ASA Executive Committee Meeting
August 4, 2005
Madison, WI

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

Lee E. Sommers, ASA President
David A. Sleper, ASA President-Elect
Lowell E. Moser, ASA Past President
James G. Coors, CSSA President
Steven L. Fales, CSSA President-Elect
Kenneth J. Moore, CSSA Past President
John L. Havlin, SSSA President
Mary E. Collins, SSSA President-Elect
J. Thomas Sims, SSSA Past President

Also present:
Jerry L. Hatfield, Incoming ASA President-Elect
Henry L. Shands, Incoming CSSA President-Elect
Rattan Lal, Incoming SSSA President-Elect
Kenneth A. Barbarick, ASA Editor-in-Chief
Crystal Machacek, Student President
Saul Winsten, Legal Counsel

Headquarters staff present:
Ellen Bergfeld, Executive Vice President
Susan Chapman, Director of Member Services
Michela Cobb, Director of Financial Services
Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy
Paul Kamps, Development Officer
Frances Katz, Director of Publications
Ian Popkewitz, Director of IT and Operations
Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions
Luther Smith, Executive Director Certification Programs
Leann Malison, Program Manager-Student and Career Activities
Cathy Goudreau, Assistant to the Executive Vice President and Recording Secretary

A001.4 Executive Vice President
ACTION: It was moved to approve the Annual Performance Evaluation of the Executive Vice President document, as revised. Seconded. Carried.

Lee Sommers will provide a copy of the final version to Headquarters for the record.

A002 Board of Directors
CONSENSUS ACTION: It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to schedule two ASA Board of Directors meetings during the 2005 annual meeting in Salt Lake City.
ACS032 Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences
Student President Crystal Machacek provided an update on student activities. Student programs during the annual meeting have been scheduled to allow more time for students to attend paper sessions and participate in other activities at the meetings. Crystal was encouraged to attend the Early Career Members Committee meeting which will be held during the annual meeting. Jim Coors encouraged student participation in the CSSA Golden Opportunity Project.

ACS090 Agronomic Science Foundation
The Executive Committee received an update on the status of the Memorandum of Understanding detailing the operating procedures and working relationship between the Societies and ASF.

ACTION: It was moved that the Executive Committee request a meeting with the ASF Board of Trustees during the 2005 annual meeting in Salt Lake City to further discuss the Memorandum of Understanding. Seconded. Carried.

Lee Sommers will contact the ASF Board Chair to arrange a time for the above requested meeting.

A092.4 International Certified Crop Advisors
Luther Smith reported that the ICCA Board voted to incorporate January 1, 2006 but maintain a strong relationship with ASA.

CONSENSUS ACTION: It was the consensus of the Executive Committee that more detail and interaction between ASA and CCA leadership is needed.

A101 Nomination of President-Elect and Division Officers
1. CONSENSUS ACTION: It was the consensus of the Executive Committee that in 2005 and thereafter, the ASA Division Representatives on the Board of Directors have the responsibility of providing to the Executive Committee and Nominations Committee the nominations for Division officers during the second Board of Directors meeting at the annual meeting.

2. ACTION: It was moved to provide election results to any member when requested. Seconded. Carried.

A201 Organization, Policy, and Bylaws
The Executive Committee has held several meetings/conference calls and has sought legal advice in an effort to move forward with the action taken at the November 4, 2004 ASA Board of Directors meeting to accept the proposed restructuring of the ASA Board of Directors and to create a tri-Society management committee. Lee Sommers prepared a draft document outlining possible responsibilities and authority of a tri-Society management committee. After discussing the document with legal counsel prior to this Executive Committee meeting it became apparent that ASA cannot accomplish reorganization, including separation of ASA program from business management, and position itself for further collaborations, through a management committee.

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.
ACTION: It was moved to implement a 501c3 supporting organization to provide management services for the tri-Societies. Seconded. Carried.

Details of the above action will be presented to the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Boards of Directors during the 2005 annual meeting in Salt Lake City.

A211 Budget and Finance
The ASA Budget and Finance Committee met in Madison August 2-3.

1. ACTION: Per the recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee, it was moved to increase nonmember journal subscription rates by 2 percent for 2006 and 2007. Seconded. Carried.

2. ACTION: It was moved to maintain the journal bundle options for 2006. Seconded. Carried.

3. Current policy is that income over expenses or deficits derived from the annual meeting are distributed to ASA, CSSA, and SSSA on a membership proportionate basis.

ACTION: It was moved that beginning in 2005 income over expenses or deficits derived from the annual meeting be distributed to ASA, CSSA, and SSSA based on a membership proportionate basis of meeting attendees. Seconded. Carried.

4. CONSENSUS ACTION: Because the Society’s fiscal year begins January 1, it was the consensus of the Executive Committee to schedule future Budget and Finance Committee meetings in the fall rather than the summer.

5. Paul Kamps presented an update on the Smithsonian Soils Exhibit which is a $4 million project; $2.5 million for the main exhibit at the museum and $1.5 million for the educational component.

ACTION: It was moved that ASA participate in a Smithsonian Soils Exhibit matching program of individual gifts, through December 31, 2006, up to a cumulative maximum of $10,000. Seconded. Carried.

The Executive Committee will discuss any further contribution that ASA may want to consider at a later date.

6. ACTION: It was moved to create a development budget center beginning in 2006 and to provide support for development activities each year, the amount to be determined by the tri-Societies, for the purposes identified by the tri-Societies. Seconded. Carried.

7. ACTION: It was moved that space be allocated on the Society’s membership renewal statements to allow members to indicate making a contribution to the ASA priority fund. Seconded. Carried.

8. ACTION: It was moved to approve the 2006 budget. Seconded. Carried.
A300 Publications - General
Action was taken at the November 4, 2004 ASA Board of Directors meeting to merge the S370 Book Series Committee and the ACS325 Monographs Committee into a single committee with equal representation from ASA, CSSA, and SSSA. ASA Editor-in-Chief Ken Barbarick presented a proposed writeup for the new ASA-CSSA-SSSA Book Publishing Committee.

The Executive Committee agreed that the title of the committee should be changed to include monographs and special publications and that appointment of the committee’s chair rotate between the ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Presidents.

ACTION: It was moved to approve the writeup for the committee as revised. Seconded. Carried.

Headquarters will include the committee write-up in the Committee Manual and will facilitate appointments.

A301 Editorial Affairs, Policies, and Practices
The Executive Committee took action in March 2004 that beginning January 1, 2005 all ASA journals use an open call process for journal editors and editor-in-chief. Headquarters will place an article in the September CSA News inviting applications for the Editor-in-Chief position. Lee Sommers will contact the current Editor-in-Chief, whose term concludes the end of 2005, indicating he is welcome to apply for another 3-year term using the open call process.

ACS334 CSA News
Susan Chapman presented a design concept and business overview of the redesign for CSA News. The redesign includes increasing the size and content of the newsletter and will include editorial/science, industry/external news, business/management articles, and international perspectives. The goal is to launch the new publication in January 2006.

CONSENSUS ACTION: It was the consensus of the Executive Committee to move forward with the redesign of CSA News and that Headquarters engage a consultant to develop possible logos and names for the publication.

A400 Awards - General
ACTION: It was moved to approve the 2005 slate of awards and Fellows recipients. Seconded. Carried.

A711 Program Planning
David Sleper reported that annual meeting plans are progressing smoothly.

Lee Sommers will contact the chair of the Change in Annual Meeting Format Committee to ensure the committee’s recommendations have been addressed.

Meeting adjourned.