

May 1, 2008 **SASES News Flash**

[Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences \(SASES\)](#) -- An undergraduate student program of:

[American Society of Agronomy](#) | [Crop Science Society of America](#) | [Soil Science Society of America](#)

SASES Officers

Welcome

This is our inaugural *SASES News Flash*, which features important undergraduate activities and announcements. This replaces the printed SASES newsletter (and is sent in lieu of the *Societies News Flash*). We hope to send this customized SASES News Flash Newsletter to all undergraduates once a month.

We welcome your comments and ideas about the new SASES News Flash. Please send them to SASES Corresponding Secretary [Kassie Billerbeck](#).

Pictured from left: National Student Advisor Cary Green, Recording Secretary Jenae Skelton, President Eric Miller, Vice President Amy Gail Fannon, Treasurer Karri Honaker, and Corresponding Secretary Kassie Billerbeck.

SASES Contest Deadlines

- [Darrel S. Metcalfe Student Manuscript Contest](#) - due **June 15**

Students wishing to hone their writing skills can compete in the Darrel S. Metcalfe Student Manuscript Contest. This is a valuable experience for undergrads, particularly to those whose future employment may require proposal and report writing or presentations. Cash awards up to \$500 to the top three students.

- [National Speech Contest](#) - due **Sept 19**

The National Speech Contest in Houston is an excellent way for students to improve their speaking abilities. To enter, a student must have been a contestant in a local club contest. Cash awards up to \$250 to the top six students. Submit the speech title and number of participants in the local contest to the National Speech Contest Chair.

- [National Visual Presentation Contest](#) - due **Sept 19**

This contest develops a student's ability to prepare visual materials that communicate an agronomic, crop, soil, or environment science story with the intent of educating a small-group audience on a technical topic. Cash awards go to the top three students and their clubs.

ASA-CSSA-SSSA Election Results

Congratulations to the 2009 presidents elect, board reps, and division chairs selected by members: ASA President-Elect Francis J. Pierce, Washington State University; CSSA President-Elect Joseph G. Lauer, University of Wisconsin; SSSA President-Elect Nicholas B. Comerford, University of Florida. View the full election results: [ASA Election Results](#) | [CSSA Election Results](#) | [SSSA Election Results](#)

Golden Opportunity Scholars

CSSA has selected 15 undergraduates for the 2008 class of [Golden Opportunity Scholars](#) at the [Joint Annual Meeting](#):

- Benjamin Allen, Wheaton College
- Nathan Anderson, Iowa State Univ
- Sarah Burleson, Virginia Tech
- Ben Campbell, Purdue Univ
- David Favero, Colorado State Univ
- Allison Ferry, California State Univ-Fresno
- Jill Floyd, Rose-Hulman Institute of Technology
- Annette Hernandez, California State Polytechnic Univ-Pomona
- Karri Honaker, Virginia Tech
- Adam Karbo, South Dakota State Univ
- Amanda Liesch, Univ of Wisconsin-River Falls
- Kellar Nelson, Univ of Missouri



Joint Annual Meeting, Houston, TX
Celebrating the International Year of Planet Earth

[Undergraduate Program](#) Oct 4-6,
2008

[Technical Program](#) Oct 5-9, 2008

New Undergrad Registration Process

This year, undergraduate registration will be conducted along with regular member registration through the website and Preregistration Brochure. There will not be a mailing of a separate undergraduate form. Watch for registration to open online the week of June 3. [Registration Info>>](#)

Program Planning



The

Program Planning Chairs, CSSA President-Elect Ken Quesenberry, ASA President-Elect Mark Alley, and SSSA President-Elect Paul Bertsch met this week in Houston to finalize sessions. We have 2,385 poster and oral presentations in SSSA-ASA-CSSA sessions. That number will grow once the Joint Sessions are finalized. Also participating was Meetings

- Scott Rowntree, Univ of Wisconsin-Madison
- Ashley Sollman, Univ of Wisconsin-River Falls
- Kent Williams, Virginia Tech

Nominations Sought for Award

The [Women in Agronomy, Crops, Soils, and Environmental Sciences Committee](#) is seeking nominations for a new award to recognize an individual whose efforts have encouraged women and/or girls in the sciences. Deadline for nominations is July 31. See info in the [April CSA News, page 18](#).

At Work for You

A report of recent staff and officer activities

- SASES [officers](#) and [advisors](#) held a teleconference this week to discuss program planning and tours for the [Joint Annual Meeting](#).
- SSSA President-elect Paul Bertsch and Director of Science Policy Karl Glasener met with Rep. Ben Chandler (D-6th Kentucky) last week and were successful in gaining his membership to the [Congressional Soils Caucus](#), which now stands at 49 members. Is your Representative a member? [Find out here \(pdf\)>>](#)
- The Science Policy Office, working with agricultural economists and nutrition scientists, presented a briefing, "Designer Crops: Building Nutrition from the Ground Up" last week to Congressional staff.

Free Soils Calendars

Free 2008 Soils Calendars are available. Order calendars by emailing calendar@agronomy.org with subject line "Soils Calendar" and include your full name, mailing address, and number of calendars requested.

Call for Volunteers

Help shape the future of the Societies by volunteering to serve on a committee. Sign up by May 9 by logging in with your email and password. Committee appointments for 2009 will be made in late summer/early fall. [Volunteer for Committee Service>>](#)

**Methods of Soil Analysis
Mineralogical Methods
Cover**

New Book, New Methods

SSSA has published the latest installment in the popular *Methods of Soil Analysis* series, *Part 5, Mineralogical Methods*. The text takes a look at modern techniques to enable researchers to analyze mineralogy for a variety of applications. [View the table of contents \(pdf\)](#). Order

the hardcover, 544-page book \$72 (member price): [Online](#) | phone 608-268-4960 | or email books@soils.org

2008 Sponsored Events

[Online Calendar](#) | [Educational Opportunity Calendar](#)

[SSSA Board of Directors](#) Meeting, May 6-7, Estes Park, CO

[Western Society of Crop Science](#) with AAAS Pacific Division, June 16-18 Waimea, HI

[Western Society of Soil Science](#) with Western Regional Cooperative Soil Survey, June 16-20, Spokane, WA - *Abstracts due May 16*

[Northeastern Branch](#) with Canadian Society of Agronomy, and Canadian Society of Horticultural Science, July 13-16, Montreal, QC

[North Central Branch](#), July 15-16, Omaha, NE

[Dig It! The Secrets of Soil Public Exhibition Opening](#), July 19, Washington, DC

[Joint Annual Meeting](#), Celebrating the International Year of Planet Earth, Oct 5-9, Houston, TX

Department staff.

2nd Annual Fun Run/Walk
Plan to join us on a downtown Houston jogging trail in Sabine Park on Tuesday morning, 7 Oct. for a 5K Fun Run/Walk to Celebrate Planet Earth. [View Joint Events>>](#)

Look Who's Exhibiting
See who has signed up for this year's meeting. [View Exhibitor List>>](#)

Save These Dates

[View the Calendar](#)

June 3 - [Deadline to Edit Abstracts](#)

June 3 - [Housing & Registration](#) Opens

July 14 - Early Bird [Registration](#) Deadline

Sept 2 - Standard [Registration](#) Deadline

Joint Annual Meeting

ASA, CSSA, SSSA, Geological Society of America, Gulf Coast Association of Geological Societies, Gulf Coast Section of the Society of Economic Paleontologists & Mineralogists, and hosted by Houston Geological Society

Our vision is to highlight and stimulate discussions in areas of common interest across the diversity of disciplines and organizations represented.

The SASES News Flash is sent monthly to ASA-CSSA-SSSA undergraduate members and SASES advisors. To unsubscribe, log in at [ASA](#), [CSSA](#), or [SSSA](#), click "My Account" (for ASA) or "Update My Profile" (for CSSA and SSSA), then the tab, "Personal Information & Email/Contact Preferences," then check the box, "Do Not Send News Flash." Send submissions to SASES Corresponding Secretary [Kassie Billerbeck](#).

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