



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

Strategic Plan, Bylaws, Minutes: crops.org/about-society | [Membership Dashboard](#) | [Outreach PPT](#)

President Kim Garland-Campbell called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

President Kim Garland-Campbell, USDA-ARS
Past President Seth Murray, Texas A&M
President-Elect Mark Sorrells, Cornell
C-1 Melanie Bayles, Oklahoma State Univ.
C-2 John Snider, University of Georgia-Tifton
C-5 Cale Bigelow, Purdue
C-7 Jianming Yu, Iowa State Univ.
C-9 Mary Guttieri, USDA-ARS
DEI-At-Large Geoffrey Koch, Petrichor Consulting
Grad Student Tina Sullivan, Kansas State Univ.
B&F Chair Stephen Malone, USDA-AMS-S&T-SRTD
Industry Leah Brilman, DLF

Ex-Officio Board Members without Vote:

CEO Jim Cudahy; Incoming President-Elect Felix Fritschi, Univ. of Missouri

Unable to attend:

C-3 Ignacio Ciampitti, Kansas State Univ.
C-4 Nicole Anderson, Oregon State Univ.
C-6 John Guretzky, Univ. of Nebraska
C-8 Dipak Santra, Univ. of Nebraska
Editor-in-Chief Bingru Huang, Rutgers
Program Planning Officer: Nithya Rajan, Texas A&M
ASF Chair Stella Salvo, Bayer CropScience

Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Special Projects Director
Susan Dearing-Bond, Development Director
Sanford Moore, Finance Director
Ian Popkewitz, IT & Operations Director
Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer
Sara Uttech, Governance Director
Susan Varghese, People & Culture Director
Matt Wascavage, Publications Director

C003 CSSA Board of Directors

1. John Snider led a discussion on TEDTalk, "[Can we hack photosynthesis to feed the world?](#)"

Facilitators to Lead Topic/Article Selection & Discussion	
February Early Career Members: Kim Garland-Campbell	July Soft Skills Training: Melanie Bayles
March Science Communications: Geoffrey Koch	August Regenerative Ag TEDTalk: Tina Sullivan
April Social Media Misinformation: Jim Cudahy	September Grass vs. Turf: Cale Bigelow
May Happiness/Gratitude/Mental Health: John Guretzky	October Photosynthesis TEDTalk: John Snider
June A.I.: Seth Murray	December: Mary Guttieri

2. Consent Agenda items approved:
 - Oct. 15, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
 - Sept. 17, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
3. CEO Jim Cudahy provided a Headquarters Update including:
 - CSSA Budget & Finance Committee Met on Oct. 2 to review the draft 2025 CSSA Budget. The final 2025 Budget to be presented and approved at November Board Meeting
 - B&F Chair Steve Malone noted that several programs and associated expenses, including some that were previously in the Member Services Cost Center for example, have moved to being more accurately allocated
 - Outreach PowerPoint & Resources now online for board members to customize and use in their presentations on their own campuses and when invited to speak elsewhere: www.crops.org/about-society/outreach
 - Current Annual Meeting Registration Numbers: 1.5% ahead of last year; 64 exhibitors
 - Website Redesign, rolling soft launch in November
4. President Kim Garland-Campbell provided information on two upcoming opportunities:
 - NSF Call for Proposals: [Bioleaps: Leading Culture Change Through Professional Societies](#) due July 2025. If interested let Kim or Susan Chapman know.

- Opportunity to work on a Dig-It type museum traveling exhibit about Lewis & Clark and botany, contact Marilyn Warburton for more information.
5. Upcoming webinars: www.crops.org/education/online-courses
- Oct. 17 [The fate of ammonium phosphate nitrogen: A major blind spot](#)
 - Oct. 24 [Inside the Hiring Process: Perspectives from the Other Side of the Table](#)

ACS732 Program Planning Committee

Annual Meeting Events www.acsmeetings.org:

- Launching CANVAS branding
- [Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Activities](#)
- New Board Member Orientation, Sunday Nov. 10, Noon-2:00pm
- CSSA Coffee with the Presidents, Monday Nov. 11, 9:00-10:30am (exhibit hall)
- ASA-CSSA-SSSA Awards Lunch, Monday Nov. 11, Noon-1:30pm (ticketed)
- CSSA Plenary/Klepper Lecture & Breakfast, Tuesday Nov. 12, 7:45-9:30am (ticketed)
- Science Policy & You: Learn, Be Inspired, Get Involved, Tuesday Nov. 12, 10:15am-Noon
- Sabor De San Antonio: An Exploration of Food, Culture, and Multi-Lingual Science, Tuesday Nov. 12, 6:00-8:20pm (ticketed)
- CSSA Board Meeting, Thursday Nov. 14, 9:30-11:30am (9:15am breakfast)
- Division Business Meetings, check with Division Chairs for time on agenda: <https://scisoc.confex.com/scisoc/2024am/meetingapp.cgi/Program/2169>
 - *Headquarters will send Board Discussion Items in early November*

C537 CSSA Science Policy

Save the Date: **Feb. 25-26, 2025** Congressional Visits Day. Encourage Grad Students to apply online by **Dec. 4** to attend: www.crops.org/awards/view/185

C101 Nominations Committee

Candidates due, three-year terms beginning 1/1/2026: www.crops.org/elections

Nov. 15: Interest due to Division Chairs | Nov. 30: Final Selection due to Sara Uttech

Encourage women and other underrepresented groups to run for office

- President-Elect: C101 Nominations Committee
- All Division Chairs-Elect: 2 candidates from each division
- Board Reps: C-1, C-4, C-8, C-9, Industry, Finance (current reps eligible for re-election): 2 candidates from each division
- Grad Student Board Rep. (grad student as of 2026 even if graduating): [Apply by Nov. 15](#)

Consensus to Adjourn.