Program Director's Report
Amy Litt and Johanne Stogran, BSA Conference Director
Botany 2015

Participating Societies
American Bryological and Lichenological Society
American Fern Society
American Society of Plant Taxonomists
Botanical Society of America
Canadian Botanical Association/L’Association Botanique du Canada
Canadian Phytopathological Society/La Société Canadienne de Phytopathologie
Canadian Society of Agronomy/ La Société Canadienne d’Agronomie
Canadian Society for Horticultural Science/ Société Canadienne de Science Horticole
Canadian Society of Plant Biologists/ La Société Canadienne de Biologie Végétale
Canadian Weed Science Society/Société Canadienne de Malherbologie
International Association for Plant Taxonomy
Mycological Society of America
Society of Herbarium Curators
Plant Canada

Submitted abstracts
Contributed papers - 690
Symposia - 191
Posters - 477
Discussion sections - 6
Workshops - 16
Special presentations - 13

Total – 1393

Plenary speaker
Ken Thompson (Botany is cool; so why doesn’t the public know that?) is an author and speaker as well as recently retired Senior Research Fellow and Honorary Senior Lecturer at the University of Sheffield. His research interests are in seeds and plant functional traits, as well as in biodiversity and ecosystem function including invasive species, urban ecology, garden ecology, and climate change. He has published four gardening books as well as books on biodiversity including “Do We Need Pandas: The Uncomfortable Truth about Biodiversity” (2010) and “Where Do Camels Belong? Why Invasive Species Aren’t All Bad” (2014). He has also written books for a scientific audience including “The Ecology of Seeds,” (2005, with Michael Fenner) and contributes a column on plants and gardening for The Daily Telegraph.

Field Trips

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Sponsor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday -</td>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>FT1 Rocky Mountain Transect</td>
<td>ABLS</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>3:00 pm on the 26th</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Time</td>
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<td></td>
<td>8:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 2 Ferns of Elk Island</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 am - 6:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 3 Bryophytes and Lichens of Dry Island Buffalo Jump Provincial Park</td>
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<td>8:30 am - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 4 North Saskatchewan River: Full day Saturday Canoe Trip</td>
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<td>8:30 am - 11:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 5 Food Tour of 104 St, Named Best Farmers’ Market 2013 by National Geographic Traveler</td>
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<td>10:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 6 Nisku Prairie</td>
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<td>11:30 pm - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 7 Market Fresh Cooking Class with Gail Hall</td>
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<td>Sunday</td>
<td>8:00 am - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 8 Botany in Action</td>
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<td>8:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 10 Mycological Society of America Foray to Elk Island</td>
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<td>8:30 am - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 11 North Saskatchewan River</td>
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<td>9:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 12 Restoration of Peat Extraction Industrial Sites: Focus on bryophyte reintroduction and native wetland plants</td>
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<td>10:00 am - 2:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 13 The Enjoy Center</td>
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<td>12:30 am - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 14 Afternoon Canoe Paddle on the River</td>
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<td>1:00 pm - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 15 Getting Down and Dirty with Plant Science: Agronomy in Action and Better Breeding</td>
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<td>Thursday</td>
<td>8:00 am - 7:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 16 Go North for a Lichen, Bryophyte and Vascular Plant Biodiversity Blitz</td>
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<td>8:00 am - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 17 Mixedwood Boreal Forest near Coyote Lake with the Nature Conservancy</td>
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<td>8:00 am - 5:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 18 Boats, Bison and Borscht- Elk Island National Park and Ukrainian Cultural Heritage Village</td>
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<td>8:00 am - 5:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 19 East of Edmonton: Late Quaternary landscapes, paleoenvironments, and human history</td>
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<td>8:30 pm - 1:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 20 Morning Canoe Shuttle: Emily Murphy to Capilano Park</td>
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<td>9:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 21 Devonian Botanic Gardens - Tour of the Cultivated Gardens and Native Forest Habitat - Guided</td>
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<td>9:00 am - 4:00 pm</td>
<td>FT 22 Devonian Botanic Gardens Tour- Self Guided</td>
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<td>1:30 pm - 3:30 pm</td>
<td>FT 23 Segway through the River Valley to the Muttart Conservatory</td>
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**Symposia and Colloquia**

**Monday**

- *Plant secondary chemistry: from biochemistry to applications*, organized by John Markham, sponsored by Plant Canada.
- *Ecological and evolutionary attributes of bryophytes of the boreal and arctic regions: New paradigms from interdisciplinary research*, organized by Dale Vitt and Catherine LaFarge, sponsored by the American Bryological and Lichenological Association.
• Colloquium: *Phylogenomics and the 1000 plants (1KP) initiative*, organized by James Leebens-Mack and Gane Ka-Shu Wong, sponsored by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the BSA Genetics and Systematics Sections.

• *Blended learning and educational technology to enhance Biology*, organized by Christine Petersen, Carina Anttila-Suarez, and Madoka Gray-Mitsumune, sponsored by the Canadian Botanical Association, Canadian Society of Plant Biologists, Plant Canada, and the BSA Teaching Section.

• *Morphospaces, morphometrics, and phylogenetics*, organized by Juerg Schoenenberger, Marion Chartier, and Ricardo Kriebel, sponsored by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the BSA Development and Structure, Systematics, and Paleobotany Sections.

• *Basic and applied approaches to improve disease resistance in plants*, organized by Robin Cameron and Deena Errampalli, sponsored by the Canadian Phytopathological Society, Canadian Society of Plant Biologists, and Plant Canada.

• Colloquium: *Recent advances in phylogeny and systematics of Brassicaceae*, organized by Martin Lysak and Karol Marhold, sponsored by the International Association for Plant Taxonomy.

**Tuesday**

• *Underutilized Crops for Secure and Green Futures*, organized by Nyree Zerega, Rachel Meyer, and Allison Miller, sponsored by The American Society of Plant Taxonomists, the BSA Systematics, Genetics, Economic Botany and Tropical Botany Sections, and Northwestern University.

• *Ecological impacts and restoration of industrial sites: roles of bryophytes and graminoid vascular plants*, organized by Nicole Fenton, Line Rochefort, and Eric Morgan, sponsored by the Canadian Botanical Association and the BSA Ecology Section.

• *What can Next Generation Fungal Genome Sequencing do for you?* Organized by Tom Hsiang and Ning Zhang, sponsored by the Canadian Phytopathological Society, Mycological Society of America, and Plant Canada.

• Colloquium: *Celebrating more than three decades of research in Nymphaeales: A colloquium honoring Ed Schneider*, organized by Ranessa Cooper and Mackenzie Taylor, sponsored by the BSA Development and Structure Section.

• *Advances in modelling plant development*, organized by Moira Galway, sponsored by the Canadian Botanical Association and the BSA Development and Structure Section.

• *The rise and fall or photosynthetic trajectory of plant/fungus interactions from paleobotanical and phylogenomic perspectives*, organized by Mary Berbee, Christine Strullu-Derrien, and David Hibbett, sponsored by the Canadian Botanical Association, Mycological Society of America, BSA Paleobotany Section, New Phytologist, and the Botanical Society of France.

• *Desiccation tolerance in bryophytes: perspectives from early career scientists*, organized by Lloyd Stark, sponsored by the American Bryological and Lichenological Association.


**Wednesday**

• *Forest tree responses to a changing climate*, organized by Rachel Spicer, sponsored by the BSA Physiology Section.
• The negotiated surveillance of parts and wholes: a symbioses-centered perspective on plant biology research, organized by Thorsten Lumbsch, sponsored by the American Bryological and Lichenological Society.

• Ecological diversification and niche evolution in the temperate zone's largest genus: Carex, organized by Andrew Hipp, Pedro Jimenez-Mejias, Marcia Waterway, Marlene Hahn, and Eric Roalson, sponsored by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the BSA Systematics Section.

• Mesozoic and Cenozoic plant evolution and biotic change: A symposium in honor of Ruth Stockey, organized by Ashley Klymiuk, Selena Smith, and Stefan Little, sponsored by the BSA Paleobotany and Development and Structure Section.

• Colloquium: Lab bench to boardroom: Developing plant science ideas, organized by Glen Uhrig and Amanda Gregoris, sponsored by the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists.

• The evolutionary importance of polyploidy, organized by Michael Barker, Samuel Scarpino, and Itay Mayrose, sponsored by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the BSA Systematics Section.

• Plant resilience to climate challenges, organized by Geoffrey Wasteneys, sponsored by the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists and Plant Canada.

• Phylogenetic approaches to understanding biodiversity and endemism, organized by Roxanne Kellar and Brent Mishler, sponsored by the American Society of Plant Taxonomists and the BSA Systematics Section.

• Colloquium: Mesozoic and Cenozoic plant evolution and biotic change: A colloquium in honor of Ruth Stockey, organized by Ashley Klymiuk, Selena Smith, and Stefan Little, sponsored by the BSA Paleobotany and Development and Structure Section.

Workshops

WS 1 - Mycena identification workshop  To be presented at the University of Alberta
WS 2 - Introduction to Next Generation Sequencing
WS 3 - Ecological Niche Modeling: A Crash Course
WS 4 - Introduction to Botanical Drawing with Alice Tangerini
WS 5 - Using online resources for creating checklists, floras, identification keys, and specimen citations
WS 6 - We are All Plumbers Now: Toolboxes for Building Unconventional STEM Career Pipelines
WS 13 - Novel Molecular Tools from IDT for Plant Genotyping and Rare Allele Detection
WS 12 - Commercial Greenhouse Lighting: Techniques and Practicalities
WS 7 - Learning and evaluating alternative digitization workflows (i.e., changing "I know it can be done" to "I can do it")
WS 8 - Planting Inquiry in Science Classrooms
WS 8A - Crowd sourcing and citizen science: engaging the public in natural history collections digitization.
WS 14 - MycoCosm Workshop
WS 9 - Professional Development Workshop: Graduate School, How to Apply and What to Expect
WS 10 - New Frontiers in RNA Analysis
WS 10A - Non-academic Botanical Career Panel
WS 11 - Annual Meeting of the US Virtual Herbarium Project

Ticketed events

Monday
- TE-01 Cornell Botanists and Friends Breakfast
- TE-02 Plant Canada Discussion
- TE-03 Michigan Consortium of Botanists Breakfast
- TE-04 American Fern Society Luncheon
- TE-05 Careers in Botany: Interactive Career Panel and Lunch
- TE-06 California Botanists Brown Bag Luncheon
- TE-07 CBA Teaching Section Luncheon
- TE-09 Planting Science Reception
- TE-10 Paleobotanical Section Banquet
- TE-11 Student Social and Networking Event

Tuesday
- TE-12 University of Connecticut Alumni and Friends Breakfast
- TE-13 Enhancing Scientist Diversity in Plant Biology Luncheon
- TE - 14 CPS Lunch and AGM
- TE - 15 CBA Developmental Section Lunch and Meeting
- TE - 16 CBA Ecology Section Lunch and Meeting
- TE - 17 CBA Mycology Section Lunch and Meeting
- TE - 18 CBA Systematics Section Lunch and Meeting
- TE - 18A CSHS AGM Luncheon and Awards
- TE-19 Kaplan Memorial Lecture Fund Cocktail Reception
- TE-20 American Society of Plant Taxonomists Banquet
- TE - 21 CPS Banquet and Awards Reception
- TE-22 ABLS Dinner

Wednesday
- TE-23 University of Wisconsin Alumni and Friends Breakfast
- TE-24 The Miami University of Ohio Breakfast
- TE-25 NSF Brown Bag Information Session
- TE - 26 CBA Luncheon and AGM
- TE - 27 Plant Canada Reception
- TE - 28 MSA Banquet and Auction
- TE-29 All Society Celebrate!

Featured Speakers

Sunday
- Ken Thompson, Plenary Speaker

Monday
- D. Jean Lodge, MSA Presidential Address
- Luis Carrochano, Karling Lecture
- Jim Hole, Regional Botany Lecture
- Martha Hawes, Pelton Award Lecture
- Mitsuyasu Hasebe, Pelton Award Lecture
• Lynne Sigler, Weresub Lecture

Tuesday
• Juerg Shoenenberger, Kaplan Lecture
• Darrell Desveaux - CD Nelson Lecture

Wednesday
• Gretchen Adams, Enhancing Student Diversity lecture
• Richard Olmstead, Address of BSA President-Elect
• Stacey Smith, Emerging Leader Award Lecture
• Robert Raguso, Annals of Botany Lecture