

**26 July 2015**  
**Botanical Society Council Meeting**

1. Called to order by Cynthia Jones at 3:16 pm.
2. Introductions from everyone in the room.
3. Approval of minutes, motioned and seconded, and approved.
4. Reports of Executive approved.
5. Reports of Standing Committees (Administrative) approved.
6. Reports of Standing Committees (Awards & Prizes) approved.  
Pam Diggle reviewed corresponding member nominations (report entered as of this morning).
7. Reports of Sections approved.
8. Old Business - none to discuss.
9. New Business
  - A. Corresponding Members: discussed and approved.
  - B. Awards at the meeting: reminder to sections to get the information to the BSA office in a timely fashion. Need name, institution, and a photo taken. secondary reminder to get status changes within sections to BSA in order to update website information.
  - C. Membership Rates (2016): report from Finance Committee regarding increase in rates. Motion from finance committee, seconded and approved.
  - D. American Journal of Botany rates (2016): institutional subscription rates proposed to be increased (Finance Committee report/ see updated Business Report). Motion approved.
  - E. Applications in Plant Sciences rates (2016): Finance committee proposed increase in open access rates (from \$250 to \$350 for members).  
Discussion: methods papers increase citation index ratings; could discourage primer notes by increasing the open access rates for this type of article. This will be discussed in the APPS meeting.

Suggestion for reducing the number of primer notes papers at the editorial stage of submission. Another point of discussion for the APPS meeting: Proposal to be presented to council before the Tuesday business meeting.

Recommendation from the business report to stop print editions after 2017. Could offer a digital run for short run editions.

F. 2015/2016 Budget. Overview presented with highlights of grant successes. See Treasurer and Business Office Reports). Budget approved to be forwarded to business meeting.

G. Investment Committee funds for special initiatives - nothing to report.

H. Discussion of the Committees - report from Richard Olmstead. Many of our committees are not particularly active, and ones that are responsible for awards may be taken care of by sections and not BSA committees. We might want to disband some of the BSA committees in this situation, especially those that are not part of our bylaws. Recommends future electronic discussions to consider changes to be in line with reality.

I. Overview of strategic plan initiated after the 2014 meeting. This will be discussed during the Thursday board meeting. Early next week the strategic plan will be posted on the BSA website.

J. Symposia and sectional funding (proposal sent around by Amy Litt) - the proposal needs to be discussed by each of the sections. Major changes: difference in timing for proposal submissions; sections discuss proposals at the annual meeting in order to prioritize symposia for the next meeting. The second item is to reduce the number of symposia at each meeting. The third item in the proposal is to change the funding of symposia and sections.

Meeting adjourned at 4:24 pm