S530 SSSA EARLY CAREER MEMBERS COMMITTEE

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:
   The committee consists of six SSSA members, half of which should be early career members (defined as having completed their terminal degree within the past seven years); The Chair is appointed by the SSSA President and serves for 1 year. Members are appointed for 3-year terms with terms staggered so that one third of the committee is replaced each year.

C. Functions:
   1. To develop a program for SSSA early career scientists for the SSSA Annual Meeting.
   2. To serve as the selection committee for the SSSA Early Career Professional Award. This will include encouraging nominations, becoming familiar with the guidelines/procedures and be responsible for seeing that all nominations fulfill the required criteria of eligibility, and evaluate nominations and select from among those nominated the most outstanding nominee.
   3. To obtain input and develop recommendations on ways to better serve SSSA early career scientists beyond the activities at the annual meeting.

D. Presidential Responsibilities:
   The President of SSSA appoints members to the committee and assists the committee, where needed, to expedite and accomplish its assigned functions.

SSSA Early Career Professional Award Criteria
The Early Career Member Award recognizes professionals who have made an outstanding contribution in Soil Science within seven years of completing their terminal degree (BS, MS, PhD).

Eligibility
1. Nominees must have completed their terminal degree within seven years of the award date.
2. Nominees must be members of SSSA.
3. Nominees must be living at the time of their nomination.
4. Nominators are not required to be members of SSSA.
5. Teams are not eligible to be nominated.

Evaluation
1. Evidence of quality teaching at the undergraduate and/or graduate levels.
2. Effectiveness in extension and outreach activities.
3. Significance and originality of basic and/or applied research.
4. Achievements in private sector application of soil science.
5. Contributions to the public or professional organizations and institutions.

Preparing to Apply
The following information will be necessary to complete the online nomination.

Nominator Contact Information
1. Full name, mailing address, phone, email address, and current position title.
2. Nominator letter to introduce the nominee and rationale for nominating the candidate.

Nominee Contact Information
1. Full name, mailing address, phone, and email address.
2. Degrees Received.
3. Professional Positions Held.
4. Membership Number.

**Nominee Qualification Information**

1. **Teaching Contributions.** Give percentage of time or weight. Document number of courses taught, advising of undergraduate and graduate students, evaluation of teaching effectiveness, other related teaching activities (document above with number of courses taught, number of students taught and advised, and summary of student and peer evaluations), awards or recognition received, and teaching grants (proposal written and funding received).

2. **Extension and Service Contributions.** Give percentage of time or weight. Listing and evaluation of extension activities, listing and evaluation of other service activities, awards or recognition received, and extension/outreach grants (proposals written and funding received).

3. **Research Contributions.** Give percentage of time or weight. Listing and evaluation of basic and/or applied research activities, other related research activities, awards or recognition received, and research grants (proposals written and funding received).

4. **Contributions to Private Sector.** Give percentage of time or weight. Listing and evaluation of achievement, other related activities, and awards or recognition received.

5. **Contribution to the Public and Professional Organizations.** Give percentage of time or weight. Include memberships, positions and accomplishments in professional societies, universities, non-governmental organizations, government agencies, and others, e.g., service to and SSSA. List any awards or recognition received in this category.

6. **Professional Publications.** Give the total number (not titles) of professional publications in each of the following categories: books written, books or other publications edited, chapters of books written, technical papers (refereed), technical papers (non-refereed), extension publications, (refereed), extension publications (non-refereed), non-technical papers, patents, invited lectures, seminars, or symposia presentations, other related oral, written, visual presentations, or products. In addition, list only the five (5) most significant publications, patents, and presentations or products in literature citation form.

7. **Narrative.** Provide a narrative to support this nomination.

**Nominee References**
Names and email addresses of two individuals who will separately submit online reference letters. Letters can be up to 6000 characters.