



**Soil Science Society of America Hybrid Board of Directors Meeting Agenda  
 Friday June 14, 2024, 9:00am-4:00pm (Atlantic Standard Time)  
 SSSA Bouyoucos Conference, Puerto Rico**

President Michael Thompson called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

President: Michael Thompson, Iowa State  
 President-Elect: Samira Daroub, Univ. of Florida  
 Past President: Carrie Laboski, USDA-ARS  
 Agricultural Soil and Food Systems Group: Maysoon Mikha, USDA-ARS; Hero Gollany, USDA-ARS; Dorivar Ruiz Diaz, K-State  
 DEI-at-Large: Xia Zhu-Barker, UW-Madison  
 Early Career Rep: Dianna Bagnall, Soil Health Institute  
 Education & Practicing Professionals Group: Clay Robinson, CRC Consulting  
 Fundamental Soil Science Group: Rebecca Lybrand, UC-Davis; Ganga Hettiarachchi, K-State; Maxine Levin, USDA-NRCS  
 Grad Student Rep: Megan Bourns, K-State  
 Soil & Ecosystem Processes: Ronald Reuter, Oregon State  
 CPSS Rep: Jacob Berkowitz, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Ex-officio without Vote: CEO Jim Cudahy; Program Planning Officer & Incoming President-Elect Aaron Daigh, Univ. of Nebraska; Editor-in-Chief Craig Rasmussen, Univ. of Arizona

Unable to attend:

ASF Chair Stella Salvo, Bayer CropScience  
 Soil & Ecosystem Processes: Thorsten Knappenberger, Auburn

Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Special Projects Director  
 Susan Dearing-Bond, Development Director  
 Linda Dolezalek, Interim Finance Director  
 Dawn Gibas, Certifications Director  
 Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer  
 Ian Popkewitz, IT & Operations Director  
 Sara Uttech, Governance Director  
 Susan Varghese, People & Culture Director  
 Matt Wascavage, Publications Director

S003 SSSA Board of Directors

1. ACTION: The following Consent Agenda were approved:
  - June 14, 2024 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
  - May 16, 2024 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
  - Margaret Boozer for SSSA Honorary Membership
2. Facilitators for Division/Group Reports:
  - Jacob Berkowitz reported on form student-certification meetings at universities focusing on interaction as a way to increase membership
  - Maxine Levin reported on the divisions within the Fundamental Group highlighting their Grad Student and Early Career Awards

April	May	June	July
Michael Thompson Xia Zhu-Barker	Maysoon Mikha Clay Robinson	Jacob Berkowitz Maxine Levin	Dianna Bagnall Ron Reuter
August	September	October	November
Thorsten Knappenberger Carrie Laboski	Megan Bourns Dorivar Ruiz Diaz	Samira Daroub Ganga Hettiarachchi	Hero Gollany Rebecca Lybrand

3. CEO Jim Cudahy provided a Headquarters Update, including progress made with the SSSA Strategic Plan:
  - Small groups formed to take part in "Telling Your Story Exercise #1."
4. CEO Jim Cudahy presented a draft of our Marketing's Outreach PowerPoint Presentation & Feedback, and Next Steps for Outreach
5. President Michael Thompson and CEO Jim Cudahy introduced the SSSA Strategic Plan Exercise #2: New Webinars/Podcast Topics and audiences (Research Scientists, Practicing Professionals, Grad Students/Early Career Members, etc.) and broke into small groups for topics, ideas, speakers, and potential speakers.
6. Announcements:

- SSSAJ Webinar: "Soil biological health is dependent on soil properties and management" June 27, 10:00am
- [ASA Virtual Sustainable Agronomy Conference](#) - free two-hour live sessions each week: July 10, 17, 24, 31 with up to 8 CEUs
- ASF Travel Grants due July 25: [www.soils.org/awards](http://www.soils.org/awards) - *encourage students*:
  - [Advancing Pedology Award](#)
  - [Caregiver Travel Award](#)
  - [Graduate Student Travel Award](#)
  - [Hans Jenny Soil Field Trip Award](#)
  - [Henry Lin Travel Grant](#)
  - [Indian Univ. Travel Award](#)
- Two SSSA Presidential Award nominations, Michael Thompson will finalize by next meeting.
- Board member airfare reimbursement: Submit one PDF of airfare receipt and completed Travel Expense Reimbursement form to Sara Uttech, [suttech@sciencesocieties.org](mailto:suttech@sciencesocieties.org)

7. Next Meeting Date Thursday July 18, 11:00-12:15pm (Central). Potential Agenda Items:
- Dianna Bagnall reported that a member wanted the board to reconsider *Soil Horizons*; however with CSA News going digital, perhaps look at what content from *Soil Horizons* people liked.
  - Request to review the current Divisions structure to be interdisciplinary

#### S495 SSSA Fellows Committee

SSSA Fellows Chair Carrie Laboski reported 34 SSSA Fellow nominations in 2024. ACTION: Motion by Carrie Laboski, seconded by Clay Robinson, to ratify the 11 SSSA Fellows as presented. Unanimous approval.

#### S973.10 U.S. National Committee for Soil Science

Report from the IUSS Centennial Meeting May 19-21, 2024 in Italy from President Michael Thompson, President Elect Samira Daroub, CEO Jim Cudahy, and Special Projects Director Susan Chapman.

#### S211 Budget & Finance Committee

Interim Director of Finance Linda Dolezalek, presented on "Finance 1010: How Nonprofit Boards Should Review Financial Statements" including:

- Four financial statements required under Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP): the statement of financial position, the statement of activities, the statement of cash flows, and the statement of functional expense
- Board members obligations as fiduciaries
- Definitions of financial terms

There was a request for a one-pager on financials for board reps to take to business meetings at the Annual Meeting.

#### ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF) Board of Trustees

Development Director Susan Dearing-Bond presented "Foundation/Fundraising 101," which included fundraising strategies for the Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF), including:

- Importance of segmenting donors and prospects, focusing on major gifts, planned giving programs, and donor retention
- Need to improve ASF's online experience and donor stewardship efforts
- Suggested ways to increase donations: matching gift programs, grant development plans, and collaborative partnerships

#### ACS321 Editorial Policy Coordination Committee

1. ACTION: Motion by Samira Daroub, seconded by Maysoon Mikha, to approve the ACS321 Editorial Policy Coordination Committee Recommendations on three items: Update Data Policy, Updated Artificial Intelligence Generated Content Policy, and Become a signatory to UNITED2ACT Against Paper Mills. Unanimous approval.

2. The June Publications Update including Strategic Planning and journal development.

#### S711.19 SSSA 2024 Program Planning Task Force

Update on the SSSA Bouyoucos Summer Conference included:

- \$125,000 plus \$10,000 for student travel awards from ASF's Bouyoucos Fund
- 170 registrations, 142 were paid, remaining were comped
- 96 contributed posters, 97 workshop registrations, 98 tour registrations
- The Task Force will submit a final report, including attendance, attendee survey results, financial summary, and recommendations for future small conferences

#### ACS732 Program Planning Committee

Annual Meeting, Nov. 10-13 San Antonio, [www.acsmeetings.org](http://www.acsmeetings.org):

- Opening Keynote Nov. 10: Susan Crow, University of Hawaii, including a Land Acknowledgement segment
- SSSA Brady Lecture Wednesday Nov. 13: Doug Ming, former NASA Chief Scientist
- SSSA Walsh Lectureship: Rob Mikkelson on soil fertility
- Special DEI Session: Highlighting culture/food/history of San Antonio, two local speakers, one on history of San Antonio, chef with tasting of local flavor, 6-8 presentations in Spanish translated into English on the slide
- Early Abstract Submission Deadline June 20, fees increase \$20/members, \$25/non-members
- Final Abstract Submission Deadline July 9
- SSSA Board Meeting at Annual Meeting: Sunday Nov. 10 at 9:00am (8:30am breakfast)
- Call for SSSA Program Planning Officer: Apply by July 9 to SSSA President Michael Thompson: <https://acsess.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1002/csan.21267>
- *Annual Meeting Post to your Social Media* networks to help increase visibility: Gain presentation experience AND professional recognition at the ASA, CSSA, SSSA Annual Meeting Nov. 10-13 in San Antonio! All scientific abstracts accepted and due July 9: [www.acsmeetings.org](http://www.acsmeetings.org)

Consensus to Adjourn.