

2022-2023 Phytochemistry Section Annual Report

On behalf of the officers (Gaurav Moghe, chair; Stacey Smith, secretary; Kira Tiedge, international representative; Kate Eastman, student representative)

Student Awards

- In 2022, BSA provided us with funds for student travel awards – we gave four awards of \$375 to student members to attend the meeting.
- The officers also judged talks and gave awards for the best talk and best poster and runners-up for each (four \$100 awards).
- For the 2023 meeting, we have awarded one student travel grant (\$500), and we plan to use funds from our account to give one best talk and one best poster award (\$100 each).

Programming

- The section was successful in securing symposium funding for 2023; the proposal is entitled “Standing your ground: understanding plant defense from molecules to morphology”.
- The speakers span diverse fields, backgrounds and career stages and include: Kira Tiedge (U. Groningen), Maggie Wagner (KU), Dan Kliebenstein (UC Davis), Annika Nelson (UC Irvine), Vivian Irish (Yale), Ashish Ranjan (U. Minn.)
- Student rep Kate Eastman is leading the organization of a social for Phytochem section members at Botany 2023. Refreshments will be provided with BSA funding (\$500)
- The PhytochemTalks seminar series is ongoing and has >500 registrants on the mailing list. We have been able to share Botany abstract submission deadlines and grant opportunities through the mailing list.
- Nine talks will be organized for the Phytochemical Section contributed talks session. In addition, multiple posters were also submitted to the Phytochemical Section, highlighting our emerging presence among Botany attendees.

Governance

- Our student representative, Thiti Suttiyut, obtained a faculty position (straight out of grad school!!). The officers solicited nominations for a new student rep, and appointed Kate Eastman (Purdue) to complete Thiti's term.
- We will hold elections next spring as the current officers terms will be ending.

Future plans

- The section would like to organize a workshop on transcriptome annotation and co-expression networks for Botany 2024. Jen Wisecaver has offered to lead the session, but we will need to apply for external funding to support travel and accommodations for instructors as well as space and IT support at the meeting.
- We are planning to organize a special issue of APPS around our symposium topic and if there is sufficient interest, a joint special issue with AJB.