Letter to BCA Members

March 28, 2020

All,

Through this difficult time in the history of our world, our thoughts are with you and we hope that you and your families are faring as well as possible. As you are all aware, the Coronavirus (COVID-19) has had a major impact on every facet of our lives and disrupted most businesses and organizations as well.

For the BCA, we have postponed BIOCOMM 2020 to BIOCOMM 2021, negotiated a change with the hotel and signed a new contract.

BIOCOMM2020/21 will be held May 18-22, 2021 at the same location, the Drury Hotel, Santa Fe, NM.

- If you have made your room reservations for 2020, you must call the hotel at (+1)505-424-2175 and cancel your room to avoid any charges.
- We have refunded registration fees already paid this year via PayPal. Contact office@bca.org if you have any problems/questions about this.
- The new hotel reservation and a new link will activate at the end of May and will be posted on the meeting page.
- The new meeting registration form will be available after May on the meeting page.

In the face of adversity the BCA executive team will be taking this opportunity to do a few things a little differently this year. The fact that we cannot meet in person does not mean that we can’t meet at all, so we will be holding a few online events that would normally only be at BIOCOMM.

BioImages

BioImages will go on as usual. In fact, even now the judges are wrapping up the difficult job of choosing among the many excellent submissions received this year. The winning images will be announced in a special webcast on May 19, 2020. We will be holding a video teleconference at that time and then post all the selected images on the website. Look for specific details about how to tune in later this month.

Business Meeting / Town Hall Meeting

The BCA Constitution requires that we hold an annual business meeting and that is usually done during BIOCOMM. The downside to this approach is that many members cannot be physically present and therefore lose the opportunity to be heard. This year, we have an exciting, new opportunity to hold these meetings virtually, allowing the entire membership to join in.

The exact time and date are still to be determined, but the Business Meeting and Town Hall Meeting will now occur online. We will be posting all the leadership reports in advance for members to review and we will provide a mechanism to write in questions prior to the actual event. We encourage you to e-mail us your questions ahead of the meetings so we can address your concerns and open it up to the membership. There will also be an opportunity to ask questions real time. Look for more information to come.

Taking advantage of the developments in technology has always been a large part of the BCA’s identity. As happens with many companies, the Leadership has been utilizing Zoom meetings regularly to discuss the work of the organization, and this has been especially helpful with the challenges we are facing this year. We are always available to answer your questions or take your suggestions. If you have any questions/concerns, please contact anyone on the Executive Committee or put a note in our suggestion box on the home page.

Thank you all and stay safe.

Adam Cooper, RBP, FBCA - President
Jamie Hayden, RBP, FBCA – Vice President
Jim Koepfler, FBCA – Secretary/Treasurer