

Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS)

Annual General Meeting Report



President:	Martin Carter
President Elect:	Ahmet Mermut
Past President:	Gary Kachanoski
Secretary:	Craig Drury
Treasurer:	Marie-Josée Garand
Eastern Councillor:	Denis Angers
Western Councillor:	Barbara Kishchuk
Graduate Student Representative:	Vimy Glass

May 20, 2002

**Minutes of the Canadian Society of Soil Science
2002 Annual General Meeting**

Location: Max Bell Rm 252, Banff Convention Centre, Banff, Alberta

Dates: May 20, 2002

Time: 5:00 pm B 6:20 pm

59 Attendees

1. Call to Order and Welcome

President Martin Carter welcomed everyone to our annual general meeting and called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm.

Martin Carter informed CSSS members that Dr. Régis Simard, a past CSSS President, Journal Editor and Colleague is gravely ill and he has asked us for our prayers.

2. Approval of Agenda

Motion 2002-AGM-01

It is moved that the agenda be approved. Moved by Yash Kalra, seconded by David Chanasyk. Motion CARRIED

3. 2001 AGM minutes

Motion 2002-AGM-02

It is moved to accept the minutes from the 2001 AGM meeting. Moved by Regis Karamanos, seconded by Guy Mehuys. Motion CARRIED

4. Business Arising from the 2001 Minutes

No business arising.

5. Presidents Report (Martin Carter)

- Martin Carter indicated that council has voted on the removal of membership fees for students. They do need to indicate that they are student when they register. Students automatically become IUSS members as well. Hence they join two societies for free!
- The next conference will be held as a joint meeting with the 4th International Conference on Mycorrhizae. The meeting will be held in Montreal from August 10. Denis Angers is a member of the conference executive committee and he will be keeping council informed. Jim Fyles will also represent CSSS on the organizing committee.
- As a result of the voting for the changes in our Rules and Bylaws the following changes have come into effect:
 1. CSSS no longer have the restriction for alternating nominations from Western or Eastern Canada for the council positions of President-elect and Graduate student representative. Now anyone in our society can run for these positions every year.
 2. We have expanded our council by 1 position by adding the Canadian Journal of Soil Science Editor as a council member. This will strengthen our link with our Science arm - our journal.
- CSSS has expanded travel awards for this year to increase CSSS exposure at the

International Union of Soil Science meetings in Bangkok and to increase the number of student travel awards to encourage students to attend our annual meeting.

Motion 2002-AGM-03

It is moved that the President's report be accepted. Moved by Gerry Coen, seconded by Ed Gregorich. Motion CARRIED.

6. Treasurers Report (Marie-Josée Garand)

- There is now \$205,377.00 in the Bentley trust fund. The main part of this trust is to support student awards.
- There is \$30,000.00 in the publication trust fund. This fund is to support the publication of books by members of our society. (i.e. the Environmental Soil Science Dictionary).
- The Environmental Soil Science Dictionary has realized \$7,000.00 in royalty fees which benefits the CSSS.
- We currently have \$24,500.00 in operating funds (total equity).

Revenues:

1. CSSS receives ~ \$15,000.00 in membership fees each year.
2. The 2001 annual conference was very successful and \$4,465.00 was transferred to CSSS. The conference organizers are to be applauded.
3. The total operating income in 2001 was \$29,203.00.

Expenses

1. The expenses to operate the business office was \$5,800.00
2. Our CSSS newsletters for 2001 cost \$1,090.00 (including printing and mailing).
3. We currently have a net profit of ~ \$16,000.00
4. Travel awards: This year we gave 12 awards of \$500.00 each to students. The Society is trying to encourage students to attend our annual meetings and to recruit new scientists. We also partially financed 3 of our members to attend the IUSS meetings in Bangkok for a total of \$3,000.00.

Budget for 2003

1. The Membership fees (including IUSS) is estimated at \$17,400.00
 2. CSSS now pays IUSS \$2,800.00 in membership fees.
 3. The total revenue is estimated at \$27,620.
 4. Other expenses should be listed as \$3,520.00.
 5. The Bentley budget for awards is \$ 7,200.00
- CSSS council is really pleased that student membership in CSSS has increased by 20% this past year.

Motion 2002-AGM-04

It is moved to accept the budget for 2002. Moved by Guy Mehuys, seconded by Annemieke Farenhorst. Motion CARRIED.

Discussion:

Question (Phil Warmen): In table 5 it indicates that we spend more for students than we receive. Why is there a discrepancy?

Answer (Marie-Josée Garand): The difference (\$400.00) is due to the fact the CSSS covers

membership fees for students.

Motion 2002-AGM-05

It is moved to accept the Treasurers report. Moved by Phil Warmen, seconded by Ahmet Mermut. Motion CARRIED.

- Question (Guy Mehuys): Will there be any further increase in membership fees?
Answer (Marie-Josée Garand): No.

7. Graduate Student Report (Vimy Glass)

- I began as a student representative last August (2001) in Guelph.
- Graduate student Input has been provided to council.
- Reports have been submitted and included in the CSSS newsletters.
- Letters have been sent to graduate students and thus far only 1 response has been received. Vimy will continue to try to obtain updates on students (defence, future endeavours, etc.)
- Graduate students now receive free membership in CSSS .

Question (Phil Warmen): Is the CSSS newsletter an effective way to get information out to students (for example advertising PhD projects)?

Answer (Vimy Glass): Yes and e-mail (from Business office).

Motion 2002-AGM-06

Move to accept graduate student report: Moved by Annemieke Farenhorst, seconded by Christian Stevens. Motion CARRIED.

8. CJSS Editors Report (Ahmet Mermut acting Editor)

- Since Régis Simard (CJSS Editor) has been responsible for ~ 10% of CJSS annual submissions, Ahmet Mermut has been handling these papers in an Acting editor capacity for the past 3 years.
- Last year there were 100 submissions to CJSS.
- We would like to encourage special issues and review papers. These help to increase the Impact Factor for our journal.
- CSSS members must promote and support our journal. The impact factor has been dropping.
- The level of Science published in CJSS is amongst the best in the world.

Motion 2002-AGM-07

Motion Vimy moved To accept the verbal report and Craig Drury seconded the motion. Motion CARRIED.

9. Conference Reports

2001 Conference (Gary Parkin)

- The most exciting part of the 2001 conference was that 50% of presenters were graduate

student. This bodes well for our society . They are to be congratulated!

Motion 2002-AGM-08

It is moved that the 2001 conference report be accepted. Moved by Craig Drury, seconded by Gerry Coen. Motion CARRIED.

2002 Conference (Gary Kachanoski)

- In 2002 there were ~ 150 registrants which was about the same size as in 2001.
- In 2002, there are 60 oral (30 student) and 80 poster (23 students) presentations plus cross-over papers which was a 50% increase over the Guelph meetings.
- There were 23 new CSSS memberships in 2002.
- In the annual conference in Winnipeg there were 47 papers; Guelph - 100 Guelph papers; and Banff - 150 papers.
- It was suggested that CSSS holds a meeting in Banff every 4 years.
- Appreciation is extended to the Banff organizing committee. \$40.00 per member for conference will be returned to CSSS.

Motion 2002-AGM-09

It is moved that the 2002 conference report be accepted. Moved by Martin Carter, seconded by Craig Drury. Motion CARRIED.

2003 Conference (Denis Angers)

- The meeting will be held in Montreal and it will be a joint meeting with ICOM and CSA.
- This was an initiative of Régis Simard and Chantal Hamel to join with ICOM. In addition to Denis Angers, CSSS members Guy Mehuys, Willie Hendershot and Jim Fyles have agreed to help in the organization of the conference.
- There will be 2 joint symposia in addition to volunteer papers. The symposia will involve Mycorrhiza and Crop Production (sponsored by CSA) as well as Mycorrhiza and Soil Quality (sponsored by CSSS).
- Dr. Murray Miller will be the convenor of the Soil Quality symposium.
- CSSS will hold its own sessions on Monday and Tuesday (August 11-12th).
- The CSSS AGM will be held on Tuesday afternoon (August 12th).
- CSSS will hold a joint banquet with CSA on Tuesday night.
- We will also have a Wines of the world event and everyone is invited to bring a bottle of wine from their own country.
- The field tours will be held on Wednesday.
- There will be a call for papers late in the fall of 2002 and there will be a joint web site for ICOM abstracts. We will be benefiting from the large scale of a joint meeting with ~\$200.00 registration fee for regular members and ~ \$100.00 for students. The proceedings will be published in 1 book. The conference will be held in the Civil Aviation Congress Centre. Everyone is invited to come to these meetings.

Discussion:

- Gerry Coen encourages the organizing committee to give more visibility to posters and allocate more time.
- Gary Kachanoski suggested that there could be a concurrent poster session with the oral presentations.
- Denis Angers responded :

- There will be an open area next year in middle of meeting room.
- There will be about 700 members attending the ICOM.
- There will be both joint and volunteer sessions
- There will be a session on C sequestration.

Motion 2002-AGM-10

It is moved that the 2003 conference report be accepted. Moved by Ed Gregorich, seconded by David Chanasyk. Motion CARRIED

2004 Conference (Martin Carter)

- In 2004, CSSS council is looking into the possibility of meeting with SSSA in Seattle (late October - early November). Dr. John Doran, has been contacted. CSSS council will explore this opportunity to see how this could be arranged.
- David Chanasyk - AIC would appreciate a reply as all societies are also invited to attend the AIC conference which will be held in the fall of 2004 in Hull, Quebec.
- Gary Kachanoski: CSSS should explore the joint meeting with SSSA. We would want to maintain our own identity.
- This joint CSSS/SSSA meeting would be good exposure for CSSS as it would allow our members to attend a larger meeting (especially for graduate students). We would also have our own general meeting and banquet
- Canadian Foresters meet with their USA counterparts every 10 years.
- Ahmet Mermut: This would also reduce the number of meetings we attend since many of us go to both CSSS and SSSA meetings.

10. Business Office Report (Steve Sheppard & Martin Carter)

- Steve Sheppard couldn't be present with us this year and Martin Carter presented the report.
- The Contract with the business office is renewed each year.
- The business office maintains a list of members and registration information.
- The business office prints and sends out the CSSS newsletter (Denis Angers, the Eastern Councillor, is the CSSS newsletter Editor).
- The new CSSS web page was posted this past week.
- The Western councillor will update web pages. Please visit our web page at CSSS.ca

Motion 2002-AGM-11

It is moved to receive the Business Office Report. Moved by Annemieke Farenhorst, seconded by Cedric MacLeod. Motion CARRIED

11. Election report (Craig Drury)

- Ahmet Mermut was acclaimed President-elect.
- Frank Larney was elected Western Councillor. Appreciation is extended to other nominees.
- Appreciation is also extended to the election committee (Dan Reynolds, Tiequan Zhang and Craig Drury, chair).

Motion 2002-AGM-12

It is moved to receive the Election Report. Moved by Ahmet Mermut seconded by Jim Fyles. Motion CARRIED

12. Resolutions

- Gerry Coen would like to thank the members who stood for election. He also encouraged members to keep involved in our society.

13. Installation of New President

- Ahmet Mermut received the gavel from Martin Carter. Ahmet Mermut is a well known scientist and former CJSS editor, He is currently an acting editor for CJSS. The Society is in good hands and he wishes Ahmet the very best.
- Ahmet Mermut: He is proud to be a Canadian and to serve CSSS as president.
- Ahmet would also like to thank Martin Carter, Gary Kachanoski and Barb Kishchuk for their hard work on council.
- Ahmet introduced President-elect Ed Gregorich and Frank Larney (Western Councillor).

14. New Business (Ahmet Mermut)

- Auditors : John MacLeod and Delmar Holmstrom were auditors for 2001.

Motion 2002-AGM-13

It is moved to accept the auditors report and to appoint John MacLeod and Delmar Holmstrom as auditors for 2002. Moved by Gary Kachanoski and seconded by Martin Carter. Motion CARRIED.

Motion 2002-AGM-14

Motion to adjourn the meeting. Moved by Ahmet Mermut, seconded by Craig Drury. Motion CARRIED.

Adjournment at 6:20 pm