

## Ecological Section Report - 2002

The Ecological Section has new officers this year, each beginning a 3-year term: Suzanne Koptur (Chair), Tim Bell (Vice-Chair) and Joe Colosi (Secretary). Normally elected prior to the annual meeting, these new officers were elected in November 2001 and will serve through summer 2004, with new officers elected prior to the meetings in 2005.

We received 45 contributed papers and 27 poster abstracts for the Madison meetings, and Joe Colosi organized these into 4 contributed papers sessions. We took Carol Baskin's advice and have placed all student papers in one session, to facilitate judging; we will see how this works this year. We had 16 volunteers to judge papers, and 18 to chair sessions, many good citizens in this section!

Membership in our section has decreased substantially in the last few years, reflected in the smaller section budget. We will be seeking ways to encourage increased membership in the BSA by ecologists of all kinds who work with plants. This year our section is sponsoring two symposia (Evolution of mating systems in the genus *Mimulus*, and Biocomplexity in mycorrhizae) and will present monetary awards and banquet tickets for best student presentations.

We applaud Presidents Judy Jernstedt and Scott Russell for sharing information on the Endangered Species Act Exemptions and opportunities for contact with our elected government officials. The Ecological Section will soon have a list-serve to promote the sharing of news, notices, and discussion of potential interest to members of the section. Please contact us with any ideas you have for ways in which the section can better serve the BSA.

Respectfully submitted,  
Suzanne Koptur