

S483 DON AND BETTY KIRKHAM SOIL PHYSICS AWARD

A. Status: Special Committee

B. Composition and Tenure:

The Committee consists of the Chair plus 6 members.

The term of office for members is two years.

The Chair serves for one year.

C. Functions:

1. To encourage nominations for this award.
2. To become familiar with the Guidelines and Procedures for this award and to be responsible that all nominations fulfill the required criteria of eligibility for the award.
3. To evaluate nominations and to select the most outstanding nominee for the award.

D. Procedure:

1. The SSSA Headquarters Office distributes the nominations to the Committee members and advises them of the scoring or ranking to be followed. The Chair transmits any special instructions to members. The Chair determines, with guidance from the committee if needed, the eligibility of each nomination.
2. The Chair of S483 submits an annual report as requested by the Society.
3. The Chair activates and works with the committee on any special charges sent to the committee by the Board of Directors or the Executive Committee.
4. The Chair promptly informs the SP&H Division Chair about the winner, so that the Division Chair can schedule an award talk for the annual meeting.
5. The Chair reminds the winner of the expectation of the "Don and Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award Lecture".

E. Presidential Responsibilities:

The SSSA President:

1. Appoints new members to replace those whose terms expire and appoints the Chair of the Committee.
2. Cooperates with the Committee in its activities, as appropriate or in response to need.
3. Notifies the Committee directly of all deadlines on award selection, annual report, etc.
4. Receives and takes action directly, or by referring to the SSSA Executive Committee and/or Board of Directors, as appropriate, all suggestions and/or recommendations for action from the Committee.

F. Description of Award:

The Don and Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award is designed to recognize midcareer soil scientists who have made outstanding contributions in the area of soil physics. The award consists of a certificate and a monetary award.

The award winner is encouraged to deliver the "Don and Betty Kirkham Soil Physics Award Lecture" at the Annual Soil Science Society of America meeting. The talk will be in one of the Division's sessions and scheduled by the Soil Physics

and Hydrology Division Chair. The award winner is expected to pay regular abstract fee, registration costs, and travel costs for the meeting.

G. Award Criteria:

The principal criteria for the award are:

1. Significance and originality of basic and applied research in soil physics.
2. Quality and impact of teaching soil physics at undergraduate and graduate levels.
3. Total impact of contributions on soil science and other fields nationally and internationally, as well as the world community at large.

H. Format for Nominations:

A format guide, approved by the Board of Directors or Executive Committee, is issued each year and is available on the SSSA awards webpage at www.soils.org/awards .

I. Eligibility of Nominators:

Nominations for this award will be accepted only from individual active members of the Society. Members of the Executive Committee and members of the award committee are not eligible to submit nominations for the award or to write letters of support.

J. Eligibility of Nominees:

The award is intended for persons in midcareer. After achieving a formal education, a person completing at least 3 years of professional activity in her or his focused field of study and not yet ceasing full-time professional employment is considered midcareer. Membership in the Society is not required. The Society reserves the right not to present the award if no nominees meet the criteria. Members of the Executive Committee or the award committee are not eligible for the award, nor are they eligible to write letters of support for nominees.

K. Scoring or Ranking Procedure:

Each member of the committee ranks the nominees in order from 1 to n (the number of nominees). The recipient is the nominee receiving the lowest score. The award need not be presented in a given year if it is judged that the nominees do not meet the criteria.

L. Revising Guidelines or Procedures:

The committee may recommend changes or revisions relative to criteria, description, selection process of recipients, etc., for this award. All recommendations must be approved by the SSSA Board of Directors or Executive Committee before said recommendations may be implemented however, recommendations may be submitted through the President or directly to the Board of Directors or Executive Committee.

M. Ties and Deadlocked Committee:

1. The Committee is expected to make every effort to break tie votes.
2. If needed, the Chair casts the tie-breaking vote.