



**Crop Science Society of America Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, Aug. 30, 2023 10:00-11:15am (Central)**

CSSA President Seth Murray called the meeting to order.

Board members present:

President: Seth Murray, Texas A&M (2023)
Past President: Marilyn Warburton, USDA-ARS (2023)
President-Elect: Kim Garland-Campbell, USDA-ARS (2023)
C-1: Melanie Bayles, Oklahoma State Univ. (2025)
C-2: Felix Fritschi, Univ. of Missouri (2023)
C-4: Nicole Anderson, Oregon State Univ. (2025)
C-6: John Guretzky, Univ. of Nebraska (2024)
C-7: Jianming Yu, Iowa State Univ. (2024)
C-8: Dipak Santra, Univ. of Nebraska (2025)
C-9: Mary Guttieri, USDA-ARS (2025)
Industry Rep.: Leah Brilman, DLF Pickseed (2025)
Ex-officio: CEO Jim Cudahy; Incoming President-Elect Mark Sorrells, Cornell (2023); Program Planning Officer Nithya

Rajan, Texas A&M (2023); B&F Chair: Steve Malone, USDA-AMS-S&T-SRTD (2025)

Unable to attend:

C-3: Ignacio Ciampitti, Kansas State Univ. (2024)
C-5: Cale Bigelow, Purdue (2023)
DEI Member-at-Large: Geoffrey Koch, UC-Davis (2023)
Grad Student Rep.: Karl Kunze, Cornell (2023)
Editor-in-Chief: Bingru Huang, Rutgers (2024)
ASF Chair Samantha Miller, Corteva Agriscience (2023)

Also participating:

Ian Popkewitz, IT & Operations Director
Luther Smith, Chief Administrative Officer
Sara Uttech, Governance Director
Matt Wascavage, Membership Director
Susan Varghese, People & Culture Director

C003 CSSA Board of Directors

1. President Seth Murray led a discussion on the Artificial Intelligence article from *CSA News*:
<https://access.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1002/csan.21045>

2. ACTION: The following Consent Agenda items were approved:

- Aug. 30, 2023 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Agenda
- June 28, 2023 CSSA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
- Ethics Task Force recommendation to adopt Ethics Committee Guidelines

3. CEO Jim Cudahy reviewed the results of the July 2023 Strategic Planning Meeting:

- CSSA Vision: A global community of crop scientists, educators, and practitioners with a common bond of improving plants and their production in a scientifically sound and environmentally responsible manner
- Cross-Society Objectives:
 - Innovate our stakeholder experiences
 - Diversify our memberships
 - Raise the visibility of our disciplines and our members
- CSSA Objectives:
 1. Increase science policy programming for members, and increase advocacy to expand our value to external stakeholders by being the first stop for evidence-based science
 2. Make our journals and meetings the first place people want to share their research to increase impact and visibility
 3. Innovate to ensure long-term financial sustainability
 4. Enhance national and international recognition of our society and its members
 5. Strengthen internal and external communication at all levels to increase engagement, create a sense of community, leverage interactions w/ allied societies to improve member recruitment and retention

6. Set our members up for advantages throughout their careers w/ ongoing professional development
- Next Steps

C211 CSSA Budget & Finance Committee

CEO Jim Cudahy reported that CFO & Director of Meetings Wes Meixelsperger is no longer employed at the organization as of Aug. 9, 2023.

ACS321 ASA-CSSA-SSSA Editorial Policy Coordination Committee

Publications Director Matt Wascavage reported on progress with our consultant who is helping us make a decision on post-2024 publishing. He also reported that three of our journals—*Crop, Forage and Turfgrass Management*, *Journal of Environmental Quality*, and *The Plant Genome*—are taking part in a pilot program to encourage authors to submit plain language summaries.

ACS732 Program Planning Committee

1. 2023 CSSA Presidential Award: Natalia De Leon, University of Wisconsin who made maize genomes to fields possible.
2. Latest Registrations for ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meeting Oct. 29-Nov. 1 in St. Louis www.acsmeetings.org:
 - 1,289 current registrants compared to 2022 Baltimore's 916/2019 San Antonio's 1,232 at same time
 - 1,258 in-person registrations
 - 31 virtual registrations
 - 141% to 2022 / 105% to 2019 total registrations at this time of the year
 - We are currently 102% to San Antonio's in-person registrations at this time of the year
 - 2019 San Antonio had 3,945 total in-person registrations
 - Projections at this point are encouraging given the record number of submissions this year. Approximately 4,400 are expected for St. Louis in-person attendance
 - By comparison, there were 3,555 onsite attendees for Baltimore (3,695 total registrants)
 - Our historical trends show that most registrations (whether virtual or in-person) come in during the final three weeks leading up to the event

Consensus to Adjourn.