



**Crop Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, March 19, 2024 2:00-3:15pm (Central)**

President Kim Garland-Campbell called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

- President: Kim Garland-Campbell, USDA-ARS (2024)
- Past President: Seth Murray, Texas A&M (2024)
- President-Elect: Mark Sorrells, Cornell (2024)
- C-1: Melanie Bayles, Oklahoma State Univ. (2025)
- C-2: John Snider, University of Georgia-Tifton (2026)
- C-3: Ignacio Ciampitti, Kansas State Univ. (2024)
- C-4: Nicole Anderson, Oregon State Univ. (2025)
- C-5: Cale Bigelow, Purdue (2026)
- C-6: John Guretzky, Univ. of Nebraska (2024)
- C-7: Jianming Yu, Iowa State Univ. (2024)
- C-8: Dipak Santra, Univ. of Nebraska (2025)
- C-9: Mary Guttieri, USDA-ARS (2025)
- Industry: Leah Brilman, DLF (2025)
- Grad Student: Tina Sullivan, Utah State Univ (2025)

Ex-Officio Board Members without Vote:

CEO: Jim Cudahy; Program Planning Officer: Nithya Rajan, Texas A&M (2026)

Unable to attend:

DEI-At-Large: Geoffrey Koch, Petrichor Consulting Group (2026); Editor-in-Chief Bingru Huang, Rutgers (2024); ASF Chair: Stella Salvo, Bayer CropScience (2024); B&F Chair: Stephen Malone, USDA-AMS-S&T-SRTD (2025)

Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Special Projects Director  
Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer  
Sheri Springer, Finance & Accounting Director  
Sara Uttech, Governance Director  
Matt Wascavage, Publications Director

C003 CSSA Board of Directors

1. The meeting opened with a discussion of the *Undark* article selected by Geoffrey Koch, "[Science Has a Communication Problem – and a Connection Problem.](#)"

Facilitators to Lead Topic/Article Selection & Discussion	
February: Kim Garland-Campbell	July: Melanie Bayles
March: Geoffrey Koch	August: Tina Sullivan
April: Jim Cudahy	September: John Snider
May: John Guretzky	October: Cale Bigelow
June: Seth Murray	December: Mary Guttieri

2. ACTION: The following Consent Agenda items were approved:
  - March 19, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
  - Feb. 20, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
  - Reappointment of Bingru Huang as CSSA Editor-in-Chief for a second three-year term beginning in January 2025 as recommended by President Kim Garland-Campbell
3. CEO Jim Cudahy Headquarters Update:
  - Annual audit underway, plans to hold Budget & Finance Committee Calls to review
    - Need to identify new Accounting Software as Great Plains is going away
  - Update: International Crop Science Congress Organizing Committee met; leaders will meet at our Annual Meeting to determine next steps and future meeting date.
  - Strategic Plan: Outreach Objectives & Presentations, including exhibited at:
    - MANRRS (Minorities in Agriculture, Natural Resources & Related Sciences) March 22 and NSTA (National Science Teachers Association) March 21-22
  - Governance Director Sara Uttech finalized the CSSA Hybrid Summer Board Meeting in Madison (1.5 Days) as:
    - July 31 arrive anytime
    - Aug. 1 all day board meeting
    - Aug. 2 half day board meeting, travel home after Noon
  - Think about ideas for the agenda, tours/field trips
  - We will make hotel reservations to be direct billed, you make your travel arrangements

- Note: We will reimburse all travel expenses with receipts
  - Publications Director Matt Wascavage distributed a Publications Update document and called out the Editor Nominations due June 1:
    - ASA & CSSA: [Crop, Forage & Turfgrass Management Editor](#)
    - ASA-CSSA-SSSA: [Agricultural & Environmental Letters Editor](#)
    - CSSA: [Journal of Plant Registrations Editor](#)
    - SSSA: [Editor-in-Chief](#)
  - CAO Luther Smith provided a report and next steps for Congressional Visits Day held March 4-6 that featured 45 attendees, 63 meetings representing 23 states.
4. ASA, CSSA, SSSA Awards: [www.crops.org/awards](http://www.crops.org/awards) - *encourage students to participate*
- Scholarships Close 3/19/2024 | Submissions due 3/26/2024
  - Travel Grants Open 3/20/2024 | Submissions due 7/25/2024
    - [Bridge Scholars](#)
    - [Caregiver Travel Award](#)
    - [Graduate Student Travel Award](#)
5. Next Meeting Date Tuesday April 16, 2024, 2:00-3:15pm and Agenda Preview:
- a. Volunteer to select article to review: CEO Jim Cudahy
  - b. Results: CSSA Elections March 4-April 4, [www.crops.org/elections](http://www.crops.org/elections)
  - c. Review Year-End CSSA Financials
  - d. Committee connections to strategic objectives
    - i. Reducing number of committees, consolidation
    - ii. Reinvigorating, reimagining, re-purpose committees with staff liaisons identified

#### ACS732 Program Planning

1. ACTION: Motion by Leah Brilman, seconded by Seth Murray, to approve the recommendation to remove the CSSA-only membership requirement to submit CSSA Annual Meeting abstracts. Unanimous approval.
2. ACTION: Motion by Mark Sorrells, seconded by Melanie Bayles, to approve the recommendation to sunset the CSSA Society-Wide Student Competition and C468 Society-Wide Committee and to conduct a survey of what grad students need and want. Ignacio Ciampitti offered to help re-tool the competition and improve the format. Motion carries, 7-3.

#### C101 Nominations Committee

CSSA Elections: Vote through April 4: [www.crops.org/elections](http://www.crops.org/elections). President-Elect candidates: Felix Fritschi, Univ. of Missouri & Charlie Messina, Univ. of Florida

Consensus to Adjourn.