

# SOCIETY OF SENSORY PROFESSIONALS

The center for all things sensory



SOCIETY OF  
**SENSORY**  
PROFESSIONALS



## Benefits

SSP is the premier nonprofit organization created to advance the field of sensory evaluation, consumer research, and the work of sensory professionals by sharing and exchange of ideas and methods, mentoring, education, and research.

**As an SSP member, you can take advantage of many benefits, including:**

- Accessing conference presentations
- Networking with industry leaders
- Attending conferences at an exclusive member rate
- Expanding your knowledge through training and educational courses
- Accessing key publications (*Journal of Sensory Studies* and *Journal of Texture Studies*)
- Searching members-only job postings
- And more!

Be a leader in this advancing science—become a member today!  
Join online at [sensorysociety.org](https://sensorysociety.org).

A group of hands holding up large red letters that spell out "JOIN US!". The hands are of various skin tones and are positioned as if they are presenting the letters. The letters are bold and three-dimensional. The background is white.

[sensorysociety.org](https://sensorysociety.org)

## Upcoming SSP Events

**November 1, 2017**

### **Regional Meetings + Virtual**

Featuring Grace Douglas, *Ph.D., Advanced Food Technology  
Lead Scientist, NASA Johnson Space Center*

**Spring 2018**

### **Regional Meetings + Virtual**

**September 26–28, 2018**

### **2018 SSP Conference**

*Rock Your Sensory Advantage: Driving Excellence,  
Advancement, and Inspiration*

Hilton Cleveland Downtown  
Cleveland, Ohio, U.S.A.

### **SSP Executive Committee**

Chair: Alexa Williams, *PepsiCo*

Chair-Elect: Lydia Lawless, *Hershey*

Past Chair: Jason Newlon, *Procter & Gamble*

Treasurer: Candi Rathjen-Nowak, *General Mills*

Secretary: Nancy Peper, *McCormick*

Strategic Planning & Nominations Chair: *Kristine Downing  
Wilke, Kellogg Co.*

Member-at-Large: Dawn Chapman, *Covance Food Solutions*

Member-at-Large: Katie Marston, *PepsiCo*

Member-at-Large: Kelly Van Haren, *Procter & Gamble*



Join us for the journey – ask where and

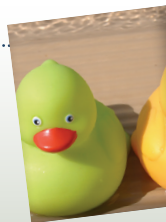


## Ways to Get Involved

**Grow yourself and our SSP community – join a team today!  
Contact us at [ssp@scisoc.org](mailto:ssp@scisoc.org).**

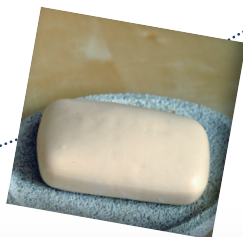
- 1) Regional Meetings** – Whether you're looking to host a new region, partner with an existing region, or help develop content for upcoming regional meetings, we would love to have you. While we encourage participation in regions, SSP also welcomes remote member call-ins for those not located near a larger population of SSP members. Access to Regional Meetings is a resource available to all SSP members. Contact Lydia Lawless.
- 2) Beyond Food Outreach Committee** – This group is looking to grow the field of sensory science beyond the food industry using a three-pronged approach: increase awareness in non-food career opportunities, generate more non-food sensory research and journal publications, and create demand for sensory science in industries underutilizing it today, such as automobiles, hotels, electronics, and more. Contact Kelly Van Haren.
- 3) Professional Development Committee** – Creating content and training for members to help grow their careers and increase their impact in the workplace. The committee works to add content to both regional meetings and conferences that give sensory scientists tools to be successful in their field, and emphasizes members from different groups sharing their experiences for the benefit of the whole society. We welcome additional members and ideas from all. Contact Katie Marston.

*how you can get involved, and we will help you get plugged into the*



- 4) **Strategic Planning Committee** – This group seeks to keep SSP relevant to its members and serves as a starting point to consider the society’s goals, focus areas, and leadership needs. One example that came from this group is SSP Connectors, a cross-society mentorship program to provide an avenue for SSP members to grow their networks and support their career development. Contact Kristine Wilke.
- 5) **Communication Committee** – We’re looking to expand the number of communication contact points between the society and its members. Volunteer opportunities exist to help grow the content on the SSP website, sharing discussion topics on the SSP LinkedIn site, and starting up new outlets of communication to keep SSP top of mind for our members. We’re always looking for new ideas and ways to increase communication and networking among members; new ideas and members are always welcome. Contact Dawn Chapman.
- 6) **Connectors Program** – Our goal is to connect individuals in SSP to grow their network, learn from others, and support career development through direct contact with other sensory professionals. We have provided an interactive activity for introductions at Regional Meetings. We are looking for volunteers with ideas to connect members on common topics, lead technical or small group discussions, or match members into relationships based on skills and desires. Contact Marnie Paumier.

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## Society Mission

Share knowledge, ideas & experiences, advance the science, mentor & educate to promote sensory excellence.

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### Noteworthy Milestones

The Society of Sensory Professionals (SSP) was established in 2008 with a strong focus on sensory science as well as professional development, providing a truly unique offering in the sensory community. Over our nine years, we have celebrated several milestones.

- *Journal of Sensory Studies* designated as the official journal of the society – a foundational benefit
- Regional Meetings piloted in 2013 and broadening ever since. The two Regional Meetings per year in off-conference years foster a space for learning and networking locally. One has a technical focus and one is for professional development.
- To date, five conferences have furthered technical and professional development skills of our members. See you in Cleveland in 2018! Past conferences include Cincinnati, OH – inaugural conference; Napa, CA; Jersey City, NJ; Tucson, AZ; and Atlanta, GA.
- Since 2013, SSP has been professionally maintained by a consortium of technical organizations – sharing the resources of an experienced Scientific Societies staff enables us to focus on you and the science.
- Join our engaged and growing network of almost 600 members on LinkedIn, Facebook, or Twitter (@SSP\_Chair Alexa, @Sensorypros)



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Courtesy of Shutterstock.com: Hands Using Sanitizer; Fruit Slice Splash; Multiple Hands; Dog Bones; Smelling Flower; Join Us; Headphones. Courtesy of GraphicStock.com: Coffee; Pencils; Spices; Rubber Ducks; Paper; Bar of Soap