

## Annual Report for the Developmental and Structural Section, 2021

1. The Developmental and Structural Section meeting will be held on Wednesday July 21<sup>st</sup> from 5:00 – 6:00 pm in association with the virtual Botany 2021 meeting.
2. We are awarding Sectional Student Travel Awards of \$50 each to offset the cost of registration for all students submitting an abstract to the Developmental and Structural Section and attending the virtual Botany 2021 meeting. We plan to acquire a list of the students that submitted their abstracts to the section to determine which students are eligible for and will receive these awards. Since the awards will be smaller than previous years, due to decreased costs with the virtual meeting, we plan to give out awards to every student who places their abstract in the Developmental and Structural Section.
3. The program director (Lena Hileman) reported that Botany 2020 will have a total of 15 posters and 47 contributed papers from the Developmental and Structural Section. We no longer define contributions into “Anatomy/Morphology” and “Evo-Devo” categories, but instead abstracts are submitted to the Developmental and Structural Section at large. We sponsored one symposium for Botany 2021: “Black Botanical Legacy: Past, Present, Future.”
4. The Sectional leadership was asked by Judy Jernstedt and Tom Rost to sign on in support of a proposal to rename the Science Laboratory Building (SLB) at the University of California - Davis for Professor Katherine Esau. The Sectional leadership wrote a letter of support of this proposal in January 2021 highlighting Dr. Esau’s contributions to the field of botany and the Botanical Society of America. The support letter is attached to this report below.
5. The financial shape of the section is consistent with the previous year, which is sound. Membership increased from 251 the previous year to 296 current members who have Developmental and Structural Sectional Affiliation. Of the 152 that have joined/renewed their sectional affiliation since October 1, 2020 (the beginning of the fiscal year), 79 were students (no cost), 65 were 1-Year members (\$10), and 8 were 3-year members (\$30). At the end of the 2019-2020 financial year, we had a sectional cash balance of \$69,069. The balance to date (6 Jul 2021) is \$70,947 in D&S sectional accounts and \$25,651 in the Cheadle account. Additional financial information is detailed in the table below.

Type	Funds within BIP	Committee affiliation	Description	FY2018	FY2019	FY2020	FY2021 to date
<b>Sectional Account</b>	D&S Section	D&S Section	Section funds (dues/donations) - used for business meeting food, sectional needs, etc.	\$14,127.78	\$12,718.53	\$11,535.29	\$10,769.49
<b>Sectional Awards</b>	D&S Student Travel Awards	D&S Section	Student travel award fund; used to distribute varying amounts of travel awards.	\$13,443.52	\$12,175.15	\$26,355.15	\$29,357.98
<b>Sectional Awards</b>	Katherine Esau Fund	D&S Section	This award was established in 1985 with a gift from Dr. Esau and is augmented by ongoing contributions. It is given to the graduate student who presents the outstanding paper in developmental and structural botany. Distributes \$500 each year.	\$25,183.89	\$24,968.12	\$25,338.12	\$25,168.37
<b>Sectional</b>	Maynard	D&S Section	The award is given to the	\$6,009.09	\$6,080.91	\$5,840.91	\$5,651.80

<b>Awards</b>	Moseley Fund		best student paper, presented in either the Paleobotanical or Developmental and Structural sessions; established in 1995 to honor Moseley.				
<b>BSA Restricted Fund</b>	Vernon I Cheadle Fund	D&S Section	The Botanical Society of America, in conjunction with the Developmental & Structural Section offers up to four (4), \$500 Vernon I. Cheadle Student Travel Awards. Awards are available to undergraduate and graduate students who will be attending and presenting a paper or poster at the annual meeting of the Botanical Society of America.	\$20,614.34	\$20,859.96	\$22,914.96	\$25,651.01

6. This is Jessica Budke's second year as chair, Lena Hileman's third year as program director, and Andrew Doust's third year as the treasurer of the section, thus we will be holding elections for the section program director and treasurer positions at the Botany 2021 section meeting. After two emails soliciting nominations from the section membership, Robert Baker is nominated for program director and Lena Hileman for treasurer.

**Letter of Support for the proposal to rename the Science Laboratory Building (SLB) at the University of California - Davis for Professor Katherine Esau.**

18 January 2021

Dear Administrators at the University of California Davis,

As the leadership team for the Developmental & Structural Section of the Botanical Society of America we are writing to support the proposal to rename the Science Laboratory Building (SLB) at UC Davis for Professor Katherine Esau. Dr. Esau's research is highly regarded in the field of botany. In 1956 the Botanical Society of America awarded her a Certificate of Merit during its Golden Jubilee celebrations to honor her outstanding contributions to the field of botany. In addition to this society award she was also highly engaged in the leadership of the society. Dr. Esau was the president of the Botanical Society of America in 1951 and established the Katherine Esau Award in 1988. This award and the associated funds donated by Dr. Esau honors the graduate student who presents the most outstanding paper in developmental and structural botany at our annual scientific conference. This award not only rewards highly deserving students, but serves to inspire and encourage students to continue to pursue scientific research focusing on Dr. Esau's area expertise, developmental and structural botany. Dr. Esau had an illustrious and prolific scientific career studying virus diseases and plant anatomy. She was elected to the American Academy of Arts and Sciences in 1949 and the U.S. National Academy of Science in 1957. As an accomplished and pioneering female scientist we think it would be highly fitting to honor Dr. Esau's life and botanical legacy by renaming the Science Laboratory Building (SLB) at UC Davis in her honor. Thank you for your time and consideration during these challenging times.

Sincerely,

J. M. Budke, Ph.D.  
Developmental & Structural Section Chair,  
Director  
Botanical Society of America  
Assistant Professor, University of Tennessee

L. Hileman, Ph.D.  
Developmental & Structural Section Program  
Botanical Society of America  
Professor, University of Kansas

A.N. Doust, Ph.D.  
Developmental & Structural Section Secretary and Treasurer,  
Botanical Society of America  
Professor, Oklahoma State University