The meeting was called to order by President Thomas Sims. Those present were:

Thomas Sims, SSSA President
Michael Singer, SSSA Past President
John Havlin, SSSA President-Elect
Warren Dick, Editor-in-Chief, Ex-Officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Executive Vice President, Ex-Officio
Dani Or, S-1 Past Chair
Glenn Wilson, S-1 Board Rep.
Robert Taylor, S-2 Past Chair
Chris Van Kessel, S-3 Past Chair
Thomas Loynachan, S-3 Board Rep.
John Sawyer, S-4 Past Chair
Marcus Alley, S-4 Board Rep.
Robert Ahrens, S-5 Board Rep.
Gary Peterson, S-6 Past Chair
Jorge Delgado, S-6 Chair filling in for S-6 Board Rep.
William Jokela, S-8 Past Chair
Wayne Hudnall, S-9 Board Rep.
Peter Groffman, S-10 Past Chair
Janis Boettinger, S-10 Board Rep.
Jessica Davis, Western Branch Bd. Rep.

Guests:
Mary Collins, S-5 Chair and Incoming SSSA President-Elect
Paul Bertsch, S-2 Chair
Mark Coyne, S-3 Chair
Ken Van Rees, S-7 Chair
Tom Fenton, SSSA Budget and Finance Committee Chair
R. Howard Skinner, Chair, ACS711.16 Ad Hoc Committee on Annual Meetings
Patrick Drohan, Smithsonian Soils Exhibit Committee
Valerie Breunig, Director of Development
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
Michela Cobb, Director of Financial Services
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy
David Kral, Associate Executive Vice President
Luther Smith, Vice President and Executive Director of Certification Programs
Cathy Goudreau, Assistant to the EVP and Recording Secretary
S003 Board of Directors
ACTION: It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the following annual reports. Those reports containing recommendations will be considered by the Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors on future conference calls.

S011.01 Div. S-1
S011.02 Div. S-2
S011.07 Div. S-7
S011.08 Div. S-8
S011.11 Div. S-11
S101 Nominations for President-Elect
S111.01 Nominations for Div. S-1 Officers
S111.02 Nominations for Div. S-2 Officers
S111.04 Nominations for Div. S-4 Officers
S111.05 Nominations for Div. S-5 Officers
S111.06 Nominations for Div. S-6 Officers
S111.09 Nominations for Div. S-9 Officers
S201 Organization, Policy and Bylaws
S201.4 Long Range Planning
S205.1 Council on History, Philosophy and Sociology of Soil Science
S236.1 Membership, Identity and Visibility
S302 SSSA Journal Editorial Board
S370 SSSA Book Series
S374 Glossary of Soil Science Terms
S402 Honorary Membership
AS425 Soils Judging Contest
S470 General Awards
S471 Soil Science Research Award
S477 Soil Science Distinguished Service Award
S478 Soil Science Applied Research Award
S482 Marion L. and Chrystie M. Jackson Soil Science Award
S483 Don and Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award
S490 Francis and Evelyn Clark Soil Biology Scholarship
S491.2 Special Awards
S495 Fellows
S570 Soil Science Discipline-Federal Government Office of Personnel Management
S608 Soil and Water Conservation Society
S613 Council of Scientific Society Presidents
S631.4 AAAS, Section G
S691.11 American Chemical Society
S700.3 Meeting Alternatives
S711.11 Francis E. Clark Distinguished Lectureship
S711.13 Howard M. Taylor Lectureship
S773 Bouyoucos Conferences
S880 Soils-Geomorphology
S884 Soil Micromorphology
S889 Coordination of Official Methods of Soil Analysis
S893.1 Global Enhancement of Soil Organic Matter
S973.12 World Congress Development
S201.4 Strategic Planning

Thomas Sims provided an overview of the 1994 Strategic Plan and the timeline on development of the 2005-2010 Strategic Plan. Summaries were provided on each of the six strategies in the plan.

Strategy 1—Society Structure. Mike Singer provided information on the proposed restructuring of the SSSA Board of Directors. The Executive Committee recommends the restructured Board include the President, President-Elect, Past President; Divisional Board Representatives; a representative of certified professional soil scientists; Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio, nonvoting; Executive Vice President, ex-officio, nonvoting. Background on the proposed restructuring of the ASA Board of Directors and the creation of a tri-Society management entity was also presented.

Strategy 2—Membership and Member Services. Ellen Bergfeld provided a historical perspective of the last year and a half.

Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services, reported on activities relative to development and implementation of a plan for recruitment, retention, and communication and services.

Strategy 3—Publications and Professional Meetings. Warren Dick addressed the need for the Society to be visible in journals, books and special publications, and the newsletter, and the importance of a good web presence.

Howard Skinner, Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee on Change in Annual Meeting Format, provided an update on the issue of too many oral papers which leads to overlapping sessions and topics. The problem is particularly acute in SSSA because it has the largest number of papers at the annual meeting. One way to reduce the overlap is to conduct theme-based meetings.

Strategy 4—Professional Development. Luther Smith, Vice President and Executive Director of Certification Programs, reported on fostering greater opportunities for professional development for all members of SSSA. Some of the opportunities include soil science licensing, listening sessions to be conducted during the annual meeting, and student activities.

Strategy 5—Public Policy and Outreach. Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy, reported on the road map provided in the Strategic Plan for public policy and outreach activities. The Board was also updated on Capwiz, an electronic grassroots advocacy resource. Karl will develop a statement to address the concern of ARS employees participating in the program.

Patrick Drohan reported on outreach through the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit and beyond. The Board was encouraged to promote the soils exhibit during the Divisional business meetings.
In order to enhance the Society’s efforts to raise funds for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit, the Executive Committee recommends an investment of approximately $100,000 in development activities for 2005-2006. The Board members were requested to discuss this recommendation at the Divisional business meetings.

**Strategy 6-Fiscal Strength and Development.** Michela Cobb, Director of Financial Services, reported on the plans to modernize the financial and budgeting process and better integrate the Board of Directors in fiscal planning and budgetary review. The newly-created Investment Advisory Committee will continuously review and update the SSSA investment objectives and the performance of the financial managers of the portfolio.

Valerie Breunig, Director of Development, reported on efforts to increase interactions with the Agronomic Science Foundation to expand SSSA development opportunities. The Smithsonian Soils Exhibit is identified as the highest SSSA development priority for 2004-2006.

Board members were asked to discuss the Strategic Plan at the Division business meetings with the goal of adopting the plan at the November 3, 2004 Board meeting.

**ACTION:** Moved to adjourn. Seconded. Carried.