

BSA council meeting
Secretary was delayed because of a workshop

AGENDA

Call to Order and Introductions (Cynthia Jones)

Approval of [Minutes of 2013 Council Meeting](#) Report in place as of: 01-Jul-14

Reports of Executive Committee, Editors, and Staff A. [President](#) (Pamela Diggle)* Report in place as of: 24-Jul-14 D. Secretary (Andrea Wolfe)* See 2013 Council Meeting Minutes E. [Treasurer](#) (Joseph Williams)* Report in place as of: 25-Jul-14 F. [Program Director](#) (David Spooner)* Report in place as of: 09-Jul-14 G. [DAL - Development](#) (Linda Graham)* Report in place as of: No File H. [DAL - Education](#) (Marsh Sundberg)* Report in place as of: 24-Jul-14 I. [DAL - Publications](#) (Sean Graham)* Report in place as of: 08-Jul-14 J. [Student Representatives](#) (Morgan Gostel and Jon Giddens)* Report in place as of: 26-Jul-14 K. [Editor, American Journal of Botany](#) (Judy Jernstedt)* Report in place as of: 17-Jul-14 L. [Editor, Applications in Plant Sciences](#) (Theresa Culley)* Report in place as of: 21-Jul-14 M. [Editor, Plant Science Bulletin](#) (Marsh Sundberg)* Report in place as of: 16-Jul-14 N. [Business Office/Executive Director](#) (Bill Dahl)* Report in place as of: 26-Jul-14

Reports of Committees, Sections, and Representatives A. Standing Committees (Administrative) Executive Committee (Pamela Diggle)

Annual Meetings Program Committee (David Spooner) See Program Director's Report

[Committee on Committees](#) (Tom Ranker) 15-Jul-14

Development Committees (Linda Graham) See DAL Development Report

[Education Committee](#) (Phil Gibson) Report in place as of: 24-Jul-14

[Financial Advisory Committee](#) (Darleen DeMason)* Report in place as of: No File

[Committee on Human Diversity](#) (Brenda Molano-Flores)* Report in place as of: 21-Jul-14

[Investment Committee](#) (Jack Horner)* Report in place as of: 16-Jul-14

[Publications Committee](#) (Qiu-Yun (Jenny) Xiang)* Report in place as of: 19-Jul-14

[Public Policy Committee](#) (Kent Holsinger)* Report in place as of: No File

[Technology Committee](#) (Chris Martine)* Report in place as of: 27-Jul-14

B. Standing Committees (Awards and Prizes)

[Corresponding Members Committee](#) (Elizabeth Kellogg)*

[Bessey Award Committee](#) (Marsh Sundberg/Carina Anttila-Suare) Report in place as of: 24-Jul-14

Cheadle Award Committee (Amy Litt) See Developmental and Structural Section:

[Darbaker Prize Committee](#) (PSA) Report in place as of: No File

[Esau Award Committee](#) (Nicholas Tippery) Report in place as of: 25-Jul-14

[Donald R. Kaplan Memorial Lecture Committee](#) (Darlene DeMason) Report in place as of: No File

[Karling Awards Committee](#) (B. Dahl for Kyra Krakos/Patrick McIntyre)

[Merit Awards Committee](#) (Bruce Baldwin) Report in place as of: 11-Jul-14

Discussion about number of awards to give each year. Board has decided to limit number to 2 in future years.

[Moseley Award Committee](#) (Selena Smith) Report in place as of: 24-Jul-14

Report on file

[Pelton Award Committee](#) (William Friedman) Report in place as of: No File

[Webster Award Committee](#) (Judy Jernstedt) Report in place as of: 21-Jul-14

Reports on file, approved by council

C. Ad hoc Committees

[International Committee](#) (Mark Mort)* Report in place as of: No File

Esau Award committee – report filed

Sarah Hake lecture – Kaplan Award – Tuesday at 4 pm; receipt at 5; time is wrong in program,

Karling Award – program is going strong; past winners of award are the judges. 80 papers submitted this year.

D. Sections: Teaching section expressed some concern about the language on symposium support. In Columbus, decision was made that support should be prioritized to members of section.

[Bryological and Lichenological Section](#) (Roger Rosentreter) Report in place as of: **No File**

[Developmental and Structural Section](#) (Amy Litt) Report in place as of: 19-Jul-14

[Ecology Section](#) (Eric Morgan) Report in place as of: 27-Jul-14

[Economic Botany Section](#) (Allison J. Miller) Report in place as of: 25-Jul-14

[Genetics Section](#) (Eric J Bishop-von Wettberg) Report in place as of: 22-Jul-14

[Historical Section](#) (Rusty Russell) Report in place as of: **No File**

[Mycological Section](#) (Greg Mueller) Report in place as of: **No File**

[Paleobotanical Section](#) (Axsmith Brian) Report in place as of: 5-Jun-14

[Physiological Section n](#) (Frank Ewers) Report in place as of: 21-Jul-14

[Pteridological Section](#) (Kathleen M. Pryer) Report in place as of: **No File**

[Systematics Section](#) (Lynn Clark) Report in place as of: 14-Jul-14

[Teaching Section](#) (Carina Anttila-Suare) Report in place as of: 22-Jul-14

[Tropical Biology Section](#) (Suzanne Koptur) Report in place as of: 25-Jul-14

[Southeastern Section](#) (Emily Gillespie) Report in place as of: 27-Jul-14

Section annual reports vote: moved and seconded

E. Representatives to other Organizations

AAAS (Pamela Diggle)* See President's Report

AIBS (Judy Skog)*

CSSP (Pamela Diggle) See President's Report

AAAS – Judy Skog goes; CSSP – information shared in President's report – recommendation was for not supporting this in the future. AIBS meeting attended, found moderately useful (leadership session). Suggest AIBS attendance, but not CSSP.

Old Business No items listed for old business

New Business A. Corresponding Members No nominations this year

B. Awards - Announces new emerging leader award. Description is on the website. Stacey Smith, Univ Colorado is first recipient.

Discussion of proposal for medal for major awards, etc. See letter on file under board meeting. Shared board decision – esp re: press releases.

Suggestion/ motion:Distinguished fellow – added to merit award title? May have more impact.

Motion: change merit award name to – Distinguished Fellow of Botanical Society of

America

- Discussion: Merit Award means different things in different organizations (some are not so prestigious).

Add to motion: If approved, that it be retroactive.

Vote: strong recommendation to board to change the name. Approved with unanimous vote.

New nomination procedure discussed by board – streamline procedure: formal call for nominations Sep 1 – Dec 31; nomination form online – much simpler than current form; Awards committee would then make a decision on who to nominate and recruit letters of support.

Q. Will nominations have to be redone if candidate is not selected in a particular year? Bill Dahl – said the data can be stored.

Motion: 3 year window of candidacy; in pool with new candidates.

Vote: unanimous support.

C. Membership Rates (2015) – see executive director report on file.

Current membership rates steady through 2015; provide students and postdocs with incentive to renew by offering time-limited discounts; gift memberships; institutional rates increasing 5% to \$775 for USA for online only; prices in report from Bill Dahl.

Rates for APPS – slight increase

- D. **American Journal of Botany** Rates (2015)
- E. **Applications in Plant Sciences** Rates (2015)
- F. 2014/2015 Budget
- G. Investment Committee funds for special initiatives – concepts
- H. Board Recommendations

The Council will vote as representatives of the membership on a revision of the bylaws that will specify that the Board will appoint the Editor-in-Chief of the **American Journal of Botany**, the Editor-in-Chief of the **Plant Science Bulletin**, and (*this is the new part*) the Editor-in-Chief of **Applications in Plant Sciences** (see Article VII, Section 4) Similarly, the Council will vote on the addition of the Editor-in-Chief of **Applications in Plant Sciences** to the Advisory Board (Article IX, Section 2).

Motions to amend by-laws moved and seconded; approved unanimously

Announcement of the creation of a new Society-wide award for Emerging Leaders. – covered previously

Updates regarding development of a new strategic plan for the BSA.

Pam Diggle discussed the strategic planning session that will occur Thursday after the meeting. Income flow from institutional subscriptions will be changing in the future (going down). This has supported society activities. Other sources of incomes also contribute to society activities.

Shared a figure to show a schematic on how the society can move forward into a new business model. Need to grow the endowment to sustain society activities.

Q. Is there a target goal for how big the endowment should be?

PD – need to have benchmarks to share with the membership in terms of how money from endowment will be used.

Q. What number would make the society self-sustaining?

15 mill to sustain journal as open access (where authors and libraries don't have to pay a fee for OA).

Discussion – about educating membership about the need to grow the endowment; suggestion for a graphic to illustrate how the business model will change because of the differences in institutional subscriptions. External environment drives pressure for open access (e.g., federal grant requirements).

Endowment is not a single pot of money: restricted and unrestricted; latter is much smaller than total figure. We're a long way from having an endowment that allows sustainability. Challenge is for changing the way the membership views giving to the society.

Reputation of AJB: we chronically undervalue the journal on the market. We need to be cautious about how we change the business model.

Question about current rate of growth for endowment, and has this changed with active recruitment? Subscriptions declined by 7%, subscription prices go up each year to offset this a bit. Endowment growth depends on the market dynamics.

I. BSA Speaker's Bureau - Stan Rice has written up a short proposal outlining the benefits and some of the possible issues (<http://www.botany.org/bsa/membership/council2014/BSAspeakers.pdf>) of the BSA hosting a web site that would serve at a Speaker's Bureau.

Overview of the proposal, followed by discussion.

Q. Will BSA be perceived as endorsing viewpoints of speakers?

C. Phi Beta Kappa maintains a 2 year list of approved speakers; Sigma Xi also has a formal speakers list – 2 year, also.

Q. How would speaker's be selected and vetted?

Suggestion for a screening process. Deciding on the scope – local, national, international?

Motion to table this until the board comes up with a suggestion. Vote – unanimous.

J. Last year the Awards Committee reviewed all of the awards given by the society. One of the recommendations was that section officers should review all of the information at that is currently posted for their awards. For each award, the Committee recommends that the Awards page (<http://botany.org/Awards/>) be carefully reviewed for each award.

The Committee Recommends that each description contain the following information:

Brief history of the genesis of the award and the person for whom it is named (a more detailed document could be placed on a separate web page).

A statement of what the award is for (Travel, Research, Best talk or poster?)

Who is eligible

How many are given annually

What the award consists of (amount, etc.)

How to apply

From the floor: Why no banquet this year? BD – explained that the banquets are getting too

expensive and too long, trial to change the model to include all the societies, celebrate the awards for all the societies.

Adjournment 2:48 pm

Merit Awards committee: