

## **BSA Southeastern Section Annual Report – 2018 – 2019**

Activities of the Southeastern section of the Botanical Society of America (BSA) occurred, per usual, at the annual meeting of the Association of Southeastern Biologists (ASB) meeting in Memphis, TN (April 3<sup>rd</sup> – April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2019). The section continued its annual tradition of hosting collaborative a student reception with the Southern Appalachian Botanical Society (SABS). This reception was meant to bring together current association members with potential members who may be interested in meeting other botany enthusiasts. The reception included light refreshments and several small raffled items. The event was well attended, and we plan to keep hosting this mixer in the future. In addition to the student mixer, the section held its annual member meeting to report on the finances and activities of the section throughout the previous year. Outgoing chair, Chris Havarn, reported to the section members.

The Southeastern section of the BSA presents awards at ASB for the best student poster and best student oral presentation. The \$150 award for best student poster went to Annelise Kim (Georgia Southern University – Armstrong Campus) for her poster titled: “Investigating Phenotypic Plasticity of *Hydrocotyle bonariensis* in Response to Soil Type and Salt Spray.” The \$150 award for best student oral presentation went to Brandon (Joshua) Fuller (University of North Georgia) with his talk: “The phylogeography of the southeastern species of the genus *Dalea* L. (Fabaceae) using a phylogenetic approach.” The section modified award amounts in order to create a sustainable budget based on current membership numbers and dues.

The section held an online election for Section Chair and Secretary / Treasurer. Jeremy Rentsch (Francis Marion University), former Secretary / Treasurer, was nominated for Section Chair and ran unopposed. Matt Estep (Appalachian State University) was nominated for Secretary / Treasurer and ran unopposed.