



Botany 2020 Conference Overview

What a tumultuous six months! We were headed to Anchorage and all that fell apart! We were able to pivot and still present a meaningful and successful virtual conference. 1324 registered attendees over 5 days. 7 Special lectures, Symposia, Colloquia, 439 Contributed Papers, 202 Posters, and 52 Lightning talks.

We were successfully able to renegotiate the contract with Anchorage without penalties and book for 2022. We included stronger force majeure clauses in the new contract to help if there are future cancellations or reduction in attendance.

We have begun discussions with Boise and will be writing an addendum to reduce our food and beverage minimums in the event of reduced attendance. We already have in place an economic downturn clause with the hotel and we will be requesting the same clause for the Boise Centre. Currently we have free rental of the Centre if we spend \$125,000 food and beverage and 1900 room nights in the hotels. (Easily done in a normal year!). Cancellation 1 year to 6 months out would cost us \$37,000. Cancellation closer to the meeting would cost \$74K.

Re-Cap 2020

Participating Societies

American Bryological and Lichenological Society
American Fern Society
American Society of Plant Taxonomists
Botanical Society of America
International Association of Plant Taxonomists
Society of Herbarium Curators

Featured Speakers

- Plenary Speaker – Bryan Dewsbury
- BSA's Emerging Leader – Emily Sessa
- *Annals of Botany* Special Lecture – Rod Peakall
- ASPT Incoming President Talk – Barbara Thiers
- Enhancing Scientist Diversity in Plant Biology Luncheon Speaker – Beth Leonard
- Kaplan Memorial Lecture – Ned Freidman
- Incoming BSA President Talk - Cynthia Jones

Workshops

- **De novo genome assembly and annotation with an emphasis on evolutionary and population genetic studies**
Organized by: Jacob Landis, Cornell University, Fay-Wei Li, Boyce Thompson Institute, Suzy Strickler, Boyce Thompson Institute, Andrew Nelson, Boyce Thompson Institute
- **Introduction to High-Throughput Sequencing: Techniques, Applications, and Analysis**
Organized by: James Beck, Wichita State University, Nic Kooyers, University of Louisiana at Lafayette, Brittany Sutherland, University of Louisiana at Lafayette
- **Using Digitized Herbarium Data in Research: Applications for Ecology, Phylogenetics, and Biogeography**
Organized by: Pamela S. Soltis, Univ of Florida, Douglas E. Soltis, Univ of Florida
- **A Digital Flora of North America for a Digital Age: An Interactive Session with the Flora of North America**
Organized by: Jocelyn Pender, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, James Macklin, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada,

Joel Sachs, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Beatriz Lujan-Toro, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Geoffrey Levin, Canadian Museum of Nature

- **Ace it! - Practice your Presentation, Get Feedback, Give a Better Talk**
Organized by: Dr. Bruce Kirchoff, Department of Biology, University of North Carolina at Greensboro
- **Disentanglement of rings: a practical introduction to assembling plastomes and mitogenomes from NGS and LRS data.**
Organized by: Jianjun Jin Columbia University
- **Phylotranscriptomic analyses: using RNA-seq data in phylogenetic reconstruction and evolutionary analyses**
Organized by: Ya Yang, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Stephen Smith, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, Diego Morales-Briones University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
- **Multi-dimensional instruction in Botany using the Four-Dimensional Ecology Education (4DEE) Framework: How to transform lessons.**
Organized by: Luanna Prevost, University of South Florida, Diane Ebert-May, Michigan State University, Jennifer Doherty, University of Washington, Amanda Sorensen, Michigan State University
- **So you want a job: approaching the academic/research job market as a postdoc**
Organized by: Stephanie Conway Harvard University, Rebecca Povilus Whitehead Institute
- **Teaching Online Botany Laboratory for Non-majors**
Organized by: Ben Montgomery University of South Carolina Upstate

Mixers and Receptions

- AFS Luncheon
- Careers in Botany – Student Luncheon
- Paleo Banquet
- Student Social and Networking Event
- Kaplan Memorial Reception
- LGBTQ and Friends Reception
- BIPOC Listening Session
- Sci Commers Reception

Symposia

- **Angiosperms353: A new essential tool for plant systematics**
Organized by: Laura Lagomarsino, Louisiana State University, and Rachel Jabaily, Colorado College.
- **Plant epigenetics: phenotypic and functional diversity beyond the DNA sequence**
Organized by: Teresa Boquete, Estación Biológica de Doñana, Sevilla, Spain; Conchita Alonso, Estación Biológica de Doñana, Sevilla, Spain, and Aline Muyle, University of California Irvine.
- **From Genes to Distributions: physiological ecology as an integrator of polyploid biology**
Organized by: Christopher P. Krieg, University of Florida, Steven Augustine, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and Thomas Givnish. University of Wisconsin-Madison.
- **Insights into the diversity of plant sex chromosomes**
Organized by: Joanna Rifkin, University of Toronto; and Sarah Carey, University of Florida.
- **Biodiversity Research Collecting Is More Important Than Ever—Ushering in a Collecting Renaissance**
Organized by: Austin Mast, Department of Biological Science, Florida State University, and Patrick Sweeney, Peabody Museum of Natural History, Yale University.

Colloquia

- Phylogeny and biogeography of Ericaceae
Organized by: Benjamin Potter, University of Auckland
- Extreme conservation measures for plants at the extremes in the Hawaiian archipelago model system
Organized by: Nina Rønsted, National Tropical Botanical Garden, Hawai'i, and Seana Walsh, National Tropical Botanical Garden, Hawai'i
- Exploring the utility and limits of target enrichment methods to study polyploidy and reticulate evolution
Organized by: Diego F. Morales-Briones, University of Minnesota,

- Plant life in Neotropical rocky outcrops
Organized by: Johanna Jantzen University of Florida, and Maria Beatriz de Souza Cortez University of Florida
- The Science of Meaningful Undergraduate Research Experiences
Organized by: Ed McAssey, Quinnipiac University, and Karolina Heyduk, Yale University
- Characteristics of nectar, nectaries, and nectar spurs
Organized by: Lena Hileman, University of Kansas, Rahul Roy, University of Minnesota, Twin Cities, and Irene Liao, Duke University
- Biogeographic patterns and adaptive radiations in the Pacific
Organized by: Benjamin Potter - University of Auckland, Marc Appelhans - Georg-August-Universität Göttingen and Warren Wagner - Smithsonian Institution
- Biodiversity synthesis: Linking large phylogenies with species traits and ecologies.
Organized by: Ryan Folk, Mississippi State University, Carolina Siniscalchi, University of Memphis, and Robert Guralnick, University of Florida
- Phylogenomics and evolution of Superrosids
Organized by: Hong Ma, The Pennsylvania State University, Doug Soltis: University of Florida and Pam Soltis, University of Florida
- Mechanisms of rapid adaptation through the expression of “heterogenomicity”
Organized by: Margaret Frank, Cornell University and Michael McKain, The University of Alabama
- Enriching basic and applied botany through multi-stakeholder collaborations
Organized by: Caroline Puente-Lelievre, Laura Klein, LeafWorks Inc., Sara Handy, US Food and Drug Administration, Michael Kantar, University of Hawaii, and Marybel Soto Gomez, University of British

Coming Soon

- Venue for 2022 – Anchorage, Alaska
- Venue for 2023 - IBC year – Perhaps a Virtual year
- Venue for 2024 – Possibly Grand Rapids
- Contract signed for 2025 – Back to Tucson