The meeting was called to order by President Lowell E. Moser. Executive Committee members present were:

Lowell E. Moser, ASA President  
Lee E. Sommers, ASA President-Elect  
Robert G. Hoeft, ASA Past President  
Kenneth J. Moore, CSSA President  
James G. Coors, CSSA President-Elect  
P. Stephen Baenziger, CSSA Past President  
J. Thomas Sims, SSSA President  
John L. Havlin, SSSA President-Elect  
Michael J. Singer, SSSA Past President

Also present:
David A. Sleper, Incoming ASA President-Elect  
Steven L. Fales, Incoming CSSA President-Elect  
Mary E. Collins, Incoming SSSA President-Elect  
Martin A. Massengale, ASF Board Chair  
Jeffrey S. Jacobsen, ICCA  
Courtney Thomas, Student President  
Saul Winsten, Legal Counsel  
Ellen Bergfeld, Executive Vice President  
David Kral, Associate Executive Vice President  
Luther Smith, Vice President and Executive Director of Certification Programs  
Valerie Breunig, Director of Development and Membership  
Michela Cobb, Director of Financial Services  
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy  
Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT and Operations  
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions  
Cathy Goudreau, Assistant to the Executive Vice President and Recording Secretary

**ACS032 Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences**

Student President Courtney Thomas provided an update on student activities and the positive results that have occurred since changing the name and expanding the scope of the program. She recommended that ASA, CSSA, and SSSA identify an Executive Committee member to serve as a contact with the undergraduates, and that student leadership be included in discussions at Executive Committee and Board of Director meetings.

The Executive Committee complimented the students for the progress thus far within the new student organization. An Executive Committee member from ASA, CSSA, and SSSA will be identified as a contact for the undergraduate student leadership. Courtney was encouraged to familiarize herself with the activities and articles published in *CSA News* by the ACS530 Early Career Members Committee.
ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation (ASF)
Martin Massengale, Chair of the ASF Board of Trustees, reported on ASF activities. Major programs within ASF currently are the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit and the ASA centennial fund.

ACTION: It was moved to request that ASF evaluate the top three centennial fund projects and provide the Executive Committee with a recommendation. Seconded. Carried.

Due to the numerous projects that ASF is being asked to raise funds for, it was the consensus of the group that additional personnel will be needed.

ACTION: It was moved to request that ASF work with Headquarters to develop a proposal for additional development support to be presented to the Executive Committee. Seconded. Carried.

A092.3 International Certified Crop Advisers (ICCA)
Jeff Jacobsen reported on ICCA activities. ICCA and ASA officers met recently to discuss issues of mutual interest and concern. ICCA will be pursuing possible expansion of its Washington, DC presence in order to have greater involvement in the upcoming Farm Bill and other activities. ICCA will investigate changing its tax status from a 501(c)(3) to a 501(c)(6) organization. Such a change will allow greater flexibility in regard to lobbying efforts, as well as reflect the professional aspect of the organization.

A211 Budget and Finance (B&F)
Calvin Qualset, ASA B&F Chair, provided a report on the July 31-August 1 B&F Committee meeting. The following actions were taken as a follow-up to the B&F meeting.

1. ACTION: By consensus it was agreed not to implement the previously approved 20 percent dues increase in 2005.

2. ACTION: By consensus it was agreed to appoint an auditor selection committee in which some members would be selected from the current B&F Committee. Lowell Moser will appoint the committee in consultation with the CSSA and SSSA Presidents.

3. ACTION: By consensus it was agreed that journal bundle options offered in 2004 be offered again in 2005 without changes.

4. ACTION: By consensus it was agreed to investigate possible outsourcing of the Society’s journals.

5. ACTION: It was moved to approve the 2005 budget as presented. Seconded. Carried.
A201.4 Strategic Planning
Strategic planning, emphasizing streamlining the Board of Directors to provide for more efficient operation, has been a major topic of discussion during Executive Committee meetings in 2004. Saul Winsten, ASA legal counsel, reviewed in detail the numerous tax, financial, corporate and practical issues of different structures. Extensive discussion ensued involving all participants. The Executive Committee and Headquarters staff will develop some reorganization models to present to the membership and Board of Directors in Seattle for discussion.

A236.1 Membership Services and Retention
Valerie Breunig, Director of Development and Membership, reported on membership and marketing activities.

ACTION: It was moved that Lee Sommers, Jim Coors, and John Havlin develop dues scenarios for consideration at the Seattle meeting. Seconded. Carried.

A300 Publications—General
ACTION: It was moved to implement a contract with Oxford University Press to publish the Society’s books, monographs, and special publications. Seconded. Carried.

ACS536 Washington Presence
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy, presented a report on his activities.

ACTION: It was moved to establish a Science Policy Advisory Committee. Seconded. Carried.

Lowell Moser will appoint the committee after consultation with the CSSA and SSSA Presidents.

ACTION: It was moved, seconded, and carried to accept the following three strategic directives as outlined in Karl’s report:

- Promote and encourage funding of plant and soil science research within mainline federal agency grant programs, e.g., NSF
- Consider and promote coalitions, federations, liaisons with other agricultural, environmental and biological science societies and related organizations that address scientific and public policy issues
- Promote the interests and needs of the practicing professionals

ACS711.16 Change in Annual Meeting Format, ad hoc
Lee Sommers reported on survey responses and input from the program chairs regarding implementation of theme based oral paper sessions at the annual meeting. It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to support a thematic approach for symposia only.

Meeting adjourned.