



CSSS Soil Science Education Committee

2023 CSSS Annual Meeting, Truro, NS

Tuesday, June 27, 2023 11:30 am to 12:30 pm

Committee Co-chairs: M. Krzic, A. Diochon, T. Yates

Meeting agenda:

1. Land Acknowledgement – T. Yates
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Committee Report – A. Diochon
4. Ideas on new initiatives
5. Ideas on Soil Education Session theme CSSS 2024
6. Any Other Business
7. Meeting Adjournment

Meeting notes

Meeting called to order at 1200 AST

Tom opened the meeting with a land acknowledgement and explained how the committee has operated in the past (e.g., meet at annual meeting where we figure out projects and go from there). He reviewed the agenda and asked if there were any additions to the agenda. There were none.

Amanda shared the committee report for the AGM.

Tom asked for ideas for new initiatives and ideas for the committee.

Hida Manns brought forward news of a students lead creation of a textbook for Organic Agriculture. This was funded through the University of Guelph and they had a professional editor to help the students. It's a living textbook and available online, open access. She is



looking for reviewers and wanted to share that it exists. She also mentioned a need for a textbook in Sustainable Water Management.

Konstantine raised the issue of a pedology field school. Would it be led by the Pedology or Education Committee? He sees a big need for pedology training from the professional side. This will be discussed at Richard Heck's session tomorrow, but it was agreed that it would likely need to be lead by post-secondary institutions. USask and UGuelph have pedology field schools already.

Richard Heck raised the issue on hands-on training and the status of labs in courses. He is concerned about the capacity to train students in subdisciplines of soil science. He's been reflecting on the capacity to train across the country. He wasn't sure about an action item.

Adrian Unc asked about interest in national curriculum in soil science. Could we create a repository within the society that would provide resources for developing courses? Richard Heck mentioned that Dawn will provide an overview tomorrow about what is required for certification i.e., knowledge areas. Tom suggested that Adrian could bring forward a vision for a national curriculum at the next meeting as a talk.

Konstantine brought up the idea of generational change in soil science (perceptions, expectations, etc.). Angela Bedard-Haughn brought up issue of managing expectations and the difference between what students/recent grads and employers expect i.e., this is what students are thinking they'll be doing versus what employers want (the reality).

Jessica Gemella raised teaching perspectives in addition to student perspectives. Also sharing teaching practises and open education resources and collaboration skills.

Richard Heck mentioned a survey around these ideas. Maren suggested bringing in the employer's perspective (what is needed, what they are expecting (attitudes and expectations)).

Chantal Chizen chimed in with professional development for early career researchers and recent grads and the possibility of workshops.

Kate Congreves suggested we look at if and in what way the 17 goals of sustainability are included in our teaching. This could be a soil education session topic, or perhaps a research cluster.

Adjourned at 1250.

Attendees

Jessica Gemella

Angela Bedard Haugh

M Derek MacKenzie



Maxime Pare

Anthony Pelletier

Adam Gillespie

Rich Farrell

Konstantine Dlusskiy

M Anne Naeth

David Chanasyk

Catlan Dallaire

Chantel Chizen

Hida Manns

Keith Reid

Asim Biswas

Richard Heck

Tegbaru Gobezie

Andres Jimenez

Bobbi Helgason

Michael Preston

Laura Van Eerd

Diane Knight

Kate Congreves

Tom Bruulsma

Maren Oelbermann and two students

Adrian Unc

Tom Yates

Amanda Diochon