

**BSA Board Meeting MINUTES
September 13, 2024, via Zoom
9:00am-11:00am Central**

Who attended:

BSA Staff: Heather Cacanindin, Amy McPherson, Johanne Stogran, Tricia Jackson, Amelia Neely, Catrina Adams (arrived at 10:00am).

Board Members: Brenda Molano-Flores, Rachel Jabaily, Karolina Heyduk, Josh Felton, Jenny Xiang, Allison Miller, Jenny Cruse-Sanders, Melanie Link-Perez, Norm Wickett, Rich Hund, Ken Cameron

Other Attendees:

Link to reports:

<https://botany.org/bsa-board-agendas/bsa-governance-information-september-2024.html>

1. Minutes approval – Norm

The minutes for the following meetings were discussed and approved:

June 15, 2024

June 20, 2024 (add Jenny's name for attendance)

July 16, 2024 email Vote

Motion: Brenda; Second: Melanie. No objections.

2. A Day for BSA Report – Jenny Cruse-Sanders

The inaugural Day for BSA was discussed and its success (exceeded the goal of \$10,000.00 raised) was emphasized. The board also briefly discussed setting more ambitious goals for next year's Day for BSA, as well as beginning the planning earlier in the year.

3. Publications Podcast – Rich and Heather

A proposal for a podcast focusing on articles published in BSA journals was presented and discussed. At the start this will be a trial to see if it works, with no commitment for it to continue. It was suggested that a podcast with Catrina Adams talking about Planting Science may make an excellent episode. How this would fit into the BSA website was also discussed, with the possibility of creating a new site for it. Incorporating the podcast into the classroom was also suggested.

4. Conference Manager Position – Melanie and Heather

The progress in reviewing applications and interviewing applicants for this position was presented to the board. The timeline has not been changed and it is hoped that the new person/company would be present for a site visit to Tucson in the fall. The financial implications,

or pros and cons, of hiring an individual vs. an agency to manage the conference were also discussed.

5. Conference Financials – Johanne and Tricia

The success of the conference was discussed, with an emphasis on the location (Grand Rapids) and the popularity of affinity groups. However, the meeting still did not break even and the board discussed what contributed to losses, as well as ways to help bring in more revenue.

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6. BSA FY2024 Audit – Heather and Tricia

The quote from Armanino for a second audit was discussed with the board.

Motion to accept the quote: Brenda; Second: Allison. Motion passed.

7. Job Board/Career Center – Amelia

A proposal to use the Naylor platform to improve the functionality of the BSA job board was presented to the board. Some reservations about a pay-to-post model were expressed by board members, and it was decided that the discussion should continue at another date in the future.

8. Nominations and Election Reform – Brenda

Updated position descriptions and reforms to how applications are evaluated, as well as a matrix/rubric for evaluating the composition of the board and BSA committees were all discussed. Two upcoming available position descriptions were presented to the board: Treasurer and Director at Large for Publications.

Motion to accept position descriptions for Treasurer and Director at Large for Publications: Ken; Second: Karolina. Motion passed.

9. Code of Ethics – Heather and Karolina

The need for an updated code of ethics (professional guideline for ethics) was discussed with the board, including the need for a defined process in cases where a member does not behave in accordance with those guidelines. It was suggested that an ad hoc committee be formed to address these needs.

10. Climate Change Symposium Update – Amelia

An update on the virtual climate change symposium was presented to the board.

11. NSF Dear Colleague letter – Ken

A NSF call for proposals to strengthen LGBTQ+ participation in science was briefly discussed with the board, particularly the part of the call that includes travel support.