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Women in Science Column –
March 2018



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Women in Science Committee Focuses on Supporting Women in Leadership in 2018

The Women in Science Committee is a great way to get involved in the Societies. Our primary goal is to promote and encourage women to achieve their professional goals. Another major objective is strengthening the network of professional women across the three Societies through membership, CSA News articles, Annual Meeting workshops, and other activities. Year after year, the Women in Science Committee has offered a workshop at the ASA-SSSA-CSSA meeting to delve into topics of interest to members of the community, as well as the broader population of women in the sciences. After listening to your feedback and analyzing workshop surveys from last year's topic, "Work-Life Balance", this year's theme will encompass a broad perspective on women in professional leadership roles. Your Women in Science Committee members will offer a series of CSA News articles throughout the year on the women in leadership. In addition, targeted workshops at both ASA-CSSA and SSSA annual meetings will provide its members with tools and perspectives to take on and improve in leadership roles. Examples of topics we will cover through CSA News are: personal branding, negotiation skills, and network expansion.

We will also take this year to highlight women with significant leadership experience. These women will offer insight into different leadership styles and provide a personal narrative on the diversity of women involved in agriculture and their journey towards professional development and advancement. Our goal is to embrace the diversity within the societies and to generate an increased interest, involvement and support for women across all experience levels, from students, to early career scientists, and then on to advanced administrative roles.

We want all women in agriculture to be able to share their individual voices and connect with others for support and communal problem-solving. With the two annual meetings themed as "Enhancing Productivity in a Changing Climate" (ASA-CSSA, Nov. 4-7, Baltimore, MD) and "Soils Across Latitudes" (SSSA, Jan. 6-9, San Diego, CA) we have a unique opportunity to expand our reach, generate growth and increase involvement for women in the societies. Join us, actively engage in the community and the societies, send us your ideas, stories and experiences, and support the Women in Science Committee as a collective voice. This year we can enhance our productivity across latitudes.