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Executive Committee, Editors and Staff

1. President

The *Botanical Society of America* has made great strides in the past year and continues to improve its services to our membership. My report can only touch on some of these recent accomplishments.

As you know, 2009 marks the first time since the inception of our society that the *BSA* Bylaws have been rewritten. The resulting significant changes in our governance will improve the efficiency of our society's operation and increase the lines of communication between the membership and all *BSA* officers. On behalf of the entire membership, I want to thank the Bylaws committee, chaired by Scott Russell, and facilitator Janice Dahl CAE, President and CEO of *Anchor Management*, who provided the committee expert governance and advice.

In addition, our Strategic Planning Committee, chaired by Pamela Soltis, has prepared an extensive and thoughtful document outlining the steps that must be taken to ensure the prosperity of the *BSA* in the 21st century. The committee will present its report to the membership during our

annual meeting. I encourage everyone to attend the presentation and participate in the planning process.

The *American Journal of Botany's* recent recognition by the Special Libraries Association as one of the ten most influential journals of the past 100 years in the fields of biology and biomedicine testifies to the intellectual vigor of our membership who serve as authors and reviewers and to the long-term commitments to excellence by our editorial board, the *AJB* Editor-in-Chief, Judy Jernstedt, the *AJB* Managing Editor, Amy McPherson and the *AJB* Production Editor, Richard Hund. I am pleased to announce that Judy has been offered (and has accepted) a second term as the *AJB* Editor-in-Chief. Thanks are due to the *AJB* search committee, chaired by Scott Russell, which evaluated nominations for this important post and made a unanimous recommendation.

The BSA is a society founded to support botanical research and the scholarly development of science. The *AJB* is our primary mechanism for this purpose. Therefore, I ask that you carefully consider where you publish your research. Ask yourself how the publishers of other journals support science and education. Please publish in journals sponsored by scientific societies and non-profit organizations like the BSA.

The persistent financial crises both here and abroad have posed significant challenges for the hard-working Financial Advisory Committee chaired by Harry Horner. Thanks to their oversight, the BSA endowment has not suffered as much, proportionally, as have the endowments of other scientific societies. We all owe much to Harry and his committee. Thank you one and all.

Our Society's membership continues to grow primarily because of student member renewals and new student memberships. This is happening thanks to your support and the continued creative efforts of our Membership & Subscriptions Director, Heather Cacanindin. Remember, when renewing your membership this Fall that you have the ability to provide gift memberships to your students for only \$10. This is proving to be a great way to support the future growth of the BSA and our society's journal.

On another topic, did you realize there are now ten scientific societies participating in the BSA-led *PlantingScience* program? Thanks are due to all who support this effort, especially the scientists serving as mentors. Under

the direction of *BSA* Education Director Claire Hemingway, and with the assistance of Education and Outreach Coordinator Jennifer Potratz, we are supporting and fostering the study of plants to an ever-increasing group of teachers and students. Additional information regularly appears in Claire Hemingway's "*BSA* Science Education News and Notes" in the *Plant Science Bulletin*.

In collaboration with the *ASPB* and *CBA*, *BSA* co-sponsored the *ChloroFilms* project inspired by Daniel Cosgrove. This video contest was designed to encourage the production of informative, creative, and entertaining videos to promote a greater appreciation and understanding of plant life among the general public. This project was successful in bringing the awareness of the importance of plant life to a broad, worldwide audience. I am very pleased to report that A new *ChloroFilms* competition is being planned for this year, and that the *BSA* will continue to participate as a sponsor.

At this time, I would like to recognize and thank our Conference Director, Johanne Stogran, our Director of Finance & Administration, Wanda Lovan, Manager of Technical Development, Rob Brandt, and Executive Director, Bill Dahl, whose continued dedication and hard work are responsible for the success of *BSA*'s annual meetings and everyday operations. I also thank our Program Director, David Spooner, for his hard work to ensure we have a great scientific program here at Snowbird and elsewhere in the years he continues to provide us with his extremely valuable service as our Program Director.

The *BSA* continues to work with other scientific societies to promote the study of science, in general, and the plant sciences, in particular. As your President, I served as the *BSA* representative on the *AAAS* Council and participated in the crafting of *AAAS* position papers, perhaps most notably those dealing with evolution and creationism/ID. I also attended the 2008 meeting of the *Council of Scientific Society Presidents* and participated in discussions dealing with scientific publications, the international exchange of scientists, and a variety of other topics relevant to the success of the *BSA*. In addition, I have worked to open lines of communication among the presidents of other scientific societies by creating an informal "council of presidents of plant science societies". The first meeting of this group occurred last year during our annual meeting, and I am very pleased to say

that another gathering will occur this year, here at Snowbird. It is my sincere hope that this becomes a *BSA* tradition for our annual meetings.

In closing, I extend my congratulations to each of our newly elected officers and offer my deepest thanks to those officers who will be leaving the Board of Directors or the Council this year. It has been a remarkably wonderful experience working with each of you. Thank you for making my term in office so easy and pleasant.

Respectfully submitted



2. Past President **Activities**

As Past-President, I chaired the Elections Committee and the Corresponding Members Committee (see below for reports of those committees). In addition, I chaired the BSA's Strategic Planning Committee. This Committee was commissioned by former Past-President Chris Haufler and myself and began working on the strategic plan in March, 2008. Additional meetings were held at Botany 2008 in Vancouver and in St. Louis in January, 2009. The plan was completed by email and will be presented to the membership during Botany 2009 in Snowbird. The BSA continues to belong to the Council of Scientific Society Presidents (CSSP), which meets twice per year in Washington, DC. The Past-President, President, President-Elect, and Executive Director of the BSA generally attend the December meeting of CSSP and, in addition to participating in the conference, use the meeting as an opportunity to discuss BSA business. In December, 2008, President Karl Niklas, Executive Director Bill Dahl, and I represented the BSA at CSSP. In addition, I serve on the CSSP Board of Directors, representing the BSA. I have also continued to work with the ad hoc committees that were formed as I assumed my position as President-Elect in 2006. I helped to organize and obtain funding for a panel discussion on career development and other issues facing women at the Women in Science luncheon to be held Tuesday, July 28, 2009, in Snowbird. I am working with the International Committee to develop a proposal to NSF to fund a joint workshop between the BSA and its counterpart in Peru. I have also helped the BSA Student Representatives (Jim Cohen and Andrew Schwendeman) plan a panel discussion on career planning for graduate students and post-docs, to be held Tuesday, July 28, 2009, in Snowbird.

Annual Report of the Elections Committee

Pamela S. Soltis, Past-President, Chair, ex officio, Robert K. Jansen, Jeff J. Doyle, Judith E. Skog, Stephen G. Weller, Secretary, ex officio

(note: Judy Skog recused herself from the Committee upon her nomination for President.)

The Committee solicited nominations for President-Elect and Secretary from the BSA membership and supplied additional nominations. In addition, candidates for the At-large Directors for Development, Education, and Publications were nominated and secured by the Board of Directors, and the slate of candidates for the BSA Student Representative to the Board of Directors was provided by the current Student Representatives.

The Chair of the Committee led discussions to rank the nominees for President-Elect and Secretary and invited the top nominees to stand for election.

The results of the 2009 elections are:

President:

Judy Skog	294
Ann Hirsch	193

Secretary:

Pam Diggle	295
Theresa Culley	187

At-large Director for Development (three-year term):

Dennis Stevenson	244
Edward Schneider	232

At-large Director for Education (two-year term):

Christopher Haufler	247
Gordon Uno	238

At-large Director for Publications (one-year term):

Scott Russell	265
Gar Rothwell	212

BSA Student Representative to the Board of Directors (two-year term):

Rachel Meyer	121
Michele Brower	114
Stephen Stern	105
Natalia Pabon-Mora	103

The Committee thanks all candidates for their willingness to serve the Society.

Corresponding Members Committee

Pamela S. Soltis, Chair, Christopher H. Haufler, Edward Schneider

The Committee received five nominations for Corresponding Members and unanimously endorsed all of them.

Prof. Enid A. C. MacRobbie

Professor Emerita, Botany School (now Department of Plant Sciences), University of Cambridge, Cambridge, England

Dr. MacRobbie has studied ion transport in plant cells for over five decades. Her early work revolutionized our understanding of ion transport processes across the plasmalemma and tonoplast in photosynthetic organisms, through study of relatively small-celled marine algae and of the giant cells of characean algae. Her later work documented the role of ion fluxes in the movement of stomatal guard cells in controlling leaf gas exchange. She continues to investigate signal transduction mechanisms involved in stomatal closure. Her lifetime of achievement and discovery in plant science merits special recognition in the form of Corresponding Membership in the BSA.

Prof. John Raven

Boyd Baxter Professor of Biology, Department of Biological Sciences (now Division of Plant Sciences, College of Life Sciences), University of Dundee, Scotland

Dr. Raven's career has concentrated on the physiology of how photosynthetic organisms acquire resources, especially inorganic carbon and nitrogen, from their environment, and how these resources are used within the organisms. Throughout his work, he has emphasised an evolutionary approach, and his study systems have spanned major clades and diverse habitats throughout the world, with current work extending to astrobiology and the search for conditions on other planets and moons that would support photosynthesis. His research has implications for climate change, as he addresses the role of marine and aquatic photosynthetic organisms in carbon dioxide cycles. For this outstanding body of physiological research, Dr. Raven is recommended for Corresponding Membership in the BSA.

Prof. Anca Sarbu

Department of Botany, University of Bucharest, Romania, and Director of the Dimitrie Brandza Gardens, University of Bucharest, Romania

With over 100 publications already in her relatively short career, Dr. Sarbu has distinguished herself as an enthusiastic advocate for botany, both within her native Romania and through international collaborations. Her research interests are broad, but her focus is on plant biodiversity and conservation of the Romanian flora. Through her work as Director of the Dimitrie Brandza Gardens, she has brought into cultivation many endangered species. She is an active teacher as well and has published five laboratory and teaching manuals. For her diligent protection of rare plant species and her role in international research projects on biodiversity, Dr. Sarbu is enthusiastically recommended for Corresponding Membership in the BSA.

Dr. David E. Symon

State Herbarium of South Australia, Adelaide, Australia

Dr. Symon is regarded as the premier Solanologist in the history of Australian botany, having completed the monograph of the genus in . He is an outstanding field botanist, with floristic expertise that spans Australia. His body of work is also broad conceptually in that it includes floristics based on extensive fieldwork, basic systematics, and the biological implications of his observations and systematic research. He continues to conduct research on members of Solanaceae (and other groups), even at the age of 88, and remains supportive of junior botanists by providing field support, identifications, and specimens to several systematists. As Australia's foremost authority on Solanaceae, Dr. Symon is very deserving of Corresponding Membership in the BSA.

Prof. Muddasir Israr Zaidi

Department of Botany, University of Balochistan, Quetta, Pakistan

Dr. Zaidi's primary expertise is on the medicinal properties of plants, but her research is diverse and addresses physiology, economic botany, and useful plant compounds, and extends to systematics and ecology. In addition to her research, she has worked on exchange of journals and equipment to provide improved resources for botanical research in Pakistan. Dr. Zaidi has overcome many obstacles in her career, such as a nation at war, government upheaval, and strong cultural prejudice against women in the workforce. She has been active in the BSA for several years, and we now recommend that we welcome her as a Corresponding Member.

Respectively submitted, **Pamela S. Soltis BSA Past-President**

3. President Elect

4. Secretary – See 2008 Minutes

5. Treasurer

The Botanical Society is in healthy financial condition. Income and expenses for the past year have been fairly close to the budgeted amounts. The largest share of income is from the *American Journal of Botany*. Although income from membership is substantial, it is only 15% of that associated with *AJB*. The Society also has substantial grant income. Grants are nearly revenue neutral; however they provide partial salary to the staff. Therefore grants enhance the Society both by adding function and by supporting staff. The largest share of expenses includes *AJB* and supporting the operation of the Society's office. This past year, the biggest financial issue for the Society has been the dramatic loss in our investment fund associated with global market changes. While this loss reduces the total worth of the Society, it does not reduce function as the funds are managed for long-term investment.

Assets

As of 30 June 2009, assets in the Society's investment accounts totaled nearly \$2.7M (Table 1), a decrease of approximately \$600K in the past year. This loss reflects the overall market trend;

performance of the funds has been at least as strong as the market average. The management of the funds has been switched from allocations to specific types of securities and equities to an indexing strategy following the recommendations of Morgan Stanley Smith Barney. The goal of this switch is to provide further stability and growth opportunities. The Financial Advisory Committee also altered the performance goal of the endowment to stipulate an 8.00% net rate of return, rather than the absolute rate of return that had been used in the past. The rationale for the change is that now fees and services are included in the goal rather than treated as a side change.

Table 1: Investment fund balances for the Botanical Society of America

Investment funds balance 30 June 2007	\$3,666,322
Investment funds balance 30 June 2008	\$3,326,358
Investment funds balance 30 June 2009	\$2,724,682

Income and expenses

The budget approved for 2008-2009 included budgeted income of \$2.15M and budgeted expenses of \$2.12M *versus* current year-to-date totals of \$1.41M and \$1.06M, respectively (Table 2). The reduction in the value of the Investment fund is reflected in a negative income (i.e. loss) in the year-to-date column. Other categories are expected to approximate the budgeted amount with the exception of operating expenses that are running substantially below budget.

Budget for 2009-2010

Budgeted income is projected at \$1.96M in 2009-2010 *versus* \$2.15M in 2008-2009. The modest decrease reflects slight a reduction in predicted income associated with *American Journal of Botany*, grants income and contributions to special funds (largely donations). Budgeted expenses are projected at \$1.95M in 2009-2010 *versus* \$2.11M in 2008-2009. The drop in predicted expenditures largely reflects the fact that operational expenses have been running below budget this year; the 2009-2010 budget figures reflect these lower operating costs.

Table 2: Summary of income and expenses for the Botanical Society of America

2009-2010 Budgets	Budgeted	Actual	Budgeted	Increase/	%
Budget Comparison	2008-2009	2008-09 YTD	2009-2010	Decrease	Change
Total Income	\$2,147,204	\$1,409,912	\$1,963,648		
Operational Income	1,129,621	1,084,884	1,022,065	-107,556	-10.5%
Investment Income	66,000	-237,198	30,000	-36,000	-120.0%
Meetings Income	301,580	250,775	301,580	0	0.0%
Grant Income	650,003	311,452	610,003	-40,000	-6.6%
Total Expense	\$2,119,104	\$1,065,307	\$1,949,265		
Operational Expense	1,217,997	708,611	1,091,015	-126,982	-11.6%
Investment Expense	36,000	34,041	30,000	-6,000	-20.0%
Meetings Expense	215,104	64,976	218,247	3,143	1.4%
Grant Expenses	650,003	257,679	610,003	-40,000	-6.6%
Consolidated BSA Operations					
Income	1,129,621	1,084,884	1,022,065	-107,556	-10.5%
Expense	1,111,520	708,611	1,019,728	-91,792	-9.0%
Balance	18,101	376,273	2,337	-15,764	-674.4%
Botany Conference Series					

Income	301,580	250,775	301,580	0	0.0%
Expense	291,581	64,976	291,580	0	0.0%
Balance	10,000	185,799	10,000	0	
BSA Grants					
Income	650,003	311,452	610,003	-40,000	-6.6%
Expense	650,003	257,679	610,003	-40,000	-6.6%
Balance	0	53,772	0	0	
BSA Investment					
Income	66,000	-237,198	30,000	-36,000	-54.5%
Expense	66,000	34,041	30,000	-36,000	-54.5%
Balance	0	-271,240	0		
TOTAL					
Income	2,147,204	1,409,912	1,963,648	-183,556	-9.3%
Expense	2,119,104	1,065,307	1,951,311	-167,793	-8.6%
Balance	28,101	344,605	12,337	-15,763	
					*as of 6/09

Treasurer - **Laura Galloway**

6. Program Director

Snowbird conference planning

A site visit was made to the Snowbird Location in mid-October by myself, Johanne Stogran (BSA Conference Manager), Patrick Herendeen (ASPT Program Director), Brad Kropp (MSA representative), Leigh Johnson (BSA Local Representative). We reviewed all of the facilities.

The conference is about 25% larger than our conference in Snowbird 4 years ago. Based on comments from attendees at the prior Snowbird meeting we paid close attention to AV, shuttle busses from the lower buildings to the upper buildings, and affordable food. The AV equipment is new and high resolution and power capable of good projection, we will have shuttle busses running regularly, and we have made arrangements for complimentary continental breakfasts each morning and affordable options for lunches and dinners.

This year we will have a joint all-conference banquet with the MSA as well as with our traditional participating societies (ABLS, ASPT, AFS). To maintain a dinner of reasonable length, both societies are shortening their awards presentations, and will be presenting awards via projection at the conference. The dinner hall on Wednesday evening has three large screens to do this.

Statistics for the Snowbird Conference

1063 registrants (with late registrations we expect to get 1200 registrants)

329 people signed up for field trips

499 people signed up for workshops

Only 120 people signed up to receive abstract books out of the current 1063 registrants, indicating success in the “green” effort to reduce excessive printing

- 933 abstracts were printed, broken down as:

- 533 oral papers
- 290 posters
- 104 symposium presentations (resulting from 14 separate symposia)
- 6 special presentations
- 6 discussion sessions
- 14 workshops

Planning for the 2010 Conference

Dates: July 30 (Friday) – August 4 (Wednesday)

Location: Providence Rhode Island at the Rhode Island Convention Center.

Other: We have contracted for three host hotels.

Planning for the 2011 Conference

Dates: July 8 (Friday) – July 13 (Wednesday).

Location: St. Louis Chase Park Plaza Hotel.

Other: We have contracted for dorm room at St. Louis University, located 2 miles away but on a bus line. The Sunday evening plenary lecture/mixer will be held at the Missouri Botanic Gardens. Peter Raven will be the Plenary lecturer.

Program Director – **David Spooner**

7. Editor, *American Journal of Botany*

- The Editor-in-Chief and editorial office of the *American Journal of Botany* sincerely thank the Associate Editors for their thoughtful and diligent work over the past year specifically, and throughout the entire 95+ years of the journal's existence. The current and previous **editors, authors, and reviewers** should take great pride in the recent recognition by the Special Libraries Association. To commemorate their 100th anniversary, the **Biomedical and Life Sciences Division (DBIO)** of the **Special Libraries Association** selected AJB as one of the top 10 most influential journals in biology and medicine over last 100 years. We are in good company: the remaining Top 10 journals include *Science*, *Nature*, *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science*, *New England Journal of Medicine*, *Journal of the American Medical Association*, *British Medical Journal*, *Journal of Zoology*, *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*, and *Journal of Paleontology*.
- Darwin's bicentennial year was marked in fine form through the successful publication of the Darwin Special Issue, "The Abominable Mystery: The Origin and Early Diversification of Angiosperms," in January 2009. The coeditors of this special issue, **Ruth Stockey, Peter Crane, and Sean Graham**, brought together a diverse and thought-provoking group of papers, which has received much attention in the botanical community. Many of the papers from this issue were highlighted in a special review article in *Science* (3 April 2009, Vol 324), and continue to appear in the journal's Top 10 list of most-read articles. The journal and the Society are grateful to Ruth, Peter, and Sean, and to the many authors and reviewers who contributed to this issue.
- The celebration of Darwin's bicentennial continues through special papers, including: **Sandrine Isnard and Wendy K. Silk's** "Moving with climbing plants from Charles Darwin's time into the 21st century," published in the July issue (AJB. 2009 96: 1205-1221); **Tim Wing Yam, Joseph Arditti, and Kenneth Cameron's** "Darwin and his orchids," (submitted); and other papers about current research in the areas of Charles Darwin's book

titles (domestication of plants and animals, power of movement in plants, and insectivorous plants).

- Also upcoming in late 2009 will be a group of special papers about scientific literacy for the "Year of Science," under **Christopher Hafler's** direction.
- The impact factor for the *American Journal of Botany* increased slightly to 2.642 in 2008, compared to 2.512 in 2007 (but still down from the high of 2.969 in 2006). The journal's ranking moved from 26 to 27. We anticipate better news in next year's rankings, based on the Darwin Special Issue, the higher page counts and higher article numbers this year, and the special articles being published throughout this year. We are continually working to improve *AJB's* standing, importance, and value to authors, readers, libraries, and funding bodies.
- We continue working to bring more *AJB* papers to the wider notice of scientists, educators, and the public. We have done this in several ways in the past year: Recently began working with a science writer to post press releases on EurekAlert
 - Established *AJB* Advance Access to provide articles ahead of print
 - Implemented RSS feeds
 - Routinely offered certain articles free for an initial period of time
 - Negotiated a consortium contract with institutions in China through Charlesworth
 - Promoted the journal through media contacts and through a redesigned web site
 - Promoted the journal through the BSA's Facebook page
- There continues to be a moving one-year wall for open access to all *AJB* content. BSA members and subscribing institutions have immediate access to all current and past *AJB* content (through 1997) on HighWire Press. Members have access to the entire archive of *AJB* issues through the BSA web site and JSTOR.
- The current editorial staff includes Ms. Amy McPherson (Managing Editor), Mr. Richard Hund (Production Editor), Dr. Sophia Balcomb (Assistant Editor/Content Editor), and Dr. Beth Hazen (Manuscript Editor). Dr. Caroline Kellogg has been volunteering as a science writer since May of this year.
- **Suggestions for special paper topics and books reviews are encouraged.** Please contact Darleen DeMason (demason@ucr.edu) for special papers and Michael Christianson (mxianson@pacbell.net) for book reviews.
- Comments and suggestions are always welcome from readers, authors, reviewers, staff, and Associate Editors. E-mail us at ajb@botany.org.
- All communications (electronic, mail, and telephone) should be directed to the Editorial Office, which is located in St. Louis, at the BSA headquarters at the Missouri Botanical Garden. The address is American Journal of Botany, P.O. Box 299, St. Louis, MO 63166-0299; tel. 314-577-5112; fax 314-577-9515; email to: ajb@botany.org; www.amjbot.org).

Manuscript Categories Submitted to Journal

Manuscript Category	Total 08	Total 07	Total 06
Ecology	87	88	107
Systematics and Phytogeography	64	70	96
Reproductive Biology	78	59	94
Population Biology	28	45	51
Anatomy and Morphology	53	35	64
Paleobotany	20	21	19
Genetics	21	18	20
Physiology and Biochemistry	17	13	28
Developmental Biology and Developmental Genetics	12	11	10
Cell Biology	4	6	8
Bryology and Lichenology	5	5	2

Mycology and Plant Pathology	7	4	7
Pteridology	2	2	3
Phycology	3	1	4
Biomechanics	1		
Darwin Special Issue Paper	16		
Evolution and Phylogeny	13		

Respectfully submitted,
 Editor-in-Chief - **Judy Jernstedt** and Managing Editor, **Amy McPherson**

8. Editor, *Plant Science Bulletin*

Volume 54

- Four issues, 176 pages, were published on schedule with a new printer, Sheridan Press.
- Feature articles included:
 - Science, Success, and Satisfaction: A Look at Planning a Botany Conference – Johanne Stogran, Botanical Society of America
 - Experiences of a Local Arrangement Committee for a Large Scientific Conference – David Spooner, Shelley Jansky, and Alvin Bussan, University of Wisconsin – Madison
 - The Three C's: Early Botanical Leaders at the University of Chicago – Nels Lersten, Iowa State University.
 - The Students Were Right All Along - - Plants Really Are B.O.R.I.N.G – David Senchina, Drake University
 - Symposia in Plant Neurobiology: A New Venue for Discussion of Plant Behavior and Communication. – Mark Staves, Grand Valley State University, Mark Mescher, Pennsylvania State University, Virginia Shepherd, University of New South Wales, Australia, Eric Brenner, New York Botanical Garden, and Elizabeth van Volkenburgh, University of Washington
 - Collecting for Education: Herbaria at Small Liberal Arts Colleges – Amy Boyd, Warren Wilson College.
 - Botany in Bulgaria (the first in a new series on Botany in the Developing World) Anitra Thorhaug, Yale University.
 - Botany in Pakistan. Mudassir Asrar Zaide and Anitra Thorhaug. Yale University.
 - Tom Croat, Plant Collector at the Missouri Botanical Garden. Tom Croat, Missouri Botanical Garden.
- Summaries of the Annual Meeting in Vancouver
 - Plenary Address: “Solutions from Nature: How Mushrooms can Help Save the World.” Paul Stamets, Fungi Perfecti, Kamitchi Point, Washington.
 - Regional Botany Special Lecture: Science Education for the 21st Century: Using the Tools of Science to Teach Science.” Carl Wieman. Nobel Laureate, University of British Columbia.
 - President-elect Address: “Botany without Borders” Karl Niklas. Cornell University.
- 78 books were received for review; 50 reviews were published 3.
- Books received are now published on-line under *Plant Science Bulletin* on the Society web page with real-time request for review accessibility. Announcements, Positions Open, and News also are posted on-line in real time. (Each issue is being “built” on-line prior to

publication for timely access to information by the membership.)

Volume 55

- 1 Two issues, 88 pages, have been published on schedule and number 3 is in process.
- 2 Feature articles include:
 - Growing SEEDS of Sustainability at UBC: Social, Ecological, Economic Development Studies (SEEDS) Program at the University of British Columbia. Allie Slemon, Carolina Chanis, Davis Chiu, Kelly Coulson, David Grigg, Brenda Sawada, and Santokh Singh. University of British Columbia.
 - Darwin in the Year of Science, 2009. Marshall Sundberg, Emporia State University.
 - Botany at Eastern Illinois University. Marissa Jernegan Grant, Nancy Coulant, and Janice Coons.
- 3 42 books were received for review: 23 book reviews were published.
- 4 Feature articles (Reports and Reviews) and book reviews were moved to the end of each issue in anticipation of making these peer-reviewed contributions and separate from the newsletter features of each issue such as News from the Society and Announcements.

Individuals interested in submitting feature articles or in suggesting future article topics should contact the editor.

Respectfully Submitted, **Marsh Sundberg**, Editor, *Plant Science Bulletin*

9. Executive Director

The following report provides an overview of the activities of the Botanical Society of America's business office over the past twelve months. Let me begin by thanking and acknowledging the Executive Committee for their support and direction. On behalf of the Executive Committee, the Society, and myself, I also thank and acknowledge the Society's staff, Rob Brandt, Heather Cacanindin, Claire Hemingway, Richard Hund, Wanda Lovan, Amy McPherson, Jennifer Potratz and Johanne Stogran, for their efforts and dedication to the Botanical Society of America. Once again, as a team, your staff was able to improve the Societies ability to support members and our mission.

What an exciting year! From the publication of the Darwin special issue of the *American Journal of Botany* through to the SLA award as one of the top ten science journals of the past century, everyone (authors, reviewers, editors, copy-editors, and staff) has pulled together to keep things moving forward. I'm sure you'll have noticed the changes coming through from the dedicated group publishing the *Plant Science Bulletin*. It's clear to see the *PSB* has begun an evolution of sorts. Thank you to all those involved in the BSA education and outreach projects, PlantingScience and Plant IT. They continue to place the Society as an innovator in taking plants and plant based experiences to thousands of educators, students and families. And did I mention membership numbers are up, again?

Thank you!

I extend a special thank you to those members who donated to our endowment and to the BSA sectional/awards funds. Contributions totaled over \$15,000. At the meeting you will hear about our efforts to support future generations of botanists through the

Profit & Loss
October 1, 2008 - June 30, 2009
June 2009 BSA Consolidated Financial Summary
BSA Board Oversight

	Current	Budget	VAR	2008	Total Budget
Monthly Expenditure					
Income	\$ 145,515	\$ 66,046	120%	\$ (69,073)	
Expenditure	\$ 97,107	\$ 151,406	-36%	\$ 169,185	
	\$ 48,409	\$ (85,360)	-157%	\$ (238,258)	
Year To Date					
Operational					
Income	\$ 1,396,336	\$ 1,589,243	-12%	\$ 1,079,827	\$ 1,779,624
Expenditure	\$ 954,352	\$ 1,318,797	-28%	\$ 818,164	\$ 1,761,523
	\$ 441,984	\$ 270,446	63%	\$ 261,663	\$ 18,101
Conference					
Income	\$ 250,775	\$ 301,580	-17%	\$ 273,347	\$ 301,580
Expenditure	\$ 64,976	\$ 63,985	2%	\$ 74,583	\$ 291,581
	\$ 185,799	\$ 237,595	-22%	\$ 198,764	\$ 10,000
Investment					
Income	\$ (237,198)	\$ 66,000	-459%	\$ (307,373)	\$ 66,000
Expenditure	\$ 45,980	\$ 66,000	-30%	\$ 42,324	\$ 66,000
	\$ (283,179)	\$ -	0%	\$ (349,697)	\$ -
Overall Position					
Income	\$ 1,409,912	\$ 1,956,823	-28%	\$ 1,045,801	\$ 2,147,204
Expenditure	\$ 1,065,307	\$ 1,448,782	-26%	\$ 935,071	\$ 2,119,104
	\$ 344,605	\$ 508,041	-32%	\$ 110,730	\$ 28,101

Current Account Balances - June 30, 2009

St. Louis Cash	\$ 58,570
St. Louis MM	\$ 628,551
Smith Barney	\$ 2,724,691
BSA BALANCE	\$ 3,411,813
CONF BALANCE	\$ 240,698
Total Assets	\$ 3,652,510

establishment of the BSA Legacy Society. It is exciting to see this aspect of the Society maturing and planning so positively for our future.

Financial Update

BSA account balances are provided in the table to the left.

Our key operational revenue streams for the year to date are budgeted at \$1,779,624. Income to date is \$1,396,336. Variance is due to grant activity taking place later in the summer than initially anticipated. Expenditures reflect the same situation, with anticipated expenditure of \$1,761,523 budgeted and an actual of \$954,352. I anticipate we will end the year slightly below budget on both.

The meeting income and expenditure are what we would anticipate in a normal year. Botany 2009 is showing roughly \$250,775 in income and \$64,976 in expenditure, leaving a balance of \$185,799.

The BSA Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney investment account closed June at \$2,724,691 (\$3,329,009 in 2008). It appears the Morgan Stanley/Smith Barney team is doing a reasonable job of managing our downside risk given a very poor overall market. See the Financial Advisory Committee report for more detailed information.

The DRAFT 2009-10 BSA budget can be found online at http://www.botany.org/governance/reports/board/2010-BSA_Budget-090715.xls.

Membership

Membership Types

	2009		2008		2007		2006		2005		2004		2003	
Corresponding	55	2%	53	2%	53	2%	49	2%	51	2%	50	2%	49	2%
Life	54	2%	54	2%	54	2%	51	2%	48	2%	46	2%	46	2%
Emeritus	211	7%	201	6%	192	6%	114	5%	132	6%	92	4%	149	6%
E Family	27	1%	23	1%	25	1%	14	1%	16	1%	5	0%	7	0%
Retired	28	1%	21	1%	9	0%								
R Family	2	0%	2	0%	2	0%								
Professional	1486	48%	1557	50%	1571	53%	1393	62%	1511	65%	1521	68%	1667	68%
P Family	240	8%	247	8%	236	8%	187	8%	181	8%	145	7%	161	7%
CC Professional	20	1%												
CC Family	1	0%												
PostDoc	75	2%												
PD Family	4	0%												
Student	735	24%	765	25%	701	24%	371	17%	377	16%	354	16%	347	14%
S Family	18	1%	29	1%	14	0%	11	0%	7	0%	5	0%	4	0%
K-12 Teachers	46	1%	54	2%	37	1%	19	1%	5	0%	4	0%	8	0%
Affiliate	28	1%	30	1%	22	1%	7	0%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Associate	19	1%	13	0%	9	0%	13	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Amateur	47	2%	47	2%	44	1%	16	1%	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
	3096		3096		2969		2245		2328		2222		2438	
Professional	2203	71%	2158	70%	2142	72%	1808	81%	1939	83%	1859	84%	2079	85%
Student	753	24%	794	26%	715	24%	382	17%	384	16%	359	16%	351	14%
Other	140	5%	144	5%	112	4%	55	2%	5	0%	4	0%	8	0%
	3096	0.0%	3096	4.3%	2969	32.2%	2245	-3.6%	2328	-4.8%	2222	-8.9%	2438	

Membership in the Society remains a highlight. By the time you read this report, we will have surpassed the 2008 membership number of 3,096.

We are also excited about the strong and growing student presence. Presently there are 753 student members, surpassing the 2008 record of 733 at this point in the year. Given we have three months to go before the October renewal season starts we will see a new membership record.

Student growth is coming from BSA member lead programs you and/or your peers are supporting—the \$10 gift memberships, free sectional membership, special early renewal rates.

US and Non-US Memberships

	USA	Other Nations	Total Members
2002	2,057	735	2,792
2003	1,725	713	2,438
2004	1,530	692	2,222
2005	1,705	623	2,328
2006	1,563	682	2,245
2007	2,102	867	2,969
2008	2,203	893	3,096
2009	2,234	862	3,096

Recommendation 1: It is recommended membership rates for 2009 remain the same except for any family membership which will be raised from an extra \$5 to an extra \$10.

Recommendation 2: It is recommended we provide students and Post-Docs an incentive to renew, with an "early renewal" rate of \$15 for Students and \$20 for Post-Docs.

Recommendation 3: It is recommended we hold a new student membership drive beginning at the opening of classes in the fall of 2009 at a gift-rate of \$10 per student.

Recommendation 4: In conjunction with this drive, it is requested the sections waive fees to allow student memberships to include sectional memberships.

Recommendation 5: It is recommended we add a \$10 shipping charge to AJB print subscriptions from memberships and renewals that are received after May 15 to recover the cost of extra postage incurred by shipping journals from the BSA office.

American Journal of Botany

Membership & Member Subscriptions

	Print Subscriptions			Online Only			Total Overall Relationship			
	USA	Other	Total	USA	Other	Total	Total	US	Other	Total
Member Subscriptions										
Dec-02	671	389	1,060	1,386	346	1,732	2,792	2,057	735	2,792
Dec-03	622	355	977	1,123	358	1,481	2,458	1,745	713	2,458
Dec-04	561	332	893	998	360	1,358	2,251	1,559	692	2,251
Dec-05	561	286	847	1,155	337	1,492	2,339	1,716	623	2,339
Dec-06	488	298	786	1,075	384	1,459	2,245	1,563	682	2,245
Dec-07	478	279	757	1,624	588	2,212	2,969	2,102	867	2,969
Sep-08	437	262	699	1,766	631	2,397	3,096	2,203	893	3,096
Jul-09	371	197	568	1,863	665	2,528	3,096	2,234	862	3,096
Institutional Subscriptions										
Dec-02	1,354	402	1,756	9	9	18	1,774	1,363	411	1,774
Dec-03	1,255	363	1,618	24	15	39	1,657	1,279	378	1,657
Dec-04	1,243	358	1,601	34	18	52	1,653	1,277	376	1,653
Dec-05	1,205	312	1,517	45	44	89	1,606	1,250	356	1,606
Dec-06	1,118	287	1,405	61	61	122	1,527	1,179	348	1,527
Dec-07	1,044	276	1,320	102	74	176	1,496	1,146	350	1,496
Dec-08	1,000	246	1,246	128	88	216	1,462	1,128	334	1,462
Jul-09	901	213	1,114	166	108	274	1,388	1,067	321	1,388

The 2010 *American Journal of Botany* institutional rates will remain at the 2009 level of \$625.00.

This year we have 1,114 Print & Online and 274 Online-only institutional subscriptions for a total of 1,388. Subscription agents have told us, there will be a much larger transition to Online-only subscriptions this fall. By year's end we should exceed the budgeted sales volume of 1,400. Sales revenue is \$910,000 as compared to a budget of \$845,000.

568 members purchased print subscriptions, slightly below the 600 copies we budgeted.

I'm pleased to report the move to Sheridan Press continues to run smoothly. See the *American Journal of Botany* Editor's report for more detail.

Botany Conference

Upcoming Botany Conferences:

- 2010 – Joint meeting with the AFS and ASPT in Providence, Rhode Island
- 2011 – Joint meeting with the Society for Economic Botany, AFS, and ASPT in St. Louis, Missouri

Meetings and Outreach

The Botanical Society of American has been active in supporting our mission, science and education through attendance at various meetings, including:

American Journal of Botany - HighWire Press Publishers, Council of Science Editors, and the Society for Scholarly Publishing, Association of Learned and Professional Society Publishers

Science Education – NABT, NSTA, National Workshop on the Future of Education in Plant Pathology and Related Disciplines, Transforming Undergraduate Education in Biology (AAAS/NSF/HHMI/NIH), and the annual meetings of SEB, ASA, CSA, SSA and APS.

BSA – Council of Scientific Society Presidents

Strategic Planning & Bylaws

Strategic Planning – the process is entering the final stage, with a meeting of the committee in Snowbird. A report to the membership should follow early in September.

Bylaws - updated bylaws and policies are online at: www.botany.org/governance/bylaws.php and www.botany.org/governance/policy.php.

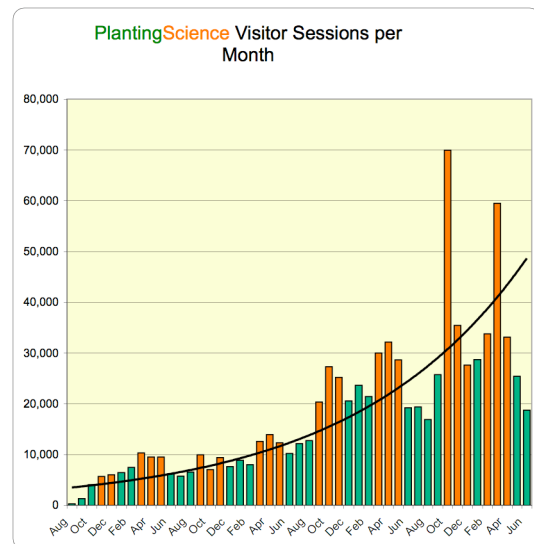
Plant Science Bulletin

The *Plant Science Bulletin* is now live online. We are working with Marsh to place all items online as they come in. In addition, we have upgraded the “Botany in the News” feature and the “Books for Review” as RSS feeds, allowing us to experiment with this technology. All appear to be receiving positive feedback.

PlantingScience

I'm pleased to report, in conjunction with our NSF grants, we have hired Jennifer Potratz as Education and Outreach Coordinator. Jen is working out of the St. Louis office and will add new depth to the team.

I'm also pleased to report that interactions on the



PlantingScience site continue to improve. Our understanding of how the online interactions work best, and Claire’s approach to recruiting, training and supporting online mentors, are beginning to pay off. The graph to the right clearly shows that interest in the program continues to expand. As you can see, we are continuing to grow! Visitor numbers have nearly doubled over the past year, going from 451,559 to 845,469 as of the end of June 2009. From July 1, 2008 through June 30, 2009, 393,190 people visited the site with 273,187 visits for the same period in 2008, and 111,827 in 2007.

We have just completed our second round of project reporting to NSF for the DK12 grant (PlantingScience) and for the Monsanto Foundation. We will add a report for the ITEST program once completed following the same file format. You will find links to each report below.

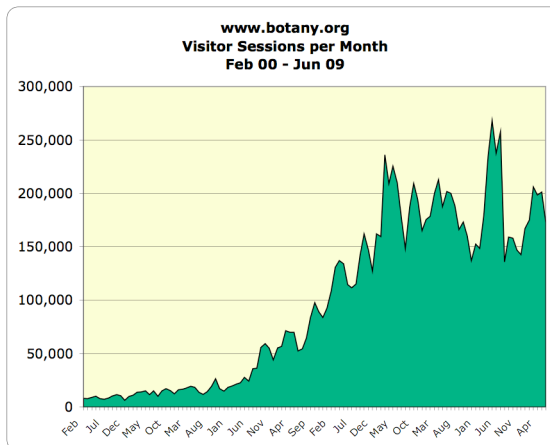
http://www.botany.org/plantingscience/reports/DRK12_submitted09report.pdf

http://www.botany.org/plantingscience/reports/Monsanto_submitted09report.pdf

I’m pleased here are now 10 Scientific Societies listed as PlantingScience partners. Another noteworthy point will be a pilot project with 4-H, running approximately 200 teams in after school sessions this fall.

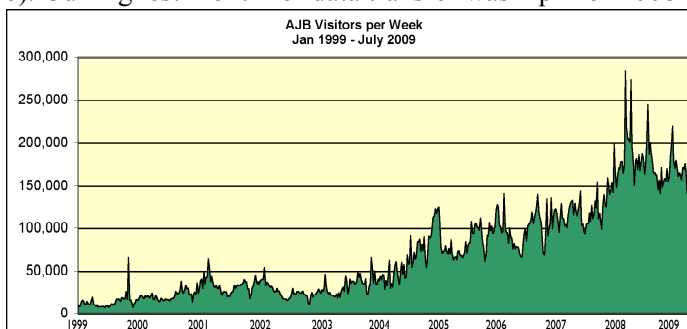
Website

The overall growth trend for people accessing the BSA website at www.botany.org has leveled off over the past year. Roughly 6,000 people per day visit the BSA web site: over 11,000,000 people have visited since we began recording statistics in February of 2000. For the same period last year the number was 6,134, about 6,700 in 2007, 7,000 in 2006 and 4,000 people per day in 2005. Our highest monthly average for visitors per day was achieved in May 2008 with 8,648. May 2008 was also our busiest month to date with 268,096 visitors (previous high was March 2006 with 235,991).



Over the past year our main web sites experienced over 28,309,160 hits. For the month of June 2009 the Botanical Society of America’s main websites experienced 2,002,031 successful hits (2,415,105 in 2008, 2,149,304 in 2007 and 2,872,508 in 2006). Our record high was achieved in April of 2008 with 2,959,318 hits (previous was May of 2006 with 2,952,683 hits).

Over the past year, the BSA main web sites transferred over 929 gigabytes of information to visitors’ computers. In June of 2009 we transferred 66.41 gigabytes of data to visitors (84.86 in 2008, 67.78 in 2007 and 59.34 in 2006). Our highest month for data transfer was April of 2008 with 112.26 gigabytes transferred (previous was May of 2007, at 84.404 gigabytes).



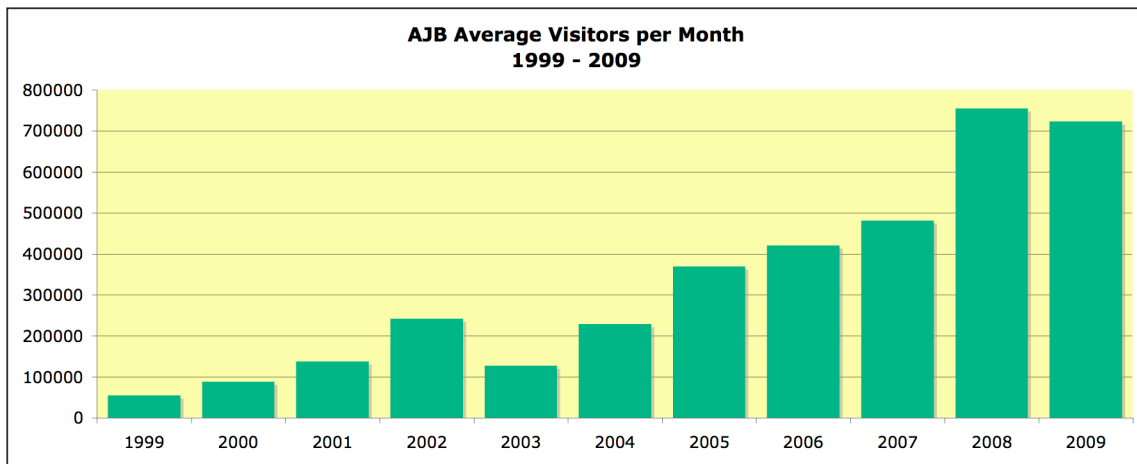
In each of my previous reports I’ve pointed out that the website is a tool with two main purposes. It acts as: 1.) a means of storing and communicating information to the BSA membership; and 2.) a

medium for the dissemination of information that supports our wider mission. Our potential to reach people, including potential future botanists, is nearly unlimited, but very much related to the effort we put into the content used on the site.

Statistics - *American Journal of Botany*

The trend for use of the *American Journal of Botany* online remains extremely positive. The AJB website has have over 38,175,896 visitors over the past 10 years. In 2009 the number of visitors coming to the site on a monthly basis has leveled of after a substantial period of growth in 2008. Thus far in 2009 the site has seen nearly 4,700,000 visitors.

Thanks, Bill



Standing Committees - Administrative

10. Archives and History

No activity in the archives over the past year. – **Shirley Graham**

11. Committee on Committees

12. Conservation

13. Education

The Education Committee has begun to assess ways to be more active in providing educational materials related to botany to teachers, students, and the public at large. Preliminary response from the committee members has been slow to arrive. It is my feeling that we need to recruit members for this committee who have time and interest in robust education activities. Without a dedicated and invigorated group of people, it will be difficult to create exciting new options for educational outreach.

Respectfully submitted, **Beverly J. Brown**

14. Election

15. Financial Advisory

Since the previous 2007-2008 Annual Report, the FAC has:

- Monthly monitored the BSA Endowment Fund (EF) invested with Smith Barney (SB)--which is now Morgan Stanley Smith Barney (MSSB);
- Had one conference call on May 21, 2009 with the MSSB staff in Des Moines, IA;
- Voted to restructure the endowment fund portfolio, per May 2009 MSSB recommendation. This change was deemed necessary to meet the challenges of the changing global markets and the Endowment Fund Investment Performance Goal of a net rate of return of 8.00% (previously, this was 9.44%; an absolute rate of return that included services and fees). The latter is based on the BSA statement of investment policy objectives & guidelines (see this recommendation and three others voted on by FAC at end of this Report);
- Did *not recommend* any amount of the EF for 2009-2010 to the EC/Council for initiatives, pending further discussion in Snowbird, UT prior to Council meeting

Comparison of this year's value with the EF values for the two previous years*:

June 10, 2007, the EF value was \$3,633,455
June 30, 2008 the EF value was \$3,326,358
June 30, 2009 the EF value was \$2,724,682

*This decline in EF value has been the direct result of the erosion of the world economy, especially during 2008-2009 (approximate decline of 25% over the two-year period).

The EF total management fee for this last fiscal year was \$28,110 (0.0076%).

Presently, the EF is divided into the following fund categories:

Funds	2008 (6/30)	2009 (6/30)
➤ Common Stocks + Money Funds	= \$1,927,653	=\$ 198**
➤ Common Stocks + Money Funds	= \$ 517,580	=\$ 286**
➤ Common Stocks + Money Funds	= \$ 169,923	=\$ ----**
➤ Fixed Income + Money Funds	= \$ 711,202	=\$ ----**
➤ Newly Managed Index Funds	= \$2,724,198	
➤ Total	= \$3,326,358	= \$2,724,682

**These accounts are temporary and include residue funds that will be merged into the Newly Managed Index Funds

Summaries and decisions of four recommendations made by FAC in May

Bryan Boesen of MSSB, *in* his Report to the BSA FAC, provided the rationale for:

1. Recommendation: *Change* the present investment asset strategy *to* the proposed indexing strategy (as outlined on page 29 of report to BSA FAC). The BSA FAC concurred that this change would better position the EF to be less affected by the global economic changes, and would provide stability and a better opportunity for future growth.

Approved

In BSA Statement of Investment Policy Objectives & Guidelines (page 9);

2. Investment Time Horizon Recommendation: *Do not change*. This plan will continue in perpetuity. Rationale is this item will be revisited in the future when the BSA Council and Executive Committee better develop a needs budget that may require use of the endowment income. For now, the FAC task is to restructure the assets for optimum growth.

Approved

3. Investment Performance Goal Recommendation: *Change* “An absolute rate of return 9.44%” *to* “A net rate of return 8.00%.” Rationale is to clearly indicate what the endowment fund is actually receiving (which does not include fees and services).

Approved

4. Asset Allocation Recommendation: *Do not change* present percentages for Minimum and Maximum for each Asset Class as presently identified. Rationale is the present allocations give a reasonable flexibility for changes to be made in each category of investments that are in Primary and Secondary Investment Objectives.

Approved

The chair or any member of the FAC will be willing to answer questions about the EF.
Respectfully submitted, Harry T. (Jack) Horner, FAC Chair

16. Membership

Membership Committee Report July 7, 2009
Suzanne Koptur, Chair

The great news for BSA in 2009 is that we continue to grow. We have posted a 5.5% increase in members, year-to-date, with 3,080 members in total as of July 7. We have been able to maintain a strong student presence with 746 members, surpassing last year's numbers at this time. The current composition of our membership is as follows:
64% Professional members (includes Life, Corresponding, PostDoc, Retired, Community College)
24% Student members
8% Emeritus members
4% Other (Affiliate, Amateur, Associate, Community College,

Despite the economic downturn, there is a good chance we will see another new membership record for 2009 and beyond in keeping with the trajectory of the past three years.

Some highlights of the past year include:

- Targeted messaging to BSA members by career-level
- Reaching out to lapsed members of the past five years
- Creation of new avenues for membership growth: Facebook page, Member referral recognition, partnerships with other societies, AJB leads through Pay-Per-View
- Translation of our BSA membership benefits page into Spanish and Portuguese
- Launch/Analysis of our second electronic membership survey
- Opened up volunteer opportunities within the Society

Last year at this time, the first BSA membership survey revealed that 89% responding to the survey were either highly satisfied or somewhat satisfied with their BSA membership. The January follow-up survey provided insights into new avenues for reaching members and retaining current ones. The top three reasons why BSA members continue to renew are:

- 1) To support a home for all plant scientists
- 2) Networking with peers/sense of community
- 3) Publish in the *American Journal of Botany*

Creating increased and valued opportunities to connect and to publish will be key to BSA's continued growth in the future.

In the coming year, we plan to:

- 1) Launch an enhanced BSA membership directory to foster collaboration and connections among members
- 2) Continue to grow our presence and foster discussions on Facebook and Twitter to reach a broader audience of potential members
- 3) We need to actively solicit international colleagues (in their local language when possible) to join us, and nominate accomplished scientists for Corresponding Memberships. This will inspire their students and colleagues to get more involved with the society, for the benefit of all.
- 4) Continue to increase student membership, fostering an alliance that continues with professional memberships after the terminal degree. To this end, our Executive Director suggests a discount for early renewal for students (\$15) and post-Docs (\$20), to encourage renewals as well as first-time memberships.
- 5) Utilize the list of volunteers that we currently have and offer them meaningful ways to connect with the Society and each other while pursuing the mission of BSA. Our

volunteers can serve on committees, mentor for PlantingScience, conduct beta testing of new technology for BSA use, translate documents for BSA and much more.

6) Launch a Community College Professional member push for the 2010 membership year.

Our recommendations are:

Recommendation 1: It is recommended membership rates for 2009 remain the same except for any family membership which will be raised from an extra \$5 to an extra \$10.

Recommendation 2: It is recommended we provide students and Post-Docs an incentive to renew, with an "early renewal" rate of \$15 for Students and \$20 for Post-Docs.

Recommendation 3: It is recommended we hold a new student membership drive beginning at the opening of classes in the fall of 2009 at a gift-rate of \$10 per student.

Recommendation 4: In conjunction with this drive, it is requested the sections waive fees to allow student memberships to include sectional memberships.

Recommendation 5: It is recommended we add a \$10 shipping charge to AJB print subscriptions from memberships and renewals that are received after May 15 to recover the cost of extra postage incurred by shipping journals from the BSA office.

17. Publications

It has been a quiet year for the Publications Committee. This year there have been searches under way for Editor in Chief of American Journal of Botany and Editor of Plant Science Bulletin. Other than fielding enquiries for the PSB Editor position the Publications Committee has not involved in these searches and is not aware of any decisions.

Over the past year there has been discussion of the possibility of including peer reviewed contributions in PSB. PSB Editor Marsh Sundberg has proposed this change to enhance the standing of this publication and add value to membership in Botanical Society of America.

The topic of open access remains as an issue that needs to be thought through very carefully to determine the appropriate strategy for the journal and BSA. If new proposed federal legislation is enacted it will require open access for all publications supported by federal science granting agencies. Currently the open access requirement only applies to NIH supported publications. This change will have a significant impact on AJB.

Another issue that needs to be addressed is long term storage and access to data that support AJB publications. We need to develop a data storage and retrieval system that is capable of growing with increased demand for access to archived data.

Respectfully submitted, **Patrick S. Herendeen**

18. Webmaster

Standing Committees – Awards

19. Corresponding Members

20. Bessey Award

Having invited nominations from the BSA membership and carefully considered those nominations using the award's criteria, the Committee has decided that, in 2009, the Charles Edwin Bessey Teaching Award be given to Dr. Roger P. Hangarter of Indiana University for his significant and ever-evolving body of botany education work--which represents teaching innovation, documented and sustained national impact, attention to scientific quality, and a quest for public enlightenment.

Respectfully Submitted, **James Wandersee & Beverly Brown**

21. Cheadle Award

The BSA Cheadle Award winners for 2009 were selected by the Cheadle committee from nine applicants. The Chair of the Developmental and Structural committee serves as head. Four award winners were selected:

1. Brett Bergman-- Effect of Leaf Nodes on the Mechanical Properties of Stems.
2. Julia Nowak-- Morphological Oddity of the Krishna Fig
3. Madelaine Bartlett-- CYCLOIDEA-like genes and the evolution of floral symmetry in the Zingiberales.
4. Nathan Derieg-- Molecular basis of an adaptive trait: floral anthocyanin production in Aquilegia.

Submitted by **Cynthia Jones**

22. Darbaker Prize

This year The Darbaker Award for meritorious work on microscopic algae is presented to Dr. Patrick Keeling, Canadian Institute for Advanced Research, Evolutionary Biology Program, Department of Botany, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada. Dr. Keeling's research has contributed in a substantial and meaningful way in the area of organelle evolution, genetransfer, and genome evolution, including plastid evolution, in the microalgae of the Chromalveolates and Ulvophyceae.

23. Esau Award

The Katherine Esau Award was established in 1985 with a gift from Dr. Esau and is augmented by ongoing contributions. It is given to the graduate student who presents the outstanding paper in developmental and structural botany at the annual meeting.

Seven papers were considered for the Esau Award at the Botany 2008 conference in Vancouver, BC. Papers were presented in the special student section Session 48, which

was held on Tuesday July 29th from 1:00-3:30pm. Papers were judged by Kenneth Cameron (Chair), Joe Williams, and Michael Christianson, standing in for Jennifer Richards, who was unable to attend the meeting.

The Esau Award was presented to Alana Oldham, Humboldt State University Biology Dept., for her paper "Height-Associated Variation in *Sequoia sempervirens* (Coast Redwood) Leaf Anatomy: Potential Impacts on Whole-Tree Carbon Balance." Her co-authors were Stephen Stillett (Humboldt State University) and Gregory Koch (Northern Arizona University).

The paper's abstract is as follows:

The tallest tree species, coast redwood (*Sequoia sempervirens*), provides an ideal model for investigating both the adaptations allowing maximum height growth in plants and the factors that limit it. Within the crowns of tall redwoods there exists broad variation in leaf anatomy, much of which is better explained by height-induced hydraulic constraints than by differences in light environment. We analyzed the anatomy of leaves collected at 10-m intervals from both the inner and outer crowns in five redwoods 108 to 113 m tall. We found a strong decrease with height in mesophyll porosity, a factor known to limit leaf carbon fixation rates. Leaf width decreases with height while thickness increases, such that leaf cross-sectional area remains constant but the surface area to volume ratio is minimized at the treetop, again indicative of reduced gas exchange capacity per unit tissue volume. Likewise, height-associated decreases in leaf length and xylem cross-sectional area correlate with increased investment in transfusion tissue, and thus a whole-leaf vascular volume that does not significantly increase with height. Transfusion tracheids become increasingly deformed with height, which suggests that they may be collapsing under the extreme water stress of the upper crown and thus acting as a hydraulic buffer that mitigates leaf water stress and reduces the likelihood of xylem dysfunction. The height-driven decrease in water potential may directly explain the observed changes in leaf anatomy, which may serve to improve desiccation tolerance where it is needed most. These same anatomical changes correspond to the observed increase in leaf mass/area ratio and decreases in photosynthetic capacity and internal gas-phase conductance in redwood. Thus, height-induced hydraulic stress appears to drive a gradient in leaf anatomy that may have a profound effect on whole-tree carbon balance as maximum height is approached in Earth's tallest plants.

The Esau Committee also judges the best Developmental/Structural poster presented in the general poster session. The Best Poster Award was presented to Meicenheimer, Roger D., Coffin, Douglas W. and Chapman, Eric M., all from Miami University, OH, for their poster "To Break or Not To Break? – It's What's Inside that Counts!"

The abstract for their poster is as follows:

Differences in the flexibility of *Pinus nigra* and *Pinus resinosa* leaves can be used to discriminate these two similarly looking pine species from one another. When bent along the longitudinal axis, *P. resinosa* leaves "snap", while *P. nigra* leaves appear "flexible". This useful field test has had no known biophysical or anatomical explanation until now. Flexible leaves of *P. nigra* fail in compression, while brittle *P. resinosa* leaves fail in

tension when subject to longitudinal bending. First order, mechanical analysis of bending and buckling was applied to the pine needles to elucidate the important anatomical differences between these two species, which can account for their different biophysical behavior when subject to bending. There was no significant difference in the cross section of the total leaf area, or the inner core (endodermis + transfusion tissue + vascular bundles) area between the two species. *P. nigra* had a thicker outer core (epidermis + hypodermis), but this could not account for the differences in the biophysical behavior of the two species leaves. Our investigation revealed that it was differences in the pattern of cell wall thickening and lignification of the endodermal layer of the inner core of the leaves that best explains the differences between bending behavior of the two species.

For 2009 at least six papers will be judged in Snowbird for the Esau Award. These student talks will be presented back to back during Session 50 on Tuesday, July 28th, 1:30 pm to 3:15 pm in the Wasatch B/Cliff Lodge - Level C. This year's judges will be Jennifer Richards, Joe Williams and Kenneth Cameron.

Prepared by **Jennifer Richards**, Florida International University, Miami, FL

24. Karling Award

25. Merit Award

The 2009 Botanical Society of America Merit Award Committee consisted of: Daniel Crawford - Chair, Ed Schneider, Scott Russell, Shirley Tucker, Jerry Baskin, James Seago, Karl Niklas - President, ex officio, and William Dahl - Executive Director, ex officio.

The Committee received four nominations. After due deliberation and extensive e-mail exchanges, the Committee unanimously and enthusiastically endorsed all four nominees: Dr. Norman Ellstrand, Dr. Alan Grahm, Dr. Gar W. Rothwell, and Dr. Marshall Sundberg.

Respectfully submitted for the Committee, **Daniel J. Crawford** Chair

26. Mosely Award

The 2008 Maynard Moseley Award Committee was chaired by Brian Axsmith of University of South Alabama and met at the 2008 Vancouver BSA Annual Conference. Committee members were Roger D. Meicenheimer of Miami University of Ohio, and Gene Mapes of Ohio University, standing in for Bonnie Jacobs (who was in the field). The Committee awarded Eric Madrid of Univ. of Colorado for his paper on Female Gametophyte Developmental Evolution in Piperales.

The composition of this year's Moseley Award Committee is Bonnie Jacobs (Chair), Roger D. Meicenheimer, and Gar Rothwell of Ohio University. We look forward to the meetings in Snowbird and to enjoying the student papers competing for the award.

Sincerely, Bonnie F. Jacobs

27. Pelton Award

Committees - Ad hoc

28. Development

29. International

The International Committee made huge progress this year.

A symposium co-sponsored by the International Committee and by the Canadian Botanical Society and the BSA Physiological section had a packed meeting and was For The Future of International Botanical Research: possibilities and strategies for your International collaborations and research, especially in developing nations
How I learned to do botanical research in the tropics. David Lee
How to access United Nations and some other sourced international botanical information Anitra Thorhaug
International Collecting of Botanical Research Materials in the 21st Century Dennis Stevenson
Where to publish your international research Larry Peterson, former editor CJB
International Funding in NSF Patrick Herendeen

Botanical Societies from a series of nations were contacted including Eastern Europe, The Middle East, South America and the Caribbean and Asia. India has offered to host our International web site announcements. Peru will be talking at the South American Botanical Congress about the Peru/ BSA Alliance Workshop with BSA. Several of these groups would wish to participate in small or large workshop exchanges with the BSA, namely Romania, Bulgaria, India, Pakistan, and several South American nations.

The series of informational articles about Botany in Many Nations began in the Plant Science Bulletin.

"Botany in Pakistan" by M.Zaide and A. Thorhaug

"Botany in Bulgaria" by A. Thorhaug

In press is "Botany in Equatorial Guinea" A. Thorhaug

In the 2010 will be "Botany in Romania". Anka Sarbu and Anitra Thorhaug

"Botany in Peru" by Betty Millans, Cesar Arana and Anitra Thorhaug .

Several others are also planned.

The exchange workshop project with Peru was formally begun with a great deal of correspondence between the members of the Peruvian Workshop committee and the US

workshop committee. The program was set, although all speakers are not yet in place. The venue is potentially late May 2010 in Lima with field trips to Cuzco , Porto Maldonado, and Trujillo . The number participating totally will be 150. Contact was made with the US Embassy in Peru to help with the workshop. The sponsoring unit is the Sociedad Peruveana Botanica , the oldest botanical Society in Peru. San Marco University (the oldest University in the hemisphere) and La Molina University are the chief academica sponsors. The participating Universities will be between 12 and 20 from Peru. Plans to raise funds for speakers, venue requirements, translations are ongoing. The goal is to create research linkages in many disciplines with the Peruvian botanical researchers.

Meetings including regional groups such as Pacific, Atlantic and Latin America.

The logistics committee is seeking used laboratory equipment, books, sets of journals and other useful items to send to Universities in the Newly industrializing nations which will help their teaching and research. Funding for shipping the materials is also being sought.

News and information about botanical events and societies can be found under Outreach , then scroll to the nation and click.

Corresponding members from 4 continents were nominated.

30. Underrepresented Groups

Sections

31. Bryological and Lichenological

32. Developmental and Structural

At the sectional meeting BOTANY 2008 held at Vancouver. We discussed the following items:

- 1) Students who received the travel awards were introduced
- 2) Amy Litt was elected the new Treasurer of the section.
- 3) The section approved establishment of a Don Kaplan Memorial Lecture and associated fund raising activites. Guidelines for the fund and the lecture were outlined.
- 4) The BSA Legacy project was presented.
- 5) The new BSA initiative on international collaboration was presented.

The Developmental and Structural Section was very active at the annual meeting, BOTANY 2008. A total of **29 posters** were presented in the Developmental and Structural Section and affiliated areas (14 Developmental and Structural section, 7 in Plant Development, 8 Evolutionary Developmental Biology). **Fifty-seven oral presentations** were delivered in the section or affiliated areas (39 in the D&S section, 7 in Plant Development and 11 in Evo-Devo).

One symposium was sponsored in part by the Developmental and Structural section:
Understanding plant evolution: morphology to molecules

At Botany 2008, the 2008 Esau Award for the most outstanding paper in structure and development was presented to Alana Oldham, Humboldt State University for her paper "Height-Associated Variation in *Sequoia sempervirens* (Coast Redwood) Leaf Anatomy: Potential Impacts on Whole-Tree Carbon Balance." Her co-authors were Stephen Sillett and George Koch. Chair of the Esau Award selection committee was Ken Cameron.

The 2008 Moseley Award was presented to Eric Madrid, University of Colorado For his paper "Female Gametophyte Developmental Evolution in Piperales." His co-author was Ned Friedman.

During the spring of 2009, the executive committee of the Developmental and Structural section evaluated six applications to the D&S travel fund. Three awards were presented. (The remaining three students received Cheadle Travel Awards.)

1. Jacob Landis: Determining the genetic basis for petal-like sepals in a close relative of snapdragon.
2. Tyson Kerr: Comparative MADS-box gene expression in *Physocarpus opulifolius* (Rosaceae)
3. Natalia Pabon Mora: 1) Before the gene duplication event: addressing functional evolution of the APETALA1/FRUITFULL gene lineage in non-core eudicots 2) Tackling the structural homology of trifold spines in the holy thorn (*Berberis* sp.)

The BSA Cheadle Award winners for 2009 were selected by the Cheadle committee from nine applicants. The Chair of the Developmental and Structural committee serves as head. Four award winners were selected:

1. Brett Bergman-- Effect of Leaf Nodes on the Mechanical Properties of Stems.
2. Julia Nowak-- Morphological Oddity of the Krishna Fig
3. Madelaine Bartlett-- CYCLOIDEA-like genes and the evolution of floral symmetry in the Zingiberales.
4. Nathan Derieg-- Molecular basis of an adaptive trait: floral anthocyanin production in *Aquilegia*.

Submitted by **Cynthia Jones**

33. Ecology

A Summary of the Ecological Section's Activities in 2008-2009

1. Business Meeting conducted at UBC, Vancouver, CA at Botany 2008. Topics at this meeting included:

- a. Introduction and recognition of the students receiving travel awards for Botany 2008 (presentation awards were announced at the BSA banquet)
 - b. Recognition and thanks to Tim Bell and Carl Weekley for serving as travel award judges for the past three years. I requested volunteers for serving as judges in 3-year terms. Our new judges are: Rebecca Drenovsky (rdrenovsky@jcu.edu at John Carroll University), Heidi Dobson (dobsonhe@whitman.edu at Whitman College), and Margaret Dewall (mdevall@fs.fed.us with US forestry, Southern Research Station). The continuing judges are Jeff Walck and myself.
 - c. For the presentation awards (oral and poster) very few students appeared to have requested to be judged. However, there was a problem with the list of students to be judged, as many that requested to be judged were not on my list. Since several of the students had already given their oral presentations, we decided only to judge posters using a new list. For the student presentation awards at Botany 2009, since very few students were on our list, I have directly contacted all students (via e-mail) to ask if they meant to compete for a presentation award (Ecological Section). This increased the number of students to be judged, thus there appears to be a problem somewhere.
 - d. Thanked Margaret Dewall for her three years of service as Ecological Section Secretary and Program Manager. Suzanne Koptur moved that we open nominations for this position. We called for nominations during this meeting and later via e-mail for nominations. Election, if necessary would be via e-mail.
 - e. Council meeting topics
 - 1) High cost of print copies of the journal. Encouraged electronic subscriptions.
 - 2) Limit to the number of symposia to 12 for the entire meeting. Group expressed concern as the section often co-sponsors many symposia. Would there be a limit on the number a section could co-sponsor? Many wanted to be sure the section has 1-2 symposia. If there is a limit what would be the criteria for choosing symposia?
 - 3) Recommendation that all section memberships be free for students. Now lower postdoc membership rates and developing country rates for BSA. Suzanne Koptur noted that anyone can give student gift subscriptions.
 - d. Call for symposium ideas for Botany and Mycology 2009. Request early submission to section for full consideration and assistance in strengthening application.
 - e. Fundraising: we have student travel fund, dues, donations to section and money from BSA. Our expenses include: student travel awards, student presentation awards, symposia at BSA meetings, and snacks for social/meeting. Call for fund raising ideas. One from myself: a silent auction where the funds could be used for student research awards.
 - f. Call for ideas to increase number of presentations. Inviting local people to meeting.
2. Students receiving travel awards for the 2008 meeting in Vancouver were:
- Katie Becklin**, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO - Advisor, Dr. Candace Galen
 "The good, the bad, and the costly: Effects of shading and drought on the costs and benefits of mycorrhizae." (\$50)

Jocelyn Campbell, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC - Advisor, Dr. Cindy Prescott "Expanding the realized niche for cyanolichens in wet-temperate forests of interior British Columbia." (\$150)

Andrew Simpson, California State University, Chico, CA - Advisor, Dr. Kristina A. Schierenbeck - Botany 2008 presentation: "Multiple causal factors influence propagule size gradients in *Arctostaphylos* (Ericaceae)." (\$300)

Meghan Skaer, Sonoma State University, Rohnert Park, CA - Advisor, Dr. Hall Cushman - Botany 2008 presentation: "Evaluating the Effects of Cattle Grazing on a Coastal Prairie in Central California." (\$300).

3. Students receiving presentation awards at Botany 2008 meeting were:

Best Student Poster

Iman Sylvain, of Howard University, for her poster, "Comparison of Seedling Fitness in the Hyperaccumulator, *Alyssum murale* Waldst and Kit. (Brassicaceae) in Soils With and Without Nickel." Her co-author was Mary McKenna. (\$150)

4. Our section sponsored or co-sponsored three symposia at Botany 2008

- a. Pollination to Population Structure - How Understanding Reproductive Biology Can Inform Conservation of Rare Plants. Organizers: Vivian Negrón-Ortiz and Amy Faivre (\$400 support)
- b. Polyploidy: Genetics, Evolution, Systematics and Ecology. Organizers: Keith Adams and Jeannette Whitton (\$400 support)
- c. Bryophytes and Lichens of North America: Diversity, Function and Importance. Organizers Katherine Frego, and Arthur L. Fredeen, (\$400 support)

5. At Botany 2008, 80 presentations were given in multiple paper and poster sessions.

6. Our section will be sponsoring or co-sponsoring two symposia at Botany and Mycology 2009

- a. Phylogenetic and functional patterns of host plants and their associated fungi: implications for symbiotic co-evolution, community interactions, and ecosystem processes. Organizers: Louise Comas, Amy Tuininga and Hilary Callahan. (\$960 support)
- b. Environmental Climate Change : The role of marine and aquatic photosynthetic organisms in the global carbon cycle. Organizer: Anitra Thorhaug. (\$240 support)

7. We will be giving two travel awards for Botany and Mycology 2009.

Kelsey L. Dunnell, North Dakota State University, Fargo, ND - Advisor, Dr. Steven E. Travers - Botany 2009 presentation: "Early flowering of plants in the Northern Great Plains linked to increasing spring temperatures over 100 years."

Amanda M. Kenney, University of Texas, Austin, TX- Advisor, Dr. Thomas E. Juenger - Botany 2009 presentation: "Selection on water-use efficiency (WUE) in *Ipomopsis*

aggregata - an analysis of the functional relationships among WUE, other ecological traits, and fitness."

8. At Botany and Mycology 2009, our section has 44 papers and 20 posters.

9. We will be creating an ad-hoc committee for fund raising ideas and to facilitate actions on the ideas.

Respectfully Submitted, Diane Byers July 19, 2009

34. Economic Botany

35. Genetics

Activities of the BSA Genetics section during the 2008-2009 year include:

1. Business meeting conducted in Vancouver, BC (July 28, 2008) at Botany 2008.
2. Genetics section co-sponsored one (1) symposia at Botany 2008.
 - a. Polyploidy: Genetics, Evolution, and Ecology (organized by Keith Adams, UBC; 7 presentations); funds committed - \$500
3. Genetics Section participated in five (5) presented paper sessions at the Botany 2008 meeting in Vancouver, BC (including both Genetics Section session and four related thematic sections that fall under the general heading of Genetics -- organized by Sec./Treas.).

Genetics:	15 papers
Genomics/Proteomics:	4 papers
Molecular Biology:	2 papers
Molecular Ecology & Evolution:	6 papers
Population Genetics:	11 papers
4. The Genetics Section had ten (10) posters presented at Botany 2008 (and an additional 23 posters in related thematic sections).

Genomics/Proteomics:	2 posters
Molecular Biology:	3 posters
Molecular Ecology and Evolution:	10 posters
Population Genetics:	8 posters
5. The 2008 Margaret Menzel Award (\$200) for the best contributed paper was given to **Michael Barker**, University of British Columbia; "[Evolutionary genomics of hybridization: Detecting ancient hybridization and introgression by the inference of intrologs in plant genomes.](#)" Co-author was Loren H. Rieseberg.
6. The 2008 Genetics section Poster Award (\$100) was not given this year.
7. The 2009 Graduate Student Research Award(s), based on our evaluation of the seven (7) proposals submitted, was awarded to **Mr. Stein V. Servick** [Genetic consequences of autopolyploidy in *Galax urceolata* \(Diapensiaceae\)](#) (Dept. of Botany, University of Florida), in the PhD category; and **Ms. Ashley Kuenzi** [Hybridization and gene flow among established populations of *Schiedia salicaria* and *S. menziesii*](#) (Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Cincinnati) in the MS category. Each award includes \$500 for research and an additional \$500 to cover travel costs to attend a subsequent BSA meeting. Dr. Richard Whitkus contacted the winners, and will arrange for an announcement to be made at the '09 banquet.

8. The Genetics Section gave a Student Travel Award (\$200) to **Ms. Susann Wicke** (University of Vienna) to present the papers titled: "Plastid genome evolution in a group of non-photosynthetic angiosperms (Orobanchaceae)" [<http://2009.botanyconference.org/engine/search/55.html>]; "From the exception to the rule: the re-arrangement(s) of the nuclear ribosomal DNA in land plants" [<http://2009.botanyconference.org/engine/search/278.html>]; "‘Very large’, ‘poorly understood’ but ‘well supported’ - The Phylogeny of Rosids based on fast evolving and non-coding chloroplast markers". [<http://2009.botanyconference.org/engine/search/752.html>] (with co-authors Drs. D. Quandt and G. Schneeweiss).
9. The Genetics section will have seven paper sessions at the Botany 2009 meeting in Snowbird, UT (*including both Genetics section and related thematic sections that fall under the general heading of Genetics*).
 - Genetics: 9 papers, 5 posters
 - Population Genetics: 8 papers, 7 posters
 - Molecular Biology: 0 papers, 1 poster
 - Molecular Ecology and Evolution: 6 papers, 5 posters
 - Gene Structure and Function: 3 papers, 1 poster
 - Genomics/Proteomics: 3 papers, 1 poster
10. The Genetics section will co-sponsor the following symposia at the Botany 2009 meeting for the amount of \$600:
 - Biology of Parasitic Plants. The Greatest Opportunists of all: Celebrating 40 years of Job Kuijt.

Genetics Section Officers:

- Chair: Vance Baird (Michigan State University), will step down at end of Botany 2010
- Vice-Chair: Theresa Culley (Univ. of Cincinnati), will become Chair at end of Botany 2010
- Sec./Treasurer: Kristina Schierenbeck (Calif. State Univ., Chico) will become Vice-Chair at end of Botany 2010

Respectfully submitted, Vance Baird, Chair

36. Historical

Lee Kass continues as Chair of the section with Marissa Jernegan, graduate student of Eastern Illinois University as Vice-Chair. Carol Kelloff, Secretary Treasurer of the section and Marissa Jernegan presided at the Historical Section Annual meeting on 29 July 2008, at Botany 2008, Vancouver, Canada.

At Botany 2008, the section sponsored three posters. One abstract for a paper was put into another session.

The Emanuel Rudolph Award was established in 2006 for the best student paper or poster on a historical subject in botany. This year the Award was given to Sarah Kelsey, of Rutgers University for her poster on "The Establishment and Persistence of Plants Introduced to New Jersey by Solid Ballast on Ships."

Carol Kelloff spoke about increasing member awareness of the Historical Section and to try to increase membership for future meetings. She sent out a letter through the BSA website in hopes of encouraging more people to take an interest in the Historical Section and to attend the meetings and to generate more talks and posters on the history of Botany.

The participants discussed contacting Brigham Young University to identify people willing to give talks on/or about the history of botany in Utah. It was also suggested that people that knew individuals conducting research on historical or famous botanists might contact them directly and encourage these researchers to submit abstracts for a contributed paper session at Botany 2009.

The section decided not to do a Discussion Session for Botany 2009. We will try again at a future time. The BSA website [as of April 2009] lists 92 members of the Historical Section.

In March 2009, the section chair is organizing a committee to review eligible submissions for the Botany 2009 Emanuel Rudolph Award. The committee members are Edward Cobb (Cornell University), Dennis Stevenson (New York Botanical Garden), Karen Redden (Post-Doc, Smithsonian Institution), Janelle Burke (Ph.D. candidate, Cornell University) and Carol Kelloff (Smithsonian Institution, alternate). At present two papers are eligible for the award.

The Section Secretary Treasurer thanks Bill Dahl, Marshall Sundberg, Lee Kass, and Marissa Jernegan for their support.

Respectfully submitted, Dr. **Carol Kelloff**, Secretary Treasurer, Historical Section

37. Mycological

38. Paleobotanical

The Paleobotanical Section currently has 371 members (332 regular members, 23 associate members, and 16 honorary members). This represents an increase of 77 members (21%) since last year.

The Section has a program for the Snowbird meeting with 35 contributed papers, and 11 posters. Of the contributed papers, 7 are student papers which will all be in competition for the Isabel Cookson Award, and many of those will be in competition for the Maynard Moseley Award. The Section will hold its annual mixer and banquet on Monday evening, 27 July, 2009 at the Eagles Nest and Golden Cliff respectively. The annual business meeting is scheduled for 3:30 pm on Wednesday, 29 July 2009. The Section is also sponsoring a three-day post-meeting field trip to collect Paleogene fossil floras of southwestern Wyoming organized by Peter Wilf and Steven Manchester. This year's Paleobotany button "Plant Evolution is the Solution" are available for \$2.00 each.

Financial activity was light during the year and was primarily restricted to printing and mailing costs for the The Bibliography of American Paleobotany for 2008. The Bibliography was mailed to members and institutional subscribers prior to this years annual meeting. Copies will be provided for the BSA Archives and for the editor of the Plant Science Bulletin. Others may purchase copies for \$18 each.

Respectfully submitted, **Michael T. Dunn**, Secretary/Treasurer

39. Physiological

The 2009 Symposium “Climate change: the role of marine and inland water plants in inorganic carbon cycling and global environmental change” co organized by A. Thorhaug (Yale) and John Raven (University of Dundee, Scotland) and cosponsored by Ecological Section. “Ocean acidification: photosynthetic organisms as victims and beneficiaries - and saviours?” By John Raven ; “Interactions between inorganic carbon acquisition and supply of other nutrients to marine algae in a changing climate”, Erica Young ; “Interactions of UV Radiation and Carbon on Marine Photosynthesis” by Linda Franklin; ; and “Carbon Sequestration Potential in Restoration of Long-lived Marine Plants” by Anitra Thorhaug.

The 2008 Symposium “How to Work Internationally” Organized by A. Thorhaug with 5 speakers about subjects from “How to import and export plants under the new CITES rules”, by Dennis Stevenson (New York Botanical Garden), David Lee “ How I became a Tropical Botanist” to “How to access the United Nations and other International information about botany in Various nations” by A. Thorhaug. Was co-sponsored by the Physiological Section and also the International Committee, the Ecological Section.

At the business meeting, several foreign investigators were nominated for corresponding members including Eunice Mac Robbie(England), Anka Sanbu (Romania), and John Raven (Scotland).

The new treasurer is Uromi Mangare Goodall who is a brand new Ph.D. having finished with her Ph.D. at Yale in May 2009. The program chair is Dr. Frank Ewers, UC Pomona.

The student prizes were given to

2008 Li-COR prize - **Uromi Manage Goodale**, Yale University, for her talk “*Physiological acclimation of pioneer species to changing light environments.*” Her co-authors were Graeme P. Berlyn, Mark S. Ashton, and Kushan U. Tennakoon.

Nicole Hughes of Wake Forest University, for her poster entitled, “*Coordination of anthocyanin decline and photosynthetic maturation in juvenile leaves of three deciduous tree species.*” Her co-authors are Christianna Morely and William Smith.

Reported by Anitra Thorhaug, Section Chair.

40. Phytochemical

41. Pteridological

At the Botany 2008 meetings in Vancouver, BC, the Pteridological Section of the Botanical Society of America sponsored one field trip, 20 oral presentations, five contributed posters, and a symposium titled "From gels to genomics: The evolving landscape of pteridology. A celebration of Gerald Gastony's contributions to fern evolutionary biology" with six invited speakers.

Approximately 30 people attended the fern foray associated with the 2008 meetings in Vancouver. This all-day field trip, targeting three localities north and west of the city, was ably led by Chris Sears, Mike Barker, and Steve Joya.

The judging committee for the Edgar T. Wherry Award (for best oral presentation in the joint Pteridological Section/American Fern Society contributed papers sessions) was unable to choose between two excellent presentations at the Vancouver meetings and decided to give an unprecedented two awards. One went to Mary Stensvold, of the USDA Forest Service, Alaska Region, for her paper entitled "Genetic diversity in the *Botrychium lunaria* (Ophioglossaceae) complex." The other was given to Melanie Link-Perez, a student at Miami University of Ohio, for her paper entitled "Toward a redefinition of *Adiantopsis* Fee (Pteridaceae)."

The Pteridological section contributed \$400 to the publication of the Annual Review of Pteridological Research, Volume 20 (2006).

Funding from BSA also allows the Pteridological Section to provide \$400 travel awards to qualified students giving oral presentations in the joint Pteridological Section/AFS contributed papers sessions. A total of four awards were provided to help students attend the Botany 2009 meetings in Snowbird, UT. These awards were given to the following students:

- 1) Marian M. Chau: University of Hawai'i at Manoa (Advisor: Dr. Thomas Ranker) – presentation entitled "Restoration genetics of the endangered fern *Marsilea villosa*: variation among populations on two Hawaiian islands."
- 2) Jessica Sabo: Colgate University (Advisor: Dr. James E. Watkins Jr.) – presentation entitled "Understanding abiotic stress tolerance in fern gametophytes and sporophytes."
- 3) Erin Sigel: Duke University (Advisor: Dr. Kathleen Pryer) – presentation entitled "To have or have not: using farina to delineate major clades within the false cloak ferns (*Argyrochosma*)."
- 4) Alejandra Vasco: The New York Botanical Garden (Advisor: Dr. Robbin Moran) – presentation entitled "Systematics and phylogeny of *Elaphoglossum* section *Lepidoglossum* H. Christ (Dryopteridaceae): search for natural groups."

Submitted by Section Chair: **Michael D. Windham** Pteridological Section

42. Systematics

At the Botany 2008 meeting in Vancouver, Eric Roalson was elected as chair (two year term) of the section at the Systematics Section business meeting, which is held jointly with the business meeting for the American Society of Plant Taxonomists.

At the annual section business meeting in Chicago during the Botany 2007 conference the section membership voted on a bylaws change that establishes a \$5 annual dues fee that will be used to support the activities of the section, with particular emphasis on supporting student participation in conference activities. This year (2009) we began using these funds to support student participation in the annual conference by subsidizing field trip registration fees. So far this year we have supported 15 student members of the Systematics Section to attend one field trip. We provided up to \$50 per student toward the cost of the field trip. So far we have spent \$560 for this effort. We hope that word spreads about this effort and than next year we have more students who take advantage of the opportunity.

During fiscal year 2009 the BSA Systematics Section supported two symposia with funds and sponsored one colloquium and one workshop without funds for the Botany 2009 conference.

Financial Support. The ASPT and BSA Systematics Section supported hree symposia:

- 1) \$500 ASPT and \$500 Systematics Section for “The Greatest Opportunists of all: Celebrating 40 years of Job Kuijt’s ‘Biology of Parasitic Flowering Plants’” Organizers: Christopher Randle, Jeffery Morawetz, and David Tank
- 2) \$500 ASPT and \$1000 Botanical Society of America for “The Challenges Posed by Large Data Sets in Assembling the Plant and Fungal Trees of Life” Organizer: Michael Moore
- 3) \$500 ASPT and \$500 Systematics Section for “Genome, Phenome, Environment, and Evolution of Land Plants” Organizer Yin-Long Qiu

Sponsorship in name only (without financial support). The ASPT and/or BSA Systematics Section sponsored one colloquium:

- 1) “Assembling the Tree of Life: Progress and Challenges” Organizer: Michael Moore
- 2) Workshop- Developing the US National Virtual Herbarium (USVH) Organizer: Mary Barkworth

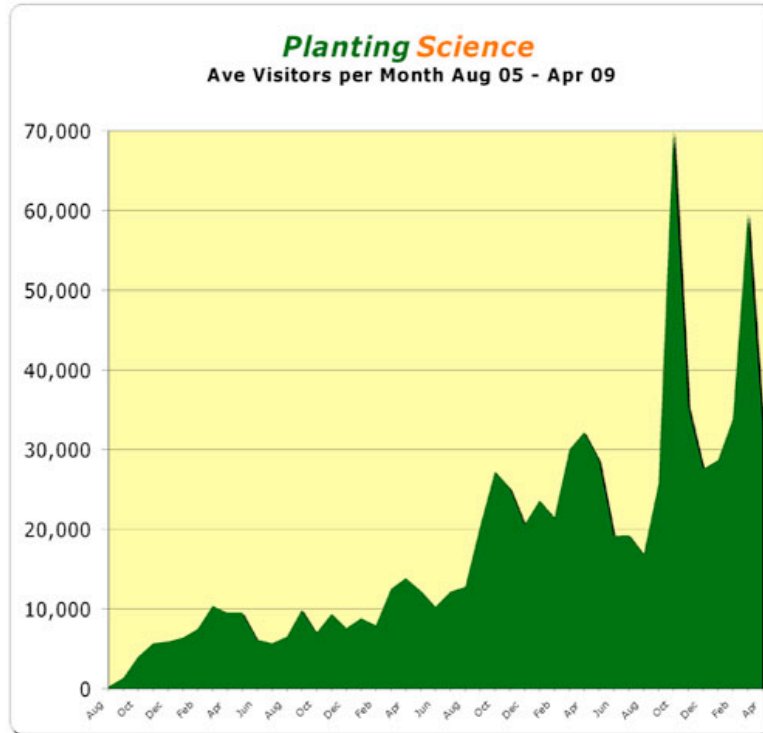
Respectfully submitted, **Patrick S. Herendeen**

43. Teaching

- Six teaching research papers were presented at BSA 2008 in Vancouver, BC, Canada. This was an unusually low number for us, even though the Section

officers actively solicited papers for this distant international meeting. Eleven is the decadal median.

- A new \$5.00 membership fee for the Teaching Section was adopted, to begin in 2009.
- An election was held for the open three-year position of Secretary-Treasurer. Donna Hazelwood was re-elected by affirmation.
- Our Past-Chair, Beverly J. Brown, has kept the Teaching Section officers abreast of the issues and work of the BSA Education Committee and BSA's Planting Science Project.



- The Teaching Section sponsored a well-attended and well-received symposium at Botany 2008 on “The Future of Botany Teaching,” organized and chaired by Section Chair Wandersee. Speakers included James Wandersee, Marshall Sundberg, Joseph Armstrong, Thomas Rost, Ethel Stanley, Stokes Baker, and U Miami botany doctoral student John Cozza.
- The newly approved mission statement for the Teaching Section reads: “The Teaching Section exists to promote the improvement of the teaching of botany--*the field of basic science dealing with the study and inquiry into the form, function, development, diversity, reproduction, evolution, and uses of plants and their interactions within the biosphere* --at both formal and informal institutions. Its intended audience is the public, “from cradle to grave.”
- The Teaching Section is investigating the intent of and qualifications for The Samuel L. Postlethwait Award, which hasn't been given in many years. It hopes to reactivate this award once it receives full clarification of the award's guidelines and restrictions.

- The Teaching Section has heavily promoted the new Chlorofilms Plant Video Contest. Section Chair James Wandersee's Ph.D. student, Kate March, won the 2nd-place prize for her video: *Angiosperms: The Secrets of Flowers*.
- The 2008 Bessey Award winners were Dr. Beverly Brown and Dr. Michael Pollan. Brown is an Associate Professor of Biology at Nazareth College of Rochester, New York. Brown and her botany education leadership were instrumental in the development and success of the BSA's national Planting Science project. Pollan is a Knight Professor at the University of California--Berkeley and Director of the Knight Program for Science and Environmental Journalism. Author of numerous best-selling books about plants, he has awakened the US public's basic interest in plants as food, like no other author in recent times. Innovative, sustained, and national impact factors were key criteria for the selection of both honorees.
- James Wandersee's action goals for the Teaching Section over his 3-year term have been: (a) organize a 4-hour, .5 CEU short course on *Advances in Teaching Botany* for Botany 2007; (b) organize a 2.5-hour symposium on *The Future of Botany Teaching* for Botany 2008; and (c) recruit US community college instructors nationwide who are interested in teaching about plants to BSA membership and plan a special 1.5-hour session for them at BSA 2009. These have all been achieved. The Teaching Section's web page on the BSA website has also been updated.
- Immediately after the Snowbird meeting, Stokes Baker becomes the Teaching Section Chair for 3 years and James Wandersee will serve 3 years as Immediate Past Chair. At that meeting, the Section will also elect a new Vice-Chair.

James Wandersee, Section Chair

44. Tropical Biology

During the 2008 meetings in Vancouver four oral papers and four posters were presented. A business meeting with the participation of 11 members immediately followed the oral session. During this session two student members suggested that student awards be made available to help cover travel expenses. The proposal was not approved because the section does not charge dues and such an award would not allow to sponsor or co-sponsor symposia. Two potential symposia (one on tree architecture and one on ecological phylogenetics) were suggested as possibility for the 2009 meetings. The officers suggested that the interested organizers submit their proposals to the section and this would be forwarded to the program director, but no proposal was received in time to be considered.

During the 2009 meetings in Snowbird Utah four oral papers and five posters will be presented. A business meeting will immediately follow.

Submitted by **Fabián A. Michelangeli**

Representatives to other Organizations

45. AAAS

46. Biological Stain Commission

The Biological Stain Commission's annual meeting was held on June 5, 2009 at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Riverwalk, San Antonio, TX.

The Commission is going to put its main focus this year on standardization of the myriad of dyes and stains that are now on the market. The annual symposium was devoted to the use of dyes and staining procedures like immunohistochemistry in the detection, treatment, and evaluation of breast cancer. The President of the BSC reaffirmed the commitment to botanical applications and their interest in publishing papers dealing with plants in the BSC's journal, "Biotechnic and Histochemistry".

Respectfully submitted, Graeme Berlyn

47. CSSP

48. National Science Collections Alliance