

Botanical Society of America
2006 Annual Business Meeting
Tuesday 1 August, 2006
5:00 – 6:30 p.m.
204 Bell Memorial Union, Chico, California

1. Call to Order and Introductions (President Edward Schneider). President Schneider welcomed all participants and opened the meeting at 5:00 P.M.
2. Minutes of 2005 Business Meeting (Secretary David Spooner). The 2005 minutes are on the web. They were passed as distributed.
3. Reports
 - A. President (Edward Schneider).** President Schneider's report is on the BSA website. He highlighted the increased participation of students at this year's meeting. In addition, the BSA Executive Committee has a new student representative, filled this year by Mackenzie Taylor. Edward also highlighted the increased web presence of the BSA and the increased visibility of the society. He acknowledged the professionalism of Executive Director Bill Dahl and the BSA staff.
 - B. Secretary (David Spooner).** David Spooner reported on his activities this year to include serving as recorder for the mid-year Executive Committee meetings and the annual meetings, and his participation in a review of the sectional structure of the BSA. This review resulted in a new system this year to submit abstracts as thematic presentations as well as through the sections. This is David's last year as BSA secretary and Steve Weller was elected as Secretary.
 - C. Treasurer (Kent Holsinger).** Kent's report is on the web. He highlighted the good financial shape of the BSA. As of 30 June 2006, assets in the Society's investment accounts totaled more than \$3.1 million dollars, an increase of nearly \$290,000 from 30 June 2005, resulting from a 10.3% annual rate of return from investments.
 - D. Editor, American Journal of Botany (Judy Jernstedt).** Judy's report is on the web. She discussed the publication statistics and reports that all is going well with the journal.
 - E. Editor, Plant Science Bulletin (Marsh Sundberg).** Marsh reported that vol. 51 had four issues, including 156 pages, and there was a press run of 3800 copies. For vol. 52 two issues have been published to date, including 76 pages and all have been published on schedule; a fall issue is in preparation. He reported a new section of Plant Science Bulletin on botanical education and encouraged submissions from the sections.
 - F. Program Director (Karen Renzaglia).** Karen's report is on the web. Karen discussed next year's meeting, to be held in conjunction with the American Society of Plant Biologists in Chicago, IL from July 7-11, 2007. She reported the 2008 meeting will be held in Vancouver, BC, Canada, in association with the Canadian Botanical Association, and the 2009 meeting will be in Snowbird Utah with the Mycological Society of

America. Peter Raven suggested that the BSA try to get an address by Chicago's Mayor Daley or the Director of the Field Museum.

G. Executive Director (Bill Dahl). Bill's report is on the web. He thanked the BSA staff for their good work this year. He reported that the BSA was in good financial shape. He reported that this year's meeting, with a focus on the Centennial Celebration, had 1250 participants and was an expensive meeting, but it was worth it for the visibility of the society and the opportunities to connect with emeritus members who may not normally come to a meeting. He reported that the Educational Forum attracted 300 participants and was very successful. There were Chicago teachers at this year's meeting working for next year's meeting in Chicago. Bill reported that the awards presentations, with a special focus on the Centennial Awards, was going well this year, and the Conant Award attracted additional funding from the Conant Family.

H. Meetings Management (Johanne Stogran). Johanne Stogran was at another meeting and could not attend.

I. Webmaster (Bill Dahl). Bill reported that the BSA is undergoing tremendous growth and is a major tool for communication, outreach, and recruitment for the BSA. There were in excess of 2 million hits to the BSA website this year. The BSA initiative "Planting Science" (formerly called Sip3) is a major web-based exercise for the Society. Bill reported that Planting Science (under the direction of Claire Hemmingway) was working with the National Association of Biology Teachers to develop the projects.

J. Corresponding Members Committee (Allison Snow). Allison's report is on the web. She reported that three new Corresponding Members were voted in this year: Drs. Gabriel Bernardello, Jean Galtier, and Mostafa Kamal Tolba.

K. Elections Committee (Allison Snow). Allison's report is on the web. She reported that Pam Soltis was elected President and Steve Weller as Secretary.

L. Young Botanists Awards (Pamela Diggle). Pam's report is on the web. She reported that 16 young botanists awards were presented in 2006.

M. Financial Advisory Committee (Jack Horner). Jack's report is on the web. He reported that the BSA had a 3.3 million dollar endowment and was in good financial shape. Smith Barney is doing financial reviews of the BSA finances.

4. Old Business. None.

5. New Business

A. Corresponding Members. Allison Snow indicated that there was a set number of corresponding members allowed in the BSA bylaws, but this was difficult to handle as it was difficult to keep up with vacancies as corresponding members died. The group approved a motion to remove the cap on Corresponding Members and to elect two members each year.

B. FAC \$30,000 special initiatives – concepts The Financial Advisory Committee recommended that \$30,000 be used by the BSA for special projects, with the projects to be determined by the BSA Council.

C. Membership Rates (2006). A recommendation was made to increase membership rates \$5.00 across the board; this was defeated. Bill Dahl reported that there are approximately 2200 BSA members, and about 700 of them get the journal. A recommendation was made to increase journal subscriptions \$5.00 for students and emeritus and \$10.00 for regular members. The group decided to not increase journal subscription rates for students (currently at \$30.00 year), to increase journal subscription rates for regular members \$10.00 a year (from \$70.00 to \$80.00). It separately was agreed to have no membership rates for Emeritus members, essentially making them life time members, but for a requirement for them to pay for journal subscriptions if they wished to the existing student and emeritus rates.

D. Executive Committee Recommendations. There are three new ad-hoc BSA Committees:

1. The minority Recruitment Committee. A comment from the floor suggested that we study other organizations to see how they have achieved minority recruitment goals.
2. The Development Committee (to build a BSA endowment).
3. The International Relations Committee (to expand outreach to other countries).

E. 2005/2006 Budget. The new budget was passed out. There are only minor changes from last year. The budget was passed unanimously.

F. Awards. Many BSA awards are to be given out this year and a new set of awards this year are the BSA Centennial Awards.

6. Acknowledgments (President Ed Schneider). President Schneider reiterated his thanks to Dill Dahl and the BSA staff.

7. Adjournment at 6:15 PM