

Annual Report: Tropical Biology Section of BSA

The section co-sponsored two symposia organized by the Association of Tropical Biology at the IBC in 1999. Marisa L. Martínez and R. A. Lubke brought together a symposium on “Coastal Sand Dunes: Their Ecology and Restoration” and Patricia C. Morellato and Lucinda McDade organized a symposium on “Phenological Studies in Tropical Plant Communities.” The Section’s allotments of \$700 each for FYs 1998-99 and 1999-2000 were used to defray registration expenses for speakers from developing countries in these as well as other IBC symposia relating to tropical botany (of which there were many).

For the Portland meeting, only one contributed paper was received by the Section, which was transferred to the Society’s Ecology Section. An apparently relatively low attendance of biologists with tropical leanings at the Oregon meetings may have to do with the recent (June) meetings in Bloomington, which were held jointly by several societies including the Association for Tropical Biology and which drew numerous tropical ecologists and systematists.

Over the course of the coming year, we will seek to convert our email address list to a web based listserv and establish links with listserves established by other BSA sections and related groups outside of the BSA. This may result in greater interaction among section members. By late 1998, the Tropical Section had 210 members in the USA and 95 in other countries.

Susanne Renner
Chair, Tropical Biology Section