

Canadian Society of Soil Science

Annual General Meeting Report

Montreal, QC

Aug. 12, 2003.

Canadian Society of Soil Science - Annual General Meeting

Agenda

Tues. Aug. 12, 11:00 -12:30.

Location: Salon A/B, Conference Centre, International Civil Aviation Organization(ICAO),
999 University St., Montreal, Quebec

1. Call to order and welcome (Ahmet Mermut).
2. Approval of the Agenda.
3. Approval of the 2002 AGM minutes.
4. Business arising from the 2002 AGM minutes (Ahmet Mermut).
5. President's Report (Ahmet Mermut).
6. Treasurer's Report (Marie-Josée Garand).
7. Student Representative's Report (Vimy Glass).
8. CJSS Editor's Report (Martin Carter).
9. Election Report (Gary Parkin).
10. Annual Conference Reports 2002 - Gary Kachanoski, David Chanasyk, and Barb Kishchuk.
2003 - Denis Angers
2004 - Ed Gregorich and Ahmet Mermut
11. Business Office Report - Steve Sheppard.
12. AIC Structures Task Force - Sandy Todd.
12. Installation of New President (Ahmet Mermut and Ed Gregorich).
13. New Business.
14. Adjournment.

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*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 – 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 Kalara, 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 to 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 fess (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 Report s

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 by 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

Canadian Society of Soil Science

2003 President's Report

1) Many important matters to the society have been discussed through very vigorous e-mail discussions. This way the Council had quick resolutions for various matters, since the annual income of the society do not allow more than one time face to face meeting a year. We are a small society and not healthy financially. Soil Science had a very rough time a decade ago, and it

seems that we are passing a stagnant stage and we need to do quite a lot to become a tangible society. We are very pleased with Dr. Steve Sheppard as business manager and we thank him for the superb job. We are still far away from our ideal membership and a lot need to be done in the future.

2) Considering the world scenario, I am hopeful for the future in Canada. The world expects that Canada is playing much better role than it is now. I am happy to report that I am one of the Council members in the IUSS, elected during the World Congress in 2002 in Bangkok.

3) One of the issues that I wanted to see that we are making progress was the improvement of the selection criteria for various awards that the society is giving every year. I am very happy that I paved the road and made this as an important issue to be seriously considered by the Council. I would like to express my sincere appreciation to Drs. Gerry Coen; Eric Beauchamp; John Dormar for their great efforts to help developing ideas for better functioning criteria that the council could use to recognize the outstanding members of any award category of the society.

4) As the last year, the Council has provided many awards to graduate students to participate in the annual meeting in Montreal. Unfortunately, we did not have any one to recognize as “*Fellow*” in this year. This is a matter we should make an issue for discussion in the years ahead.

5) I am pleased to see that some soil science societies in the world would like to cooperate with us as equal partners to exchange ideas, books, and opportunity to participate in each others meeting, with no commitment to support travel or other expenses.

6) Collaboration with other Societies such as the meeting we had last year with Canadian Geophysical Union in Banff last year, this year in Montreal, and with SSSA in 2004 in Seattle. The joint meetings were attended by **a record number of graduate** students. Geological society has also approached us to have a joint meeting in the future. Close association with other related societies should be explored further.

7) As the president I represented the society on various issues that we were asked to comment or participate in. One important matter is our association with AIC. This is an issue that we need to resolve collectively.

8) Our scientific journal is functioning very well; Martin Carter is now our new editor for the next three years.

Ahmet Mermut.

Canadian Society of Soil Science

2003 Past President's Report

Activities of the Past President were mainly confined to participation in very vigorous e-mail discussions related to CSSS Council business. An important role of the Past President in CSSS Council affairs is to provide some degree of corporate memory.

In previous years the Past President has initiated contact with non-renewing CSSS members. This function is now mainly carried out by the CSSS Business Office. I would like to thank Steve Sheppard from our Business Office for the excellent work of contacting lapsed members and initiating regular e-mail contact with CSSS members.

A new function for the Past President was to contact commercial companies involved with soil science issues and ask for their financial support for students. Several companies were contacted. CSSS Council is thankful to Jacques Whitford Consulting for their generous donation of \$500 to cover one student travel award in 2003.

Martin Carter.

August 6, 2003; Corner Brook (NF)

CANADIAN SOIL SCIENCE SOCIETY TREASURER REPORT

Presented to: Canadian Soil Science Society Council 2003

By: Marie-Josée Garand

Examination of the books

This will be done by John MacLeod and Delmar Holmstrom who were appointed at the annual meeting last year, in Banff.

Trust funds

Based on the market value, our investments decreased significantly in 2002, with a drop in value of 15 920\$ from December 31, 2001 to the end of 2002. This represent of loss of 6.6 % during the current fiscal year. Considering how poorly the markets fared in 2002, this is a good performance. This can be partly attributed to the fact that the publication royalties from CRC Press amounted to 5440\$. The conjunction of an inflation rate (refer to All Canada Consumer Price Index for December 2002) of 3.9% with low markets translates in a deficit of approximately \$4718 in the Bentley Fund¹. This explains why no money was cashed from the trust fund in 2002 and the trust fund is therefore owing 8832\$ to the operating account. It is hope that the market will bounce back and shares in our investments could be sell with a better return at a later date. The budgeted expenditure for 2004 will remain conservative with 7200\$. A safety net should be maintained in case the mutual funds perform poorly. The financial objective is to reach an end of the year surplus of \$30 000 to allow annual expenditure of \$10 000. I would like to acknowledge those who have accepted to serve on the Financial Committee: Martin Carter, Bruce MacDonald and Gary Patterson.

Table 1 Trust fund balance sheet at December 31, 2002

	Book value - historic cost (\$)	Market*/face** value (\$)
Assets		
Wood Gundy cash	2 365	2 365
Due from CSSS operating	-8 832	-8 832
<i>Mutual and Segregated Funds</i>		
Templeton Growth Cdn\$	45 970	38 274
Templeton Treasury Bill	12 471	12 471
AIC Advantage II	24 641	20 791
AIC Value	7 697	7 974
CIBC Money Market	8 207	8 207
AGF International value	14 495	10 699
<i>Fixed income</i>		
Canada Mortgage and housing	45 846	45 000
League savings & Mortgage Co	45 000	45 000
TransCanada Pipelines Ltd	44 800	45 000
Total assets	242 660	224 949
Equity		
Bentley trust	207 217	192 163***
Publication trust	32 300	29 643***
Symposia trust	3 143	3 143
International trust	0	0
Total Equity	242 660	224 949

* Applicable to mutual funds and based on market value at December 31, 2002

** Applicable to fixed income (bonds)

*** 85% of the change in market allocated to the Bentley Trust and 15% to the Publication Trust:

Bentley: $207\,217 + 0.85 * (224\,949 - 242\,660) = 207\,447$

Publication: $32\,300 + 0.15 * (224\,949 - 242\,660) = 29\,814$

Notes

1. The Bentley Fund must grow at the rate of inflation:

Value of Fund at December 31, 1986= \$130 000

All Canada Consumer Price Index December 31, 1986=79.5 (1992 CPI=100)

All Canada Consumer Price Index December 31, 2002=120.4

Therefore the Bentley Trust should be kept at:

$(130\ 000/79.5) * 120.4 = \$196\ 881.$

Operating fund

The annual revenues for conference were around \$5466, which makes of the Banff meeting another financial success (usual profits are around a \$1000).

At \$20 046, membership revenue increased by 5000\$ compared to 2001. The IUSS experiences problems with the invoicing. After many attempts to contact the current treasurer, I have e-mailed Donald Sparks, the President, to inform him of the issue. He assured me that the problem will be solved in a near future. This explains in part the increased membership revenue observed this year again as approximately 2800\$ in membership fees is collected in the behalf of the CSSS for the IUSS membership.

A significant amount of CSSS discretionary budget (6015\$) has been used to cover the Bentley awards. Also profit of the 2002 annual meeting has been used for this purpose (1500\$). This explains the small transfer of money from the Bentley compared to the expenses incurred under this item.

Travel costs for the council members remained under the budgeted expenses. Since the *Publication Fund* has become the *Publication and Communication Fund*, all the expenses related to the web site are done on this account. The \$ 2600 spent from this fund was related solely to the web site.

I suggest that provisions be made in the future with our office in Pinawa for corporate sponsorships to be tax deductible (charity gift). The following Treasurer may want to contact Revenues and Customs Canada to clarify how to proceed.

Table 2 Operating fund balance sheet at December 31, 2001

Assets	Liabilities	
Bank accounts 22 027	Due to trust	-8832
	Due to journal	52*
	Total liabilities	-8780
	Equity	
	Retained earnings	24 503
	Current earnings	6 304
	Total Equity	30 807
Total assets: 22 027	Total liabilities & equity:	22 027

* Discrepancies between AIC and CSSS books explains the 52\$ in liability for 2002. It is expected this will be solved in 2003.

Table 3 Operating fund statement of income for 2001

Operating Income		Operating expenses	
Membership	20 046	Office	5 850
Annual conference	5 446	Newsletter/proceedings	3023
Others	1260	Council Travel	1 700
Bentley	447	AIC	3 855
Publications and communication	1 088	Other	217
Unallocated*	3	IUSS	0
Total operating income	28 309	Total operating expenses	14 644
Transfers from trust		Trust expenses	
<i>Table 3 (suite)</i>			
Bentley	4020	Bentley	11 846
Publications	2614	Publications and communications	2 614
Symposia	465	Symposia	0
Total trust transfers	7099	Total trust expenses	14 460
Total income	35 408	Total expenses	29 104
Net profit = 6 344.			

Revisions to budget for 2002

Considering the poor performance of the Bentley trust in 2002 in conjunction to the amount of money given for the awards (\$9000 compared to \$6 000), alternative sources of funding had to be considered for this fiscal year. In Table 4, figures a summary of the various sources of funding in relation to the different awards. The money spent under the discretionary account is coming from the profits realized in 2002 (see Table 3).

Table 4. CSSS funds available for 2002 awards

Revenues			
Money source	Amount (\$)	Student Awards (\$)	Student Travel (\$)
Discretionary	4000	0	4000
Bentley	4000	3000	1000
Publications and communications trust	500	0	500
Corporate Sponsorship*	500	0	500
Total (expenses = revenues)	9000	3000	6000

Budget for 2004

Anticipated revenues and expenses are very conservative estimates similar to those budgeted in 2003, provided we can maintain membership and that the financial markets improve. This allows council \$4000 in discretionary spending from the operating budget.

Table 5 Budget for 2004

Operating revenue (\$)		Operating expenses (\$)	
Membership	17 800	Office	6 000
Annual conference	1 100	Newsletter & proceedings	1 800
Other	500	Council travel	2 400
Bentley	720	IUSS membership	2800
Publications	700	AIC	3 900
		Other	3 920
Total operating revenue	20 820	Total operating expenses	20 820
Transfers from trust (\$)		Trust expenses (\$)	
Bentley	7 200	Bentley	7 200
Publications	-	Publications	-
Symposia	-	Symposia	-
International	-	International	-
Total trust transfers	7 200	Total trust expenses	7 200
Total revenue	25 220	Total expenses	25 220

Table 6 Bentley Budget

Operating	720
Bentley award (speaking)	1000
President award (poster)	1000
Undergraduate books	1000
President's tour	1 200
Member/student travel award	2 280
Total	\$7 200

Respectfully submitted,

Marie-Josée Garand
CSSS Treasurer

Canadian Society of Soil Science
2003 Western Councillor's Report

Activities of the Western Councillor this year have been largely related to keeping the CSSS website (www.csss.ca) updated.

The main duties have been: Selecting a suite of soils-related photos for the homepage, keeping the 'Upcoming Meetings' list current; and posting of graduate student assistantships and other news items. Thanks to Steve Sheppard for directing information my way pertaining to the website. Also a special thank you to Donna Warenko, Granite Internet Services Inc., Pinawa, MB for her speedy handling of all webpage requests.

I look forward to working on CSSS Council for the next year.

Frank Larney

Canadian Society of Soil Science
2003 Eastern Councillor's Report

Activities of the Eastern Councillor this year have been mainly related to the publication of the CSSS Newsletter and to the organization of the Annual Meeting in Montreal.

Three issues of the Newsletter were again published this year for a total of 25 pages. I would like to thank all the contributors as well as Steve Sheppard from our Business Office for the excellent work at preparing the final lay-out and printing the Newsletters.

The Annual Meeting should again be a success. For four days (10-13 August), the CSSS will be meeting with the Fourth International Conference on Mycorrhizae (ICOM4) and the Canadian Society of Agronomy (CSA). The meeting will be held at the Conference Centre of the International Civil Aviation Conference Centre in downtown Montréal. In addition to joint Symposiums with ICOM4 and CSA, more than 170 volunteer papers and posters in Soil Science and Agronomy will be presented.

Denis Angers

Canadian Society of Soil Science
2003 Graduate Student Representative's Report

This was to be my last Annual Report, however, I am happy to say I am returning for another term as the student representative.

Activities of the Graduate Student Representative this year have been limited to newsletter contribution and participation in council motions and discussions. I have tried to add website links to the student portion of the newsletter that may aid students in their research endeavours and also showcase student members' accomplishments. I would like to thank Denis Angers for giving ample notice of upcoming newsletter deadlines.

Vimy Glass

CSSS 2003 AGM

August 2003

CSSS Office (Steve Sheppard)

The CSSS office continues to operate from PO Box 637, Pinawa, Manitoba, Canada, fax (204) 753-8478, telephone (204) 753-2747. Email is the preferred method of communication: “sheppards@ecomatters.com”.

We have been sending email notices at intervals. The idea is that we will keep them very short, restricted to relatively urgent things, and use them less than once a month. If you'd rather not receive these, let the Office know. The quarterly newsletters and electoral materials were also printed and distributed from the CSSS Office. If you have ideas of services the CSSS Office can offer to members, pass them along.

There will be a new on-line, credit-card-accessible membership renewal system. In the past, offering credit card payment for membership was cumbersome and expensive, but by using an established on-line registration service, it is now much more reasonable. As of August, the new highly secure on-line registration service will allow members password access to update their own registration information (addresses etc) and the ability to pay by cheque or credit card. Registration by mail will still be possible. From an administrative side, the database of member information will be instantly updated and available, and payments by credit card will be instantly deposited to the CSSS account. We anticipate cost savings as well as an improved registration process.

The affiliation with AIC was in debate this year, as AIC investigated a number of restructuring options. AIC was very thorough in seeking input from the scientific societies such as CSSS and the various Provincial agrology institutes. This included a workshop in Winnipeg and several position papers.

Election Results

Joann Whalen was acclaimed as Eastern Councillor, Don Flaten was acclaimed as Treasurer, Vimy Glass will be the Student Representative again next year, and Gary Parkin was appointed Secretary.

Of the 374 ballots mailed to CSSS members for the President-Elect position, 184 were received and counted. The results are C. Drury 70, A. Naeth 70, and G. Neilsen 44. The election committee consisted of Gary Parkin (CSSS Secretary), Richard Heck, and John Lauzon. The CSSS Council has decided that a second election will be held in early fall with C. Drury and A. Naeth as the two candidates. Both have agreed to run again.

2003 Awards committee report

Criteria for CSSS awards

It was decided by council that the criteria for all of the CSSS awards should be revised and updated. An ad hoc committee comprised of past-presidents Gerry Coen, Eric Beauchamp, John Dormarr, and I was formed and we started with the criteria as set out on the CSSS website and then revised these.

All of the criteria are revised and briefly some major changes to the criteria are:

- The Short term Professional development award for international scientists was eliminated and combined with the Visiting Travel award.
- The format for nominating and considering members for CSSS Fellowship has been changed. There is now a scoring system in place that will help provide a more objective and rigorous criteria for assessing a Fellow. (A set of reference materials was developed that will contain some suggestions for future awards committees to consider and some details about forms for Fellow nominations are in that material along with some other suggestions.)
- A new non-monetary award called “the Soil Science in Society Award” was developed to recognize any member or non-member who has contributed toward promoting soil science to the general public.

The motion to accept the revised criteria for CSSS awards was approved by council. The revised criteria are now posted on the CSSS website.

CSSS Student Travel Awards

The Awards committee (Eric Beauchamp, Gerry Coen and myself) received 12 nominations for student travel awards. After reviewing the CSSS financial information from the treasurer it was decided to approve all 12 student awards. The motion to do so was approved by council. One student is unable to attend the meetings and her name was withdrawn from the awards.

The students nominated for Travel awards are:

Kirsten Hannam – Univ. Alberta

Shawna McMahon - Oregon State Univ.

Humaira Dadfar – University of Guelph

Angie Bedard-Haughn – University of California

Michael “Derek” MacKenzie - University of Montana

~~Shelley Kilby – Univ. of Guelph~~—unable to attend

Chris Denys – Univ. of Guelph

Adam Gillespie –Univ. of Saskatchewan

Kerry-Anne Pumphrey – Univ. of Guelph

Rob Michitsch – Univ. of Guelph

Marguerite Reimer – Univ. of Manitoba

Jeanette Gaultier-Foidart – Univ. of Manitoba

CSSS Book Awards

The purpose of the Book Award is to recognize an undergraduate student demonstrating excellence in Soil Science. The award consisted of the Soil and Environmental Science Dictionary published jointly by the CSSS and CRC Press.

The following undergraduate students received the CSSS Book Award.

Sara Harrison - University of British Columbia

Shelagh Torrie - University of Saskatchewan

Dominik Rudecki – University of Northern British Columbia

Eartha Dupuis - University of Alberta

Robert Prévost – McGill University

Sara Forbes - University of Guelph

Paula Picton - University of Manitoba

Chantal Stumborg - University of Saskatchewan

Simiane Grégoire-Valentini – Laval University

CSSS Fellow Award

No nominations for Fellow were received by the committee.

CSSS Awards

Due to the low return on some investments and profits to the CSSS budget it was decided by council that, other than the Book Award and the Student Travel Awards, no other monetary awards would be made this year. The committee suggests that council revisit this decision at the annual meetings in Montreal. Due to the income generated by book royalties and going into the Publication there appears to be funds available for all monetary awards this year (total of \$3,000). These could still be awarded for this fiscal year.

Submitted July 16, 2003

Ed Gregorich, Committee Chair

Canadian Journal of Soil Science Editor's Report for 2002

This is my first year as Editor of CJSS. I would like to thank both Tim Fenton and Laurie Scott for their excellent assistance and publishing expertise. We are very privileged in Canada to have our own Soil Science journal. It is an important science arm for the CSSS and provides an excellent showcase for Soil Science conducted in Canada and elsewhere. Some brief highlights are as follows.

Associate Editors

- Ατ τηε χονχλυσιον οφ 2002, Δρ. Πηλιππε Ροχηεττε (αγρομετερολογη) ανδ Δρ. Εδ Τοππ (σοιλ μιχροβιολογη) χονχλυδεδ τηειρ ρολε ασ Ασσοχιατε Εδιτορσ. Ι ωουλδ λικε το τηανκ τηεμ φορ τηειρ δεδιχατεδ εδιτοριαλ ωορκ ανδ χοντριβυτιον το Χθ ΣΣ.
- Τηε νυμβερ οφ Ασσοχιατε Εδιτορσ ωασ ινχρεασεδ φρομ 12 το 15. Τηισ ωιλλ ρεδυ χε τηε εδιτοριαλ ωορκλοαδ ανδ αλσο αλλοω τηε απποιντμεντ οφ α φεω Ασσοχιατε Εδιτορσ ουτσιδε Χαναδα. Τηε λαττερ δεπελοπμεντ, ποσσιβλε δυε το μανυσχριπτ χονσιγνμεντ ανδ τρανσφερενχε βη ελεχτρονιχ μεανσ, ωιλλ φυρτηερ τηε ιντερ

νατιοναλ προφιλε οφ ΧθΣΣ.

- Ιν 2003 σεωεραλ νεω Ασσοχιατε Εδιτορσ ωερε απποιντεδ: Δρ. Μικε Βεαρε (σοιλ εχολογψ ανδ θυαλιτψ) φρομ Νεω Ζεαλανδ, Δρ. Βιλλ Δυββιν (σοιλ πεδολογψ, μινερ αλογψ, ανδ χημιστρψ) φρομ Ενγλανδ, Δρ. Μικε Γρεωερσ (σοιλ στρυχτυραλ προπερτιεσ ανδ τιλλαγε) φρομ Σασκατχηωαν, Δρ. Φρανκ Λαρνεψ (σοιλ χονσερωατιον ανδ μαναγεμεντ) φρομ Αλβερτα, ανδ Δρ. Λειγη Σπαρρω (σοιλ χημιστρψ, τραχε ελεμεντσ ανδ ηεαωψ μεταλσ) φρομ Αυστραλια. Ι αμ τηανκφυλ το τηεσε ινδιωιδυαλσ φορ αγρεεινγ το σερωε ιν τηισ ιμπορταντ ρολε.
- Ασσισταντ Εδιτορ, Προφεσσορ Ο. Βριαν Αλλεν, Δεπαρτμεντ Μαθηματιχσ & Στατιστιχσ, Υνιωερσιτψ οφ Γυελπη χοντινυεσ το ασσιιστ ΧθΣΣ ιν στατιστιχαλ ματτερσ.

Journal Statistics

- Συβμισσιον ρατεσ (114, 93, 89, ανδ 81 μανυσχριπτσ, ρεσπεχτιωελψ, ιν 1999, 2000, 2001, ανδ 2002) χοντινυε το δεχλινε. Ηωεωερ, σο φαρ ιν 2003 (ενδ οφ θυλψ) ωε ηαωε ρεχειωεδ 57 μανυσχριπτσ. Ιφ τηισ τρενδ χοντινυεσ τηεν τηε συβμισσιον ρατε φορ 2003 σηουλδ εξχεεδ τηατ φορ 2000. Αδωερτισινγ οφ τηε θουρναλ ιν τηε Υνιτεδ Στατεσ ανδ Ευρωπε (εσπεχιαλλψ ιν Φρενχη σπεακινγ χουντριεσ) μαψ ηελπ ιμπροωε τηε συβμισσιον ρατε.
- Τηε ΙΣΙ ιμπαχτ φαχτορ (0.859, 0.799, ανδ 0.597, ρεσπεχτιωελψ, ιν 1998, 1999, ανδ 2000) ηασ δεχλινεδ οωερ τηε λαστ φεω ψεαρσ. Ηωεωερ, τηε μοστ ρεχεντ ιμπαχτ φαχτορ φορ 2001 (0.863) σηοωεδ αν ινχρεασε. Το ηελπ μαινταιν τηισ υπωαρδ τρενδ, εμπηασισ νεεδσ το βε πλαχεδ ον τηε χοντινυεδ εξπανσιον οφ ΧθΣΣ το αχχομμοδατε μορε ιντερνατιοναλ παπερσ, ινχρεασεδ πυβλιχατιον οφ σηορτ ρεωιεω παπερσ, ανδ πυβλιχατιον οφ σψμποσια ανδ σπεχιαλ ισσυεσ οφ νατιοναλ ανδ ιντερνατιοναλ ιντερεστ.
- Α σπεχιαλ ισσυε οφ ΧθΣΣ ωιλλ βε πυβλισηεδ ιν 2003 ον Σοιλ Βιοδιωερσιτψ. Τηισ ισ αν εξχελλεντ χοντριβυτιον το Σοιλ Σχιενχε. Α τηανκψου ισ εξτενδεδ το τηε μανψ ινωολωεδ ιν τηισ σπεχιαλ ισσυε, βυτ εσπεχιαλλψ το Δρσ. Εδ Τοππ ανδ Χατ ηερικε Φοξ.
- Τηερε ισ α χοντινυινγ ινχρεασε οφ μανυσχριπτ συβμισσιονσ φρομ ουτσιδε Νορτ η Αμερικα. Ηωεωερ, μορε εμπηασισ χουλδ βε πλαχεδ ον αττραχτινγ παπερσ φρομ τηε Υνιτεδ Στατεσ ανδ νορτηερν Ευρωπε.
- Τηε ρεφεχτιον ρατε (36%) φορ 2002 ισ ρελατιωελψ λοω χομπαρεδ το οτηερ φορναλσ, βυτ ισ ηιγηρ τηαν πρεωιουσ ψεαρσ (ρανγε οφ 17–30% φρομ 1997 το 2001). Τηε οωεραλλ λοω ρεφεχτιον ρατε ισ προβαβλψ δυε το τηε ηιγη θυαλιτψ (βοτη λιγγυιστιχαλλψ ανδ σχιεντιφιχαλλψ) οφ μοστ συβμιττεδ μανυσχριπτσ.

- In 2002 ωε πυβλισηεδ: 51 ρεγυλαρ σχιεντιφιχ παπερσ, 1 Αβστραχτισ οφ Τεχνηγια λ Παπερσ (ΧΣΑΜ), 2 Λεττερσ το Εδιτορ, 1 In Μεμοριαμ (Δρ. Σιμαρδ). Τοταλ παγε σ: 522.

Martin Carter, Editor CJSS