

BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

Mission: *The Botanical Society of America exists to promote 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.*

The objectives of The Society are to: *sustain and provide improved formal and informal education about plants; encourage basic plant research; provide expertise, direction, and position statements concerning plants and ecosystems; and foster communication within the professional botanical community, and between botanists and the rest of humankind through publications, meetings, and committees.*

DRAFT

I. BSA Business Report - Introduction

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?

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

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

III. 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 2008-9 BSA budget can be found online at http://www.botany.org/governance/reports/board/2009-BSA_Budget-090715.xls.

IV. 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.

V. *American Journal of Botany*

The 2009 *American Journal of Botany* institutional rates will remain at the 2008 level of \$625.00.

We have registered 1,388 Print, plus Print & Online institutional subscriptions for the year to date (1,450 in 2008). By year's end we should exceed the budgeted sales volume of 1,400 subscriptions. Sales revenue is \$910,000 as compared to a budget of \$845,000.

Member subscriptions, at 568 print copies, are slightly below the budget of 600.

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.

Membership & Member Subscriptions

	<i>Print Subscriptions</i>			<i>Online Only</i>			<i>Total Overall Relationship</i>			
	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

Recommendation 5: It is recommended member rates for the print version *AJB* increase by \$5 for professional (\$90) for the 2008 year, a 5.9% increase.

VI. 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

VII. 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

VIII. Strategic Planning & Bylaws

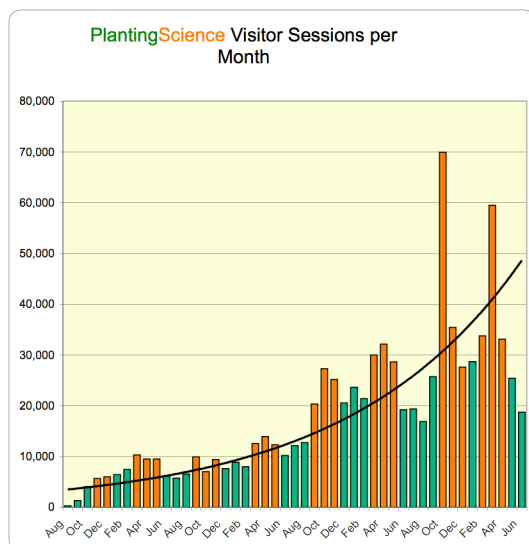
Strategic Planning - Thank you to all members who took part in the recent membership survey. Results will be available in the Plant Science Bulletin online shortly after Botany 2008. The committee is scheduled to meet for breakfast on Tuesday morning in Vancouver. We'll update the Society as we move into the next steps in the process.

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

IX. 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.

X. 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 grow.

We have just completed our first round of project reporting to both NSF and Monsanto. You will find links to each report below.

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

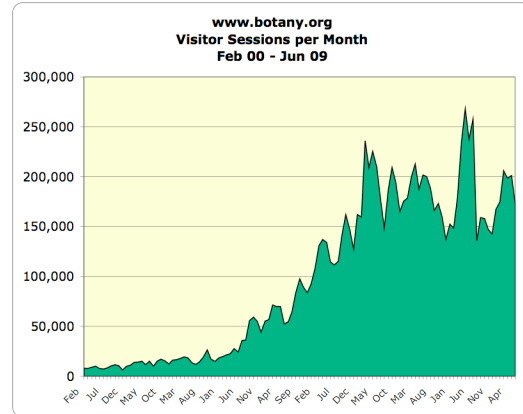
http://www.botany.org/plantingscience/reports/ITEST_submitted09report.pdf

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

There are now 10 Scientific Societies listed as **PlantingScience** partners.

XI. 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.



XII. Thanks, Bill

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