

Ecology Section Annual Report – May 2024

Uromi Manage Goodale, Chair
Francesco Martini, Vice-Chair
Jessamine Finch, Secretary and Program Coordinator

In this report, we present a summary of the activities conducted by the officers, a membership update, and a financial status update for the Ecology Section.

Activities

In 2023-2024, the Ecology section officers responded to any request from the BSA leadership. In addition, emails were sent to the membership as needed. Our focus was the BOTANY 2024 meeting (on site event only) and the election of new leadership, especially filling the vacant Vice-Chair position at BOTANY 2023.

BOTANY 2023

As officers of the section, we participated in the selection of the colloquia and symposia for the meeting and provided support for a total of \$800. In addition, we awarded three registration awards to students. For names of the award recipients go to:

<https://botany.org/home/awards/annual-award-recipients/2023-award-recipients.html>

The Ecology section had 82 presentations at BOTANY 2023, of which 47 were oral presentations and 35 were posters. These numbers were lower than in 2022 (i.e., total of 125).

During the BOTANY 2023, we selected the best two Oral and two Poster Awards for graduate and undergraduate students out of 36 presentations (talks and posters). See the following link for the names of the award recipients: <https://botany.org/home/awards/annual-award-recipients/2023-award-recipients.html>

We would like to thank all the Judges and Session Presiders that helped during the meeting. Attendance at our annual business meeting was modest and BSA updates were provided. The position of Vice-Chair was filled by Francesco Martini, whose election was approved by members of the section present at the business meeting.

BOTANY 2024

Due to personal reasons, the Chair was unable to perform the regular duties in the year 2024 and up to the date of this report. As per bylaws of the ecological section, the Vice-Chair served as Chair *pro term*.

As officers of the section, we participated in the selection of the colloquia and symposia for BOTANY 2024 and provided support for one symposium (\$500) and one colloquium (\$300). This was the same amount of support provided in BOTANY 2023.

To support student participation at BOTANY 2024 meeting, we have given two \$500 Ecology Student Travel Awards. For names of the award recipients go to:

<https://botany.org/home/awards/annual-award-recipients/2024-awards-recipients.html>

For BOTANY 2024, we have a total of 98 papers, of which 46 are oral presentations, and 52 are posters.

This year for our best student Talk and Poster Awards we have 65 presentations: 24 oral talks and 41 posters under consideration.

At BOTANY 2024, we will have sessions every day and our business meeting will be

Tuesday, June 18 at 12.00 pm Eastern Daylight Time (UTC/GMT-4hours).

New Leadership

In BOTANY 2023 the position of Vice-Chair was filled by Francesco Martini. Francesco started his official term after BSA 2023 and will be in the role until July 2026.

As the Chair - Uromi Manage Goodale and Secretary and Program Coordinator - Jessamine Finch, started their official terms after the BSA 2022 annual meeting, they will be in their role until July 2025.

This will allow a smooth transition next year when the Chair and Program Coordinator may be replaced, as the Vice-Chair will remain active and able to support the new officers.

Membership

Currently, the section has 623 (as of 5.15.24) section members. For a full breakdown of our membership see supplemental information.

Finances

As of 2024, the finances of our section were healthy, with \$ 28,010.17 USD as available funds (Balance @ April 2024). We are very grateful for the support provided by our members. For a full breakdown of our finances see supplemental information (Ecological Section P&L 4.30.24).

The finance does not include expenses due to occur for BOTANY 2024, which should amount to \$1500 (3 travel awards) + \$800 (sponsor colloquia and symposia) + \$300 (3 best presentation awards) + \$150 (business meeting catering) = \$2750. This will bring the balance to approximately the same level as previous years.

Ecological Section Finances as of 4/30/2024

Botanical Society of America - Profit and Loss	
October 2023 - April 2024	
	Total Ecological Section
Income	
4300 Special Funds Contributions	
4115 Section Dues	1,270.00
4309 Awards	466.00
4310 Other Funds	145.00
Total 4300 Special Funds Contributions	1,881.00
Total Income	1,881.00
Gross Profit	1,881.00
Expenses	
Total Expenses	
Net Operating Income	1,881.00
Net Income	1,881.00
Balance as of 9/30/2023	26,129.17
Plus: FY24 Activity	1,881.00
Ending balance as of 4/30/2024	28,010.17

Ecological Section Membership as of 5/15/2024

Professional	66	
Professional Family	6	
3 Year Professional Membership	23	95 Total Professional
Postdoc	6	
3 Year Postdoc Membership	5	11 Total Postdoc
Student	253	
Student with Chapter Meeting	17	
Student Family	0	
3 Year Student Membership	204	474 Total Student
Developing Nations Member	3	
3 Year Developing Nations Member	4	7 Total Developing Nations
Emeritus	13	
Emeritus Family	2	15 Total Emeritus
Life Membership	3	
Affiliate	1	
Amateur	8	
Retired	9	
Community College Professional	0	
		623 Grand Total