Bergfeld is the new Societies’ Executive Vice President

Ellen G.M. Bergfeld accepted the Executive Vice President (EVP) position for ASA, CSSA, and SSSA. Dr. Bergfeld’s official start date at the Societies headquarters office in Madison, WI, is July 1, 2003. Her responsibilities are to provide for the overall administrative leadership and management of the three Societies, and to develop effective relationships with federal and state legislative and policy setting organizations, and with national and international organizations.

Dr. Bergfeld is currently the Executive Director of the American Society of Animal Science (ASAS), a founding member of the Federation of Animal Science Societies (FASS). She is also an Adjunct Professor at the University of Illinois’ Dep. of Animal Sciences.

“We are delighted to welcome Ellen to the Societies,” said Robert Hoeft, ASA President. “We will benefit from Ellen’s experience and considerable insights and are confident that under her leadership, we will expand our services to meet our expanding membership base. She is highly respected in the animal science societies and we believe Ellen will be a great asset to our Societies.”

Dr. Bergfeld was raised on a purebred Angus and crop farm in Ohio. She earned her B.S. degree in Animal Science from the Ohio State University in 1990, and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Nebraska, Lincoln, in 1993 and 1996 respectively. Her Ph.D. research focused primarily on the endocrine regulation of puberty and estrus in cattle. Following her graduate work, she was awarded the Federation of Animal Societies of Food Animal Science (FASFAS) Congressional Science Fellowship for 1996–1997 and was most actively involved with the re-authorization of the Research, Extension, and Education Title of the 1996 Farm Bill, working for Senator Kent Conrad (D-ND).

“Ellen Bergfeld brings her experience as Executive Director of one of our sister agricultural scientific societies, as well as experience in science policy as a former Congressional Science Fellow. She is already very familiar with the types of problems and challenges that face agriculturally oriented scientific societies, and she should be able to ‘hit the ground running’ said Charles Stuber, Past President of ASA.

“She also brings new perspectives and fresh ideas for promoting the Societies which should be helpful in membership recruitment and retention as well as in making our Societies more visible.”

Read Dr. Bergfeld’s message on page 7.
Northeast Branch Met at West Virginia University

The Northeast Branch of ASA and SSSA met on July 14–17, 2002, at the West Virginia University campus in Morgantown, VA. Attendees were treated to three days of symposium, graduate student presentations, research presentation, and technical tours. The Plenary Session, titled “Sustainable Agriculture in the Northeast and Beyond”, featured academic and farmer perspectives, and stimulated vigorous discussions on the merits and challenges of organic farming.

At the conference banquet, John Jemison (Univ. of Maine) passed on the president’s gavel to Bill Jokela (Univ. of Vermont). Past-president Tom Bruulsema (PPI) presented the following awards:

- Career Service—Richard H. Fox (Penn State)
- Teaching—Murray McBride (Cornell Univ.)
- Research—Robert Hill (Univ. of Maryland)
- Extension/Industry—Sidney Bosworth (Univ. of Vermont)
- Agway—Ron Ritter (Univ. of Maryland)
- Graduate Student—Rachel Gilker (Univ. of Maryland)
- Senior Student—Kristin Staats (Univ. of Delaware)

Awards for outstanding graduate-student presentations were also presented to:

- First—Ellen M. Seconi (Penn State)
- Second—Gregory M. Etter (West Virginia Univ.)
- Third—Brian L. Dillehay (Penn State)

The Northeast Branch will hold its next meeting June 29–July 2, 2003 at the University of Vermont in Burlington, VT. Check http://pss.uvm.edu/nebasa, for more information.

Northeast Branch ASA & SSSA Award Winners. (left to right) Sid Bosworth, Murray McBride, Ron Ritter, Robert Hill, Rachel Gilker, Dick Fox, Kristin Staats.

Northeast Branch ASA & SSSA Outstanding Grad.-Student Paper Presentations. (left to right) Gregory Etter, Ellen Seconi, Brian Dillehay.