After sponsoring four symposia at IBC in 1999, the symposia sponsored no symposia at the meetings held in Portland, OR in 2000. We had hoped to sponsor two symposia at the 2001 annual meeting, one on conservation ecology and the other on plant developmental ecology and evolution. Unfortunately the conservation symposium had to be cancelled due to conflicts with other meetings, but we are looking forward to the symposium organized by Katherine Preston and Ted Wong on plant developmental ecology. A well-formulated symposium proposal has been submitted for the 2002 annual meeting by Jeff Karron. The topic of that symposium is *Mimulus* mating systems.

The award for best student paper at the 2000 meeting was won by Theodore Wong, Stanford University for a paper, coauthored with David Ackerly, entitled “How sensitive should plants be to cues? Theoretical studies of plastic reproduction schedules”. We were pleased to see that the numbers of submissions to the competition are significantly higher this year. Thus, we are especially grateful to the panel of judges, and to Pam Diggle who agreed to Chair the selection committee.

For the first time, we made use of the newly formed sectional email list to obtain nominations for section officers. All of the candidates listed on the ballot were nominated in this way. And we thank each of the candidates for agreeing to run for section office. While it was tempting to hold the election via email, as well, we found enough errors in the email list to make a paper ballot seem more appropriate. Elizabeth Lacey will mail the ballot to section members around September 1, 2001,

The attrition of section membership continues, with current membership hovering around 425.

Respectfully submitted by:

Maxine Watson
President, Ecological Section