

## **BSA Council Meeting MINUTES**

6/25/2017

Fort Worth Ballroom 2

**1) Call to order: 3:20pm (Erika Edwards, Council Chair)**

**2) Introductions & MOVE to approve minutes: APPROVED (unanimous)**

**3) Corresponding Members (Dick Olmstead, Past President)**

- Five new members this year and a call to think about future nominations as a way to extend participation internationally
- no limit to the number, it's an honorary lifetime membership/an award
- procedure is online: nominator writes a letter, gets two support letters and CV of nominee; once a year it gets voted on but they can receive nominations anytime.

**4) Conferences (Amy Litt, Program Director)**

BOTANY 2017: Registration is down but this was expected due timing, IBC, etc. New this year:

- Reorganized abstract submission topics
- lightening talk session on Tues afternoon
- LGBTQ&A mixer Tues 5:30pm
- Local artisans
- new symposium funding model
- undergrad student reception (~160 students)

BOTANY 2018: Rochester, not with ABLs but with Can Bot Assc; symposia proposals are due after the conference because the timing this year made it impossible to do before/at the meeting

2019: Tucson

2020: Anchorage, Alaska? Request to ask your sections for feedback on this.

**5) Education (Allison Miller, Education Director at Large)**

- Digger Deeper (2<sup>nd</sup> Planting Science) looking for mentors – about 1 hr/week serving as liason btw classrooms and teachers, going up to about 100 new teachers and need new mentors
- Reinvest ASA (American Society for Agronomy) looking to partner
- Facebook Group – spread the word; need permission to join
- Starting FMN (faculty mentoring network); partnered with QUBES (Quantitative ed group). Workshop at Life Discovery Network
- PSRN – started by David Stern and Crispin Taylor; network of plant science societies; currently a proposal is in review for undergrad involvement; Look for a PSB piece (March) on this to find out what you can do to get involved. Goal is to broaden participation.

**6) Publisher Partner update (Sean Graham)**

- Developing contract to have AJB and APPS published by Wiley (this is in response to rapidly changing publishing environment)

- Desire to keep production control – we’re retaining ownership, full editorial control, and staff; Wiley will handle marketing and subscriptions; members retain their free subscriptions; we retain ownership of back issues; articles become open access after one year (will continue). There will be some increases in subscription costs (5.7% first year increase); OA rates will not change in first year, and there is some concern with this for APPS, which is all OA
- Hoping to sign contract by mid-July.
- Transition: Jan 2018 – first issue, which is coming up fast so the transition has already started.
- Wiley has a great analytics team and international markets experts
- 3:15pm Monday Publication Partnership Discussion; Wiley rep (Gilian) will be there (they are negotiating with completely different people, e.g. lawyers and finance people.)
- DISCUSSION:
  - Q: re: member access to journal. A: It will not be affected by any institutional interruptions in Wiley contract, etc. (although it is a different way of accessing the journal).
  - Q re: data archiving strategies? A: This is up to us.

## 7) Publications

AJB (Pam Diggle): Impact Factor > 3.0!

- diverse submissions in terms of fields and authors; 39% acceptance, new special issues coming out; request for help with new special issue ideas; Highlights, and OTNOTs (essays).
- Request for ideas for authors and ideas. OTNOTs are peer-reviewed. Also looking for suggestions for associate editors.

APPS (Theresa): IF = 1.492 (good year!)

- special issue on plant pollinator interactions and climate change; special issue on digitization of botanical collections (stuff here and at IBC)
- looking into expanding editorial board and especially international
- 82% -> 45% acceptance rate
- trying to ramp up non-primer note submissions; looking for protocols and review papers
- BSA members \$450, \$800 for new members, \$1400 for non-members

PSB (Mackenzie) is not part of Wiley negotiations, but it will be included on the journal HUB.

- Newsletter of Society and peer-reviewed articles; down to three issues/year; currently the only print issue; lots of book reviews
- requests books for reviews or reviews of books
- want to improve web presence and that Wiley might help with platform for this.

## 8) Bill Dahl is retiring after 15 years as our first and only Exe Director.

- Heather will be interim director
- Development: \$800,000 to start 15 yrs ago -> over \$5M now, and they invested over 1M in members over those years
- Budget for next year is in good shape but is still pending the Wiley contract
- Updating website

## 9) Treasurer (Lucinda McDade):

- Oct 1-Sept 30 budget (same as federal budget)

- Wiley yields a signing bonus and provides a minimum income from journal for next 5 years, which is nice for stability; saves some in terms of expenses but overall it is more about stabilizing cash flow and not a boon to income. General optimism.

#### 10) Standing committee reports

- Investment Comm: \$5.2M in investments with goal of \$10-20M to support initiatives, so please think about contributing even small amounts  
Q: re: foundational support -> There was an attempt for a number of years but it was not successful, so effectively no foundational support at the moment.  
Q: re: the legacy society -> they pledge to give as a bequest (upon death).

#### 11) New business

- Moseley Award – We decided at the March Board meeting that this award (best student paper in Paleo or Structure & Development sections) would be better rotated between the two sections annually. One issue is that the fields have diverged significantly and with a three-person committee it was difficult to make a fair decision. DISCUSSION:
  - Great talks might miss out on “off years” and that it might be more of an issue of the committee composition. What about splitting the award so that there are two instead of one? What is the original bequest? Should it be restricted to those two sections? Is the original intent to award “evolution of structure” talks?
- Amy Litt (Program Director) requests suggestions for improvement in meeting organization
  - Ingrid from ASPT meeting noted 60% lower for ASPT section this IBS year. Wondered if we could try to work with other societies on IBC years? Also important to work with Evolution so we do not coincide. Another meeting with ASPB? (Comment that this was a zoo)  
Q: re: the app and linking your personal agenda between the mobile app and computer app. Sounds like this would be very expensive but agreed that it would be nice  
Q: re: internet access - We are supposed to have internet access everywhere. Yes, but it has been in and out.
    - Call for request for plenary speakers!
- Ann Sakai – Rep to Board for Human Development; she’s noting that this includes much more than diversity; cross cutting across other groups; She’s also a delegate to AAAS for Biology; untenured faculty from small colleges need mentoring; dropping the DDIGs and other societies are trying to develop grad student support, so maybe we need to do this too.
- Internationalization of BSA, starting with the Americas. New initiatives: \$15 member fee in developing country; \$1000 travel awards to developing countries (10) by lottery; 10 professional development awards travel awards for faculty to come to meetings; co-sponsoring a symposium at next Latin Am Congress in Quito
- Membership held for all but *lowered* for students (\$20) and postdocs (\$40); \$10 student gift memberships; print-on-demand option with Wiley \$175/year over and above membership
- Workshop on Nagoya Protocol

**Meeting adjourned at 5pm**