

2004 Genetics Section Report to the BSA Council

Linda Jennings received the 2003 Margaret A. Menzel Memorial Award at the BSA banquet in Mobile, AL for her paper entitled " Genetic, morphological and ecological variation within and between two southern Utah endemics, *Townsendia aprica* and *T. jonesii* var. *lutea* (Asteraceae)." Co-author on the paper was J. Whitton. The award recognizes the best presentation in the contributed paper session of the Genetic section and includes a certificate, \$200.00, and a ticket to the BSA banquet.

Xianan Liu received the 2003 Genetics section Poster Award for his work entitled " Identification of a novel gene, HaABRC5, up-regulated in response to drought, salinity and exogenous abscisic acid from *Helianthus annuus* (Asteraceae)." Vance Baird was a co-author on the poster. The award included a certificate, \$100.00, and a ticket to the BSA banquet.

The Genetic section will co-sponsor a symposium and a colloquium at the Botany 2004 meeting: Symposium: Plant development and evolution: Lessons learned from candidate genes Colloquium: Rupert Barneby and his legume legacy.

At the Botany 2004 meeting at Snowbird, UT, there will be 31 oral presentations in two contributed paper sessions and 15 posters given in the Genetics Section.

All three officers of the Genetic Section, Stephen Novak, Chair and Council Representative, Randall Small, Vice Chair, and Vance Baird, Secretary/Treasurer, will remain in their positions for the coming year. A Nominating Committee will be formed this year to seek nominees for the Secretary/Treasurer position, as the Chair of the Genetic Section is scheduled to step down after the Botany 2005 meeting.

Stephen Novak is out of the country this summer; Therefore, Randall Small will attend the Council meeting as the Genetics Section representative and conduct the Business Meeting at the Botany 2004 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Stephen J. Novak