

**CANADIAN BOTANICAL ASSOCIATION/ASSOCIATION
BOTANIQUE DU CANADA**

MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Wednesday, June 28, 2006

Montreal, Quebec

See Appendix A for all attendees.

1. **Adoption of the agenda.** The agenda was adopted on a motion by Iain Taylor, seconded by Christine Maxwell. Unanimous.
2. **Approval of the minutes of the 2005 Annual General Meeting.** (Appendix B). Moved by Sylvia Taylor, seconded Christian Lacroix approved.
3. **Business arising.** These items have been deferred and would be covered under other headings.
4. **Items for information**
 - a. **Website.** Vipen informed that Joe Gerrath retired and Gordon Holtslander will continue as webmaster as approved 2005. He also encouraged the membership to use the site, and requested that changes be sent to Gordon with copies to the President and/or Secretary. The French version will soon be installed and linked to the front page.
 - b. **Future meetings:** 2007 meeting is in Saskatoon with Plant Canada. Canadian Phytopathological Society (CSP) is the lead **society**. Art Davis is the representative for CBA. Art informed the members that the dates are 10-14 June. He stated that Plant Canada is expecting all 6 societies to participate and estimates 550-650 attendees. Art handed out initial notice of the meeting to take place at TCU (Centennial Auditorium) in downtown Saskatoon. (Appendix C). Proposed registration costs are all-inclusive, including all meals, at \$400.00 approx. for members and \$300.00 or less for students. The usual events for CBA and student competitions will be held. The local organizing committee is looking at supporting two symposia from each society, including CBA/ABC. The first CBA symposium will be on June 12 from 8:30-10:00; the second on June 14, from 10:30-12:00. The organizing committee is offering a \$1000.00 for each of the two symposia.

2008. Vancouver July 25-31, jointly with Botanical Society of America. As local representatives are needed, Iain Taylor suggested Sean Graham and Jeannete Whitman as possible candidates. Christian will approach them on our behalf.

2009. Halifax with Plant Canada. No date set.

2010, undecided. It was suggested that we meet some place in central Canada. Since we have never met at Waterloo, it was one possibility. The decision was deferred until next year.

c. Awards

Vipen announced that this year five John Macoun Travel Bursaries were awarded and the names will be announced at the banquet. He also informed that there were winners for the student paper awards, i.e., the Rowe, Steeves and Porsild awards, but there is no Weresub award in Mycology as no applications were submitted. Vipen encouraged the membership to submit their students' best papers for these prestigious awards. He also reported that this year there were winners for each of the two categories of the George Lawson Medal and a winner for the Mary Elliott award. The Awards Committee consisted of Vipen Sawhney (chair), Christian Lacroix, Iain Taylor, CC Chinnappa and Irwin Brodo. The names of the winners will be announced at the Banquet.

d. Section reports

Ecology. Paul Catling had nothing to report.

Conservation Committee. As acting Chair, Dianne Fahselt reported that there has been little activity in the committee. She met with student representatives to develop some continuity. Business is low; few issues have been brought forth. She suggested that after a chair is appointed, we should introduce new position papers. These have been used to resolve debates at hearings. The Committee is looking for Chairman. Currently there is an issue in Quebec to support preservation of natural areas. CBA/ABC always had produced these position papers in the past.

Plant Development. Larry Peterson reported that there was one nomination for the Taylor Steeves award this year. A symposium entitled "Floral ontogeny and plant development" has been proposed for the 2007 Plant Canada meeting. The judges appointed for the 2007 Cinq-Mars award are Rodger Evans and Denis Barabe as alternative. Usher Posluszny is the new Chair of this Section.

Teaching. Christine Maxwell commented on the strong support by students. At the Plant Canada meeting in 2007, the section will pair with CSPP Education Section for a symposium. Jeremy Lundholme and Daya Dayanandan will serve as Judges for the Cinq-Mars award in 2007.

Systematics and Phylogeography. Sylvia Taylor agreed to present on behalf of the committee. The Cinq Mars Judge will be Jerry Chmielewski with Daya Dayandan serving as alternate. A suggested symposium for 2007 is "Floristics

for the Future” to be organized by Tim Dickinson and Deb Metsger *et al.* For 2008 in Vancouver, with BSA, a symposium on Phytogeography will be organized by Anne Bruneau. She and Sean Graham are **planning on** organizing a special supplement to Can. Journal of Botany on “Systematics in Canada” for late spring 2007. Members will soon receive a request for contributions. Tim Dickinson was appointed Chair of the Section (unanimous). The appointment of a new secretary is deferred until 2007.

Mycology. Hugues Massicotte and Shannon Berch will co-chair this section next year. A proposal for symposium was offered on “Plant/fungal interactions excluding pathogens”. The Lionel Cinq Mars Judges will be announced later during the year.

- e. **Plant Canada.** Vipen reported that there had been some concern expressed by members of some societies that belong to Plant Canada, over the frequency of meetings with Plant Canada. He requested feedback from the membership. After some discussion, it was determined that we would remain supportive while Plant Canada evolves. Liette Vasseur proposed a special symposium for those societies that only meet annually and in the winter.
- f. **Bulletin Editor:** Martin Dubé reported that the digital archive of the Bulletin has been completed and is available on CD for members. He stressed the importance of supporting the Bulletin by contributing articles on research, reviews, etc. This information comes from the membership to be shared among the membership.
- g. **Vice-president report:** Daya reported that about 100 botanists were in attendance at this annual meeting with lots of students. He thanked Mona Hamzeh for her support as co-chair. Iain Taylor moved and Liette Vasseur seconded the motion for a vote of big thanks to Daya and Mona for organizing this year’s annual meeting at Concordia. Voted unanimously.

5. Items requiring approval or action

a. Nomination of Officers

Liette moved the appointment of the following officers:

- President-Elect Rodger Evans; seconded by Larry Peterson.
- Vice President Art Davis; seconded Christine Maxwell.
- Hugues Massicotte as Treasurer for next 2 years; seconded by Paul Catling.
- Christine Maxwell Editor of Bulletin; seconded by Jerry Chmielewski.
- She also moved that Directors Luise Hermanutz and Usher Posluszny be renewed in their positions for another two year term, and Cindy Ross and Daya Dayandan new Directors; seconded by Christian Lacroix.

- Eastern Student Representative: Mona Hamez, 1 year term, seconded by Larry Peterson.
- Sylvia Taylor proposed that the executive find an appointee for the western student representative.

All motions carried unanimously.

5b. Treasurer's Report: Hugues presented the financial report and highlighted the generosity to the Rowe fund. He also acknowledged a new life member contribution. He commented that it would be desirable to top up various funds rather than to cash in the Mutual Fund investments, so as to avoid paying capital gains. A complete Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Investment Portfolio results are appended (Appendix D).

The following motions arose from the Treasurer's Report:

- Sylvia Taylor moved that the membership accept the financial statements as presented; Rodger Evans. **Motion Carried.**
- Iain Taylor moved that we express a formal thank-you from the Society to Vanda and Mel, seconded by Christine Maxwell. **Motion Carried.**
- Sylvia Taylor moved that we approve \$2000 for the organizing committee of the Plant Canada meeting in Saskatoon; Iain seconded. **Motion Carried.**
- Art Davis moved that Iain Taylor and Dianne Fahselt audit the financial statements; seconded by Paul Cavers. **Motion carried.**

Vipen thanked Iain Taylor for contributing the cast of the Lawson medal to the Association.

5c. Undergraduate Student Travel Award: Vipen Sawhney presented a recommendation from the executive that we start a new award for undergraduate students, with a proposal of 2-3 awards of \$300 dollars each per annum. The Terms of References for the award will be similar to the John Macoun Travel Bursary, but apply to undergrad students. Supervisors will nominate students. Cindy Ross noted that some faculty only supervise undergrad students. Usher Posluszny asked about fund-raising for the award. Vipen commented that if approved, there will be a line added in the Membership New/Renewal form for contributions. Sylvia suggested that the By-laws be checked to make it official and that it will have to go to ballot of full membership.

- Larry Peterson moved the implementation of the Undergraduate Student Travel award on a full ballot, if required; seconded by Iain Taylor. **Motion Carried.**
- Paul Catling moved that the award be named "Keith Winterhalder Undergraduate Student Travel Award"; seconded by Christine Maxwell. **Motion carried.**

5d. Membership and development: Hugues Massicotte reported an increase this year, although there are 112 unpaid members among us. With Vanda's assistance he is going to try to implement credit card payment this year. No motions tabled.

6. Can. J. Botany Editor's report. Larry co-editor of CJB, thanked Associate Editors for their excellent work. Among those present at this meeting are: Art Davis, Christian Lacroix, Shannon Berch and Liette Vasseur. He noted that Christian Lacroix is stepping down. He also reported on Special Issues of the journal that had been completed, including one on Plant Cell Biology. Upcoming Special Issues include *Populus* research in Canada and possibly an Ethnobotany issue resulting from 2006 symposium. Theme papers in progress include those from a *Vitis* symposium held at the IBC (2005), as well as papers from the Shoot Meristem symposium held at Plant Canada in 2005.

Appendix E contains general information and changes for authors.

7. AOB

Daya Dayandan brought forward the idea of creating a family membership. Discussion of this was deferred to the incoming executive meeting.

8. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned on a motion by Iain Taylor at 6:00pm and seconded by Sylvia Taylor.