CSSA President’s Message

Top 10 Things to Do at the Annual Meetings

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We are about one month away from our Annual Meetings in Tampa. I am sure many of you have made travel plans and are preparing for your presentation(s) and meeting commitments. If not, it is not too late. In this message, I would like to share my top 10 things to do at the meetings. I have not ordered them in terms of priority, but rather as a short, but incomplete, list to consider to ensure that you optimize your meeting experience. This is only a portion of the things to do outside of the sessions, symposia, posters, exhibitions, and vendors that occur at the meetings. Good luck choosing because there are so many excellent things to do. I recommend trying at least 5 out of the 10 this year.

So, here’s my top 10 things to do at the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International Annual Meetings in Tampa (see the program at www.acsmeetings.org for dates and times):

1. **Attend the opening keynote session:** “Big Visions, Grand Challenges, and Nagging Controversies: Navigating into the Anthropocene,” by author Alan AtKisson on Sunday evening

2. **Attend your division/community business meeting:** (times and locations found in the program book or online at www.acsmeetings.org)

3. **Attend your Society(ies) awards breakfast and plenary:** (SSSA on Monday, ASA on Tuesday, and CSSA on Wednesday)

4. **Have some fun and go on a tour:**
   - Everglades Wetlands Tour (Saturday)
   - Soil–Geomorphic Relations of Florida: From Terrestrial to Subaqueous Tour (Saturday through Sunday)
   - South Florida Grazinglands Tour (Sunday)
   - Forage Tour (Sunday)
   - Global Agronomy and Appropriate Technology Tour (Sunday)

5. **Attend a professional development session:**
   - Leading In An Age Of Change (Sunday)
   - Beyond Grazing—Analysis of Grazing Trial Data with SAS (Sunday)
   - Navigating the Maze: A User’s Guide to Graduate School Success (Sunday)
   - Writing an Abstract for a Paper, Talk, or Poster (Sunday or Tuesday)
   - Tools and Techniques for Fine Root Imaging and Analysis (Sunday)
   - The Secrets to Surviving Your First Year On the Job (Monday)
   - Tips From the Experts On the Job Application and Interviewing Process (Monday)
   - Writing Manuscripts for Publication Interactive Workshop (Tuesday)
   - How to Publish a Manuscript in ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Journals (Tuesday)
   - Women in Agronomy, Crops, Soil, and Environmental Sciences Special Program and Workshop (Tuesday)
   - Good Mentors Are Made, Not Born: A Mentor/Mentee Primer Grant Writing Workshop for Early Career Members (Tuesday)
   - Grant Writing Workshop for Early Career Members (Wednesday)

6. **5K fun run** on Tuesday morning, 5 November. The race begins on the Riverwalk just behind the Marriott Waterside Hotel. Must be pre-registered by 5:00 pm on Monday, 4 November.