

**Email of March 28, 2004, from Tom Sims and Jim Culver Concerning
Second Roundtable at Seattle 2004 Meeting.**

DATE: March 28, 2004

TO:

- Mike Singer, Past-President, Soil Science Society of America (SSSA)
- John Havlin, Incoming President-elect, SSSA
- Tom Fenton, Professional Soil Classifiers of Iowa
- Kari Sever, Association of Women Soil Scientists
- Margie Faber, Society of Soil Scientists of Southern New England
- Chad McGrath, Oregon Society of Soil Scientists
- Valerie Breunig, Director of Development, SSSA
- Clifford Landers, National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists
- Jim Ware, Soil Scientist, National Soils Staff, NRCS-USDA
- Tom Rice, SSSA, Past-Chair, S236.1 Membership, Identity, and Visibility Committee
- Deborah Soukup, Chair, S236.1 Membership, Identity, & Visibility Committee
- Luther Smith, ICCA
- Robert Kendall, National Society of Consulting Soil Scientists
- Dawn Tracey, Council of Soil Science Examiners
- Myra Peak, Peak Environmental
- John Zupancic, Agronomy Solutions
- Lee Sommers, 18th World Congress of Soil Science
- John Kimble, 18th World Congress of Soil Science
- Patrick Drohan, Smithsonian Exhibit
- Karl Glasener, Director of Science Policy, ASA-CSSA-SSSA
- Sara Uttech, Manager, Marketing/Communications, SSSA
- Ellen Bergfeld, Executive Vice-President, ASA-CSSA-SSSA
- Mike Golden, Director of Soil Survey Division, NRCS-USDA
- John Doran, Past-President, Soil Science Society of America (SSSA)
- Bill Pauls, Missouri Association of Professional Soil Scientists
- Terry Arroues, Professional Soil Scientists Association of California
- Keith Schlesinger, Director of Meetings and Conventions

FROM: Tom Sims, President, SSSA

Jim Culver, U.S. Consortium of Soil Science Associations (USCSSA)

SUBJECT: Planning a second "Roundtable" for professional soil scientists

On March 11, 2004, teleconference many of those involved in organizing the "Roundtable on Meeting the Needs of the Professional Soil Scientist" at the 2003 Annual Meetings of ASA-CSSA-SSSA in Denver, Colorado agreed that a second "Roundtable" would be a very worthwhile endeavor. Also Tom Sims e-mail note of 1/2/2004 on "2004 Plans for SSSA and USCSSA" provides an excellent summary about another "Roundtable" for the 2004 meetings discussed during our conference call of December 22, 2003.

Consequently, we have initiated efforts to develop an evening roundtable session for the 2004 ASA-CSSA-SSSA meetings in Seattle, Washington (October 31 to November 4, 2004).

The tentative title for the roundtable is "Building a National Effort for Certification and Licensing of Soil Scientists." As SSSA has recently assumed responsibility, through ARCPACS, for the Certified Professional Soil Science program, we are very interested in bringing together a coalition of organizations, agencies, and individuals that can enhance and expand certification and licensing programs throughout the U.S.

Two other related activities discussed for the meeting in Seattle include:

1. Poster session focusing on activities conducted by professional soil scientists, including the role of state soil associations in promoting soil science.
2. "Environmental soils" tour conducted in cooperation with a local consulting firm; the tour could be followed by a workshop at the ASA-CSSA-SSSA meeting to discuss different perspectives on the approaches used to address problems observed on the tour.

If you would like to help with any of these activities, please contact either of us as soon as possible. We will plan to have another conference call in May to discuss how we want to set up the "Roundtable" (speakers, panel, etc.).

Thanks again for all your help in the past and for your interest in this important subject.

Tom and Jim