

**BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
2001 COUNCIL MEETING**

Sunday, August 12, 2001

9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Hyatt Regency Hotel, Fiesta 3-4
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Present: Pat Gensel (President), Doug Soltis (Past-President), Judy Jernstedt (President Elect), Jenny Richards (Secretary), Ed Schneider (Treasurer), Scott Russell (Council Representative), Jeff Osborne (Program Director), Wayne Elisens (Meetings Coordinator), Marsh Sundberg (Editor, *Plant Science Bulletin*), Karl Niklas (Editor, *American Journal of Botany*), Jean Gerrath (Developmental and Structural Section), J. Phil Gibson (Esau Award Committee), Jeri Higginbotham (Genetics Section), Kim Hiser (Business Manager), Jack Horner (Financial Advisory Committee), Henri Maurice (Teaching Section), Louise Lewis (Phycology Section), Steve Manchester (Paleobotanical Section), Henri Maurice (Teaching Section), Jim Mickle (Southeastern Section), J. Mark Porter (Systematics Section), Rob Reinsvold (Education Committee), Peter Straub (Physiological Section)

The minutes are presented as an Executive Summary, followed by detailed minutes.

**Botanical Society of America 2001 Minutes:
Executive Summary**

Morning Discussion Session:

What should BSA be offering its members?

Issues Discussed:

Lobbying, political action
Creation of a Public Affairs Committee
BSA relations to other societies and the international botanical community
Internet access and outreach

What directions/initiatives should BSA be taking in the next several years?

Priorities identified: Executive Director, Webmaster, Development/public relations
Accreditation, representation of plant sciences on national tests and in textbooks
The image collection

Business Session

Treasurer's Report: Special initiative requested money for this year was \$25,000. The proposals were for continuing the AJB signature (\$2600 additional request and funds to cover copy editors needed for the increased volume), Education Committee activities (\$10,400), and 9 Karling awards (\$4500). No other requests were received. These proposals were approved.

Meetings Coordinators Reports: Future meetings at Madison, WI (2002), Mobile, AL (2003), and Snowbird, UT (2004). There was discussion of locations for 2005, an ICB year, and 2006, our Centennial year.

Program Director's Report: There have been great improvements in the format of the program. We have added discussion sessions and the recent topics posters. Next year we will have an Education Forum prior to the meetings, which will provide outreach to undergraduate and high school teachers, as well as serving our membership.

American Journal of Botany Editor's Report: The backlog is being reduced, but the increased volume necessitates additional copy editing, so money for a junior copy editor was requested.

Plant Science Bulletin Editor's Report: The Bulletin has a new format and the Editor requested suggestions for articles and authors.

Webmaster's Report: The website continues to grow. We need 3 people to run the site: a system administrator, a web development person, and a webmaster. There was discussion of how to meet these needs, of how sections manage web activities, and of the implications of moving the website from place to place, as the webmaster changes.

Business Manger's Report: The Business Office is under budget, while the Editorial Office is over. The Office has been upgrading hardware and software, as well as training personnel.

Corresponding Members Committee Report: There is one opening for a corresponding member. Stephen Vogel was nominated; the Council endorsed this nomination.

Education Committee Report: The Committee represented the Society at national science teacher's meetings and requested funds to continue and expand this representation. The apple poster was completed and distributed. This provides a model for future projects.

Election Committee Report: Scott Russell is the new President-elect, while Joe Armstrong is the new Treasurer.

Financial Advisory Committee Report: The Endowment has more than \$2,000,000. The Committee recommended using \$27,400 for special initiatives. It also recommended that Section and special accounts should receive an interest rate equal to the endowment interest rate

and that the Society hire a development company to work on increasing the endowment. A motion to accept all three recommendations passed.

Publications Committee Report: The Committee was interviewing printers to publish the American Journal of Botany for the next 3 years.

Membership Tiers Committee Report: The Committee presented a proposal to restructure our membership categories, allowing for members who got hardcopy of the journal, electronic copy of the journal, or both. Pricing for both individual and institutional members was presented. A motion to ratify the restructuring, with the modification that institutions could opt for electronic only, passed. Modifications, such as pay-per-view for the electronic journal, were discussed.

The following recommendations were moved and passed: High Wire Press would set up a pay-per-view option; the electronic journal could be published prior to the print version, although the print version would remain the only valid publication of nomenclatural changes.

Section Reports: A motion to approve all reports passed.

New Business: Approval of the 2001 Budget was moved and passed. Jim Mickle was elected Council Representative. A motion that the Publications Committee recommend a sliding fee scale for page charges was moved and passed. The status of the Plant Science Bulletin under the new membership tiers structure was discussed, especially with regard to the question of whether e-members received print copy. The Council agreed to have members check-off on their applications/renewals whether they wanted print or e-version of the PSB and to follow this situation.

Botanical Society of America 2001 Minutes: Full Report

1. Call to Order and Introductions (Pat Gensel): 9 AM
2. Approval of Minutes of 2000 Council Meeting: Karl Niklas moved approval, Ed Schneider seconded. The minutes were approved
3. **9:15-10:30 AM DISCUSSION SESSION**

Pat Gensel introduced questions of Botanical Society strategic planning and issues as follows:

A. What should BSA be offering its members?

Steve Manchester said that the Bylaws say we shouldn't be lobbying, but American Geological Society does lobby, follows issues, informs members, and keeps members up to date. Pat Gensel acknowledged the dilemma that we have the Bylaws restriction but are often asked to take a stance. Karl Niklas noted that the problem hinges on how define to lobbying, as issuing a

position is different from lobbying. Jeri Higgenbotham said that usually lobbying is to benefit the lobbyist, whereas position papers don't. Karl Niklas addressed the mechanics, saying that we have to stay on top of what positions that are needed, equivalent to a "clipping service". Pat Gensel said that AIBS does this, as does the Council of Scientific Society Presidents. She suggested that we could send these notices to BSA members. Steve Manchester wondered if this would mean bombarding members with messages. Phil Gibson suggested that if we do this with a list-serve, members could unsubscribe. Jim Mickle said member could use these as a teaching tool. Karl Niklas wondered how, after we get information out, we coordinate to draft a position paper. David Kramer suggested that it would be difficult to arrive at one position for the Society. Pat Gensel noted that we could help support an AIBS person to monitor issues and that we could work with AIBS to get more information on issues. Karl Niklas suggested that since the Executive Committee already makes Society decisions, perhaps they could do it. Jenny Richards noted that there are 2 issues, providing info to members, and taking positions.

Pat Gensel said that the Council of Scientific Society Presidents calls other people to find out what was happening and try to influence it. What did we want—"fundamental research that effects basic issues". Marsh Sundberg suggested that we should be interfacing more with other societies, integrating. Doug Soltis wondered if the response to political issues was now one of the President's duties. He felt the Society needed a mechanism to react to developing issues. Judy Jernstedt suggested that we develop a public affairs listserve that members could opt into or out of and the Society President could forward items to the listserve; she thought that we also need a Committee to follow and implement this, perhaps initially an *ad hoc* committee for public affairs. She noted that such a committee would need someone who was passionate about these issues. Karl Niklas agreed that we have a variety of subjects suggesting that we need a public affairs committee that looks at issues brought to scientific societies, as well as plant societies and that we should consider both the size as well as composition of such a committee. This committee could do public relations, as well as policy. Karl also noted that we had a golden opportunity to make our Society the Botanical Society of the Americas by reaching out to Central and South America; over 45% of the articles published in American Journal of Botany are from other countries. Steve Manchester suggested that the Americas was limiting, too. Karl Niklas agreed that we should have a proactive attitude toward our global status, especially as we have 600 foreign members.

Judy Jernstedt advanced the idea of a virtual world botanical consortium via the Internet. Pat Gensel came back to the fact that there are probably 20 societies in US that we might be associating with and noted that this could extend internationally. Jean Gerrath thought that we should take a lead on Conservation issues. Jenny Richards suggested that we maybe need to survey our members to see how they view themselves in relation to the Society. Steve Manchester noted that maybe policy issues wouldn't interest international members. Peter Straub suggested that we could maybe get other society members by offering a special fee on top of their local fees. Karl Niklas noted that this is like BioMed, where if you subscribe to 1 journal in the BioMed consortium, you get a lot of journals. Scott Russell thought that there might be a demand for the ability to get access to our electronic information but not pages in the Journal, and that this would also be interesting for teachers. Karl Niklas noted that electronic access could also provide abstracts for our meetings; he thought this would be attractive to international colleagues. Steve Manchester noted that we may get abstracts from people who didn't want to

give talks. Rob Reinhold suggested that we might want a “works in progress” section. Pat Gensel thought we needed a better list of who to contact when people turned to the Society to answer questions, along the line of “Ask a botanist”. Karl Niklas noted that the Journal has a computerized referee list; he suggested that we could use this to find experts. He said that we also get questions from High Wire Press. This discussion led back to recognizing our need for more than 1 Webmaster or additional Web help. Jenny Richards suggested that we need to make job listings more obvious and active. Karl Niklas proposed that we have members opt to accept answering questions. Peter Straub suggested that we have a chat room for questions. David Kramer noted that we should be careful about duplicating services that other people are offering, for examples, www.bio.net or the Plant-Ed—archived, search engine. Louise Lewis said that the phycologists have these types of services, also. We also need to link to these sites from BSA site. Rob Reinsvold noted that there are lots of these resources.

B. What directions/initiatives should BSA be taking in the next several years?

Pat Gensel reported that in the survey conducted by David Northington, that asked the Strategic Planning committee what priority people would give to future positions, the top three needs identified were an Executive Director, a Webmaster, and a development/public relations officer. Karl Niklas noted that the BSA has profited by the altruism of its membership, but as the Society grows and reaches out, the obligations of academics are not going to permit this to continue. He felt that we need to plan on full-time employees and have to accept that it will cost. Steve Manchester suggested that if officers can delegate some tasks to sections, it would make the job easier, especially for the Webmaster. Doug Soltis agreed that the work is reaching a level where it is too much for volunteers, and he noted that even if we have volunteers, we needed coordinators for them. He thought we need a Web working group and an Executive Director. Jeff Osborn said that we don’t want to grow too large administratively or invest too much in this; he suggested that we need a managed growth. Jack Horner noted that our sister societies have hired staff and we need to go that way. David Kramer pointed out that the American Society of Plant Biologist has made major advances by having an executive director. Jack Horner said we also need a development officer. Karl Niklas noted that the American Journal of Botany needs its own endowment, adding that this was not to distance the Journal from the Society, but suggesting that the Journal needs to sustain itself. He also noted that we need to increase the endowment in general. Pat Gensel thought that the time for development is also right because the need for our society’s expertise was going to increase. David Kramer thought that we needed to ask members if the Society is offering members opportunities to advance professionally, is open to everyone, and is making an effort to recruit younger members into positions of responsibility. Pat Gensel wondered how do you identify members to approach. David Kramer noted that our current organization was a 2-edged sword, as we lose continuity when we change officers every year. He suggested that we ask sections how they handle this. Rob Reinsvold noted that if we were talking about where BSA was going, education played big role in what we needed to do, and we needed to continue our support for educational initiatives.

David Kramer suggested that to help members, we needed to support members whose departments were threatened; he thought that we should develop a white paper to help colleagues defend their disciplines. Phil Gibson noted that his department recently underwent a curriculum review, and because plant sciences were strong, they benefited. David Kramer noted that accreditation has huge leverage and would be one way to support plant science programs. Pat

Gensel said we should make sure that they have plant questions on the SAT, GRE, and state proficiency tests. Scott Russell wondered who reviews science textbooks, with the thought that we need to make sure that plant sciences are represented and correct. David Kramer said it was not just texts, but also children literature; he noted that input was too late once a book was in print. Pat Gensel suggested we needed mechanisms to implement these ideas. David Kramer said the Education Committee could take this up. Doug Soltis wondered whether we had assessments of books on our website. Karl Niklas noted that this gets into problems with endorsements. Doug Soltis suggested that we could just consolidate reviews from the Plant Science Bulletin. Scott Russell thought that we needed consumer reports on textbooks. Phil Gibson wrote a recent review of ecology text. Jeri Higginbotham was more concerned about K-12; she felt that those textbooks were more important, as they were reviewed less.

David Kramer said that we needed to expand and improve the image collection. He felt we needed line drawings, as well as photos, and that we needed both labeled and unlabeled images. He suggested that we might want to commission illustrators to make illustrations. Scott Russell suggested that we have an introductory botany package of images. Jim Mickle said that he uses the on-line slides a lot but that they are hard to download 1 at time. He wondered if we could arrange to download packages. Scott Russell suggested that we could burn a CD with images.

4. BUSINESS SESSION: All reports were available electronically at <http://www.botany.org/bsa/membership/Council2001/>. We discussed the contents of the reports at the Council meeting, giving priority in the morning to ones indicated by a * and ones with specified action items, followed by the remaining ones.

4. Reports of Executive Committee and Editors

- A. President (Pat Gensel): Pat Gensel noted that we hired a Meetings Manager, Johanne Strogan, this spring.
- B. Past President (Doug Soltis)
- C. President Elect (Judy Jernstedt)
- D. Secretary (Jennifer Richards)
- E. Treasurer (Ed Schneider)*

Ed Schneider reported that members can get section budgets and make budget requests on the web. He reminded section officers and award committee chairs to give information about awards to him before the banquet. The total Society funds are \$295,408.41. The Society received the final distribution from the Klein's estate to give this total. The funds are in the Salomon Smith Barney account, the Business Manager's account, and the meetings account.

Ed submitted handouts with a Full budget that had the various accounts. The Salomon Smith Barney investments were not included, but the income generated from this account was. He reported that we have plenty of revenue in the Operating budget, as 95% of our income was realized, while not all expenses had been realized for this year. The 2001-2 budget projected a net surplus of \$48,000. We did have about \$28,000 in special initiatives, such as the extra AJB

signature, consultants, education initiatives, the Karling awards, and our audit. Requested money for this year's special initiatives was \$25,000. The proposals were for continuing the AJB signature (\$2600 additional request and funds to cover copy editors needed for the increased volume), Education Committee activities (\$10,400), and 9 Karling awards (\$4500). No other requests were received.

The Annual meetings budget for 2000 had no excess after abstract and mailing costs were paid. This year, Ed expected \$14,000 excess as there would be no abstract costs. Ed recommended that we hold the excess and use it as seed money for future meetings.

After a clarification of who votes (sections and officers), the Council *sensu latu* ratified Ed's proposals.

F. Meeting Coordinator (Wayne Elisens)*

Wayne referred members to his Web report but noted that he was transitioning out. Johanne Strogan, the new Meetings Manager, was working out well. Wayne handled a lot of the meeting contractual issues, setting up contracts through 2004. He found that the Meeting Coordinating Committee had been of moderate utility, mostly as consultants; Wayne suggested that we may want to revisit the organization of this committee to make it a small group of experienced people. For the 2000 meeting, expenses exceeded revenues because of printing the abstracts; putting them in the program has reduced costs. The 2001 meeting had problems interfacing with management of the convention center such that we had to shift venues on Wed. Wayne noted that budget development was hard because we were dealing with different service providers every year. He thought we would know more about this year's costs by Thursday. He reminded the Council that next year's meeting is at Madison, WI in a campus venue, which presents a new set of logistical problems. He noted that campuses are reasonably priced, especially for housing. Wayne thought that attendance should be good next year. The 2003 meeting will be in Mobile, AL. He thought that Mobile would be good for an aquatic/wetland habitats theme. He noted that E.O. Wilson would be the plenary speaker and that the meeting would be reasonably priced and have good field trips. Although 2004 hadn't gone to contract, Snowbird was the choice. The 2005 location was still open. Wayne recommended removal of the Meeting Coordinator from the Executive Committee and that the Coordinating Committee be streamlined to help with business decisions. Jack Horner suggested that we have a meeting in the Northeast. Jenny Richards said that a 2005 meeting in the Northeast would conflict with the 2006 meeting, which had been suggested for Cornell, since 2006 is the BSA Centennial. Wayne Elisens said that it would be good to have the 2005 meeting on a campus. Jean Gerrath said that the Canadian Botanical Association was trying to meet in Quebec City, which might be a good locale for a joint meeting. Jeri Higgenbotham suggested the Appalachian region. In response to Wayne Elisen's restructuring proposals, Scott Russell wondered if we could retain the same committee structure but name a subcommittee for financial decisions.

G. Program Director (Jeff Osborn)*

Jeff Osborn summarized his report as follows:

The 2001 program was established in coordination with section program chairs. He tried to make it more cohesive and user friendly. All abstracts were submitted electronically this year. The abstracts will be published with the registration packet. There are 707 presentations. He

had worked on publicity with science journals and the local press. The recent topics posters were good again. There were more discussion sessions this year—4 contributed ones plus the President's Forum.

The 2002 program: The meetings will be in Madison, WI. The International Association of Wood Anatomists will co-sponsor some sessions. He already had a number of symposia proposals, as these were called for in the spring mailing. He noted that there was still opportunity to submit workshops, fieldtrips and some symposia. This meeting will have as a new meeting component a pre-conference meeting/forum focusing on education and outreach. Friday will begin with a high profile speaker, followed by sessions on Sat. that will not be contributed talks but will have other types of venues. Sunday will be workshops and hands-on sessions. The original focus was on K-12 and undergraduate, but this emphasis may change when the planning committee meets at this (the 2001) meeting. The Education Forum will also have a public outreach speaker on Sat. Rob Reinsvold wondered whether this would continue or was it a 1-time thing. Jeff Osborn replied that the goal was to do it in an on-going way.

H. Editor, *American Journal of Botany* (Karl Niklas)*

Karl Niklas noted that submissions were up with 350 to date. The backlog was reduced by 35% since last year, while the turn-around time was down 5%. The time from receipt to appearance in print is presented graphically in his report. Karl predicted that by Aug. '02, AJB will have a 70 article backlog, which is about right. He reported that he had targeted 6-8 months as the goal for time from receipt to publication. He noted that the backlog and productivity are linked to costs. The price of more production is a need for more copy-editing. So Karl requested funds for an additional part-time staff member. The money is for a junior copy editor, which was cheaper than having a higher level editor do this. Scott Russell asked when does number of signatures catch up with the Journal's increasing popularity? Karl noted that the "decline to publish" has increased from 38 to 44% over the last year. Karl said the time from receipt to having reviews in had gone down to 1 month, but that we then had to deal with the production lag. Because special papers and book reviews take up space, Karl wasn't currently soliciting any. Karl noted that he was also trying to control the length of manuscripts, which had gone from an average of 8 pages when Karl became Editor, to its current average of 9.2. Judy Jernstedt wondered what was in the pipeline for Special papers. Karl replied that Don Kaplan's paper came out in a month, and then there were 2 more, plus 1 book review. Scott Russell noted that now each manuscript had 12 pages, not each author. Karl Niklas suggested a fee structure for excess pages that could be on a sliding scale, so that it was much more expensive to publish longer papers. Scott Russell and Karl Niklas both suggested that special papers also be limited to 15 free pages. Scott Russell said that Allen Press said that color could be cheaper, if it was organized in the signature. Karl Niklas replied that it was a problem to coordinate this.

I. Editor, *Plant Science Bulletin* (Marsh Sundberg)*

Referring to his report, Marsh Sundberg noted that the *Plant Science Bulletin* had a new format with a lead article, society news, and then book reviews. He requested suggestions for lead articles both with respect to topics and authors.

J. Webmaster (Scott Russell)*

Scott Russell reported that the Web site's number of hits was over a million pages and visitors have increased 40%/year. We ran a number of services. Visitors increased 100%/year. (See graphs in report.) He predicted that there will be a significant decrease in visitors when they have to start paying for access to the American Journal of Botany, but he expected the numbers to go back up after a bit. He reported that the Society has been unsuccessful at finding a new webmaster. Web functions can be divided into 3 operations: (1) systems administration (taking care of the servers; Steve Wolfe at Stanislaus currently runs the server for the directory; there are 3 servers at Oklahoma University for the rest of it); (2) web development, which is creating materials for web, making pages, looking, making sure they look nice and the links work.; and (3) webmaster, who coordinates web responsibility for 2 editors. The webmaster should be a PhD member of the Society, either a volunteer or a volunteer with a stipend. The Society could hire out the other 2 functions. We want the webmaster to become the coordinator of other activities. Examples of how it currently works: Marsh Sundberg puts together the PSB, FTP's it to the web site; Scott Russell checks its integrity. Jenny Richards converted the Council reports to PDF's, FTP'd them to the web site and managed the interface. Scott Russell needs to get less involved with these functions as he takes on the President's duties.

Scott noted that we need a secure server to do memberships, and then members can enter their own data. Steve Manchester and Chuck Daghlian in the Paleobotany section have been managing their website. They need to know how the section managers relate to the 3 people (functions) presented above. For examples, is the Paleobotany website on our server or some university server? Pat Gensel said that we need to consider how the web activities of the sections are supported in relation to the Society. Judy Jernstedt urged Council members to ask everyone at the meetings who should be involved in web stuff. Karl Niklas suggested that we adopt the tripartite arrangement Scott Russell proposed. David Kramer noted that he made a mistake in not asking McGraw-Hill for web support for the apple poster project. Jack Horner wondered if we were backing off from the idea of hiring someone. Scott Russell suggested that the web development person be hired, while the webmaster who supervised this person be a volunteer. Karl Niklas suggested that this be settled in the strategic planning session, including the titles of the web positions, their duties, and which would be hired. He further suggested that after the meeting, we e-mail the section chairs and ask them to request volunteers. Pat Gensel said this needs to be sorted out, but we can begin talking to the Society about this stuff. Pat then suggested a straw vote on how many people support the tripartite division. Karl Niklas argued against voting or presenting material until we had a clear description of our ideas. Jean Gerrath agreed that we didn't want to ask for volunteers if we didn't know what they were volunteering for, but she felt we could present the problem to the membership. Peter Straub wondered how difficult it would be to change web administration from Oklahoma University to another university. Scott Russell noted there would be a cost to moving but that the administrator had to have access to the machines. Karl Niklas provided the American Journal of Botany as a model and agreed that the hardware should move. Peter Straub observed that a webmaster would have to have his/her University on board. Karl Niklas wondered if the systems administrator was a full-time job. He suggested that we could integrate with other societies with respect to this function. Scott Russell said there was a facility at Allen Press to handle societies.

K. Business Manager (Kim Hiser)*:

Kim Hiser reviewed the Business Office budget, noting they were currently ahead, while the Editorial Office was over budget because of their extra workload. She said that she now had spreadsheets for ledgers and was using Quick Book. Society membership was 2396 (less than last year). She sent out second renewal notices by e-mail and got a pretty good response. Scott Russell asked about late fees for late memberships. Kim said this was not yet settled. Kim reported that institutional subscriptions increased \$90 across board and that the electronic version would be \$600. Kim had a list of institutions who had subscribed. She noted that the cost of publication of AJB was \$101/volume. Kim worked with the Publications Committee to solicit bids for the AJB printer for the coming 3 years. She noted that she purged the back issues stored at Allen Press. The Business Office acquired a dedicated FAX and voice mail. Kim helped create the position and hire the Meetings Manager. She also worked with getting the apple poster out. She trained in Access, which should upgrade the office capabilities.

Kim proposed a Business Office budget that had net cash of \$204,000. This included an increase in the Editorial Office budget. Ed Schneider pointed out that the projected net increase depended on re-subscriptions by all of the institutions currently subscribing. He recommended that we not count on this amount on income until we knew more about what we actually realized after our pricing changes. Judy Jernstedt noted that the Business Office budget required institutions to re-subscribe and add electronic options at the same rate. Karl Niklas wanted to know if we offered the electronic journal alone to institutions. Peter Straub asked why the AJB was not on one of the EBSCO host servers. Scott Russell said that this was through High Wire Press. Karl Niklas suggested that we look into the financial and legal ramifications of this. Pat Gensel asked for comments, but the Council had none.

5. Reports of Committees, Section, and Representatives

A. Committees

1. Annual Meetings Coordinating Committee (Wayne Elisens)
2. Annual Meeting Program Committee (Jeff Osborn)
3. Archives and History Committee (Ronald Stuckey)
4. Committee on Committees (Judy Jernstedt)
5. Conservation Committee (William Hahn)
6. Corresponding Members Committee (Doug Soltis)

Doug Soltis reported that there was one opening for a corresponding member. Stephen Vogel was nominated; he is well-known for his work on pollination biology. He had strong supporting letters from Peter Endress, Spencer Barrett, and Nick Waser. The nomination was co-ordinated by Renner. Judy Jernstedt moved endorsement; Ed Schneider seconded. The endorsement was ratified.

7. Darbaker Prize Committee (David Garbary)
8. Education Committee (David Kramer)*

David Kramer noted that this was his last year on the Council. Rob Reinsvold would be taking over. He said work at the National Association of Biology Teachers was limited because

the Council didn't provide money to attend the meetings. He noted that NABT is a smaller conference as it only deals with biology—National Association of Science Teachers is all of science and includes elementary education. Rob Reinsvold and Tim Gerber attended NAST, where they had a booth and presented a workshop. David proposed that the Society budget funds for both conferences and for development of stuff to handout. David said that the apple poster was a major effort, even with help from McGraw-Hill. He said we need to work more on developing external support for projects. The apple poster project covered lots of new ground, e.g. in establishing copyright agreements. He noted that we now have models for a lot of this, with the poster, website, and downloading rights. He suggested that we needed to work with teachers on what type of posters would be most useful. Ideas included a rainforest type poster and a wetlands/ecology poster, as a need poster on algae for kids working on ponds. David thought that the other sections might think about ideas for posters. He also noted that we could provide hands-on activities for school kids at the website. Scott Russell wondered if we could provide funding for people to organize these free activities. Pat Gensel asked what we provided in the meeting booths. Rob Reinsvold replied that the conferences are heavily organized toward workshops; the BSA representatives do some of those, as well as have activities at the booth. Last year we showed how to make paper pots out of newspapers and handed out a botany badge with onion sets in bags on the badges. The BSA representatives are now coordinating with other societies, providing ideas as well as information. A survey of teachers showed that they wanted more workshops and web stuff. An estimated 1500 teachers came by the BSA booth. Judy Jernstedt wondered why there was no break in pricing of booths for non-profit organizations. Rob Reinsvold replied that NAST made a lot of money off, so he didn't know why. Jenny Richards suggested that it might help if our president talked to their president.

9. Election Committee (Doug Soltis)*

Doug Soltis reported that Scott Russell is the new President-elect, while Joe Armstrong is the new Treasurer. Thanks

10. Esau Award Committee (Phil Gibson)

11. Financial Advisory Committee (Jack Horner)*

Jack Horner said that the 3 sheets that he passed out (see report) showed that the endowment had more than \$2 million. The investments had dropped only 3%. The Financial Advisory Committee recommended:

1: The Society use \$27,400 for special initiatives.

Judy Jernstedt noted that this Ed Schneider recommended holding off from committing this money until after the strategic planning session.

2: Section and special accounts should receive an interest rate equal to the endowment interest rate.

3: The Society hires a development company to work on increasing the endowment. The Committee recommended Daniller & Co. be hired for up to 3 years to serve as our development

firm. Jenny Richards wondered how would relate to the hire of an executive director. Jack Horner said this was separate. Scott Russell asked whether the Committee meant for this to happen before hiring the Executive Director. Judy Jernstedt said that this would happen before. Jack Horner noted that an endowment campaign took 5-10 years to develop. Karl Niklas moved to approve this report and all others; Judy Jernstedt seconded. The motion passed.

Karl Niklas moved to approve all of the Financial Advisory Committee's recommendations; Ed Schneider seconded. The motion passed.

12. Karling Awards Committee (Kathleen Kron)
13. Membership and Appraisal Committee (Kathleen Shea)
14. Merit Awards Committee (Linda Graham)
15. Moseley Award Committee (Michael Frohlich)
16. Pelton Award Committee (Scott Russell)
17. Publications Committee (Judy Jernstedt)*

Judy Jernstedt reported that the Society received proposals to serve as the printer for the American Journal of Botany from 5 companies. The Committee had narrowed these to 2 printers but was still in final negotiations, which should be completed in 1-2 weeks. The Committee also worked with the Membership Tiers Committee on the proposed changes in Membership categories.

18. Webpage Committee (Scott Russell)
19. Membership Tiers ad hoc Committee—(Scott Russell)*

Scott Russell presented the reasons behind the move to create membership tiers, noting that the Society could save paper hardcopy ("green" issues) and save money by going to more electronic membership, as a volume of the American Journal of Botany currently costs more than membership dues. The Committee proposed as a solution to separate web and hard copy. He referred the Council to his report for numbers. Scott Russell presented projections of savings and income to the Society based on these new dues structures. He noted that there would be no change for life and corresponding members, but that the Society would begin to charge for access to AJB online. The Committee proposed \$600 for institutional electronic access. Jack Horner asked whether an e-member could download whatever he/she wanted. Scott replies "yes." Karl Niklas said that he supported the Committee's recommendations fully. Karl Niklas moved ratification of the Committee's recommendations; Pat Gensel seconded. Peter Straub wondered whether it was wise to offer a cheap rate to teachers, who might propagate their access to students. Steve Manchester noted that there was no option for institutional electronic only. Karl Niklas supported having this category. Scott Russell agreed that this was an option but noted that the American Association of Plant Biologists doesn't sell hardcopy by itself. Jeff Osborn suggested that if we offer all 3 options, we might offer a discount for getting both. Pat Gensel said that the institutional price has already been instituted but that we could add the e-only category, effective Jan. 1. Steve Manchester noted that students at an institution that subscribes would be less likely to subscribe. Karl Niklas moved ratification of the proposed membership tiers, with addition of an e-only institutional category; Jeff Osborn seconded. The

motion passed. Jeff Osborn noted that members have additional benefits, such as a price break on the meetings, the ability to apply for Karling Awards, and free pages in the Journal.

Scott Russell referred back to the Publication Committee's report, noting that if we limit access to the electronic journal to members, we have to make AJB available to people who haven't joined, that is, we have to have Pay-per-View (PPV). Scott recommended allowing High Wire Press to pay upfront costs for PPV. They recoup their costs, and then split additional income with us. The suggested price is \$7 for 7 d access/article; site passes provide the right to browse and are \$20 for 14 days. The suggestion was to make content available after 1 year. Steve Manchester wondered whether the quality of journal changed if it was free. Karl Niklas said it was the same. Judy Jernstedt recommended that we accept publication of the online journal before the print version; the online journal is usually 2 weeks earlier. She noted that for nomenclatural changes the print version was the only current and valid publication of names. Ed Schneider moved to ratify these recommendations; Jeff Osborn seconded. The motion passed. Judy Jernstedt noted that Scott Russell's input was invaluable. Pat Gensel and the Council agreed.

B. Sections

Karl Niklas moved to approve all section reports; Ed Schneider seconded. The motion passed.

1. Bryological and Lichenological Section (Paula DePriest)
2. Developmental and Structural Section (Jean Gerrath)
3. Ecology Section (Maxine A. Watson)
4. Economic Botany Section (Daniel K. Harder)
5. Genetics Section (Jeri Higginbotham)
6. Historical Section (Betty Smocovitis)
7. Mycological Section (David S. Hibbett)
8. Paleobotanical Section (Steven R. Manchester)
9. Phycological Section (Louise A. Lewis)
10. Physiological Section (Peter F. Straub)
11. Phytochemical Section (James W. Wallace)
12. Pteridological Section (Thomas A. Ranker)
13. Systematics Section (J. Mark Porter)
14. Teaching Section (Henri Maurice)
15. Tropical Biology Section (Susanne Renner)
16. Midcontinent Section (Robert S. Wallace)
17. Northeastern Section (Karl Anderson)
18. Pacific Section (Dieter Wilkin)
19. Southeastern Section (James L. Mickle)

C. Representatives to other organizations

1. AAAS (Patrick Herendeen)
2. AIBS (Pat Gensel)
3. CSSP (Judy Jernstedt)

4. ASC (Laurence Skog)

6. Old Business

A. By-law changes (Jenny Richards)

B. Review of AJB paper change. Karl Niklas said he had not heard comments about the paper and font changes. Steve Manchester wondered whether it was possible to get reprints on thicker paper. Karl Niklas said it was possible but probably wouldn't happen, because the contract is for 1 paper type.

7. New Business

A. 2001 BSA Budget (Ed Schneider) *Approval of budget*

Karl Niklas moved approval of the full budget; Judy Jernstedt seconded. The motion passed.

B. 2001 Business Office, *AJB*, and *PSB* Budgets (Kim Hiser)

These budgets were included in 7.A and so were passed.

C. Membership Tiers (Scott Russell, Pat Gensel)

This motion was already approved above.

D. Strategic Plan (Pat Gensel)

Pat noted that the Executive Committee had organized a Strategic Planning meeting for Thursday. The meeting was to be led by David Northington of Daniller Co.

E. Proposed name change of Ecology Section

No action was taken as the Section representative was not present.

F. Election of Council Representative to EC

Pat Gensel thanked Scott Russell for serving. Judy Jernstedt nominated Jim Mickle as the new Council Representative; Karl Niklas seconded. Karl Niklas moved to close nominations; Steve Manchester seconded. The motion was approved, and then Jim Mickle was elected Council Representative.

G. What are members' feelings about receiving messages via email about Society issues? About having an open board on the net for email discussion?

Jeff Osborn noted that monthly e-mail from the Society would not be unreasonable. Scott Russell thought we should let people opt out of public affairs stuff.

Karl Niklas put forward a recommendation for a sliding scale for excess page charges and asked the Executive Committee or Publications Committee to decide on an amount. Pat Gensel noted that there is a public relations issue because the Journal needs to serve a lot of people, and if article get too long, the Journal can't serve as many people. After consulting the By-laws, Judy Jernstedt said this recommendation should come from the Publications Committee to the Executive Committee. Karl Niklas moved that the Publications Committee establish a sliding fee schedule for extra pages; Judy Jernstedt seconded. The motion passed.

Marsh Sundberg raised the question of what happened with the Plant Science Bulletin in the Membership Tiers proposal. He wondered if PSB would become electronic only. Karl Niklas advocated the same strategy for both AJB and PSB. Peter Straub wondered if we could e-mail PSB to members. Jeff Osborn argued that we shouldn't package PSB with AJB, because PSB is a newsletter. Scott Russell suggested that we could package PSB with the fall and spring mailing. Kim Hiser noted that the mail costs were about \$.78 each. Jenny Richards said that PSB is basically outreach. Jeri Higgenbotham said that we need to think about better ways to perform the newsletter function on the Web. Pat Gensel suggested that we have a check-off box on membership application for whether PSB would be received as print or electronic versions. Karl Niklas withdrew his recommendation and suggested that we ask who wants the newsletter and follow who uses it. Jean Gerrath suggested that we send an e-mail to members when it was available online. Pat Gensel summarized that we had agreed to have a check off box on membership application and assess results in a year. Steve Manchester asked whether we would be notified when PSB was available; Scott Russell said yes.

Pat Gensel announced that Herbert Baker had passed away. Doug Soltis noted that Charley Werth had passed away, too. The Council held a moment of silent remembrance.

Pat Gensel asked the Council if the discussion format was beneficial. The Council approved the format. Scott Russell noted that the flexibility was good.

8. Adjournment

Jeff Osborn moved to adjourn; Karl Niklas seconded. The motion passed.