

C953 INTERNATIONAL CROP SCIENCE COMMITTEE

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:

The committee consists of a Chair, and up to 11 additional members representing a cross section of the Society's membership, and inclusion of student, industry and international members, and the President-Elect. Headquarters staff, as appropriate, serves in an ex-officio capacity. The Chair can recommend additional appointments to the President.

Term of office for committee members is 3 years with staggered terms. The Chair serves a 1-year term and may be reappointed. The President-Elect serves a 1-year term.

C. Functions:

1. To serve as the selection committee for the International Service in Crop Science Award. This includes encouraging nominations, becoming familiar with the guidelines/procedures and being responsible for seeing that all nominations fulfill the required criteria of eligibility, and evaluate nominations and select from among those nominated the most outstanding nominee. Note, the CSSA President-Elect does not serve on the selection committee for the award.
2. Maintain an ongoing awareness of evolving and diverse international membership needs and opportunities.
3. Identify international membership issues and develop related strategies important to the future of CSSA.
4. Develop international strategies to enhance the image of the profession crop science.
5. Work with the appropriate committee(s) within the Society(ies), as necessary, to enhance the value of the Society to international members and to society at large.
6. Hold meetings by conference calls, electronically or by other means, as needed.
7. Develop policy for international development activities of Society members.
8. Create a registry of Society members willing to participate in international development projects.
9. Submit reports and recommendations for action as called for by the Society.

D. Functions and Guidelines for International Crop Science Award:

1. With the aid of the Headquarters staff, solicits nominations for the award, including distribution of a written brochure.
2. Selects the best qualified nominee in accordance with the Award Guidelines. The procedures followed are focused through the Committee Chair, whose duties are as follows:
 - a. Serves as a voting member of the committee.
 - b. The program is conducted electronically.
 - c. Advises all committee members of the scoring or ranking procedure to be followed, as well as any other special instructions.

- d. Conducts the voting, tabulates the returns, and informs committee members of the results.
 - e. Submits the recommendation from the committee's selection process to the General Awards Committee Chair, who is the CSSA Past President.
 - f. Delegates to Headquarters Office responsibility for collecting biographical information on the award recipient, inclusive of two 3x5 inch glossy prints of a recent black and white photograph. This material is used by the Headquarters Office for publicity on the award recipient.
 - g. Presents the award at the awards presentation function.
 - h. Activates and works with the committee on special charges sent to the committee by the CSSA Board of Directors or by the CSSA Executive Committee.
 - i. 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.
 - j. Serves as a member of the General Awards Committee.
3. May recommend changes or revisions relative to criteria, description, selection process of recipients, etc., for this award. All recommendations must be approved by the CSSA Board of Directors before said recommendations may be implemented. Recommendations shall be submitted through the General Awards Committee.

E. Award Guidelines:

1. **DESCRIPTION OF AWARD:** The Crop Science International Activity Award is presented in recognition of outstanding work at the international level that has gone beyond increasing the knowledge base of the scientific community. Focus is on creativity and innovation in bringing about specific changes in practices, products, and/or programs in the crops area rather than on growth and development of an agronomic field. The contribution should be through the transfer of knowledge and/or the development of new technology. Recipients could be in the public or private sector and the contribution should have been made in a foreign country and should have recognized implications on the international scene in terms of improved crop productivity, quality, utilization, management, etc. The contribution on which the nomination is based should have been made, in part, within the past 10 years. While nominations are accepted only from individual active Society members, membership of the recipient is not a requirement. The award consists of a certificate, a complimentary ticket to the award presentation, and an honorarium of \$1,000.
2. **AWARD CRITERIA:** Creativity and innovation as reflected through the scientist's overall contribution. Evidence of credibility, integrity, and professionalism. The influence or impact of the scientist(s) in a foreign country. Evidence of the influence of the scientist(s) and the contribution on long lasting change in some aspect of crop science at the international level. Educational contributions made through either direct involvement or indirectly through supervision of international graduate students. Recognition will be given to work in the non-conventional environment and to non-refereed types of publications and communications. The committee need not recommend an award recipient if no nominees meet the award criteria.
3. **FORMAT FOR NOMINATIONS:** A format guide, approved by the CSSA Board of Directors, is issued each year. The Chair and committee members shall receive a copy of this guide at the time it is mailed from Headquarters.
4. **ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINATIONS:** Nominations for this award are accepted only from individual active members of the Crop Science Society of America. Members of the CSSA Executive Committee and members of this committee are not eligible to make nominations or to write supporting letters.

5. **ELIGIBILITY OF NOMINEES:** Nominees for the Crop Science International Activity Award need not be members of the Crop Science Society of America. Members of the CSSA Executive Committee and this committee are not eligible for this award.
6. **TEAM NOMINATIONS:** Nomination of a team is acceptable, provided the following criteria are met: (a) At least one member of the team must be a crop scientist; (b) where other disciplines are represented on the team, the crop scientist(s) must be major contributor(s) (50%) or more to the team effort; (c) only publications on which all team members are authors, or honors and awards received by the team, should be listed; individual efforts must be omitted from the nomination statements.
7. **SCORING OR RANKING PROCEDURE:** Nominations are ranked by all committee members in order of preference, with "1" being first, and summarized by the Chair. The award recipient must receive 50% of the lowest score (first place), or a second vote on the top three plus ties, should be taken. The lowest score of the top three, plus ties, in the second vote, will be declared the recipient, no matter what the number or percentage of first place votes. The Chair may vote in all selection ballots, but the Chair's selections must be made before seeing the selections of other members. All rankings and recommendations of the committee shall be kept confidential by the committee members. The award need not be presented in a given year if it is judged that the nominees do not meet the criteria.
8. **TIES AND A DEADLOCKED COMMITTEE:**
 - a. The Award Committee is expected to make every effort to break tie votes.
 - b. If the Award Committee cannot break the tie vote, the Award Committee Chair shall notify Headquarters. Headquarters will reproduce and send copies of the nominations of the individuals involved in the tie to the members of the General Awards Committee.
 - c. The General Awards Committee will review the nominations and vote. The Chair of the Award Committee in question will also vote but the vote will not be counted unless there is a tie in the vote of the General Awards Committee.

F. Background:

The invitation of this award was approved by the CSSA Board of Directors in 1989 for implementation in 1990. The Society sponsors the award and provides the \$1,000 honorarium. The award responsibilities transferred from C460 to C953 in 2005.

G. President's Responsibilities to the Committee:

The CSSA President:

1. Appoints the committee members and Chair.
2. Cooperates with the committee in its activity, as appropriate, or in response to needs.
3. Advises, in writing, the individual who has been selected as the award recipient, as well as the individual who submitted the nomination. The Past President shall advise, in writing, those individuals who made nominations that were not successful.