



## Soil Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Thursday Aug. 15, 2024, 11:00am-12:15pm (Central Time)

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; Thorsten Knappenberger, Auburn

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:

CPSS Rep: Jacob Berkowitz, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 ASF Chair Stella Salvo, Bayer CropScience

Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Special Projects Director  
 Rachel Best, Associate Meetings Director  
 Susan Dearing-Bond, Development Director  
 Linda Dolezalek, Interim Finance Director  
 Dawn Gibas, Certifications Director  
 Sanford Moore, Finance 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 items were approved:

- Aug. 15, 1013 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
- June 14, 2024 SSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Markus Flury as SSSA Editor-in-Chief, 2025-2027

2. Division/Group Reports:

- Soil & Ecosystem Processes Group highlights (Ron Reuter & Thorsten Knappenberger):
  - Annual Meeting events:
    - Tribute to Rien Van Genuchten, recipient of the Wolf Prize for Agriculture
    - AI & Machine Learning in Soil Science
  - Attended Western Regional National Cooperative Soil Survey Meeting
  - SSSA Urban and Anthropogenic Soils Division:
    - Urban Symposium at Annual Meeting
    - Division needs help getting more members to sign up for their division, attend their business meeting, get candidates for elections
- Early Career (Dianna Bagnall): Out of 624 Early Career Members, 450 are SSSA members
  - CSA News article, "[Comparing Notes: Lessons Learned from Six Early Career Members](#)"
  - Two SSSA Awards: SSSA Early Career Award, Soil Physics Early Career Award

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

3. CEO Jim Cudahy Headquarters Update included:
  - Introduce Sanford Moore, Director of Finance, and referenced the SSSA 990 Tax Return Distributed to SSSA Board Members
  - 2024 Annual Meeting Abstracts, up 3%
  - ASA & SSSA hosted in-person board meetings with similar exercises, this all leads to an opportunity to do Outreach – watch for a page about this
  - Hosted Workforce Development Summit Aug. 13-14 with FFAR, ~35 others at Headquarters
  - Letter to American Associations of Universities (AAU) Requesting Changes to Highly Prestigious Awards List
4. ACTION: Motion by Maysoon Mikha, seconded by Ron Reuter, to offer to the Soil Science Society of Brazil a discounted Membership to promote advantages to join the Society, including publications and other opportunities such as travel awards like the Dixon Award, and Networking/Career opportunities. Additional synergies to be gained as we launch a Certified Crop Adviser program in Brazil. Unanimous approval.

#### S211 SSSA Budget & Finance Committee

Finance Director Sanford Moore presented the Second Quarter 2024 SSSA Financials.

#### ACS321 Editorial Policy Coordination Committee

The August 2024 Publications Update was distributed, which highlighted:

- Annual Meeting Publication Workshops
- Response to self-citations coming from China

#### ACS732 Program Planning

- SSSA Program Planning Officer (2025-2027) appointed: Shannon Osborne, USDA-ARS
- 2024 SSSA Presidential Award: Robert Graham and Robert Horton
- SSSA Membership Numbers through August: [Membership Dashboard](#)
- Annual Meeting Events [www.acsmeetings.org](http://www.acsmeetings.org):
  - SSSA Board Meeting, Sunday Nov. 10, 9:00-11:00am (8:30am breakfast)
  - SSSA Coffee with the Presidents, Monday Nov. 11, 9:00-10:30am
  - Lal Climate Lectureship, Monday Nov. 11, 10:00-11:00am
  - Clark Lectureship on Soil Biology, Tuesday Nov. 12, 1:30-2:30pm
  - Sparks Lectureship, Tuesday Nov. 12, 2:00-3:00pm
  - Patrick Lectureship, Tuesday Nov. 12, 3:30-4:30pm
  - Walsh Soil Fertility Lectureship, Tuesday Nov. 12, 5:15-6:00pm
  - Wilde Lectureship, Wednesday Nov. 13, 11:00am-Noon
  - SSSA Plenary/Brady Lectureship & Breakfast, Wednesday Nov. 13, 7:45-9:30am
  - Annual Meeting Promotional Toolkit – sample images and text to share on social media: [www.acsmeetings.org/promotionaltoolkit](http://www.acsmeetings.org/promotionaltoolkit)

Consensus to Adjourn.