

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PALEOBOTANICAL SECTION  
Presented to the 2018 Botanical Society of America Council Meeting  
Rochester, MN

The Paleobotanical Section's program at Botany 2017 in Ft. Worth, Texas, consisted of 50 oral presentations and 9 posters, including 24 presentations by students in competition for the Cookson or Moseley awards. The 2017 winner of the Cookson Award was Michael Donovan of Penn State University for his paper "Insect herbivore communities tracked the conifer *Agathis* (Araucariaceae) from Paleogene Patagonia to modern Australasia and southeast Asia". The Moseley award went to Maya Bickner, from Humboldt State University, for her paper "New fossils from the Battery Point Formation of Gaspé (Quebec, Canada) expand the anatomical diversity of Early Devonian euphyllophytes".

In Ft. Worth, we also honored Gar Rothwell for his achievements in the field by presenting him with the Botanical Society of America Paleobotanical Section Award for Contributions to Paleobotany.

The Section provided travel funds for students to attend the European Palaeobotany and Palynology Conference in Dublin later this summer, in August 2018. The recipients of the awards include Shayda Abidi, Aly Baumgartner, Rebecca Koll, Kelly Pfeiler, and Christopher West.

The Paleobotanical Section membership looks forward to another exciting meeting at Rochester in 2018. Our contributed Section talks include 24 talks and 6 posters, and 10 talks for the Cookson and Moseley awards. Botany 2018 also includes a number of exciting paleobotany themed or paleobotany relevant colloquia in which our members are presenting, including "Plants at the Cretaceous-Paleogene Boundary", "A Synthesis of New Palaeontological and Phylogenomic Perspectives on Gymnosperm Evolution", and "Fossil Plants at the Intersection of Evo-Devo and Phylogeny: Celebrating the Contributions of Gar W. Rothwell to Biodiversity and Evolution". Together these colloquia include 29 paleobotanical talks.

The Paleobotany Mixer and banquet will be held on Monday (July 23<sup>rd</sup>). The Paleobotanical Section Business Meeting will occur on Wednesday (July 25<sup>th</sup>) at 5:30 PM presided over by our Chairperson Fabiany Herrera.

Submitted by Section Secretary/Treasurer: Andrew Leslie

9 July 2018