

Annual Report: Kaplan Lecture Committee

Filed by Cynthia Jones, Chair

The Kaplan Lecture for BOTANY 2017 at Fort Worth was presented June 27 by Dr. Daniel Chitwood. The lecture, entitled “Persistent homology and organismal theory: quantifying the branching topologies of plants,” beautifully illustrated Dr. Chitwood’s use of novel, sophisticated methods of quantifying form to explore genetic mechanisms underlying concepts of organismal plant development championed by Don Kaplan. The lecture was followed by the Kaplan Lecture Reception, at which time a recent, large endowment given by Dorothy Kaplan to the BSA that will provide lasting support for the Kaplan Lecture series and receptions was announced.

Nine nominations were received in response to the call for nominations for the 2018 Kaplan Lecture to be presented at BOTANY 2018. From among this pool of very talented and deserving nominees, Dr. Elizabeth Kellogg was selected by the Kaplan Lecture Committee to present this year’s lecture.