Welcome and Overview of 2011 Annual meeting from 2011 Chair Mark Liebig
16 topical sessions
180 presentations
Symposia
  Supporting Ecosystem Services with Conservation Agriculture
  Conservation Practices to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change, Joint SSSA-SWCS Symposium

Awards
Young Scholar: presented by Neil Hansen, committee rep., Good number of outstanding nominations, winner, Josh McGrath, University of Maryland

Graduate Student Award: presented by by Tom Schumacher, committee rep., award recognizes leadership, research projects, academics, publication record. Winner was Mr. Asim Biswas Ph.D. candidate at University of Saskatchewan.

Soil and Water Conservation Scholarship Award: presented by Jerry Lemunyon, (New Award), Offered through S6 and ASF, presented to Ms. Helen Leavenworth, University of Wisconsin – Stevens Point.


SSSA President:
Chuck Rice, comments and thanks to S6 and Mark Liebig as chair. Leadership positions are important for society. Communication is extremely important. Thanks to S6 for leadership moving forward with social media growth (Facebook and Twitter)

SSSA Reorganization task force – Birl Lowery:
Report handed out.
Purpose:
  Evaluate governing structure of the society
  Gather feedback (currently in this phase)
  Determine if/what governing changes should be made
  Provide recommendations by March 2012.

Birl reported on results of a SSSA survey. www.soils.org/reorganization

Birl reviewed five possible options, including alternative options to the four current proposed options.
  1. Maintain existing division structure
  2. Revise existing division structure
  3. Create broad subject groups and realign divisions
  4. Adopt ASA section and community structure
  5. Alternatives not currently presented (feedback)

Harold van Es, Board Rep report
Participation 4100 (above Long Beach)
Membership flat except undergraduate membership declining
We have a new logo
Budget summary (chair of budget and finance) Society is financially in good shape, we have considerable reserves. We should use funds to encourage new young members.
  1. Increased support for Science Policy office in Washington, D.C.
2. Hiring a new individual, Carl Anderson, additional personnel in Policy office, focused on connections on Capitol Hill

Feedback/Discussion
Working on reduced registration rates for early career meeting attendees.
Increased funding for more widespread communication
Increased effort for a digital library (packaging and availability) example Methods of Soil Analysis increase availability.
Signed an MOU with AGU, one benefit will be member rates at AGU meetings.
Need to select candidates for Chair and candidates for SSSA president (short term turn around)
Looking for feedback on reduced poster size.
Suggestion, alternative, reduced size for two days.
Do not like the reduced size.
With four authors in close proximity scheduling should be reconsidered
Extensive cost savings for going to 4 x 4 poster size.
Would like to only work with one size poster across societies.
Smaller poster size forced people to be succinct. Small size was better.
Like idea of leaving posters up longer, provides extra time for viewing under a packed schedule.
Some do not support leaving posters up longer.
Option to upload posters after meeting.
Some societies hold poster sessions that are not concurrent with oral session.
Some security issues would be a concern with respect to industry exhibits
It would be nice to highlight posters during topical sessions (presiding officer with a slide to highlight poster sessions)
Have very short 2 minute overview of posters during a topical session
SWCS cross collaboration with SSSA especially Science and Policy committee.
Rumor about program enhancement funds, lost and not rolled over.

SSSA Reorganization task force – Birl Lowery: (continued)
Feedback
Why drop division numbers (i.e., S-1, S-2, etc)? Some question why the numbers exist, institutional memory. new members like to relate more to a topic.
With ASA communities it is hard to find symposium that one is interested, it was easier with division
If we reorganize do not go with community structure until “bugs” are worked out. Don’t follow it until we know it works.
Option 2 looks a lot like 1, seems to be related interaction which already exists.
Not much overlap among current divisions. Like option 1 and just leave things alone.
We have too many divisions, early career members cannot identify. Communities act as working groups, short term issue oriented.
Promoting working groups or communities would be beneficial
Will option 3 result in four business meetings or 15 business meetings? How would it affect Society structure.
Option 3 developed to force integration among divisions at meetings.
ASA is more chaotic and community structure may result in less interaction across divisions
Like current structure without S codes, already seems to be more integration across disciplines.
Option one and two more favorable.
Who will make the decision, Committee will make recommendation to Board, Board will consider recommendation.
Membership will have input if major restructuring is recommended.
Option 3 is desirable to put back original organization groups.
Changes need to be made to satisfy the scientific identity of SSSA.

Jorge Delgado SWCS-S6 Joint Symposia Liaison: Conservation Practices to Mitigate and Adapt to Climate Change
12th was well attended, 6 speakers and 12 posters
More interaction for Policy between SWCS and S6
SWCS created a Policy statement
Possible 2012 theme: Farm Bill or Position Statement.
Comment: SWCS meeting attendance at special symposium and posters was poorly attended, and there is a need to communicate this concern to SWCS.
Response: Poster section was indeed poorly attended, but oral session was well attended relative to the numbers of attendees at the meeting.
Recommendation to scale down SWCS part of joint symposium because of poor attendance, relationship very important to S6.
More successful when posters were in room with oral session in the past, might consider a different format, with a more targeted approach. (short presentations by poster authors suggested).

**Brian Wienhold Tech-editor**
Submissions to journals on track with recent history
Trying to shorten amount of time from submission to first decision.
Impact factor for Journal been on a downward trend, analysis to assess why. Editorial Board would like to try and reverse this trend. One option, try and capture more content from Annual meeting. Proposals for review papers are also encouraged.

Comment on page charges, journals are one of the largest source of revenue for Societies (plus annual meeting).

**General Discussion**
Honorarium: Tommy Daniel, distinguished service award, transferred to S6 with stipulation to support early career members. (Ideas: Travel grants, Tommy be on the committee, Harold van Es, Josh McGrath)

Chair elect candidates: Jane Johnson, Tom Sauer, Frank Larney, Johan Six. Nominations closed, email poll to narrow to two forth coming. Put forth a name for SSSA president (Contact Jean Steiner, Mark Liebig, also nominated, Doug Karlan, will think about it and get back to Harold). Update (11/4/11), Jean agreed to have her name submitted for SSSA President.

Committee assignments: Mark will send out an email to committee chairs regarding potential vacancies in 2012 and then follow-up with S-06 members for volunteers (if necessary).

S837 Soil Change Working Group: Ted Zobeck, Liaison, interdisciplinary collaboration to enable research, outreach, and education about soil change. A list-serve exists, contact Ted to become a member.

Other Announcements:

**2012 meeting**
Update on request for topical sessions, symposia, and tours by 2012 Chair, Jeff Strock.

Adjourn