

## **SSS Division meeting minutes 19 April 2016**

### **Awards**

Winners were announced:

Duchaufour medal - Heike Knicker

Student poster winners 2015 - Suzanne Lutfalla, Alfonso Pisabarro, Michael Blaschek, Sarah Beatty and James Smith. Student winners are able to publish in an EGU journal with waiver of page charges.

Best Flier Award 2015 - Juan F. Martinez–Murillo

Best Convener 2015 – Lily Pereg

Best Course Coordinator 2015 – Murray Lark

Best Oral Talk 2015 – Johan Bouma

Best Poster 2015– Nancy Alanis

Best PICO Presentation 2015 – missed

Outstanding Young Scientist 2016 – Agata Novara

The awards committee structure was covered. The Young Scientist committee is composed of the SSS president and the last 3 winners. The Duchaufour medal committee is composed of the SSS past president and the last 3 winners. Everyone was asked to nominate people for the awards for next year. The Young Scientist award name will be changed to the Early Career Award next year. This recognizes that the award is based on the number of years since the final degree was obtained, and has moved away from being based on age (no older than 35 in the past).

Should SSS have second medal? Most in the division responded yes at last year's meeting. This is currently under discussion with the EGU council. To get a second medal SSS needs to demonstrate a need for another medal. We need lots of nominations for the existing Duchaufour medal if we want to get another medal.

### **2016 GA Numbers**

There were 16,130 total abstracts submitted to EGU this year. This is up almost 2,000 from last year, probably due to a better economy and more submissions from China. However, this also creates issues with having enough space for all sessions. This year's presentation breakdown is 30% oral, 64% poster, and 6% PICO presentations. This is the lowest percentage of oral presentations since 2005, we don't have the space for any more oral presentations and the number of abstracts are up. There may be an option in the future to combine oral and PICO talks in a single session. There are 11,837 participants so far this year. This is not

the final count yet, but the increase in abstracts is not due to a big increase in attendees.

SSS had 1,405 abstracts this year, less than the 1573 that were submitted last year. However, this is still the third highest total in SSS history. SSS made up 9% of total EGU abstract submissions this year, which makes us the 3rd highest division by submissions.

### **2017 Planning**

Organization for 2017 starts now. The basic guidelines for 2017 session organization were discussed. We want to encourage poster only and PICO sessions, as space and time for oral presentations is limited. Please don't have not too many co-conveners on proposed sessions, especially at the beginning. There should be a maximum of 4 initial conveners. Many sessions end up being combined due to lack of submissions, and we don't want too many conveners on combined sessions. Try to avoid overlap between sessions, combine sessions with very similar topics. We want to encourage interdisciplinary sessions. Sessions with less than 20 papers will be merged, or if there are 10-20 submissions the session can be a poster only session. Be sure to include young scientists as conveners. Send emails expressing interest in convening a session to Saskia Keesstra. As usual posters will be clustered into the 5th block. Please include at least 1-2 young scientists in each oral block. The number of time blocks available for orals is a constraint. It is important to use all 5 days of the conference, so there will be sessions on Friday. When conveners ask to avoid a given day for their session, please provide a solid reason for doing so. Encourage young scientists and those from developing countries to apply for financial support.

2017 planning will start soon! The skeleton program for 2017 will be put together in May-June 2016.

### **Outreach Update**

Antonio Jordán provided an update on outreach:

- SSS is 2nd in the number of pictures in Imaggeo, behind only Geomorphology. Submissions per year are growing. This is a great resource for teaching etc., can include pictures, diagrams, etc. Still mainly pictures, but there are a growing number of figures.
- The blog has been moved to the official EGU site, so G-Soil will be abandoned. [blogs.egu.eu/divisions/sss](http://blogs.egu.eu/divisions/sss) is the new address. Views are way up.
- Facebook likes are way up. Twitter is also growing a lot.
- Everyone is encouraged to participate in the EGU newsletter, we need a soil presence.
- A new EGU policy site is being developed.
- Everyone is invited to visit the EGU networking website, especially for young people who are active and want to propose activities.
- EGU public engagement grants – check them out and consider applying. 1,000 Euros each. 2 were given this year, and EGU hopes to increase the number available in the future.

There are several EGU journals to publish soil topics in, HESS, Esurf, Solid Earth, Biogeosciences, and SOIL. SOIL still does not have fees. SOIL plans to apply for indexing later this year, and will hopefully be indexed next year.

EGU has several things (splinter meetings, short courses, topical conferences, educational programs, public outreach, etc.) that happen outside of the General Assembly. It is possible to get money to help support these. Everyone is encouraged to take advantage of these opportunities. There are deadlines except for Galileo meetings, proposals for Galileo meetings can be submitted at any time.

**Current SSS officers:**

President – Saskia Keesstra

Deputy President – Antonio Jordán

OSP coordinator – Paulo Pereira

Science officers – Claudio Zaccone, Axel Don, Nunzio Romano

SSS-GM-HS connectivity – Jantiene Baartman

Young Scientist Representative - Taru Lehtinen

Publications affairs – Eric Brevik

**SSS Divisions**

SSS currently has 11 subdivisions. This year the positions on these committees are set to rotate. Saskia wants to change subdivision position titles from chair, vice chair, and secretary to committee chair and 2 committee members. New subdivision committee members were proposed for each division as needed (anywhere from 1 to 3 positions need to be filled depending on subdivision).

We have openings for committee members in subdivisions 1 and 6. Anyone interested is encouraged to volunteer.

The Soil as a Record of the Past subdivision has requested a name change to Soil as a Record of Time and Space.

Subdivision 9 has a whole new team, all committee members stepped down but 4 new people were found to fill those positions.

A new subdivision has been proposed, Materials and Methods in Soil Science. This would be the 12<sup>th</sup> SSS subdivision. Three committee members have been found to support this subdivision.

A vote was held and the new subdivision officers and the new subdivision were approved.

Contact Saskia with any feedback about the division.

There will be elections in November for division Presidents. Saskia will run again, but anyone who wants to run is welcome. Send email to EGU secretary if interested.

The 2017 EGU GA will be 8-12 May