



**Crop Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Tuesday, May 21, 2024 2:00-3:15pm (Central)**

President Kim Garland-Campbell called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

President Kim Garland-Campbell, USDA-ARS  
Past President Seth Murray, Texas A&M  
President-Elect Mark Sorrells, Cornell  
C-1 Melanie Bayles, Oklahoma State Univ.  
C-5 Cale Bigelow, Purdue  
C-6 John Guretzky, Univ. of Nebraska  
C-7 Jianming Yu, Iowa State Univ.  
C-8 Dipak Santra, Univ. of Nebraska  
C-9 Mary Guttieri, USDA-ARS  
DEI-At-Large Geoffrey Koch, Petrichor Consulting  
Industry Leah Brilman, DLF  
Grad Student Tina Sullivan, Utah State Univ.

Ex-Officio Board Members without Vote:

CEO Jim Cudahy; ASF Chair Stella Salvo, Bayer  
CropScience; Incoming President-Elect Felix Fritschi,  
University of Missouri

Unable to attend:

B&F Chair Stephen Malone, USDA-AMS-S&T-SRTD  
C-2 John Snider, University of Georgia-Tifton  
C-3 Ignacio Ciampitti, Kansas State Univ.  
C-4 Nicole Anderson, Oregon State Univ.  
Editor-in-Chief Bingru Huang, Rutgers  
Program Planning Officer: Nithya Rajan, Texas A&M

Also attending:

Susan Dearing-Bond, Development Director  
Dawn Gibas, Certifications Director  
Linda Dolezalek, Interim Finance Director  
Ian Popkewitz, IT & Operations Director  
Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer  
Sara Uttech, Governance Director  
Matt Wascavage, Publications Director  
Susan Varghese, People & Culture Director

C003 CSSA Board of Directors

1. The meeting opened with a discussion of happiness/gratitude/mental health articles, selected by John Guretzky:
  - <https://jamesclear.com/saying-no>
  - <https://psyche.co/guides/how-to-appreciate-what-you-have-even-when-it-is-not-perfect>
  - [www.inc-aus.com/jeff-haden/you-can-say-yes-to-any-of-these-5-questions-youll-feel-more-fulfilled-satisfied-less-stressed.html](http://www.inc-aus.com/jeff-haden/you-can-say-yes-to-any-of-these-5-questions-youll-feel-more-fulfilled-satisfied-less-stressed.html)

<b>Facilitators to Lead Topic/Article Selection &amp; Discussion</b>	
February Early Career Members: Kim Garland-Campbell	July: Melanie Bayles
March Science Communications: Geoffrey Koch	August: Tina Sullivan
April Social Media Misinformation: Jim Cudahy	September: John Snider
May Happiness/Gratitude/Mental Health: John Guretzky	October: Cale Bigelow
June: Seth Murray	December: Mary Guttieri

2. ACTION: The following Consent Agenda items were approved:
  - May 21, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
  - April 16, 2024 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
3. Special welcome to Incoming President-Elect Felix Fritschi, University of Missouri.
4. CEO Jim Cudahy provided a Headquarters update:
  - Site visit to 2024 Annual Meeting location in San Antonio, TX with new Meetings staff
  - NC-FAR Update on the Farm Bill
  - Progress on the website redesign project: focusing on organizing content and improving the overall user experience. The aim is to make the website more integrated and focused on members and prospective members
  - New Marketing Department's [Membership Dashboard](#) (click on CSSA logo for CSSA data)
5. Announcements to promote CSSA to colleagues/students with Discussion Board Posts:
  - *The Plant Genome* webinar on May 28, 10:00am (Central): [What plant breeding may \(and may not\) look like in 2050?](#)

- [ASA Virtual Sustainable Agronomy Conference](#) - free two-hour live online sessions each week with up to 8 CEUs: July 10, 17, 24, 31
- ASF Travel Grants due July 25: [www.crops.org/awards](http://www.crops.org/awards) - *encourage students to participate:*
  - [Advancing Pedology Award](#)
  - [Caregiver Travel Award](#)
  - [Graduate Student Travel Award](#)
  - [Hans Jenny Soil Field Trip Award](#)
  - [Henry Lin Travel Grant](#)
  - [Indian Univ. Grad Student Award](#)

### C211 Budget & Finance Committee

Interim Director of Finance Linda Dolezalek reported on the following:

- 2024 First Quarter CSSA Financials
- 2023 Audit Letter, Financials and report of B&F Committee Meeting with Auditor

### ACS321.2 Journals Peer Review Advisory Committee

Director Matt Wascavage provided a Publications Update:

- The Decode 6 website redesign <https://decode6.org/> will be complete in the next 6-8 weeks. The team, led by Richard Easby and Marie Johnson, is focusing on quality content rather than quantity. They are also leveraging content sponsored by Dairy Management Inc. to attract other groups in crops and farming practices. The team is targeting organizations to promote Decode 6 with their members. They are developing content for use in CEUs for certified professionals.
- Call for Editors, apply by June 1 by contacting President identified at links below for info:
  - ASA & CSSA: [Crop, Forage & Turfgrass Management Editor](#)
  - ASA-CSSA-SSSA: [Agricultural & Environmental Letters Editor](#)
  - CSSA: [Journal of Plant Registrations Editor](#)
  - SSSA: [Editor-in-Chief](#)
- Wiley contract information is contained in the document distributed

### ACS732 Program Planning Committee

President-Elect Mark Sorrells reported on the Annual Meeting Nov. 10-13 in San Antonio, TX:

- CSSA Klepper Plenary Lecture & Breakfast Tuesday morning Nov. 12: Author Daniel Stone, "The Food Explorer: The True Adventures of the Globe-Trotting Botanist Who Transformed What America Eats"
- Governance Director Sara Uttech requested input on when to hold CSSA Board Meeting, will look at Sunday availability
- Call for Plenary/Keynote for 2026 Annual Meeting: Contact Incoming President-Elect Felix Fritschi
- Next Meeting Tuesday June 18, 2:00-3:15pm Central & Agenda Preview:
  - Discussion Topic – Seth Murray
  - CSSA Awards & Fellows, CSSA Presidential Award
  - CSSA Hybrid Summer Board Meeting in Madison Aug. 1-2:
    - RSVP on Calendar Invite: In Person? Accept; Virtual? Tentative; Can't Attend? Decline
    - July 31 – Arrive anytime, will schedule optional informal dinner meet up
    - Aug. 1 – All day board meeting at headquarters in Madison: 5585 Guilford Road
    - Aug. 2 – Half day board meeting until noonish, plan travel home in afternoon
      - *Book your own travel; we reserve hotel to be direct billed (location TBD)*
      - *Travel expenses reimbursed with receipts and Travel Reimbursement Form*
      - *Agenda/Tour ideas to Kim Garland-Campbell, Jim Cudahy, Sara Uttech*

Consensus to Adjourn.