



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear CSSS Members:

Wow! What an incredible week for Canadian soil science! I am happy to report that the CSSS Annual Meeting and Rhizosphere5 were both very successful with lots of great presentations. Congratulations to the organizers, specifically Ken Van Rees and Angela Bedard-Haughn who co-chaired the CSSS meeting, and Bobbi Helgason and Jim Germida who co-chaired Rhizo5. If you attended either meeting, you will know that the meetings intentionally overlapped and there was 55 participants who registered in both. At last count, I heard that the CSSS meeting attracted over 220 participants, and Rhizo5 had over 417 registered participants from 41 countries. Between the two meetings, Saskatoon became a hotbed of soil science, and it was a fantastic and inspiring week.

As always, the CSSS meeting attracted many graduate students and post docs. This is a real strength of the CSSS meetings, and it was wonderful to see participants who were formerly students now attending as full CSSS members, with their own cadre of students. From an "academic family" perspective, I suspect that there are instances where multiple generations come together for an academic family reunion at the CSSS meetings.

Celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Department of Soil Science at the University of Saskatchewan was particularly special for me. The department is my academic home, so it was all close to my heart, but more importantly, the celebration really underscored the importance of soil science in the development of the Canadian prairies – and beyond. Soil science in Canada has a long and rich history, and our community will continue to play an important role in the future of our Canadian environment.

I was really pleased to participate in the Terry Tollefson Memorial Session on Soil Education. Professor Tollefson was a colleague and friend in the Soil Science department at the U of S, and he inspired many students and instructors to love soil, love soil science, and to love teaching and learning. Terry's many contributions continue to influence our teaching and learning at the UofS. I was also really pleased to see the number of papers submitted to this session, and the interest in these papers. Clearly soil science education has a large, and growing, following. This was also evident in the very well attended Soils Education Committee meeting. The discussion focused on the development of a Canadian Soil Science textbook, and aside from getting updates on the progress of this project, new authors were recruited and new chapters proposed! The possibility of having the textbook available in both official languages also was discussed, which is indeed an exciting development. More on this in the future.



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Presidents Letter (Con't.)

I will end with the words of C.C. Nikiforoff, from his article "Soil Dynamics" (1942. Sigma Xi Quarterly, 30:36-50) and his description of soil:

"A prosaic practicalism of everyday life does not, however, deprive a man of the power of imagination. He has developed beautiful arts and created fascinating fairy-tales. One of these is about a wonderful magic carpet. He does not realize the wonders of the real magic carpet, soil, which spreads over the land on which he lives and which he tramples every day so carelessly, far surpasses all the wonders of his imaginary magic. He hardly realizes that without this magic carpet of soil, life would not exist on the Earth. Soil and life are twins; neither can exist without the other. Dynamics of life and dynamics of soil are merely phases of a common process of continuous transformations of matter and energy."

Enjoy the rest of your summer, and we hope to see you all in Charlottetown for the 2020 annual meeting!

Fran Walley
CSSS President

Updates from the Awards Committee

The 2019 CSSS Awards Committee consists of: Nathan Basiliko, chair (2019 CSSS President Elect), Noura Ziadi (2018 CSSS President), & Maja Krzic (2016 CSSS President)

Fellows of the Canadian Society of Soil Science:

The Fellow Award is for members with a distinguished record of accomplishment in soil science & service to the CSSS. Our newest Fellow of the CSSS is Dr. Joann Whalen from McGill U. Mervin St Luce was led the nomination package with Maja Krzic, Dan Pennock, and Brian Driscoll as the sponsors. The Fellow Award is for members with a distinguished record of accomplishment in soil science & service to the CSSS.

Joann Whalen (Professor & William Dawson Scholar at McGill University) has been a member of the CSSS since 1994 and has continually given to the society in this time. Among many others, this has included serving as Eastern Councillor, President-Elect, President, and Past President and in multiple editorial commitments at the CJSS (e.g. as Editor in Chief, winning "Top Associate Editor of the year"). With her students, she is ever-present at our annual meetings giving presentations, serving on organizing committees, chairing sessions, and serving as a student presentation judge.

Updates from the Awards Committee (Con't.)

Dr. Whalen is nationally and internationally recognized for her research on soil biology, especially earthworms and biotic roles in soil and nutrient management. Among many other academic awards, she been named Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America. She is a committed soil and environmental science educator to students spanning from college/CEGEP to post-doctoral levels both in the classroom and as a research mentor. She has supervised more than 100 research students, including over 45 MSc and PhD graduates and 8 postdoctoral fellows who have gone on to successful research careers in academia, government and industry. Their collective work has been disseminated widely in over 185 peer-reviewed scientific journal publications, in multiple books, and in many conferences presentations and other outreach/report venues. From all of the CSSS, congratulations on this well-deserved award Joann!!

CSSS Student Book Awards:

This award recognizes undergraduates at Canadian universities who demonstrate excellence in Soil Science. Candidates are nominated by their academic department. Winners this year are:

Trisha Hanuszak (UBC), **Conrad Dionisio David** (U Alberta), **Ashly Dyck** (U Sask), **Thomas Giguère** (McGill U), **Sylvan Wichert** (U Toronto), **Alivia Cavallin** (UNBC), **Baril Jérôme** (U Laval), **Rachel Mailhot** (Université du Québec à Chicoutimi), **Rachel Marcelissen** (Lakehead U), **Robin Bradley** (U Guelph), **Dylan Roberts** (Laurentian U), & **Julie DePauw** (U Manitoba)

Student Travel Awards:

Established in 1991 to promote graduate student attendance at the CSSS Annual Meetings, this year, from 33 applicants, 14 awards were supported by the Society, The AIC and Canadian Science Publishing (publisher of the Canadian Journal of Soil Science). Awardees are:

Shaomin-Lin (U Guelph)	Tony Britton (U Manitoba)
Katie McMahan (UBC)	Marieta Marin-Bruzos (UBC)
Chamara Weeraseskara (U Manitoba)	Cindy Denoncourt (U Laval)
Qicong Wu (McGill U)	Lyndsey Dowell (UBC)
Maria Teresa Porter (UBC)	Emily Olmstead (Trent U)
Ruth Joseph (Lakehead U)	Jillian Filmer (U Guelph)
Robyn Rumney (Laurentian U)	Kathryn Jackson (U Guelph)
Saskia Hart (Laurentian U)	Amana Kedir (Memorial U)

Travel Awards for International Soil Science Meetings: Additionally, up to two annual awards support graduate student CSSS members to attend international soil science meetings. The 2019 winners, both planning to attend the Soil Science Society of America Meeting in San Antonio, are:

Chantal Chizen (UBC)
Kiran Preet Padda (UBC)

President's Award for Poster Presentations:

This award was established in 1992 to foster excellence in student poster presentations as a means of disseminating research results at the CSSS Annual Meetings. This year's recipients were:

- 2nd runner up: Theresa Porter (UBC)- Examining soil quality in the Fraser River delta following four-year grassland set-asides
- Runner up: Chantal Chizen (UBC): The effects of nitrogen fertilizer rate on greenhouse gas emissions and potato production in Delta, BC
- First place: Joanne Thiessen Martens: Response of organically managed crops to addition of struvite fertilizer in a Manitoba soil

Updates from the Awards Committee (Con't.)

Bentley Award for Oral Presentations:

This award was initiated in 1983 to encourage & recognize excellence in oral presentations by students at the CSSS Annual Meetings. It honours Dr. C. Fred Bentley who was CSSS President in 1956-57 & a CSSS Fellow.

This year there were two honourable mentions:

- Lyndsey M. Dowell (UBC) Evaluating below-ground carbon storage potential of hedgerows and riparian buffers in agricultural
- Weixi Shu (Dal) Fate and transport of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) in soils and soils receiving land applied alkaline treated biosolids in Nova Scotia landscapes using remote sensing

2nd and 3rd place was a tie:

- Siddhartho Paul (UBC) Spatial assessment of land use land cover and soil organic carbon in the Lower Fraser Valley, BC using digital soil mapping and remote sensing.
- Katie McMahan (UBC) Changes in the soil biological communities of topsoil stockpiled for mine reclamation

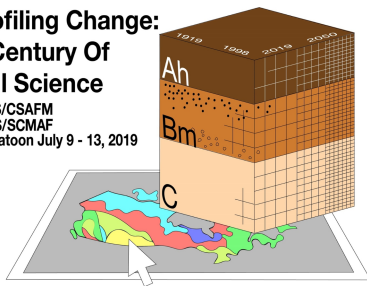
First place was:

- Leanne Ejack (McGill) Nitrous oxide production from freeze-thaw cycling in cover-cropped and manure amended soils

2019 CSSS Annual Meeting Report

Profiling Change: A Century Of Soil Science

CSSS/CSAFM
SCSS/SCMAF
Saskatoon July 9 - 13, 2019



The 2019 CSSS Annual meeting was held July 9-13 in Saskatoon at the University of Saskatchewan as a joint conference with CSAFM. There were approximately 220 attendees of which 80 were students. Some of the highlights from the conference was celebrating the 100th Anniversary of the Department of Soil Science with two keynote addresses by Drs. Darwin Anderson and Dan Pennock. We also held a joint session with the Rhizosphere 5 International Conference one afternoon followed by a reception at the Remail Modern Gallery. There was a total of 24 sessions during the three days of meetings, five pre-conference workshops and two post conference field trips. A big thank you to the organizing committee and volunteers as well as to all the attendees who made the conference a huge success.

Ken Van Rees & Angela Bedard-Haughn
Co-Chairs

Rhizosphere5



Rhizosphere 5 was the fifth in a series of international conferences focused on understanding the rhizosphere. Rhizo5 was held in Saskatoon July 7-11th at the TCU Place Convention Centre and was attended by 420 delegates from 39 different countries. In all, there were 8 plenary and 22 concurrent sessions with 142 oral and 202 poster presentations, highlighting a broad spectrum of research excellence from across the globe under the Rhizo5 conference theme of Shining light of the world

beneath our feet. There were 110 Canadian delegates in attendance, including 43 joint registrants of both the Rhizosphere 5 and Canadian Society of Soil Science Annual Meetings. Joint scientific sessions on Wednesday afternoon, followed by a joint reception at Saskatoon's new Remai Modern Gallery, as well as indigenous dancing and drumming performances at the opening ceremony were special features of Rhizosphere 5 that provided a memorable Canadian flavor for our international guests. Many thanks to the local organizing committee and all of the volunteers who ensured that both the scientific and social programs ran smoothly. Thanks to their efforts, the generous contributions of our sponsors and the enthusiasm of our attendees, Rhizosphere 5 was a huge success!

Bobbi Helgason and Jim Germida, Co-Chairs

2020 Meeting of the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS)

Dear Colleagues,

Plans are underway for the 2020 Meeting of the Canadian Society of Soil Science (CSSS), which will be held at the University of Prince Edward Island in Charlottetown, PEI, June 21-25, 2020. In celebration of the 2020 Summer Solstice and the 300th anniversary of the Skmaqñ–Port-la-Joye (present-day Charlottetown). The theme for the 2020 meeting is: "Building bridges and connecting soil processes". Conference activities will kick off on Sunday June 21st with local tours; followed by a series of concurrent sessions on the three main days of the conference (June 22 - 24) and a variety of post-conference tours on Thursday June 25th. Detailed program information will be posted to the conference website (<http://csss.ca/2019-csss-annual-meeting/>)

The Scientific program Committee is inviting interested members to propose and take the lead in organizing scientific sessions. Anyone who wishes to plan a session for the 2020 meetings should submit a brief proposal to tandra.fraser@canada.ca with a cc to Judith.nyiraneza@canada.ca and should include: the session title, contact information and affiliation of the proposed session convener(s), and a brief (250 word) description of the session's purpose and scientific content. All session proposals should be received by October 1st, 2019 (by 11:59 PM ALT). Notification of accepted sessions will be made by December 1st, 2019. On-line abstract submission will open in January 2020 or earlier and all oral abstract submissions will be due March 1st, 1st, 2020. Information to book accommodations should be available soon.

We invite you all to attend the 2020 Meeting and celebrate the summer 2020.

Sincerely,

2020 CSSS Meeting organizing committee

CSSS 2019 Annual Meetings - Greenhouse Gas Workshop



The University of Saskatchewan's *Prairie Environmental Agronomy Research Laboratory (PEARL)* hosted a full-day greenhouse gas (GHG) workshop on the Tuesday before the start of the 2019 Annual Meeting of the CSSS. The workshop was attended by 15 people including students from Laurentian University, McGill University, the University of British Columbia, University of Manitoba, and the University of Saskatchewan. The workshop began with a presentation by Dr. Rich Farrell (co-director of the *PEARL*) addressing issues related to sampling protocols for determining GHG emissions in the field focusing on resource allocation and a comparison of manual and automated flux measurement systems developed at the *U of S*. This was followed by a tour of the *PEARL*'s GHG

analysis facilities—including discussions with the lab's technical staff regarding the handling and preparation of exetainer tubes, high throughput gas chromatography, and isotopic ($\delta^{15}\text{N}$ & $\delta^{18}\text{O}$: N_2O ; $\delta^{13}\text{C}$: CO_2 & CH_4) GHG analysis.

Following the lab tour Dr. Shannon Brown, a Postdoctoral Research Associate in the lab of Dr. Claudia Wagner-Riddle at the University of Guelph, gave a presentation on quantifying greenhouse gas emissions from agricultural systems using micrometeorological techniques—specifically the flux gradient technique. Sarah Morrison of Eosense Inc. (Dartmouth, NS) and Christine van Beest of Gasmeter Technologies, Inc. (Vantaa, Finland) then gave short presentations describing the various types of gas flux monitoring equipment available through their companies. After a lunch break, the workshop moved to the field, at a site on the *U of S* campus where participants had an opportunity to see operational GHG monitoring systems being employed in a joint *U of S-U of G* project; i.e., a flux gradient tower system from the *U of G* and a solar-powered FTIR-based automated chamber system from the *U of S*. In addition, Dr. Reynald Lemke of Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada led a brief discussion of the advantages/disadvantages and precautions necessary when making chamber-based flux measurements. This included a demonstration of different types of chambers. It was a great afternoon with perfect weather to be in the field. The workshop concluded after a day of lively discussions—the students in particular were very engaged—that carried over to Friday's GHG session of talks and posters. Hopefully everyone had as much fun as I did.



Rich Farrell

International Soil Classification Congress

We are pleased to welcome you to Mexico for the VI International Soil Classification Congress (April 16 to 24, 2020). This congress is part of the events organized by Commission 1.4 of the International Union of Soil Sciences (IUSS) and is composed of a five-day field workshop beginning in Cuatro Ciénegas and ending with a three-day conference in Querétaro.

iscc2020.org

Updates from the Global Symposium on Soil Erosion and Outcome Document released

The **Global Symposium on Soil Erosion (GSER 19)**, held on 15 – 17 May 2019 at FAO headquarters in Rome, convened over 500 scientists, policy makers and members of the civil society to review the status and challenges of soil erosion. Watch the [Q&A interviews](#) on the spot! Participants were also able to examine how to translate science into policy and action on the ground to minimize soil erosion for increased food security and sustainable development. The proceedings of the meeting will soon be available [online](#). The [Global Symposium on Soil Erosion: Outcome Document](#) has just been released and is available for download [here](#).

Global Assessment of Soil Biodiversity

Over 300 experts responded to the [Global Call for the creation of the Soil Biodiversity Assessment Working Group](#). Established under the aegis of FAO, GSP/ ITPS, the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD), the Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI) and the European Commission (EC), the working group will contribute to a global and regional assessment of the state of knowledge on soil biodiversity. In addition, a [National Survey](#) was developed to collect information at country level on the status of soil biodiversity and to better understand the concerns and threats to soil biodiversity, to compile relevant policies, regulations or frameworks that have been implemented, and to catalogue current soil biodiversity management and use efforts.

[Read more](#)

Summit on Canadian Soil Health 2019: Setting the Course for the Future

Just a reminder that registration is now open for the Summit on Canadian Soil Health 2019: Setting the Course for the Future which will be held on October 1st and 2nd in Winnipeg and Oak Hammock Marsh, Manitoba. Early bird pricing is in effect until August 15, 2019 and space is limited so book early!

Please go to www.soilcc.ca for more information, to register or to become a Summit Supporter. On behalf of the Soil Conservation Council of Canada we hope you will accept this invitation to attend.

2019 ASA, CSSA & SSSA Annual Meeting

2019 ASA, CSSA & SSA Annual Meeting
November 10-13, 2019
San Antonio, TX

The [Program](#) is finalized!

Check out all the great science being offered at the 2019 Annual Meeting.

Our Program Planning team and headquarters staff have been hard at work putting together the [final program](#) for the International Annual Meeting in San Antonio, Texas, this November. The 3,000+ scientific abstracts, 1,400 poster presentations, 1,800 oral presentations, and 500 sessions of innovative research are bound to lead to numerous conversations and collaborations. [Register today](#) to be a part of the conversation!

In addition to all the great [scientific programming](#), the Annual Meeting offers [featured speakers](#), networking opportunities, professional [workshops & tours](#), a [career center and graduate school forum](#), [graduate](#) & [undergraduate](#) programs, [student competitions](#), awards, [science policy](#) and publishing events, continuing education units, receptions, prizes, and more!

[Register](#) and [reserve your hotel room](#) today!

Learn more about the 2019 ASA, CSSA & SSSA Annual Meeting: acsm meetings.org.

Glinka World Soil Prize 2019: Call for Nominations

Take up the challenge and select the next champion! Partners and focal points of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP) are invited to nominate pioneer soil scientists and/or soil institutions for the prestigious award. This annual prize, which comes in the form of a medal and USD 15 000, rewards efforts towards Sustainable Soil Management and the fight against soil degradation. Fill out the [call for nominations](#) by 30 September 2019.

For more information <http://www.fao.org/world-soil-day/glinka-world-soil-prize/en/>

8th International Crop Science Congress



**CROP SCIENCE
CONGRESS**
Saskatoon, Canada
June 21 - 25, 2020

Under the auspices of the International Crop Science Society and the Global Institute for Food Security (GIFS) at the University of Saskatchewan, the 8th International Crop Science Congress will be held at the Prairieland Park Convention Centre in Saskatoon from June 21 – 25, 2020 (icsc2020.com). The theme of the congress will be **Food Security & Safety – Globally**, and the program will address topics from fundamental to field-based work, and will also assess

recent advances in translating fundamental research discoveries to crop improvement in the field.

The scientific program will integrate keynote, plenary talks and concurrent sessions to address topical crop research areas, ranging from functional genomics, biotechnology and molecular breeding, root architecture and rhizosphere microbiology, to agroecosystems and sustainable crop production that impact soil health under environmental stresses. In addition, a combination of position papers and discussion forums will address issues, such as strategic planning to meet future food demands, as well as agroeconomic aspects of agricultural sustainability; these sessions will be integrated with poster sessions. Finally, congress participants will be afforded opportunities to visit various prairie-related agricultural systems, including precision farming.



The congress encourages attendance of junior scientists, who will be incorporated into the scientific program through invitation to present their work (based on abstract submissions) during the concurrent oral sessions. In addition, recognition will also be made through presentation of scientific achievement awards for outstanding poster and oral presentations.

Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils 10th Session

The Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS) held its tenth working session on 13 - 17 May 2019 at FAO headquarters, Rome, Italy during the Global Symposium on Soil Erosion (GSER 19).

Within the framework of their multiple expertise - the ITPS experts provided technical and scientific guidance contributing to bring the global soil agenda for soil erosion forward. Read the [meeting report](#) and check out [presentations](#) and [photo gallery](#). Learn more about the [ITPS Panel](#). Dr. Dave Lobb currently is serving as the Canadian representative on the Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS).

[Read more](http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/intergovernmental-technical-panel-soils/en/) at <http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/intergovernmental-technical-panel-soils/en/>

Version 1.5 of the Global Soil Organic Carbon Sequestration Potential and the Global Soil Salinity Maps

Member countries are building a federated **Global Soil Information System (GloSIS)** under the framework of the Global Soil Partnership (GSP). While the spatial data infrastructure of GloSIS is being developed, GSP and member countries are working on global data products that will populate the system. An updated version of the [Global Soil Organic Carbon Map \(GSOCmap\) Version 1.5](#) with 35 improved national SOC maps has been released in June. The GSP is currently coordinating efforts to provide the necessary support to countries to produce their own national **SOC sequestration potential, soil erosion and soil salinity maps**.

Read more at <http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/pillars-action/4-information-data/en/>

Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity (GSOBI20)

FAO is hosting a **Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity (GSOBI20)** at its Headquarters in **Rome, Italy** on **10 – 12 March 2020**.



This Symposium, will be jointly organized by the **Global Soil Partnership (GSP)**, the **Intergovernmental Technical Panel on Soils (ITPS)**, the **Global Soil Biodiversity Initiative (GSBI)** and the **UN Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**. The Global Symposium on Soil Biodiversity will bring together international experts with the aim of reviewing the status of knowledge on soil biodiversity and ecosystem services, the sustainable use and conservation of soil biodiversity, and the contributions of soil organisms to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Read more at: <http://www.fao.org/global-soil-partnership/resources/highlights/detail/en/c/1183872/>

Research Scientist Position in Soil Health in Agricultural Crop Systems

Position description

The Fredericton Research and Development Centre, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC), invites applications for a Research Scientist in soil science and related research fields with specialization in nutrient cycling, greenhouse gases (nitrous oxide and carbon dioxide) and precision agriculture. The Centre, located in Fredericton, New Brunswick, conducts world-class research in the areas of enhancing the productivity and environmental performance of potato and other arable crop production systems; potato crop protection; and potato germplasm enhancement. The incumbent's research will focus on understanding and managing nutrients within agricultural landscapes to enhance soil health and productivity in croplands in Atlantic Canada.

The growing global human population requires increased agricultural productivity on a shrinking land base to meet the need for food, fibre and bioenergy. At the same time, increased climate variability is inducing greater stresses on our crop production systems. Loss of productivity due to soil degradation is a primary limitation to agricultural production in intensively managed arable cropping systems. Soil degradation makes production systems less resilient and more susceptible to climatic variation and to environmental nitrogen losses. This position will focus on the critical role of nitrogen management at the landscape scale in enhancing the resiliency and reducing the environmental footprint of agricultural production systems. The incumbent will examine the effects of soil, crop and water management practices (e.g. cropping systems, inorganic and organic fertilizer amendments, conservation tillage, water management, precision agriculture, remote and/or proximal sensing), soil properties and climatic conditions on nitrogen dynamics within the soil-plant-animal-atmosphere system with the aim of identifying management strategies to increase the efficiency of nutrient utilization, reduce nutrient losses to water and air, and sustain productivity within agricultural landscapes in the context of variable climatic conditions.

The incumbent will be part of a multidisciplinary team of soil scientists, agronomists, microbiologists, hydrogeologists, entomologists and pathologists, and will have access to state-of-the-art laboratories and research field sites. The incumbent will have the opportunity to collaborate closely with industry stakeholders in Atlantic Canada as well as academia to address soil quality and sustainability needs. Research Scientists have access to significant funding opportunities and are well supported by technical and administrative staff. Research Scientists are encouraged to seek university affiliation and co-supervise graduate students.

Requirements:

- Graduation with an acceptable doctoral degree from a recognized post-secondary institution in agronomy, soil science, natural resources, environmental science or other relevant discipline.
- Applications will be accepted from candidates enrolled in their final year, but who have not yet completed a Ph.D. program. Completion of the Ph.D. thesis must occur before the date of appointment.

Hiring of research scientists at AAFC is now being done solely by the use of an inventory. Please apply on-line at the Government GC Jobs, Research Scientist – Growing Agricultural Innovation at this website: <https://emploisfp-psjobs.cfp-psc.gc.ca/psrs-srfp/applicant/page1800?poster=1206690>

Canadian Journal of Soil Science

Editor-In-Chief Report for CSSS Annual General Meeting

Dr. M Anne Naeth
July 10, 2019

Editorial Board

Dr Newton Lupwayi completed his term as Editor-In-Chief in December 2018; we are grateful for his work, guidance and leadership with the Canadian Journal of Soil Science. Thank you to the Associate Editors that ended their terms in 2018 for their dedicated service to the journal: Drs Miles Dyck, Judith Nyiraneza, Tusheng Ren, Valerie Viaud. Thank you to the Associate Editors who renewed their time with us: Drs Woo Jung Choi, Tandra Fraser, Bobbi Helgason, Lori Phillips, Wei Zhang.

The support, professionalism and expertise provided by the Canadian Science Publishing (CSP) staff are highly appreciated. Thank you to Laurie Scott, Editorial Assistant; Tamer Elbokl, Managing Editor; Jacqueline Costigan, Scientific Publishing Editor; Melanie Slavitch, Peer Review Manager; and Judy Busnarda, Director, Publishing Operations. We gratefully acknowledge the peer reviewers and thank them for their valuable contribution to the publications of CJSS.

Congratulations to the outstanding reviewers for 2018: Dr Martin Entz, Dr Dave Morris, Dr Karen Thompson. We are grateful for their consistent and expeditious delivery of comprehensive, discerning reviews to the authors of our journal.

2019 Editorial Board

Editor-in-Chief: M Anne Naeth

Associate Editors: Nathan Basiliko, Jean-Philippe Bellenger, Asim Biswas, David Burton, Woo Jung Choi, Tandra Fraser, Claudia Goyer, Bobbi Helgason, Wei Hu, Sheng Li, Aimé Jean Messiga, David Pelster, Lori Phillips, Fereidoun Rezanezhad, Ben Thomas, Mohammad Valipour, Andrew VanderZaag, Wei Zhang, Noura Ziadi.

Journal Metrics

The 2 year impact factor has been dropping steadily after a rise in 2016; the 5 year impact factor dropped from 2017. The rank among soil science journals is dropping after being relatively steady from 2013 to 2016. However, total citations are increasing. The immediacy index is up and down; it refers to the average number of times an article is cited in the year it's published (indicates how quickly articles in a journal are cited).

Metric	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
2-year impact factor	0.949	1.085	1.590	1.210	1.382	1.000	0.912
5-year impact factor	1.633	1.934	1.930	1.427	1.337	1.269	1.059
Total citations	-	2861	-	2529	2543	2326	2158
Immediacy Index	-	0.493	-	0.071	0.300	0.400	0.136
Rank in category	31/35	26/34	22/34	23/34	20/34	23/33	23/33

Canadian Journal of Soil Science

Editor-In-Chief Report for CSSS Annual General Meeting (Con't.)

Other metrics of interest include the eigenfactor, the percent of estimated time library users spend with the journal. That of CJSS for 2017 relative to other soils journals was 25/34. The article influence score, a measure of average influence of each article in the journal over the first 5 years after publication, was 19/34. Relative to the mean score of 1.00; CJSS score of 0.527 indicates each article has below average influence. The SJR indicator, is a measure of a journal's impact, influence or prestige. CJSS is

51/140 at 0.520. The h index at 19 in 2017, puts CJSS outside the top 20 ranking in the soil sciences category. By comparison the number 20 ranked journal has an h index of 23.

Special Issues, Reviews

Special issues and reviews are of critical importance for a journal as they contribute significantly to improvements in impact factor. There were no special Issues published in 2018 and only one in progress for 2020. There was interest in a couple of special issues but the proponents were not ready to commit. Note the top downloaded article in 2018 was a review on the role of amendments in soil reclamation, published in a special issue on reclamation in 2012. The seventh most popular article downloaded in 2018 was a literature review on application of x-ray computed tomography to soil science published in 2008. The most downloaded article in 2018 that was published in 2018 was a review of preferential water flow in soil science.

Journal Statistics

There were 157 regular submissions to CJSS in 2018, up from the past at 150, 167, 137, 120, 126 for the years 2017 through 2013, respectively. These submissions resulted in 129 publications, consisting of 117 articles, 4 reviews, 8 short communications.

Average time for original submission to e-First improved in 2018. Original submission to file export was 189 days in 2018, similar to the 187 in 2017 and down from the 269 in 2016. File export to e-First was 32 days in 2018, considerably less than the 62 in 2017 or 57 on 2016.

Decision rates are not changing much since 2013. There is a much larger portion of submissions rejected than accepted.

Metric %	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013
Accept Rate	38	40	42	50	32	36	39
Reject Rate	62	60	58	50	68	64	61
Reject Without Review	15	29	35	26	39	40	30

Total full text downloads increased by 41,085 or 23% in 2018 over 2017. Total country distribution changed for the following countries relative to 2017: United States increased by 6%, India increased by 1%, China decreased by 7%, France decreased by 4%, United Kingdom decreased by 1%, Canada decreased by 1%, Germany decreased by 1%. Access to the journal was from 150 countries; USA 22%, Canada 12%, China 9%, India 7%, German 2%, Australia 2%, Brazil 2%, Philippines 2%, France 2%, South Africa 2%, Indonesia 1% and other countries combined 35%.

The main reasons for rejection without review were flaws in the experimental design, presented data were insufficient to support conclusions, lack of relevance to the journal. Of the papers sent for review, the main reasons for rejection by Associate Editors were lack of novelty or insufficient improvement of a manuscript based on peer review comments.



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