CSSA Board of Directors Conference Call  
January 4, 2011  
(Call started at 8:00 AM CST; ended at 8:50 AM)

The meeting was called to order by President Maria Gallo. Board participants were:

Maria Gallo, CSSA President  
Jeffrey J. Volenec, CSSA President-Elect  
Joseph G. Lauer, CSSA Past President  
Jeffrey F. Pedersen, C-1 Board Rep.  
Randy Wells, C-2 Board Rep.  
Emerson D. Nafziger, C-3 Board Rep.  
Mary Beth Kirkham, C-4 Board Rep.  
Michael D. Richardson, C-5 Board Rep.  
Daniel J. Undersander, C-6 Board Rep.  
Henry T. Nguyen, C-7 Board Rep.  
David B. Baltensperger, C-8 Board Rep.  
Michael A. Grusak, C-9 Board Rep.  
E. Charles Brummer, CSSA Editor-in-Chief, ex-officio  
James G. Coors, ASF Rep., ex-officio  
Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio

Also participating:
Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer  
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services  
James Giese, Director of Science Communications  
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy  
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions  
Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

C003 Board of Directors
1. ACTION: It was moved by Mike Grusak to approve the conference call agenda. Seconded by Mike Richardson. Carried unanimously.

2. ACTION: It was moved by Randy Wells to approve the December 7, 2010 CSSA Board of Directors conference call minutes. Seconded by Dan Undersander. Carried unanimously.

3. Board members were requested to sign and return to Headquarters the Written Acceptance of Conflicts of Interest Policy for 2011.

4. The next Board conference call is scheduled for February 8 at 8:00 AM Central Standard Time.

5. The Board will meet May 10-12 in Madison, WI. Headquarters will provide further details on arrival/departure dates, hotel accommodations, etc.
ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation
The Board took action on October 5, 2010 to support the ASF recommendation to consolidate the Beachell, Clark, Dixon, Johnson, Mott, Reed and Truog funds into a single Scholarship Fund and to consolidate the L.B. Nelson, L.R. Frederick and Bouyoucos funds to create an International Travel Study Fund, with a request for a progress report on the details.

Jim Coors provided a progress report and clarified that ASF is not proposing that existing named funds be eliminated, but that the dollars be consolidated. ASF recommends that there should be three priority funds - the Scholarship Fund, the International Travel Study Fund, and the Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute Fund - that would be actively marketed to the Societies’ membership as well as corporate supporters. Since the first two funds would be new, ASF recommends the following:

- Identify the Beachell, Clark, Dixon, Johnson, Mott, Reed and Truog funds under a general “Scholarship Fund” that can be used to provide scholarships to undergraduate, graduate and Ph.D. students who are interested in pursuing careers in agronomy, crops or soils. Although individual account balances will be maintained, the combined account value is ~ $225,000. Jim provided further details on how the Scholarship Fund would operate.
- Identify the L.B. Nelson, L.R. Fredrick and Bouyoucos funds under a general “International Travel Study Fund” that can be used to encourage international teaching experiences for students and instructors in agronomy, crops or soils. Although individual account balances will be maintained, the combined account value is ~$550,000. Jim provided further details on how the International Travel Study Fund would operate.
- Keep the Golden Opportunity Fund as a high priority fund in terms of promotion and soliciting additional funds for sustained growth. These scholarships would be for undergraduate students studying agronomy, crops or soils.

ASF also recommends that the current committees for the individual funds named above be combined into one committee for the Scholarship Fund and one committee for the International Travel Study Fund. Guidelines on how the committees would function will need to be established.

Jim will present this progress report to the ASA and SSSA Boards of Directors on their January conference calls. A mechanism to move this forward and a timeframe for implementation will need to be established.

C101 Nominations
Joe Lauer reported that the Nominations Committee has selected two candidates to run for President-Elect. Division C-4 was encouraged to submit an additional name for Chair-Elect for the ballot.

C201.4 Strategic Planning
Maria Gallo met via Skype with Ellen and Headquarters Department Directors to brainstorm strategic planning goals for 2011 focusing on education, communication, and student recruiting. Board members were encouraged to review the document and provide feedback to Maria and Ellen by January 11. Maria will summarize the feedback for further discussion on the February 8 Board conference call.
C211 Budget and Finance
Wes Meixelsperger reported a positive net income from operations for the eleven months ending November 30, 2010. December 2010 statements will be posted mid to late January.

C304 The Plant Genome
Action was taken at the November 4, 2010 Board meeting encouraging the Editor-in-Chief and Editor to take the necessary steps to reinvigorate *The Plant Genome* journal.

Charlie Brummer reported on plans to grow the journal highlighting manuscript handling, outreach/advertising, journal content, and journal website. Charlie will work with Headquarters on implementing the recommendations in the report.

C537 Science Policy
Karl Glasener reported that the Crop Adaptation to Climate Change position paper should be finalized by the end of January. The CSSA-ASA-SSSA joint position paper on Climate Change will also be completed by the end of January.

Per discussions at the November 4, 2010 Board meeting, the Science Policy Committee was requested to clarify its function and develop a more defined structure. David Baltensperger reported that the process for identifying topics and developing positions papers is still in development by the committee. He will provide a further update on the February 8 Board conference call.

ACTION: It was moved by Mike Richardson to adjourn. Seconded by Mike Grusak. Carried unanimously.