



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CSSS Members:

This message is being written soon after completion of our annual conference meeting in collaboration with the Association Québécoise de Spécialistes en Sciences du Sol at the Station Touristique, Sainte-Catherine-de-la-Jacques-Cartier. I would particularly like to recognize the diligence and creativity of this year's Conference organizing committee - an excellent team including Denis Angers (Chair), Martin Chantigny (Scientific Program), Isabelle Royer (Secretary), Rock Ouimet (Webmaster and Field Tour), Isabelle Perron (Communication) and Lucie Grenon (Treasurer). Again Quebec continues to be the model for seamless organization en les deux langues officielles! The conference included a Plenary session on Soils in a Cold Environment with presentations ranging from the Antarctic (Ed Gregorich) through the permafrost (Michel Allard) into the C-sequestering boreal region (Rock Ouimet). It ended with the Régis Simard Symposium on Soil Chemistry and Fertility where four presentations from no less than 15 of Régis's many collaborators covered aspects of his busy life and research output in a range of topics including N, P and organic fertilization to optimize sustainable crop production while maintaining environmental quality. Sessions were well attended, student presentations well represented and enthusiasm and appreciation was felt by all participants as the more than 60 posters and about 84 oral presentations unfolded. General congratulations on a job well done!

Just prior to our annual conference in mid-May, we had 349 members registered, a slight decline (25) from last year's 374 members registered by early season. Last year's (2006) final total of 392 was augmented by late year registration. Nevertheless, I urge all members to continue to promote the personal benefits of membership in CSSS as well as the importance of a strong Society to the soil's discipline in Canada. I hope all former members, who have not yet registered, will add their strength to our membership rolls by renewing their membership. The age distribution of CSSS-membership is remarkably consistent. There is strong representation by student members (26%) and at the opposite end of the scale by our veterans exceeding 56 yrs young (20%). It is important to our society that student members see value in continued CSSS-

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membership as they complete their degree requirements and achieve employment in their chosen field. We also appreciate the solid support of our veteran members.

Council has been involved in annual conference planning for 2008-2009. The University of Northern British Columbia will be hosting the annual meeting from July 6-10, 2008. This will be a unique opportunity to participate in intensive soils activities while enjoying the forests and grassland landscapes of this little known mountainous region of central British Columbia. Additional information can be obtained from www.res.unbc.ca/csss2008. There is an unverified rumour circulating that those returning the book mark advertising this meeting in person to the meeting site will receive a new convertible. The 2009 meeting venue is still undecided and joint meetings with AIC or CSA are under consideration. Anyone with strong views or suggestions with regard to joint meetings should contact me or President-elect Dan Pennock by August, 2008 when a final decision will be made.

Council spent a busy Sunday afternoon prior to the annual conference dealing with Society business. Output from these deliberations is expected in the coming months. Among these will be a proposed revision of our Rules and Bylaws as undertaken by past-president Craig Drury. Membership will be asked to vote on a suite of proposed updates and changes. Under the leadership of President-elect Dan Pennock an exciting possibility has arisen to develop a more elaborate, CSSS-sponsored Soils of Canada website that would not involve financial outlay from our society. Work continued on compiling updated images of 'soils people at work' for our home page. Pertinent photos from any member are always welcome (contact Dan Pennock). Ed Gregorich reported that the Soils Exhibit at the Museum of Nature is about to enter an accelerated stage of activity this summer. Also this August, publication of the revised 2nd edition of Soil Sampling and Methods of Soil Analysis (original a best seller!) is expected.

Needless to say these various activities and others would benefit from your input and sage advice! Please feel free to provide suggestions to myself or any other council members on ways in which we could further promote our society and serve our members.

Best wishes

*Gerry Neilsen
President, CSSS*

Announcement

August, publication of the revised Soil Sampling and Methods of Soil Analysis, 2nd edition

This revised edition is now in press, and expected in August 2007, with CRC Press, part of the Taylor & Francis Group. The new edition has seven subject sections with 14 section editors, 85 chapters that involved in excess of 150 authors, plus several appendices.

Editors: Martin Carter and Ed Gregorich

News from the *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*

CJSS Statistics, 2006

In 2006, our submission numbers (114) were well up on the previous 5-yr (2001-05) average of 96. This was due in part to 30 Special Issue/Sections papers which were submitted in 2006 (to be published in 2007). In 2006, submissions from outside Canada comprised 25% of the total, slightly down on the previous 5-yr average of 32%.

For articles published in 2006 (Volume 86), our regular paper numbers are holding steady (47), while our Special Issue/Section papers increased to 28 from a 5 yr average of 7. This is a favourable trend and should improve our impact factor. Volume 86 comprised 945 pages, up 56% on the 5-yr average of 607 pages, mainly due to the addition of a fifth Special Issue to our four regular ones and Special Sections in the May and August issues. In 2006, 19% of our published papers originated from outside Canada, slightly higher than 5-yr average of 16%.

Our ISI impact factor in 2005 (0.835) was up on the 5-yr average (0.771). In 2005, *SSSAJ* had an impact factor of 1.834. The *Aust. J. Soil Res.* (similar in size and scope to *CJSS*) had an impact factor of 0.933. The *Can. J. Animal Sci.* had an impact factor of 0.643 while *Can. J. Plant Sci.* was 0.439.

Special Issues/Sections

Our latest Special Issue *Canadian Agri-Environmental Indicators* (10 papers with Guest Editors Warren Eilers & Craig Drury) was published in March 2007. Other Special Issues/Sections which are underway include: *Emissions of N₂O from Agricultural Soils in Canada*, (Guest Editors, Philippe Rochette & Sean McGinn); *Forest Soil Disturbance* (Guest Editors, Doug Maynard, Mike Curran & Scott Chang); and *Integration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions/Removals from Canadian Agroecosystems*, (Guest Editors, Bert VandenBygaart, Brian McConkey & Dan Pennock). The commitment of our Guest Editors toward Special Issues and Sections in very much appreciated.

CSSS members with ideas for Special Issues or Sections (e.g. manuscripts emanating from a Symposium or Workshop) are asked to contact the Special Issues Editor, Denis Angers (angersd@agr.gc.ca) or myself.

Associate Editors

We say farewell and thank you to Bill Dubbin (Natural History Museum, London, UK) who retired in March 2007 as an Associate Editor after 4+ years with *CJSS*. We welcome Richard Heck (University of Guelph) who was appointed as an Associate Editor, May 1, 2007.

Please consider *CJSS* as your #1 choice when submitting your next manuscript. Canvass your colleagues to do likewise. Your continued support is very much appreciated.

Frank Larney, (larneyf@agr.gc.ca)

Editor, *CJSS* (www.nrc.gc.ca/aic-journals/cjss.html)

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2007 CSSS Graduate Student Representative Annual Report

Good day everyone,

I hope you all had an enjoyable trip and took some time to enjoy the sites in Quebec. I would like to start off by saying I wish I could have been there, unfortunately the research season started very early for me and I was unable to make it to this years AGM.

As a brief update I joined council in the winter of 2006, since then I have provided graduate student input in the CSSS newsletters. I have and continue to send e-mails and talk to graduate students about CSSS events and memberships.

I would like to take the remainder of this time to reflect on the student membership decline in 2007 from 2006. A reduction of 30 student memberships could be due to many factors, the most likely one being 30 students who have graduated and have not continued with a regular membership. I have spent considerable time talking with graduate students at the University of Alberta about membership and all the students I have approached are very interested in becoming members. It seems that the majority of students never become aware of the CSSS until late in their first year or second year graduate program. This is a short fall in attracting student members and gives a short time frame for them to see the full benefits of continuing on with their membership once they graduate. Non-student members are not linked with our society in a convenient manner. I will therefore be looking for alternatives to attract future members and determine the root of the problem for inactive membership upon graduation. A few things that have worked well for me is talking with fourth year undergraduates potentially continuing on to graduate studies and graduate students at different conferences such as the Alberta Soil Science Workshop, Alberta Institute of Agrologists AGM and at provincial AGM's for the Canadian Land Reclamation Association. Introducing students to the CSSS at student functions such as "Friends of the Pedon" at the University of Alberta has also had a positive influence. Unfortunately I can only be at few conferences, meetings or functions during my term; it would be beneficial to organize a student body composed of graduate students from various Canadian Universities to help spread the word in a similar fashion. Also, providing more opportunities for undergraduate students to get involved with the society would be beneficial. This was not intended to be a long discussion, rather making sure we are all aware that the students will be the future for the society therefore a large focus should be implemented to attract them.

I hope you all enjoyed the conference and look forward to future discussions about this matter or anything about soil!

Dean MacKenzie
Graduate Student Representative, CSSS

CSSS Members Get Discounts on AIC Journal Subscriptions

CSSS members receive a discount (about 60% off the full rate) when they subscribe to any of the following journals:

- ◆ Canadian Journal of Soil Science (www.nrc.gc.ca/aic-journals/cjss)
- ◆ Canadian Journal of Plant Science (www.nrc.gc.ca/aic-journals/cjps)

CSSS Pedology Sub-committee Report

The CSSS pedology sub-committee was established by the CSSS at the Halifax annual meeting in 2005. The mandate of the pedology sub-committee: 1) to develop a process for revising the Canadian System of Soil Classification (CSCC) and 2) to maintain and disseminate information about the genesis, classification and wise use of Canadian soils.

A major initiative of the Pedology Sub-committee has been the development of a comprehensive **Soils of Canada website**. D. Pennock and D. Anderson have developed a Soils of Saskatchewan website (www.soilsofsask.ca) which includes a classification key and photos for soil orders represented in Saskatchewan. This can form a template for a broader website, but an additional \$6,000-10,000 is required to develop the national site, and the CSSS does not currently have funds for this initiative. However, representatives from the National Land and Water Information Service (NLWIS) have indicated that disseminating soils information is part of their mandate as well, so they would be willing to assist with development, with members of the CSSS providing content.

D. Pennock attended a meeting of the Canada Land Research Network (CLRN) in Calgary, a network that includes both private consultants and soil surveyors. He presented on behalf of university soils researchers and the CSSS. Network members indicated a clear need for a) **accreditation for pedologists**, and b) a defined set of **competencies for pedologists** (upon which the accreditation could be based). A working group of the Pedology Sub-committee will be set up this summer to work on this process.

At the CLRN meeting, it was apparent that there is need for renewed activity in **field training for pedology**. One idea that has been developed was for regional field trips developed as University-level courses, ideally with rotating leadership among the involved universities/colleges. Kent Watson (Thompson Rivers University) indicated that several of the institutions in B.C. are currently working together to develop a hybrid course that includes an online lecture component with a rotating field trip, set for implementation in August 2008. D. Pennock indicated that the new graduate-level field class at University of Saskatchewan could potentially include training of other Prairie university students. This course could eventually link in with the B.C. field course to provide the regional training within a single summer season. Ideally these courses could also draw on expertise of co-located NLWIS and AAFC scientists.

The **2008 CSSS meetings in Prince George, B.C.** (July 6-10, 2008) will focus on pedology, including 3-4 field trips. Plenary sessions will focus on soil classification and pedology issues by region.

Interested in joining the Pedology Sub-committee? Contact Dan Pennock (dan.pennock@usask.ca)

Prepared by Angela Bedard-Haughn, Secretary, Pedology Sub-Committee, and submitted by Dan Pennock

Student Awards 2007

The quality of oral and poster presentations at the 2007 meetings was uniformly high.

C.F. Bentley for Oral Presentation

The Award was initiated in 1983 to encourage and recognize excellence in oral presentations by students at the CSSS Annual Meetings. It honours [Dr. Fred Bentley](#) who was CSSS President in 1956-57 and inducted as a CSSS Fellow in 1973. The Award winner receives \$500, the first runner-up \$300, and the second runner-up \$200.



1st Place: Robyn Foote (right), Queen's University
2nd Place: Amanda Matson (middle), University of Saskatchewan
3rd Place: Dolly Kothawala (left), McGill University

Presidents Award for Poster Presentation

The award was established in 1992 to foster excellence in student poster presentations as a means of disseminating research results at the CSSS Annual Meetings. The President's Award is: \$500 for the winner, \$300 for the first runner-up and \$200 for the second runner-up.



1st Place: Melissa Tuason (right), University of Northern British Columbia
2nd Place: Karen Clark (middle), Nova Scotia Agricultural College
3rd Place: Jenna Rapai (left), University of Guelph

Canadian Society of Soil Science Fellow 2007

Dr. Anne Naeth



The CSSS was very pleased to welcome Dr. Anne Naeth as our 73th Fellow at our Annual Meeting at the Duchesnay Station Touristique, Québec.

Throughout her career as a soil scientist/plant ecologist and educator, Dr. Naeth has made outstanding contributions to research, teaching, and service to society. She has a very strong publication record in topics ranging from land reclamation and soil science to range management. Her research has had a major impact in the soil science and plant ecology communities in Canada and around the world. She has received numerous research awards (such as the Killam Annual Professorship offered by the University of Alberta) and has made numerous invited presentations to scientific conferences and industrial organizations alike.

Dr. Naeth's contribution in teaching and graduate student supervision is exemplary. Her main teaching interests are in Land Reclamation, Revegetation, and Environmental Assessment Methods. Dr. Naeth's teaching has been recognized by the numerous teaching awards including the Teaching Wall of Fame, Faculty of AFHE (seven times), National Association of College Teachers in Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Award, Rutherford Award of Excellence for Undergraduate Teaching, to Distinguished Vargo Teaching Chair, culminating in receiving the 3M Teaching Fellowship, which is awarded to the top 10 professors in Canada. Dr. Naeth has supervised or co-supervised a large number of graduate students.

Dr. Naeth's record of service to the profession, society and the university is also exemplary. These services, amongst many others, include serving as President-elect, President, and Past President for the Canadian Society of Soil Science, as Chair of the 2006 Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting Organizing Committee, as Chair of Canadian Society of Soil Science Bentley Graduate Student Speaking Awards and President's Poster Awards (2 times),

In summary, Dr. Naeth's contributions to research, teaching, and service to the community are outstanding and she is well deserving of the 2007 CSSS fellowship award.

2007 CSSS Student Travel Awards

This award was established in 1991 to promote student attendance at the CSSS Annual Meetings and is available to any CSSS member graduate student. The award is \$500 and a maximum of 12 travel grants will be awarded.



Suzanne Card	University of Alberta	MSc Student
Emmanuelle Caron	University of Manitoba	PhD Student
Robyn Foote	Queen's University	MSc Student
Nathalie Gingras	Université de Montréal	MSc Student
Priyantha Kulasekera	University of Guelph	PhD Student
Amanda Matson	Univ. of Saskatchewan	MSc Student
Abimbola Ojekanmi	University of Manitoba	MSc Student
Mathew Swallow	Univ. of Alberta	MSc Student
Melissa Tuason	Univ. Northern B. C.	MSc Student
Isabelle Turcotte	Univ. of Alberta	MSc Student
Julie Turgeon	McGill University	PhD Student
Abdul Wakeel	Justus Liebig Univ.	PhD Student

2007 CSSS Student Book Awards

The award recognizes undergraduates at Canadian universities who demonstrate excellence in Soil Science. Candidates are nominated by their academic department. This year the book for students will be the eagerly awaited Methods Manual, which will be published this summer.

Margaret Southee	University of Guelph
Josée Saquet	University of Manitoba
Christian Evans	University of British Columbia
Étienne Foucher	McGill University
Gregory Piorkowski	University of Alberta
Karla Rudolph	University of Saskatchewan
Catherine Bossé	Laval University

UPCOMING CONFERENCES

July 9–13, 2007

Information Agriculture Conference (InfoAg 2007),
Springfield, IL
www.infoag.org

July 15–19, 2007

The Third International Conference on Enzymes in the Environment: Activity, Ecology, and Applications.
Viterbo, Italy
www.unitus.it or Richard.Dick@snr.osu.edu

July 15-19, 2007

9th International Conference on the Biogeochemistry of Trace Elements
Beijing, China
<http://www.conference.ac.cn/icobte.htm>

July 16-20, 2007

30th International Conference on Solution Chemistry,
Perth, Australia.
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August 19–23, 2007

International Symposium on Forest Soils and Ecosystem Health: Linking Local Management to Global Change Challenges. Sunshine Coast, Queensland, Australia
www.griffith.edu.au/conference/isfs2007/ or
t.blumfield@griffith.edu.au

Sep 15-19, 2007

International Symposium on Air Quality and Waste Management for Agriculture
Omni Interlocken Resort, Broomfield, CO
<http://www.asabe.org/>

meetings/airwaste2007/index.htm

November 4–8, 2007

ASA–CSSA–SSSA Annual Meetings
New Orleans, LA; New Orleans
<http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news/calendar.pdf>

June 22 –26, 2008

11th North American Forest Soils Conference, Blacksburg, Virginia

June 29 – July 5, 2008

XXI International Grassland Congress/VIII International Rangeland Congress
Huhhot, Inner Mongolia, China
www.igc-irc2008.org or secretariat2008@hotmail.com

July 6-9, 2008.

2007 Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting
Prince George, BC

September 18–22, 2008

5th International Conference on Land Degradation
Valenzano, Bari, Italy
www.iamb.it/5ICLD or
pandi@iamb.it

October 5–9, 2008

ASA–CSSA–SSSA Annual Meetings (Joint Meeting with the Geological Society of America
Houston, TX
<http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news/calendar.pdf>

June 22 –26, 2008

11th North American Forest Soils Conference
Blacksburg, Virginia

June 29 – July 5, 2008

XXI International Grassland Congress/VIII International Rangeland Congress

Huhhot, Inner Mongolia, China
www.igc-irc2008.org or secretariat2008@hotmail.com

July 6-9, 2008.

2007 Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meeting
Prince George, BC

July 13-16, 2008

Joint meeting of the Canadian Society of Agronomy and the Northeastern Branch ASA–CSSA–SSSA
McGill University, Montreal, QC, Canada

September 18–22, 2008

5th International Conference on Land Degradation
Valenzano, Bari, Italy
www.iamb.it/5ICLD or
pandi@iamb.it

October 5–9, 2008

ASA–CSSA–SSSA Annual Meetings (Joint Meeting with the Geological Society of America
Houston, TX
<http://www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/news/calendar.pdf>

The 5th ISMOM and 2nd Interconference Commission 2.5 IUSS - 2008 organized by the Working Group MO “Interactions of Soil Minerals with Organic Components and Microorganisms” of the International Union of Soil Sciences, now Commission 2.5: Soil Physical/Chemical/Biological Interfacial Interactions, Pucón, Chile, November 26-30, 2008. Further information: www.ismom2008ufr.o.cl