

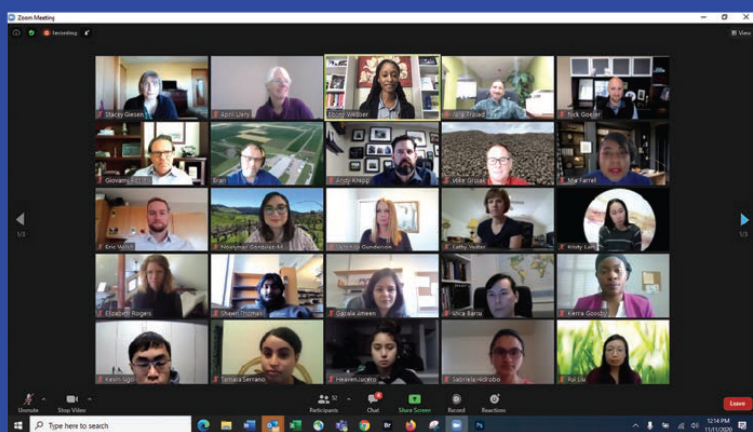
2020 ASA, CSSA, and SSSA International virtual annual meeting highlights

January 6, 2021



Our first ever virtual annual meeting was a success! We were able to translate a content-rich in-person meeting to a content-rich virtual meeting in three months. Attendees and presenters showed resilience in learning a new way to disseminate science and build collaborations virtually. And we

were able to continue advancing our strategic priorities, including diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI) and fostering external engagements.



Representatives from Bayer CropScience, MANRRS (Ebony Webber highlighted), and the Societies hosted two discussion sessions on career opportunities for recipients of the Bayer Diversity Fund scholarships.

Society	Name	Title
ASA	Sylvie Brouder	President
ASA	Gary Pierzynski	Past President
ASA	Jeffrey Volenec	President-Elect
ASA	David Clay	Incoming President-Elect
CSSA	Shawn Kaeppler	President
CSSA	Elizabeth Guertal	Past President
CSSA	P.V. Vara	President-Elect
CSSA	Marilyn Warburton	Incoming President-Elect
SSSA	Ole Wendroth	President
SSSA	William Pan	Past President
SSSA	April Ulery	President-Elect
SSSA	Ron Turco	Incoming President-Elect
SASES	Marjorie Hanneman	President
ASF	Seth Murray	Chair

Board members listen to Town Hall attendees' needs to keep working to meet members' needs.

Visit acsmeetings.org for more information.

January 2021

The great news is that if you are already registered for the Annual Meeting, you can continue to access the recorded content through 13 Feb. 2021. And if you have not registered yet, there's still time to do so! Simply click on "Register" at acsmeetings.org.

2020 Virtual Annual Meeting by the numbers:

- Total registration: 3,471 (as of 7 Dec. 2020)
- 89% from USA, 11% international
- 44% undergraduate, graduate, or early career
- 52 countries represented
- 2,382 oral and poster presentations

CSA News 35

2020 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- 506 prescheduled roundtables and interactive sessions
- 51 exhibitors and sponsors
- 27 universities in the Grad School Expo

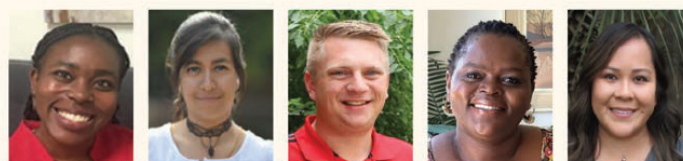
Here's a highlight of just some of the content-rich offerings that are available as recordings through the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting.

CEO Remarks & Opening Keynote



In an all-digital and virtual age, how can researchers make sure their science is heard? Fiona Sarne, Executive Editor at Wiley, presented to about 100 researchers and authors on creating a search engine optimization (SEO)-friendly manuscript. Attendees walked away with clear guidelines for crafting a message that is sure to stand out in the digital space. If you missed it, be sure to check out the session: "Maximize the Impact for Your Published Work."

Publications



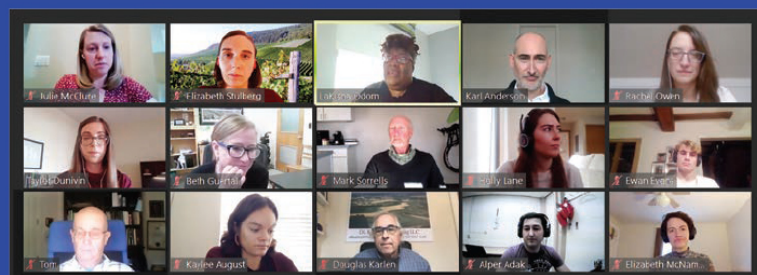
Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion



Diversity

Diversity in our Sciences: Stories of Success and Strategies for the Future

The ASA, CSSA, and SSSA Diversity in Agronomy, Crops, Soils, and Environmental Sciences Committee moderated a panel discussion featuring speakers active in diversity efforts in our sciences. Current successful programs were highlighted, and the session concluded with open discussion and breakout time with the speakers.



More than 60 people attended the Science Policy Luncheon to hear from panelists engaged in different aspects of science policy. Lunch vouchers were generously provided by Bayer Crop Science.

Science Policy

January 2021

CSA News 37

2020 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Society-Wide Graduate Student Competitions

Going virtual with the 2020 Annual Meeting included the SSSA and CSSA Society-Wide Graduate Student Competitions!

These unique virtual competitions gave students the opportunity to showcase their research. The top student





Winners of SSSA's Society-Wide Student Competition were: 1st place—Chelsea Duball, University of Wyoming (SSSA Wetland Soils Division), “FeS Concentrations Indicate the Presence of Hydric Soils: A Case Study on Riparian Soils in Western Nebraska”; 2nd place—Lauren Breza, University of New Hampshire (SSSA Soil Biology and Biochemistry Division), “Complex Crop Rotations Improve Organic N Cycling”; and 3rd place (tie)—Stephanie Duston, Virginia Tech (SSSA Forest, Range, and Wildland Soils Division), “Characterizing Soluble Organic Matter Along Spatial Patterns of Podzolization,” and Alison Tune, University of Texas–Austin (SSSA Soil Chemistry Division), “Hydrogen and Carbon Monoxide Cycling in Unsaturated, Weathered Bedrock in a Montane Forest”

“It was so fun to participate this year and make the most out of a virtual meeting! I am honored to have been selected by my division and able to compete alongside some amazing peers.”

— Stephanie Duston

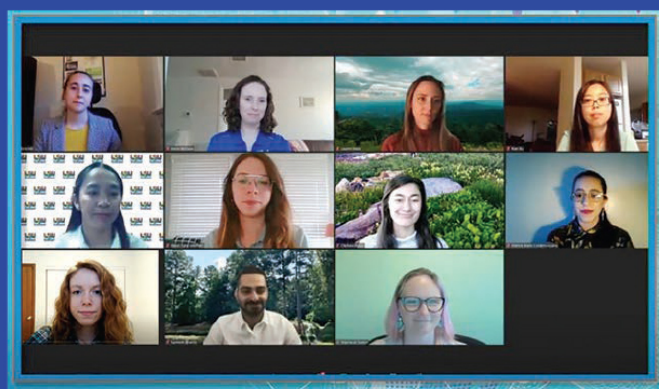
SSSA Society-Wide Student Competition

Thank You to the Judges

- Bill Pan, Washington State University, SSSA Past President
- Leo Rivera, Meter Group, SSSA Corporate Member
- Matt Yost, Utah State University, Early Career Committee Chair
- Cristine Morgan, Soil Health Institute, SSSA Fellow
- Sara Vero, Waterford Institute of Technology, International Early Career Member

Organizing Committee

- Rob Michitsch (Chair), University of Wisconsin, Stevens Point
- Jason Ackerson, Purdue University
- Sarah Shawver, Virginia Tech and 2019 Competition Winner
- Elizabeth Gillispie, Badger Mountain Vineyard



Finalists in SSSA's Society-Wide Student Competition were: Patricia Cordero Irizarry, Ohio State University (SSSA Soil Education and Outreach Division); Jayvee Cruz, Louisiana State University (SSSA Nutrient Management and Soil and Plant Analysis Division); Anne McGraw, University of Kentucky (SSSA Soil Mineralogy Division); Rajneesh Sharma, University of Georgia, Athens (SSSA Pedology Division); Maria Teresa Tancredi, University of Georgia, Athens (SSSA Soil Physics and Hydrology Division); Jessica Wayment, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities (SSSA Soil Fertility and Plant Nutrition Division); and Nan Xu, University of Florida (SSSA Soil and Water Management and Conservation Division)

January 2021

CSA News 39

2020 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Undergraduate Students, the Virtual Meeting, and Contest Winners

The 2020 Students of Agronomy, Soils, and Environmental Sciences (SASES) undergraduate student program presented a full slate of programs during the virtual Annual Meeting. In addition to the contests



Nutrient Management

- 1st—Jocelyn Prieto-Garcia, California State University–Chico
 2nd—Elisa Hanks, Brigham Young University–Rexburg
 3rd—Reid Barker, South Dakota State University

Soils and Soil Quality

- 1st—Hazzel Ramos, Texas Tech University
 2nd—Rachael Kral, University of Kentucky
 3rd—Benjamin Lehman, Cornell University

Undergraduate Student Internship Poster Contest

Sponsored by the ASA Advancing Agronomy via Public-Private Partnerships Community

- 1st—Riley Garner, Purdue University, "Agronomy and Sales Internship with Helena Agri-Enterprises"
 2nd—Jasmine Strickland, University of Tennessee–Martin, "Research and Extension Experiences for Undergraduates at the West TN AgResearch and Education Center"
 3rd—Melissa Preston, University of Wisconsin, River Falls, "Line Maintenance (Corn) Internship at Syngenta"

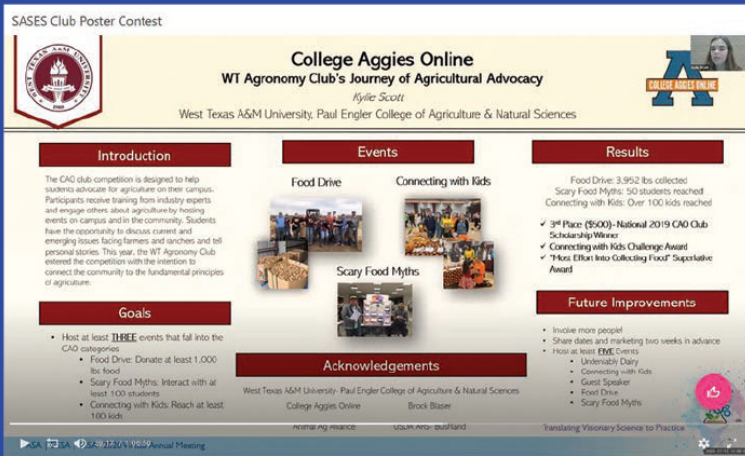
SASES Undergraduate Research Oral Contest

- 1st—Tad Trimarco, Colorado State University
 2nd—Josefina Lacasa, Kansas State University
 3rd—Bryanna Edwards, Texas Tech University

Speech Contest

- 1st—Chris Barron, Texas A&M University
 2nd—Kristy Kohlhaugen, Purdue University
 3rd—Stephanie Reiter, Western Illinois University

January 2021



SASES club poster.



Hot Topics speaker Christine Bradish.



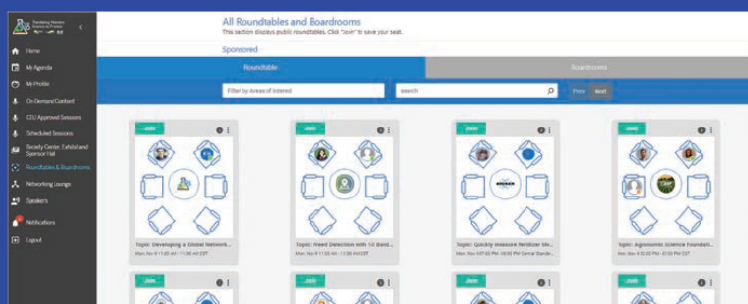
CSA News 41

2020 ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

Crops Judging Contest—Individuals

- 1st—Luke Ryan, Kansas State University
 2nd—Blake Kirchhoff, Kansas State University
 3rd—Jenna Cowan, Iowa State University
 4th—Conner Geurts, University of Wisconsin–River Falls
 5th—Madison Tunnell, Kansas State University
 6th—Austin Schleich, Iowa State University

Networking





CEO Nick Goesser and our presidents-elect closed the first ever Virtual Annual Meeting.

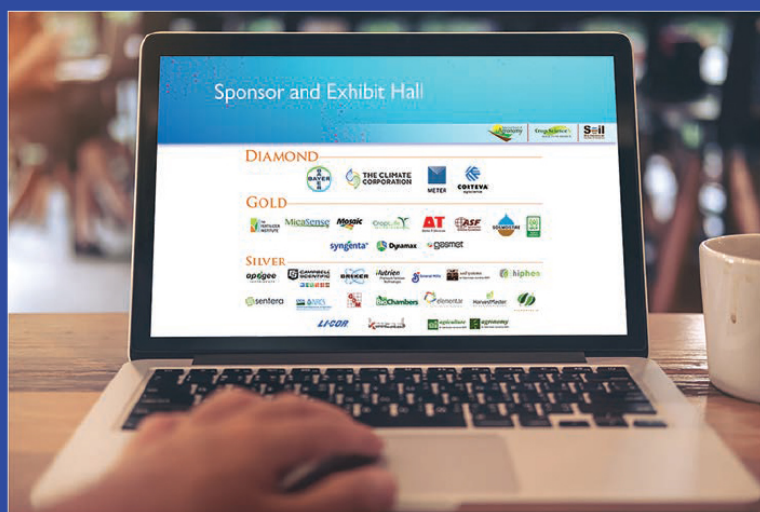
Closing Remarks

On behalf of ASA, CSSA, SSSA, and their members, we want to extend a heart-

felt thank you to our 51 sponsors and exhibitors. It has been the continued vision of our governing bodies, corporate members, and the planning committee to inform, entertain, and provide a network-

ing forum for our members in a safe and comfortable environment during these uncertain times. Your generous support helped make our vision and unified shift to a virtual platform a reality!

Don't forget that you can still interact with all of our virtual exhibitors through 13 Feb. 2021, by registering for and logging into the 2020 Virtual Annual Meeting at acsm meetings.org.



Attendees were able to actively engage more than 50 exhibitors through our virtual exhibit hall.

January 2021

CSA News 43



[More news and perspectives](#)

[Back to issue](#)

[Back to home](#)

Text © . The authors. CC BY-NC-ND 4.0. Except where otherwise noted, images are subject to copyright. Any reuse without express permission from the copyright owner is prohibited.