The BSA Systematics Section used income from Section dues and its annual allotment to support student participation in field trips associated with the annual Botany conference. In addition Systematics Section used section funds to sponsor symposia for the annual conference. Details on sponsorship and funding are provided below. Lynn Clark (BSA Systematics Section Chair) and I considered requests for sponsorship and funding that were directed to Systematics Section. As in previous years, ASPT and Systematics Section have coordinated funding decisions to maximize support of sponsored symposia. I list here all symposia and colloquia that were sponsored and funded by Systematics Section and ASPT.

Twelve symposium proposals and eight colloquium proposals were accepted for the Botany 2013 program. Two additional proposals were submitted but were subsequently withdrawn. Seven symposia and three colloquia are related to systematics and have been sponsored by ASPT and/or BSA Systematics Section. Details on sponsorship and funding are provided below. Each year ASPT Council is asked to vote on support and sponsorship requests that were directed to ASPT. Lynn Clark (BSA Systematics Section Chair) and I considered requests for sponsorship and funding that were directed to Systematics Section. As in previous years, ASPT and Systematics Section have coordinated funding decisions to maximize support of sponsored symposia. I list here all symposia and colloquia that were sponsored and funded by Systematics Section and ASPT.

Financial Support. BSA Systematics Section and ASPT supported five symposia with funding:

- Public Participation in Scientific Research: Emerging Resources for Botany (Syst Sect $500)
- Species tree reconstruction in polyploid complexes (ASPT $1000, IAPT $1000)
- Broadening Participation - Recruiting and Retaining Outstanding Scientists in the Botanical Sciences (Syst Sect $500)
- Speaking of Food: connecting basic and applied science (ASPT $1000)
- The North American Coastal Plain: a Global Biodiversity Hotspot (Syst Sect $500)

Total funding = $3,500.

Sponsorship in name only (without financial support). The ASPT and BSA Systematics Section sponsored two symposia in name only and three colloquia in name only:

Symposia:
- Herbarium Digitization for Research, Teaching, and the Public (in name only, funding from iDigBio)
- Diversity and Development in the Vitaceae - More than Wine Grapes (in name only)

Colloquia:
- Polyploidy, microevolution and species level systematics
- Systematics and biogeography of Asparagaceae (sensu lato)
- Bioinformatic and Biometric Methods in Plant Morphology

In addition to the symposia, the systematics program will include 2-3 concurrent sessions from Monday morning through Wednesday afternoon, plus the Biogeography, Phylogenomics, and Hybrids & Hybridization topic sessions, which contain many systematics papers.
Again this year ASPT and BSA Systematics Section are supporting student participation in field trips associated with the Botany 2013 conference. Expenses are being split evenly between Systematics Section and ASPT. We are providing up to $100 per student toward the cost of the field trip. So far this year we have supported 31 students for a total of $2695, split between Systematics Section and ASPT.

An additional form of financial support to students at the annual botany conference is supplementing the cost of banquet tickets. Full price banquet tickets cost $50, student price tickets are $35. In the first couple years we did this it was possible to plan a banquet dinner that cost about $45 per person (including service charge and tax). With ticket sales averaging 2:1 full price vs discount price, ticket revenue just covered the actual cost of the banquet. In the most recent three years it has been very challenging to plan a dinner that comes in at $50/person, and $45/person is impossible. As a result ticket revenue is falling short of the actual dinner cost. For example, for 200 attendees with 1/3 being discounted student tickets and the actual dinner cost of $50/person, ticket sales are $1000 short of the cost of the dinner. This was discussed briefly at the Council meeting in 2011 and it was decided that this represented an important contribution on the part of ASPT to help students attend the main systematics social event during the conference.

Future Botany Conferences
Botany 2014 will be held in Boise, Idaho, 25-31 July, 2014
Botany 2015 will be in Edmonton, Alberta, 24-30 July, 2015
Botany 2016 will be in Savannah, Georgia, 28 July-4 August, 2016.

Respectfully submitted,
Patrick S. Herendeen