

Annual Business Meeting Minutes of SSSA Division S-06
Soil and Water Management and Conservation
Monday, November 1, 2010
Hyatt Regency Long Beach, Beacon Ballroom A, Third Floor

The meeting was called to order by S-06 Chair Harry Schomberg at 3:08 p.m.

Welcome and Introductions

Dr. Schomberg thanked everyone who helped make this year's sessions and symposia a success. Nearly 200 papers were submitted to S-06 for the annual meeting, including 19 sessions. Based on informal surveys early in the meeting, all S-06 sessions were well attended.

Dr. Schomberg introduced S-06 officers in attendance: Neil Hanson (Past-chair), Mark Liebig (Chair-elect), Harold van Es (Board Representative), Seth Dabney (S-06 Technical Editor), Jorge Delgado (Soil and Water Conservation Society Liaison).

Awards

Best Paper Award: The Best Paper Award was presented by Jeff Strock. Division S-06 honors the authors SSSAJ manuscripts published within the division of SSSAJ during the last seven years that have had exceptional impact on the scientific community. Selection is based on a rigorous evaluation of how the manuscript has advanced knowledge in the profession, the effectiveness of communication, originality, and impact measured by number of citations and downloads.

The 2010 recipient of the Best Paper Award was Karolien Denef, Johan Six, Roel Merckx, and Keith Paustian for their paper entitled 'Carbon sequestration in microaggregates of no-tillage soils with different clay mineralogy' (SSSAJ 68:1935-1944). 1st runner up: Allmaras, R.R., D.R. Linden, and C.E. Clapp. 2004. Corn-residue transformations into root and soil carbon as related to nitrogen, tillage, and stover management. Soil Sci. Soc. Am.J. 68: 1366-1375. 2nd runner up: Wilts, A.R., D.C. Reicosky, R.R. Allmaras, and C.E. Clapp. 2004. Long-term corn residue effects: harvest alternatives, soil carbon turn over, and root-derived carbon. Soil Sci. Soc. Am. J. 68: 1342-1351.

2010 Best Paper Award Committee: Jeff Strock (Chair), Mahdi Al Kaysi, Kris Brye, Craig Drury, Hero Gollany. Three positions on the committee will need to be filled for 2011 (Chair and two committee members). Interested members should contact Jeff Strock at jstrock@umn.edu.

Young Scholar Award: The Young Scholar Award was presented by Neil Hanson. The S-06 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.

The 2010 recipient of the Young Scholar Award was Dr. Jason Warren, Soil and Water Conservation Extension Specialist, Dept. of Plant and Soil Sciences, Oklahoma State University.



2010 Young Scholar Award Committee: Neil Hansen (Chair), Brian Wienhold, Ted Zobeck

Graduate Student Award: The Graduate Student Award was presented by Zhi (Luke) Wang. The S-06 Graduate Student Award is presented each year to a graduate student whose thesis research and graduate responsibilities utilize creative approaches to gain understanding and develop solutions for soil and water conservation and management problems. The recipient's research must be in soil and water management and conservation.

The 2010 recipient of the Graduate Student Award was Mr. Josh Werts, Ph.D. Candidate in Forest Resources (GIS, Remote Sensing, and Soil Science), Dept. of Forestry and Natural Resources; Clemson University, Clemson, SC.



2010 Graduate Student Award Committee: Clark Gantzer (chair), Tom Schumacher, Zhi (Luke) Wang.

SSSA President Message (Chuck Rice)

Dr. Chuck Rice, current SSSA President, presented a certificate of appreciation to Harry Schomberg for his service to the society as 2010 S-06 Division Chair. Following the presentation, Dr. Rice thanked the attendees for their involvement in S-06 and requested their input regarding the format of this year's meeting. Comments on meeting format may be sent to ASA-CSSA-SSSA staff.

Board of Directors Report (Harold van Es)

Poster Presentations: Dr. van Es indicated SSSA was continuing to use 4'x8' posters for a single-day presentation. However, given that ASA and CSSA was following a different format (through the use smaller posters, but extended presentation times), he sought input for attendees regarding the use of the large posters on a single day. Input was as follows:

- Doug Karlen indicated that the larger poster size allowed for more information to be conveyed, and if a smaller size was selected presenters would be forced to share less. Finding an appropriate balance between poster size and length of presentation time was key, as high visibility of SSSA posters was desired. Knowing the 'price point' for rented space would be helpful to help determine the balance between poster size and presentation time. Chuck Rice couldn't confirm the rental cost of floor space for posters.
- Seth Dabney asked if the other societies were using an extended presentation time for poster presentations. Maysoon Mikha confirmed this was the case. Seth indicated that some 4'x8' posters included a significant amount of white space. Seth inquired how the cost of oral presentations compared to poster presentations. Chuck Rice was not aware of a cost comparison of presentation methods.
- Neil Hanson felt that ASA, CSSA, and SSSA should share the same format for poster size and presentation time.

Additional comments on SSSA poster presentations may be sent to Harold at hmv1@cornell.edu.

SSSA Strategic Plan: Harold indicated that the board met for one day in March in Washington D.C. to develop and refine the plan (accessible at <https://www.soils.org/files/about-society/ssa-2010-strategic-plan-final.pdf>). The March meeting was followed by an Early Career Members meeting in July, which

sought to gather input from younger ASA-CSSA-SSSA members. The meeting was a 'put-everything-on-the-table' type of meeting, and was very productive.

SSSA Logo Competition: SSSA is seeking submissions from members for a new logo. The winner of the selected logo will receive \$1000, with \$500 and \$250 for 2nd and 3rd place, respectively. Logo submissions should be sent to logo@soils.org in pdf or jpg format by 12/1/10.

Society Reorganization: ASA is currently undergoing reorganization by transitioning from traditional divisions to sections and communities. Part of impetus for reorganization stems from the perception that the traditional division structure disenfranchises new, evolving areas of science. As a result, the current structure may not effectively engage younger members of the society. This topic initiated a lively discussion.

- Christine Morgan felt SSSA needed to consider reorganization, as the current structure was limiting to new areas of soil science.
- Bianca Moebius-Clune also felt there was a need for SSSA reorganization. She indicated attendees at the Early Career Members meeting in July developed some approaches for reorganizing the society (See *CSA News*, Oct. 2010, P.18-21 for synopsis of meeting).
- Harry Schomberg mentioned that members could easily move from division to division depending on the topic of investigation.
- David Montgomery felt inter-division topics were not incentivized under the current division structure. He suggested the organizational structure of the society should more closely mirror how the society organizes sessions at the annual meeting.
- Ted Zobeck shared his experience in organizing a pan-S session at the annual meeting. He indicated that the process was difficult under the current structure. He felt arguments over which division a novel topic belongs to should not occur.
- Seth Dabney cautioned attendees to think through a potential reorganization very carefully.

Additional comments regarding potential SSSA reorganization may be sent to Harold at hmv1@cornell.edu.

Z Sessions: Current Z Sessions at the annual meetings are focused on educational and professional development activities. Proposals for Z Sessions at the 2011 annual meetings are currently being requested.

Business Model: There is a need to more effectively link the ASA-CSSA-SSSA strategic plan to the business model of the societies. Currently, society journals bring in significant revenue, while the science policy office represents the primary expense of the societies. While this is a worthwhile investment, there is a need to ask if we're most effectively enhancing our objectives as an organization in how we collect and spend money. This is an issue that needs to be addressed by the societies at least every 10 years.

Candidates for 2011 Ballot:

- Chair-Elect: Robert Schwartz and Alan Franzluebbbers were formally nominated as candidates for S-6 Chair Elect.
- Board Representative: Harold van Es and Scott Van Pelt were formally nominated as candidates for S-6 Board Representative.
- President: Diane Stott was willing to have her name put forth as a candidate for SSSA President. However, additional candidates willing to be nominated were encouraged to consider this opportunity. [Note: Following the meeting, Jean Steiner was nominated as a candidate for SSSA President. The S-06 Nominating Committee agreed to submit Dr. Steiner's name for consideration as SSSA president.]

SWCS Liaison Report (Jorge Delgado)

SWCS/SSSA Symposium, 2010: This year's joint SWCS/SSSA symposium was titled 'Adaptive Management: A How-to Guide and the USDA NRCS Code 590 Standard'. The same topic was included in the 2010 SWCS annual meeting in St. Louis, and was showcased on the cover of a recent issue of CSA News.

SWCS/SSSA Symposium, 2011: Next year's SWCS/SSSA symposium will be 'Mitigating Climate Change with Conservation Practices for Global Sustainability'. A session on a similar topic was included in this year's ASA-CSSA-SSSA annual meeting. Jorge reported that SWCS was establishing a task force on this important topic.

SWCS Conservation Award: Dr. Raj Khosla, Associate Professor at Colorado State University, was the recipient of the 2010 SWCS Conservation Award.

SWCS Liaison: Jorge indicated that he would like to serve as SWCS Liaison for an additional three year term. Doug Karlen presented a motion to have Jorge serve as SWCS Liaison for an additional three year term. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Technical Editor Report (Seth Dabney)

The S-06 Division of SSSAJ was on pace to receive >100 manuscripts in 2010.

Three Associate Editors will complete their terms at the end of the year (Louis Baumhardt, Tom Schumacher and John Zhang). Steve Del Grosso, Stewart Wuest, and Christof van Os will begin three year terms as Associate Editors in 2011.

Seth will be retiring as S-06 Technical Editor at the end of this year. Brian Wienhold will serve as S-6 Technical Editor beginning in 2011. Aside from changes in the Associate Editor pool, the rest of the editorial board will be maintained.

The ranking for SSSAJ dropped from 4th to 7th in 2010.

S-6 Website (Harry Schomberg)

Kirk Iverson was recognized as the webmaster for the S-6 website (accessed at <https://www.soils.org/membership/divisions/s06>). Feedback on the structure and content of the website is encouraged. Comments may be sent to Kirk at kiversen@auburn.edu.

S-06 Scholarship (Jerry Lemonyon)

A new scholarship has been developed to encourage students to work in the area of soil and water conservation and management. The award will be presented through S-6 at the annual meeting, and is sponsored by the Agronomic Science Foundation. The award includes a \$3000 stipend for a student, as well as a \$500 stipend for travel to the annual meeting. Candidates for the scholarship must be students at a land grant university or a university with a soil and water conservation curriculum. In addition to the award, selected candidates will have the opportunity for an internship with NRCS (and possibly ARS). The selection of the candidate will be via a committee, which will be appointed by the S-6 chair. No award will be given if a suitable candidate is not found.

A formal motion was made by Doug Karlen to support the S-06 scholarship. The motion was seconded by Diane Stott and passed unanimously.

Funds are currently available to support the scholarship. However, members are encouraged to donate to the Agronomic Science Foundation to enhance the scholarship fund.

Harold van Es questioned the requirement that the candidate be enrolled in a soil and water conservation curriculum. Jerry clarified that candidates need to be working toward a soil and water conservation curriculum.

2011 ASA-CSSA-SSSA Meeting (Mark Liebig)

Background: The 2011 ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meeting will be held October 16-19 in San Antonio, TX. The theme of the meeting is 'Fundamental to Life: Soil, Crop & Environmental Sciences'. The meeting will represent the 75th anniversary of SSSA. Additionally, the Canadian Society of Soil Science will hold their annual meeting concurrently with the ASA-CSSA-SSSA meeting.

Symposia and Topical Sessions: As of 10/30/10 five symposia and four session proposals had been received. Titles and submitters are listed below.

Symposia:

- Monitoring water quantity and quality at the field edge: Methodologies and case studies (Mark Tomer and Dennis Busch)
- Soil management's role in address climate change: An inventory of where we are and we are heading (Mahdi Al-Kaisi)
- Expand soil and water management systems which reduce competition for food and energy production needs for 21st century (Alvin Smucker)
- Soil Conservation on the Great Plains – From Sidelines to Center Field (Frank Larney)
- Supporting ecosystem services with conservation agricultural approaches (Alan Franzluebbers)

Topical Sessions:

- Use of coal combustion by-products in agricultural systems: Water and nutrient aspects (Harry Schomberg)
- Cellulosic Ethanol and Its Impacts on Crop Production, Soil and Environmental Quality (Humberto Blanco)
- Agricultural Practices to Increase Nitrogen-use Efficiency, Carbon Sequestration, and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation (Upendra Sainju and Maysoon Mikha)
- Cover Crops (Tom Kaspar)

Additional symposia/session proposals should be sent to Mark at mark.liebig@ars.usda.gov by November 18th. Each proposal should include a title, co-sponsoring division(s) (symposia only), a 4-6 sentence description, and contact information for the organizer (name, address, email, phone). Proposals for 'Z Sessions' are also encouraged.

S-06 Tour?: A S-06 themed tour was proposed for the 2011 meeting. Research sites near Temple, Riesel, and Thrall, TX were considered possible stops that would interest S-06 members. Input on this proposal is encouraged. [Note: Following the meeting, Jerry Lemonyon suggested the tour begin north of the proposed sites by having participants fly into Dallas-Ft. Worth. This option would require a stay-over in a town somewhere along the tour route. Jean Steiner suggested expanding the tour idea to a three day 'Dryland Tour' to include sites in Bushland and El Reno. Bobby Stewart was suggested as a contact for suggestions on this tour option.]

The meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.

Submitted by Mark Liebig, S-06 Chair-Elect