

Canadian Botanical Association - L'Association Botanique du Canada
Corporation 086179-1

Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony 2:45-4:45 pm Central Time, June 14th,
2023, RBC Convention Centre Room, Room 1 and by Zoom Link



AGM and Awards Ceremony Zoom LINK:

In attendance: Geraldine Allen, Joseph Antos, Liam Baron-Preston, Collin Bonner, Cassandra Bradshaw, Anne Bruneau, Haley Carter, Mihai Costea, Selvadurai Daya Dayanandan, Timothy Dickinson, Jennifer Doubt, Nicole Fenton, Bruce Ford, David Galbraith, Moira Galway, Sean Graham, Frédérique Guinel, Shelley Hepworth, Melanie Jean, Christian Lacroix, Etienne Leveille-Bouret, Jenny McCune, Kirsty McFadyen, John Markham, Deborah Metsger (note-taker, as outgoing Secretary), Jaxon Reiter, Sylvie Renault, Olivia Rianhard, Julissa Roncal, Clare Schan, Elizabeth Schultz, Santokh Singh, Julian Starr, Mia Todorov, Jana Vamosi, Diana B. Robson, Patrick von Aderkas, Allison Walker, Jeff Warren, Anne Worley, Jordan Wilson-Morrison, Geoffrey Zanin.

Non-members observing

Nadia Cavallin, Jennifer Dyson, Luana Gongalves Cemin, Becky Laverock, Etienne Lacroix-Cavynal, Rebecca Mader, James Pringle, Aromaina Randuamananyara, Gavin Kernaghan

The Meeting called order at 2:49 pm CST

1. Welcome Mihai Costea, President

Mihai welcomed everyone to the 2023 Annual General Meeting and explained that we would hold this business meeting for an hour and a half. Immediately following the AGM, we continue with the Awards Ceremony in the same room. He asked those in attendance to please sign the attendance sheet that is circulating.

2. Members Resolution 1 to Adopt the Agenda

Proposed by Mihai Costea

Seconded by Nicole Fenton

Resolution accepted unanimously.

3. Members Resolution 2 to Approve the Minutes of the 2022 AGM

Moria Galway stated that she had not received the minutes in the package that Mihai circulated on May 31st. This was confirmed by others. Mihai Costea and Deb Metsger apologized for the omission and proposed that we accept the minutes conditional on them being sent to the membership following the AGM so that any corrections can be made before they are posted as approved. Those in attendance agreed.

Members Resolution 2 to accept the 2022 AGM Minutes

proposed by Mihai Costea

Seconded by David Galbraith

Resolution approved unanimously.

4. Reports

a. President

Approval of the Revised Purposes of CBA/ABC. As reported in the Bulletin, the Canadian Revenue Agency rejected the first set of purposes that had been approved at the 2021 AGM as being too explicit. We followed the CRA's suggestions and revised the final clause to read "all things that are incidental to the above purposes". With this change, the process of revising the By Law and the Purposes of the corporation is now complete. The changes have been recorded in the Corporate files and reflected on the CBA's website.

Overview of Awards 2023

This year CBA is awarding 25 awards in the following categories.

i. Lawson medal

Committee: Bruce Ford, Nicole Fenton, Mihai Costea

One single nomination was received for category B together with numerous letters of support from both botanists in Canada and the U.S.A. and the committee decided in favor of the nomination.

ii. Mary Elliot Award

Committee: Peter Ryser, Santokh Singh, Mihai Costea

The only nomination submitted was judged favorably by the committee.

iii. Laurie Consaul Northern Research Scholarship

Committee: Jennifer Doubt, Christine Petersen, Jana Vamosi

Mark Armstrong generously donated \$3,000 to cover two awards in 2023 because the scholarship has not been presented since 2019. Therefore, this year we have two winners.

iv. Special fund

Committee: Hugo Cota Sanchez, Deb Metsger, Nicole Fenton, Mihai Costea

One project awarded.

v. Student best paper awards

Alf Erling Porsild – Laurie Consaul Award: YES, 2 awards because was not awarded last year.

J. Stan Rowe Award: YES,

Taylor A. Steeves Award: YES.

Luella K. Weresub Memorial Award: YES.

vi. Undergraduate Botany Awards

Science Atlantic Conference (March 12, 2023)

Best talk

Best poster

Ontario Biology Day (March 25-26). The awards were presented on behalf of CBA/ABC by

Liette Vaseur

Best talk

Best poster

University of British Columbia, *Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference*
(March 18, 2023). Our liaison was Santokh Singh

Best talk

Best poster

vii. Student travel awards Mihai Costea

The 8 applicants for the **Macoun travel award**, were awarded an amount proportional to their travel distance to Winnipeg for a total of \$3,300. This is the same award rationale followed for travel to UQAT in 2022.

A total of ~\$15,000 was awarded to students. This is essentially equivalent to the money received from dues and donations in 2023.

Membership

This year there was almost a complete transition to online membership, with only six renewals being done on paper. As of May 1st, we had 178 paying memberships. The student and postdoc numbers are very high, with slightly fewer regular memberships. The numbers look good.

The Board Membership committee — Mihai Costea, Jeff Saarela, Jenny McCune, Corey Burt and Étienne Levielle Bourret— improved the text they had developed last year to produce a promotional brochure for CBA/ABC. Jenny McCune's student, Kirsty McFadyen, laid out the brochure in English and in French (translated by Frédérique Guinel). The brochures were circulated during this conference and are available for you to take at the end of the meeting. Please circulate them at your home institutions and to other interested people. Jenny McCune also printed postcards with the CBA/ABC information, using a variety of attractive pictures of plants, flowers, mosses, and fungi. Please take those as well. An artistic poster is in the works but could not be completed in time for this year's meeting.

When we solicited for nominees for the Student/Post Doc members of the board this year, we had a tremendous response. Since there are only two available spots on the Board, we decided to create a Student Council that will function as a regular committee. The council can have as many students on it as are interested in being involved from across the membership. Let's use their energy to keep innovating new ways of promoting the Association, Canadian plants and botanical sciences.

Bulletin - It is the membership that makes the bulletin what it is. Contributions do not have to be glamorous. People across the country are pleased to know what everyone is doing. Please submit articles and photographs on things that you are involved in. The **deadline for next issue is August 1.**

Website - Zoe Panchen resigned as webmaster on September 1st 2022. I wish to thank Zoe for the work that she did to get the new website up and running, especially the

effort to create the plugins. Mihai Costea has been serving as interim webmaster since September.

Please, everyone, contribute to the website. Aside from book reviews, Frederique Guinel is currently the only person who is contributing. Please donate your images to the website. It is important that we build a repository of images of current activities, and of people. The Archives is accessible only to the archivist, the website is accessible to everyone. **Please submit things for addition to the website!**

b. **Treasurer _ Peter Ryser – presented by Mihai Costea**
Financial Report

Mihai presented the detailed financial report that has been included as a PDF.

Salient Points include:

- Since the Fiscal year end was changed to December, Financial reports are now due by June 30th. It is therefore important that whenever possible, the Annual General meetings should be in June so that the Financial reports can be approved and submitted on time.
- Stocks and Bonds may have recovered from the downturn earlier in the year.
- In recent years, proceeds from conferences have been incorrectly included as Donations. This is important because a not-for-profit corporation is considered soliciting when it has received more than \$10,000 in income from public sources in a single financial year, and this status attracts more scrutiny from the Government.
- We are lucky to be a historical society that has money in the bank – but we need to ensure that we don't overspend.

Discussion

Julian Starr- Based on my past reviews, I found that CBA/ABC expenses oscillated over time but over 20 years we were \$20,000 ahead.

Frederique Guinel - Would like board to review funding for symposia. In particular, how much money is given to invited speakers.

Santokh Singh - CBA needs to try to have more meetings that generate revenue. Those tend to be CBA/ABC only meetings as opposed to joint meetings which cost more.

Members Resolution 3 to appoint accounting firm for 2023.

Proposed by Julian Starr

Seconded by John Markham

Approved Unanimously

c. **President Elect – Santokh Singh**

Cinq-Mars and Iain and Sylvia Taylor Paper and Poster Competitions

Santokh expressed his thanks to the Section Chairs for assisting with the selection of judges. He thanked the excellent team of judges for their efforts to attend and evaluate posters and presentations.

Undergraduate Research Awards -Santokh thanked Mihai Costea for his involvement with this program.

UBC awards

d. **Secretary - Deborah Metsger**

CBA did not sponsor any Planting Science Students in 2022-2023 because we did not receive any applications. There has been no contact for 2023-2024 yet, possibly because the Planting Science team has had a change in personnel.

The Administrative Reboot that has been discussed for the past three years has been completed. Deb Metsger, Jennifer Doubt and Tyler Smith will work to get the new CBA/ABC one-drive up and running so that there is CBA file storage. Section Chairs and Executive Members will have access to the one-drive.

e. **Past President – Nicole Fenton**

Nicole reported that she had presided over the IDEA Committee this year. They had hoped to circulate an IDEA survey to the membership but were unable to do so. The Survey will be circulated in the Fall.

f. **Student Directors – See report attached**

g. **Section Reports**

- i. Systematics Section – Julissa Roncal and Jeff Saaraela co-chairs
 - The section has a new name: Systematics, Evolution and Biodiversity
 - A mailing list with Google groups has been set up and has proved to be a very successful and useful means of discussion and communication.
 - The section hosted a very successful symposium on the Future of Herbaria for Taxonomy and Evolutionary Biology. Thank you to Anne Bruneau and Jana Vamosi for organizing it.
- ii. Development Section – Shelley Hepworth and Elizabeth Schultz co-chairs.
 - This year was a great success!
 - Shelley and Elizabeth took Frederique Guinel’s list of plant biologists in Canada and updated it to include as many new hires as they could find. They used the updated list to reach out to people to invite them to be involved in the Development Section, and to get them to nominate their students for awards. Shelley and Elizabeth will be happy to share their list with the board, and any other sections. Their efforts yielded four great applications from Plant Development for the

- Taylor Steeves Award.
- Thank you to Christian Lacroix and Carol Wenzel for serving as judges.
 - At the meeting during the conference the Development section talked about collaborating with other societies to do a joint symposium at Plant Canada in 2024.
 - We voted to change the name of the Section to Plant Development: Molecules, Cells, and Systems in order to be more inclusive of different kinds of research. This name may be abbreviated as “Plant Development” in some cases.
- iii. Ecology and Conservation Biology Section - Jenny McCune, Chair.
- Thanks to Richard Caners for his hard work and excellent leadership of the Section for the past several years.
 - During the conference we had a full- day lineup of speakers for the sections’ symposium on Plant Conservation in Canada.
 - We are looking for ways to improve the website in order to promote and advance Plant Conservation and Ecology in Canada.
 - There were 15 applications for the Stan Rowe award this year which was awesome!
- iv. Mycology Section - Allison Walker, Chair
- Weresub Lecture was given by Wendy Untereiner from Brandon Manitoba.
 - Five applications for the Weresub Award this year.
 - We are hoping to spotlight different Mycology labs in Canada on the website this year.
- v. Teaching Section – Patrick von Aderkas and Laura Super, Co-Chairs
- The section met and discussed community science.
 - We would like to put together a symposium for the 2024 meeting. Put together a pedagogy for graduate students and how to prepare for that.
 - Discussion of mentorship for graduate students.
 - There are tools that are available to help.
 - Circular discussion around name change.
 - Patrick von Aderkas is stepping down so new people are invited to apply. It is helpful and productive to have a tandem team of a graduate student and a mature professor for co-chairs

Section Chairs can get direct access to the website and the social media.

5. Upcoming Meetings

2024 – joint with Plant Canada in Winnipeg in July

Mihai Costea reported on an informal discussion that had taken place amongst members at this meeting regarding whether they would attend the joint meeting with Plant Canada in Winnipeg next year. The concerns revolved around having two meetings in Winnipeg in a row and the impact that has on the local CBA Members who would be required to form a Local Organizing Committee two years in a row.

Moira Galway, CBA Plant Canada representative explained that the Plant Canada Meeting dates were thrown off by COVID and the 2024 date and location was based on a good deal offered by Tourism Winnipeg. The deal was sealed before the seven member societies could provide their input.

Mihai Costea and Nicole Fenton explained that the Board had voted to agree to the 2024 meeting, a) after consulting with the Newfoundland organizing committee originally scheduled for 2024 and learning they were happy to postpone to 2025, and b) considering that for some sections, attendance at Plant Canada Meetings was very important. They apologized for not ensuring that there was no prior consultation or clear communication of the consecutive meetings with the Winnipeg members who have served on this years' organizing committee.

Discussion

Moira Galway - What was the burden for CBA during the Guelph Plant Canada meeting? Does the Plant Canada team do most of the organizing?

John Markham – No, they do not. There was quite a lot to be done by the CBA liaison. Julian Starr and Frederique Guinel pointed out that the burden was not only on how many CBA members would come to the meeting, but also that CBA has a contractual obligation to meet with Plant Canada. There would likely be a financial penalty if we did not attend.

John Markham has kindly agreed to be VP for the 2024 Plant Canada meeting and lead the 2024 organizing committee. Jennifer Dyson offered to assist. A straw poll of who would attend the Plant Canada meeting received 18+ votes.

2025 - Memorial University St John's Newfoundland. The exact date has yet to be finalized. The organizing committee includes Julissa Roncal, Carissa Brown and Andre Arsenault. There will be field trips across the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.

2026 – David Galbraith reported that the Royal Botanical Gardens in Burlington Ontario may be willing to host this meeting. He has begun discussions with Management at the Garden and will keep the Board apprised of progress with those discussions. Mihai Costea thanked David and said that it would be wonderful to have a meeting at the Royal Botanical Garden.

Future Meetings

Christian Lacroix – When will we have another meeting with the Botanical Society of America (BSA)?

Santokh Singh – Suggested that we look into meeting with BSA in Vancouver in 2027 or 2028.

Sean Graham – is on the board of BSA and agreed to broach the subject with BSA ASAP as BSA plans their meetings quite a while in advance.

6. Nominations for 2023-2024

Nicole Fenton presented the Nomination Slate that was circulated to the membership. She noted that we are down one Director from the west and two from the east. A call was put to the floor for a Director East and a Director West. Melanie Jean self-nominated for the position of Director East and her name was added to the Nomination Slate. It was agreed that it would be OK to have two Directors East and West, rather than three for this year.

Members Resolution 4 to Change the number of officers for the Fiscal year 2023-2024 from 16 to 15

Proposed by Deborah Metsger

Seconded by Jenny McCune

Resolution unanimous

Members Resolution 5 to Accept the amended Nomination Slate for 2023-2024

Proposed by Nicole Fenton

Seconded by Julian Starr

Resolution unanimous

7. Other Business

i. Members Resolution 6 to thank Winnipeg Organizing Committee

Proposed by Mihai Costea

Seconded by Frederique Guinel

Resolution Accepted unanimously

ii. Members Resolution 7 to thank outgoing Board members

Proposed by Mihai Costea

Seconded by Nadia Cavallin

Resolution Accepted Unanimously

8. Call for Adjournment Julian Starr

Seconded by Jeff Warren

Resolution Accepted Unanimously

Canadian Botanical Association – L'Association Botanique du Canada

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Nominations Slate for Board of Directors 2022-2023 (**new directors and renewals in bold**)

Current Term	Position	Name and Affiliation
Year 2, single term	President	Mihai Costea Wilfrid Laurier University
Year 2, single term	President Elect	Santokh Singh University of British Columbia
Year 2, single term	Past President	Nicole Fenton Univ du Québec en Abitibi- Témiscamingue
Year 1, single term	Vice-President	John Markham, University of Manitoba
Year 1, 1st term	Secretary	Jennifer Doubt Canadian Museum of Nature
Year 2, 1 st term	Treasurer	Peter Ryser Laurentian University
Year 1, 4 th term	Bulletin Editor	Tyler Smith Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada,
Year 1, 1st term	Webmaster	Mélanie Nagati Laval University
Year 1, 1st term	Director East	Carissa Brown Memorial University
Year 1, 1 st term	Director East	Kevin Stevens Wilfrid Laurier University
Year 1, 1 st term	Director East	Mélanie Jean Université de Moncton
Year 2, 1 st term	Director West	Jenny McCune Lethbridge University
Year 1, 2nd term	Director West	Jana Vamosi University of Calgary
Year 1, 1 st term	Director West	vacant
Year 1, 1st term	Student Director West	Jaxon Reiter Lethbridge University
Year 1, 1st term	Student Director East	Cassandra Bradshaw University of Ottawa

REPORTS

Presidents Report

Mihai Costea – Covered in the body of the Minutes and the attached PowerPoint Presentation.

CBA/ABC President-Elect Report

Santokh Singh, June 5, 2023

A. Judging Team for the Lionel Cinq-Mars award for best student talk, and Iain and Sylvia Taylor award for best student poster

I organized the judging team for judging student talks and posters (Lionel Cinq-Mars award for Best student talk, and Iain and Sylvia Taylor award for Best student poster) for this year's CSEE-CBA meeting in Winnipeg. We have 6 students competing for the Iain and Sylvia Taylor best poster awards and 19 students competing for the Lionel Cinq-Mars award for Best student talk. A big thank you to the following CBA/ABC members who agreed to volunteer as judges for these awards:

Mycology section:

- Allison Walker
- Gavin Kernaghan

Development section:

- Moira Galway
- Elizabeth Schulz
- Christian Lacroix

Systematics section:

- Tim Dickinson
- Sean Graham
- Étienne Léveillé-Bourret

Ecology section

- Carissa Brown
- Melanie Jean
- Jeffrey Warren

Teaching section:

- Jennifer Doubt
- Santokh Singh

B. Undergraduate Botany Awards

I was the CBA/ABC liaison person for undergraduate Botany awards at the University of British Columbia, Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research Conference (MURC) (March 18, 2023).

Past-President's report

Nicole Fenton, June 5, 2023

The main role of the past-president, other than supporting the president is recruiting candidates for the board. This spring we were looking for multiple positions: Secretary, Webmaster, 2 director East positions, and both student positions. We were able to find candidates for all of these positions and are happy to have a full nomination slate for the board. We were particularly excited about the student interest in the CBA board, as Mihai has discussed in his report.

IDEA committee

The IDEA committee did not have a very active year. Unfortunately, I was unable to organize a meeting in the fall. We did have a successful call for student candidatures in the winter bulletin. Welcome Nina Obiar! We had one meeting this winter and had hoped to sent out the survey to the membership before

the June meeting of the CBA, as it was almost ready. The person who was in charge of the survey has unfortunately left the CBA and we have been unable to re-enter in contact with them to recuperate the survey. Between a parental leave and a very busy spring the committee hasn't been able to get this back in order in time for the meeting. We hope to finish this objective of a baseline survey of the membership in the 2023-2024 year.

The CBA-IDEA committee has however co-hosted a workshop with SWEET at this year's annual meeting. I was able to represent the CBA in the organising committee and Jana Vamosi (IDEA committee member) was invited to be a panelist in the event held Sunday June 11, "Funding and open science as avenues for improving accessibility and equity in science". The event was a big success with over 80 people registered.

2021-2023 terms – Student Directors Corey Burt and Jacalyn Grey

- Student directors made 67 social media posts during their term.
- CBA Instagram followers went from ~50 to 256 (grew by 5x).
- All board member bios that were created by board members have been posted on social media.
- CBA-CSEE 2023 mixer was planned in collaboration with the CSEE student director (Victoria Glynn) to be held at the GoodWill Social Club, catered by Primos and to have entertainment provided by the Winnipeg band, JayWood.
- Board members should continue to send board member bios, interesting field/lab finds, job/volunteer opportunities, new regional Floras, or anything else related to Canadian botany to student directors to share on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for more visibility!

Report from the Archivist for Executive Meetings – June 2023

Item 1: Set up a mechanism by which archival documents are submitted to the archivist

Nowadays, the majority of the documents of interest for the archival fonds will be digital, so we must work out a way to transfer easily these documents from the donor to the archivist. Emphasis must be placed on a mechanism (e.g., shared folder) for all involved to deposit documents on their own schedules, as they come across them. When that is set, guidelines / instructions for depositing information, naming files, and recording metadata will have to be worked out. If someone can offer any help with this, it would be greatly appreciated.

Item 2: What to submit?

Following is a non-exhaustive list of documents which can be found in Library and Archives Canada. We should continue to collect them to enrich our fonds.

1. Legal documents concerning the legal affairs of the Association, e.g., any By-law amendments, resolutions, or amendment to purpose

2. Minutes of Executive meetings (Outgoing, AGM, and Incoming), as well as minutes of section meetings, and minutes of Special Committee meetings (e.g., IDEA Committee) and financial statements (even invoices such as for the print given to Magister Award recipients)
3. Any documents related to Annual Conferences: the planning, invitations to guest speakers, important emails, minutes of LOC meetings, programs, documents related to field trips or to specific events; logos, and photographs taken during the meetings
4. When available, membership directory, maybe submit one every 5 years
5. Documents (e.g., letters) written by the President or members of the executive regarding issues important to the CBA and Canadian, as well as international, botanists (e.g., conservation issues or move of the Hungarian Natural History Museum from Budapest to Debrecen, Hungary)
6. Documents regarding the CBA affairs exchanged between the President, President-Elect, and Past-President
7. Any documents received by the President (Elect- as well as Past-) from institutions, provincial and federal governments, concerning CBA or Botany in Canada (e.g., correspondence with the Office of the Governor-General regarding CBA Patronage)

If someone was not sure of the archival value of the documents they possess, they should contact either the archivist or the person representing the archivist on the Executive; we would be able to advise them. For your information, a list of the items which can now be found at Library and Archives Canada can be found the appendix.

Item 3: Add collection of archival documents to list of duties

We suggest that the entire Executive is partly responsible for collecting these items, and therefore that archiving one's own documents be part of the list of duties assigned to the Executive members.

Item 4: Keep a liaison between Executive and archivist

We want to acknowledge that having an Archivist liaison on the Executive works well and this should be continued. Jennifer is accepting to keep this role for the next year. We have worked together to not only discuss the items found in this report, but also write an article on George Lawson which was published in the Bulletin in March. We are currently working on an article which will be specifically focused on the Lawson Medal. The CBA archival fonds have been essential to this second write-up.

Submitted on June 5, 2023

Frédérique Guinel and Jennifer Doubt

1. **Symposium.** We invited three early career researchers: Linda Gorim, Joceyln Hall, and Marco Todesco to speak at the annual meeting in Winnipeg in a symposium on "Plant Development and Environmental Interactions"
2. **Outreach.** To best of our ability, we identified Plant Biologists who work on some aspect of Development across Canada. Via Mailchimp, we sent a mailing requesting nominations for the Taylor Steeves award and encouraging attendance at the annual meeting, especially highlighting student travel awards. To keep the mailing list current, we suggest a system where volunteers report new plant biologists within their area.
3. **Student Awards.** This year there were four submissions for the Taylor Steeves Award for the best student paper published in plant development, structure or morphology. The increased number of submissions suggests that our recruitment efforts were successful, so we plan a similar mailing in late February of next year. We thank Christian Lacroix and Carol Wenzel for their careful work in evaluating and selecting the best student paper. The website will be updated to highlight current and past winner of this prestigious student award.
4. **Section Name.** Based on discussions at our last section meeting in Rouyn-Noranda, we propose to change the name of our section to "**Plant Development: Molecules, Cells, and Systems**" to better reflect the broad expertise of our members. A discussion and vote will take place at the upcoming meeting in Winnipeg.

Shelley Hepworth and Elizabeth Schultz, Co-Chairs,
Plant Development Section, CBA/ABC

Ecology and Conservation Section Report: Jenny McCune (Assistant Professor, University of Lethbridge)

I took on the role of Chair this year. I would like to thank Dr. Richard Caners for his hard work as section chair for the past few years, and for his excellent advice to me in taking on the role.

This year the Ecology section once again adjudicated the J. Stan Rowe award for the best student paper in plant ecology. We did our best to spread the word about the award, and received 15 excellent submissions. I would like to thank Dr. Peter Achuff (botanist, Parks Canada, retired), Dr. Viktoria Wagner (U. Alberta), Dr. Mark Vellend (universite de Sherbrooke), Dr. Darwyn Coxson (U. of Northern British Columbia), Dr. Jana Vamosi (University of Calgary), and Dr. Richard Caners (Royal Alberta Museum) for volunteering their time as reviewers for the J. Stan Rowe Award.

Going forward, I am interested in hearing from section members if you have ideas for how we can promote/advance/improve plant ecology and conservation related work in Canada. Please contact me with these ideas. I look forward to meeting many of you at the section meeting at the CSEE/CBA meeting in Winnipeg.

Jenny McCune, Chair,
University of Lethbridge

3 June 2023 **Mycology Section Report – CBA-ABC**

The Luella K. Weresub Memorial Award Adjudication Committee met virtually on 11 April 2023 to adjudicate the 5 excellent student applications received for the 2023 CBA Weresub award competition. Present at our adjudication meeting were Drs. Greg Thorn, Gavin Kernaghan, Mélissande Nagati and Allison Walker, Chair. Two applications represented MSc work, and 3 represented PhD work. Thus, 5 applications, all published in 2022, were considered.

This year the committee chose to award one \$1000 Weresub Award.

Amanda Griffin (Mount Saint Vincent University) was deemed the winner of the top Canadian student paper in Mycology, for her outstanding MSc paper entitled:

Griffin, A., & Kernaghan, G. (2022). Ericoid mycorrhizal colonization and associated fungal communities along a wetland gradient in the Acadian forest of Eastern Canada. *Fungal Ecology*, 56, 101138.

(As Dr. Kernaghan was on our adjudication committee, he did not take part in the ranking of this particular paper, as it was by his student).

We thank Dr. Greg Thorn who is stepping down after 20 years (!) on our Weresub Memorial Award adjudication committee.

As well, we are pleased mycologist Dr. Wendy Untereiner (Brandon University) accepted our invitation to provide this year's Weresub Memorial Lecture in Mycology at our annual conference in Winnipeg on June 13, 2023.

Also of interest to members: next year the Mycological Society of America will hold a joint meeting in Toronto with the Canadian Fungal Research Network, with a fungal foray on June 9 led by Dr Greg Thorn, followed by the annual conference from June 10-13, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Allison K. Walker, PhD

Professor

Director, E.C. Smith Herbarium <https://herbarium.acadiau.ca/home.html>

Mycology Section Chair, Canadian Botanical Association <https://www.cba-abc.ca/>

Associate Editor – *Mycologia* <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/umyc20/current>

Editorial Board Member – *Fungal Ecology* <https://www.journals.elsevier.com/fungal-ecology>

Editorial Board Member – *Canadian Journal of Microbiology* <http://www.nrcresearchpress.com/journal/cjm>

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Systematics, Evolution and Biodiversity Section Annual Report 2023

Following a discussion during a couple of section meetings, participants voted to change our section name from “Systematics and Phytogeography” to “Systematics, Evolution and Biodiversity.” We hope this change will be attractive to a broader pool of evolutionary biologists, botanists, and others with shared interests in these areas.

We have created a Google Group mailing list to increase communication among our members. So far, this has worked well, and even if we have long periods of silence, the platform is in place, ready for use and immediate response. The Google Group email address is Cba_systematics@googlegroups.com.

Since we didn't receive any applications or nominations in 2022 for the Porsild-Consaul award (in recognition of the best paper published in systematics, evolution, and biodiversity), this year we're awarding two Porsild-Consaul awards. We hope that the new section name will trigger more applications or nominations for the award in the coming years.

Tim Dickinson initiated a discussion, using the mailing list, on how to populate our section's website with content. We have a lot of good ideas, including

- 1- Expanding text about the section's objectives
- 2- Adding a carousel plugin displaying images of taxa, field sites, methods, and personnel in our section.
- 3- Adding a list of past winners of the Porsild-Consaul Award, with links to their papers. Mihai did this for ALL the 2022 CBA award winners under the awards page. Perhaps we want to keep this format, rather than listing winners on each section page.
- 4- Adding a list of labs/institutions in Canada that conduct research in plant systematics, evolution, and biodiversity (with links to their websites).
- 5- Adding a link to the shared file developed by section members that documents the status of Canadian herbaria digitization efforts.

Julissa Roncal and Jeff Saarela
Section co-chairs

Teaching Section 2022-2023 Annual Report

Date: May 31, 2023

Co-chairs: Laura Super and Patrick von Aderkas

Past activity: Laura Super organized a virtual Teaching Section workshop that took place at the annual ABC/CBA meeting at the Université du Québec en Abitibi-Témiscamingue, Rouyn-Noranda, in Quebec. The title of the workshop was *Plants from K-12 to post-secondary: Action-based research and learning using STEAM and citizen/community science*.

Patrick von Aderkas published an article in the ABC/CBA Bulletin (March 2023) titled “How to make plant life cycles palatable to first-year students using light board.”

Present activities: In terms of unfinished and pressing business, we need to complete a French translation of our section of the website. Due to scheduling problems of the co-chairs, no workshop was planned for the 2023 meeting in Winnipeg. New co-chairs needed: Since Laura and Patrick are coming to the end of their term, the section will need new co-chairs.

Canadian Botanical Association - L'Association Botanique du Canada
Corporation 086179-1

Annual General Meeting and Awards Ceremony, June 14th, 2023

Association Major Awards

Lawson Medal : Dr. James Pringle, Royal Botanical Gardens, Burlington

Mary Elliot Award: Dr. John Markham, University of Manitoba

Special Fund

Diana Bizecki Robson for Publication of a new Flora of Manitoba

Student Awards

(Coordinated by Mihai Costea)

1 Canada-Wide Science Fair

Sebastian Audet, Pacific Northwest – British Columbia

Seymour Lake is having a Floating Heart attack (Nymphoides peltata)

Undergraduate awards

Science Atlantic Conference (March 12, 2023)

Best talk: Benjamin Caron, University of Prince Edward Island; Supervisor: Christian Lacroix

Best poster: Courtney Strugnell, Mount Saint Vincent University; Supervisor: Mirwais Qaderi

Ontario Biology Day (March 25-26). CBA Liasson: Liette Vasseur

Best Talk: Isabeau Lewis, Queen's University; Supervisor: Jannice Friedman

Best poster: Keerath Bhachu, University of Toronto, Mississauga; Supervisors: Marc Johnson and Dr. Hind Emad Fadoul

University of British Columbia, Multidisciplinary Undergraduate Research

Conference (March 18, 2023). CBA Liasson: Santokh Singh

Best Talk: Ruby Burns, Supervisor: Patrick Martone

Best Poster: Natalie Westereng; Supervisor: Claudia Bladassi

Macoun Travel Bursary

Adele Bunbury-Blanchette, Saint Mary's University

Cassandra Bradshaw, University of Ottawa

Katie Goodwin, University of British Columbia

Étienne Lacroix-Carignan, Institut de recherche en biologie
végétale, Montréal

Angelo Carrion, Memorial University of Newfoundland

Jordan Wilson-Morrison, University of Ottawa

Jaxon Reiter, University of Lethbridge

Olivia Rianhard, University of British Columbia

Student Paper awards

Porsild-Consaul Award - Judges: Geraldine Allen & Jeff Saarela

Marinoli Rivas-Chamorro, R. Cadenillas, X.-J. Ge, L. Jin, B. Millán and J. Roncal.

2023. Testing species relationships and delimitation in the Amazonian hyperdominant *Astrocaryum* section *Huicungo* (Arecaceae) using chloroplast data from genome skimming. Taxon: <https://doi.org/https://doi.org/10.1002/tax.12928>

Qianshi Lin, T.W.A. Braukmann, M. Soto Gomez, J.L.S. Mayer, F. Pinheiro, V.S.F.T. Merckx, S. Stefanović and S.W. Graham. 2022. Mitochondrial genomic data are effective at placing mycoheterotrophic lineages in plant phylogeny. *New Phytologist* 236: 1908-1921.

Rowe Award

Allison M. Dennert, Elle, E. and Reynolds, J.D., 2023. Experimental addition of marine-derived nutrients affects wildflower traits in a coastal meta-ecosystem.

Royal Society Open Science, 10(1), p.221008.

Weresub Award

Amanda Griffin & Kernaghan, G. (2022). Ericoid mycorrhizal colonization and associated fungal communities along a wetland gradient in the Acadian forest of Eastern Canada. *Fungal Ecology*, 56, 101138.

Taylor Steeves Award

Liyong Zhang and Ambrose, C., 2022. CLASP balances two competing cell division plane cues during leaf development. *Nature Plants* 8(6) : 682-693.

Laurie Consaul Northern Research Scholarships

Committee: Jennifer Doubt Christine Petersen Jana Vamosi

Anne-Marie Blanchette, Laval University

Effects of predation and herbivory pressure on high arctic tundra vegetation in Bylot Island (Nunavut).

Claire O'Brien, Wilfrid Laurier University

Shrubbing off disturbance: Are tall, deciduous shrubs more productive in arctic disturbances?

Lionel Cinq-Mars, best oral presentation

Proposal Stage, Étienne Lacroix-Carignan

Results Stage, Mia Todorov

(special mention): Krista Williamson

Iain & Sylvia Taylor Award for best poster

Proposal Stage, Geoffrey Zamin

Results Stage, Jacalyn Grey

Reminder of awards not given this year

Magister Teaching Award

Not awarded.