

**BSA Members Business MINUTES**  
**July 25, 2023, in-person at Botany2023, Boise ID**  
**3:00pm-5:00pm Mountain**

**Who attended:** 29 attendees (at the beginning of meeting; additional members arrived after the meeting was called to order)

**1. Call to Order – Vivian**

Introductions

Acknowledgments – A brief acknowledgment of BSA staff, board, and members

Announcements – none

Minutes of the 2022 Business Meeting – no corrections. Approved as distributed.

**2. Reports**

**A. President** – The president provided a brief overview of the accomplishments of the BSA over the past year, including: the goals of the strategic plan; a set of new ethical guidelines; publications negotiations with Wiley; Awards (especially endowed research award for a student comparative plant morphology); Botany2024 in Grand Rapids; Celebration of the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Endangered Species Act; the future Climate Change initiative.

**B. Treasurer**

The treasurer provided a brief overview of the financial state and management system of the BSA. A particular point was made that the largest source of revenue for the BSA is publications, and that revenue is likely to decrease due to the new Wiley contract. The treasurer also emphasized that the BSA is still meeting its strategic goals, including increasing (or maintaining the current high level) graduate student support.

**FY2023 Budget to Actual**

**FY2024 Budget**

The treasurer emphasized that the BSA staff has made a number of cuts in order to maintain progress towards the society's strategic goals, including student support.

Given that the publication model has changed, a suggestion was made by a BSA member to create a fund to support student publications. The proposal was well received and will be discussed at future meetings.

The need to make a draw from the investment account was discussed with BSA members.

### **C. President-Elect**

The President-Elect summarized their work as chair of the committee on committees.

### **D. Publications**

### **E. Editor, PSB**

The editor of the PSB provided a summary of the goals of the PSB and the activities over the past year and a preview of the upcoming issue on the intersection of botanical research and art.

### **F. Conference Program Report**

### **G. Business Office Report**

### **H. Elections Committee**

The past president gave a summary of elections over the past year. The past president also discussed the new endowment (a \$300k gift) that provides a \$10k/yr award for graduate student research. The activities of the corresponding member committee were also summarized.

### **I. Investment Committee**

The chair of the investment committee briefly summarized the state of the investment account and their comfort in the level of the planned draw from the investment account.

### **J. Development Committee**

The chair of the development committee provided some highlights of the work that was done in fundraising over the past year.

The significant increase in donations for funding graduate student research was discussed, as was the establishment of a new graduate student award named in honor of AJ Harris.

The chair made a point that members should share stories of how BSA has played a role in their lives, which can be used to help promote the society and the need to make gifts, as well as the importance of the legacy society.

### **K. Education Committee**

The chair of the committee thanked the staff that help manage the education programs at BSA, with an emphasis on Planting Science and the need for more mentors in the program.

### **L. DEI Committee**

## **3. New Business**

## **A. Membership Recommendations**

### **1. Recommendation to raise amount for gift memberships**

**motion: Cindi; second: Morgan. No objections. Motion passed.**

### **2. Recommendation to raise dues**

A brief explanation of why some dues are being proposed to be raised was discussed, with a particular emphasis on the \$5 raise for student memberships, and some discussion of affiliate memberships.

motion: . Second: Sean Graham

Discussion – none

Objections – none

In favor – 13

### **3. Ad hoc membership Committee**

The membership and communications manager discussed the goals of the ad hoc committee. In particular, the increased role of membership in the financial well-being of the society was summarized. The goal of the committee is to increase the conversion of student members to professional members, increase the number of new professional members, and to increase the number of gift memberships that are given.

Motion: Chris; Second: Uromi

No objections

### **4. Charging (opting in) to the print issue of PSB**

The cost (9-10k per year) of publishing the PSB was discussed and the members discussed charging to opt into the print issue. No objections

### **5. Corresponding Member**

The corresponding member nomination was discussed by the members.

Motion to accept the nomination: Cindi; Second: Morgan.

No objections

## **B. FY2024 Budget for approval**

The treasurer briefly summarized the draw from the investment account, and asked for any questions. There were no questions.

**motion: Allison; second: Karolina.  
no objections.**

## **C. Other business**

A brief introduction to both IBC in Madrid and Botany2024 was made. The potential avenues by

which the BSA may be able to obtain NSF funds to support student or ECR travel to Madrid was also discussed.

#### **4. Adjournment**

**Motion: Jenny; Second: N/A ;**