

## **Ecology Section Annual Report**

Brenda Molano-Flores, Chair

Uromi Manage Goodale, Vice-Chair

Cynthia Huebner, Secretary

The Ecology section had another great year at BOTANY 2019. As a section, we had a total of 84 papers, of which 51 were oral presentations, and 33 were posters. Out of these papers, 27 were from graduate and undergraduate students: 11 oral presentations (10 graduate + 1 undergraduate) and 16 posters (12 graduate + 4 Undergraduate). More information on oral and poster award recipients can be found at: <https://cms.botany.org/home/awards/recognition-and-presentation-awards-for-students/ecological-presentation.html>.

In addition, Ecology section hosted four well attended sessions: 1) Species Interactions, 2) Invasive Plant Species, 3) Vegetation, Community and Restoration Ecology, and 5) Plant, Population, Community and Ecosystem Response to Environmental Stressors and Change PLUS Plant Biology (Aeroallergens and Phytochemical Differences).

We would like to thank all the Judges and Session Presiders that helped out during the meeting.

In 2019, the finances of our section were healthy, with ~ \$20,000 USD as available funds.

For BOTANY 2019, we provided \$1330 in support for one Colloquium - Dynamics and Demography of Alpine Islands (\$830) and one Symposium - Life without Water: Evolution and Adaptation of Xeric Plants (\$500).

In 2019, for the Ecology Travel Award, we received 16 applicants and we gave four travel awards. For Award Recipients go to <https://cms.botany.org/home/awards/travel-awards-for-students/ecological-sta.html>). In addition to these awards, monetary Oral and Poster Awards (\$100 to \$200) were given to graduate and undergraduate students.

Lastly, during our annual business meeting the membership approved:

- 1) Establishment of 4 annual Ecology Travel Awards at \$500 each to support students attending the conference.
- 2) Allowing judging by graduate students of undergraduate talks and/or posters.