



## **Board Report November 22, 2021**

**Botany 2021** – A success – financially and otherwise! Profit of \$53,741.05. Shared \$26,870 with our partners – BSA's share based on 59% of attendees \$15,853.62

### **Botany 2022 – A work in progress!**

#### **Action Items - Things needing to be approved**

- **Student field trip** participation as in the past. Requesting \$3000.00 BSA Support.
- **Child Care** Requesting \$2000 BSA support.

### **Fall Planning Meeting**

Met in Anchorage with representatives from participating Societies

- ASPT - Harvey Ballard
- ABLs - Daphne Stone
- AFS - Robert DeVelise
- BSA - Melanie Link-Perez
- Field Trip Coordinator - Justin Fulkerson

Joined by Zoom

- Heather Cacanindin
- Imena Valdes
- Ioana Anghel

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- Toured the Hilton – Sleeping rooms (~\$229.00) and meeting rooms. We have all the meeting space on hold for our use. We need to meet 80% of 1300 room nights or we pay attrition. (Equals 1042 room nights or 260 people for 4 nights) We need to meet a \$50,000 food and beverage minimum – or pay the difference.
  - Visited the Dorms at the University for inexpensive housing options. (~\$80.00/bed) No attrition penalties – Working a plan to provide a shuttle to the conference center a couple times a day for attendee's convenience.
  - Toured the Dena'ina Center – where the bulk of the meeting will be held.
  - Checked out other venues for off-site events.
  - Met with and discussed AV needs with two local providers – still collecting pricing information for both in person and virtual conferences

### **Budgeting**

Still working on comprehensive budget to determine costs for an in person and virtual attendance registration costs. To include AV costs, platform costs, food and beverage minimums, and attrition penalties.



### **Field Trips**

Local rep Justin Fulkerson has revised and refreshed the list of field trips proposed for 2020. These will be priced and presented on the conference website in early December. A nice variety to include the Alaska Botanic Garden, a tour of the Byron and Portage Glaciers, a kayaking trip on lake Eklunta and more! Botany in Action project may be a "Weed Smackdown" possibly within walking distance to the hotel.

Hoping that BSA and ASPT will support student field trip participation as in the past. Requesting \$3000.00 BSA Support.

### **Symposia and Colloquia**

Sections and societies have been given the list of Symposia to rank. Six will be chosen to be presented. Once chosen we will begin marketing the conference.

#### **Symposia Options:**

- From High Islands to the Ocean Floor: Pacific Island Plants at the Extreme
- Polymorphism—from morphology to interactions
- Tackling coloniality in plant sciences: Legacies and paths forward
- Beringia!: Current Insights on the Geology, Climate, Paleontology, Floristic Assembly, and Biodiversity of a Subcontinent that is Central to Northern Hemisphere Biogeography
- The impact of climate change on plants and their interactions with pollinators
- A Botanist at the Extreme: Honoring the great contributions of Dr. Vicki A. Funk
- Plant Genomes are Palingenetically Bestowed with Diverse Extremes
- Black Botanical Legacy: Fostering a Community of Equity in Botanical Sciences
- *Rhododendron* bridges diverse disciplines to address pressing global problems
- Innovation and Novelty in the Evolution of Plants
- Discovering and Modeling Global-Scale Patterns and Processes in Biogeography Based on the Plant Family, Sapindaceae
- Resilience in polluted environments; biomonitoring, management, and restoration strategies
- Model Clades in Botany



### Colloquia Options

- The impact of climate change on plant physiology in natural and agricultural systems
- Polymorphism - from morphology to interactions.
- Paths forward: Engaging Indigenous science and knowledge
- From the backbone to diversification: unravelling the evolutionary history of Ericales
- Bryophytes and Lichens on the Edges of Changing Ecosystems
- Dryland mosses: adaptations to life on the edge, from genes to ecosystems
- Ferns at the extreme: the case of moonworts, grape-ferns and adder's tongues of the family Ophioglossaceae

### Potential Speakers

Invitations have been issued – waiting for confirmation

- Plenary Speaker – Cassandra Quave – Emory University (finalizing details)
- Regional Botany Lecture - Carolyn Parker – University of Alaska (confirmed)

Yet to be identified

- *Annals of Botany* Special lecture
- Belonging in Botany Lecture
- Kaplan Memorial Lecture

Confirmed

- BSA's Emerging Leader – Dr. Brian Atkinson, University of Kansas
- ASPT Incoming President Talk - Eric H. Roalson
- Incoming BSA President Talk – Vivian Negron-Ortiz

**Workshops** – Call for workshops was released in October – Deadline is December 15<sup>th</sup>  
We have one proposal – for a pre-conference workshop – to take place before the Abstract submission deadline to help student write a compelling title and abstract.



### **Child Care**

We have a proposal from Kidde Corp – the company we used in Tucson for childcare. They will provide care for 12 children, Monday – Wednesday 11.5 hours per day - \$13,617.00. If we help and ship their supplies, we can save money – so bid will be - \$9965.00 (not sure how much we are shipping this year.) (In Tucson – similar hours 12 children bid was 6995.00) It is our hope that the Societies will chip in some money so to keep the cost to parents at a minimum. Requesting \$2000 BSA support.

### **Conference Technology Update**

After working with our virtual conference platform and trying to mesh with the current abstract site, we have begun an extensive search to find a new system that will encompass the three pieces for the conference. An abstract submission site, a registration site, and an onsite conference app. With the help from Steve, from Bartha, we have spent a significant amount of time reviewing several platforms and are hoping to decide if we will switch to something new for Botany 2022.

**Covid issues** – I suggest that we follow the rules of Anchorage at the time of the conference. And that cannot be decided at this time. In October - there was a strict mask mandate - all masked indoors – all the time – with plenty of signage and etc. to remind people. Hand sanitizer stations were everywhere.

For room sets – we set for theater style to the room max and encourage people to spread out. The Center rooms are fairly large and can accommodate more than our usual attendance.

Food and Beverage is a whole other can of worms to address – but the Center assured us they have plans. And really it is on them to keep us safe.

For international travelers or others needing a negative test before they can return home there is a testing service at the airport.