

## 2019/2020 Annual Report: Kaplan Memorial Lecture Committee

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The Kaplan Memorial Lecture for BOTANY 2019 at Tucson, AZ, occurred on Tuesday afternoon, July 30. The lecture was introduced by Dr. Cynthia Jones and presented by Dr. John Kiss (Biology Dept., University of North Carolina, Greensboro). The lecture, entitled “How will space zucchini and *Arabidopsis* help get us to Mars?,” detailed how using the unique microgravity environment on spacecraft has facilitated exploration of red- and blue-light phototropisms, as well as plant morphological and physiological responses to fractional gravity. The Kaplan Memorial Lecture was followed by the Kaplan Reception, supported by a generous gift to the Society from Dorothy Kaplan in honor of her husband, Dr. Donald Kaplan.

The call for nominations for the 2020 lecture went out in early fall, 2019, with a Dec. 15 deadline. We received five excellent nominations in response to the call. From these, Dr. William (Ned) Friedman (Arnold Arboretum, Harvard University) was invited to give the 2020 Kaplan Memorial Lecture. We asked the nominators of the four additional candidates whether we could carry their nominations over for consideration next year, and all agreed.