to reorganize, refocus, and strengthen its fundraising activities. Last year the Foundation added a director of advancement and established E-06 Foundation Liaison Committee, which will help ensure that fundraising efforts remain well aligned with Society needs and objectives. The committee comprises representatives from the Foundation, the Society Board, both the young professional and preprofessional communities, and ASABE staff. Its overarching purpose is to oversee, develop, and review activity related to interactions of the Society with the Foundation. The committee is specifically charged with generating ideas for Society initiatives and activities and communicating these to the Society Board; communicating to the Foundation fundraising needs to support Society initiatives and activities; providing feedback to the Foundation on fundraising opportunities; stimulating member engagement in fundraising activities; and appointing ad-hoc committees in conjunction with the Foundation as needed, to manage funds provided to the Society through Foundation fundraising efforts or to conduct other liaison activities. With E-06 in place, the Foundation and the Society encourage members to provide input on activities and initiatives that should be considered for funding.

In an effort to better serve our academic community, ASABE is collaborating with Liaison International, and ASME, in the creation of EngineeringCAS, a centralized service that streamlines marketing and application processing for graduate-level programs

across multiple disciplines. Applicants will benefit from the service's user-friendly, streamlined application process and a single portal to discover all available graduate programs in their field. Admissions officers will find value in an expanded global applicant pool and administrative task support that creates more time for holistic application review. We anticipate a fall 2017 launch of EngineeringCAS.

We continue to look forward in our publications, standards, and public affairs activities, making changes as necessary to adapt to emerging market trends, technology, and member needs.

To improve the manuscript-review process, the Publications Council last summer changed the best practices for editors, reducing the first peer review from 100 days to 60, and editors have been conducting quarterly meetings to explore further improvements to the review process. To further strengthen the publishing process, we're taking advantage of Publons, a web-based service integrated with ScholarOne Manuscripts, our peer-review system. Publons offers reviewer training and provides verified evidence of peer review and editorial contributions.

To reach a wider market, we have made certain recent journal articles publicly accessible, some permanently and others for a limited time, in the Technical Library. Additionally, authors now have the option to purchase open access rights for their articles.

Our Standards program continues to thrive, thanks to the efforts of our dedicated committee members and with the longstanding support of our industry partners. The 2017 ASABE Standards CD includes 264 standards, 52 of which are adoptions of ISO standards. Just 15 years ago, the 2002 Standards CD contained 218 standards, only three of which were ISO adoptions. In that same time span, ASABE increase its role in ISO standards adoption: we now coordinate the US input in 14 distinct formal ISO committees; in 2002 we coordinated the activities of just two.

We will continue to strengthen our ties with industry groups and peer organizations. Alignment with Canadian organizations remains a priority, along with improved procedures and communication tools. It is quite common for the initiation of a new standards project, or even a new technical committee, to be prompted by one of our partners. While

there has been interaction with the Canadian Standards Association and the Agricultural Manufacturers of Canada for many years, there is now interest in developing binational standards on agricultural field machinery and sustainability. New to ASABE, binational standards have been successful in other industries.

The newly established E-2050 Global Engagement committee and subcommittees will become fully functioning in the new year. Now is a great time to join these groups addressing global issues in the food, energy, and water areas.

I am grateful for the privilege and opportunity to serve as your president this past year and I look forward to continuing to work with President Steve Searcy and all of you to further our goals in the coming year.



Maynard M. Herron  
ASABE President 2016-2017

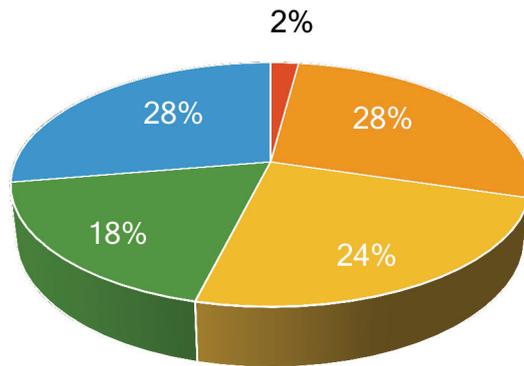
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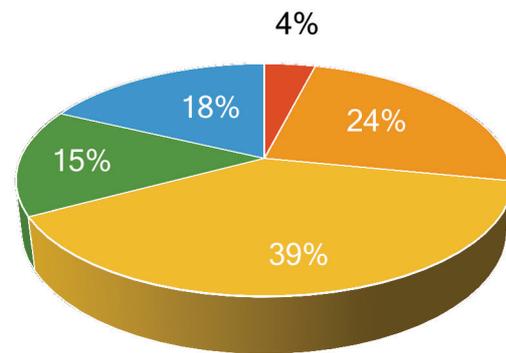
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### REVENUE - December 31, 2016



- Foundation
- Meetings & Conferences
- Society
- Standards & Technical
- Technical Publications

### EXPENSES - December 31, 2016



- Foundation
- Meetings & Conferences
- Society
- Standards & Technical
- Technical Publications

### STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

December 31, 2015 and 2016

	2016	2015
<b>ASSETS</b>		
Cash .....	\$1,662,278	\$1,584,715
Accounts Receivable.....	38,627	52,169
Book Inventory .....	89,564	113,287
Due from (to) inter-fund .....	(12,579)	(12,893)
Property & Equipment .....	292,888	310,087
(At cost, less accumulated depreciation)		
2015 - \$1,094,467		
2016 - \$1,130,053		
<b>Total Assets.....</b>	<b>\$2,070,778</b>	<b>\$2,047,365</b>
<b>LIABILITIES AND FUND BALANCE</b>		
Accounts Payable & Accrued Expenses.....	\$328,599	\$317,504
Unearned Revenue: Dues & Sales .....	985,799	973,481
Fund Balance .....	756,380	756,380
<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balance.....</b>	<b>\$2,070,778</b>	<b>\$2,047,365</b>
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<b>RESTRICTED RESERVE BALANCE.....</b>	<b>\$2,232,465</b>	<b>\$2,198,027</b>
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REVENUE .....	\$3,443,536	\$3,400,233
EXPENSES .....	3,430,957	3,387,340
<b>SURPLUS .....</b>	<b>\$12,579</b>	<b>\$12,893</b>