

ACS530 EARLY CAREER MEMBERS COMMITTEE (ECMC)

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:

A member of the Early Career Members Committee (ECMC) is a person that has achieved their terminal degree within the last 7 years from an internationally-recognized degree-granting institution. A terminal degree is considered the highest degree attained by a person in their field of study. This is contingent on a person not attaining another degree. If a previously-recognized ECM completes an additional degree, this person will not be considered again as an ECM.

The ECMC will consist of a minimum of twelve (12) members. Three (3) ECM's from each of the three (3) Societies will have voting privileges. Members are appointed for one (1) 3-year term with terms staggered so that one-third (1/3) of the committee is replaced each year. These members will be appointed by their respective Society President. The ACS530 Committee may provide recommendations to the society Presidents. A person may be reappointed for an additional term based on approval by the society President in cooperation with (and based upon) the recommendation of the ACS530 Committee.

The Chair-Elect will be appointed from within the nine (9) appointed Societal representatives. The Chair-Elect is appointed jointly by the ASA, CSSA and SSSA Presidents based upon the recommendation of the ACS530 Committee. It is anticipated that the Chair-Elect serves for one (1) year, then serves one (1) year as Chair and one (1) year as the Past Chair. It is required for the incoming Chair to have served at least one (1) year on the ECMC. The Chair and Chair-Elect positions may be reappointed for an additional year based on approval by the ASA, CSSA and SSSA Presidents in cooperation with (and based upon) the recommendation of the ACS530 Committee.

The staff liaison will be appointed by headquarters leadership.

Additional ex-officio members may be appointed to the committee based on the recommendation of the ACS530 Committee Chair and with approval by the ASA, CSSA and SSSA Presidents. These additional members will not have voting privileges.

C. Functions:

1. To be a voice for Early Career Member's within the ACS societies.
2. Foster communication between ECM's and the ACS leadership. This will be conducted through ECM representative positions on the ASA and SSSA Board of Directors, or by contact to the CSSA by the ACS530 Chair.
 - ECM representatives on the ASA and SSSA Board of Director's will participate as ex-officio members of ACS530. If this representative already holds a voting position on ACS530, that person will retain voting privileges on ACS530.
3. Foster communication between ECM's and graduate and undergraduate students. At least one (1) ACS530 representative will participate as an ex-officio member on the respective committees for graduate and/or undergraduate students.
4. Foster communication between ACS530 and society-based ECM Committees. At least one (1) ACS530 representative of said society will participate as an ex-officio member on said society-based ECM Committee.
5. Develop a program for ECM's at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meetings.
6. Hold a business meeting at the annual meetings.

7. Produce an article for the CSA News on a monthly basis on topics relevant to ECM's.
8. Obtain input and develop recommendations on ways to better serve ECM's beyond the activities at the Annual Meetings.
9. Maintain an updated and interactive website that focuses on current Early Career Member topics.
10. The ACS530 Chair will prepare a report of ECMC activities for the previous year that will be provided to the ACS Presidents.

D. Committee Policies:

Members appointed to ACS530 are expected to be actively involved in ongoing activities of the committee during their tenure. It is anticipated that ECMC members will participate in:

1. Preparation of articles for the monthly contribution to the CSA News;
2. Organizing, moderating and/or assisting with ECMC symposia at the ACS Annual Meetings;
3. Participating in ACS530 meetings; and
4. Generating ideas and relaying concerns relevant to ECM's.

It is expected, at a minimum, that ACS530 members will maintain active contact with the Chair, and participate in 2/3 of meetings on an annual basis. Failure to meet this minimum requirement will result in removal from ACS530 by the current Chair upon recommendation from the ACS530 committee.

E. Procedures for Appointment as ECM Representative to the ASA Board of Director Position:

Any active ECM within 5 years of degree completion and with an ASA affiliation (ACS530 members included) may run for election as the ECM representative on the ASA Board of Directors. This is a three (3) year appointment. The ASA representatives on ACS530, as well as the ACS530 Chair, will cooperate with the ASA Board of Director's to identify two (2) candidates to run for this position.

ECM representatives on the ASA and SSSA Board of Director's will participate as ex-officio members of ACS530. If this representative already holds a voting position on ACS530, that person will retain voting privileges on ACS530.

F. Early Career Professional Awards:

There are three (3) Society awards that recognize professionals in the early stages of their careers and who have made outstanding contributions in the professions. Each Society offers such an award:

American Society of Agronomy – ASA Early Career Professional Award
Crop Science Society of America – CSSA Young Crop Scientist Award
Soil Science Society of America – SSSA Early Career Professional Award

Each of the awards has specific eligibility and evaluation criteria. Specific details are found at:

ASA Early Career Professional Award – www.agronomy.org/awards

CSSA Young Crop Scientist Award – www.crops.org/awards

SSSA Early Career Professional Award – www.soils.org/awards

ACS530 will encourage nominations. ASA members on the ACS530 Early Career Members Committee serve on the selection committee for the ASA Early Career Professional Award. CSSA members on the ACS530 Early Career Members Committee serve on the selection committee for the CSSA Young Crop Scientist Award.

The SSSA Early Career Committee (S530) is the selection committee for the SSSA Early Career Professional Award.