

Committee: S011.06 Div. S-6

Year of Report: 2005

Body of the Report:

Division S-06 Soil and Water Management & Conservation Annual Report for 2005

Committee Code No. S011.06 Div. S-06

Date of Report Preparation: January 13, 2006

Name of Society Activity: Division S-06

General Report

Officers: The 2004-2005 officers for Division S-06 (2004-2005) were:

Past Chair: Jorge Delgado, USDA-ARS, Fort Collins, CO

Chair: Diane Stott, USDA-ARS, West Lafayette, IN

Chair-elect: Tom Kaspar, USDA-ARS, Ames, IA

Incoming Chair-elect: Ted Zobeck, USDA-ARS, Lubbock, TX.

Division Board Representative: Doug Karlen, USDA-ARS, Ames, IA

SWCS Liaison, Warren Busscher, USDA-ARS Florence, SC

2005 Division S-06 Program Highlights

Division S-06 had a total of 172 papers, including the SWCS-SSSA Joint symposium (5 papers) and the Howard Taylor Lectureship; of that total 15 were invited oral papers, 41 were volunteer oral papers, and 116 posters were presented. Posters were split between three times: 4-6 pm Monday-Wednesday.

The two division symposia were 1) Dynamic Cropping Systems for Soil & Water Conservation, Monday afternoon, organized by Mark Liebigh (USDA-ARS, Mandan, ND); and 2) Uses & Abuses of Soil and water Resources: Historical and Contemporary Examples and the Lessons Learned from Them, Wednesday afternoon, organized by Diane Stott (USDA-ARS, West Lafayette, IN).

There were 7 volunteer oral sessions: 1) SOM, C Dynamics, and GHG Emissions: I, Monday morning, V. Steven Green, Presiding (USDA-ARS, Beltsville); 2) Assessing Water Quality and Quantity, Tuesday morning, Gary C. Heathman, Presiding (USDA-ARS, West Lafayette, IN); 3) Soil Erosion--Processes, Assessment, and Control: II, Tuesday afternoon, Krisztina Eleki, Presiding (Iowa State University); 4) Nutrient Management & Transport--Impact on Water Quality, Wednesday morning, Douglas R. Smith, Presiding (USDA-ARS, West Lafayette, IN); 5) Management Impacts on Crop Yield, Wednesday morning, Kipling S. Balkcom, Presiding (USDA-ARS, Auburn, AL); 6) Assessment of Management Impacts on Soil Properties, Thursday morning, Alton B. Johnson, Presiding (Alcorn State University); 7) Irrigation Management, Thursday morning, Jose L. Chavez, Presiding (Washington State University, Prosser).

Posters were split between three sessions: 4-6 pm Monday-Wednesday.

S-06 Division Business Meeting

The meeting was called to order by Chair Diane Stott at 10:00 am.

Science Policy:

Science Policy Intern Tabitha Brown spoke on behalf of Director of Science Policy Karl Glasener. Ms. Brown informed us of the goals of the Science Policy Office and encouraged members to visit the Science Policy Action Alert Center on our web page. She also encouraged members to contact their congressman and urged members to contact her office for assistance, if necessary.

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

2005 Recipient: Ms. Krisztina Eleki, Agronomy Dept., Iowa State University.

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 play 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.

S-6 UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT SPEECH CONTEST

2005 Recipient: Justin Johnson, Purdue University

Division S-6 sponsored an undergraduate student speech contest in conjunction with the A-01 student speech contest at the annual international meetings in Salt Lake City on Sunday, November 6, 2005. Nine students competed in the preliminary round and six of the nine advanced to the finals. Four of the six students in the finals addressed topics relevant to the goals and ideals of division S-6. The contest winner was Dustin Johnson, Purdue University with a topic of "Soil, one of our most important resources. Do we undervalue it?" Dustin was presented a plaque at the student breakfast and will receive an award of \$200 and a one year membership in the Soil and Water Conservation Society.

2005 Division S-6 volunteer judges were: Neil Hansen (Chair), Jeannie McLain, Mark A. Liebig, K.T. Morgan, Bill Kuenstler, James B. Cropper, Michael J. Singer, Jeff Mitchell.

Board of Directors Report: Doug Karlen, BOD Rep Reporting

Following the first SSSA Board Meeting in Salt Lake City, UT representatives were asked to review the proposed Federation Structure with each of the Divisions. Input from the Division regarding potential names was to be solicited. The suggested names from the Executive Committee were Federation of Plant, Soil and Environmental Sciences, Federation of Plant, Land and Environmental Sciences, and Land Resource Science(s) Federation. At the Board meeting it was noted that this Federation will be among "societies" and not "sciences" so perhaps the word "societies" should either be substituted for "science(s)" or also included in the above names.

The idea of having periodic reviews for each Division was raised and input from each Division was sought. For S6 this is probably not too important since we have been one of the more active Divisions with generally good representation at the meetings and in the Journal. It was noted that SSSA membership increased 5% during 2005 and 12% during the past three years. Members should not be pessimistic about Soil Science as we seem to have hit the low point in Society

membership in 2002. Everyone should keep promoting the profession and striving to show its importance in many different ways.

It was pointed out that annual dues had not been increased in nearly 10 years and this was becoming a concern to the Budget and Finance Committee as well as the Executive Committee. It was suggested that indexing annual dues to “cost of living” increases may be a reasonable approach in the future.

Division members with ideas for the ASA Centennial celebration in 2007 are encouraged to provide input to Doug Karlen or any other member of the Centennial Committee. Lowell Mosier at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln is the Chair.

Members are encouraged to attend and participate in the 18th World Congress of Soil Science. It will be held in Philadelphia, PA from July 9 – 15th. This will not only be a rare opportunity to gather with soil scientists from around the world, but also will be financially beneficial to the SSSA if at least 3000 people are in attendance.

Ideas for collaboration with other soil science groups are always welcome and should be routed to the Division Chair and/or Board Representative whenever possible.

From the Second Board Meeting (added after the Div. S06 Business Meeting)

All Divisions were in favor of creating the Federation. In general, having the word “societies” in the name was preferred – probably something such as Federation of Plant, Land and Environmental Societies. However, before deciding on a name, input will be solicited from the membership via the Societies’ webpage.

It was suggested that if dues were to be indexed to cost of living, it may be desirable to use the “Higher Education Cost of Living” index as recently adopted by Sigma Xi.

Division Concerns – Some soil scientists at non-Land Grant institutions feel left out of SSSA activities, recognitions, etc. Be sure to bring these colleagues concerns to the attention of your Division Chairs, Board Representatives, etc.

Action on the renaming Technical Editors to Co-Editors for the Vadose Zone Journal was postponed until the language could be clarified to ensure no additional costs would be incurred.

In the Future – Board Representatives will be responsible for identifying nominees. This is a change from the past where Division Chairs were given this responsibility.

S-6 Nominating Committee: Jorge Delgado, Nominating Committee Chair Reporting Diane Stott was elected as incoming Board Rep and Ted Zobeck was elected incoming Chair-Elect. Jorge encouraged members to keep participating in elections and other division activities.

Diane entertained nominations from the floor. Neil Hansen was nominated for the position of Chair-Elect by Satish Gupta. The nomination was seconded by Scott Van Pelt. Diane announced that she will accept nominations via email for about another week.

SWCS Liaison: Warren Busscher, SWCS Liaison announced the SSSA-SWCS Joint Symposium Agricultural Management of Greenhouse Gas Emissions scheduled for Wednesday morning. A joint SSSA-SWCS Conservation Research Award has been proposed and will be voted on the SSSA Board. Doug Karlen announced that a sponsor/benefactor for the award is needed. Ideas for the joint symposium next year are needed. This joint symposium does not count towards our annual 2-symposium limit for the meeting. Contact SWCS Liaison Warren Busscher, busscher@florence.ars.usda.gov for further information.

Division S-6 Technical Editor's Comments: Technical Editor Seth Dabney, Reporting. It was reported that the SSSAJ was profitable this year. It was ranked #1 among 27 journals in the Soil Science peer group in terms of the number of citations and moved up from #4 to #3 in “impact factor,” a measure of citations of recently published articles. In the last 12 month reporting period (1 July 2004 through 30 June 2005) SSSAJ received 393 manuscripts. Of these 82 were handled by S-6, the largest number of any single division. The S-6 division also had the lowest percentage of manuscript acceptance at 41%, compared to 55% for the entire SSSAJ.

There will be considerable turnover on the editorial board this year. In particular, Warren Dick is retiring as Editor-in-Chief and Sally Logsdon will assume this role in January. There will be three retirements of S-6 Associate Editors. Floyd Adamsen, Thanh Dao, and Jeff Strock have each of these provided 6 years of service. Incoming S-6 Associate Editors are: Clint Truman, Henry Lin, and Bill Schillinger.

An important change to SSSAJ publication policy is that invited and volunteered review articles will now be published. These will be targeted reviews and have a limit of 10 printed pages. It is believed that timely review articles will increase the SSSAJ's impact factor. Each division Technical Editor is authorized to invite two review articles per year and these invited review papers will be published without page charges. There is a 1 year time limit for the receipt of invited review articles. Suggestions for review article topics may be submitted to the Technical Editor. A special SSSAJ Associate Editor will be appointed to coordinate all review manuscripts up to the time of manuscript submission to avoid duplication and insure timely completion of assigned reviews. After submission, the manuscripts will be review using normal procedures in the most appropriate division.

Another SSSAJ innovation this year was the decision to publish book reviews. A special Book Review Associate Editor, Laj Ajuha, has been appointed and is responsible for identifying suitable reviewers and editing reviews. To date 13 titles have been received and are in the review process.

SSSA wants to highlight timely and important papers in soil science. Potential papers for such distinction will be identified by Associate Editors at the time of paper acceptance for potential recognition two areas: “Science in Action” for papers of particular interest to practitioners and “key” papers that are of wide interest across multiple SSSA divisions. Authors of such papers will be asked to prepare a brief interpretive summary that may be published in CSA news and other outlets at the time that the article is published.

The Editorial Board voted to suggest to the SSSA board to explore development of a reward system through which SSSAJ reviewers could earn credits that could be used to offset publication charges. The proposal is intended to encourage good reviews and to increase submissions to SSSAJ.

2006 Symposia: Tom Kaspar, Chair-Elect led a discussion of possible symposia for the SSSA meeting next year. 15 symposium ideas have been submitted. Several of the submissions are similar and could be combined. Additional input will be requested via the S-6 list serve.

Best Paper Award Discussion

Diane Stott discussed the pros and cons of the current method for selecting the Best Paper Award for background information. Currently, the award is made by a vote of the body of S-6 membership to determine first and second place. The method currently used by SWCS to select their best paper was briefly discussed and the scoring sheet used by SWCS was distributed to the members present. Fran Pierce moved that the name of the award be changed to the Editors' Choice Award and that the award be determined by the Div S-6 editorial board. In addition, the method will be re-evaluated at the annual meeting next year. Gary Peterson seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. The papers accepted by Div S-6 in 2005 will be used for this initial trial period.

Volunteer for Committee Assignments: Volunteers for Div. S-6 committees are needed. Please contact the committee chair or Nominating Committee Chair (2006) Diane Stott to volunteer.

Announcements and Discussion:

David Robinson, Research Scientist with the School of Earth Sciences, Stanford announced a survey on a Hydrologic Measurement Facility conducted by www.cuahsi.org. The CUAHSI Hydrologic Measurement Facility (HMF) has been given pilot funding to develop a vision for a community facility that would provide support for large-scale field hydrological measurements. While the general concept of an HMF is easy to state, the operational details for such a facility are less clear, and are entirely up to the community that will be served by this resource. This survey has evolved from a preliminary survey conducted in 2002, and is a pivotal step in the development of the HMF. CUAHSI solicits the communities help in determining the degree of community support for this effort; if the proposed activities are those that are most important for your research; and what additional support is required that has not been included. Go to www.cuahsi.org to participate in the survey.

Ted Zobeck was interested in how our members liked the poster format for this meeting. The ASA and CSSA posters are left up for 3 days but the h x w dimensions are 4' x 4'. The SSSA posters are up for only one day with poster h x w dimensions 4' x 8'. A straw poll of members indicated that the members present favored the ASA/CSSA format by a margin of 3:1.

Fran Pierce voiced concern about papers presented on Thursday morning. (He had 3 papers on Thursday morning.) He suggested that authors be allowed to have the option of presenting a poster on Thursday.

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 am.

Minutes of the Business Meeting were prepared by Ted M. Zobeck, Incoming Chair-Elect

Results of Run-off election to identify nominees for 2008 Chair

Division S-06 accepts multiple nominees for this position, and if there are more than two candidates, a preliminary run-off election is held to determine the two candidates that will be on the SSSA Ballot. This year there were three candidates: Neil Hansen (Colorado State University), Clark Gantzer (University of Missouri), and Brian Wienhold (USDA-ARS, Lincoln, NE). There were 101 votes cast, and the results were very close. Clark Gantzer and Brian Wienhold had the highest number of votes and their names will be on the SSSA ballot.

Members of the Committee:

Thomas Kaspar (Chair, Div. S-6 2006), Ted Zobeck (Chair-Elect, Div. S-6 2006), Diane Stott (Past Chair, Div. S-6 2006), Diane Stott (Div. S-6 Bd. Rep. 2008)

Prepared By: Diane E. Stott