



CSSS Newsletter

February 2002

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

In May 18-21, 2002, the CSSS will hold a joint scientific meeting in Banff with the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU). As this is our annual CSSS meeting, I would take this opportunity to encourage you to attend. The joint scientific meeting allows our society to showcase present research in Soil Science to other earth scientists. The organizing committee have planned an excellent program and a special theme of the meeting is 'Carbon Cycling in Earth Systems', with emphasis on a wide range of topics. A special joint CSSS/CGU session will be held to address methods in subsurface hydrology. Costs for the meeting are very reasonable. I encourage you to consult the CSSS Web Page (www.csss.ca) for details and to register early.

CSSS is committed to maintaining and promoting a high profile for Soil Science. The mid-1990's was a difficult time for CSSS, both the Federal Government program review and loss of independent Soil Science departments at universities, resulted in a decline in membership. The above downsizing saw the near loss of soil survey activity in Canada. In 1980, 25 per cent of CSSS members were involved in soil survey. However, this is now all history. The last few years has been a 'rebuilding phase' for the society. CSSS has established links with other societies and made contacts with Soil Scientists working in non-agricultural areas. Today our membership remains steady (mean total of 330 for the last four years) and has the potential to grow, especially as Council in its ongoing commitment to students has, beginning in 2002, removed membership fees for students. In addition, thanks to the endeavours of our past and present Treasurer, the financial status of our society is strong.

An ongoing concern for CSSS, and most scientific societies, is to encourage members to run for office within Council. To provide a more open system, Council has approved the removal of the East/West voting pattern for CSSS President. This will provide a greater challenge and opportunity for all members to consider playing a more active role. The original East/West voting pattern was probably enacted to off-set the relatively lower membership west of Ontario. In 1960, for example, about 40 per cent of CSSS members resided west of Ontario, while at present (2000) the membership is more evenly spread. The above changes will require ratification by the whole membership as they involve a change in our Rules and Bylaws. In the near future a mailed ballot will be sent to all members to allow consideration of the proposed changes.

The CSSS Web Page is becoming a dominant means of communication within the society. The present Web Page has had a chequered history and, based on the comments and opinions of many, is in need of improvement. This month, Council approved a major design of the web site. A new site is presently being constructed that will be more user friendly and better high-light society activities, and also allow easy access to information on potential travel and student awards, and membership application. The new design will also provide the ability for a French language site to be developed over time.

There is at present great opportunity for CSSS members to promote Soil Science within Canada and beyond. The CSSS provides a framework to advance Soil Science by way of scientific meetings, publication of Soil Science books and manuals, participation in various national and international projects, and involvement with the society. Please feel free to let me or any member of Council know your advice or comments on both present and future developments in CSSS. Your comments will be much appreciated.

As President, I hope to see many of you at CSSS 2002 in Banff.

Martin Carter

STUDENT NEWS

GETTING READY FOR BANFF: Our annual meeting is fast approaching. The deadlines for the student awards have come and gone. Good luck to all that applied. If you have no research to present yet, I highly recommend attending. It's a great opportunity for networking and getting to know the people in your field across Canada.

STUDENT UPDATES: I would like to congratulate Chris Denys of the University of Guelph for his recent election as the Ontario Agricultural College Graduate Council President. In the last newsletter I asked for any short summaries from our student members. Sola Ajiboye from the University of Manitoba is researching a project entitled, "Effect of Biosolids and Manures on Phosphorous (P) Sorption and Advective Transport in Soils." The overall objective of his research will be to determine the fate of P in municipal biosolids, hog and cattle manures in soils. Characterization of P forms in the city of Winnipeg biosolids, hog and cattle manures followed by the determination of their effect on P retention characteristics of soils using equilibrium and kinetic approaches will be carried out. He received his undergraduate degree from Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife, Nigeria (2000) and is currently working under Dr. Wole Akinremi. Good luck with your research Sola.

If anyone else would like to showcase their research, please forward your short summaries to me. Enjoy your semester and see you in Banff.

Vimy Glass

CSSS - Online

See the CSSS web site homepage:

<http://www.csss.ca>

for Newsletters, Council, Business Office, Annual Report, Events Page, Careers, Student, CSSS '02, important Links, Information and details for application for CSSS Awards and CSSS Travel Awards and much more.

Looking for a Job in Soil Science?

The Department of Soil Science, University of Manitoba invites applications for a 30-month term position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in soil microbiology. Applications, including curriculum vitae, transcripts, statement of teaching philosophy and research interests, reprints of recent publications and addresses (including telephone numbers, fax numbers, and e-mail addresses) of three references should be sent to:

Dr. R.R. Simard, Head
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University of Manitoba
Winnipeg, Manitoba
Canada R3T 2N2
Phone: (204) 474-9155
Fax: (204) 474-7642
Email: simardrr@ms.umanitoba.ca.

For information on the Department of Soil Science and the University of Manitoba, visit the web site at www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/afs/soil_science.

Soil and Environmental Science Dictionary

The Soil and Environmental Science Dictionary published by CRC Press in conjunction with the Canadian Society of Soil Science is available to CSSS members at a 50% discount off the price (\$69.95 USD). Members can order the dictionary directly from CRC Press (see details below). To ensure they receive the discount CSSS members will need to mention the promotional code 281BC no matter what method they use to order the book.

CRC Press
2000 N.W. Corporate Blvd.
Boca Raton, Florida 33431-9868
Tel: 1 800-272-7737
Fax: 1 800-374-3401
email: orders@crcpress.com

Soil Science Matters

Soils are important to humankind because they serve as the transformer, regulator, buffer, and filter of water, nutrients, and other dissolved and dispersed compounds within the biosphere. Soil functions as a focal and connecting link between the biogeochemical cycles of the Earth and the dynamic atmospheric sys-

CSSS Council

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CSSS - Business Office

The CSSS Business Office: membership concerns, updated CSSS membership list, CJSS journal subscriptions, society publications. Contact:

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Email: sheppards@ecomatters.com.

CSSS 2001 a Great Success

The CSSS Meeting in Guelph last August was a great event. A record number of student presentations were made and important links established with other societies. In addition, CSSS 2001 generated a wonderful \$5K for the society, which will help fund future events and travel awards. Many thanks to the many organizers at Guelph and elsewhere for this service to Soil Science.

Montréal 2003

As agreed at the Business meeting in Guelph, the 2003 CSSS meeting will be held in Montréal in August. We will meet jointly with the Canadian Society of Agronomy and the 4th International Conference on Mycorrhiza. Preparation is already well underway. So plan to participate in beautiful and lively summertime Montréal.

The Calendar - Forthcoming Meetings

April 21-24, 2002

Agricultural Nutrients and their Impact on Rural Water Quality

AIC Foundation conference

Waterloo, Ontario.

www.aic.ca/new

May 18-21, 2002

CSSS Annual Conference jointly with the Canadian Geophysical Union (CGU)

Banff, Alberta

www.csss.ca

June 10-13, 2002

13th International Symposium of the International Scientific Center of Fertilizers (CIEC)

Tokat, Turkey

<http://ozel.gop.edu.tr/ciec2002>

June 20-22

Soil and Environmental Chemistry Workshop

AOAC International

Pacific Northwest Regional Section Annual Meeting

Tacoma WA

ykalra@nrca.gc.ca

<http://www.aoacpacnw.com>

June 23-28, 2002

International Conference on Computational Methods in Water Resources

Delft, The Netherlands

<http://cmwr2002.citg.tudelft.nl>

July 6-10, 2002

Advances in Soil Structure Research. International Conference and Workshop, Brudenell River Resort, Prince Edward Island.

Email: carterm@em.agr.ca

August 14-20, 2002

17th World Congress of Soil Science, Bangkok, Thailand. T: 662 940 5787; Fax: 662 940 5788;

o.sfst@nontri.ku.ac.th

<http://www.17wcss.ku.ac.th>

August 18-21, 2002

North American Blueberry Research and Extension Workers Conference (NABREW)

Halifax, NS

<http://www.nsac.ns.ca/conferences/nabrew/>

September 3-6, 2002

International Conference on Soils under Global Change - a Challenge for the 21st Century

Bucarest, Romania

Tel +40 1 224 1790; Fax +40 1 222 5979

e-mail r.enache@icpa.ro

October 10-12, 2002

Soil Erosion Patterns: Evolution, Spatio-temporal Dynamics and Connectivity

Muncheberg, Germany

khelming@zalf.de

August 10-13, 2003

CSSS Annual Meeting joint with the Canadian Society of Agronomy and the 4th International Conference on Mycorrhiza

Montréal, Québec

www.congresbcu.com/icom4

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