

Bryological and Lichenological Section 2003 Annual Report

The Bryological and Lichenological Section (BLS) participated in two meetings in 2002. The BLS section was represented by a number of presentations and posters at the 2002 annual BSA Meeting in Madison, Wisconsin. Local representative Jim Bennett coordinated the presentation in a number of BSA sections. The sections also met with the American Bryological and Lichenological Society (ABLS) in Storrs, Connecticut in July 2002. The meeting included field trips, invited and contributed presentations, poster session and social event. At the ABLS meeting the A. J. Sharp Award, for the outstanding paper presented by a student, was given to Rebecca Yahr, for her presentation, "The structure of symbiotic communities: population-level patterns of association between lichen fungi and their algal photobionts" (coauthors were P. DePriest and R. Vilgalys). Co-honorable mention went to Linda Fuselier, for her presentation, "Growth and reproduction of *Marchantia inflexa* from single-sex and bi-sex populations", and to Frank Bungartz, for his presentation, "Biologically-induced mineralization by the endolithic lichen *Verrucaria rubrocincta* Breuss in the Sonoran Desert" (coauthors were L. Gravie, T. Nash, & L. Knauth). The winner received a stipend of \$500 and free membership to ABLS for a year. The runnerups received books on lichens and bryophytes donated to the society as well as a free membership to ABLS for a year.

In addition, awards for the outstanding papers published in *The Bryologist* in 2001 were presented at the meeting. The Tuckerman Award, given to the outstanding paper on lichenology, was awarded to Dianne Fahselt, Susan Madzia, and Vagn Alstrup, for their paper, "Scanning electron microscopy of invasive fungi in lichens." Honorable mention was accorded to Christian Printzen, for his paper, "Corticolous and lignicolous species of *Lecanora* (Lecanoraceae, Lecanorales) with usnic or isousnic acid in the Sonoran Desert region." The Sullivant Award, accorded to the outstanding paper in bryology, was given to D. Nicholas McLetchie and Alison Collins, for their paper, "Identification of DNA regions specific to the X and Y chromosomes in *Sphaerocarpos texanus*." Honorable mention was accorded to Natalie Cleavitt, for her paper, "Disentangling moss species limitations: the role of physiologically based substrate specificity for six species occurring on substrates with varying pH and percent organic matter." The winners of the Tuckerman and Sullivan Awards received a prize of \$500.

In 2004 the section and ABLS will meet with BSA in Mobile and a number joint of activities are planned: the annual ABLS (and B&L Section) Breakfast, an A. J. Sharp student award competition for best paper, the ABLS and B&L Section mixer, and a one-day field trip to local bryological and lichenological collecting sites. The sections will sponsor a half-day symposium, "Sex and Individuality in Lichens," which will be held Tuesday morning and will feature speakers from Austria, U.K., Canada and the United States. ABLS and BSA are supporting travel to the meeting for the non-US participants. Financial support for travel expenses associated with the symposium is requested from BSA