

## Developmental and Structural Section Annual Report 2002

At the 2002 BSA meetings the Developmental and Structural Section will sponsor three symposia:

- 1) Generating diversity: The link between developmental morphology and phylogeny (co-sponsored with the CBA).
- 2) Conifer reproductive biology: A tribute to Dr. John N. Owens (co-sponsored with the CBA).
- 3) Biocomplexity in mycorrhizae (co sponsored with the ecology section)

In addition, we will sponsor the Pelton Award Lecture to be given by one of our members, Karl J. Niklas of Cornell University, Ithaca, NY. The title of his lecture is Plant morphogenesis: Logic and mechanism.

The "Open Space" forum that was initiated by our section several years ago has now become the "Discussion Sections" sponsored by the Society. This year there are two scheduled Discussion Sections:

- 1) Forensic botany, led by Jane H. Bock and David O. Norris.
- 2) Uses of nuclear ribosomal RNA repeats, ITS2 sequences, led by Annete W. Coleman, and Mark W. Chase.

Members of our section will present 32 contributed papers distributed among three sessions, and fifteen posters.

Topics of discussion at last year's business meeting included the development of a section web page, increasing student participation, and the distribution of section funds between student travel awards and symposia.

Two awards for student presentations are given out in the Developmental and Structural Section. At the 2001 meetings the awards were as follows:

The Katherine Esau Award goes to the graduate student who presents the outstanding paper in developmental and structural botany at the annual meeting. The 2001 Award went to Steven Jansen from the Institute of Botany and Microbiology, K.U. Leuven, Kasteelpark Arenberg, for his paper "Vestured pits: a wood anatomical character with strong phylogenetic signals at high taxonomic levels." Co-authors were Pieter Baas and Erik Smets.

The Maynard Mosely Award recognizes a student paper that best advances our understanding of the anatomy and/or morphology of vascular plants within an evolutionary context. Two awards were presented in 2001. 1) Genaro Hernandez-Castillo from the University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, Canada for his paper "Evidence for compound pollen cones in Paleozoic conifers". Co-authors were Gar Rothwell and Gene Mapes, and 2) Maria Von Balthazar from the University of Zurich, Zurich, Switzerland, for her paper "Floral structure and phylogeny of Buxaceae." Her

co-author was Peter Endress.

The section also presented travel awards to six student members: Athena McKown, Jennifer Winther, Erin Bissell, Ken Chapman, Caroline Mitchell, Allena Volskay.

Respectfully submitted,

Pamela K. Diggle, Chairperson  
Developmental and Structural Section