

C304 THE PLANT GENOME EDITORIAL BOARD

Status: Special committee.

The Plant Genome (TPG) is an international open-access electronic journal published by the Crop Science Society of America. The goal of *The Plant Genome* is to provide the readership with a short submission-to-print publication of the latest advances and breakthroughs in plant genomic research.

The Plant Genome (TPG) publishes original research investigating all aspects of plant genomics including genome biology, functional genomics, genomic analyses of agronomically important traits, genomic resources, genomics-assisted breeding, and genome engineering. Technical breakthroughs reporting improvements in the efficiency and speed of acquiring and interpreting plant genomics data are welcome. The editorial board gives preference to frontier genomic advances and novel reports that use innovative genomic applications that advance our understanding of plant biology that may have applications to crop improvement. The journal also publishes invited review articles and perspectives that offer insight and commentary on recent advances in genomics and their potential for agronomic improvement.

TPG will be published four times per year.

Per CSSA Bylaws, Article XIII. Publications:

SECTION 1. The CSSA board of directors shall determine the general nature, the number, and the editorial policy, standards, and practices of publications of the society and shall solicit recommendations on these matters from persons in editorial positions. Maintenance of editorial standards of the society shall be under the direction of the editor-in-chief through the editorial board(s) and committees of CSSA.

SECTION 2. The CSSA shall publish an official technical journal which carries papers, official notices, committee reports, and other items of society business. This journal shall be known as *Crop Science*. The *Crop Science* editorial board shall be responsible for the content and quality of the journal under the policies established by the board of directors.

SECTION 4. The editor-in-chief shall be nominated by the CSSA president and ratified by the board of directors. The term of office for the editor-in-chief shall be for three years with eligibility for reappointment for a second three-year period, but not a third term without an intervening three-year period. The appointment may be terminated at any time by a two-thirds majority vote of the board of directors. The editor-in-chief serves as an ex officio, without-vote member of the CSSA board of directors, as an ex officio member of all CSSA editorial committees, and as a member of the editorial policy coordinating committee. The editor-in-chief shall coordinate the editorial policies and practices approved by the board of directors for all CSSA publications and carry out such functions as designated by the board of directors.

Composition: *The Plant Genome* Editorial Board shall be composed of the Editor, Associate Editors, Editor-in-Chief, Managing Editor (ex officio, without vote), CSSA Chief Executive Officer (ex officio, without vote), CSSA Publications Director (ex officio, without vote), and other persons as necessary to accomplish its editorial responsibilities promptly. The Editor shall serve as Chair.

Tenure: The CSSA Editor-in-Chief appoints the journal's Editor on behalf of the CSSA President, after ratification by the CSSA Board of Directors, for a three-year term with eligibility for reappointment for a second three-year term, but not a third term without an intervening three-year period. The appointment for CSSA Editor may be terminated at any time by a two-thirds majority vote of the CSSA Board of Directors. All CSSA journals will use an open-call process for Editor-in-Chief and Editors.

Before an Editor is reappointed to a second three-year term, he/she is asked by the appropriate society Editor-in-Chief if he/she agrees to serve another term. Technical Editors and others will be contacted to determine whether the current Editor has support to continue in the position and whether there are any concerns. The Editor-in-Chief then makes a recommendation to the society Board of Directors, who make the final approval. If the Editor has completed two terms of service (six continuous years), does not desire to serve a second term, is terminated or non-renewed based upon action by the Board of Directors, or is unable to continue to serve for any reason, then an open call article will be published in CSA News. In some cases, an Interim Editor may be appointed by the Editor-in-Chief after approval of the Board of Directors. After the closing date published in the open call article, the Editor-in-Chief and the Executive Committee will review the applicants and make a recommendation to the Board of Directors for final approval.

The Editor appoints the journal's Associate Editors on behalf of the CSSA President. The CSSA Editor-in-Chief appoints the journal's Technical Editors on behalf of the CSSA President; the addition of new Technical Editor positions requires Executive Committee approval. Technical and Associate Editors are appointed for three-year terms and are eligible for reappointment for one additional three-year term.

Functions:

1. Holds a meeting at each year's Annual Meetings. Communication throughout the year via conference calls and email correspondence.
2. The Editorial Board conducts the review of manuscripts and implements the Editorial and Publication Policy for *The Plant Genome*, as approved by the CSSA Board of Directors.
3. Makes appropriate recommendations to the CSSA Board of Directors on matters referred to it and also on matters that evolve from within the committee itself.
4. Submits an annual summary report of the committee activities to the CSSA Board of Directors and to the CSSA Executive Committee, via the Headquarters Office.

The Editor serves as chair of *The Plant Genome* editorial board, is responsible for overall quality and content of the journal, and implements editorial procedure and policy decisions that have been set by the Board of Directors. The Editor and editorial board oversee procedures for manuscript submission, acceptance, release, publication, and criteria for reviewing and refereeing of papers. The Editor delegates editorial functions to other members of the editorial board. The Editor assures equitable distribution of manuscripts to associate editors, monitors the status of manuscripts in review, and handles the appeal procedures for manuscripts that are rejected.

The Editor takes an active part in defining the journal's aims, policies, and editorial coverage. The Editor may write editorials or solicit manuscripts on special topics. The Editor is a member of the C301 Editorial Affairs, Policies and Practices Committee.

Outstanding Paper Award Guidelines

Outstanding Paper Award Selection

Committee: The Journal Editor and up to 6 Associate Editors will select the paper to be awarded. The Journal Editor will select the committee members and will serve as the chair of this committee.

Initial Selection: The Journal Editor will work with headquarters staff to identify the papers for the competition. To obtain a pool of papers, 2 years of data will be pulled for "most cited" and "most

read” (ex: 2020 paper = data for 2018–2019). The top 10 most cited/most read papers will be considered.

The 2-year time frame is used as it matches the time period used in the calculation of the impact factor.

Because of potential overlap between these two categories and exclusion of previous winners, it is expected that about 10 papers will be in consideration. The Journal Editor will winnow the papers down to the top 5 for final selection.

Selection Criteria: Selection is generally based on evaluation of how the manuscript has advanced knowledge in the profession, the effectiveness of communication, methodology, originality, and impact. The decision will be made by July 15 of each year. A paper can only be recognized one time with this award. The Outstanding Paper Score Sheet will be used to rate each paper.

All committee members will score each paper in each of the following categories:

- Advancement of Knowledge, Literature and Profession (40 pts. possible)
- Methodology and Approach (25 pts. possible)
- Communication (25 pts. possible)
- Originality (10 pts. possible)

Committee members will forward their scores to the Journal Editor who will compile and summarize the results. A spreadsheet having each committee member’s scores and the final ranking by total score will be returned to the committee for validation. Selection shall be based on the sum of scores provided by the committee members with highest total score being the winner. In the case of a tie, final decision will be made by the Journal Editor.

Award: The Outstanding Paper Award will be presented at the Annual Meeting Publications Reception. The awardee(s) will receive a framed certificate for the main author, and unframed certificates for additional authors. There will also be a poster in the Annual Meeting “Hall of Fame” poster awards area.