Members of the section voted at Botany 2004 to sponsor the symposium Biology of Dryland Plants at Botany 2005, and the section has committed funds to support the symposium.

The section leadership discussed allocation of monies for student awards and needs at the Botany 2005. We were pleased to work with Bill Cheadle and receive a substantial contribution to the Cheadle fund for student awards for travel to Botany 2005.

We solicited student proposals for travel awards to Botany 2005 to be derived from Cheadle funds and Developmental and Structural section funds. We received nine applications for travel awards. The executive group of the section served as the committee to review Cheadle Award applications as well as for Developmental and Structural section travel awards. The committee recommended the following four recipients for Cheadle Awards:

Cassandra Rogers, an undergraduate at Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, who is working with Dr. Karen Renzaglia. She will present a paper at Botany 2005 entitled “Sperm cell architecture in two liverworts.”

Erin Bissell, a PhD student at the University of Colorado, Boulder, who is working with Dr. Pamela Diggle. She will present a paper at Botany 2005 entitled “Floral morphology in Nicotiana: Are character correlations lost in space and time?”

Anna Jacobsen, a graduate student at Michigan State University, who is working with Dr. Frank Ewers. She will present a paper at Botany 2005 entitled “Convergence of xylem structure and function: California chaparral and South African fynbos.”

Erika Edwards, a graduate student at Yale University, who is working with Dr. Michael Donoghue. She will present a paper at Botany 2005 entitled “Pereskia water relations reflect deep ecophysiological conservatism in Cactaceae.”

The students to receive Developmental and Structural section travel awards at Botany 2005 are Kevin Kocot, Jill Preston, Jennifer Winther, Heather Sanders, and Patrick Hudson.

The section will have a mixer and business meeting on 15 August 2005 at Botany 2005.