



Soil Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Agenda Thursday Feb. 15, 2024, 11:00am-12:15pm (Central)

President Michael Thompson called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

President: Michael Thompson, Iowa State
President-Elect: Samira Daroub, Univ. of Florida
Past President: Carrie Laboski, USDA-ARS
Agricultural Soil and Food Systems Group:
Maysoon Mikha, USDA-ARS; Hero Gollany, USDA-ARS;
Dorivar Ruiz Diaz, K-State
DEI-at-Large: Xia Zhu-Barker, UW-Madison
Education & Practicing Professionals Group:
Clay Robinson, CRC Consulting
CPSS Rep: Jacob Berkowitz, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Early Career Rep: Dianna Bagnall, Soil Health Institute
Grad Student Rep: Megan Bourns, K-State
Fundamental Soil Science Group: Maxine Levin, USDA-
NRCS-retired; Rebecca Lybrand, UC-Davis; Ganga
Hettiarachchi, K-State

Soil & Ecosystem Processes Group: Ronald Reuter, Oregon
State; Thorsten Knappenberger, Auburn
Ex-officio without Vote: Editor-in-Chief Craig Rasmussen,
Univ. of Arizona; Program Planning Officer Aaron Daigh,
Univ. of Nebraska

Unable to attend:

CEO Jim Cudahy
ASF Chair Stella Salvo, Bayer CropScience

Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Special Projects Director
Dawn Gibas, Certifications Director
Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer
Sheri Springer, Finance & Accounting Director
Sara Uttech, Governance Director
Susan Varghese, People & Culture Director
Matt Wascavage, Publications Director

S003 SSSA Board of Directors

1. Consent Agenda items approved:

- Revised: Feb. 15, 2024 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
- Jan. 18, 2024 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Record the Vote (keep confidential): Unanimous vote to renew publishing contract with Wiley

2. Chief Administrative Officer Luther Smith Headquarters Update:

- Introduced Sheri Springer, new Director of Finance & Accounting
- Update on new Associate Director of Meetings Rachel Best begins Feb. 26
- Congressional Visits Day is March 4-6 in Washington, DC 42 people registered, while noting that the Farm Bill is currently stalled

3. President Michael Thompson led a discussion on SSSA outreach opportunities, following the successful event at Iowa State University with CEO Jim Cudahy and Director of Special Projects Susan Chapman, including:

- Use faculty/department meetings to promote Society membership, inform faculty about programs and benefits
- Speak to undergrad classes about membership, certification, networking
- Target locations with the greatest need: 1890 schools, tribal schools, etc., include industry and community colleges
- If interested, board members can invite Michael Thompson to make a presentation
- Develop a PowerPoint and concise list of membership benefits, why to join, why renew

4. ASA, CSSA, SSSA Awards & Scholarships Open: www.soils.org/awards - board members are to encourage colleagues and students to participate – especially women and people of color

- Award Nominations close 3/12/2024 | Submissions due 3/19/2024
- Scholarship Applications close 3/19/2024 | Submissions due 3/26/2024
 - *Golden Opportunity Scholars – Annual Meeting reimbursement and mentoring*
- Awards Policy – board members can't participate in SSSA Awards but can in ASA & CSSA

- Reminder: All awards (except Fellow) allow for self-nominations; you complete the award nomination and invite reference writers via the online award system
5. [IUSS Centennial Conference](#) May 19-21, 2024 Florence, Italy
 - Certifications Director Dawn Gibas reported that her abstract "Credentialing: A Proposed Path for Future Pedology Professionals" was accepted
 - President-Elect Samira Daroub, Member Liz Gillispie, and Special Projects Director Susan Chapman are co-conveners of a session, "Moving Towards Diversity, Equity, and Inclusivity in Soil Science Societies"
 6. [International Geological Congress](#), Aug. 25-31, 2024, Busan, Republic of Korea: American Geosciences Institute will have a booth, SSSA is a member-society
 7. Next Board Meeting Thursday March 15, 11:00am-12:15pm (Central) and Agenda Preview:
 - Report: SSSA President attending AAAS Meeting
 - Launched: SSSA Elections March 4-April 4
 - Division Outreach: Contact your Division (Past Chairs, Others) to ask what they are most concerned about, what is going right, what things could be improved in the Division/Society

ACS031 ASA, CSSA, SSSA National Student Advisory Committee

ACTION: Motion by Samira Daroub, seconded by Maysoon Mikha, to approve combining the undergraduate committees (ACS449, ACS449.3, ACS449.6, ACS449.8, ACS449.9, ACS449.11, ACS449.12, and ACS031) into the ACS031 National Student Advisory Committee to better meet our goals of workforce development and innovating our member experience as presented by CAO Luther Smith. Unanimous approval.

ACS321 Editorial Policy Coordination Committee

Director of Publications Matt Wascavage distributed a Publications Update. In addition:

- Editor-in-Chief Craig Rasmussen has opted not to renew his second term
- *Vadose Zone Journal* Webinar on March 14 with Johan Bouma, "[Hydropedology: Soil, Water, and the Human Connection](#)"
- [Call for ASA Editor-in-Chief](#) Nominations due March 1 to ASA President Kristen Veum

ACS732 Program Planning Committee

The Invited Speaker Complimentary Registration Policy will be kept as-is and the ACS732 Committee will look for other cost-saving measures.

S711.19 SSSA 2024 Program Planning Task Force

SSSA Bouyoucos Conference June 9-13, 2024 in Puerto Rico, www.sacmeetings.org:

- Meeting Overview: Sunday & Thursday Tours and Daily Workshops are optional with fees to attend with nothing running concurrently, more time for networking.
- SSSA Board Meeting on Friday June 14 (with virtual option):
 - SSSA will reimburse flight, cover 2 nights hotel on Thursday & Friday if needed
 - Register on your own (optional tours, daily workshops)
 - RSVP if attending virtual or in-person, enter arrival/departure dates by April 30
- Help Us Promote: Bouyoucos Conference via Social Media, Discussion Boards, etc.
 - Poster Abstracts due 4/9 early bird or 4/23 final
 - Registration due 5/1 early bird
 - ASF-funded \$10,000 Undergrad & Grad Student Travel Grants due 2/25: www.soils.org/awards/view/234

Consensus to Adjourn.