Dear Members and Colleagues of ASA, CSSA, and SSSA,

Your voice is heard!

This month has brought growth and uncertainty to us all. Many of us have been moving forward— as best as we are able under this current environment. We have been adapting to virtual education, tending farmers in the field, preparing for field work and moving forward with many areas of our work.

While spring temperatures have been refreshing in many parts of the country, global concerns and disruptions continue under the COVID-19 pandemic.

Here to support you!

We are listening to your needs under the current crisis and are supporting information sharing and increasing other services to support you. We are taking action steps to enhance these efforts during a time of great need across our societies and planet.

As an example—we have heard concerns from graduate students and early career professors regarding disruptions to field and lab research under isolation orders. Last week we pulled together a small group to quickly discuss a data networking service that we might offer as Societies. This effort is new, but the goal would be to network or connect those with datasets to those that have capacity and interest in learning to provide the analytics, publications and development. There will be more to come here.

Thank you! Your voice is being heard

Thank you for your input into our strategic planning process. Your input is critical in ensuring the future impact of the Societies to you and many others. We will continue our Virtual Town Hall Webinars this month to focus on coordinated objectives that will be shared across ASA, CSSA, and SSSA. The Societies’ Boards of Directors are looking forward to your input to guide our discussions—and we need your voice.

What is important to you?

We will continue hosting Virtual Town Halls each month—and will bring in special guests to the discussions as well. Please look at the webinar registration links below and send your voice to help guide us forward in Strategic Planning and advancing the Grand Challenge!

Reminder:

May Virtual Town Hall Webinars
- 8:00 PM (EDT), May 14: ASA Grand Challenge Task Force Report
- 8:00 PM (EDT), May 28: ASA, CSSA, SSSA Discussion Boards

Future Town Hall Webinar Topics
- June: Connecting the final Strategic Plans to the Grand Challenge
- July: Grand Challenge
- August: Grand Challenge Task Force Report and early progress on Strategic Plans

In case you missed it

The March Town Hall webinars focused on our landscape analysis and the April Town Hall webinars focused on strategic planning. The recordings for these webinars can be found on the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Discussion Boards. We had excellent engagement during the webinars where many members asked insightful questions and offered their thoughts on the future of our Societies. Thank you!

In addition, we encourage you to consider contributing to the Societies with your time and talent through committee service, editorial activities, and special projects. View the guidelines (for those committees associated with your membership) and sign-up. You are the guides for the Societies in creating impact into the future!

A special thank you

Finally, we want to thank you, our members, for all the energy and creativity that you are showing under these tough circumstances to serve your responsibilities, such as teaching classes, advising students, counseling farmers, maintaining field and laboratory experiments, and keeping up with the many other functions of your professional lives.

Sincerely,

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