



The Auger



February, 2004
The Newsletter of the Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists

President's Message

**By Roger Berggren, PSS,
MAPSS President**

As the new President of MAPSS, I would like to thank all of the members for their past and future involvement promoting our profession of soil science. I am grateful for the efforts of our Past-President, James Balogh, and his continued involvement in MAPSS. His leadership and work is greatly appreciated. Mike Walker also deserves our thanks for his excellent efforts in the last two years as MAPSS' Treasurer. I believe the MAPSS Executive Committee and all our MAPSS Committees deserve a round of applause for their extra effort and input into our organization. With this being said, I welcome Dennis Fuchs as MAPSS President-Elect and Doug Miller as the new MAPSS Treasurer. I look forward to working with them and all the committee members in the coming year.

Goals can change, but for now I have two goals to work on for the upcoming year. The first goal is to obtain new MAPSS members. As a functioning organization we need new members to promote the profession of soil science. As some of our members advance into their senior years, they retire and become less active in MAPSS. New members are needed to maintain an active organization. For MAPSS to continue in the future, we need to encourage membership and hopefully expand our membership.

The second goal is to promote the need for and the importance of the profession of soil science. Soil scientists deserve the same professional recognition as professional geologists and professional engineers. Some recognize the profession of soil science, but more can be done. Both of these goals

have been worked on in the past and need to be worked on in the future.

MPCA is starting to revise the Individual Sewage Treatment System (ISTS) (MN Rule Chapter 7080). Revisions should be completed by the end of the year and implemented by the end of the 2005. The profession of soil science will be affected by the rule changes. Our Executive Committee and our ISTS Committee as well as all our members need to review these proposed changes. This is the time to be active in the rule change with respect to how our profession will be involved.

Another issue at the MPCA concerns Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) in relation to impaired waters. Under the Clean Water Act of 1973 all waters that become listed as impaired water due to pollution will have a TMDL assigned to them in relation to certain pollutants. Corrective actions must be implemented to meet the assigned TMDL. Problems with pollution in the water usually can be traced back to use of the land. As professionals, we need to promote the use of soil information in making good land use decisions. During the year, I am sure there will be more issues that come out of Saint Paul that will be of interest to us.

We all need to remember that it is all of our responsibility to be involved in and promote the profession of soil science. The MAPSS committees will continue to do their part and will need the support of all the MAPSS members. As an organization it is up to us to continue to support our organization and others aware of its importance.

During the year please feel free to contact me, or any of the MAPSS Executive Committee on issues or concerns you may have. Contact information is available on the MAPSS website.

Geoscience Licensing and Legislative Update

By Suzanne D'Souza, PSS, MAPSS Executive Secretary

License Renewals for 2004-2005

Your professional soil science licenses are up for renewal on June 30, 2004. You must have 24 professional development hours (continuing education units) for your biennial renewal (except for carryover permitted by the previous biennial period, which must not exceed 50% of the biennial requirement). The cost for renewal is \$120.00. Renewal notices will be sent to your mailing address in May by the staff of the Minnesota Board of Architecture, Engineering, Land Surveying, Landscape Architecture, Geoscience, and Interior Design (Board of AELSLAGID). If you have changed your mailing address you must notify the Board of AELSLAGID in writing. Remember, there is no grace period. You must renew by June 30th or you cannot practice as a Professional Soil Scientist in the State of Minnesota.

Certified Interior Designers Seek Professional Status

The Board of AELSLAGID currently regulates the title of Certified Interior Designer. However, the practice of interior design is not regulated in Minnesota. At a recent Joint Professional Council meeting, the interior design professional organizations announced their intention to re-introduce legislation this year to require upgrading the practice of interior design to a licensed status.

The Auger is the newsletter of the Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists. It is composed of articles by or submitted by the MAPSS membership.

If you want to contribute articles contact the editors: Sara Beth Scadlock or James C. Balogh at mnsoils@aol.com

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MAPSS Officers and Committees

2003 Officers

President	Roger Berggren, PSS
President Elect	Dennis Fuchs, PSS
Past President	James C. Balogh, Ph.D., PSS
Secretary	Laure Brown, PSS
Treasurer	Douglas Miller, PSS
Exec. Secretary	Suzanne D'Souza, PSS (<i>ex officio</i>)

Membership Committee:

Dennis Fuchs, PSS – Chair, Al Giencke, PSS

Election Committee - 2004:

Al Giencke, PSS – Chair, Tom Neuenfeld, PSS

Professional Practice Committee:

Jim Arndt, PSS-Chair, Tom Fair, PSS, Patricia Wright, Kelley Bopray, PSS

Scholarship & Funding Committee:

James C. Balogh, PSS-Chair, Al Giencke, PSS, Jim Anderson, PSS

ISTS Committee:

Robert Whitmyer, PSS-Chair, Terry Bovee, PSS, Mary West, PSS, Mike Rutten, PSS, Peter Miller, Mark Wespetal, PSS

Education Committee:

Peter Hartman, PSS-Chair, Thomas Jackson, PSS, Kim Steffan, PSS, Howard Hobbs, PG, Jorja DuFresne, PSS

Award Committee - 2004:

Steve Stark, PSS – Chair, Jorja DuFresne, PSS

Review of the MAPSS 2003 Winter Meeting

By Roger Berggren, PSS,
MAPSS President

The 2003 MAPSS Annual Winter Meeting was held at the Earl Brown Continuing Education Center on the St. Paul University of Minnesota campus. About 50 people were registered for this meeting. Six hours of continuing education credits were given for those needing the CEUs.

All of the presentations were very good and informational. The presentations included:

- Soil taxonomy review by Professor Terry Cooper, Ph.D., PSS, U of M.
- Pesticide movement in soils by Professor Dong Wang, U of M.
- Soil engineering properties by Mike Meyer, Professional Engineer.
- Fate of organic compounds on soils: Pesticides by Professor Paul Bloom, Ph.D., PSS, U of M.
- Using soils in planning by Matt Johnson, Community Planner for Mid Minnesota Development Commission.
- Soils information and regulating development by Phil Wheeler Planning Director of Olmsted County.
- Discussion on Guide to Redoximorphic Features as Indicators of Soil Saturation (Preponderance Test) by Al Giencke PSS, NRCS Region 10 Soils Correlator.

The award committee chair, Steve Stark, PSS announced Dr. H.H. Cheng, PSS as the recipient of the Soil Scientist of the Year Award for 2004. He received the award for his past and continuing dedication to the practice of soil science in the State of Minnesota, nationally, and internationally. Congratulations Dr. Cheng. George Polk, PSS, Ken Matzdorf, PSS, and Charles Saari, PSS were announced as MAPSS most recent honorary members.

The election committee chair, Al Giencke, PSS announced the winner of the presidential election for 2004. Dennis Fuchs is the new MAPSS President Elect. A corrected ballot for the position as MAPSS Treasurer was sent to all MAPSS members in December 2003. Douglas Miller, PSS was elected the new MAPSS Treasurer. Congratulations to our new officers. I thank all of the candidates for your willingness to support our professional organization.

Volunteer Needed for the MAPSS 2004 Summer Meeting

At the winter meeting, a request for hosting the summer meeting was announced. At that time no one came forward to host our summer meeting. **Please contact me Roger Berggren roger.berggren@co.mcleod.mn.us, if you are willing to host the 2004 MAPSS Summer Meeting.**

Mandatory Certification Program for Wetland Delineation

The Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources is attempting to institute a mandatory certification program for wetland delineation in the state of Minnesota. This program was enabled by Senate File 83 (Chapter 382, Minnesota Laws of 2000) which requires the Board of Water and Soil Resources (BWSR), in consultation with the Minnesota Association of Professional Soil Scientists (MAPSS), the University of Minnesota (UM), and the Wetland Delineators Association (WDA) to submit a plan for a professional delineator certification program to the legislature by January 15, 2001. Currently BWSR in consultation with the U of M is considering the plan submitted in 2001. This certification plan was not instituted in 2001-2002 due to a lack of funding. Apparently, BWSR is now anticipating initiating the program. If you have questions regarding the proposed format of the program, contact Roger Berggren, PSS, MAPSS President at roger.berggren@co.mcleod.mn.us or Dr. Jim Arndt, PSS, Chair of the MAPSS Professional Practice committee at jarndt@petersonenv.com.

SSSA-ASA Award and Internship Programs

In a recent SSSA-ASA online news flash the following announcements were made:

AWARD NOMINATIONS: ONLINE

The Soil Science Society of America and Agronomy Society of America have dozens of scholarships and awards, including the prestigious award of Fellow, available to eligible undergraduate and graduate students, professionals, international researchers, and other scientists. Our online awards system was launched this week and the deadline to submit nominations, including the online receipt of 3 reference letters, is March 5. Visit: www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/awards/

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Do you know of undergraduate or graduate students with an interest in science policy? Forward this announcement and encourage them to apply for the SSSA-ASA Science Policy Internship. This is a paid, 3 to 6 month position. The internship features flexible start and end dates and will be at our Science Policy Office in Washington, DC. Applications due by March 5. For info: www.asa-cssa-sssa.org/sci_pol_intern.html.

Soil and Water Conservation Society 2004 Annual Conference: Headwaters of Conservation - St. Paul, Minnesota By Dennis Fuchs, PSS, MAPSS President-Elect

The 2004 annual national conference of the Soil and Water Conservation Society will be held on July 24-28, 2004 at the Radisson Riverfront Hotel in downtown St. Paul, Minnesota. This conference offers MAPSS members an excellent learning opportunity and option for acquiring meaningful

CEUs. The SWCS annual conference brings together researchers, practitioners, and policymakers at all levels of government, along with a broad cross-section of other interest groups, to explore current issues in natural resource management and planning.

The theme for the annual conference, Headwaters of Conservation, will unfold in the plenary and concurrent sessions as well as in the technical tours. The program will focus on four areas:

- Soil and Environmental Quality
- Agricultural Management and Environmental Quality
- Assessing the Effectiveness of Conservation and Environmental Programs
- Geo-spatial Technology for Conservation – Soil, Water, and Land

Several quality workshops are being planned; information will be available on the SWCS website and in the preliminary program by mid- to late-February. The conference has special sessions for students interested in soil and water conservation as professional careers.

The Minnesota Chapter of the SWCS has worked hard to organize technical tours, optional site-seeing tours, and activities for the teens and youth. More information will be made available on these happenings in the next few weeks.

Organizations, groups, and/or committees are invited to hold meetings and/or receptions at the SWCS annual conference. To obtain a form, call 515-289-2331, extension 17 or email nancy.herselius@swcs.org.

Be sure to check the SWCS website frequently for updates on the happenings at the 2004 annual conference in St. Paul. More information will be added as it becomes available (<http://www.swcs.org/>).

Contact Nancy Herselius, Meetings Coordinator, at 515-289-2331, extension 17 or nancy.herselius@swcs.org for more information on the annual conference.

Second Draft of the Proposed Constitutional Bylaw for Scholarships, Extramural Funding, and Establishment and Management of an Endowed MAPSS Fund

By the Scholarship and Funding Committee

The Scholarship and Funding Committee (Committee) presented a draft of a constitutional bylaw to institute a sustainable scholarship and extramural endowed fund at the Winter 2003 MAPSS Business meeting. The Committee asked for comments on the draft proposal from the membership and the Executive Committee. The following draft bylaw represents the changes requested by all MAPSS members, who submitted comments. The MAPSS Executive Committee remains committed to establishing a sustainable endowed fund. All future requests for scholarships and extramural funding will be funded by income generated by the endowed fund. However, all approved funding requests, currently part of the MAPSS Standard Operating Procedures, will remain in place until the fund meets its minimum goal of \$15,000 and the membership votes to make a previous commitment part of the endowed fund annual allocation.

All funding for future scholarship and extramural projects would be paid out of the interest generated by the endowed fund. This method insures a sustainable source of funds for annual scholarships and other extramural commitments without compromising the operational commitment to funding MAPSS's core organizational goals. Sources of funding will be by voluntary donations to the fund. Funding should not be acquired by sale of goods (e.g. hats and shirts) or services as this type of income is subject to federal and state income tax. This would require annual submission of income tax forms and payment of taxes.

The committee especially thanks Gary Elsner, PSS and Dr. Terry Cooper, PSS for their thoughtful and constructive suggestions for the proposed endowed fund. This second draft of the fund is presented in this newsletter. The final Constitutional Bylaw will be presented to all MAPSS Voting Members after final comments are taken at the MAPSS Summer Business Meeting.

BYLAW NUMBER TWO TO THE MAPSS CONSTITUTION

Scholarships, Extramural Funding, and Establishment and Management of an Endowed MAPSS Fund for Monetary Funding of Scholarships and other Extramural Project

I. ESTABLISHING A SCHOLARSHIP AND EXTRAMURIAL FUNDING COMMITTEE AND FUNDING PROCESS

MAPSS has determined that funding requests for scholarships and extramural projects shall be funded from the interest and other income derived from a dedicated endowed fund. Funding for scholarships and extramural projects shall be maintained separately from other MAPSS funding sources.

Rules and Guidelines for Establishing and Maintaining the Scholarship and Extramural Funding Committee (SE Committee):

(1) The role of the SE Committee shall be to:

- Screen all scholarship and extramural funding requests based on (i) available income from the endowed fund; (ii) whether the funding request meets MAPSS organizational goals; and (iii) whether the funding request meets the screening process as outlined in Subsection (3) of Section I.
- Establish and maintain an interest bearing, endowed fund to provide funding for scholarship and extramural funding requests. This account shall be separate from the MAPSS operational budget.
- Establish and maintain a funding request process for scholarship and extramural funding requests.
- Report all the results of funding requests to the MAPSS Executive Committee for approval by the MAPSS membership.
- Solicit funds for the endowed fund and maintain the endowed fund in a manner, which protects the principal of the fund and generating sufficient income to maintain approved activities.

(2) Selection and Tenure of the SE Committee Members:

Members and tenure of the SE Committee shall be:

1. The chairperson of the committee shall be the Past President of MAPSS as elected by the MAPSS membership (1 year term).
2. The treasurer of MAPSS as elected by the MAPSS membership (2 year term).
3. One academic MAPSS member appointed by the MAPSS President (3 year term).
4. One government MAPSS member appointed by the MAPSS President (3 year term).
5. One private sector MAPSS member appointed by the MAPSS President (3 year term).
6. One student MAPSS member appointed by the MAPSS President (2 year term).

A quorum for the SE Committee meetings shall be 4 voting SE Committee members.

(3) Scholarship and Extramural Funding Request and Funding Grant Process

In order to keep MAPSS members informed of all funding requests, the following procedures shall be followed so all requests can be considered objectively and consistently. All information requested for scholarship and extramural funding requests must be submitted in writing to the SE Committee by the organization requesting the funding. This information must meet the following criteria:

1. Submit the full request in writing to the SE Committee prior to six months prior to the request for fund allocation in order to prepare the request for the MAPSS Executive Committee. This request is submitted by the requesting organization to the SE Committee.
2. Contain the amount, purpose, and recipient(s) of the funding.
3. Contain a detailed description of the organization requesting the funding.
4. Contain a detailed explanation of how the funding request will benefit MAPSS and the professional practice of soil science in Minnesota.
5. Contain a detailed explanation of how the funding request meets the established professional priority goals of MAPSS.
6. Submit the final request in writing to the MAPSS Executive Committee prior two months prior to the MAPSS Summer Business Meeting or MAPSS Winter Business Meeting. The SE Committee prepares the request submitted to the MAPSS Executive Committee. The request submitted to the MAPSS Executive Committee shall include a recommendation for approval or denial of the scholarship or funding.
7. Reviewed by the MAPSS Treasurer and SE Committee to determine whether the MAPSS

Endowed Fund will sustain the request without negative effects on current association commitments.

8. Review by the MAPSS Executive Committee to determine if the request is consistent with overall MAPSS priorities, mission, and goals. Proposals not meeting the requirements of items 1 through 7 will receive a negative review by the MAPSS Executive Committee.
9. Published in the MAPSS Newsletter or e-mailed to the membership via the Newsletter News Update Service prior to the next available business meeting. The proposal and the findings of the MAPSS Executive Committee, MAPSS Treasurer, and SE Committee are included in the Newsletter or in the e-mail ballot.
10. Meet the approval of the MAPSS membership by majority vote of all MAPSS members. The ballot will be sent by e-mail to MAPSS members using the Newsletter News Update Service. Paper copies will be sent to those members not using the e-mail service.

II. ESTABLISHING A SCHOLARSHIP AND EXTRAMURAL ENDOWED FUND

All funding for future scholarship and extramural projects shall be paid out of the interest or income generated by the MAPSS Scholarship and Grant Endowed Fund (Endowed Fund). In order to fund sustainable annual scholarships and extramural funding, only the principal from the Endowed fund will be used for funding scholarships and extramural projects.

Sources of revenue for the endowed fund shall be, but not limited to, from voluntary donations by MAPSS members, voluntary donations from estates of MAPSS members or others interested in the scholarship and funding programs of MAPSS, voluntary donations from and other sources of revenues as suggested by MAPSS members or the SE Committee and approved by the MAPSS executive committee.

No scholarships or extramural funding will be considered until the principal of the endowed fund has a minimum principal balance of \$15,000.00.

The Endowed Fund shall be managed by the SE Committee under the direct supervision of the MAPSS Executive Committee prior to commitment of funds to any investment. The MAPSS Executive Committee shall approve all transactions in the Endowed Fund. The principal of the Endowed Fund shall be maintained in conservative interest bearing investments in order to sustain the account and generate income for scholarships and extramural project funding over the life of MAPSS.

In Memorial The Loss of a Friend and Colleague,

Dr. Pierre Robert

Last month a friend and colleague, Dr. Pierre Robert, died as a result of a tragic accident. Many soil scientists in Minnesota knew Dr. Robert as the exemplar of a professional soil scientist and dedicated professor. In a letter to friends and colleagues, Dr. Ed Nater, Professor and Head of the Department of the University of Minnesota Department of Soil, Climate, and Water, wrote the following letter of mourning:

Dear Friends and Colleagues:

I am deeply saddened to tell you that Dr. Pierre Camille Robert, Director of the Precision Agriculture Center and Professor in the Department of Soil, Water, and Climate at the University of Minnesota, died as the result of an accident late last week. Dr. Robert suffered serious head injuries after being struck by a vehicle while walking last Thursday in Champaign, Illinois, where he was attending a professional conference. He never regained consciousness following the accident, and was pronounced dead early in the evening on Friday, 12 December, 2003. Life support was terminated following organ donation. His family was with him.

As many of you know, Dr. Robert was an internationally recognized leader in the field of precision agriculture. He founded the Precision Agriculture Center at the University of Minnesota in 1995 and served as its Director. He organized and hosted the premiere international conference on Precision Agriculture, and was the founder and first Editor-In-Chief of *The International Journal on Advances in Precision Agriculture*. Dr. Robert received many honors for his research, outreach, and teaching activities, including an honorary professorship from the Etablissement National d'Enseignement Supérieur Agronomique de Dijon, France and a Fellow of the Soil Science Society of America. He was in constant demand to speak at conferences, workshops, and other venues around the world.

At the time of his death, Dr. Robert was in the midst of planning the 7th and largest ever International Conference on Precision Agriculture, which will be held July 25-28, 2004, in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Although Dr. Robert's untimely death is a serious setback to us all, the organizing committee wishes to assure those who might be planning to attend that this conference will be held as planned and that a special symposium in Dr. Robert's honor will be added to the agenda. In light of this tragic event, the deadline for abstract submission will be extended until the 31st of December.

At the time of his death, Dr. Robert was 62 years old. He is survived by his wife, 4 children, 7 grandchildren, and his mother. A memorial has been established in Dr. Robert's name at the University of Minnesota; donations may be sent to University of Minnesota Foundation, c/o the Department of Soil, Water, and Climate, 439 Borlaug Hall, 1991 Upper Buford Circle, St. Paul, MN 55108.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Pierre and his family. He will be greatly missed.

MAPSS 2004 DUES NOTIFICATION: Final Notice for Members in Arrears

If you are one of the many faithful MAPSS members who have forgotten to pay your dues for 2004, this will be your last notice for membership renewal. This also will be your last newsletter. Please complete this form and return with your dues to the MAPSS Treasurer, if you did not send in your dues in December 2003. MAPSS is the only professional organization in the State of Minnesota representing the mutual interests of practicing, government, academic, and student soil scientists. Who else helps remind you to pay your dues? Who keeps you informed of legislation and rules affecting professional soil scientists in Minnesota directly? MAPSS of course!!

First Name: _____ **Middle Initial:** ____ **Last Name:** _____
Title: _____ **Name of Employer:** _____
Address 1: _____ **Address 2:** _____
City: _____ **State:** ____ **Zipcode:** _____
Work Phone: _____ **Home Phone:** _____
Fax: _____
Primary E-Mail: _____ **Additional E-Mail:** _____
Licensed? _____ **License Number:** _____
Membership Type: ____ **Year Dues Last Paid:** _____

Membership Type Codes: A = Associate, F = Full, C = Complimentary, H = Honorary, S = Student, Z? = Dropped for non-payment of dues.

Include Membership Information on MAPSS Web Page? ____ (Y or N)
If left blank, information will not be published on the MAPSS Web Page.

2004 Dues

Full Member Dues:	\$40.00	_____
Associate Member Dues:	\$25.00	_____
Student Member Dues:	\$10.00	_____
Honorary and Complimentary Dues:	No Charge	
Late Fee (if paid after 12/31/2003):	\$ 5.00	<u>5.00</u>
Reinstatement Fee (full members only):	\$20.00	_____
Total Due:		_____

Make your check payable to MAPSS and mail with this form to:
Douglas Miller, 26850 Aberdeen Ave., New Prague, MN 56071.