Soil Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Tuesday July 18, 2017, 11:00am Central

The meeting was called to order by SSSA President Andrew Sharpley. Board members present:

Andrew Sharpley, SSSA President
Harold van Es, SSSA Past President
Richard Dick, SSSA President-Elect
Alan Franzluebbers, Ag Soil & Food Systems Group
Greg Evanylo, Soil & Ecosystem Processes Group
Will Horwath, Fundamental Soil Science Group
Aaron Daigh, Early Career Board Rep.
Elizabeth Gillispie, Grad Student Rep.
David Myrold, SSSA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio
Jeff Volenec, ASF Board Chair, ex-officio
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio
Unable to attend:
Eric Brevik, Ed & Practicing Professionals Group

S003 SSSA Board of Directors
1. ACTION: Motion by Greg Evanylo, seconded by Aaron Daigh, to approve the July 18, 2017 SSSA Agenda. Unanimous approval.
2. ACTION: Motion by Harold van Es, seconded by Aaron Thompson, to approve the May 24, 2017 SSSA Board Minutes. Unanimous approval.
3. Andrew Sharpley led a discussion on global representation appointments. Following discussion, there was consensus to develop a more formal process through the Executive Committee.
4. Next SSSA Board Call: Tuesday, Aug. 15, 2017 11:00am Central.

S301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices
SSSA Member Bradley Miller and Member Services Director Susan Chapman presented a proposal that would serve as an alternative to the former Soil Horizons publication to transition content to a blog format, developed and maintained by members. They report that cost should be minimal beyond the initial setup. They are looking for input from the board, send to: Bradley Miller (millerba@iastate.edu), Eric Brevik (Eric.Brevik@dickinsonstate.edu), and/or Bill Cook (bcook@sciencesocieties.org). There was some discussion to investigate the development of a new soils periodical that would focus on the broader soil science membership, over Soil Horizons that largely served pedologists.

S201.4.12 SSSA Soil Taxonomy Task Force
Past President Harold van Es presented the latest definition of soil (scientific): the layer(s) of unconsolidated mineral and/or organic material that are affected by physical, chemical, and/or biological processes at or near the planet surface, and usually retain liquids, gases and biota, and support land plants.

Following discussion, there was an issue among a few board members with the word “unconsolidated.” The board is tasked with coming up with another word(descriptor) to replace unconsolidated as a way to differentiate between geology and soil. Contact Harold van Es (hmv1@cornell.edu) in advance of the next board meeting where the final version will be presented and approved.

S237.1 SSSA Membership Growth and Retention Task Force
Director of Member Services Susan Chapman provided an SSSA Overview document that is posted to the board website.

S711 SSSA Program Planning
1. SSSA President-Elect Richard Dick, CFO/Director Wes Meixelsperger, and Technical Program Manger Nate Ehresman presented an update of the 2017 Annual Meeting Oct. 22-25 in Tampa acsmeetings.org:
   • Meeting Program Posted, Search Abstracts, View Schedule: acsmeetings.org/program
• Sunday Oct. 22 SSSA Board Meeting, 10am-Noon
• Sunday Oct. 22 SSSA 2019 Planning Committee Meeting, 1:00-2:00pm
• Sunday Oct. 22: SSSA Town Hall, 4:30-5:30pm
• Sunday Oct. 22 Opening Keynote: Cathie Woteki, Former Chief Scientist & Ag Under Secretary
• Tuesday Oct. 24 SSSA Award Breakfast/Brady Plenary: Kate Scow, University of California-Davis
• Tuesday Oct. 24 Movie Night: SSSA-Sponsored Between Earth and Sky: Climate Change on the Last Frontier
• Wednesday Oct. 25 Closing Keynote: George Kourounis, Adventurer/Explorer
• SSSA Presidential Awards: Chien-Lu Ping and David Weindorf
• SSSA Honorary Membership Awards: Tom Vilsack and Jason Weller

Consensus to Adjourn