

## Ecology Section Annual Report

Brenda Molano-Flores, Chair  
Uromi Manage Goodale, Vice-Chair  
Cynthia Huebner, Secretary and Program Coordinator

In this report, we present a summary of the activities conducted by the officers, a membership update, and a financial status update for the Ecology Section.

### Activities

In 2021-2022, the Ecology section officers responded to any request from the BSA leadership. In addition, emails were sent to the membership as needed. Our focus was the BOTANY 2021 meeting (again a virtual event) and the election of new leadership.

#### *BOTANY 2021*

As officers of the section, we participated in the selection of the colloquia and symposia for the meeting but did not provide any financial support. In addition, we awarded three registration awards to students. For names of the award recipients go to:

<https://botany.org/home/awards/travel-awards-for-students/ecological-sta.html>.

The Ecology section had a good year at BOTANY 2021, with 95 presentations (66 talks + 29 posters). These numbers were higher than in 2020 (i.e., total of 65). I want to recognize the role of our program coordinator, Cynthia Huebner for not only organizing the Ecology sessions but also the sessions for Conservation Biology (47 presentations), Molecular Ecology (10 presentations), Symbioses: Plant, Animal, and Molecular Interactions (24 presentations), and Reproductive Process (24 presentations).

During the BOTANY 2021, we selected the best Oral and Poster Awards for graduate and undergraduate students out of 25 presentations (talks and posters). See the following link for the names of the award recipients: <https://cms.botany.org/home/awards/recognition-and-presentation-awards-for-students/ecological-presentation.html>. We would like to thank all the Judges and Session Presiders that helped during the meeting. Attendance at our annual business meeting was modest and BSA updates were provided.

#### *BOTANY 2022*

As officers of the section, we participated in the selection of the colloquia and symposia for BOTANY 2022 but we did not provide any financial support. In addition, to support student participation at BOTANY 2022 meeting, we have given three \$500 Ecology Student Travel Awards. For names of the award recipients go to: <https://botany.org/home/awards/travel-awards-for-students/ecological-sta.html>.

For BOTANY 2022, we have a total of 125 papers, of which 80 are oral presentations, and 45 are posters. These are the numbers for the other sections that we coordinate: Conservation

Biology (45 presentations), Molecular Ecology (18 presentations), Symbioses: Plant, Animal, and Molecular Interactions (19 presentations), and Reproductive Process (41 presentations).

This year for our best student Talk and Poster Awards we have 34 presentations: 20 in person talks and 11 virtual talks and 3 posters under consideration.

At BOTANY 2022, we will have sessions every day and our business meeting will be Wednesday, July 27 at 12:30 pm Alaska Time.

### **New Leadership**

We sent numerous emails to the membership to recruit people to serve and held an information zoom meeting about the positions. We decided that the Vice Chair will not be filled as section officer and membership should evaluate the value of this position. In addition, some of the duties previously conducted by the Chair and Secretary have changed and have been taken by BSA. Elections were held in April 2022. Lastly, our newly elected officers are Chair - Uromi Manage Goodale and Secretary and Program Coordinator - Jessamine Finch. Congratulations to both. Uromi and Jessamine's official terms will start after the BSA 2022 annual meeting in July at which point Brenda and Cynthia will shadow/mentor them until July of 2023. The final year (July 2024 until July 2025), Uromi and Jessamine will shadow the next set of elected officers.

### **Membership**

Currently, the section has 679 section members. For a full breakdown of our membership see supplemental information.

### **Finances**

As of 2022, the finances of our section were healthy, with \$31,279 USD as available funds (Balance @ May 2022). We are very grateful for the support provided by our members. For a full breakdown of our finances see supplemental information.