

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In my first message as President, I'm pleased to begin by offering both a 'thank-you' and 'congratulations' to several people. First, thank you to Régis Simard, former Past-President, who leaves Council after many years of involvement. His service to CSSS however continues as Editor of the Canadian Journal of Soil Science. Thank you also to Gary Parkin and Paul Voroney and their many volunteers and helpers for organizing an excellent CSSS 2001 annual meeting at Guelph last August. Holding the conference in conjunction with the International Humic Substances Society and at the conclusion of the International Conference on Biogeochemistry of Trace Elements was a fruitful association and provides a vision for the organization of future CSSS conferences. The conference was attended by well over forty students and their presence and involvement with presentations and posters was a highlight of the meeting. Second, I would like to congratulate Ahmet Mermut our new President-Elect. Ahmet brings a wealth of experience and dedication to Soil Science. Also, congratulations to Vimy Glass our new Student Representative on Council. Vimy is a graduate student at Guelph University and has a keen interest in developing a network for students in Soil Science and related disciplines.

The CSSS plays an important role in supporting and furthering the science of soil in Canada and beyond. I would encourage all members to take a more active role in their society. One way to do this is to consider becoming a member of Council. Early next year Council will seek to fill two positions: President-Elect (member from eastern Canada) and Western Councillor. Please consider these opportunities or notify and encourage a colleague to apply. A second way to further Soil Science, is by involvement with a CSSS sponsored publication. Recently, the *Soil and Environmental Science Dictionary* was published by CRC Press, the hard work of lead editors Edward Gregorich, Larry Turchenek, and Denis Angers, and many other contributors. This excellent publication was supported by funds from the CSSS publications fund. Royalties from this endeavor will return to the fund to support future Soil Science publications. By way of this Newsletter I would encourage members to consider taking a lead in the development of other potential publications (e.g. Soils Atlas of Canada, Soil Landscapes, Manual for Describing Soils in the Field) and make application to the fund, if needed, to support publication.

Two major Soil Science events in 2002 are the CSSS 2002 conference held jointly with the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU) in Banff (May 18-21, 2002) and the 17th World Congress of Soil Science in Bangkok, Thailand (August 14-20, 2002). For CSSS 2002, the local organizers (Gary Kachanoski, David Chanasyk, and Barbara Kishchuk) are busy planning the program. Both the registration (special low rate for students) and accommodation (approx. \$90/day incl. breakfast & lunch) costs are very low, and the Banff International House is available for students on a small budget. The



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Society has set aside funds to provide travel awards for both CSSS 2002 and the IUSS 2002 Congress in Bangkok, please consult the Newsletter and CSSS web site homepage for details. As President I look forward to seeing many of you at CSSS 2002 in Banff.

At this time I should mention that the venue for CSSS 2003 has been set for Montreal (August, 2003). We will be meeting with the International Conference on Mycorrhiza and possibly other societies as well. Council member Denis Angers will be much involved with the planning of this event. Jim Fyles from McGill University will be chairing the organizing committee.

The CSSS is actively pursuing new collaboration and association with other like-minded scientific organizations. Our aim is to retain and strengthen present associations (i.e. AIC, IUSS), while at the same time entering into new arrangements that will expand our capabilities, give new options and communication links especially for the coordination of future conferences, and provide new ideas and ways to further Soil Science. Recently we joined Plant Canada, a consortium of plant science and related disciplines. At present, Council is actively pursuing the formation of an agricultural science societies initiative. Past-President Gary Kachanoski is taking the lead for Council on this.

I would like to end this message by relating some new initiatives to help student members of CSSS and improve communications with all members. The Society is committed to promoting communications between CSSS and academic departments involved in Soil Science and related disciplines. Through our Student Representative and Business Office we are establishing a student e-mail network to inform students on an ongoing basis about conferences, travel awards, and job opportunities. Council in its ongoing commitment to students has, beginning in 2002, removed membership fees for students. To enhance communication and feedback, Steve Sheppard at the Business Office sends out regular e-mail information notices. In addition, the membership renewal forms for 2002 contain a sequence of questions and suggestions. Please feel free to let us know your advice on both present and future developments in CSSS. Your comments will be much appreciated.

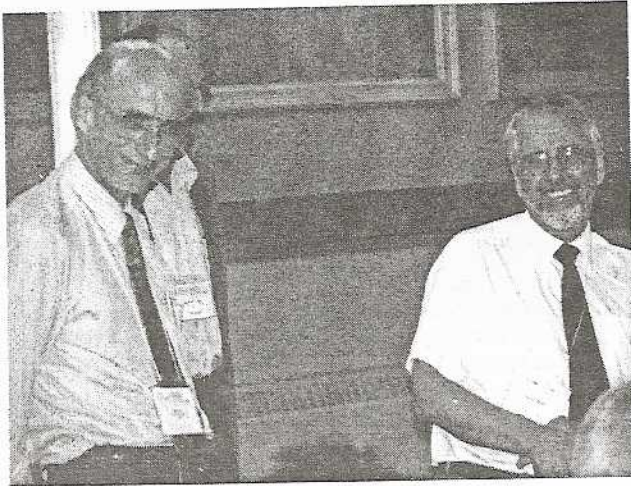
Martin Carter

Soil Science rates a high profile

David Suzuki writes ".... in spite of our impressive capacities to learn and explore, we still know very little about many of the basic underpinnings of life on earth. In fact some of the most poorly understood habitats on the planet are right under our feet - the top metre of soil in our forests, fields and gardenswe have a long way to go before we understand the intricate relationships between soil organisms, plants, animals and the atmosphere.... On the surface, soil may seem like a mundane research topic, but there are literally thousands of discoveries waiting to be made underground. Perhaps it's time we turn our curious eyes downwards."

NEW FELLOW

A New Fellow for CSSS - Congratulations to Bev Kay



New Fellow of the CSSS Bev Kay (left) with his colleague and friend Murray Miller.

Dr. Beverly David Kay was elected Fellow of the Canadian Society of Soil Science in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Soil Science in Canada and globally through over 30 years of teaching, research and administration.

Dr. Kay grew up on a farm in Victoria County, Ontario. He earned a B.Sc.(Agr.) in 1965 and an M.Sc. in Soil Science in 1967 from the University of Guelph and a Ph.D in Soil Physical Chemistry from Purdue University in 1969. He joined the faculty of the then Department of Soil Science – later to be called Land Resource Science- at the University of Guelph in 1969. He served as Chair of the Department of Land Resource Science from 1983 to 1995.

The most distinguishing characteristic of Dr. Kay's research is the application of his theoretical understanding of soil physical chemistry to complex and important aspects of soil science. Dr. Kay has published widely and in 2000 he was awarded the OAC Alumni Association Distinguished Researcher Award in recognition of his outstanding research. He is convenor of a symposium on "Influence of biological activity on soil physical properties" to be held during the 17th World Congress of Soil Science in Bangkok in 2002. Dr. Kay has been an inspiring mentor to many graduate students as well as postdoctoral and research associates.

Congratulations to all students who received awards at CSSS 2001 in Guelph

SPRING-TIME IN THE ROCKY MOUNTAINS!

***Plan Now to Attend
CSSS @ BANFF 2002 !***

The Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS) will hold its 2002 annual meeting in Banff, Alberta, May 18 to 21. The conference will be held in cooperation with the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU). The joint conference will be open to scientific presentations covering all aspects of geophysics and soil science. A special theme for the conference will be "Carbon Cycling in earth Systems (Pedosphere/Lithosphere/ Hydrosphere/ Biosphere)". A number of joint (CSSS/CGU) and separate (CSSS) sessions, and symposia are being planned on a range of topics including Carbon cycling, Sub-surface hydrology, Land-water interface, Pedology and its future in environmental research, nutrient management, and open sessions.

An integrated CGU/CSSS conference web site is under development and members should look for links to the conference site at our CSSS web site (www.CSSS.ca). *Look for the Call for Papers and Advance Registration soon!* Every effort is being made to keep the cost down and encourage student participation. Members of the CSSS organizing committee are Gary Kachanoski, David Chanasyk, and Barb Kishchuk. If you have any suggestions for symposia or sessions please contact Gary Kachanoski (Gary. Kachanoski@ualberta.ca)

News from the Soil and Plant Analysis Council Inc.

Yash P. Kalra brings your attention to the Soil and Plant Analysis Council's website <http://www.spcouncil.com>

STUDENT NEWS

As the new Graduate Student Representative, I would first like to congratulate the winners of our student competitions at the CSSS Annual Meeting in August.

Congratulations to the winners of the Bentley Award:

- 1st Place: T. Redding, Simon Fraser University
- 2nd Place: Kirsten Hannam, University of British Columbia
- 3rd Place: Mejda Benali, Université Laval and Mavén Oelbermann, University of Guelph

Also, congratulations to the winners of the President's Award:

- 1st Place: Jennifer Forkes, University of Guelph
- 2nd Place: Lakshman Galagedara, University of Guelph
- 3rd Place: Welhelmus Mella, University of Saskatchewan

In future newsletters, I would like to showcase graduate student projects from all across Canada. If you would like to participate, email me a short summary of your project. This is a great opportunity to let all of CSSS know who you are and what you are doing! Please forward any successful defense announcements as well.

I would also like to direct you to the website (www.csss.ca). There are many student award opportunities and there is still time to apply.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding student memberships, feel free to contact me.

Vimy Glass
CSSS
Graduate Student Representative



Martin Carter, incoming CSSS President, surrounded by student travel award winners, Shawna McMahon (left), Mejda Benali and Christine Landry (far right).

News from CJSS

First of all I have to tell you that I have moved to the University of Manitoba. A new career and new challenges are ahead of me. The journal is losing three Associate Editors with the Journal. Dr. Ed Topp from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in London, Ontario, Dr. Carlos Monreal from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Ottawa, Ontario and Dr. Jeff Schoenau from University of Saskatchewan. I wish to thank them for carrying out this highly paid work for the sake of the Journal and the Society. This results in that we need two volunteers to cover the fields of soil physics and fertility. Please contact me with a 300 words bio. if you are interested in these topics. The candidacy will be reviewed by CSSS council and the SJC committee of AIC.

I invite you if you have interesting color slide of topics in soil science to forward it to me in .jpeg format so we can use them in future issues of the journal. There will be another special issue of the journal coming up dealing with soil biodiversity. This issue is edited by Drs. Ed Topp, Catherine Fox and myself and should be of interest to the readers of the journal.

I reiterate my suggestion that members of the Society continue to use the Journal as medium for the publication of their results. Although the journal is well rated in the field, the publication of the best material by members of the society would certainly help in maintaining these standards. The number of submissions to the Journal is back to normal than in other years (70 so far). Thanks to those that contributed so far and please keep the flow coming.

The AIC will be sponsoring a series of review papers on water quality dealing at the interfaces between soil-science-plant science and animal science. I volunteered to coordinate that effort. If you are interested in participating please let me know so we can get started. Finally I invite you to read the article in the latest issue of the bulletin of the IUSS about publish and /or perish...quite interesting.....

Régis R. Simard, soil scientist
Editor Canadian Journal of Soil Science Regis_Simard@Ms.UManitoba.ca

Field Tours for the 2006 Meeting of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Now is the time to start planning for the 2006 Meeting of the IUSS, and one of the major items that needs to be addressed is the organizing of professional tours. There will need to be multiple pre-conference and post-conference tours as well as some one day mid-conference tours. Traditionally, most pre-conference and post-conference tours run for approximately one week (plus or minus a couple of days). The tours need to be soil-based but can be related to forestry, agriculture, urban development, etc. They should also contain sites of cultural interest. The tours could conceivably be run anywhere in or nearby to North America (including Canada, Mexico or any other areas where there is an interest in organizing tours.)

In general, expectations for these tours are high, meaning that considerable care needs to be given to such matters as planning a reasonable and interesting itinerary (including cultural components), development of a comprehensive tour guide, obtaining adequate data and site characterization, and arranging for scientists to lead discussions at sites. One should also consider that during such international meetings as this, a number of spouses may also attend the tours. NRCS has agreed to assist by providing soil characterization data for sites included in tour stops, but it is important that sampling and analysis be planned and coordinated well in advance.

Our goal is to find scientists interested in developing and leading the tours, but we hope that other logistical matters (such as arranging buses and housing) could be handled by other professionals contracted by the congress. If you think you might be interested in developing a tour please contact either of the following persons:

Marty Rabenhorst
Professor of Pedology
Dept. of natural Resources Sciences &
LA
Room 1112, H.J. Patterson Hall
University of Maryland
College Park, MD 20742-5821

Phone 301 405 1343 FAX 301 314 9041
MR1@umail.umd.edu

or

John M. Kimble
USDA-NRCS-NSSC
Fed. Bldg. RM 152 MS 33
100 Centennial Mall North
Lincoln, NE 68508-3866
Phone 402 437 5376 FAX 402 437-5336
john.kimble@nssc.nrcs.usda.gov

See links below for tours run at the 16th
WCSS in Montpellier, France

Pre-Congress Tours

<http://www.cirad.fr/iss/excurbef.html>

Post-Congress Tours

<http://www.cirad.fr/iss/excraft.html>

Mid-Congress Tours

<http://www.cirad.fr/iss/excurdur.html>

See this link for tours to be run at the 17th
WCSS in Bangkok, Thailand

[http://www.17wcsc.ku.ac.th/Excursions/
CongressTour.htm](http://www.17wcsc.ku.ac.th/Excursions/CongressTour.htm)

Memories of the 2002 Annual Meetings in Guelph



Our banquet guest speaker Taumey Mahendrapa (a.k.a. The Dirtman) speaking about Provincial Soils.



Prof. Blum, Secretary General of the International Union of Soil Sciences enjoying the banquet.

CSSS Undergraduate Student Book Awards

The CSSS awards book prizes to recognize excellence in Soil Science at the undergraduate level at Canadian Universities. The awards are presented for the highest academic standing in a program with a substantial Soil Science component. This year, the book awarded was the newly published *CSSS Soil and Environmental Science Dictionary* (CRC Press, 2001). The 2001 awardees were: James Burman, McGill University; Jean Thomas Denault, Université Laval; Sharon Gregory, University of Guelph; Kirsten Ketilson, University of Saskatchewan; Shawna McMahon, University of Manitoba; Eartha Michelle Dupuis, University of Alberta; and Stephanie Fung, University of British Columbia

CSSS Student Travel Award

The CSSS travel assistance awards were available to Canadian graduate students to attend the annual meeting, and to present a oral paper or poster. Applications were forwarded by the student's Supervisor or Department Chair. Those receiving awards in 2001 were: Shawna McMahon, Oregon State University (\$800), Christine Landry, McGill University (\$800), Mejda Benali, Université Laval (\$800)

C.F. Bentley Student Presentation Award

The C.F. Bentley Awards were established in 1983 to encourage and recognize excellence in oral presentations by students at the CSSS annual meeting. The award consists of cash awards of \$500 for the best presentation, \$300 for the first runner-up, and \$200 for the second runner-up.

The winners are listed in the *Student News*.

CSSS President's Student Poster Award

The CSSS President's award was established in 1992 to encourage and recognize excellence in poster presentations by students at the CSSS meeting each year. The award consists of cash awards of \$500 for the best presentation, \$300 for the first runner-up, and \$200 for the second runner-up. The winners are listed in the *Student News*.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nominations for CSSS Council positions should be sent to the Secretary by *February 15, 2002*. Nominations are required for the following:

1. *President-Elect* (nominations confined to CSSS members in eastern Canada)
2. *Western Councillor* (2-yr term, nominations confined to CSSS members in western Canada)

As usual, all CSSS members are eligible to vote for both positions. Nominations must have the consent of the nominee and be signed by three CSSS members. Please send nominations to the CSSS Secretary by **February 15, 2002** along with a brief (250 word maximum; via email) statement prepared by the nominee, containing biographical information and reasons for his/her interest in the position.

CSSS Overseas Travel Awards to attend IUSS

Four awards of \$1000 each

CSSS is now a member (national) of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS). The IUSS organizes an international Congress of Soil Science every four years. The 17th World Congress of Soil Science, will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in August 2002 (see the IUSS web site, www.17wcss.ku.ac.th/IUSS/IUSS.html). To support this event, CSSS is offering awards to assist members with travel. Please send applications to the President-Elect, Chair of the Awards Committee, by *February 15, 2002*.

Student Travel Awards to CSSS Annual Meeting

Seven awards of \$500 each

Available to any CSSS member graduate student (i.e. Canadian students both in and outside Canada, and non-Canadian students studying in Canada). The student must be prepared to present a paper/poster. Nominations should be sent by student's Supervisor or Department Chair. Applications must be received by the President-Elect, Chair of the Awards Committee, by *February 15, 2002*.

CSSS Fellow Award

Awarded to CSSS members, of at least 10 years standing, with a distinguished record of accomplishment in Soil Science and service to CSSS. Information on the regulations covering candidate evaluation, nomination procedure, and nomination documentation are given below. Four copies of the nomination must be received by the President-Elect, Chair of the Awards Committee, by *February 15, 2002*.

Nomination Documentation (maximum 8 pages, 2-3 cm margins, 12 pt. type)

1. One page introductory letter signed by the nominator and three sponsors including:
 - a) Name, address, telephone number, email address of the candidate.
 - b) Name, address, telephone number, email address of the nominator and three sponsors.
2. One page summary by nominator outlining achievements of the nominee.
3. Nomination documents:
 - a) Personal achievements (e.g., degrees, memberships, service to CSSS)
 - b) Professional achievement (e.g., research, teaching, service to Soil Science)
 - c) Professional publications (*number* of books, papers, patents, products, etc.)
 - d) A list of the 10 most significant publications, products, achievements, etc.

CSSS Honorary Membership Award

Awarded to *non-members* who have rendered valuable or special service to Soil Science. All nominations, which are evaluated by a three member CSSS Awards Committee, must have the following documentation. Four copies of the nomination must be received by the President-Elect, Chair of the Awards Committee, by *February 15, 2002*.

1. Name, address, telephone number, email address of the candidate.
2. One page letter briefly outlining the reasons for the nomination.
3. A brief resume (< 3 pages) of the candidate indicating their service to Soil Science.
4. One page letter from each of three individuals supporting the nomination.

CSSS - Online

See the CSSS web site homepage, <http://www.csss.ca> for Newsletters, Council, Business Office, Annual Report, Events Page, Careers, Student, CSSS '02, important Links, Information and details for application for CSSS Awards and CSSS Travel Awards and much more...

CSSS - Business Office

The CSSS Business Office: membership concerns, updated CSSS membership list, CJSS journal subscriptions, society publications. Contact Steve Sheppard, CSSS, P.O. Box 637, Pinawa, Manitoba, ROE 1L0, Canada; Telephone answering machine: (204) 753-2747; Fax: (204) 753-2170; Email: sheppards@ecomatters.com

The Calendar - Forthcoming Meetings

November 11-15, 2001

6th International Society of Root Research Symposium, 'Roots: the Dynamic Interface between Plants and the Earth', Nagoya, Japan.
[Http://www.soc.nacsis.ac.jp/jsrr/isrr/](http://www.soc.nacsis.ac.jp/jsrr/isrr/)

December 3-5, 2001

International Symposium on Importance of Potassium in Nutrient Management for Sustainable Crop Production in India
New Delhi, India
Dr.S.K.Bansal, Organizing Secretary,
Potash Research Institute of India,
Sector-19, Gurgaon-122001, Haryana(INDIA)
Phone : 0091-124-6340185 Fax: 0091-124- 6341792
E.mail: priin@bol.net.in

April 21-24, 2002

Agricultural Nutrients and their Impact on Rural Water Quality
AIC Foundation conference
Waterloo, Ontario. www.aic.ca/new

May 18-21, 2002

CSSS Annual Conference jointly with the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU)
Banff, Alberta www.csss.ca

June 23-28, 2002

International Conference on Computational Methods in Water Resources
Delft, The Netherlands <http://cmwr2002.citg.tudelft.nl>

August 14-20, 2002

17th World Congress of Soil Science, Bangkok, Thailand. T: 662 940 5787; Fax: 662 940 5788;
o.sfst@nontri.ku.ac.th <http://www.17wcsc.ku.ac.th>

September 3-6, 2002

International Conference on Soils under Global Change - a Challenge for the 21st Century
Bucarest, Romania
Tel +40 1 224 1790; Fax +40 1 222 5979
e-mail r_enache@icpa.ro

The CSSS Newsletter is published three (Fall, Winter and Spring) times per year. Contributions from members are welcome. Please send contributions by email to the Eastern Councillor.