CSSA Board of Directors Conference Call  
February 8, 2011  
(Call started at 8:00 AM CST; ended at 9:05 AM)

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

   Maria Gallo, CSSA President  
   Jeffrey J. Volenec, CSSA President-Elect  
   Jeffrey F. Pedersen, C-1 Board Rep.  
   Randy Wells, C-2 Board Rep.  
   Mary Beth Kirkham, C-4 Board Rep.  
   James A. Murphy, C-5 Chair, substitute for Michael D. Richardson, C-5 Board Rep.  
   David B. Baltensperger, C-8 Board Rep.  
   Michael A. Grusak, C-9 Board Rep.  
   Ellen Bergfeld, Chief Executive Officer, ex-officio  
Also participating:  
   Wes Meixelsperger, Chief Financial Officer  
   James Giese, Director of Science Communications  
   Cathy Goudreau, Recorder

C003 Board of Directors

1. ACTION: It was moved by Jim Murphy to approve the conference call agenda. Seconded by Mary Beth Kirkham. Carried unanimously.

2. ACTION: It was moved by Randy Wells to approve the January 4, 2011 CSSA Board of Directors conference call minutes. Seconded by Jeff Volenec. Carried unanimously.

3. The next Board conference call is scheduled for March 1 at 8:00 AM Central Standard Time.

C011.05 Division C-5 Turfgrass Science

Jim Murphy presented the proposed Fund Agreement between CSSA and the Agronomic Science Foundation for the Chris Stiegler Graduate Student Travel Award. As the fund will support travel grants to Division C-5 graduate students to attend the annual meeting, Mike Grusak recommended that reference to turfgrass science be included in the title of the award.

ACTION: It was moved by Jim Murphy to approve moving forward with the CSSA Chris Stiegler Turfgrass Science Graduate Student Travel Award. Seconded by Mike Grusak. Carried unanimously.

It is anticipated that the ASF Board will approve the Fund Agreement on their February 16 conference call. Following ASF approval Headquarters will proceed with announcement of the fund.

C201.4 Strategic Planning

Per discussions on the January 4 conference call, Board members were to review the 2011 strategic planning goals and provide feedback to Maria and Ellen. Under Goal A, Strategy A2, Mike Grusak suggested that some of the main feature articles in CSA News highlighting crop science be made available to nonmembers. James Giese indicated that any article generating a lot of interest can be made available via open access. Jeff Volenec recommended a feature article on transgenics.

Also Under Goal A, Strategy A2 Mike Grusak recommended that the Division web pages be updated and kept current. Maria will request Ken Quesenberry take the lead on this as he was instrumental in encouraging Division leadership to update their web pages.
Under Goal C, Strategy C4, Maria will continue conversations with Todd Higgins and the National Student Advisory Committee regarding the potential of corporate sponsorship for student travel to the annual meetings. She will recommend that the Society take the lead in pursuing corporate sponsorship.

Under Goal D, Strategy D3, Maria indicated that the American Phytopathological Society is interested in partnering with CSSA on some educational booths at various meetings. Ellen and Maria will follow up on this.

Maria will develop a timeline for each of the Goals.

C211 Budget and Finance
Wes Meixelsperger reported a net income from operations for the twelve months ending December 31, 2010.

C301 Editorial Affairs, Policies, and Practices
1. A recommendation on procedure for appointment of the Editor-in-Chief and journal editors will be presented on the March 1 Board conference call.

2. Ellen informed the Board that several Crop Science Technical Editors were not aware of the Society’s reimbursement policy for secretarial expenses thus have not requested reimbursement for several years. The B&F Committee and Editor-in-Chief will review the reimbursement policy, including obligations for prior years, and provide a recommendation for discussion on the March 1 Board conference call.

C537 Science Policy
1. James Giese reported that the CSSA-ASA-SSSA joint position paper on Climate Change will be finalized soon. The Crop Adaptation to Climate Change position paper should also be finalized soon. Both papers will be highlighted in CSA News.

Jeff Volenec recommended a crop science perspective on emerging issues that affect society be included in each issue of CSA News and in Crop Science as well. He will communicate this to David Baltensperger, Chair of the Science Policy Committee.

2. 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. On the January 4 Board conference call David Baltensperger reported that the process for identifying topics and developing position papers is still in development by the committee.

Jim Murphy indicated that Division C-5 is beginning to discuss the role of scientists in the development of rules and regulations by states and nationally. He questioned whether this type of activity should go through the Science Policy Committee. Mike Grusak will bring this to the attention of the committee on its next conference call. A further update on structure and function of the committee will be provided on the March 1 Board conference call.

C800 Scientific Affairs
1. Action was taken at the November 4, 2010 Board meeting to support the request from Divisions C-1 and C-7 to explore the feasibility of CSSA cosponsoring a workshop at the Plant Genome meeting to increase CSSA membership and visibility. If cosponsorship of a workshop is deemed feasible, the next step would be development and approval of a budget. An update will be provided on the March 1 Board conference call.

2. Ellen will provide an update on the March 1 Board conference call regarding the potential of ACSESS providing some administrative support to the National Association of Plant Breeders.

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