The proposal to add a fifth council emerged from work conducted by a task force that recognized a need for the Society to have a structure in which emerging initiatives with potential for providing strategic growth and increased impact for the Society would have a space. Examples of such initiatives include the Circular Bioeconomy Systems Institute and the Alliance for Modernizing African Agrifood Systems.

The constitutional amendment proposed below to establish the Strategic Initiatives Council, would provide space for initiatives to incubate and eventually become an integral part of ASABE. A petition in support of presenting this possible bylaw change to the corporate membership for a vote was presented at the 2023 Annual Business Meeting of the Society, held at the Omaha Annual International Meeting.

Constitution Article C10, Membership Coordination Units
Sec. 1

This change would affect the Constitution as noted below with deletions denoted by strikethroughs and additions by underlines:

ARTICLE C10, MEMBERSHIP SERVICES COORDINATION UNITS
Sec. 1 Membership services shall be coordinated by four five Coordination Councils that shall operate under the provisions of the Constitution, Bylaws and Rules and within the guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees.
Sec. 1a A Publications Council shall promote and manage the papers and publications of the Society.
Sec. 1b A Standards Council shall promote and manage the Engineering Standards and Recommended Practices of the Society.
Sec. 1c A Meetings Council shall promote and manage the meetings and conferences in which the Society is involved.
Sec. 1d A Membership Development Council shall promote the education, professional development, and professional registration of the members of the Society.
Sec. 1e A Strategic Initiatives Council shall promote membership-driven strategic multiple community initiatives and partnerships by providing oversight to and periodically evaluating existing initiatives while exploring and developing opportunities to incubate new strategic multiple community initiatives.