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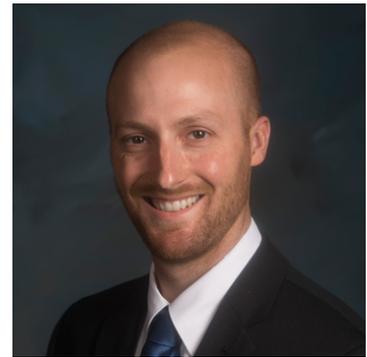
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Soil Health Partnership Begins Search for New Director as Organization Continues to Grow

Goeser to remain engaged in new role with National Corn Growers Association

(ST. LOUIS) – As the Soil Health Partnership heads into its fourth year of long-term data collection on working farms, some changes are afoot among the staff due to promotions, and several positions are open. An initiative of the National Corn Growers Association, the program’s goal is to quantify the benefits of soil health-promoting practices from an economic as well as environmental standpoint, showing farmers how healthy soil benefits their bottom line.

NCGA has promoted Nick Goeser, who has served as the project’s director since its launch in 2014, to the position of NCGA Vice President of Production and Sustainability.



Goeser said while the promotion offers a great new opportunity for professional impact, the decision to leave SHP was exceptionally difficult. However, in his new role at NCGA, he will serve as a member of the SHP Steering Committee and remain engaged with the Science Advisory Council.

“The Soil Health Partnership is a project I have poured my heart and soul into for the last four years,” Goeser said. “My hope is that this change will bring additional opportunity and support to the partnership. This program will continue to grow to scale impactful change across agricultural and non-agricultural communities – and our enrolled farmers and staff deserve credit for the success.”

“We are excited to see how Nick will grow our sustainability efforts and, given his proven record of excellence, confident that he will shape our organization to benefit farmers both in the near and long-term,” said NCGA CEO Chris Novak.

In other SHP staff changes, former Eastern Iowa Field Manager Elyssa McFarland has accepted a promotion to a new position. As Key Relationships Director, McFarland will identify key contacts at new and existing stakeholder organizations to establish and foster relationships. She will also help with technical communications, working to provide key stakeholders with science-based soil health and sustainability information, as well as providing technical assistance.

Jack Cornell has been promoted to Field Team Director from his former position of Operations Manager. Jack has oversight over the SHP Field Team and is working to add new levels of support in areas like farmer relationship management, data collection and management, special collaborative projects and network expansion efforts.

Former Program Coordinator Anne Dietz has been promoted to SHP Project Manager. She will take a more active role in overseeing management of essential projects across SHP such as assistance in grant management, website development, and technology integration efforts. Anne will expand her work across internal and external collaborators for management of these efforts.

In addition to a new director, the organization plans to hire a Business Development Director, a Lead Scientist and additional field managers as expansion continues. Several positions are posted on the Soil Health Partnership [careers page](#).

About the Soil Health Partnership

The Soil Health Partnership is a farmer-led initiative that fosters transformation in agriculture through improved soil health, benefiting both farmer profitability and the environment. With more than 100 working farms enrolled in 12 states, the SHP tests, measures and advances progressive farm management practices that will enhance sustainability and farm economics for generations to come. SHP brings together diverse partners to work towards common goals. At least a ten-year scientific program administered by the National Corn Growers Association, the SHP's vision is driven by initial and continuing funding and guidance from NCGA, Monsanto, the Walton Family Foundation, the Midwest Row Crop Collaborative, General Mills, the Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research and USDA, with technical support from The Nature Conservancy and the Environmental Defense Fund. For more, visit soilhealthpartnership.org.

MEDIA CONTACT:

Renee Hulshof/SHP
Renee@rosemedia.biz
(573) 819-7348