Volunteering: Committees...and So Much More!

This is the second in a series of informational articles on your member benefits.

Volunteerism is widely recognized for its leadership-building capabilities and as a positive addition to one’s curriculum vitae. Networking connections made while volunteering can lead to research partnerships, job advancement, lifelong friendships, and personal fulfillment and recognition. Volunteering is also an excellent way to learn more about a particular role or sector, for example coming from nonprofit or government and switching to for profit. So, consider becoming involved, in a volunteer role, with one of these opportunities:

Committees and Boards

Members guide the direction and development of the Societies by serving on a diverse range of committees and boards that include journal peer reviewers, book editors, community or division chairs, K-12 outreach, student activities, and mentors, just to name a few. With 400+ committees to choose from, you’re bound to find at least one that could use your talent and unique contribution. Visit the webpages below to view the lists of committees, guidelines, and functions, and to volunteer. Register by 13 June for committee service beginning 1 Jan. 2015.

- www.agronomy.org/about-society/committees/volunteer
- www.crops.org/about-society/committees/volunteer
- www.soils.org/about-society/committees/volunteer

Beyond Committees...

Be a mentor—The Golden Opportunity Scholars Institute matches undergraduates with scientist-mentors during the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Annual Meeting. The program encourages talented students to study agronomy, crop science, and soil science while cultivating networks to develop the necessary workforce to sustain the profession.

New in 2014: Greenfield Scholars—GO Scholars who intend on entering the workforce after graduation and have an interest in the Certified Crop Adviser (CCA) certification.

- www.goldenopportunityscholars.org

Get Involved in the Legislative Action Network (LAN)

LAN members receive electronic “action alerts” asking them to reach out to their members of Congress on a specific issue. By joining the LAN, you will be the first to hear about upcoming policy issues or legislative actions and receive instructions tailored to your members of Congress for maximum effect.

- www.agronomy.org/science-policy/activities/lan
- www.crops.org/science-policy/activities/lan
- www.soils.org/science-policy/get-involved/lan

Crunch for Time? Try These One-and-Done Opportunities

Submit your career profile—Showcase your career and inform and inspire students considering careers in our sciences. Our easy questionnaire will guide you through questions about your education, job path, experiences, and hobbies. You can even add up to three photos.

- www.careerplacement.org/career-tools/career-profiles
- www.agronomy.org/membership/refer
- www.crops.org/membership/refer
- www.soils.org/membership/for-members/grow