

SASES Officers

SASES News Flash

Welcome to the second edition of our *SASES News Flash*, which features important undergraduate activities and announcements and replaces the printed SASES newsletter (and sent in lieu of the *Societies News Flash*). Please send comments and ideas to Corresponding Secretary [Kassie Billerbeck](#).

Student Officer Team, 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.

Soil Judging Contest

The University of Rhode Island hosted the 2008 National Collegiate Soils Contest in April. More than 100 undergraduates from 21 universities participated in the week-long activities. Kansas State University was the first place team, and rounding out the top five were Virginia Tech, University of Maryland, Purdue University, and West Virginia University. Congratulations to all! The highest cumulative score was Anastasia Vinnikova, University of Maryland. SSSA, ASA, the Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England, and the University of Rhode Island's College of the Environment and Life Sciences sponsored the competition. Watch for the full article in the July *CSA News*.

Mark Your Calendars: 2009 Regional

Kansas State University's Wheat State Agronomy Club will host the 2009 SASES Regional meeting April 3-4, 2009 in Manhattan, KS. Festivities will begin on Friday night and continue through Saturday night.

Dig It! Website Redesign

Check out the latest [Dig It! The Secrets of Soil](#) information on SSSA's redesigned exhibition website, featuring new content, links to learn more about the exhibition, and information on the traveling tour.

Branch Meeting Deadlines Approaching

Plan your attendance at one of several upcoming Branch Meetings. The following have approaching deadlines:

- [Western Society of Crop Science](#) with AAAS Pacific Division, June 16-18 Waimea, HI - *Registration Open through **June 9***
- [Western Society of Soil Science](#) with Western Regional Cooperative Soil Survey, June 16-20, Spokane, WA - *Early Registration Deadline **June 11***
[Northeastern Branch](#) with Canadian Society of Agronomy, and Canadian Society of Horticultural Science, July 13-16, Montreal, QC - *Registration Open through **June 24***
- [North Central Branch](#), July 15-16, Omaha, NE - *Early Registration Deadline **June 30**; Free for students (registration required)*

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

- ASA-CSSA-SSSA fielded several media requests for global food crisis expert commentary. ASA President Ken



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

[Student Program](#) Oct 4-6, 2008
[Technical Schedule \(tentative\)](#) Oct 5-9, 2008

Undergrad Registration

Undergraduate registration will be conducted with regular member registration through our joint website and Preregistration Brochure. There will not be a mailing of a separate undergraduate form. Registration opens on June 3. [Registration Info](#)>>

Student Volunteers

Sign up as an intern to offset your meeting registration by volunteering to work during the meeting. [Sign up beginning June 3](#)>>

Travel Grants

The Societies will offer Travel Grants to undergrads to cover some of the costs associated with attending the meeting. [Apply beginning June 3](#)>>

Graduate School Information Forum

New format this year: University representatives will interview students for M.S. and Ph.D. programs on Sunday through Wednesday in the Exhibit Hall. Watch for info and a list of participating schools.

Presidents' Student Breakfast

The GSA, SSSA, ASA, CSSA, GCAGS, and HGS presidents invite all students to attend a free breakfast sponsored by Exxon Mobil on Sunday, Oct 5, 7-8:30 am.

[Leadership Workshop: Apply by July 1](#)

Moore was interviewed on April 30 on [Wisconsin Public Radio](#). Several other media outlets, including the Associated Press and *U.S. News and World Report* have interviewed our scientists. Our online [Press Room](#) highlights our experts.

- [The CSSA Board of Directors](#) met April 28-29 in Madison, WI and the [SSSA Board of Directors](#) met May 6-7 in Estes Park, CO.

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.

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.

2008 Sponsored Events

[Online Calendar](#) | [ACS Meetings](#) | [SASES Annual Meeting](#)

[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

[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 - *Registration Open; Free for students, but registration required*

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

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

Apply by July 1 for the ASA Leadership Workshop on Oct 4 in Houston. The workshop will help individuals discover and begin to apply their leadership skills. View PDFs: [Workshop Info](#) | [Application](#)

Save These Dates

[View the Calendar](#)

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

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

July 1 - [Deadline to Apply for Leadership Class](#)

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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