

Jeanette Siron Pelton Award

The **Jeanette Siron Pelton Award** is given for sustained and imaginative productivity in the field of experimental plant morphology.

Dr. Tobias Baskin, University of Massachusetts, Amherst is the 2006 awardee. Dr. Baskin is recognized for his research into how plants control their shape via cellulose microfibrils and the microtubule cytoskeleton. He has made fundamental contributions to our understanding of how local cortical microtubule organization is related to microfibril orientation, which constrains cell and, ultimately, organ growth in longitudinal and radial directions. He has combined physiological, cytological, ultrastructural and genetic approaches to his studies of cell growth, and is credited with important innovations of microscopic techniques. Dr. Baskin is currently investigating the interaction of specific proteins with cortical microtubules, the plasmamembrane, and the cellulose synthase complexes in the membrane, to critically evaluate his proposed model of cell wall control of its own microfibril orientation. This award is from the Conservation and Research Foundation, based on the nomination by the BSA Pelton Award Committee, and includes a check and a certificate. This award also includes a Jeanette Siron Pelton Award Address, which will be given at the Botany 2007 conference in Chicago, Illinois.

Dr. Judy Jernstedt