

BSA Council Meeting  
Sunday, August 14, 2005  
Room 406, Hilton Inn, Austin Texas

Attendees

Person	Address	Email
David Spooner (Recorder)	USDA Agricultural Research Service, Dept. Horticulture, Univ. Wisconsin, 1575 Linden Drive, Madison WI 53706-1590	dspooner@wisc.edu
Anitra Thorhaug	1359 SW 22 Terrace, Miami, FL 33145	thorhaug@msn.com
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Martha Cook	Campus Box 4120 Normal, IL 61790-4120	mecook1@ilshi.edu
Linda Graham	430 Lincoln Or. Madison, WI 110 Mills Goodwin	lkgraham@wisc.edu
Lytton John Musselman	Old Dominion University, Norfolk, LA 23524	lmusselm@odu.edu
Jim Mickle	Dept. Botany, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695	james_mickle@ncsu.edu
Mike Dunn	Dept. of Biological Sciences, Cameron Univ. 23505	micheald@cameron.edu
Larry Hufford	School of Biological Sciences Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA 99164	hufford@mailwsu.edu
Pam Diggle	EEB, Univ. of Colorado Boulder, CO 80309	diggle@colorado.edu

Jack Horner	GDCB & Bessey Microscopy Facility Iowa State Univ., Ames, 50031-1020	htc@iastate.edu
Janice Coons	Biological Sciences Dept., Eastern Illinois Univ. Charleston, IL 61920	efjmc1@eiu.edu
Judy Jernstedt	Dept. Plant Sciences UC Davis, Davis, CA 95616	jjernstedt@ucdavis.edu
Jeff Osborn	Truman St. Univ., Missouri	josborn@truman.edu
Bill Dahl	BSA Executive Director, St. Louis Missouri	wdaul@botany.org
Warren Hauk	Dept. Biology Denison University Granville, Ohio	hauk@denison.edu
Chris Haufler	Dept. EEB, Univ. Kansas	vulgare@ku.edu
Allison Snow	Ohio State Univ., Columbus, Ohio	snow.l@osu.edu
Kent Holsinger	Univ. of Connecticut	kent@darwin.eeb.uconn.edu
Karen Renzaglia	Southern Illinois Univ.	renzaglia@plant.siu.edu
Ed Schneider	Santa Barbara Botanic Garden	eschneider@sbbg.org
Steve Novak	Boise State University	snovak@boisestate.edu

1. President Allison Snow called the meeting to order and initiated round-table introductions.
2. Allison called for the approval of last year's Council Meeting minutes. They were approved unanimously.
3. Reports of Executive Committee, Editors, and Staff (Note: most of these reports are filed on the BSA website. The following are only short summaries of these reports that can be viewed in greater detail there).
  - A. President (Allison Snow). Allison stressed that she focused on building membership, increasing services to members, better planning for future meetings, preparing for changes in academic publishing (open access models and institutional subscriptions, and promoting botany in general. She also reported that she attended this year's AIBS meeting, where BSA Treasurer Kent Holsinger was elected as President Elect.

B. Past President (Linda Graham). Linda organized a Monday Morning Plenary Symposium, focused on contributions of major fields of botany to the world.

C. President Elect (Edward Schneider). Edward reviewed the Committee Structure in his Chair of the Committee on Committees. He found enthusiasm of most members to contribute to committees to BSA.

D. Secretary (David Spooner). David served as recorder for the mid-year and annual meetings, and served on the Editorial Board of *American Journal of Botany*. He submitted a web-based submission to *Careers in Botany*. He also conducted a web-based survey of the BSA sectional structure and made a Microsoft PowerPoint document for presentation for this year's meeting by Jeffrey Osborn and Pamela Diggle.

E. Treasurer (Kent Holsinger). The BSA has \$2.95 million dollars in long term investments. Many other details of income and investments can be found on the web-based report.

F. Program Director (Jeff Osborn).

- This year's meeting was smaller than usual because of competition from the International Botanical Congress, but over 600 people attended this BSA meeting, making over 520 presentations.
- There was a significant improvement in the electronic aspects of the conference, including the ability to add Microsoft PowerPoint files to a link on the abstract page after the conference and the ability to create a custom schedule on the web. The registration module is also new; in the past, it was contracted this out but now it is being done in-house. Also new are uniform session coffee breaks, now 30 minutes long, which increases the ability for greater interaction among sections. Rob Brant, our new BSA web master, helped to add these new features.
- This is fourth year for the educational outreach forum, which focuses on the integration of research and education. Over 150 people attended this forum this year, and hopefully this will become an annual event.
- We will meet in Chico, California for our next meeting from July 28-August 3, 2006, where we will have the BSA Centennial celebration. There will be a call for symposia for the 2006 annual meeting next week. We wish to minimize overlapping symposia and perhaps merge symposia. We have new funding to encourage interdisciplinary symposia. We are encouraging next year's Centennial Committee to focus on both historical and emerging research. We are inviting old members.
- In 2007 we will meet with ASPB in Chicago to build relationships with them.
- In 2008, we meet with the Canadian Botanical Association, perhaps in Vancouver. We last met with them in Madison in 2002.
- In 2009 we will return to Snowbird, Utah, where we may meet with the Ecological Society of America.

- Karen Renzgodá stressed the necessity to recruit new members, and the need to search for funds to attract minority US citizen students. We attracted eleven last year and four this year.
- This is Jeff Osborne's last meeting. He expressed his honor to serve and highlighted the many changes in the BSA since his term. He discussed next year's experiment in stimulating interdisciplinary interactions rather than sectional themes.

G. Council Representative (Pam Diggle). This is the end of Pam Diggle's term as Council Representative. Her responsibilities are to work on the Young Botanist's Award, and 25 of these awards were given out this year. Pam also has been involved in attracting new students to the BSA.

H. Editor, *American Journal of Botany* (Judy Jernstedt). Judy just completed her first six months in this position. The headquarters of this office will change from Cornell, New York, to Davis, California. Judy is changing the review process to place more responsibilities on the Associate Editors. She has a goal to send the journal out on the first of the month consistently and to decrease the price of color plates. The manuscript submission rate is increasing. There is no backlog to report (Carl Niklas eliminated it). The date from submission to print is possible in 5½ months now. Judy encourages good cover photos. The October special "Tree of Life" issue raised the AJB impact factor. *Theoretical and Applied Genetics* slipped ahead of AJB in impact factor. Judy's objective is to get authors to submit their best work. "Who cares?" and "So what?" are her main questions in assessing the suitability of an article for AJB.

I. Editor, *Plant Science Bulletin* (Marshall Sundberg). Marshall is not present but his report is on line. Bill Dahl indicated that there would be more integration of the *Plant Science Bulletin* with the BSA website. BSA will place almost all *Plant Science Bulletins* since 1955 on the web.

J. Webmaster (Bill Dahl). The web has been a tremendous success the last couple of years, with a ten-fold increase in the last two years. Last year saw one million visitors to the BSA website. Much of this increase is due to more images being donated to the site. Every image is accompanied by an explanation. We also are placing *Careers in Botany* on the website. Bill indicated that the function of the web is to 1) communicate the mission of the BSA, 2) provide information on member services and support, and 3) Provide member recognition. A site for schools is being developed entitled "Plant classroom talking points." Marshall Sundberg will discuss this in *Plant Science Bulletin*.

K. Business Office/Executive Director (Bill Dahl). The financial health of the society is in great shape. In the last two years the staff increased from three to seven. Membership is up a little since in last year. Membership will increase through impact. There will be two new membership classes, and we particularly need to recruit new students. Bill Dahl attended all of the sectional meetings, especially to communicate Sip3 and to recruit volunteers to help sections and committees.

## Reports of Committees, Sections, and Representatives

### A. Standing Committees (Administrative)

1. Executive Committee (Linda Graham). Indicated that her report is on the on web.
2. Annual Meetings Program Committee (Jeff Osborn). Indicated that his report is on the web.
3. Archives & History Committee (Shirley Graham). Betty Smocovitis is writing the history of the society and moved the archives from Texas to Florida.
4. Committee on Committees (Edward Schneider). Indicated that he is here to serve us.
5. Conservation Committee (Nancy Morin). Nancy Morin currently giving a workshop on Flora of North America. They are working on a website for conservation issues.
6. Education Committee (Gordon E. Uno). Bill Dahl reported for Gordon Uno. 1) The botanical images and their labels are developing very well. 2) Sip3 is moving along very well. The National Academy and ASPB are looking into Sip3. The key to Sip3 success is a time commitment from BSA members. Sip3 is designed to create a scientific community on the web.
7. Election Committee (Linda Graham). This committee is a typical Past President's duty. The committee made many nominations, and many were willing to serve. However, Karen Renzaglia was the only person willing to serve as Program Director.
8. Financial Advisory Committee (Jack Horner). The main purpose of the Financial Advisory Committee is to enhance the endowment funds. The endowment fund had \$2.95 million dollars as of last year. The committee is working to increase the endowment next year and the Centennial Year Celebration next year is a good avenue to do this.
9. Membership and Appraisal Committee (Ruth Stockey). Jim Mickle filled in for Ruth and read her report. The committee sees increasing student members as the best way to increase overall membership. Improvements to the website also have a potential to increase members. One vacant position on this committee has yet to be filled.
10. Publications Committee (Patrick Herendeen). Patrick was at the American Society of Plant Taxonomists business meeting and could not attend this Council meeting. This committee is currently focusing on open access publishing issues, and his report focused on what he learned on open access publishing at the AIBS meeting.
11. Webpage Committee (Bill Dahl). Bill already addressed this (above).

### B. Standing Committees (Awards and Prizes)

1. Corresponding Members Committee (Linda Graham). There are a limited number (50) of Corresponding Memberships allowed. The committee did not find appropriate candidates this year.
2. Darbaker Prize Committee (Richard McCourt). This committee did not make an award this year.
3. Esau Award Committee (Larry Hufford). An award will be given this year, to be announced at the BSA banquet.
4. Karling Awards Committee (Javier Francisco-Ortega). These awards also are known as the Graduate Student Research Awards. The awardees have been chosen for this year.
5. Merit Awards Committee (Lynn Bohs). Not present, but her report is on the web.
6. Moseley Award Committee (Frank Ewers). Not present, but an award will be given this year.
7. Pelton Award Committee (Sarah Hake). No award is to be given this year, but a Pelton talk will be given this year.
8. C. Ad hoc Committees
9. BSA Centennial Planning Committee (Harry (Jack) Horner). This committee has been in operation for 1½ years. The committee is developing a medallion for next year's celebration, and also is developing a BSA history of the society to be published by Allen Press. They are open to new ideas for next year's Centennial Celebration.

#### D. Sections

1. Bryological and Lichenological Section (Paula DePriest). Report on web. The presentations at last year's BSA meeting in Snowbird were great.
2. Developmental and Structural Section (Larry Hufford). Bill Cheadle has given funds for awards in this section. They have an endowment and are waiting for it to grow before using it. Travel awards were given out to four students.
3. Ecology Section (Janice Coons). Report on web. This section gave a paper award and a poster award last year. This year there were 36 papers, 24 posters, and three symposia sponsored by this Section
4. Economic Botany Section (David Spooner). The Economic Botany Section had a luncheon annual sectional meeting to discuss future symposium initiatives, and discussed the possibility of participating in BSA Sci-Pi. They co-sponsored the BSA Symposium: Biology of Dryland Plants.
5. Genetics Section (Stephen Novak). Report on web; this section increased student members.

6. Historical Section (Lee B. Kass). Report soon to be posted.
7. Paleobotanical Section (Michael Dunn). Report on the web.
8. Phycological Section (Martha Cook). Report on the web.
9. Physiological Section (Anitra Thorhaug). The Physiological Section was the primary section moving this year's Dryland symposium, and other sections contributed funds. Two prizes will be awarded.
10. Pteridological Section (Warren Hauk). Four student awards were given out this year.
11. Systematics Section (Wayne Elisens). Report on web. Wayne Elisens is not here, but Alison Snow reported that two symposia were sponsored this year.
12. Teaching Section (Beverly Brown). Report on the web.
13. Tropical Biology Section (Susana Magallón). Not present.
14. Northeastern Section (Frank Knight). Not present.
15. Pacific Section (Nancy Morin). Report on web. This section met this year and is interested in sponsoring an event at next year's annual meeting.
16. Southeastern Section (Lytton Musselman). This section meets every year, and they give an award to get young people to join the BSA.

#### E. Representatives to other Organizations

1. AAAS (Allison Snow). Pat Herendeen represented the BSA.
  2. AIBS (Allison Snow). Many AIBS representatives attended this meeting. Kent Holsinger is their President Elect. They are very active.
  3. Biological Stain Commission (Graeme Berlyn). They have traditionally sent a representative to the BSA meeting.
  4. CSSP (Allison Snow). Bill Dahl and Ed Schneider went to their meeting. They have a lobbying component in Washington.
  5. Natural Science Collections Alliance (Larry Skog). There is a report on the web.
4. Old Business -- No old business items.
  5. New Business
    - A. Corresponding Members Linda Graham has nothing to add.
    - B. Financial Advisory Committee directive to provide \$25,000 to special initiatives. The FAC provides \$25,000 to the Executive Committee and BSA Council to spend in wise

ways. The BSA will divert some to new personnel and to sections. A recommendation to disperse these funds will be made at the BSA business meeting tomorrow.

C. 2006 Membership Rates will be the same as the 2005 rates.

D. 2005/2006 Budget. Treasurer Holsinger outlined key parts of the budget regarding the Botany Conference. Bill Dahl has set a goal of raising \$90,000 for next year, and to increase staffing increases for AJB. Expenses relating to publications will decrease since Bill Dahl is working with Allen Press.

E. Pam Diggle and Pam Coombs ran for Council representative. Pam Diggle won.

Adjournment -- Adjourn at 3:30 PM.