SSSA Board of Directors Meeting
October 20, 2011
San Antonio, TX

The meeting was called to order by SSSA President Chuck Rice. Board members present:

Charles W. Rice, SSSA President
Gary M. Pierzynski, SSSA President-Elect
Nicholas B. Comerford, SSSA Past President
David E. Radcliffe, S-1 Board Rep.
Donald L. Suarez, S-2 Board Rep
Daniel W. Sweeney, S-4 Board Rep.
Carolyn G. Olson, S-5 Board Rep.
Mary Beth Adams, S-7 Board Rep.
Thomas A. Doerge, S-8 Board Rep.
April Ulery, S-9 Board Rep.
Martin C. Rabenhorst, S-10 Board Rep.
E. Philip Small, Incoming S-12 Chair-Elect (sitting in for Mark McClain)
Robert C. Michitsch, Early Career Members Rep., ex officio
Sally D. Logsdon, SSSA Editor-in-Chief, ex officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio
Also present:
David L. Lindbo, Incoming SSSA President-Elect
Ronald F. Turco, Incoming S-3 Board Rep.
Lawrence F. Baldwin, Incoming CPSS Rep.
Andrew N. Sharpley, Incoming Editor-in-Chief
Thomas R. Fox, SSSA Reorganization Task Force Chair
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
James Giese, Director of Science Communications
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy
Mark Mandelbaum, Director of Publications
Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT and Operations
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Luther Smith, Director of Certification and Licensing Programs
Rebecca Polk, Recorder

Unable to attend:
Harold M. van Es, S-6 Board Rep.
Mark S. McClain, S-12 Board Rep.
James G. Coors, ASF Rep., ex-officio

S003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: It was moved by Marty Rabenhorst to approve the revised meeting agenda, with the addition of the Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute program. Seconded by April Ulery. Carried unanimously.
2. Chuck acknowledged the service of Nick Comerford, Richard Dick, April Ulery, Dan Neary, and Sally Logsdon whose terms end December 31, 2011. Mark McClain was recently appointed as the new Division S-12 Board Rep. Dave Lindbo, Ron Turco, Randy Southard, Larry Baldwin, and Andrew Sharpley were welcomed as new Board members effective January 1, 2012. Harold van Es and Marty Rabenhorst will remain on the Board for a second term.

3. ACTION: It was moved by Marty Rabenhorst to approve the September 15, 2011 Board conference call minutes. Seconded by Mary Beth Adams. Carried unanimously.

4. The next Board conference call is scheduled for November 17 at 1:30 PM Central Standard Time. Feedback on Annual Meeting activities will be an agenda item.

5. Board conference calls are currently held the third Thursday of the month at 1:30 PM Central Time. The Board will continue this schedule in 2012.

6. The Board will hold its Spring 2012 meeting at Headquarters in Madison. The Board will be polled for their availability the week of May 20.

S111 Election of Division Officers
Board members were encouraged to forward candidate names for Division Chairs-Elect and Board Reps. for the 2012 ballot to Cathy Goudreau at Headquarters in the near future.

S201.4.11 SSSA Reorganization Task Force
Tom Fox distributed a summary report outlining the charge to the task force and highlighting the following:
- key results of the member survey, including a link to the complete results
- member concerns regarding the annual meeting (outside of specific charge, but task force felt it should address these concerns)
- 4 potential options for reorganization – seeking member input

Task force members received a great deal of feedback at the Division business meetings as well as from members visiting the booth. The task force will hold a conference call on October 25 to review and discuss feedback received at the annual meeting; discuss reorganization options based on feedback; and determine a timeframe and plan for writing a final report which is due before March 2012. Board members were encouraged to email additional feedback/comments to Tom.

S211 Budget and Finance
David provided an overview of the proposed 2012 budget including changes in the Annual Meeting, Development, Public Relations, and Governance line items, as reported on the August 18 and September 15 Board conference calls.

As reported on the August 18 and September 15 conference calls, the B&F Committee was to provide a directive to the NAPT program to be budget neutral. Ellen reported that they will look at ways to contain the costs, however, there are contract obligations and the program may not be budget neutral before 2013.

ACTION: It was moved by David Radcliffe to approve the 2012 budget. Seconded by Nick Comerford. Carried unanimously.
At the May 13-14, 2011 Board meeting, it was agreed to appoint an ad hoc committee to explore meeting business models for a stand-alone meeting, as well as an independent meeting. David encouraged this committee be appointed and criteria be developed to determine the feasibility of stand-alone meetings.

**S301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices**

1. Mark Mandelbaum reported on the proposed digital library highlighting the following:

   - Cost components
     - digitization of books
     - functionality modules and integration
     - semantic tagging
   - Taxonomy creation
   - Taxonomy processing
   - Timeframe

ACSESS will invest $293,000 in the infrastructure (technology and set-up). It is proposed that SSSA cover the $90,000 cost to digitize their books which may be split between the 2011 and 2012 budgets.

**ACTION:** It was moved by Marty Rabenhorst to approve the $90,000 cost to cover digitization of books for the digital library. Seconded by Carolyn Olson. Carried unanimously.

2. Following up on discussions at the May 13-14 Board meeting and on the August 18 Board conference call, Mark Mandelbaum presented a proposal to reposition *Soil Survey Horizons* into a publication that will address the following issues raised by the Board:

   - Outlet for delivery of SSSA news
   - More relevant to practicing professionals
   - Take advantage of electronic publishing

Mark’s report highlighted the following:

   - Name change from *Soil Survey Horizons* to *Soil Horizons* – emphasize broader coverage and scope
   - Change delivery method to electronic-only publication – more timely (can go from 4 to 6 issues) and effective
   - Add new content – attract new audiences
   - Maintain and enhance scientific mission
   - Estimated additional funds for 2012 budget - $68,000
   - Target audience
   - Sample cover and Table of Contents
   - If approved, next steps

**ACTION:** It was moved by Mary Beth Adams to proceed with the new *Soil Horizons* proposal and budgetary impact. Seconded by Marty Rabenhorst. Carried unanimously.

The Board will need to review how this works as a communication vehicle and potential impact on *CSA News*.
ACS466 Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute
SSSA provided $10,000 to ASF in support of the Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute program in 2010 and 2011. Per the approved 2012 budget, SSSA will increase the contribution to $20,000. Marty expressed concern that SSSA’s interests are not well promoted in the program. He requested ASF provide detailed budget/accounting regarding the program in order to get a better sense of how SSSA’s contribution has been and will be utilized. In addition, a report providing an overview and history of the program was requested for discussion on a future Board conference call.

S592 Science Policy
Ellen reported that Karl Anderson has been hired as the new Director of Government Relations and will begin his job on November 14.

Karl updated the Board on science policy activities highlighting science in education efforts to include soil science in the soon-to-be-released national core science standards.

ACTION: It was moved by Marty Rabenhorst to adjourn. Seconded by Mary Beth Adams. Carried unanimously.