

**BSA Genetics Budget Request for Botany 2021:
prepared by Ingrid Jordon-Thaden, Chair, Nov 1, 2020**

BSA Genetics Section Budget Request

Item	amt per	# given	total needed
Genetics Section Student Travel Awards	\$ 500.00	6	\$ 3,000.00
Margret Menzel Best Genetics Talk Award (grad or early post-doc)	\$ 500.00	1	\$ 500.00
Best Genetics Poster Award (under or grad)	\$ 250.00	1	\$ 250.00
AMOUNT RQUESTED FROM BSA for Botany 2021			\$ 3750.00

Balance of Genetics Section Account (July 2020)			\$ 3581.82
Amount spent from Botany 2020 awards			\$ -500.00
2021 Genetics Graduate Student Research Award	\$ 1000	1	\$ -1000.00
Contributions to Symposia	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
Funds for potential mixers or breakfasts	\$ 0	0	\$ 0
Potential Dues Income annually (changed to \$20/yr)	\$ 20.00	150	\$ +3,000.00
Possible balance after Research Awards from Genetics Section spring 2021 & dues from winter 2020 membership drive			\$ 5081.82

Notes and Important Changes

- The Genetics Section organizes four topical sessions (Comparative Genomics and Transcriptomics, Hybrids and Hybridization, Population Genomics/Genetics, Functional Genetics) with enough presentations that we have a session each morning and afternoon from Monday to Wednesday. We elicit help from moderators for each session and ~20 judges for talks and posters, and hold a business meeting each year at the meeting. We have 20-30 undergrad/grad posters submitted each year.
- We have over 350 registered members of the section, but not all pay the dues, usually less than half. In 2019, we voted to double the dues from \$10 to \$20. We increased in 2014 to \$10 from \$5. The dues were not raised in the fall of 2019 but have been in fall of 2020 to \$20.
- As requested from BSA to reduce the number of small accounts, the section voted at Botany 2019 to eliminate the separate Menzel Account as the award details are explicitly stated in the bylaws that a best talk award should be given each year in her memory, but not from a separate account.
- Student Travel awards, Menzel award, and best poster award from the Genetics Section will now be BSA-Requested Funds annually. Each year we have ~20 excellent applicants for travel from undergraduate to graduate, ~70 applicants for the Menzel award, and ~20 applicants for the poster award. In 2020, we voted to increase from \$250 to \$500 each for travel awards, \$500 for Menzel, and \$250 for best poster.
- To help build our account resources, from having almost spent the entire amount the past few years, we are reducing our Genetics Section Graduate Student Research Awards from our account for the next few years. This year, 2021, we propose to only give one award for \$1000, with later years to increase it to 2-3 awards per year. The sectioned voted at Botany 2019 to make the genetics graduate student research award \$1000 for research funds. Previously, the award was \$500 for research expenses plus \$500 for travel to the subsequent Botany meeting. We consistently have ~15 excellent applications per year. In normal fiscal years, **we plan to give multiple awards from our dues account.**