

2009 Annual Report BSA Systematics Section

Eric Roalson, chair; Patrick S. Herendeen, Secretary-Treasurer
13 July 2009

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