SSSA Board of Directors Meeting  
November 12, 2006  
Indianapolis, IN

The meeting was called to order by SSSA President Mary Collins. Board members present were:

Mary E. Collins, SSSA President  
Rattan Lal, SSSA President-Elect  
John L. Havlin, SSSA Past President  
Glenn V. Wilson, S-1 Board Rep.  
Marcus M. Alley, S-4 Board Rep.  
Michel D. Ransom, S-5 Board Rep.  
Diane E. Stott, S-6 Board Rep.  
Nicholas B. Comerford, S-7 Board Rep.  
Randal J. Southard, S-9 Board Rep.  
David L. Lindbo, S-10 Board Rep.  
Sally D. Logsdon, SSSA Editor-in-Chief, ex officio  
Martin A. Massengale, ASF Rep., ex-officio  
Ellen Bergfeld, Executive Vice President, ex-officio

Also present:  
Gary A. Peterson, Incoming SSSA President-Elect  
David E. Radcliffe, Incoming S-1 Board Rep.  
Kathy Mathers, Nutrients for Life Foundation (TFI)  
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services  
Michela Cobb, Director of Financial Services  
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy  
Paul Kamps, Development Officer  
Fran Katz, Director of Publications  
Bonnie Lueck, Development Officer  
Luther Smith, Executive Director Certification Programs  
Cathy Goudreau, Assistant to the Executive Vice President and Recorder

S201 Organization, Policy, and Bylaws
Mary Collins provided a brief update on the management entity. The ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Executive Committees met on November 11 and are in the process of developing the philosophy and criteria for other organizations to join us. The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws will be filed by June 1, 2007. The new management entity will be implemented by December 31, 2007. The ASA, CSSA, and SSSA B&F Chairs will work together on dues restructuring.
S201.4 Strategic Planning
1. Action was taken during the October 4, 2006 Board conference call to appoint a task force to address Goal C - SSSA will be recognized as the most powerful advocate for soil science. John Havlin will chair the task force.

2. ACTION: It was moved that SSSA join the ASA and CSSA task force on meetings. Seconded. Carried.

3. In March 2005 SSSA initiated an effort to reach out to state soils associations and to promote licensing and certification at the state and national levels. Dan Neary reported on progress to date.

ACTION: It was moved to establish a certification task force to address Goal B - SSSA will be the resource for enhanced programs and services to practicing soil scientists and associated professionals. Seconded. Carried.

The task force will be charged to work with Ohio and Florida as they have expressed interest in licensing programs.

Gary Peterson will appoint the task force chairs, based on input from the Board. Each task force chair will then select their own members.

3. The Board reviewed the draft 2007-2008 timeline for setting priorities, identifying/assigning task forces, and budgeting for priorities. The Board will schedule a meeting in April or early May.

S211 Audit, Budget and Finance Committee
The Budget and Finance Committee met in August 2006. Mark Alley, B&F Committee Chair, reported on the Society’s proposed 2007 operating budget. The Society’s investment policy was developed in 2004 and approved by the Investment Advisory Committee. The Board needs to approve the policy as well.

ACTION: It was moved to approve the 2007 operating budget. Seconded. Carried.

ACTION: It was moved to approve the Statement of Investment Policy, Objectives, and Guidelines. Seconded. Tabled until November 16 Board meeting.

S301 Editorial Affairs, Policies, and Practices
Sally Logsdon reported on various editorial activities. An SSSA Journal Citation Report for 2005 was distributed to the Board. The Book and Multimedia Committee is becoming more active and beginning to review proposals for new projects. The publication fee structure is currently under review by the various Editorial Boards.
S589 Smithsonian Soils Exhibit
The Board recognized Kathy Mathers of The Fertilizer Institute for a $1 million pledge for the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit through the Nutrients for Life Foundation.

Paul Kamps reported that the goal is $2.5 million by January 2007 plus $1.5 million for the traveling exhibit - currently at $2.1 million including 24 states over the $10,000 mark. The deadline for financial commitments for the DC portion of the exhibit is February 2007 but corporate pledges can be spread out over 2 years. Fund raising efforts are critical to the timing of the design development. The Museum will do an evaluation of the finances and make some decisions in January.

S591 K-12 Committee
David Lindbo presented the K-12 Committee’s business plan. The committee will assess the K-12 education market; develop and disseminate soils education resources; collect and disseminate career information; develop a website for K-12 educational materials; define and proactively seek to add soils to national teaching standards; and develop plans and funding sources. $10,000 has been included in the Member Services section of the 2007 SSSA operating budget to support the committee’s plan of action.

ACTION: It was moved to accept the K-12 business plan as presented. Seconded. Carried.

S700 Meetings-General
Lee Sommers reported on the July 9-15, 2006 World Congress of Soil Science. Although total registration was lower than anticipated, the meeting was very successful with 101 countries represented.

The Board acknowledged Lee Sommers, Larry Wilding, and Don Sparks for their hard work on the 2006 World Congress of Soil Science.

S711 Program Planning
Rattan Lal provided an information report on plans for the 2007 annual meeting in New Orleans.

S890 North American Proficiency Testing Program
Mary Collins reported that the NAPT program is running smoothly under the leadership of Janice Kotuby-Amacher, the program’s coordinator.

Meeting adjourned.