



## Soil Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Tuesday Sept. 26, 2023, 10:15-11:30am (Central)

### Board members present:

President: Carrie Laboski, USDA-ARS (2023)  
President-Elect: Michael Thompson, Iowa State (2023)  
Agricultural Soil and Food Systems Group: Maysoon Mikha, USDA-ARS (2024); Hero Gollany, USDA-ARS (2025)  
DEI Member-at-Large: Xia Zhu-Barker, UW-Madison (2025)  
Education & Practicing Professionals Group: Clay Robinson, CRC Consulting (2025)  
Early Career: Dianna Bagnall, Soil Health Institute (2025)  
Fundamental Soil Science Group: Mary Stromberger, Ohio State Univ. (2023); Rebecca Lybrand, UC-Davis (2025)  
Soil & Ecosystem Processes Group: Daniel Markewitz, U. of Georgia (2023); Ronald Reuter, Oregon State (2024)  
Ex-officio: CEO Jim Cudahy; Program Planning Officer Aaron Daigh, U of Nebraska (2024); Editor-in-Chief Craig Rasmussen, Univ. of Arizona (2024)

### Unable to attend:

Incoming President-Elect Samira Daroub, U. of Florida (2023)  
Past President: Ron Turco, Purdue (2023)  
Agricultural Soil and Food Systems Group: Jane Johnson, USDA-ARS (2023)  
Fundamental Soil Science: Maxine Levin, USDA-NRCS (2024)  
Grad Student Rep: Elizabeth Bradley, Auburn (2023)  
ASF Chair Samantha Miller, Corteva Agriscience (2023)  
CPSS Rep: James Hartsig, CPSS (2023)

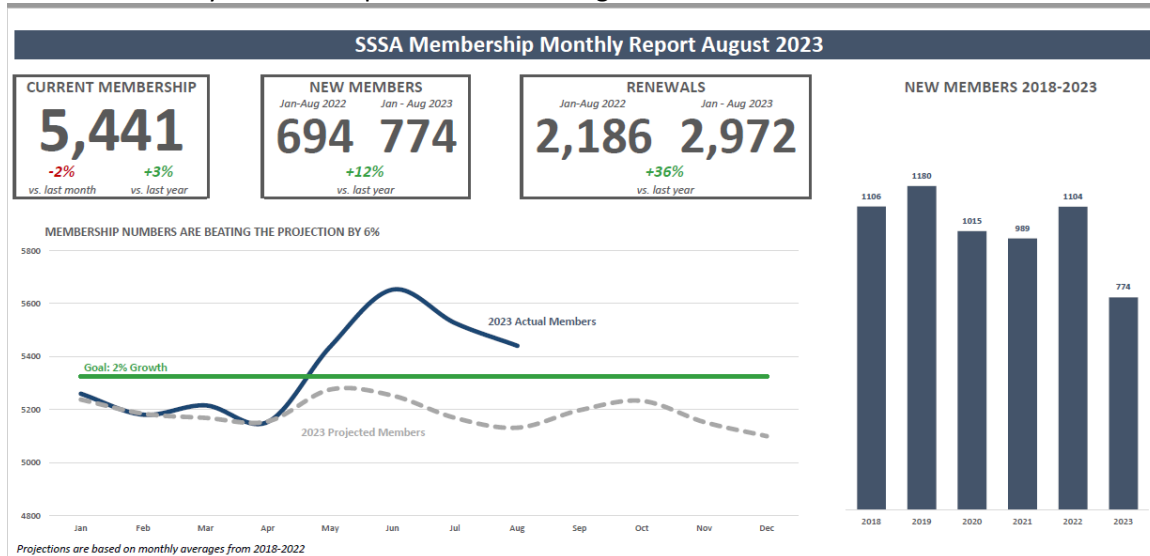
### Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Member Services Director  
Dawn Gibas, Certifications Director  
Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer  
Sara Uttech, Governance Director  
Matt Wascavage, Publications Director  
Susan Varghese, People & Culture Director

### S003 SSSA Board of Directors

1. The meeting opened 15 minutes early for optional networking.
2. ACTION: The following Consent Agenda items were approved:
  - Sept. 26, 2023 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
  - Aug. 22, 2023 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
3. CEO Jim Cudahy reviewed the outcomes from the ASA-CSSA-SSSA-ASF-ICCA-CPSS Strategic Planning Meeting:
  - SSSA Vision Statement: Unite a global community advocating for soils through education and science.
  - SSSA Objectives:
    - Increase, engage, and diversify our membership: Build and leverage internal and external awareness of SSSA and current resources
    - Workforce Development: Increase the awareness of the diverse career paths for soil scientists: Make the CPSS the standard of the profession (Increase # of CPSSs)
    - Ensure SSSA is positioned to be responsive to emerging issues: Increase collaboration with scientific societies regionally and in other countries (2 more continents)
    - Expand our economic engine: Increase revenue to support Vision & Strategic Objectives
  - Cross-Society Objectives:
    - Innovate Our Stakeholder Experiences
    - Raise the visibility of our disciplines and our members
    - Diversify our memberships
  - Next Steps:
    - August-September: Follow-up discussion and Strategic Plan drafted
    - October: Annual Meeting Board Meeting approval of Strategic Plan
    - December: Department Directors to operationalize the Strategic Plans
    - January (with sneak peek in St. Louis): Strategic Plan presented to members
4. Next SSSA Board Meeting In-Person & Virtual Sunday Oct. 29, 2023, 9:30-11:30am Central, 9:00am breakfast buffet available, Room 240, St. Louis America's Center Convention Complex.

## 5. SSSA Monthly Membership Dashboard for August 2023:



### S211 SSSA Budget & Finance Committee

CEO Jim Cudahy and Budget & Finance Committee Chair Mary Stromberger reported that there is a slight delay in the 2024 SSSA Budget Process but on track for approval at the Annual Meeting Board Meeting. The Budget & Finance Committee: Chair Mary Stromberger, Diana Bagnall, Maxine Levin, Craig Rasmussen, Michael Thompson, and Jim Cudahy. He also reported on plans for an IT assessment.

### ACS321 Editorial Policy Coordination Committee

1. Publications Director Matt Wascavage and Editor-in-Chief Craig Rasmussen provided an update on the post-2024 publishing program, journal Editor appointments/reappointments.
2. ACTION: Motion by Mary Stromberger, seconded by Ron Reuter, to approve unlimited online access to the full collection of ASA, CSSA, and SSSA journals, books, magazines, and archives to all current society members through their membership term through an increase in membership dues. Unanimous approval.
  - There was consensus to review the international dues differential and provide a way to remove it if a member opts out of mailings, etc. Member Services Director Susan Chapman reminded the board of our Global Outreach Program offering dues discounts to World Bank countries: [www.soils.org/membership/discounts](http://www.soils.org/membership/discounts)

### S840 SSSA-Soil Science Society of China Committee

President-Elect Michael Thompson on behalf of SSSA sent *Science* magazine a Letter to the Editor that he posted to the SSSA Board Discussion Board: [www.soils.org/discussion-boards/index.php?/topic/5130-submission-of-a-letter-to-science](http://www.soils.org/discussion-boards/index.php?/topic/5130-submission-of-a-letter-to-science)

### S101 Nominations for President-Elect Committee

Call for 2024 SSSA Election candidates: President, Board Rep, Division Chair due Nov. 30 - encourage women, minorities, others to run for office.

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

President Carrie Laboski and Program Planning Officer Aaron Daigh provided an update on the SSSA Summer Conference, in Puerto Rico, June 9-13, 2024: [www.sacmeetings.org](http://www.sacmeetings.org)

- Save the date: SSSA Board Meeting in Puerto Rico with Virtual Option, June 13-14, 2024
- It was requested that in planning future meetings to be cognizant of universities on the quarter system as the timing of this meeting presents an issue

### ACS732 Program Planning Committee

Annual Meeting Registration Numbers:

- 3,172 current registrations vs. 2022 Baltimore's 1,566 / 2019 San Antonio's 2,471
  - 2022 Baltimore: 3,555 total in-person/2019 San Antonio: 3,945 total in-person
    - Projection ~4,400 due to record abstract submissions
- Annual Meeting Program: <https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2023am/meetingapp.cgi> | App: [SciSoc Mtg](#)

<p>Sunday Oct. 29</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF) VIP Reception</li> <li>• New Board Member Orientation</li> <li>• SSSA Board Meeting</li> <li>• Publications Session on Open Science with Wiley</li> </ul>	<p>Monday Oct. 30</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASA-CSSA-SSSA Awards &amp; Networking Lunch (ticket)</li> <li>• Publications Session on Open Science with Wiley</li> </ul>
<p>Tuesday Oct. 31</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSSA Continental Breakfast &amp; Brady Lecture (ticket)</li> <li>• Golden Opportunity/Greenfield Scholar Luncheon (ticket)</li> </ul>	<p>Wednesday Nov. 1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSSA Coffee with the Presidents &amp; CEO</li> </ul>
<p>All Week:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SSSA Division Business Meetings (Group Board Reps. decide on coverage, contact Division Chairs to ensure time on agenda, SSSA Exec/CEO to attend as able); discussion items sent in advance:  <a href="https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2023am/meetingapp.cgi/Program/2108">https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2023am/meetingapp.cgi/Program/2108</a></li> <li>• Society Center (Exhibit Hall): Demo Stage, Society info, Career Center, etc.</li> </ul>	

Consensus to Adjourn.