



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members,

It has been a busy few months in the CSSS as we prepare for the upcoming Annual General Meeting in Guelph (August 5 to 7, 2009). We are excited to be joint participants with the CSA and CSAFM and look forward to seeing many of you in attendance this year. The theme this year is "Sciences for Sustainability: Soil, Agronomy, and Atmosphere" which will provide an excellent forum to discuss the many issues we face in agriculture. The Society is at a transition point and there are many important items up for discussion at this year's AGM.

The revitalization process has begun and an updated website being developed under Dr. Maja Krzic's guidance will hopefully be unveiled at the AGM. The new Soils of Canada website is now online and can be linked to from the CSSS main page. The growth and development of this website depends on contributions of photos, information, and time from members – please see how you can best help. Additional revitalization projects are being discussed and all new ideas are welcome! Despite these troubled economic times, the Society is doing well financially which allows us to continue providing student travel awards and prizes for student presentations.

The Council continues to work on finding ways to move the Society forward in a positive manner. An initiative headed by Dr. J. Miller to gather photographs of all CSSS fellows is underway and the results will soon be posted on the website. These small but meaningful projects are simple ways to recognize and promote our profession. We occasionally receive feedback from members and I encourage you to send us your ideas, concerns, and suggestions at any time.

We look forward to seeing you at the AGM and for your continued support.

Regards,

Gordon W. Price

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**Pedology Subcommittee of the
Canadian Society of Soil Science**

**Update
May 2009**

Prepared by Dan Pennock

The Soils of Canada project is an initiative of the Canadian Society of Soil Science and is administered by the Pedology Subcommittee of the CSSS. The project has three main goals:

Development of a Soils of Canada website. The website was developed by Angela Bedard-Haughn and Dan Pennock (U. of S.).

Completion by pedologists of review articles for each order in the Canadian System of Soil Classification to be published in a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Soil Science (timelines discussed below).

Compilation, review, approval, and implementation of changes to the Canadian System of Soil Classification. This is a long-term objective, and no specific deadline exists for it.

Taken together, the website and special issue will provide a readily accessible source of educational materials for teaching of pedology at the post-secondary level. Together they will constitute a virtual textbook for the study of Canadian soils. They will also allow a state-of-the-art summary of our understanding of the genesis of each Order that can guide future researchers in this area.

2009 CSSS Student Travel Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| 1. Amy Sangster | University of Saskatchewan |
| 2. Adam Gillespie | University of Saskatchewan |
| 3. Gwendolyn Donohoe | University of Manitoba |
| 4. Oscar Ivan Molina | University of Manitoba |
| 5. Rachel Strivelli | University of British Columbia |
| 6. Christian Evans | University of British Columbia |
| 7. Henry Chau | University of Saskatchewan |
| 8. Asim Biswas | University of Saskatchewan |
| 9. Xianglan Li | Chinese Academy of Science |
| 10. Messiga Aimé Jean | Laval University |
| 11. Caroline Halde | Nova Scotia Agricultural College |
| 12. Lesley Dampier | University of Northern British Columbia |

CJSS Special Issue on the Soils of Canada

The CJSS Special Issue will be edited by Dan Pennock, Lito Arocena (UNBC), and Scott Smith (AAFC) working with CJSS Special Issues Editor Joann Whalen. The editors will be responsible for selection of the lead authors and for ensuring the timely progress of each stage.

Each review article has a lead author who has agreed to take on the responsibility of producing the article. They may act as a single author or draw together a group of authors to participate on the manuscript.

Table 1: Orders (or title), Lead Authors and Co-authors

Title	Lead Author	Co-Authors	Email Addresses
Gleysolic	Angela Bedard-Haughn, (U. of Saskatchewan)		angela.bedard-haughn@usask.ca
Organic	TBA		
Cryosolic	Scott Smith (AAFC) Charles Tarnocai (AAFC)		scott.smith@agr.gc.ca Charles.Tarnocai@AGR.GC.CA
Regosolic	Bert VandenBygaart (AAFC)		Bert.VandenBygaart@AGR.GC.CA
Podzolic	Paul Sanborn (UNBC)	Luc Lamontagne (AAFC) William Hendershot (McGill)	sanborn@unbc.ca Luc.Lamontagne@AGR.GC.CA william.hendershot@mcgill.ca
Brunisolic	Scott Smith (AAFC)		scott.smith@agr.gc.ca
Luvisolic	Graeme Spiers (Mirarco)		gspiers@mirarco.org
Vertisolic	J.A. (Tony) Brierley	H.B. Stonehouse	tony.brierley@gov.ab.ca
Chernozemic	Dan Pennock (U. of S.) Darwin Anderson (U. of S)		dan.pennock@usask.ca darwin.anderson@usask.ca
Vertisolic and Saline	Jim Miller (AAFC)	Warren Eilers Tony Brierley	Jim.Miller@AGR.GC.CA Warren.Eilers@AGR.GC.CA
Soil Landscapes of Canada	Wally Fraser (AAFC)		walter.fraser@agr.gc.ca
Tillage Translocation and Soil Formation	David Lobb (U. of M.)	Dan Pennock (U. of S.)	lobbda@ms.umanitoba.ca

Objectives and Structure of the Review Articles

The objective of each article is to review the genesis of the specified order, to relate the genesis to the hierarchical levels in the Canadian System of Soil Classification, and to assess the impact of human activity on soils of this order. The distribution of each order on the Canadian landscape is also a major subject of the article.

The articles will provide the text to accompany the visual images on the Soils of Canada website. Although the articles must stand alone in terms of content, as an educational medium they will be used in conjunction with the Soils of Canada site. Examples of pedon(s) and their morphological, micromorphological, physical, chemical, biological properties will be provided on the Soils of Canada web site as modal pedons for educational, research and planning purposes.

Soils of Canada Website Now Available

On behalf of the Pedology Subcommittee of the Canadian Society of Soil Science we are very pleased to announce that the new Soils of Canada website is open for business at <http://www.soilsofcanada.ca/>. Development of the site was funded by grants from the Capling Fund at the University of Saskatchewan and from the Canadian Society of Soil Science. The grant from the CSSS allowed us to add more functionality through the Image Gallery and the Forum. The site includes a new Soils of Canada map that was prepared by Arnie Waddell of the Land Resource Unit in Winnipeg and provided to us by Tony Brierley of AAFC in Edmonton.

Our goal for the site was to develop a resource that would be useful for the entire soil science community in Canada but with a special emphasis on content appropriate for a post-secondary course in soil genesis and classification. The content of the website will be complemented by a special issue of the Canadian Journal of Soil Science on the Soils of Canada, which is currently under way and will (we hope) be completed by summer or fall of 2010. Between these two resources we hope that pedologists at every experience level will have ready access to up-to-date content on Canadian soils.

The site includes two avenues for the soil science community to participate in providing content. The Image Gallery allows users to upload photos on to the site after providing some basic information about the type of soil and location for users. You also have the option of associating your name with the photo. We hope that we will be able to amass a rich array of photos for use by the soil science community in Canada. Thus far we have added a great range of photos amassed by our colleague Darwin Anderson during his illustrious career.

The second venue for members to participate is the Forum. The Forum allows discussion groups to be set up by users for exchanging information about specific topics of interest to pedologists in Canada. At the Annual Meeting in Prince George we proposed setting up discussion groups on human-made soils, improving the organic-layer classification systems for forest soils, ambiguities in the classification of solute-depositional soils, and biogenic parent materials in soils. We hope that these fora will allow us to identify and propose solutions for current problems with the Canadian System of Soil Classification as we move towards a revision of the system within the next five years

Instructions on how to access the forum can be found at <http://www.soilsofcanada.ca/forum/index.php>.

We will continue to add visual content to the pages on each Order and to revise the content of the pages. When you submit material bear in mind that this is a volunteer effort and hence there may be a delay between your submission of content and our response to it. Once we work out some of the bugs we plan to broaden the group with content control on the site so that we make it a more inclusive (and broadly supported) site.

If you are interested in contributing to the overall Soils of Canada project please consider joining the Pedology Subcommittee of the Canadian Society of Soil Science by contacting any of the individuals listed below. Membership is open to anyone with an interest in pedology. As well, please consider showing your support for soil science in Canada by joining the Canadian Society of Soil Science at <http://www.csss.ca/>. The CSSS provides overall support for the Pedology Subcommittee and its work.

For more information on the website, the Soils of Canada project, or membership on the Pedology Subcommittee please contact:

- Dan Pennock (Co-chair), Soil Science, U. of Saskatchewan (dan.pennock@usask.ca)
- Scott Smith (Co-chair), AAFC, Summerland (scott.smith@agr.gc.ca)
- Angela Bedard-Haughn (Secretary and Website Coordinator), Soil Science, U. of Saskatchewan (angela.bedard-haughn@usask.ca)

News from the *Canadian Journal of Soil Science*

Thank you

A special thanks goes to **Frank Larney** (past *CJSS* Editor) and **Denis Angers** (past *CJSS* Special Issues Editor) for their past service and stewardship of the *CJSS*. They have set a high standard and the *CJSS* will benefit from their efforts for many years to come.

Special Issues/Sections

Joann Whalen is our new Special Issues Editor. Our first Special Issue was in 2001, another followed in 2003, and since 2005 we have published one per year. They are being increasingly recognized as valuable contributions to the Canadian and international soils literature. Our next Special Section *Frozen Soils* (Guest Editors: Suzanne Allaire & Pieter Groenevelt) is scheduled for publication later this year. There are several Special Issues/Sections under development, including *Flow and transport processes in layered soils* (Guest Editors: Bing Si, Myles Dyck and Gary Parkin) and *Soils of Canada* (Guest Editors: Dan Pennock, Lito Arocena and Scott Smith). We welcome your ideas for other special issues/sections that highlight current research of interest to soil scientists in Canada and abroad.

Associate Editors

I am thankful for the continued commitment of all of our Associate Editors. Farewell and thank you to Xiying Hao (AAFC, Lethbridge), Mike Grevers (U of Saskatchewan), Ed Gregorich (AAFC, Ottawa) who ended their terms at the end of 2008. We also welcome new Associate Editors David Burton (NSAC, Truro), Bing Si (U of Saskatchewan), Steven Siciliano (U of Saskatchewan), Annemieke Farenhorst (U of Manitoba), and Claudia Wagner-Riddle (U of Guelph). Thanks also to Scott Chang (U of Alberta), Dennis Curtin (CFR, New Zealand), Dan Reynolds (AAFC, Harrow) for continuing for a second term.

Dan Reynolds has also started a 2 yr appointment as a *CJSS* representative to the Scientific Journals Committee which oversees the policies/procedures for the *CJSS*, the *Can. J. Plant Science*, and the *Can. J. Animal Science*.

New CJSS web site

The *CJSS* has a new and improved web site. The new URL is <http://pubservices.nrc-cnrc.ca/cjss>

New Submissions

New manuscript submissions are the lifeblood of the journal. Why not make *CJSS* your #1 choice when submitting your next manuscript? Canvass your colleagues to do likewise. Your continued support will ensure that *CJSS* stays vibrant.

Gary Kachanoski

Editor, *CJSS* (<http://pubservices.nrc-cnrc.ca/cjss>)

(gary.kachanoski@ualberta.ca)

University of Alberta.

Transfers and Transformations: Our Evolving Biosphere
CSSS 2010 Annual Meeting
Saskatoon Saskatchewan
June 20 to 24, 2010

Preliminary CSSS Treasurers' Report

Don Flaten (Treasurer 2004-2008) and Paul Bullock (Treasurer 2009-)

The transition between the outgoing and incoming Treasurer has gone smoothly. A full financial statement and analysis to the end of 2008 has been drafted by outgoing Treasurer, Don Flaten. This will be reviewed by CSSS Executive and will be presented to the membership by incoming Treasurer, Paul Bullock, during the AGM in Guelph. A preliminary overview of the CSSS financial situation is provided below.

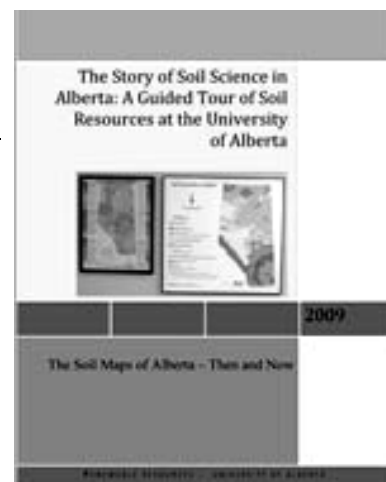
CSSS finances remain healthy, primarily because of substantial income from royalties paid on CSSS book publications and an increasingly conservative investment strategy for the CSSS Trust Funds. Income in 2008 was lower than in 2007 because CSSS received nearly \$20,000 in net income from three financially successful meetings held in previous years, compared to no income received from the 2008 CSSS annual meeting. Trust fund income paid directly into the CSSS operating account was greater than in 2007 and 2006, primarily due to strong sales of the new edition of Soil Sampling and Methods of Soil Analysis. Expenses in 2008 were modest and similar to or lower than in 2007. Income exceeded expenses in 2008, due in large part to income from the new soil research methods book which more than offset the repayable advance paid to the organizers of the 2009 AGM in Guelph. It should be noted, however, that without the extraordinary high income from publications, the CSSS operating account would have a small deficit.

Trust Fund equity, after deducting expenses, increased 3.8%, a reasonable rate of return that exceeded the rate of inflation. In addition to the growth in equity due to strong sales of the new soils methods book, another large influence was the increasingly conservative investment strategy, moving away from equities and into more secure investments over the last two years. As a result, the CSSS Trust was essentially unaffected by the dramatic decline in equity markets during the fall of 2008.

It is expected that a balanced budget will be proposed for 2010 with income at levels greater than in historical years due to the membership fee increase approved at the 2008 AGM in Prince George. This increase was endorsed to address concerns about the long term sustainability of maintaining and improving the services of the CSSS and to ensure that the society would not be reliant on fortuitous income from conferences and book sales for normal operating expenses. This increase in membership fees was incorporated into the budget approved for 2009. Given its recent financial success, the trust fund is expected to reassume its traditional role of paying for awards, relieving some pressure recently absorbed by the operating account for maintaining these awards.

Soil Monolith Collections at the University of Alberta

The Soil Monolith Collections and Displays have been recently upgraded to a museum standard at the University of Alberta. A colorful brochure entitled, "The Story of Soil Science in Alberta: A Guided Tour of Soil Resources at the University of Alberta" by Dr. Noorallah Juma and Dr. Jim Robertson, Professor Emeriti and Past Curators of Soil Monolith Collections, provides a complete list of items in the collections. Most of the collections are displayed in the hallways of the second, third and fourth floors of the Earth Sciences Building, University of Alberta North Campus. This is a great place to see 'Soil Body Worlds'! There is no fee to see these collections! Details are available at on the following page: <http://www.ales.ualberta.ca/rr/soilmonoliths.cfm>.





Sciences for Sustainability Soil, Agronomy and Atmosphere

Joint meeting of the Canadian Society of Agronomy,
Canadian Society of Soil Science and
Canadian Society of Agricultural and Forest Meteorology

Program Highlights

Plenary Symposium – 5 August

The role of agrometeorology in improving crop management

Dr. Rob Gordon, Dean, Ontario Agricultural College

Sustainable plant production systems for the world of 2050

Dr. Dan Pennock, Professor, University of Saskatchewan

Farming systems for greenhouse gas mitigation

Dr. Claudia Wagner-Riddle, Professor, University of Guelph

Innovation's emotional road

Dr. Ron DePauw, Cereal Breeding Team Head, SPARC, Agriculture and Agri-food Canada

Canadian Society of Agronomy Symposium – 6 August

Precision designs for multifunctional grasses

Dr. Mike Humphreys, Team Leader/Principal Investigator, Aberystwyth University, Wales, UK

Plant genetic improvement strategies to enhance nutrient and water use efficiency

Dr. Jonathan Lynch, Professor, The Pennsylvania State University, USA

Improving crop water use efficiency – what are the limits?

Dr. Hugh Earl, Associate Professor, University of Guelph

Statistics Symposium – 7 August

Linear-bilinear model analysis of agricultural experiments: when interactions are important

Dr. Jose Crossa, Head of Biometrics and Statistics, CIMMYT

Mixed-model analysis of agricultural experiments: when some effects are random

Dr. Rong-Cai Yang, Professor, University of Alberta

Bayesian analysis of agricultural experiments: when everything is random

Dr. Shizhong Xu, Professor of Genetics, University of California Riverside

And more... oral and poster sessions, field tours, student activities...

For abstract submission, registration and more information see:

<http://www.Guelph09.ca>

Upcoming Conferences

11th International Symposium on Soil and Plant Analysis, Santa Rosa, CA, USA. July 21-25. <http://www.spcouncil.com/symposium.htm>);

September 13-15 2009

The 5th Canadian Residuals and Biosolids Conference. WEAO. Niagara Falls. http://www.weao.org/events/pdf/Current/5RandB/R&B_Conf_2nd_Call_for_abstracts.pdf

November 1-5, 2009. ASA-CSSA-SSSA annual meeting, Pittsburgh, PA. <https://www.acsmeetings.org/>

November 5-7, 2009. IPI-OUAT-IPNI International symposium on potassium role and benefits in improving nutrient management for food production, quality and reduced environmental damage, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar, Orissa, India. Contact Dr. D. Jena, Organizing Secretary, Department of Soil Science and Agricultural Chemistry, Orissa University of Agriculture and Technology, Bhubaneswar - 751003, Orissa, India. Email: dinabandhu_jena@yahoo.com; www.ipipotash.org; www.ipni.net.

December 17-19, 2009. International Conference on Food Security and Environmental Sustainability, Kharagpur, West Bengal, India. Further information: <http://www.agri.iitkgp.ernet.in/fses2009/index.html>; Email : fses2009@gmail.com; bsdas@agfe.iitkgp.ernet.in.

February 7-10, 2010, 4th International Conference on Plants & Environmental Pollution (ICPEP-4), Lucknow, India.

Contact: The Organizing Secretaries (ICPEP-4), International Society of Environmental Botanists, National Botanical Research Institute, Rana Pratap Marg, Lucknow-226001, India. Email: isebnbrilko@sify.com. Website: <http://isebindia.com>

August, 1-6, 2010, 19th World Congress of Soil Science, Brisbane, Australia. <http://www.ccm.com.au/soil/>

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