

Council Report  
BSA Program Director  
David Spooner  
July 20, 2009

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.