



**Crop Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, Sept. 17, 2024 2:00-3:15pm (Central)**

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

President-Elect Mark Sorrells called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

- 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-4 Nicole Anderson, Oregon State Univ.
- C-5 Cale Bigelow, Purdue
- C-6 John Guretzky, Univ. of Nebraska
- C-7 Jianming Yu, Iowa State Univ.
- C-8 Dipak Santra, Univ. of Nebraska
- 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; Program Planning Officer: Nithya

Rajan, Texas A&M; ASF Chair Stella Salvo, Bayer CropScience; Incoming President-Elect Felix Fritschi, Univ of Missouri

Unable to attend:

President Kim Garland-Campbell, USDA-ARS  
C-3 Ignacio Ciampitti, Kansas State Univ.  
Editor-in-Chief Bingru Huang, Rutgers

Also attending:

Susan Chapman, Special Projects Director  
Linda Dolezalek, Interim Finance Director  
Susan Dearing-Bond, Development Director  
Dawn Gibas, Certifications Director  
Sanford Moore, Finance 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. Cale Bigelow led a discussion on "What Does Science Say About Grass vs. Turf in Sports?"  
<https://apnews.com/article/nfl-aaron-rodgers-achilles-grass-artificial-turf-79212f5443cd2a0d30fe8c9d981b13c0>

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

2. The following Consent Agenda items were approved:
  - Sept. 17, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
  - Aug. 20, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
3. CEO Jim Cudahy Headquarters Update:
  - Website Redesign soft rollout at the Annual Meeting in November
  - *CSA News* and *Crops & Soils* moving to digital in 2025
  - Customizable Outreach PowerPoint coming soon
  - Webinar update, new hire to focus on webinars
  - Current Annual Meeting registration numbers: up over last year
  - Budget & Finance Committee call on Oct. 2 to review 2025 Budgets with Directors

C101 Nominations Committee

Governance Director Sara Uttech Announces a Call for 2025 Election Candidates. More info at [www.crops.org/elections](http://www.crops.org/elections) – encourage colleagues to submit their interest to Division Chairs by Nov. 15, especially women and other underrepresented groups

- CSSA President-Elect, 3-year term
- All Division Chairs-Elect, 3-year term: two candidates needed from each division

- Board Reps 3-year term: C-1, C-4, C-8, C-9, Industry, Finance (current reps eligible for re-election), two candidates needed from each division
- Grad Student Board Rep., 2-year term (grad student as of 2026 even if graduating during term): [Apply online by Nov. 15](#)

#### ACS321 Editorial Policy Coordination Committee

Publications Director Matt Wascavage provided an update, including a roundup of 2025 Editorial Appointments and Annual Meeting Publications Workshops.

#### ACS732 Program Planning

Annual Meeting Events [www.acsmeetings.org](http://www.acsmeetings.org):

- 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)
- Special Session: 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)
- Annual Meeting Promotional Toolkit – Images and text to share on social media: [www.acsmeetings.org/promotionaltoolkit](http://www.acsmeetings.org/promotionaltoolkit)
- Incoming President-Elect Felix Fritschi is looking for an agricultural futurist for the 2025 Keynote panel. Contact him with speaker ideas.

Consensus to Adjourn.