S711.16 Nyle C. Brady Frontiers of Soil Science Lectureship

Status: Special Committee

Composition and Tenure:

The lectureship committee is composed of seven SSSA members. The term of office for the committee is two years. The SSSA President-Elect will serve as Chair for one year.

Responsibility and Activity:

1. To recommend to the SSSA Executive committee the name of a distinguished scholar as a proposed lecturer. This should be done eight months prior to the annual meeting. The Nyle C. Brady Lecture will be presented at the SSSA Breakfast and Awards Ceremony. The Lectureship will focus on topics that address major advances and emerging research in soil science and allied disciplines that may stimulate new and innovative research efforts by SSSA members.

The Executive Committee of SSSA has the authority to make the final selection of the lecturer based on the best fit of the criteria for Nyle C. Brady Frontiers of Soil Science Lectureship. The Chair of the Selection Committee will contact the suggested lecturer regarding acceptance of the lectureship.

At the time when the lecturer has been selected and is contacted by the Chair of the Selection Committee, they are offered the opportunity to submit a manuscript based on this lecture for publication in Soil Science Society of America Journal as the Lectureship-Paper if accepted after review. The manuscript should be submitted within 12 months after the Annual Meeting was held during which the lecture was presented. Publication fees for the Lectureship-Paper are waived.

2. To budget for the Lectureship expenses, the Lectureship is being funded through the Nyle C. Brady Frontiers of Soil Science Lectureship Fund of the Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF).

From the signed Brady Lectureship Fund Agreement (March 30, 2006): Budget. The earnings on the fund shall pay an annual lecturer an honorarium of $1,000, plus expenses, based on available fund balance. Expenses covered may include any combination such as the following: travel to the meetings, lodging, and registration for the lecturer. Under no circumstances shall the principal in the endowment be used to fund the award. In the event that total funds accrued permit, the honoraria may be increased to levels in excess of $1000 in the future. In the event of insufficient funds for the award, the committee can elect to reduce the amount of the honorarium or the degree of coverage of travel expenses or defer the giving of an award until sufficient funds are available.

Investment. For investment purposes, the assets of the fund principal may be commingled with other investment assets of ASF, being entered on the Foundation’s records as the Nyle C. Brady Frontiers of Soil Science Lectureship. The Foundation shall invest the assets of this fund according to the investment policies established by its Board of Trustees. Based on the donors’ intent, the minimum annual payout rate will be 7% with the understanding that this supersedes the current rate of return of 4% - which is the general payout rate established by the ASF Board at the time of this agreement. Occasionally, the assessment of nominal charges to support investment and administrative costs may be made against the income of this fund, but only when charged other similar funds.

3. To prepare a list of potential nominees (with web link to CV) before the annual meeting to be passed on to newly appointed committee members. A list of past distinguished lecturers is available at SSSA Headquarters.
Selection criteria for the Lectureship:

Nominations of the Brady Lectureship will be selected based on the following main criteria:

a. The lecturer will be a distinguished scientist who has made significant contributions to new and innovative research in soil science. Typically, the lecturer will be a soil scientist at a major research institution or university. However, the lecturer may, on occasion, be an author, editor, or expert in an area related to soil science.

b. Membership in SSSA is not required, nor is this intended to be an award to recognize service to the SSSA.

c. The award does not have to be presented each year.

Presidential Responsibilities:

1. Appoint the Chair and committee members. Reappointments to Nyle C. Brady Frontiers in Soil Science Lectureship should be made by the SSSA President-Elect at the time of the Society meetings to facilitate the selection, approval, invitation and scheduling of the lecturer on the timetable above.

2. Cooperates with the Committee in its activities, as appropriate or in response to need.

3. Serves as a liaison between the Committee and the Executive Committee, and SSSA Headquarters.