

## BSA DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT 2008

As you may know, the Botanical Society of America, following our very successful Centennial meeting on the campus of California State University, Chico and in conjunction with the fulfillment of many of the items in our 2001 strategic plan, has undertaken the formation of a Development Committee. This new committee met at BSA headquarters in St. Louis earlier in the year. Members of the Committee include Greg Anderson, Hardy Eshbaugh, Phil Lintilhac, Peter Raven, Jim Seago, Bill Stern, Dennis Stevenson, Bill Dahl, and Ed Schneider (Chair). Ann Hirsch and Janice Coons have since joined the committee.

During our first meeting, we looked over the 100+ year history of the Society and the impact it has had on members and our botanical profession. Of particular note, were the many students who have gone on to careers in the plant sciences. We identified the need to step forward and build the financial foundation for the next 100 years of botany and the Botanical Society of America. It was clear the BSA needed to formalize a planned giving program. Termed the BSA Legacy Society, future gifts from bequests, trusts, or other planned gift instruments, will provide for the future of the Society, including the AJB and all the elements that have established BSA as a leadership organization (scholarships, expanded educational outreach programs, support for student research and attendance at meetings, etc). I am pleased to inform you that all Development Committee members are all Members of the BSA Legacy Society.

Prior to the 2008 meeting in Vancouver we set out a call to all members of 15 years or more to remember the BSA and become a part of the future as a Legacy Society member. I am asking that you, as BSA Council Members, to please consider becoming members of the BSA Legacy Society.

The BSA Legacy Society form can be found at <http://www.botany.org/bsa-legacy/BSALegacyForm.pdf>.

Remember, it is not necessary at this time to identify a particular financial amount; rather we seek a simple note committing you to remembering BSA in your will or bequest. If you feel that BSA has played an important role in your professional career and that of your students, please complete the form and return to Bill Dahl, his address is at the bottom of the Legacy Form or on the BSA website - [http://www.botany.org/bsa-legacy/legacy\\_members.php](http://www.botany.org/bsa-legacy/legacy_members.php).

Bill is planning a Legacy Society social at the Vancouver meeting on Wednesday afternoon. Since inception, the BSA Legacy Society has grown to over 70 members. I am asking you, as BSA Council Members, to join with us in adding to the future of the BSA. Your participation in the BSA Legacy Society will have a multiplier effect within our organization. If you have questions, please contact Bill Dahl or me.

Respectfully submitted, Ed Schneider, Past –President & Development Committee Chair