

Annual Achievement Award – 2016

Soil Science Society of North Carolina

The Award this year goes to Dave Lindbo. His biography is unique and I might as well name him now because you would guess who it is quickly.

Dave is from Boston MA. Basically he is a city boy who worked extensively on his grandfather's farm.

Holds degrees in geology and soil science from the University of Massachusetts and University of New Hampshire.

Dave worked for several years as a postdoc at the USDA's Sedimentation Lab in Oxford MS where he worked on fragipans.

He joined NC State as assistant professor of extension in 1995 to develop training and research programs in on-site waste disposal, working in collaboration with Mike Hoover. Both of these men developed what became a nationally recognized program in on-site training.

In 2011 Dave became the undergraduate coordinator for the Department of Soil Science, taking that role over following the retirement of Joe Kleiss. In that role Dave taught two classes: Soil Genesis and Classification, as well as a Soil and Environmental Management, advised undergraduates, and coached the Soil Judging team.

Also, in 2011 Dave was elected president of the SSSA which required a 3-yr commitment. This role allowed him to travel extensively throughout the U.S. and the world, meet congressional leaders, and even give a short presentation at the U.N.

In 2015, Dave retired from NC State to join the USDA-NRCS's staff in Washington DC as the Director of the Soil Science Division. In this role he directs the soil mapping efforts that are underway throughout the U.S. He is the second person from this society to hold that role—Horace Smith being the first. Roy Vick is also in that division in Washington.

Dave has received many awards including being named a Fellow of the SSSA, Envirothon Mentor of the Year by the Wake Soil and Water Conservation District Board of Supervisors, and being named the Tar Heel of the Week by the News and Observer.

Please join me in congratulating Dave Lindbo on this well-deserved honor.

