SSSA Executive Committee Meetings

4–5 March 2003, Madison, WI

The meeting was called to order by President Michael J. Singer. Those present were:

Michael J. Singer, SSSA President
J. Thomas Sims, SSSA President-Elect
John W. Doran, SSSA Past President
Ellen Bergfeld, Incoming Executive Vice President
David M. Kral, Acting Executive Vice President
Penny Magana, Recording Secretary

000–099 ORGANIZATION

ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation

Valerie Breunig, Director of Development, presented an informational report on activities of the Agronomic Science Foundation.

100–199 NOMINATIONS

S101 Nomination of SSSA President

In an effort to enhance the selection process of candidates for SSSA President-Elect, it was suggested that the 2004 SSSA Nominations Committee be contacted early for suggestions of possible candidates. Once the suggested list of candidates is compiled, the prospective candidates will be requested to provide background information much like what is presently included on the SSSA ballot; however, vision statements will not be requested at this time. The plan would be to gather the information in time to be available for review and discussion when the S101 Committee meets at the Annual Meeting. M.J. Singer will initiate the process.

200–299 OPERATIONS AND FINANCE

S201 Organization, Policy, and Bylaws

It was suggested that SSSA consider establishing an undergraduate division like that presently established in ASA. In light of present considerations in the ASA undergraduate student subdivision, it was agreed not to pursue a separate SSSA division at this time. The ASA Student Activities Subdivision is discussing possible ways to reorganize and selection of a name that more accurately reflects the disciplines represented by all three Societies. The ASA Executive Committee is supportive of the idea and is encouraging the student officers in this endeavor.

S211 Budget and Finance

Committee, various other committees involved in generating activities of the Society, and the Finance Committee. The suggestion was made that the Committee participate through a conference call. It was suggested that the Editors-in-Chief of all journals being charged to work with the Budget and Finance Committee to study the issue of page charges and the possibility of selling rights to electronic reprints. It was suggested that consideration be given to increasing nonmember subscription prices by 20% and charging a flat rate page charge.

3. The Executive Committee considered a proposal from the Chair of the Ad Hoc Budget and Finance Subcommittee that consideration be given to funding for the Societies’ development position using special opportunity funds to the Societies’ support services.

ACTION: It was moved to request the Budget and Finance Committee determine how to fund the Societies’ support position without using special opportunity funds effective January 1, 2004. Seconded. Carried.

ACS236 Membership and Society Identity Coordinating Committee

As a matter of record, J.T. Sims has been working on a cost comparison of dues, annual meetings, and journal membership fees of ASA, CSSA, SSSA and selected professional societies. Ellen Bergfeld will follow up with some additional information at the July 2003 Executive Committee meeting.

S236.1 Membership, Identity, and Visibility

It was agreed that, if possible, an undergraduate student should be appointed to the S236.1 Committee to appoint an undergraduate after consulting with the S236.1 Committee.

300–399 PUBLICATIONS

S301 Editorial Affairs, Policies, and Practices

1. M.J. Singer reported that one of his goals is to initiate a journal in academia. The Society has been approached by an organization that can better serve soil scientists. The Society has been approached by the Management Network to consider establishing an electronic journal tentatively titled Earth and Soils Management. The cost would be $30,000 to initiate the journal with a maintenance fee. In discussing the matter, it was acknowledged that the Editors-in-Chief of all journals are being charged to work with the Budget and Finance Committee. In further discussion, it was acknowledged that the Editors-in-Chief of all journals are being charged to work with the Budget and Finance Committee. In further discussion, it was suggested that the possibility of selling rights to electronic reprints. It was suggested that consideration be given to increasing nonmember subscription prices by 20% and charging a flat rate page charge.