Foundation Committee

Members Present: Vickie Lewandowski (Chair), Gary Acuff, Kathy Glass, Don Schaffner, Jenny Scott, Judy Greig, Don Zink and Alejandro Mazzotta.

Advisors Present: Gale Prince, Robert Marshall, Paul Hall and Frank Yiannas.

Board/Staff Members Present: Isabel Walls, Katie Swanson, David Tharp and Lisa Hovey.

Visitors: Rusty Gildner, Nandini Natajan and Zeb Blanton.

Meeting Called to Order: 12:12 p.m., Monday, July 29, 2013.

Recording Secretary of Minutes: David Tharp.

Approved Agenda: The agenda was approved as presented.

Minutes of the 2012 Meeting: Were approved as presented.

Appointment of Vice Chair: Gary Acuff was approved as Vice Chair for the Committee.

Financial Reports: Balance Sheets and Statements of Activity for nine months ending May 31, 2013 and twelve months ending August 31, 2012 were reviewed by the Committee Members. Questions were answered by Lisa Hovey and David Tharp. Sustaining Members (who support the Foundation through their Membership) are now at an all-time high.

The Committee recommended reducing the amount kept in the money market to about $100,000 and invest the rest. They also would like to see a split out of Sustaining Membership support as opposed to individual contributions. There were questions about how much is being spent out on Student travel; State & Local Health and Ag travel; and the Scientist from a Developing Country travel.

Discussion moved towards fund raising efforts and ideas. Some expressed were to have a stand for the Foundation at Annual Meeting where Committee Members could “solicit” contributions. Include a “secure box” where attendees could deposit their contribution (or form with credit card numbers). Add a “bill me later” option to the contribution form. Collect contribution forms outside of Opening Session.

Investment Activity: The Committee reviewed the investment activity for the quarter ending June 30, 2013 and calendar years 2012, 2011, 2010 and 2009. Members were very happy with the progress made in 2012 and six months of 2013.

Budget for FYE August 31, 2014: The budget showing revenue of $106,000 and expense of $93,000 was discussed and approved.

Additional ideas of projects to fund were: development of white papers and an increased number of Student Travel Scholarships.
Unfinished Business: None.

New Business: Setting and communicating a new fund raising goal – $2 Million by 2020; Using a “thermometer” to show progress towards fund raising goals; revisions to the Silent Auction to attract quality items; holding quarterly Committee meetings via teleconferences; provide support monies for the New Media project; support internships and / or an internship at FAO in Rome, student development; professional development; information dissemination; capacity building; specialist functions; white papers; media education. These ideas will be explored further at the upcoming teleconference meetings of the Committee.

A sub-committee was established to create a vision statement: Don Zink, Isabel Walls, Paul Hall and Rusty Gildner.

Recommendations to the Executive Board:
1. Appoint Gary Acuff as Vice Chair for the Committee.
2. Increase the number of Student Travel Scholarships to 15 and look at increasing the number from North America.

Next Meeting: Teleconference in September 2013. Include silent auction and other foundation activities on the agenda.

Meeting Adjourned: 1:28 p.m.

Chairperson: Vickie Lewandowski.