



ASPT

The American Society of Plant Taxonomists ASPT NEWSLETTER

Volume 18(2)

December 2004

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ASPT NEWS

On-line ASPT Newsletter

Current ASPT news and archived issues of the *ASPT Newsletter* are available for viewing online at the ASPT Web site. Both html and PDF formats are available for archived issues dating back to Volume 12(2), December 1998, while issues from Volume 8(4), October 1994, to Volume 12(1), June 1998, are only in basic html format.

Go to the ASPT Web site < <http://www.sysbot.org/> > and click on “Newsletter” in the left frame. You may then either read “Current News” in the right frame or archived electronic issues by clicking on “Electronic Issues of the *ASPT Newsletter*” just below the ASPT logo.

ASPT Awards Presented at Annual Meeting in Snowbird, Utah

2004 Cooley Award — Mac Alford from Cornell University. The title of his presentation was “Phylogeny and classification of the Flacourtiaceae/Salicaceae complex.”

2004 Asa Gray Award — John Beaman, Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew.

2004 Peter H. Raven Award — David J. Mabberley, Royal Botanic Gardens, Sydney.

Special Award to Christiane Anderson and New ASPT Funding Initiative

Christiane Anderson received a special achievement award from the Systematics Section of the Botanical Society of America at its Awards Banquet at the Botany 2004 conference in Snowbird Utah. During the banquet in Snowbird, her authors presented her with a bound volume of letters commemorating her 23 years of service as Editor-in-Chief of *Systematic Botany Monographs* (SBM), and with other contributors presented a \$3,500 contribution to be used at Chris’ discretion for the improvement and continued financial health of the series.

Christiane’s contributions to *Systematic Botany Monographs* are remarkable. She became Editor-in-Chief in 1981, editing all volumes since volume 2. With the latest publication of volume 68, she will have edited nearly 10,000 printed pages, and is currently reviewing four more monographs. Her exacting editorship has helped propel three of the monographs to a Jesse M. Greenman Award, and another three to a Henry Allan Gleason Award. The letters from her authors attested to service that is both uncompromisingly professional and very helpful, way beyond what many editors provide. Space does not allow a summary of all of her author’s comments, but consider John Beaman’s (SBM volume 29):

“*Systematic Botany Monographs* already ranks with some of the greatest monographic series ever published, such as *Das Pflanzenreich* and deCandolle’s *Prodromus*, published over two centuries ago. In your modest and

unassuming way, you probably will not accept such an assertion, but I believe it to be correct.”

In addition to serving as Editor-in-Chief of *SBM*, Christiane edits *Contributions from the University of Michigan Herbarium*, and has maintained her own active monographic research, publishing four monographs in the Compositae and Malpighiaceae and other papers. She is a major contributor to John Beaman’s award-winning Kinabalu mountain flora. She is fluent in English, German, Spanish, and French, and helps authors with botanical Latin. She has served as Treasurer and President of ASPT, and has served on NSF panels. Who knows what engine propels this remarkable woman, but she is one of our stars.

Our society is establishing the Christiane Anderson Fund for *Systematic Botany Monographs* to be used at the editor’s discretion for the improvement and continued financial well being of *SBM*. It is difficult to imagine a more deserving person or purpose for contributions to our society. Please consider adding to the funds generated this year and send a tax-deductible contribution made out to “ASPT” with “C. Anderson fund for *SBM*” on the “for” line to: Ms. Linda Brown, Business Office Manager, American Society of Plant Taxonomists, University of Wyoming, Department of Botany 3165, 1000 E University Avenue, Laramie, WY 82071. You may also make a contribution on-line using a credit card by “pretending” that you are going to renew your membership and filling in the relevant information and indicating in the text box what you wish to do. — David M. Spooner (SBM volumes 30, 68).

New Fund Honors Dr. Rogers McVaugh by Furthering the Careers of Young Systematic Botanists

Largely owing to the efforts of Shirley Graham, ASPT is pleased to announce a new named fund for graduate research—the Rogers McVaugh Graduate Student Research Grant Fund. This is our third such fund (following the Bill Anderson and Alan & Shirley Graham Funds); these are established with at least \$20,000 such that 5% annual return on investments provides \$1,000 to be awarded annually to a student for research. The first Rogers McVaugh Grant was awarded to Ms. Elizabeth Zacarias [see ASPT Newsletter 18(1)]. These named funds substantially increase what the society is able to do in terms of supporting graduate research.

Additional contributions are more than welcome: nothing would be better than to be able to make more and/or larger awards for graduate research. You can contribute very easily on-line using a credit card by “pretending” that you are going to renew your membership and filling in the relevant information and indicating in the text box what you wish to do). ASPT also welcomes efforts to establish other such honorific awards. Investing in future systematic botanists is certainly among the most important things that our society can do. — Lucinda McDade.

Statement Issued by ASPT on Natural History Collection Facilities, 24 August 2004

The American Society of Plant Taxonomists affirms the crucial role of natural history collections, and of plant collections in particular, in research, teaching, and public outreach. Collections of plant specimens (herbaria) are the foundation for all studies of plant diversity and evolution. Specimens provide enormous economic and scientific returns to society and are irreplaceable resources that must be preserved for future generations.

Specimens provide the foundation of nomenclature, the basis for identification, the common reference for communication, and the vouchers for floras, as well as for evolutionary and genomic studies. Molecular and morphological characters that allow us to reconstruct the history of life can be obtained from herbarium specimens. All fields of biological science from the level of molecular biology to ecosystem science are dependent on collections, not just for application of names, but as the basis for referencing all aspects of biodiversity. Beyond their scientific importance, herbarium collections offer many benefits to society by providing data or reference materials for critical endeavors such as agriculture, human health, biosecurity, forensics, control of invasive species, conservation biology, natural resources, and land management. Herbarium collections provide a wealth of information on our natural heritage and extend back hundreds of years: thus they provide the only reliable, verifiable record of the changes to our flora during the expansion of human population.

Because natural history collections play such an important role in societal endeavors continued physical and financial support is absolutely critical. Collections are most valuable in their original institutional and geographical context. Because they are historical records linked to a time and place, lost collections cannot be replaced. Moreover, many populations documented in herbaria no longer exist and others are now protected. Furthermore, some specimens cannot be replaced due to the imposition of constraints on collecting. Therefore, ASPT strongly advises institutions to maintain their collections in perpetuity. Once an institution divests itself of a collection the institution can never regain the benefits associated with the collection.

It is imperative that minimum standards regarding environmental conditions and pest control be met so that specimens can be maintained indefinitely into the future. As a body of considerable expertise with regard to all aspects of herbarium curation, research, education, and outreach, the membership of the American Society of Plant Taxonomists hereby offers its expertise to help institutions develop management plans for maintaining collections and to integrate herbarium collections more effectively into research, education, and outreach activities.

New Issues of *Systematic Botany Monographs*

Volume 69. Revision of Sorbus Subgenera Aria and Torninaria (Rosaceae–Maloideae), Juan J. Aldasoro, Carlos Aedo, Félix Muñoz Garmendia, Francisco Pando de la Hoz, and Carmen Navarro, 148 pp, 1 November 2004. ISBN 0-912861-69-X. US orders: \$20.00; non-US-orders: \$22.00.

Volume 70. Monograph of Podostemum (Podostemaceae), C. Thomas Philbrick and Alejandro Novelo R., 106 pp, 29 November 2004. ISBN 0-912861-70-3. US orders: \$15.00; non-US-orders: \$17.00.

Volume 71. Systematics of Paspalum Group Notata (Poaceae–Panicoideae–Paniceae), F. O. Zuloaga, J. Pensiero, and O. Morrone, 75 pp, 29 November 2004. ISBN 0-912861-71-1. US orders: \$9.00; non-US-orders: \$11.00.

Postage and handling included. Send orders to *Systematic Botany Monographs*, University of Michigan Herbarium, 3600 Varsity Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108-2287, USA, with checks payable to “ASPT”; VISA and MasterCard accepted. Fax: 734-647-5719; e-mail <chra@umich.edu> .



In Memoriam

Theodore M. Barkley, 1934 – 2004

I first met Ted Barkley when he and I attended the IX International Botanical Congress in Montreal in the summer of 1959. For us both, it was our first Congress, and first opportunity to meet many of the famous botanists whose papers we were studying in graduate school, he at Columbia University and I at U.C.L.A. Ted, who was 26 years old, was tagging along with his major professor, Art Cronquist, and I, at the age of 23, with mine, Harlan Lewis. We had some nice conversations and began to get to know one another, and from that early encounter I well remember his sunny smile, gift for gab, and his deep interest in *Senecio* sensu latissimo! He happily told Bob Ornduff and me that he was going to “bite off another chunk of *Senecio*” once he finished his degree; in fact, that’s just what he did repeatedly over the course of a professional career that spanned some 44 years. Like me, he was awarded his Ph.D. degree in 1960.

Ted’s sense of humor and particularly his love for puns were well known among his friends, and over the last decade, he and I exchanged many e-mails that often elicited hearty groans from the recipient! Although he grew up the Central Valley of California, he found a habitat that was nourishing for him on the plains of eastern Kansas, settling down in 1961 for 37-year career at the Kansas State University. While maintaining his studies of *Senecio* and other Asteraceae, Ted made contributions of great importance to our understanding of the flora of the Great Plains, as editor for the Great Plains Flora Association

and thus the main sparkplug behind the production of the *Atlas of the Flora of the Great Plains* (1977) and the *Flora of the Great Plains* (1986), both exemplary works that illuminated the systematics and biology of the plants of the prairies and other vegetation types of this vast region of North America. He also made significant contributions as Coordinator of the Konza Prairie, a remarkable reserve that is owned by Kansas State, and which has been the site of many important biological investigations. In addition, he was a gifted teacher to whom thousands of K-State students owe their knowledge of botany and ecology and a better appreciation of the world. I like to think that many of them also sensed and perhaps appropriated a bit of Ted's evident humanity also. Ted was a gifted lecturer and teacher, but much more than that: he was also a good, solidly-grounded human being. For his entire life, he was known as a person who interacted effectively and productively with others, and was skilled at balancing conflicting viewpoints.

Ted Barkley became a member of the Editorial Committee of the *Flora of North America* (FNA) project in 1984, and contributed greatly to the realization of its goals and objectives for 20 years. More recently, he became actively involved in organizing, editing, and writing some groups of the largest plant family in the region, Asteraceae. With his co-editors Luc Brouillet and John Strother, Ted cajoled dozens of individual authors to get their contributions in on time, and wrote or assembled the manuscripts that left the huge task completed by the time he died.

On his retirement from Kansas State University in 1998, he moved to the Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT) in Fort Worth, Texas, finding there an agreeable new set of colleagues and a perfect setting in which to devote himself to the completion of the completion of the FNA volumes. The Editorial Center for the Asteraceae project was established at BRIT, and Ted, along with colleagues such as Guy Nesom, completed the task he had set for himself in the six years he had remaining. The results of his labor, along with that of many colleagues, will be published in 2005 as three volumes (19, 20, and 21) of the *Flora of North America*. They will be a splendid contribution to the botany of North America and the world.

Ted Barkley was born on May 14, 1934, in Modesto, California, obtained his B.S. degree in 1955 from Kansas State University, his M.S. degree in 1957 from Oregon State University, and his Ph.D. degree in 1960 from Columbia University. He is survived by his wife Mary, three children, and three stepchildren.

In his last days, Ted was unfailingly bright and cheerful, welcoming messages and brief visits from his many friends and colleagues. A few months before he died, he wrote me, characteristically, "Of course, we'll all be glad to see the 3 volumes of *Compositae* in print, but all of us have had a marvelous time working on the project," concluding then with a pun! He spent several hours in the herbarium annotating specimens just two and a half days before he died, satisfied with his life and the important contributions that he had made both to botany and to the lives of many individuals with whom he came into con-

tact over the years.— Peter H. Raven, Missouri Botanical Garden, St. Louis.

For information about memorial services and memorial funds established in Ted's honor, please see Current News / *In Memoriam* on the ASPT Web page.



PEOPLE

ASPT President **Elizabeth A. (Toby) Kellogg** was one of 308 members elected by the AAAS Council as Fellows of AAAS. These individuals will be recognized for their contributions to science at the Fellows Forum to be held on 19 February 2005 during the AAAS Annual Meeting in Washington, D.C. The new Fellows will receive a certificate and a blue and gold rosette pin as a symbol of their distinguished accomplishments.

Danica T. Harbaugh, a student of Professor Bruce G. Baldwin at the University of California, Berkeley, is the recipient of the 2004 Lawrence Memorial Award. For her dissertation research, Ms. Harbaugh has undertaken a study of *Santalum* (Santalaceae), which includes the sandalwoods, and is constructing a phylogeny of the entire genus. The proceeds of the Award will help support her travel to islands of the South Pacific and to India for field research. For information about applications for the 2005 Lawrence Memorial Award, see "Funding Opportunities."

Charles Heiser won the 2004 Garden Globe Award for Best Talent in Writing for his book *Weeds in My Garden: Observations on Some Misunderstood Plants*, published by Timber Press in 2003. This award comes from the Garden Writers Association, which for over 20 years has conducted an annual awards program in the field of garden communications. Dr. Heiser — president of ASPT in 1967, recipient of ASPT's Asa Gray Award in 1988, and the 2002 Peter Raven Award — also has written several highly readable books on the evolution of domesticated plants, including *The Gourd Book*, *The Sunflower*, *Of Plants and People*, and *Seed to Civilization*.

Dr. Peter H. Raven, director of the Missouri Botanical Garden in St. Louis, has received the Australian and New Zealand Association for the Advancement of Science's prestigious scientific award, the ANZAAS Medal. He is the first person to receive the award from outside of Australia and New Zealand. Raven was selected for his outstanding contributions in several areas including: promoting public awareness of science and of the importance of biodiversity, through the Missouri Botanical Garden and the American Association for the Advancement of Science; promoting biological education, particularly as the author of internationally adopted textbooks in biology, botany and environmental science; scientific leadership and promotion of research on plant taxonomy, biogeography, evolution, biodiversity and conservation;

major contributions to Australasian science, through taxonomic work on the Onagraceae, taxonomic and evolutionary studies on the *Myrtales*; for pioneering the synthesis of Southern Hemisphere biogeography and tectonic history; and for the promotion of science through inspiring public lectures during visits to Australia. The medal was presented in Sydney on 14 August during Science Week at a public lecture given by Raven and sponsored by ANZAAS, the Botanic Gardens Trust and Friends of The Gardens.

Paola Pedraza, a Graduate Fellow and student of Dr. James L. Luteyn in The New York Botanical Garden/City University of New York graduate program, is the recipient of two recent awards: the 2004 Awards in Tropical Botany given by The Garden Club of America, and an Eloise Gerry Fellowship from Sigma Delta Epsilon/Graduate Women in Science. For her doctoral dissertation research, Ms. Pedraza is undertaking a study of the biodiversity and systematics of the neotropical blueberry genus *Disterigma* (Ericaceae: Vaccinieae). She will use the proceeds of the awards for travel in Colombia and Ecuador to conduct field research. Paola's B.A. degree thesis (Universidad Nacional de Colombia, Bogotá) has also just been published by the Instituto de Investigación de Recursos Biológicos Alexander von Humboldt (Bogotá, Colombia). The title of the book is *Chisacá, Un Recorrido por los Páramos Andinos*. Forty-five families, 132 genera, and 243 species of flowering plants found in this large area of páramo vegetation are systematically treated with keys, diagnostic descriptions, and commentaries on their taxonomy and distribution. The book includes 359 color photos, and approx. 200 b/w line drawings in an illustrated glossary.



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Persons in the job market should consult the Newsletter/“Current News” section of the ASPT homepage < <http://www.sysbot.org> > for detailed descriptions. Below are *very* abbreviated listings of job notices that have appeared on that source; complete information needed for applications is not included here. For many positions, the deadlines have passed and the positions may be filled. The listing here is primarily for readers who might be interested in which organizations have had openings in the general area of plant systematics. The date the positions were posted is in square brackets [day/month/year].

Nearly all announcements have been edited to conserve space—be sure to obtain complete descriptions before applying.

Botanist, California University of Pennsylvania:

This is a tenure track faculty appointment in the Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Eberly College of Science & Technology, California University of Pennsylvania; see our Web page at < <http://www.cup.edu/eberly/biology/> >. Salary is competitive and

commensurate with academic preparation and experience. Candidate will be expected to teach from among the following courses: general botany, plant taxonomy, plant anatomy, plant physiology, plant ecology, and wetland ecology. The candidate will be responsible for maintaining and further developing the departmental herbarium and for conducting an externally funded research program involving undergraduate and graduate (MS) students. Familiarity with wetland or watershed management or molecular techniques would be an asset. A Ph.D. in botany or related field is required, and college teaching experience is preferred. Candidate must be field ambulatory for the necessary field trips in the above-mentioned courses. Teaching assignments may involve travel to regional sites and/or distance learning formats. The candidate minimally must be fluent in the English language, be able to communicate well, demonstrate outstanding potential for excellence in teaching through a successful interview and/or classroom demonstration and be experienced in the use of innovative curricular approaches that are student-centered, inquiry-based and hands-on oriented. Applicants must submit all of the following before an on-campus interview is granted: full *curriculum vitae*; official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended (unofficial transcripts are acceptable for review purposes); letter of application highlighting the applicants' qualifications and teaching interests; brief statements describing teaching philosophy and plans for a scholarship program; names, addresses, phone numbers, and e-mail addresses of three professional references who have current knowledge of the applicants' abilities as a teacher. Veterans should forward a copy of form DD214 to the Office of Social Equity, 250 University Ave, Box 9, California, PA 15419. Send complete application materials except DD214 (if veteran) to: Dr. David Boehm, Chair, Search Committee, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, California University of PA, 250 University Ave. (Box 45), California, PA 15419-1394; 724 938-5998; e-mail < Boehm@cup.edu >. Review of applications begins 10 December 2004 and continues until position is filled. [Posted 24 November 04]

Executive Director, Montgomery Botanical Center:

The Montgomery Botanical Center (MBC), a nonprofit institution, seeks an Executive Director for a 120-acre botanical garden in Miami, FL. MBC is internationally recognized for its wild-collected, thoroughly documented, population-based collections of cycads and palms. The director is responsible for managing all aspects of the collections and associated database, horticulture, facilities, communication, development, administration, and finances. The successful candidate will be responsible for the continuing development of all current programs and working with staff and volunteers to implement these programs. A doctorate degree in a field of botany or plant science is strongly preferred. Management and/or financial experience, especially at a non-profit institution, is a plus. The individual must have the skills, commitment, and vision necessary to enhance: 1) our development program, 2) the scientific quality and value of the collections and associated database, and 3) the scientific and educational usage of the collections. Strong oral and written communication skills and interpersonal skills are

a must. Salary and benefits commensurate with experience. To apply, send letter of interest and *curriculum vitae* to Executive Search Committee, Montgomery Botanical Center, 11901 Old Cutler Road, Coral Gables, FL 33156. For additional information concerning the position, please visit < <http://www.montgomerybotanical.org> > . Deadline for application is 31 January 2005 or until position is filled. [Posted 12 November 2004]

Plant Systematics, University of Texas-Pan American: The University of Texas-Pan American (UTPA) Biology Department seeks to fill a tenure-track, Assistant Professor position for fall 2005, in plant systematics (Job Vacancy # F04/05-25) with a research emphasis on evolutionary relationships amongst plants and/or plant systematic ecology desired. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in a relevant field, be able to teach introductory and advanced undergraduate and Master's courses, develop courses in their area of expertise, and conduct externally funded research. Post-doctoral experience is preferred. It is desirable that candidates have research interests that complement existing (e.g., Center for Subtropical Studies) or planned (e.g., Ph.D. in Biological Sciences) programs, or that exploit UTPA's setting. Research lab space is available; salary and start-up funds are negotiable. Complete applications consist of a cover letter, statement of teaching and research interests, a *curriculum vitae* describing research and teaching experience, and three reference letters sent separately. Deadline for receipt of applications is 17 January 2005. Position is open until filled. Send inquiries and applications to Dr. Michael Persans, Department of Biology, University of Texas-Pan American, 1201 W. University Drive, Edinburg, TX, 78539. E-mail: mpersans@panam.edu. Letters of reference may be sent via e-mail but for final consideration originals must be submitted. Note: This position is security-sensitive and subject to Texas Education Code 51.215, which authorizes the employer to obtain criminal history record information. Texas law requires faculty members whose primary language is not English to demonstrate proficiency in English. [Posted 12 November 2004]

Plant Systematists, Grand Valley State University: Tenure-track position at the Assistant or Associate Professor level. The person will be expected to teach undergraduate systematic botany, graduate courses in plant systematics and flora, and participate regularly in Plants in the World (nonmajors) and introductory biology (majors). The new person will complement the specialties of existing botanists in the department. The successful applicant will be expected to maintain active scholarship; involvement of undergraduate and graduate students in research is encouraged. A Ph.D. in botany or biology with breadth in botany is required. Preference will be given to candidates with demonstrated teaching excellence. Excellent communication skills are required. Position will be filled contingent upon funding. Applications should be sent to: Dr. John P. Shontz, Professor, Department of Biology, Grand Valley State University, Allendale, MI 49401 and should be postmarked by 18 November 18. Applications should include a letter of application, *curriculum vitae*, statements of teaching and research philosophy, transcripts (may be photocopies) and three letters of

recommendation. [Posted 12 November 2004]

Plant Systematist and Evolutionary Biologist, Southern Illinois University Carbondale: The Department of Plant Biology at Southern Illinois University Carbondale invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor position in the areas of plant systematics and evolutionary biology. We are seeking qualified applicants whose research focuses upon cryptogams (algae, bryophytes, lycophytes, ferns) or fungi and who utilize morphological, developmental, and/or molecular methodologies. The successful candidate must have a Ph.D. and a strong record of research accomplishments. Evidence of external grantsmanship and postdoctoral experience is expected. The successful candidate must be able to develop an externally funded research program. Teaching responsibilities include introductory courses and graduate courses(s) in his/her expertise. Application materials include a *curriculum vitae*, three representative reprints, statements of current and future research and teaching philosophy, and three letters of recommendation. Send these to Dr. Daniel Nickrent, Search Committee Chair, Department of Plant Biology, Southern Illinois University Carbondale, Carbondale, IL 62901-6509. Electronic submissions will not be accepted. Review of applications begins 15 January 2005 and will continue until the position is filled. [Posted 4 November 2004]

Caribbean Plant Conservation Scientist, Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden: The Center for Tropical Plant Conservation at Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden seeks a full-time Caribbean Plant Conservation Scientist. The Scientist will support and implement plant conservation in the Caribbean Basin through collaborative projects, including conservation assessments of important habitats or areas; biogeographic, phylogenetic, monographic and other analyses; the restoration of species and habitats; coordination of regional conservation initiatives including the Caribbean Botanic Gardens for Conservation (CBGC) and the Caribbean Vegetation Monitoring Network (CaribMoNet). Skills needed include: 1) Ph.D. in conservation biology, systematic botany or biology, with relevant tropical field and postdoctoral experience. 2) Existing publications in relevant areas of systematics and/or conservation biology. 3) GIS skills. 4) Experience and expertise in tropical conservation biology and threatened species assessments. 5) Understanding, or willingness to learn, the legislative context for Caribbean plant conservation, e.g. the CBD and the Global Strategy for Plant Conservation. 6) Excellent spoken and written communication skills in the English language, fluency in second language (French or Spanish) preferred. 7) Ability to network with the community of Caribbean conservationists, biologists, foresters, horticulturists, land planners and other interested parties. 8) Ability to work as part of a team within the department as well as with FTBG Plant Collections and Landscape Department and the Education Department. Application Instructions: Applicants are to send an electronic application, consisting of: CV, statement of research experience, names, e-mail addresses and telephone numbers of three referees, to: < research@fairchildgarden.org > with the subject line:

“Caribbean Plant Cons Scientist Application”. Hard copy applications will not be accepted. Salary commensurate with experience. Position will be open until a suitable candidate is found. [Posted 3 November 2004]

Plant Systematist, Central Michigan University: The Department of Biology invites applications from broadly trained individuals for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant Professor, beginning August 2005 or before. Candidates must have a Ph.D. in a biological science, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and a strong commitment to teaching, research using modern techniques, seeking external funding, and service. In addition, candidates will mentor undergraduates and graduate research in molecular systematics or evolution of development. Candidates should be able to teach introductory biology, botany, plant systematics, and courses in the individual’s area of expertise at the undergraduate and master’s level. Preference will be given to candidates with postdoctoral experience and a familiarity with eastern North American flora. Submit a letter of application, CV, copies of all transcripts, statement of teaching philosophy and statement of research interests, and three letters of recommendation to: Plant Systematist Search Committee, Department of Biology, Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, MI 48859. Review of applications will begin 1 November 2004. [Posted 27 October 2004]

Laboratory Manager/Plant Molecular Systematist, Brooklyn Botanic Garden: Brooklyn Botanic Garden seeks a Plant Molecular Systematist to oversee all administrative aspects in its molecular laboratory; conduct independent research in plant molecular systematics, population biology or conservation; collaborate with other staff scientists conducting research in horticultural taxonomy; taxonomy and floristics of plants in the New York metropolitan region; train high school and college students in basic laboratory methods and develop an independent research program. Ph.D. or Masters with equivalent experience in biology, with training in modern molecular techniques (e.g., DNA sequencing, PCR based techniques, agarose gel electrophoresis). Must have interest in either plant phylogeny and/or plant population genetics; applied plant conservation. Apply To: Director Human Resources, Brooklyn Botanic Garden, 1000 Washington Ave, Brooklyn, NY 11225; Fax: 718-622-7826; E-mail <personnel@bbg.org>. [Posted 27 October 2004]

Executive Director, Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden (RSABG) seeks nominations and applications for an Executive Director. RSABG is dedicated to the display and study of California’s native plants, and serves as the Department of Botany for the Claremont Graduate University. Reporting to the Board of Trustees, the Executive Director is the chief executive officer of Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden responsible for upholding and advancing the garden’s mission, with the implementation of the strategic plan and for maintaining a positive and collaborative work environment. The Executive Director oversees the planning and administration of the operating and capital budgets, funds, endowments, and programs, and is responsible for the sound fiscal management of the

institution. The Executive Director plays the lead role in fundraising initiatives and is the chief spokesperson, promoting the garden’s programs to varied constituencies, conveying a positive public image to members and visitors, and cultivating professional relationships with individuals and organizations who support the garden’s mission. Candidate must be a proven leader and administrator with an excellent personal and professional reputation, and the ability to lead a diverse scientific institution. Experience in the fields of botany, horticulture or other natural science discipline and/or experience in the operation of a non-profit institution is preferred. Expressions of interest and nominations may be sent in confidence to: Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden, 310 N. Indian Hill Blvd. #501, Claremont, CA 91711; e-mail <rsabgsearch@cgu.edu>. [Posted 21 October 2004]

Faculty Position in Quantitative Plant Biology, Michigan State University: The Department of Plant Biology seeks an individual who will use mathematical or statistical methods to address fundamental biological questions in plant systems. The candidate can work in any biological discipline (e.g. physiology, metabolism, cell biology, development, ecology, or evolution), and at any level of biological organization, from genes to cellular processes to ecosystems. Research experience with plant systems is desirable, but is not a requirement. The successful candidate will be expected to develop an independent research program addressing biological problems in plant systems that is supported by extramural funding, and we are particularly interested in those who will participate in collaborative interdisciplinary research. The successful candidate will have the option of a joint appointment with another suitable department, will contribute to undergraduate teaching, and will develop a graduate course in their area of expertise. The faculty position is a tenure-track, academic year appointment at the Assistant Professor level. In exceptional cases, an appointment at the associate professor level will be considered. Applicants must have a Ph.D., and postdoctoral research experience is desirable. Applications should include a *curriculum vitae*, a summary of research accomplishments and future research objectives, a brief description of teaching philosophy and goals, and three letters of reference. Information about the Department of Plant Biology can be found at <<http://www.plantbiology.msu.edu>>. The review of applications will begin 30 November 2004 and will continue until a suitable candidate is identified. Questions regarding this position may be sent to Douglas Schemske <webber@msu.edu>. Application materials can be sent electronically to jtate@msu.edu, or mailed to: Douglas W. Schemske, Chair, Mathematical Plant Biologist Search, Department of Plant Biology, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. [Posted 13 October 2004]

Curator of the Herbarium, University of Alaska-Fairbanks: The University of Alaska Museum of the North and the Department of Biology and Wildlife at the University of Alaska Fairbanks seek qualified applicants for an Assistant-Professor positions as Curator of the Herbarium. Successful candidates are expected to: establish a vigorous, extramurally funded research program

complementing the university's programs; curate the herbarium; teach one course per year (systematic botany or a specialized course); and advise undergraduate and graduate students. The positions will also be associated with the Institute of Arctic Biology. Preferred applicants will have a strong background in developing, managing, and using museum collections and in a specialized research area. A Ph.D. is mandatory, and postdoctoral experience is preferred. Applications should include: a completed applicant form [available at < http://www.alaska.edu/hr/forms/hr_employmentforms.xml >]; *curriculum vitae*; three letters of reference; and separate summaries of interests and experience in research, curation, and teaching. Please send complete application package by 15 January 2005 to Curator of the Herbarium Search, c/o UAF Human Resources, P.O. Box 757860, Fairbanks, Alaska 99775-7860. Questions about this announcement can be addressed to Kevin Winker < ffksw@uaf.edu > or Molly Lee < ffmcl@uaf.edu >. [Posted 7 October 2004]

Plant Anatomy and Morphology, Humboldt State University: We are seeking to fill this position at the Assistant Professor level, however, rank and salary are dependent upon the appointee's qualifications and experience. A Ph.D. in the biological sciences from an accredited university or college is required at the time of appointment. Expertise in vascular plant anatomy and morphology is essential. Preference will be given to broadly-trained organismal botanists with practical experience in application of plant morphological techniques, and research expertise in such areas as plant evolutionary biology, plant developmental biology, or paleobotany. Some teaching experience is essential, at least at the graduate assistant level. The successful candidate will teach upper division courses in plant anatomy and plant morphology, lower division general botany, and possibly other assignments based on experience and departmental needs. The candidate may develop specialty courses at the upper division and graduate level, will advise undergraduate students in Biology or Botany, and will supervise graduate research. Development of a research program is expected. Qualified candidates should send a letter of application, a detailed *curriculum vitae* or résumé, graduate and undergraduate transcripts of academic work (unofficial copies are sufficient for initial review), a statement of teaching philosophy, and three recent letters of recommendation from persons familiar with the candidate's professional preparation and experience to: Chair, Search Committee Department of Biological Sciences, Humboldt State University, One Harpst Street, Arcata, CA 95521-8299; voice 707 826-3245; fax 707 826-3201. In letter of application, please refer to Job # 7194. All complete application files received by 19 November 2004 will receive full consideration. Those arriving after this date may be considered if the position is not filled. [Posted 7 October 2004]

Assistant or Associate Professor in Botany, Emporia State, Kansas: Nine-month, tenure-track position, Department of Biological Sciences, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS. Ph.D. required (ABD considered if degree completed by hiring date) with strong commitment to teaching, research, and advising. Development of

active research program involving masters-level graduate students expected. Teach and supervise a field and lab biology course for elementary education majors < <http://biology.emporia.edu/posibiol.htm/> >, plus courses in area of specialty at the undergraduate or graduate level. Starting date August 2005. Send letter of application with separate statements of teaching philosophy and research interests, CV, unofficial transcripts, and names, addresses, telephone numbers, and e-mail addresses of four references to: Dr. Marshall Sundberg, Search Committee Chair, Department of Biological Sciences, Campus Box 4050, Emporia State University, Emporia, KS 66801-5087; voice: 620-341-5605; fax: 620-341-5607; e-mail < sundberm@emporia.edu >. Screening of applications will begin 1 November 2004 and continue until position is filled. [Posted 7 October 04]

Assistant Professor, Vascular Plants, University of Wisconsin-Platteville: Assistant Professor in biology specializing in vascular plants (nine-month, full-time, tenure track). Teaching responsibilities will include introductory courses in general botany and general biology and advanced courses depending on departmental need and the candidate's expertise and interests, e.g., plant taxonomy, plant anatomy, vascular plant morphology, and entomology. Candidate may be required to teach by alternative delivery methods. Other responsibilities: advising students in general biology and botany emphases; co-coordinating the biology greenhouses; professional and scholarly activity; and applicable university and community service. Ph.D. in plant biology or a closely related field with specialization in vascular plants; degree completed by start date. A broad biology background including knowledge of upper Midwest vegetation. Demonstrable skills in oral and written communication, the use of standard office and computer applications. Organization and delivery of effective presentations and experiential learning activities, and the definition and assessment of desired learning outcomes. Observable dedication to undergraduate education; enthusiasm for professional engagement with students in and out of the classroom; and ability to work in teams in a collegial environment. Salary commensurate with professional experience and qualifications. To apply, send (i) letter of application, (ii) *curriculum vitae*, (iii) copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts, (iv) statement of teaching philosophy, and (v) four letters of recommendation (preferably one from an undergraduate student) to: Dr. Elizabeth Frieders, Biology Department, University of Wisconsin-Platteville, 1 University Plaza, Platteville, WI 53818-3099. Review of completed applications will begin 17 January 2005 and continue until the position is filled. Position available 23 August 232005. [Posted 7 October 2004]

Plant Conservation Biologist/Systematist, George Mason University: The Department of Environmental Science and Policy invites applications for a tenure-track Assistant Professor in plant conservation biology and systematics for fall 2005. Duties will include oversight and administration of an herbarium containing a major collection of Virginia and Neotropical flora. The successful candidate will be expected to pursue an active externally-funded research program, aspire to excellence

in teaching, and engage in interdisciplinary collaboration. Teaching duties will include graduate courses and undergraduate courses in plant systematics and field botany as well as participation in the introductory plant biology course for biology majors. A Ph.D. is required. The department offers interdisciplinary MS and Ph.D. degrees in environmental science and policy as well as BA and BS degrees in biology (jointly with other units). Candidates should submit a CV, letter of intent including statements of research interests and teaching goals, and names and contact information for three references to Dr. Larry L. Rockwood, Chair, Plant Conservation Biologist Search Committee, Department of Environmental Science and Policy, MS 5F2, George Mason University, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax, VA 22030-4444. Review of applications will begin 1 November 2004, and continue until the position is filled. Posted 4 October 2004]

Assistant Professor Plant Systematics, University of Nebraska at Omaha: The University of Nebraska at Omaha announces a tenure-track Assistant Professor position beginning August 2005. This faculty appointment requires an earned Ph.D., and post-doctoral experience is recommended. The individual in this position normally teaches Flora of the Great Plains for junior, senior, and graduate students and participates in introductory biology courses. Other teaching responsibilities are open and flexible but could include vascular plant morphology or plant systematics. Specialized courses at the graduate level may also be initiated. Biology faculty may also participate in the new joint Bioinformatics degree program. The successful candidate is expected to develop an active research program and to supervise MS level graduate students. Screening of applications will begin on 15 November 2004 and continue until the position is filled. Begin by applying online at < <http://careers.unomaha.edu> >, including a posting of your CV and statements of teaching and research objectives. In addition, send three letters of recommendation to: Chair, Department of Biology, University of Nebraska at Omaha, 6001 Dodge Street, Omaha, NE 68182-0040 or to < wtapprich@mail.unomaha.edu >. [Posted 23 September 2004]

Two Positions, Evolutionary Biology and Bioinformatics, Miami University, Oxford, Ohio: Applications are invited for two tenure-track Assistant Professorships, beginning August 2005 on the Oxford campus. Ph.D. in botany/closely related discipline and commitment to teacher-scholar excellence required. Postdoctoral experience is preferred. Candidates will teach courses from introductory to graduate level, develop a vigorous, extramurally-funded research program, mentor student research, and perform service to the university. Participation in interdisciplinary graduate programs in ecology and/or molecular biology, as appropriate, is expected. **Evolutionary biology:** We are seeking candidates with expertise in the evolutionary biology of plants, fungi, or protists. Applications are encouraged from scientists who are investigating evolutionary questions at the molecular, cellular, or organismal level. **Bioinformatics:** We seek a plant biologist with expertise in bioinformatics with strong computer and programming skills. Research areas may include (but are not limited to): genomics, functional genomics, pro-

teomics, gene expression, or systems biology/modeling. Applications (*curriculum vitae*; teaching statement including experience, interests, and philosophy; statement of research goals and experience; three reprints) and three reference letters should be sent to: Dr. Linda E. Watson, Chair, (indicate Evolutionary Biology or Bioinformatics Search), Department of Botany, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056 fax (513) 529-4243. Screening begins 15 November 2004. [Posted 23 September 2004]



FELLOWSHIPS, INTERSHIPS, POST-DOCS

Nearly all announcements have been edited to conserve space, be sure to obtain complete descriptions before applying. Please see notice at top of "Job Opportunities."

Post-doctoral Position, Virginia Tech: A postdoctoral position is available in the molecular systematics and evolution of angiosperms. The study is part of the Angiosperm Tree of Life consortium. The candidate should have a Ph.D. and experience in molecular systematics tools and phylogenetic data analysis. Duties include generating sequence information from genes from across angiosperms, data analysis, and interaction with other ATOL labs. The position is for one year with potential renewal to three years. Prefer starting date is 15 January 2005. Send letter of application, *curriculum vitae*, and names and addresses of three references to Dr. Khidir W. Hilu, Department of Biology, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061. e-mail < hilukw@vt.edu > ; Phone: 540-231-5407. Virginia Tech is An Equal Opportunity /Affirmative Action Institution.

Flora Project for MS Student in the Department of Botany at North Carolina State University: An MS student is being sought to conduct a floristic study of the Cool Springs Environmental Education Center that is owned by Weyerhaeuser Corp. and located adjacent to the Neuse River in Craven Co., NC. The two-year study will be funded by the NCSU Department of Botany and Herbarium beginning in August 2005. Cool Springs includes various Coastal Plain plant community types (cypress-gum swamp, nonriverine swamp forest, pond pine woodland, small depression pond, pine savanna, pine plantation) and soil series on its approximately 1,700 acres. Study objectives will include compiling a vouchered plant species list for each community type, describing and mapping plant community types, inventorying populations of pond-spice (*Litsea aestivalis*) and any other rare plant species encountered, confirming soil mapping units, and preparing a PowerPoint program for Cool Springs' use in their education program. The NCSU Herbarium contains approximately 125,000 specimens and will be a major resource to facilitate this study. Application to departmental teaching/research assistantships is highly competitive. To be eligible for an assistantship, completed applications must be received by 15 January 2004. Individuals inter-

ested in this position should contact Alexander Krings, Herbarium Curator, at < akrings@unity.ncsu.edu > and/or Dr. Jon Stucky at jnstucky@unity.ncsu.edu.



NEWS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

The Society of Herbarium Curators: The Society of Herbarium Curators has been formally organized, effective 4 July 2004. Our plans are to meet each year (in April) along with the Association of Southeastern Biologists (ASB) and Southern Appalachian Botanical Society (SABS). The purpose of the society shall be to promote and expand the role of herbaria in botanical research, teaching, and service to the community at large, to provide a forum for discussion and action on all issues confronting herbaria, and to extend its efforts and interject its influence toward the protection and preservation of endangered herbaria. For more information, see our Web site < <http://www.newberry.net.com/sabs/shc/> > .

The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections: The Society for the Preservation of Natural History Collections is proud to be recognizing its 20 years of service to the Natural History Community in 2005. SPNHC is an international association of individuals who are interested in the development and preservation of natural history collections. Within SPNHC, “natural history” encompasses more than biological and geological topics; it also includes the fields of anthropology, e.g. ethnology and archaeology. SPNHC members are collection managers, curators, registrars, conservators, and other specialists and generalists involved with research, educational and exhibit collections; a broad range of associated values to these materials are both acknowledged and protected. In these 20 years, SPNHC has led the way in providing support to the Natural History Community via:

- Books: *Storage of Natural History Collections: A Preventive Conservation Approach* and *Storage of Natural History Collections: Ideas and Practical Solutions* (both of these have quickly become classics, and have import beyond natural history fields), *Managing the Modern Herbarium*, and our latest *Museum Wise: Workplace Words Defined*; more are scheduled to come out soon.
- Collection Forum, our internationally respected peer reviewed journal which covers the diverse subject matter relevant to the needs of natural history collection management and preservation; book reviews are regularly included; visit our web-site to view two volumes and the contents of other previous issues.
- Twice-yearly Newsletters, which includes an occasional series of subject specific Leaflets (the Leaflets and some newsletters are on our Web site for your inspection)
- Annual Meetings, sometimes held in conjunction with other organizations such as the Natural Science Collections Alliance (previously known as the Association of Systematics Collections/ASC) and the International Society for Biological and Environmental Repositories/ISBER. Workshops are held at each meeting.
- Participation in pertinent forums relating to the

Society’s mission, e.g., Heritage Preservation’s Heritage Health Index, and the Workshop to Produce a Decadal Vision for Taxonomy and Natural History Collections funded by NSF.

The Society’s contributions were recognized by the American Institute for Conservation of Historic and Artistic Works (AIC) and Heritage Preservation who presented SPNHC with their 2001 Award for Outstanding Commitment to the Preservation and Care of Collections. SPNHC is a valuable resource which should not be overlooked by workers in the natural history field. The Society actively encourages the participation of individuals involved with all aspects of natural history collections. Visit our Web site < <http://www.spnhc.org/> > and join the listserv NHCOLL-L; our 20th Annual Meeting will be in London, 12–19 June 2005. We encourage you to become a member and partake of our activities, especially this coming year.



FUNDING AND AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

NSF, Assembling the Tree of Life: A flood of new information, from whole-genome sequences to detailed structural information to inventories of earth’s biota, is transforming 21st century biology. Along with comparative data on morphology, fossils, development, behavior, and interactions of all forms of life on earth, these new data streams make even more critical the need for an organizing framework for information retrieval, analysis, and prediction. Phylogeny, the genealogical map for all lineages of life on earth, provides an overall framework to facilitate information retrieval and biological prediction. Currently, single investigators or small teams of researchers are studying the evolutionary pathways of heredity usually concentrating on phylogenetic groups of modest size. Assembly of a framework phylogeny, or Tree of Life, for all 1.7 million described species requires a greatly magnified effort by large teams working across institutions and disciplines. This is the overall goal of the Assembling the Tree of Life activity. The National Science Foundation announces its intention to continue support of multidisciplinary teams to conduct creative and innovative research that will resolve phylogenetic relationships for large groups of organisms on the Tree of Life. Teams of investigators also will be supported for projects in data acquisition, analysis, algorithm development and dissemination in computational phylogenetics and phyloinformatics. For complete information on the program and application procedures, see < <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2005/nsf05523/nsf05523.htm> > . Deadlines for competed proposals are 28 March 2005 and 27 March 2006.

2005 Lawrence Memorial Award: The Award Committee of the Lawrence Memorial Fund invites nominations for the 2005 Lawrence Memorial Award. Honoring the memory of Dr. George H. M. Lawrence, founding Director of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation,

the annual Award of (\$2,000) is given to support travel for doctoral dissertation research in systematic botany or horticulture, or the history of the plant sciences, including literature and exploration. Major professors are urged to nominate outstanding doctoral students who have achieved official candidacy for their degrees and will be conducting pertinent dissertation research that would benefit significantly from travel enabled by the Award. The Committee will not entertain direct applications. A student who wishes to be considered should arrange for nomination by his/her major professor; this may take the form of a letter which covers supporting materials prepared by the nominee. Supporting materials should describe briefly but clearly the candidate's program of research and how it would be significantly enhanced by travel that the Award would support. Letters of nomination and supporting materials, including seconding letters, should be received by the Committee no later than 1 May 2005 and should be directed to: Dr. R. W. Kiger, Hunt Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890 USA. Voice: 412 268-2434. Please see our Web page at < <http://hunt-bot.andrew.cmu.edu/> > for information about the Hunt Institute.

Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research

Award: The Botany Department at The Field Museum invites applications for the year 2005 Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Award. The award of \$3,000 is designed to assist students and young professionals to visit the Field Museum and use our extensive economic botany and systematic collections. Individuals from Latin America and projects in the field of ethnobotany or systematics of economically important plant groups will be given priority consideration. Applicants interested in the award should submit their *curriculum vitae* and a detailed letter describing the project for which the award is sought. The information should be forwarded to the Timothy C. Plowman Award Committee, Department of Botany, The Field Museum, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605-2496 and received no later than 15 December 2004. Announcement of the recipient will be made no later than 31 December 2004. Anyone wishing to contribute to The Timothy C. Plowman Latin American Research Fund, which supports this award, may send their checks, payable to The Field Museum, to: Department of Botany, The Field Museum, 1400 South Lake Shore Drive, Chicago, IL 60605-2496. Make certain to indicate the intended fund.



SYMPOSIA AND MEETINGS

NOTE: LISTED IN CHRONOLOGICAL ORDER!

2005

Databasing Herbaria: Challenges and Solutions, Chania, Greece, 20–22 January 2005

This will be an advanced workshop co-sponsored by Global Biodiversity Information Facility (GBIF) and the European Network for Biodiversity Informatics (ENBI). A number of experts in the field will be invited to present the methodologies and work flow processes that are being used at their institutions to data base the specimens in their herbaria and to highlight what they see as the rate limiting steps in this process. In addition, a number of speakers will be invited to present some ideas on alternative approaches that may have potential for increased efficiency. Following the presentations, breakout groups will be tasked with discussion the rate limiting steps identified by the speakers and suggesting either possible solutions or possible research projects in these areas. The outcome of the workshop is planned to be a short 'Best Practices' document that addresses the work flow process for databasing and geo-referencing herbarium specimens with an emphasis on addressing the identified rate limiting steps. This advanced workshop is intended mainly for those already actively involved in digital databasing of herbarium collections and will be limited to 20–25 participants. A limited number of 'Travel Grants' are available on a competitive basis to support GBIF participation in this workshop. For more information, see < <http://www.gbif.org/Events/DIGWKSHP> > or contact Larry Speers < lspeers@gbif.org > .

18th World Orchid Conference, Dijon France, 11–20 March 2005

The palatial venue is located in the town center, and is well known as a prime site for many large exhibitions and conferences. One of the major shows that it hosts triennially is 'Florissimo' — literally, "The Greatest Flower Show" — which is famous for its huge tropical plant displays. The Orchid Show will be held in conjunction with the 'Florissimo' exhibition on 12,000 square meters, just besides the conference rooms. Orchid growers and exhibitors, hobbyists and scientists from all parts of the world attend regularly the World Orchid Conference. Sessions of oral communications are planned during the World Orchid Conference. They deal with horticulture and cultivation, conservation and CITES regulation, flora discovery and scientific presentations. According to the large amount of data recently obtained in orchid phylogeny, several well-known speakers are invited to present their point of view on orchid evolution. This consists of the major topics of scientific communications. The important interactions of orchids with living organisms like insects and fungi are also included in the program. Poster session will be also organized. The proceedings of the conference will be published in an illustrated high-quality book by Naturalia Publications. They are included in the registration fees. Dijon is a lovely city located some 125 miles east of Paris. It can be reached easily by the TGV Express train from Paris, Charles De Gaulle airport, and from the city of Lyon. Conference tours are organized for attendees. Conference information, program, and registration forms are available at < <http://www.woc2005.org/> > . Comments and specific requirements can be provided to organizers at < contact@woc2005.org > .

The Palms — An International Symposium on the Biology of the Palm Family, the Linnean Society of London and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew, UK 8–13 April 2005

The field of palm biology is developing faster than ever. At the last international palm meeting in 1997, palm phylogeny was in its infancy. Now, we are closer than ever to a thorough understanding of palm relationships. New palm phylogenies have enhanced all areas of palm research. This international symposium aims to draw on these advances by focusing on the current status of palm research both in evolutionary biology and in the environment. The symposium incorporates the 5th Annual Meeting of the European Network of Palm Scientists (EUNOPS). It is held in honour of Dr. John Dransfield, Head of Palm Research at Kew, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to global knowledge of palms over the past four decades. John is well known as co-author with Natalie Uhl of *Genera Palmarum*, the benchmark monograph of the palm family. The symposium will take place on 6–8 April 2005 at the Linnean Society of London and the Royal Botanic Gardens, Kew. A varied and exciting series of invited papers will be given following four main themes: Phylogeny & Evolution, Structural Biology, Ecology, Conservation & Sustainable Use. All participants are invited to present posters at the symposium (see Web site for details). In addition, a series of discussion-based workshops will be held at Kew. The workshops will follow the main themes of the meeting and are aimed at stimulating exchange of ideas and building collaborations. Tours of the extensive palm collection at Kew, which comprises almost 300 species of palm, will also be available. For further details and registration form, visit the conference pages at < www.linnean.org > or contact Dominic Clark, The Linnean Society of London, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1J 0BF, UK, e-mail < dominic@linnean.org >, Voice +44 (0)20 7434 4479, Fax +44 (0)20 7287 9364.

20th Anniversary for SPNHC, London, 12–19 June 2005

See entry under “News from Other Societies”

XVII International Botanical Congress, Vienna, Austria, 18–23 July 2005; Nomenclature Section, 13–16 July 2005

The XVII International Botanical Congress (XVII IBC) takes place 2005 in Vienna, Austria. It is being organized by the IBC Organizing Committee, the Society for the Advancement of Plant Sciences and the Vienna Medical Academy, with support from many societies related to Plant Sciences, as well as universities, research institutions, and private sponsors. The XVII IBC is held under the auspices of the International Association of Botanical and Mycological Societies (IABMS) of the International Union of Biological Sciences (IUBS). The first circular is available electronically at < <http://www.ibc2005.ac.at/> >. For more information, contact < office@ibc2005.ac.at > or contact Dr. Josef Greimler, Secretary General, XVII IBC 2005, Institute of Botany, University of Vienna, Ren-

nweg 14, A-1030 Vienna, Austria; Phone: +43-1-4277-54123; Fax: +43-1-4277-9541.

Botany 2005, 12–17 August 2005

The Botany 2005 meeting will be held in Austin, Texas. The theme is “Learning From Plants.” Information is available at < <http://www.botanyconference.org/> > .

2006

Botany 2006, 28 July–3 August 2006

The Botany 2006 meeting will be held in at Chico State University, Chico, California. Information will soon be available at < <http://www.botanyconference.org/Newsite/Botany2006/index.php> > .



NEW SERIALS AND NEWS ABOUT SERIALS

New Journal—*Biology Letters*

Biology Letters was launched, with huge acclaim, by The Royal Society in February 2003 as a companion journal to the already popular *Proceedings of the Royal Society B* (Biological Sciences). During this time *Biology Letters* has acquired a distinct identity and reputation all of its own, attracting an ever-increasing amount of worldwide submissions, publishing an impressive array of papers and acquiring extensive media coverage for the work of its authors. Due to its phenomenal success, from January 2005, *Biology Letters* will become a stand-alone journal, fully independent from *Proceedings B*. The journal has already appointed its own editor—Professor Brian Charlesworth—and the new editorial board will be announced shortly. We believe that this policy will enable us to further broaden the editorial scope of the journal and reinforce its enviable reputation within the scientific community. Further information about the scope and content of the journal can be found at < http://www.pubs.royalsoc.ac.uk/bio_let_homepage.shtml > .



SPECIAL COURSES

Biodiversity of Tropical Plants

Harvard University Summer School, in collaboration with the National Tropical Botanical Garden at The Kampong, Coconut Grove, Florida and Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden Coral Gables, Florida. Will offer again, after a lapse of a few years, the following course — Biology S-105 “Biodiversity of Tropical Plants”. Instructors: P. Barry Tomlinson, Professor of Biology Emeritus, Harvard Forest, Harvard University, Petersham, MA

01366 and Eleanor Crum Professor of Tropical Botany, National Tropical Botanical Garden, 3530 Papalina Rd., Kalaheo, Hawaii 96741. Dates: 13 June – 8 July 2005. Location: The Kampong, National Tropical Botanical Garden and Fairchild Tropical Garden. Accommodation: Provided in an air-conditioned dormitory-type facility at The Kampong. Prerequisites: Preferred Introductory Botany at the undergraduate college level. Selection: To be based on the prior experience of the student and the suitability of the course for further graduate advancement. Finances: Students are regularly enrolled in the Harvard Summer School Program and will be expected to provide tuition, travel to and living expenses in Miami. Partial tuition and travel scholarships may be available for eligible students. Course description: The course is directed toward students already enrolled or about to be enrolled in a graduate program and will introduce the diversity of tropical plant types within a biological and systematic framework. Study will be based on the living collections of The Kampong, supplemented by those at other South Florida institutions (e.g., Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Montgomery Botanical Center, Coral Gables) together with plants in natural environments (e.g., Biscayne Bay and the Everglades National Park). This is a teaching resource of some 10,000 species representing all tropical groups. The work involves classroom and laboratory demonstration and dissections in a systematic framework, but with emphasis on morphology and anatomy, together with outdoor presentations and excursions. The course requires each student to present an individual written research report, as an extension of some of the material studied, to be completed in the final week after the return to a home institution. This report becomes the basis for a final letter grade. The course is designed to develop an approach to the study of living plants that will broaden general understanding of plant biodiversity with emphasis on tropical ecosystems such as wetlands (e.g. mangroves, seagrass meadows), pine and hardwood forests, and life forms like epiphytes, lianes, and distinctive tropical groups like palms and cycads. Enrollment: Limited to 12. Credits: 4 hours. Application: should be made either to the Harvard Summer School < <http://www.summer.harvard.edu/> > or directly to P.B.Tomlinson at The Kampong, 4013 Douglas Rd., Coconut Grove, Miami FL 33133, with an application deadline of 20 May 20 2005, i.e., earlier than that of the regular Summer School. A supplementary application form (available from P.B.T.) is required with the normal application. For further information: contact Professor Tomlinson at the Kampong address or Harvard Summer School, Division of Continuing Education, Harvard University, 51 Brattle St. Cambridge MA 02138.

Introductory Biology Course for University Professors

The National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG) will offer its summer Kenan Fellowship Program for University Professors of Introductory Biology at The Kampong, Coconut Grove Miami, Florida. Instructors: P. Barry Tomlinson, Professor of Biology Emeritus, Harvard Forest, Harvard University, Petersham, MA 01366; Eleanor Crum Professor of Tropical Botany

and Paul Alan Cox, Professor of Ethnobotany, CEO/Director, National Tropical Botanical Garden, 3530 Papalina Rd., Kalaheo, Hawaii 96741. Dates: 25 July – 5 August 2005. Applications due: 30 April 2005. Notification of acceptance: 21 May 2005. Location: The Kampong, National Tropical Botanical Garden (NTBG), 4013 Douglas Road, Coconut Grove, Florida 33133 and Fairchild Tropical Garden, 10901 Old Cutler Rd. Miami FL 33156. Accommodation: Participants will stay in a dormitory-type facility at The Kampong, Florida. Selection: This course will bring some of the very best biology faculty, those who can fire the imagination of major and non-major biology students. Although botanists will be considered, we also welcome applications from faculty who lack previous botanical experiences as well as those who have not previously worked in the tropics. The. Although botanists will be considered, we also welcome applications from faculty who lack previous botanical experiences as well as those who have not previously worked in the tropics. The fellowship will be limited to 10 participants. Finances: The NTBG will reimburse all course participants' expenses including airfare, ground transportation, accommodation, meals, and supplies. Course description: Rejuvenate your introductory biology course with some of the exciting topics of the tropics! Tropical examples can be used to illustrate biological principles and effectively address issues of form and function, evolution, biodiversity, ethnobotany, conservation, and human impacts on the biosphere. The course will teach how to integrate tropical biology into classroom teaching, and provides an outdoor laboratory to discover examples that are not normally found in textbooks. The work involves classroom and laboratory demonstrations, together with outdoor presentations and excursions. It will be based on the extraordinary living collections of The Kampong, supplemented by those at other South Florida institutions (e.g., Fairchild Tropical Botanic Garden and the Montgomery Botanical Center, Coral Gables) together with plants in natural environments (e.g., Biscayne Bay and the Everglades National Park). A very unique aspect of the course is the connection between exploring as scientists and transforming into facilitators of learning, teaching not only the intricacies and fascinating features of tropical plants but demonstrates superb teaching techniques that bring general biology to life. The NTBG Fellowship offers this potent mixture which serves as a highly effective approach in getting the excitement of tropical botany into the classroom. The course requires each participant to construct a teaching module to be presented and shared at the end of the course and implemented in their respective classrooms upon return. Application: Applicants are required to submit a complete application form, two letters of recommendation, the most recent student evaluation and a complete *curriculum vitae*. A nonrefundable application fee of \$30 in a form of check or money order must be made payable to the National Tropical Botanical Garden. All inquiries about the course must be directed to: Dr. Gauguau Tavana, Director of Education, National Tropical Botanical Garden, 3530 Papalina Road , Kalaheo, HI 96741; Voice: 808 332-7324, ext. 225; Fax: 808 332-9765.



NEW BOOKS FOR REVIEW

Information provided by L. J. Davenport, Book Review Editor. The selection of reviewers and books to be reviewed in *Systematic Botany* are left to the discretion of the Book Review Editor. Members of ASPT who are interested in serving as a reviewer should contact Larry Davenport at <ljdavenp@samford.edu >

Atlas Florae Europaeae Volume 13: Distribution of Vascular Plants in Europe; Rosaceae (Spiraea to Fragaria, excl. Rubus) by A. Kurtto, R. Lampinen and L. Junikka (eds). 2004. 320 pp. ISBN 951-9108-14-9. Price unknown (pbk). Tiedekirja Bookstore, Kirkkokatu 14, FI-00170 Helsinki, Finland. < <http://www.tsv.fi/engl/bookstor.html#TIL> >

Biodiversity of Cyanoprocarvates, Algae and Fungi of Israel: Fungal Life in the Dead Sea by E. Nevo, A. Oren and S. P. Wasser (eds.). 2003. 325 pp. ISBN 3-906166-10-4. EUR 89.00 (hbk). Koeltz Scientific Books, PO Box 1360, D-61453 Koenigstein, Germany. < <http://www.koeltz.com> >

Blumea Supplement 17: Systematics of Aporosa (Euphorbiaceae) by Anne Schot. 2004. 380 pp. ISBN 90-71236-58-7. EUR 70.00 (pbk). National Herbarium Nederland, Publications Department, PO Box 9514, 2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands. < <http://nhncml.leidenuniv.nl/rhb/> >

BPH-2: Periodicals with Botanical Content by G. D. R. Bridson. 2004. 1470 pp. (2 vols.). ISBN 0-913196-78-9. \$130.00 (hbk). Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890. < <http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/> >

Eleventh International Exhibition of Botanical Art and Illustration, 24 October 2004 to 28 February 2005 by James J. White and Eugene B. Bruno. 2004. 172 pp. ISBN 0-913196-79-7. \$25.00 (pbk). Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890. < <http://huntbot.andrew.cmu.edu/> >

Evolutionary Theory: Mathematical and Conceptual Foundations by S. H. Rice. 2004. 354 pp. ISBN 0-87893-702-1. \$49.95 (pbk). Sinauer Associates, PO Box 407, Sunderland, MA 01375-0407. < <http://www.sinauer.com> >

Flora Neotropica Monograph 91: Endlicheria (Lauraceae) by A. S. Chanderbali and *Flora Neotropica Monograph 92: Rhodostemonodaphne (Lauraceae)* by S. Madrinán (in same vol.). 2004. 141 and 102 pp. ISBN 0-89327-454-2 and 0-89327-455-0. \$52.00 (hbk). New York Botanical Garden Press, 200th Street & Kazimiroff Boulevard, Bronx, NY 10458-5126. < <http://sciweb.nybg.org/science2/PressHome.asp> >

Komorovia Volume 2 by D. V. Geltman and A. N. Sennikov (eds.). 2002. 127 pp. ISBN 1-57808-248-X. \$55.00 (pbk). Science Publishers, PO Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748. < <http://www.scipub.net> >

Linnean Society Symposium Series 21: The Evolution of Plant Physiology; From Whole Plants to Ecosystems by A. R. Hemsley and I. Poole. 2004. ISBN 0-12-339552-6. Price unknown (hbk). Elsevier Academic Press, 525 B Street, Suite 1900, San Diego, CA 92101-4495. < <http://www.elsevier.com> >

Mineral Nutrition of Plants: Principles and Perspectives, 2nd edition by E. Epstein and A. J. Bloom. 2004. 400 pp. ISBN 0-87893-172-4. \$79.95 (hbk). Sinauer Associates, PO Box 407, Sunderland, MA 01375-0407. < <http://www.sinauer.com> >

Phylogenetic Trees Made Easy: A How-To Manual, 2nd edition by B. G. Hall. 2004. 192 pp. ISBN 0-87893-312-3. \$31.95 (pbk). Sinauer Associates, PO Box 407, Sunderland, MA 01375-0407. < <http://www.sinauer.com> >

Plant Systematics: An Integrated Approach by G. Singh. 2004. 561 pp. ISBN 1-57808-342-7. \$85.00 (hbk). Science Publishers, PO Box 699, Enfield, NH 03748; < <http://www.scipub.net> >

Sida, Botanical Miscellany 25: Los Géneros de Leguminosas del Norte de México by A. E. Estrada and A. Martínez M. 2004. 134 pp. ISBN 1-889878-13-8. \$25.00 (pbk). Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan Street, Ft. Worth, TX 76102-4060. < <http://www.brit.org> >



ELECTRONICALLY DISTRIBUTED PRODUCTS

SLIKS (Stinger's Lightweight Interactive Key Software)

SLIKS is a program developed by Gerald F. "Stinger" Guala to facilitate the use of interactive keys and is available at < <http://www.stingersplace.com/SLIKS/> >. SLIKS is written in simple Javascript and distributed under the GNU public license < <http://www.stingersplace.com/sliks/gpl.txt> >. It runs over the Web or locally on your machine, so it is essentially platform independent.

Some more information about SLIKS:

- SLIKS is FREE and it can't be sold (see the license) so you won't ever be ransomed to use your own data in it.
- It requires no special program or plugin installations so the many users who are prohibited by their employers from installing software or who are just unwilling to install software or plugins can use it.
- It runs right in your browser (Internet Explorer, Safari, Opera), even on Pocket PC (the PDA version). SLIKS Version 1.0 runs in Mozilla-based browsers (like Netscape and Firefox) as well and I hope to make all versions ubiquitously compatible eventually.
- I don't want your e-mail address, I don't care who you are, there aren't any ads, and I don't want your money. I'll be happy if you just use the program, cite it appropri-

ately, and maybe say something nice about me in public sometime.

- SLIKS is very easy to put a data set into. There is only one file to make and you don't need any software that you don't already have.
- SLIKS uses multistate or binary characters.
- SLIKS is extremely easy to set up on your Web site. Just copy the files to a Web-enabled directory and it runs.
- There are no hidden formats. You can make your key as beautiful and well illustrated as you want using simple Web pages and Web image formats (JPEG, GIF, etc.). If you can make a word processing document and "save as" html, you can make richly illustrated keys. If you can cut and paste the URL/Address/Location line from your Web browser, you can link your key to anyplace on the WWW.
- If you think that you can make it better, do it. Just follow the license. The program isn't compiled so all of the code is right there for you to see.

For more information, contact < stinger@stingerplace.com > .

On-line Version of *Taxonomic Literature 2*

The contents of *Taxonomic Literature, 2nd edition* by Frans A. Stafleu and Richard S. Cowan are available online. The on-line edition allows you to search the contents of the seven volumes and six supplements, and the original work is enhanced by the addition of various search options, including full text searching. Members of the International Association of Plant Taxonomy receive free access. Nonmembers can purchase a subscription to the *TL-2* on-line edition. The URL is < <http://tl2.idcpublishers.info/> > .



NEW WEB SITES

There are many links on other Web sites (start with <http://www.csd.tamu.edu/FLORA/tfp/tfplinks.html>) to pages that have information applicable to plant taxonomy. On this current page, we will add new sites as they come to our attention. If you have a new or revised Web site that may be of interest to the membership of ASPT, please send the URL address to the editor of the Newsletter. This section is not intended to be a comprehensive list of all sites useful to plant taxonomists.

Southern Rocky Mountain Interactive Flora (SRMIF). Phase I: Key to Families. This interactive key to vascular plant families is Phase I of the Southern Rocky Mountain Interactive Flora (SRMIF) Project. This region includes much of southern and eastern Wyoming, all of Colorado, and northcentral New Mexico. Phase II (in progress) is a key to genera. Phase III will be a key to all species of vascular plants. Phase IV will include supplementary information for each species such as photographic images, illustrations of selected character states, geographic distributions, nomenclatural synonyms, voucher specimens, text-based dichotomous keys to infra-

specific taxa, conservation status, and links to a master database of specimens housed (primarily) at the Rocky Mountain Herbarium (RM), Univ. of Colorado-Boulder (COLO), Colorado State Univ. (CS), and Univ. of Northern Colorado (GREE). The URL is < <http://asstudents.unco.edu/students/lucid/> > . You must have Lucid Player installed to use this key.

University of Northern Colorado Herbarium. GREE (shortened from "Greeley") is the standard acronym for the University of Northern Colorado Herbarium, which currently has about 22,000 specimens. Over the past six years GREE has been the fastest growing herbarium in the region on a percentage basis, having nearly doubled its holdings. Estimated specimens by geographical origin include: Southern Rockies (70%), High Plains (5%), North America at large (15%), world at large (10%). See our Web site < <http://www.unco.edu/biology/herbarium/> > . The Curator is Neil Snow < neil.snow@unco.edu > .

Virtual Herbarium, Fairchild Tropical Garden Herbarium.

The Virtual Herbarium is a text and photographic database of the specimens in the Fairchild Tropical Garden Herbarium. The FTG herbarium now incorporates the Florida Atlantic University herbarium (FAU) as well as the Buswell collection from the University of Miami. There are currently over 35,000 records with photos as JPEG images and labels as GIF images. These records are searchable by family, genus, collector and other fields. Over 1000 of these records have high resolution photographs of the specimen in a format that can be zoomed in and out in the browser. This is a work in progress, and we intend to make all of the over 100,000 specimens available in the high resolution format with field search ability. The Virtual Herbarium Database does not include legally protected species in the areas from which they are protected. Inquiries regarding the design and implementation of the Virtual Herbarium should be addressed to Dr. J. Pipoly, Director of Research & Acting Keeper of the Herbarium < jpipoly@fairchildgarden.org > . Inquiries about volunteering to help with the enormous task of generating this database should be addressed to Lynka Woodbury, Herbarium Resource Coordinator < ftgerb@fiu.edu > . The URL is < <http://www.virtualherbarium.org/vh.htm> > .

Also available are high resolution images for Dr. Daniel Austin's lifetime work on the world's Convolvulaceae (morning glory family). There is only a simple text search available at this time. < <http://www.virtualherbarium.org/vh/Convolvs/> > .



ADDENDUM—JOB DESCRIPTION

Two Postions, Andes to Amazon Research Program, Botanical Research Institute of Texas: Position 1 — Botanical Research Assisnant. Acts as full-time research assistant in studies of tropical plant diversity, particularly monographic and floristic studies of neotropical plants,

under direct supervision of the Project Director and Project Manager. Qualifications: At least a BS degree, preferably a MS, in botany or biology with emphasis on botany. Demonstrated work and independent research experience in botanical sciences, with field and herbarium experience preferred. The ideal candidate will have a working knowledge of descriptive botanical terminology and experience with studies of plant species. All applicants must be competent with computers to carry out tasks associated with database use, digital imaging, Web design applications, library reference database (Endnotes), MS Office, especially MS Excel and Word, and other software packages. Experience with basic statistical analysis and output is beneficial. Experience with GIS mapping techniques is preferred. Must be ready to learn. English language required. At least some experience with the Spanish language is necessary.

Position 2 — IT Assistant / Web Designer & Developer. Acts as IT assistant with focus on Web design and development for the Andes to Amazon Botany Program at the Botanical Research Institute of Texas under direct supervision of the Project Director and Project Manager. Qualifications: At least a BS or BA degree, preferably with some training and/or experience in computers and bioinformatics. Demonstrated experience and accomplishments in Web development, design, and publication—send links to portfolio. Required Web programming: HTML, XML, CSS, XSL, Javascript, ASP, and SQL. Ability to contribute to innovative page design and layout for digital and print publications of the project. Basic multimedia beneficial, i.e., Flash, video-streaming, on-line video conferences. Must work well with multidisciplinary team and have strong verbal and written communication skills. Ability to travel to South America and some knowledge of the Spanish language are necessary. Also beneficial if the applicants have some understanding of and appreciation for the biological sciences, biodiversity, botany, natural history, and related subjects, as well as conservation.

Both positions have an ideal starting date of December 2004 – January 2005. To apply, send the following application materials to Janeth Randall <jrandall@brit.org> or The Botanical Research Institute of Texas, 509 Pecan St., Fort Worth, TX 76102. See our Web site at <<http://www.brit.org/>> .

- Detailed *curriculum vitae*
- Contact information for three professional references
- A one-page written statement of purpose that describes your interests, experiences, qualifications, and future aspirations (Botanical Assistant)
- Examples of work in print or digital format, such as a publication or website (Botanical Assistant)
- Links to portfolio of previous and ongoing work (IT Assistant)
- E-mail applications should have either “Applicant - Botanical Research Assistant” or “Applicant—IT Assistant—Web Designer & Developer” in the Subject Line. [Posted 30 November 2004]

