

## Annual Report of the BSA Education Committee

Members of the BSA Education Committee have been involved in three major projects/activities over the last year. One of the most promising results of these is the increased level of interactions between the Teaching Section and the Education Committee of BSA. Members of the Teaching Section and of the Education Committee are working together on projects such as the review of teaching slides/images. This review is being coordinated by the Teaching Section, with assistance from the Education Committee. The two groups are also working on the Psi- $\pi$  project (now SIP), with individuals serving as online mentors for students conducting research in middle schools, high schools, and colleges. These same individuals serve as reviewers of contributions that have been posted online by students engaged in the Psi- $\pi$  activities. Bill Dahl has been a key person in the development of SIP.

Bill Dahl recently met with the ASPB Executive Director and several members of the ASPB Education Committee in hopes of reinvigorating interactions with that organization, especially those dealing with plant biology education. Gordon Uno had initiated discussions with the ASPB Education Director, however, that individual left the ASPB last year, and discussions stalled. The initial contacts were intended to bring together the expertise of BSA and ASPB members and to develop a set of educational materials for pre-college students, focusing on the high school level. The new goal is to work with the ASPB on a few major educational projects, targeting both pre-college and college-level classrooms, teachers, and students. One of the projects is SIP, and the other is the development of new and the revision of existing pre-college classroom materials on plants. A timeline will be outlined that leads to a unveiling of coordinated activities at the convention at which both ASPB and BSA meet in 2007.