

## International Affairs Committee – Agenda and Report - Meeting 11AM, Sunday, 22 July 2018

### BSA annual meeting – Mayo Civic Center, Rochester, MN – 21-25 July 2018

#### International Affairs Committee

- Thomas Rost (2019), Chair
- Catarina Rydin (2020)
- Jürg Schönenberger (2020)
- David Gernandt (2018)
- Nisa Karimi , Student Representative (2018)
- Heather Cacanindin, Executive Director, ex officio

#### Agenda:

##### Report 2017-2018 activities:

- A. The BSA co-sponsored mixer, organized by the BSA International Affairs Committee, with the Chinese Botanical Society was held 25 July 2017 in Shenzhen, China. The session was intended to help join the societies together and identify joint projects and activities. Approximately 100 attended. One highlight was an impromptu speech by Peter Raven on the history of relationships with Chinese botany.
- B. This past year a small sub-committee (Rost and Gernandt) worked with Dr. Alina Freire-Fierro who is the President of the XII Congreso Latinoamericano de Botánica to be held in Quito, Ecuador 21-28 October 2018. The BSA executive committee approved \$3000 to support a joint mixer with the Latin American Botanical Society (ALB) and another \$3000 to provide funding for two early career BSA members to attend the congress as Pan-American Scholars. The Latin American Botanical Society funded two other Pan-American Scholars to represent their society and together the four scholars will participate in a jointly sponsored BSA / ALB symposium. The BSA Pan-American Scholars are Dr. Laura Lagomarsino, Assistant Professor Louisiana State University, and Dr. Oscar Vargas, Post-doctoral fellow, University of Michigan. The two scholars representing ALB are Dr. Rocio Deanna and Dr. Carolina Granados Mendoza.

Message from Loren Rieseberg (1-24-2018) -

Hi all,

Just to clarify, the BSA Board approved an expenditure of \$6,000 for activities at the XII Latin American Botanical Congress: \$3,000 for the mixer and \$3,000 to support the expenses of the four Pan-American Scholars. The scholars will need to collect and submit receipts after the event in order to be reimbursed. BSA President at that time will be Dr. Andrea Wolfe, and she is planning to attend and to say a few words at the mixer on behalf of the Society.

Loren

- C. Charge to committee from Dick Olmstead, BSA President 2016:

- 1) Helping to plan outreach around the upcoming International Botanical Congress in China in 2017. What form this might take remains to be seen, but some of that planning might take place during the coming year. (accomplished – see A. above)
- 2) Increasing recruitment of and outreach to international members of the BSA. We have 27% foreign membership, and many foreign members (and non-members) publish in our journals. It would be great to grow that number and to get them more involved as members.
- 3) There are a great many botanical societies in individual countries around the world. Our Society is the envy of most of them in terms of membership, publications, visibility, and what we do for our members. I would like to explore whether and how we might be able to establish connections to those societies in ways that would be mutually beneficial.
- 4) Some or all of the above might be made more feasible with a financial commitment from the BSA. I think the International Affairs Committee is the group that might come up with ideas to bring to the Council for consideration for support.” (BSA provided funds for Quito congress 2018)

**D. Message from Heather Cacanindin 10-20-2017. I didn't respond to this, but I will bring a copy of the National Plant Systems Initiative if anyone is interested in seeing it.**

Dear BSA Committee and Section Chairs and BSA Board,

On behalf of BSA President Loren Rieseberg, I have attached a document that needs your careful review and input.

The BSA has been participating for more than three years in the Plant Science Research Network (PSRN), along with a diversity of other plant-related scientific societies.

The attached document, National Plant Science Initiative (NPSI), was conceived and written by the PSRN over the last two years, with direct input from steering committee representatives from PSRN member organizations, including the BSA. Dr. Michael Donoghue has been the BSA liaison to this group.

To help ensure that the BSA can stand behind the final recommendations that emerge from the PSRN, we are asking you for your collective feedback on the revised NPSI. This is our opportunity to help shape the research agenda for the broader plant science community. We want to make sure that the interests of BSA members are represented in this document so please think about the members of your sections and committees as you carefully review this document.

We would appreciate receiving your feedback by Monday, November 13th at the latest. We cannot stress enough how important it is to provide our input as an organization to this document. Please take some time over the next three weeks to give us your thoughts.

Please send your feedback directly to me ([hcacanindin@botany.org](mailto:hcacanindin@botany.org) <<mailto:hcacanindin@botany.org>> ) so I can collate the information for Michael. If you have any questions about the PSRN or how this document was produced, Michael would be happy to answer those questions ([michael.donoghue@yale.edu](mailto:michael.donoghue@yale.edu) <<mailto:michael.donoghue@yale.edu>> ).

Many thanks,  
Heather

Heather Cacanindin  
Interim Executive Director  
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**E. Suggested activities for 2018 – 19:**

- Make a list (see below) and contact the other botanical societies around the world. Can the committee members work collectively on this, prepare a contact

list and initiate connecting with other botanical societies to identify opportunities to collaborate?

- Discuss how to increase foreign membership in BSA and whether our committee can assist with this.
- Other items from the committee.

This is a partial list of national botanical societies: (<http://www.bgbm.org/idb/botsoc.html>)

## **National botanical and natural history societies and organizations**

### **Argentina**

- [Sociedad Argentina de Botánica](#)

### **Australia**

- [Australian Systematic Botany Society.](#)

### **Belgium**

- [The BELNET User Forum Workgroup on Biodiversity, Belgium](#)
- [La Société Belge de Dendrologie / De Belgische Dendrologische Vereniging](#)

### **Bulgaria**

- [Bulgarian Botanical Society \(BBS\)](#)
- [Bulgarian Phytocoenological Society.](#)

### **Canada**

- [Canadian Botanical Association - L'Association Botanique du Canada](#)
- [Canadian Botanical Conservation Network](#)
- [Manitoba Association of Plant Biologists, Canada.](#)

### **Chile**

- [The Latin American Plant Sciences Network, Chile, Sociedad de Botánica de Chile](#)

### **Denmark**

- [Dansk dendrologisk forening \(Danish Dendrological Society, Denmark\)](#)

### **Estonia**

- [Eesti Looduseuurijate Selts](#)

### **Finland**

- [Societas pro Fauna et Flora Fennica \(Finland\).](#)

### **Germany**

- [Deutsche Gesellschaft für Biologische Systematik GfBS](#)
- [Naturhistorische Gesellschaft Nürnberg \(Germany\)](#)
- [Verband Deutscher Biologen \(VDBiol\) - Association of German Biologists](#)

### **Guayana**

- [University of Guyana Botany Club.](#)

### **Israel**

- [Israeli Society of Botany](#)

### **Italy**

- [Società Botanica Italiana - The Botanical Society of Italy](#)

### **Japan**

- [The Society of Natural Plants Lovers in Hokkaido, Japan.](#)

### **Norway**

- [Norsk Botanisk Forening, NBF,](#)
  - [Norsk Botanisk Forening, Nord norsk avdeling - Norwegian Botanical Society, North Norway Section, in Norwegian.](#)

- [Norsk Botanisk Forening: Østlandsavdelingen](#)

#### **Spain**

- [Colegio Oficial de Biólogos, Spain,](#)

#### **Sweden**

- [Botaniska föreningen i Göteborg - Gothenburg Botanical Society, Sweden](#)
- [Botaniska sällskapet i Stockholm - Stockholm Botanical Society, Sweden](#)
- [Gävleborgs Botaniska Sällskap - Gävleborg Botanical Society, Sweden](#)
- [Svenska Botaniska Föreningen \(SBF\), Swedish Botanical Society](#)
- [Svenska växtgeografiska sällskapet \(Societas Phytogeographica Suecana\), Sweden](#)
- [Västergötlands Botaniska Förening, Sweden](#)

#### **South Africa**

- [The Botanical Society of South Africa.](#)

#### **Switzerland**

- [Réseau Suisse de Floristique \(RSF\),](#)

#### **UK**

- [The Botanical Society of the British Isles \(BSBI\).](#)
- [Botanical Society of Scotland,](#)
- [British Ecological Society \(BES\), UK](#)
- [The Linnean Society of London](#)

#### **USA**

- [Arizona Native Plant Society, USA](#)
- [The Auburn Botanical Society, USA](#)
- [The Botanical Society of America, USA](#)
- [Botanical Society of America Announcements](#)
- [The Botanical Society of Washington, USA.](#)
- [California Native Plant Society,](#)
- [Central Ohio Native Plant Society, USA.](#)
- [The Connecticut Botanical Society,](#)
- [Florida Native Plant Society, USA](#)
- [Georgia Botanical Society,](#)
- [Grand Prairie Friends.](#)
- [The Idaho Native Plant Society \(INPS\), USA](#)
- [Indiana Native Plant and Wildflower Society, USA](#)
- [Isle Royale Natural History Association, USA.](#)
- [Native Plant Society of Oregon, USA,](#)
- [Native Plant Societies of the United States.](#)
- [Native Plant Society of Texas, USA](#)
- [The New England Botanical Club \(NEBC\).](#)
- [New England Wild Flower Society, USA](#)
- [The Nova Scotia Wild Flora Society](#)
- [Rhode Island Natural History Survey, Providence, USA.](#)
- [Saint Petersburg Botanic Society \(Florida, USA\). San Antonio Botanical Society, USA](#)
- [The Torrey Botanical Society](#)
- [University of Oklahoma Botanical Society. University of Wyoming Botany Club](#)
- [Washington Native Plant Society, USA](#)
- [Western Colorado Botanical Society, USA](#)
- [Western Pennsylvania Botanical Society, USA](#)

[The Wisconsin Phenological Society](#)