

S003 BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOIL SCIENCE SOCIETY OF AMERICA

A. Status: Governing Body of the Soil Science Society of America

B. Composition and Tenure:

Individuals serving on the Board of Directors must hold the Active membership category or another category having the same privileges as Active membership (Emeritus, Corporate, Certification), or graduate student membership in the case of the Graduate Student Representative. The Board of Directors of the Soil Science Society of America consists of the following members, serving for the terms indicated:

- The three members of the Executive Committee consisting of the President, President-Elect, and immediate Past President of SSSA.
- Divisions will be organized into the following 4 Groups for determining representation on the SSSA Board of Directors.

Agricultural Soil and Food Systems Group

Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition; Soil and Water Management and Conservation;
Nutrient Management and Soil and Plant Analysis

Education and Practicing Professionals Group

Consulting Soil Scientists; Soil Education and Outreach

Fundamental Soil Science Group

Soil Physics; Soil Chemistry; Soil Biology and Biochemistry; Pedology; Soil Mineralogy

Soil and Ecosystem Processes Group

Forest, Range, and Wildland Soils; Wetland Soils; Soils and Environmental Quality;
Urban and Anthropogenic Soils

All Groups will have one Board Representative, with an additional six Representatives allocated across the Groups, based on the number of members who choose the Divisions within each Group as their primary (first choice) Division. The Group Representatives to the Board serve a 3-year term. If a Group Representative cannot attend a Board meeting, one of the Division Chairs within the Group may represent the Group at the meeting and vote on all matters that come before the Board. If a Group Representative to the Board should resign or become unable to serve, the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall automatically succeed to the office to complete the term. If both the Group Representative and the alternate cannot complete the term, then one of the Divisional Past Chairs represented by the Group shall be appointed by the Executive Committee to serve as the Group Representative to the Board.

- One elected member representing Certified Professional Soil Scientists (CPSS), serving for a term of three years. If the CPSS Representative cannot attend a Board meeting, the Chair of the Soils Certification Board may serve as a substitute at the meeting and vote on all matters that come before the Board. If the CPSS Representative should resign or become unable to serve, the other candidate on the ballot shall automatically succeed to the office to complete the term.

- One elected member representing Early Career Members, serving for a term of three years and serving as an ex-officio member on the Early Career Committee. If the Early Career Representative cannot attend a Board meeting, the Chair of the Early Career Members Committee may serve as a substitute at the meeting and vote on all matters that come before the Board. If the Early Career Representative should resign or become unable to serve, the other candidate on the ballot shall automatically succeed to the office to complete the term.
- One elected member representing Graduate Student Members, serving for a term of two years and serving as an ex-officio member on the Graduate Student Committee. If the Graduate Student Representative should resign or become unable to serve, the other candidate on the ballot shall automatically succeed to the office to complete the term.
- One elected Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Member-at-Large representing all SSSA members serving for a term of three years and serving as an ex-officio member on the Diversity Committee. This director serves as a champion for an increased understanding and improved communications of diversity issue topics, and to aid the implementation of recommendations on issue topics. If the DEI Member-at-Large should resign or become unavailable to serve, the other candidate on the ballot shall automatically be invited to succeed to the office to complete the term. If the DEI Member-at-Large cannot attend a board meeting, the SSSA President may appoint a temporary substitute to attend the meeting and vote on all matters that come before the board.
- The Editor-in-Chief of SSSA serves as an ex-officio member, without vote, for the duration of their term in that position.
- The SSSA Program Planning Officer serves as ex-officio member, without vote, for the term of employment in the position.
- The Chair of the Agronomic Science Foundation serves as an ex-officio member, without vote, for the duration of their term in that position.
- The Chief Executive Officer serves as ex officio member, without vote, for the term of employment in the position.

The term of office of the Directors begins and ends at the time designated by the Board; currently based on a calendar year (January 1 - December 31).

An officer or director may be removed from office for cause by a two-thirds majority vote of the Board of Directors.

C. Functions:

1. To serve as the supreme policy-making arm of the Society as directed by the SSSA Bylaws. Except for those matters which the Bylaws specify are under the direct authority of the membership of the Society or are specifically designated as the responsibilities of stated Society officers, the Board of Directors establishes the policies and revises them when it deems advisable.
2. To update the strategic plan annually and monitor the plan's progress.

3. To have, hold, and administer all property and funds of the Society, in conformity with the Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws.
4. To engage the Chief Executive Officer and other employees as may be needed; however, instead of employing personnel, SSSA has an agreement with the Alliance of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Science Societies (ACSESS) to handle its operational activities on a cost input basis.
5. The Board of Directors shall meet as needed (traditionally in the Spring and at the Annual Meeting) to conduct Society business and use Roberts Rules of Order as a guide for conducting meetings. The Board also holds conference calls on a regularly scheduled basis. Agendas and other pertinent documents are posted on the Board website- <https://www.soils.org/about-society/committees/boards/s003/> prior to each meeting/conference call. Minutes from Executive Committee and Board of Directors meetings/conference calls are posted on the Board website as well as the Society website - www.soils.org/about-society/executive-committee-minutes . At any Executive Committee or Board of Directors meeting, fifty percent of the voting members shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business. With the exception of the Annual Meeting of the entire Society, SSSA will pay expenses for officers to attend Board of Director meetings and other meetings where the individual is performing official duties on behalf of the Society.
6. To review actions taken on its behalf by the SSSA Executive Committee and the Chief Executive Officer and, if necessary, take supplementary action on behalf of the Society.
7. To continually reassess the current operations and the future role of the Society and of soil science as a profession.

D. Group Representative to the SSSA Board of Directors

1. Reports pending Board of Directors activity and actions at each annual Division business meeting within the Group. Collects Division consensus on issues pending Board of Directors action.
2. As appropriate, reports Division discussions, actions, and resolutions to the SSSA Board of Directors.
3. At the Board of Directors meeting during the Annual Meeting, provides the names of nominees for the upcoming ballot for Division Chair-Elect and, when appropriate, Group Representative to the Board of Directors.
4. In conjunction with Division officers, develops procedure to ensure Division web pages are up-to-date.
5. Other activities as directed by the Division, Board of Directors, or Executive Committee.

E. Committees

Board members may be asked to serve on one or more of the following committees: S201 Organization Policy and Bylaws Committee; S211 Budget and Finance Committee; S402 Honorary Member of SSSA Committee; S477 Soil Science Distinguished Service Award Committee; S592 Science Policy Committee

F. Presidential Responsibilities:

The SSSA President:

1. Schedules all regular meetings of the Board and any special meetings that may be required for transaction of Society business, in coordination with the Chief Executive Officer.
2. Serves as the presiding officer at the SSSA Board meetings. In his/her absence, the Past President serves in this capacity. If the Past President is not able to serve, the President designates the President-Elect or some other Board member to serve as Presiding Officer pro tem.
3. Prepares the agenda for Board meetings, in cooperation with the Chief Executive Officer.
4. Refers to the Board any pertinent recommendations received from members or committees of the Society that are intended for action by the Board.
5. Implements actions approved by the Board.
6. Reports all actions taken by the President, the Executive Committee and by the Chief Executive Officer to the SSSA Board of Directors for its information and its further action, if needed.
7. Authorizes the President-Elect to review, correct, and tentatively approve minutes of the Board meetings, as organized and submitted by the Chief Executive Officer. The full Board will formally approve the minutes at the next conference call/meeting.