S-6 Newsletter  
11 August 2005

This is the first S-6 newsletter for 2005. It contains information regarding S-6 symposia, S-6 Awards for 2005, and S-6 Committee information.

If you have information, news, or announcements for future newsletters, please send the text to destott@purdue.edu. Another newsletter will be sent at the end of September with further information regarding the SSSA Annual Meeting in Salt Lake City. Send information for that newsletter by 24 September, 2005.

Pass this newsletter on to interested colleagues as it is only sent to those that have selected S-6 as their first or second choice division.

**S-6 SYMPOSIA OF INTEREST**

This year, each division was limited to two (2) symposia. In addition, S-6 takes a lead role for SSSA in developing the SSSA-SWCS Joint Symposium, which is a society level symposium. We also sponsor the Howard M. Taylor Lectureship.

To view the full technical program, please visit:

**Symposium 1: “Dynamic Cropping Systems for Soil & Water Conservation”**

Many agricultural production systems throughout the world are characterized by highly variable climate and soils resulting in a high-risk condition for producers to maintain economic viability and environmental sustainability. Furthermore, producers must account for escalating production costs amid continuously dynamic market conditions. Innovative cropping systems are needed in to lower production risks in inherently risky environments. These cropping systems must not only be economically viable, but must conserve soil and water in order to be sustainable.

This symposium will review efforts to develop cropping systems designed to meet future challenges of economic viability and soil and water conservation. A multidisciplinary research project in the U.S. Northern Great Plains will be presented as one model to develop cropping systems that are responsive to environmental constraints as well as market conditions, thereby providing producers with management options for developing more sustainable cropping systems.

Speakers: Don Tanaka, Joe Krupinsky, Steve Merrill, Diane Stott, Jon Hanson
Time: 1:10 PM-4:15 PM, Monday, November 7th
Organizer and Convenor: Mark Liebig

**Symposium 2: “Uses and Abuses of Soil and Water Resources: Historical and Contemporary Examples and the Lessons to be Learned from Them”**

Our use of soil and water resources has always been impacted with current technologies and government policies on usage. This symposium will review how we have used our soil and water resources in the past and how policy has impacted our impacted the long-term availability and quality of these natural resources. Professor Daniel Hillel will review historical uses of water resources in the Middle East and the impact on the land and people.
Dr. Jerry Lemunyon will bring us forward in time to the use of soil resources in the United States. Dr. Jean Steiner will reflect on policy impacts on water resources in the Western U.S. The use of urban soils today will be the topic presented by Dr. Joyce Scheyer. Join us for a philosophical look at how our society uses soil and water resources.

Speakers: **Daniel Hillel, Jerry Lemunyon, Jean Steiner, Joyce Scheyer**
Time: 1:10-4:45 PM, Wednesday, November 9th
Organizer and Convenor: Diane Stott

**Howard Taylor Lectureship**

This year’s Howard M. Taylor Lecture on Root-Soil Relationships will be given by Professor Hans Lambers, Head of the School of Plant Biology at the University of Western Australia at Perth. The title of his presentation is "Root respiration, exudation, and nutrient uptake: carbon costs of nutrient acquisition". Professor Lambers’ lecture is based on over 25 years of research on plant respiration, growth analysis, and mineral nutrition. His research has allowed integration of physiology and biochemistry at whole plant and vegetation levels. His work on respiration provided new information on the quantitative significance of respiration in the carbon budget of plants as dependent on species and environment. He has offered a clear explanation of why slow-growing plant species typically show relatively fast root respiration rates. His pioneering research on variation in maximum growth rates in plants has elucidated a long-standing controversy in plant ecology, established the principal physiological causes of inherent variation in growth rate, and the significance of why plants from nutrient-poor environments cannot grow fast. A key contribution in his work on plant mineral nutrition has been on the significance of “cycling” of nitrogen between shoots and roots. Subsequent to his emigration to Australia, Lambers and his students greatly enhanced our understanding of the mineral nutrition of Australian plants. They recently discovered why phosphorus fertilization readily leads to “phosphorus toxicity” in native species. Professor Lambers has authored numerous papers and authoritative reviews, edited books in his key research areas, and trained successful young researchers, at undergraduate and postgraduate level, and as Postdoctoral Fellows. Lambers has also written a major textbook in plant physiological ecology which has been translated into Chinese.

Time: 8:25-10:30a.m., Tuesday November 8th
Convenor: Tom Kaspar
2005 Lectureship Committee: Tom Kaspar (chair), Jorge Delgado (co-chair), Bingru Huang, Doug Karlen (co-chair), Bobbie McMichael, Diane Stott, Ken Van Rees.

**SSSA – SWCS JOINT SYMPOSIUM**

"Agricultural Management of Greenhouse Gas Emissions"

This will be the 6th annual joint symposium between the Soil and Water Conservation Society and the Soil Science Society of America. The symposium will focus on the practical aspects of reduction of greenhouse gasses and carbon sequestration including farm-level methods and economic feasibility and benefits. The symposium will include four invited researchers working on greenhouse gases and carbon sequestration from GRACEnet (the Greenhouse gas Reduction through Agricultural Carbon Enhancement network), CASMGS (Consortium for Agricultural Soil Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases), and other related groups. The four talks will cover Greenhouse Gas Emissions, Carbon Sequestration, Economic Feasibility of Carbon Sequestration, and Carbon Credit Trading.
Speakers:
  Ronald Follett, Jane Johnson, Mark Liebig, Jan Lewandrowski, Alvarus Chan
Time:  8:10-11:15 a.m., Wednesday, November 9th
Convenor, SWCS Meeting: Warren Busscher
Convenor, SSSA Meeting: Diane Stott
Organizing Committee: Warren Busscher (chair), Jorge Delgado, Mike Lindstrom, Jeff Vonk
Details:  http://crops.confex.com/crops/2005am/techprogram/S1242.HTM

DIVISION MEETINGS

SSSA SOCIETY WIDE DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING
7:30-8:30 am Monday, November 7th

Please attend this session.  It will cover business that is common with all divisions such as business before the SSSA Board of Representatives.  This information will not be repeated during the individual division business meetings.

S-6 DIVISION BUSINESS MEETING
10:30 AM-11:15 AM, Tuesday, November 8th, following the Howard M. Taylor Lectureship

AWARDS

2005 S-6 YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD
2005 Recipient: Dr. Kristofor R. Brye, Associate Professor, Applied Soil Physics, Crop, Soil & Environmental Sciences Dept., University of Arkansas

The Young Scholar Award recognizes scientists who have made an outstanding contribution in Soil and Water Management and Conservation within seven years of completing their Ph.D.  Candidates for this award are nominated by their departments.

Dr. Brye received his Ph.D. in 1999 at the Univ. of Wisconsin, Madison, and was recently promoted to Associate Professor with tenure at the University of Arkansas-Fayetteville.  He has authored or co-authored 37 refereed publications.  He has been PI or co-PI in grants approaching $800,000.  Dr. Brye has performed innovative studies toward establishing the physical, chemical, and biological basis for defining soil productivity.  One of the reference letters stated that although Dr. Brye has been in Arkansas only a short time, his research is having a profound impact on Arkansas agriculture and its profitability.  A second letter stated that "I would consider Kris as on par with the most dedicated, conscientious, and more experienced Associate Editors I had the opportunity to work with".

2005 Young Scholar Award Committee: Jorge Delgado (chair), Gary Peterson, Robert Sojka

S-6 GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD

The Graduate Student Award recognizes graduate students for outstanding contributions to Soil and Water Management and Conservation through their dissertation research.  Candidates for this award are nominated by their major professors or department awards committee.
Ms. Eleki is a doctoral candidate at Iowa State University Agronomy Department with Dr. Rick Cruse serving as her major professor for her doctorate. Her doctoral research utilizes a unique 40-year data set from her home country of Hungary as input to evaluate two soil organic carbon models. The model best matching the validation data will be used to estimate a broad range on soil management impacts on soil carbon change in the Midwest with biomass harvest. With increased emphasis on a bioeconomy, this research could pay an important role in future management decisions.

Ms. Eleki completed her Masters of Science degree at Iowa State in 2003, with her thesis entitled “Corn/Kura clover living mulch effects on root growth, soil loss, runoff water, and water quality”. She is also currently pursuing a second Masters degree in Public Administration as her goal is to work in government addressing science issues and the role that science plays in making sound decisions.

2005 Graduate Student Award Committee: Ken Potter (chair), Clark Gantzer, Tom Schumacher.

2005 UNDERGRADUATE SPEECH CONTEST

S-6 will sponsor an undergraduate speech contest at the annual meetings in Salt Lake City. The S-6 contest will be done in conjunction with the ASA National Student Speech Contest and will serve to stimulate student interest in Division S-6 and to recognize the speech that best exemplifies the ideals of our division. Division S-6 members are needed to serve as judges for the contest on Sunday, November 6th from 3:30-5:30 p.m. This is a highly enjoyable way to get your week started and a good opportunity to meet and interact with students. Interested volunteers should contact the current chair of the committee, Neil Hansen, neil.hansen@colostate.edu.

2005 BEST PAPER AWARD

I am proposing a suspension of this award for 2005. Historically, we have had very poor participation each year. At most, 10 members have voted each year, out of the 1274 people that claim S-6 as their first or second choice division. Additionally, there is no clear understanding of the criteria to be used for the award selection (best written paper, best research, most impact, etc.).

I will take comments until August 25 regarding suspension of the award for this year. Contact me at destott@purdue.edu.

Discussion of this award will be part of the S-6 division Business Meeting on Tuesday, November 8th. A proposal for committee structure and possible criteria will be presented.

DIVISION S-6 CONTACT INFORMATION

Chair (2005), Diane Stott destott@purdue.edu
Chair-Elect (Chair, 2006), Thomas Kaspar, kaspar@nstl.gov
Incoming Chair-Elect (Chair, 2007), Ted Zobeck tzobeck@lbk.ars.usda.gov
Past Chair (Chair, 2004), Jorge Delgado jorge.delgado@ars.usda.gov

Board Representative (2003-2005), Douglas Karlen karlen@nstl.gov
Board Representative (2006-2008), Diane Stott destott@purdue.edu

SSSA Journal S-6 Technical Editor, Seth Dabney, sdabney@ars.usda.gov
SSSA Rapid Response Contact, Div S-06 (2005), Jorge Delgado jorge.delgado@ars.usda.gov
S-6 COMMITTEES

**2006 S-6 PROGRAM (INDIANAPOLIS, IN, NOV. 12-16)**

SSSA Division S-6 2006 Chair, Tom Kaspar, kaspar@nstl.gov

Send Tom ideas for 2006 symposia and special sessions. Better yet, volunteer to organize a symposium for the next meeting. It’s a great way to become involved. Topics will be discussed during the S-6 Division Business Meeting. Currently, we are allowed two symposia at the annual meeting.

**2006 NOMINATING COMMITTEE**

Chair, 2006 (2008) Diane Stott, destott@purdue.edu
Member (2007) Jorge Delgado jorge.delgado@ars.usda.gov
Member (2006) Gary Peterson gary.peterson@colostate.edu

Start submitting names of potential candidates for Chair-Elect NOW! Make sure that the nominee has agreed to serve. Two nominations are necessary for a candidate to be considered. Run-off elections will be held if we have more that two candidates.

**SSSA – SWCS JOINT SYMPOSIUM**

Chair, Warren Busscher, busscher@florence.ars.usda.gov
Member, Jorge Delgado, jorge.delgado@ars.usda.gov
Member, Mike Lindstrom, lindstrom@morris.ars.usda.gov
Member, Jeff Vonk, jeff.vonk@dnr.state.ia.us

**2006 HOWARD M. TAYLOR LECTURESHIP COMMITTEE**

The membership of this committee is not complete, and is appointed by the SSSA President-Elect, but contact any of the following for information, interest in serving on the committee in the future, or for suggestions for next year’s selection for lecturer.

2006 Chair, Diane Stott, destott@purdue.edu
2006 Chair-Elect, Thomas Kaspar, kaspar@nstl.gov
2005 Member, Bingru Huang, huang@aesop.rutgers.edu
2005 Member, Bobbie McMichael, bmcmichael@lbk.ars.usda.gov
2005 Member, Ken Van Rees, vanrees@sask.usask.ca

**2006 YOUNG SCHOLAR AWARD COMMITTEE**

Chair, Diane Stott, destott@purdue.edu
Member, Jorge Delgado, jorge.delgado@ars.usda.gov
Member, Gary Peterson, gary.peterson@colostate.edu

**2006 GRADUATE STUDENT AWARD**

If interested in serving on this committee, contact the Division Chair. Also, don’t forget to nominate deserving graduate students for this award.

Chair, Ken Potter, kPotter@spa.ars.usda.gov
Member, Clark Gantzer, GantzerC@missouri.edu
Member, Tom Schumacher, Thomas_Schumacher@sdstate.edu
2006 S-6 BEST PAPER AWARD
Committee structure and membership is pending.

ASA-CSSA-SSSA INTERNATIONAL ANNUAL MEETINGS
Location: Salt Lake City, UT
Meeting Dates: Nov 6-10, 2005
Early Registration Deadline: September 27, 2005
Meeting information: http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/meetings/acs/

WORLD CONGRESS OF SOIL SCIENCE
Location: Philadelphia, PA
Meeting Dates: July 9-15, 2006
Abstract Deadline: December 1, 2005 (deadline revised 10 August 2005)
Meeting information: http://www.colostate.edu/programs/IUSS/18wcss/index.html