



The American Society of Plant Taxonomists
ASPT NEWSLETTER

Volume 23 (2)

December 2009

Eric H. Roalson,
Editor, ASPT Newsletter
School of Biological Sciences
Washington State University
Pullman, Washington 99164-4236
Phone: 509 335-7921; fax: 509 335-3184;
e-mail: eric_roalson@wsu.edu

Alan Whittemore,
Editor-in-Chief, Systematic Botany
United States National Arboretum
3501 New York Avenue, NE
Washington, D. C. 20002-1958
Phone: 202 245-4550
e-mail: Alan.Whittemore@ARS.USDA.GOV

Bruce G. Baldwin
President, ASPT
Dept Int Biol Jepson Herb
University of California
1001 Valley Life Sci Bldg 2465
Berkeley, CA 94720-2465
Phone: 510 643-7008; fax: 510 643-5390;
e-mail: bbaldwin@berkeley.edu

Alan Prather,
Secretary, ASPT
Department of Plant Biology
166 Plant Biology
Michigan State University
East Lansing, MI 48824-1312
Phone: 517 355-4695; fax: 517 353-1926;
e-mail: alan@msu.edu

Linda E. Watson
Treasurer, ASPT
Oklahoma State University
Department of Botany
104 Life Sciences East
Stillwater OK 74078-3013
Telephone: 405-744-5559
Fax: 405-744-7074
Email: linda.watson10@okstate.edu

CONTENTS

ASPT News	
New Volume of Systematic Botany Monographs	2
In Memoriam	2
People	2
Job Opportunities	2
Fellowships, Internships, Post-docs	5
Funding and Award Opportunities	7
News from Other Societies	8
Special Courses	8
Web Sites	8

ASPT NEWS

Two New Volumes of Systematic Botany Monographs

Volume 88. Systematics of *Glossoloma* (Gesneriaceae), John Littner Clark, 128 pp, color frontispiece, 19 October 2009. ISBN 978-0-912861-88-3. US orders: \$20.00; non-US-orders: \$25.00.

Volume 89. Monograph of *Artemisia* Subgenus *Tridentatae* (Asteraceae–Anthemideae), Leila M. Shultz, 131 pp, color frontispiece, 19 October 2009. ISBN 978-0-912861-89-0. US orders: \$20.00; non-US-orders: \$25.00.

Postage and handling included. Send orders to Systematic Botany Monographs, University of Michigan Herbarium, 3600 Varsity Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108-2228, USA, with checks payable to “ASPT”; payments by credit card are also accepted. Fax: 734-998-0038; e-mail chra@umich.edu.



IN MEMORIAM

Dr. Rogers McVaugh passed away September 24, 2009. Obituaries for Rogers can be found in the Chapel Hill News (<http://www.chapelhillnews.com/news/story/52638.html>), in the University Gazette, and the University of Michigan herbarium site (<http://herbarium.lsa.umich.edu/mcvaugh.html>).



PEOPLE

OSH Named for Neil Harriman

The herbarium at the University of Wisconsin Oshkosh (OSH) was officially named in honor of its founder and Curator Emeritus, Dr. Neil A. Harriman on September 8, 2009, as part of opening-day ceremonies for the new academic year. University Chancellor Dr. Richard H. Wells presented Harriman with a framed certificate that read in part, “For over four decades, University of Wisconsin Oshkosh professor emeritus Neil Harriman has focused his attention and expertise on the establishment, development and collection of materials that will be perpetually used by students, faculty and staff as well as scientists, scholars and researchers from across the global community. This collection is recognized as one of the largest and best in the state of Wisconsin and will benefit all citizens in northeastern Wisconsin and beyond.”

The herbarium was established by Harriman at the time of his arrival on campus in 1964. By the time of his retirement in 1998, OSH had grown from a few cabinets and a handful of teaching specimens to a well curated facility housing almost 100,000 vascular plant specimens from around the

globe and a botanical library of nearly 4000 volumes plus major runs of serials and a large collection of reprints.

Since retiring and accepting the title of Curator Emeritus, Harriman has continued to work in the herbarium on an almost daily basis, collecting, mounting, filing, and identifying specimens. Today, accessions total over 117,000 sheets, approximately half from outside Wisconsin. The facility continues to be used daily by his successor in meeting the teaching, research, and service missions of the university.
-- Thomas G. Lammers, Curator



JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Lecturer in Plant Systematic and Evolutionary Biology School of Botany, The University of Melbourne, Australia

The School of Botany is seeking an outstanding plant scientist (Level B, continuing) with experience in the area of plant systematic and evolutionary biology. It is expected that the successful appointee will establish a strong independent research program that will complement one or more of the current research groups within the School. The School provides an outstanding environment for creative multi-disciplinary research, including state-of-the-art technologies.

Applicants should have postdoctoral research experience, especially in applying molecular techniques to systematic botany, a strong record of publications in international journals, and evidence of ability to attract research and/or fellowship funding. Applicants should also have demonstrated potential and commitment to teaching and knowledge transfer, in line with the University's strategic plan.

This position is available from mid 2010.

For further information and a position description either go to <http://www.hr.unimelb.edu.au/careers/> and search under position no. 0022363, or contact Professor Ian Woodrow on phone +61 3 83447503 or email i.woodrow@unimelb.edu.au.

EASTERN MICHIGAN UNIVERSITY - Plant Biology and Evolutionary Biology & Genetics

The Department of Biology invites applications for two tenure-track positions at the rank of Assistant Professor, beginning August 2010. We seek individuals with a Ph.D., postdoctoral research experience, and evidence of teaching excellence and research productivity. Successful candidates should have a strong commitment to teaching at the undergraduate and graduate levels, and be able to develop a productive research program involving undergraduate and Master's-level students that can attract external funding. Preference will be given to candidates who complement the diversity of research expertise in the department.

Plant Biology (posting #FA1023E): The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to our second semester

departmental core course in Introductory Biology, and advanced courses in Botany. Preferred areas of research interest include plant organismal biology, systematics or conservation biology.

Evolutionary Biology & Genetics (posting #FA1022E): The successful candidate will be expected to contribute to our departmental core courses in Evolution and in Genetics, and advanced courses in his/her specialty. Preferred areas of research interest include population genetics, conservation genetics, and evolution of development.

Eastern Michigan University, with an enrollment of 23,000 students, is located in Ypsilanti, adjacent to Ann Arbor, in southeastern Michigan. The Biology Department (www.emich.edu/biology) has 20 faculty members and offers graduate programs in Ecology and Organismal Biology, Cellular and Molecular Biology, and General Biology. Research and teaching facilities include plant growth chambers, a herbarium, a greenhouse, two field stations, tissue culture and flow cytometry facilities, electron microscopy laboratory, and modern molecular biology equipment. A new science complex is under construction.

All applications must be made online at <https://www.emu-jobs.com>. Please submit a letter of interest noting posting #, and include curriculum vitae, statement of teaching interests and philosophy, statement of research interests, up to three current reprints, three letters of reference, and transcripts. Any letters sent by dossier services and/or recommenders should be sent to the attention of the search chair at: 316 Mark Jefferson, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Review of applications will begin November 11, 2009 and continue until the successful candidate is hired. For additional information, contact Dr. Marianne Laporte, Department Head, (734) 487-4242, mlaporte@emich.edu.

Eastern Michigan University is an equal opportunity employer. We encourage women and members of minority groups to consider this opportunity.

Faculty Position, Zamorano University (Honduras, Central America)

Botany (Plant Biology) Professor and Curator for the Paul C. Standley Herbarium Socioeconomic Development and Environment Career

The Socioeconomic Development and Environment Career invites applications for the faculty position: Plant Biology (Botany) and Curator for the Paul C. Standley Herbarium (EAP) effective February 2010.

Description and responsibilities

The successful candidate will be a scientist and conservationist with interests in botany, tropical ecology and natural resources management for the Mesoamerican region. He/she will have interest and expertise in teaching, seeking extramural funds, and the management of conservation and research projects; with a special interest in maintaining cooperative networks with other scientists and organizations. Experience and interest in managing natural reservoirs and/or knowledge in biodiversity monitoring using botanical indicators will be useful. Bilingual: English and Spanish

Candidates for this position will be expected to:

Teach (complete and partially) the courses of Ecology, Natural Resources and Botany. And to participate in the development of activities of the Learning-by-Doing program, laboratories as well as others activities related to the development of students.

As the Curator for the Paul C. Standley Herbarium (EAP), he/she will orient the collection. This includes the maintenance (classification, data bases, and physical state of the samples), search for funding for the updating and the attraction of taxonomists of other organizations, and the establishment of cooperative agreements for strengthening the herbarium.

Requirements

A Ph.D. in Botany, Ecology or one of the closely associated Biological Sciences.

Minimum of one year of a successful record of teaching.

Experience in seeking extramural funding and project administration

Research in Botany and/or Ecology and biodiversity. Preferable with experience in conservation (curator).

Excellent interpersonal and communications skills, both oral and written, in Spanish and English. Work experience in a multicultural environment, preferably in Central or South America

Exclusive and full-time commitment to Zamorano and committed to the mission, vision and values of Zamorano.

Willingness to live on the Zamorano campus, located in a rural area 30 kilometers from Tegucigalpa, the capital of Honduras.

Compensation

Zamorano offers an attractive benefits package and competitive salary based on the qualifications of the selected candidate.

Applications should include a cover letter, curriculum vitae, copies of undergraduate and graduate transcripts, a statement of research interest and potential for student involvement, a statement of teaching interest and experience, and 3 letters of recommendations that address the teaching and research accomplishments of the applicant. Send your information via email to reclutamiento@zamorano.edu with the subject: Botany.

Review of applications begins immediately. Applications will be accepted until November 30th 2009.

For more information about Zamorano University, please consult our web page: www.zamorano.edu.

Curatorial Assistant for Laboratory Collections

The New York Botanical Garden, a National Historic Landmark and one of New York City's premier cultural institutions seek a full-time Curatorial Assistant for Laboratory Collections to join our Science team.

The successful applicant will participate in a project to curate and database genomic DNA and tissue samples in the NYBG DNA Bank. Duties will include updating storage materials, integrating and organizing samples, capturing specimen information in a complex data base from which

specimen labels will be produced, and retrieving and/or processing voucher herbarium specimens as needed. The incumbent will assist in the integration of existing databases into a single platform, testing newly developed data entry screens, and in developing educational and informational content for dissemination in various formats. We seek a resourceful individual who is well organized and able to work independently. Candidates should have a B.A., B.S., M.A., or M.Sc. in biology, preferably in organismal botany or zoology; experience with contemporary natural history collections management and/or databasing is preferred.

To Apply:

Qualified applicants should e-mail cover letter, resume and three references to the attention of Dr. Lisa M. Campbell at HR@NYBG.ORG (please use MS Word format) or visit our website at WWW.NYBG.ORG and click on Careers. The New York Botanical Garden is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Systematic Botanist, Black Hills State University

The Department of Biology at Black Hills State University is seeking a broadly trained systematic botanist for a tenure track position at the Assistant Professor level to begin in August 2010. Assigned responsibilities require a Ph.D. in Botany, Biology, or related field, excellent communication skills, and advanced knowledge of plant systematics. Postdoctoral experience is recommended but not required.

Black Hills State University houses the Center for the Conservation of Biological Research

(<http://www.bhsu.edu/Default.aspx?alias=www.bhsu.edu/ccbr>) and BHSU Herbarium (<http://herbarium.bhsu.edu/>). CCBR is a fully staffed and modern molecular genetic lab that exists to support genetic and genomic research at BHSU and in the greater Black Hills and Great Plains regions. The Herbarium houses ~45,000 specimens and features the world's largest collection of the distinctive vascular flora of the ecologically unique Black Hills of South Dakota and Wyoming.

The successful candidate will be expected to develop a research program that promotes undergraduate and graduate (Master's students) research training and utilizes the resources provided by CCBR and the BHSU Herbarium. BHSU is proud of its academic programs at all levels; thus, the successful candidate will also be expected to teach with excellence at the undergraduate and graduate levels. Applicants should provide CV, graduate transcripts, a letter detailing research interests and accomplishments, future research plans, teaching experience and philosophy, and future teaching goals, reprints of recent papers, and three letters of reference. Reprints and reference letters should be sent directly to: Dr. Garth Spellman, Systematic Botanist Search Committee, 1200 University Street, Unit 9073, Black Hills State University, Spearfish, SD 57799 or emailed to Garth.Spellman@bhsu.edu. Applications for this position must be made online at <http://yourfuture.sdbor.edu> and all documents, except reprints and reference letters, should be attached electronically. Review of applications will begin

November 13th, 2009 and applications will be accepted until the position is filled.

The Biology Department offers a Bachelor's Degree in Science and a MS in Integrative Genomics. The Department supports twelve faculty with modern research and teaching facilities. A new science building is planned for 2011.

Conservation Biologist, University of Wyoming

The Departments of Botany and Zoology & Physiology at the University of Wyoming invite applications for a full-time, nine-month, tenure-track FACULTY POSITION at the assistant professor level, starting August 2010. Truly exceptional candidates at the associate or full professor level may be considered. We seek candidates holding a PhD and who demonstrate a track record of excellence in applied and conceptual aspects of conservation biology. Areas of research emphasis are open, and could include aquatic or terrestrial work, genetic or ecological analysis, and work in tropical, temperate, or arctic biomes. The successful candidate's taxonomic focus will determine whether the primary appointment for this position will be made in Botany or Zoology and Physiology. Responsibilities include development of an active research program, teaching a conservation biology course, and affiliation with the interdepartmental Program in Ecology and the Berry Biodiversity Center. Research strengths in the two departments include ecology, conservation biology, wildlife/fisheries biology, evolutionary biology and systematics, comparative physiology, cell biology/physiology, and neuroscience. The successful candidate will have access to outstanding stable isotope, nucleic acid, microscopy and macromolecular facilities, the Red Buttes Environmental Research Laboratory and the Rocky Mountain Herbarium.

Interested applicants should email pdf files of their curriculum vitae, a statement of research and teaching interests, three publications that represent their best work, and three letters of recommendation to: zprequest@uwyo.edu. Further information is available at the Botany Department website <http://uwyo.edu/Botany/> or the Department of Zoology and Physiology website <http://uwyo.edu/Zoology/>. Review of applications will begin 1 October 2009 and continue until a suitable candidate is found. The University of Wyoming is a Carnegie Foundation Research/Doctoral Extensive Institution, and is an AA/EEO employer.

Director, The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

The Vice President for Public Service and Outreach at the University of Georgia invites nominations and applications for position of Director, The State Botanical Garden of Georgia. (www.uga.edu/botgarden)

The State Botanical Garden, a unit of UGA, is a 313-acre facility located in Athens, Georgia approximately three miles from the university campus. Established in 1968, the Garden serves UGA's teaching, research and outreach missions, and is an outstanding public garden. The Garden presently has a full-time staff of 27, several part-time staff, and student workers, with approximately 150 volunteers.

Review of nominations and application will begin im-

mediately. Applications received by November 1, 2009 will be assured full consideration. For a complete position description, qualifications, deadlines, and contact information please visit our website at: <http://www.hr.uga.edu/dir-sbg.pdf>

Email submissions with attachments are preferred. Please send to: executivesearch@uga.edu

In lieu of email submission, written application materials may be directed to:

University of Georgia, Human Resources
Search Committee, Director, The State Botanical Garden of Georgia

C/o Executive and Faculty Search Group
215 S. Jackson Street
Athens, GA 30602

For questions, contact Adrianna Creech of the Executive and Faculty Search Group, University of Georgia, 706-542-3588. The University of Georgia is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer

Research Assistant position available in the Department of Botany, Smithsonian Institution, Washington, DC. Deadline to apply: 21 August 2009.

Duties include:

--Developing and maintaining research relational databases and web application in conjunction with curator.

--Participating in curation of herbarium and maintains collections (dried plant specimens, greenhouse plants, reprints, slides, seeds, and preserved materials) used in curator's research.

--Assisting taxonomic and experimental studies of plants in curator's areas of specialization (Warren Wagner).

See announcement at:

<http://jobview.usajobs.gov/GetJob.aspx?OPMControl=1633062&caller=ftva.asp>



FELLOWSHIPS, INTERNSHIPS, POST-DOCS

The Conservation and Land Management Internship Program

Would you like to put your education to use assisting in important conservation projects? Do you like to experience new landscapes, habitats, and species diversity?

The Conservation and Land Management Internship Program is now accepting applications for 2010!

Each year, the award-winning Conservation and Land Management Internship Program places college graduates in five-month paid internships to assist professional staff at the Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, the

USDA Forest Service and other federal agencies. Internships take place throughout the US, with a majority located in the thirteen western states. CLM interns spend five months working on projects focused in botany and wildlife-related fields that may include monitoring or assessing threatened and endangered species and habitats. Benefits of the CLM Internship Program are numerous! As a CLM intern, you will receive a stipend of \$11,000 over 5 months and will attend an all expenses-paid week long training workshop. In addition, the CLM Internship Program provides opportunities to make connections in various government and non-profit organizations. Learn first hand what it's like to work at a federal agency, explore your career goals and expand your resume!

For more information and to apply online, please visit: www.clminternship.org!

H.M. Burkill Research Fellowship Singapore Botanic Gardens

The Singapore Botanic Gardens is pleased to offer an annual Humphrey Morrison Burkill Research Fellowship on a competitive basis to a qualified botanist with special interest in the flora of South East Asia.

The H.M. Burkill Research Fellowship is a generous bequest from Peter Burkill and Linda Uphill, the children of H. M. Burkill to honour their father and grandfather, I. H. Burkill. The senior Burkills were both former directors of the Singapore Botanic Gardens: I. H. Burkill (1912-1925) and H.M. Burkill (1957-1969). Its primary aim is to help promising young botanists to develop a career in tropical botany.

The yearly H.M. Burkill Research Fellowship offers the successful applicant a one-time sum of up to S\$4,500. The money is to be used for a proposed period of up to three weeks stay in Singapore to carry out research in the Singapore Botanic Gardens. The funds may be used for research related costs, including airfare, food and living expenses in Singapore.

The proposed research project submitted for consideration must be based on the resources of the Singapore Botanic Gardens including the herbarium.

Qualifications of the Applicants:

- * A PhD degree in Botany, or a post-graduate student in higher degree program in Botany at a recognised university
- * Preferably below the age of 30
- * Demonstration of a strong interest and promising research skills/potential in tropical botany

How to apply?

Interested applicants shall send their application letter, together with the research proposal and an updated cv, by email or air mail to Dr. Chin See Chung, Director, Singapore Botanic Gardens, 1 Cluny Road, Singapore 259569; email address: chin_see_chung@nparks.gov.sg

The proposal should state the proposed period of stay in Singapore and the requested amount of financial support up to a maximum of S\$4,500.

Requirements

The Research Fellow shall submit a report on the research accomplishments before departing Singapore. He/she shall acknowledge the H.M. Burkill Research Fellowship and the Singapore Botanic Gardens in any subsequent publica-

tions that use information generated during the period of the award.

The deadline for the submission of applications for the first award of the H.M. Burkill Research Fellowship for the year 2010 shall be 31 March, 2010. The selected recipient will be informed duly in writing.

The Anne S. Chatham Fellowship

The Garden Club of America is pleased to announce a fellowship open to Ph.D. candidates and recent Ph.D.s to promote the study of medicinal botany. The fellowship was established to protect and preserve knowledge about the medicinal use of plants, and thus prevent the disappearance of plants with therapeutic potential. Providing this research opportunity for botanists can, in turn, assist medical science in its ability to protect lives, alleviate suffering, and develop new medicines. The fellowship was created and endowed by a generous contribution from Anne S. Chatham, a member of the Garden Club of America's Scholarship Committee and a member of the Jupiter Island Garden Club.

To this end, the Anne S. Chatham Fellowship in Medicinal Botany will provide one grant award of \$4,000 annually. An important aspect of the award is that it is intended to enable a student to pursue an avenue of research that might otherwise prove closed. Accordingly, the funds may be used to cover direct costs associated with travel, field studies, or laboratory research. However, fellowship funds may not be used to cover indirect costs or overhead and should not be used to pay for lab space or supplies normally provided by universities.

Eligible candidates include students currently enrolled in Ph.D. programs at recognized universities and recent graduates who have received their degrees in the last five years. The fellowship recipient will be selected by a panel of botanists appointed by the Missouri Botanical Garden and is subject to approval by the Garden Club of America Scholarship Committee.

HOW TO APPLY

Please submit the following:

- A brief application letter.
- An abstract of 200 words or less.
- A 1-2 page research proposal, set in 12-point type (proposals should be detailed and will be treated as confidential; proposals longer than 1-2 pages will be considered ineligible).
- A one page budget.
- Current curriculum vitae.
- A letter from major advisor certifying graduate enrollment for graduate students.
- Copies of appropriate permits for field work or any studies including animals, research clearances, and permission from governmental agencies should be provided for all foreign research.

Proposals should be received by January 15, 2010.

Mail applications to:

Dr. Wendy Applequist
Missouri Botanical Garden
Dept. 43
P.O. Box 299
St. Louis, MO 63166-0299

Additional information may be obtained by contacting Bruce Ponman at the address above or by phone (314-577-9565) or email (bruce.ponman@mobot.org), or online at <http://www.wlbcenter.org/chatham.htm>.

Postdoctoral Fellowship. Massey University, New Zealand. Evolution of Dioecy.

A two year postdoctoral fellowship is available to investigate the evolution of sexual dimorphism in *Plagianthus* (Malvaceae), a genus endemic to New Zealand. For this project, we are combining detailed morphological analyses with genomic approaches to investigate dioecy in this recently evolved group. The successful applicant will have experience with conducting detailed morphological analyses (especially scanning electron microscopy) and implementing molecular genetic approaches (PCR, RT-PCR, and gene sequencing). Gene discovery using next-generation sequencing will also be employed for this project; therefore, experience with bioinformatics is also desirable. The candidate should hold a Ph.D. in botany, genetics, or evolutionary biology. We seek an individual who is enthusiastic, highly motivated, and willing to work independently as well as with a team.

This project is a collaboration between Jennifer Tate (http://imbs.massey.ac.nz/massey/depart/sciences/institutes/imbs/staff/tate_jennifer.cfm) at Massey University in Palmerston North, New Zealand and Barbara Ambrose (http://www.nybg.org/science/scientist_profile.php?id_scientist=104) at The New York Botanical Garden. The candidate will be based in the Tate lab. Palmerston North is a small and friendly university town, which is located 2 hours from Wellington, the winery region of Hawke's Bay, and the volcanic plateau. The position will be based within the Institute of Molecular BioSciences, which hosts the Manawatu Microscopy and Imaging Centre (http://sitemap.massey.ac.nz/massey/depart/sciences/centre/mmic/mmic_home.cfm). The postdoctoral fellow will also have the opportunity to interact with researchers in the Allan Wilson Centre for Molecular Ecology and Evolution (<http://www.allanwilsoncentre.ac.nz/>).

The closing date for applications is 20 November 2009. Starting date is flexible, but must be no later than 1 August 2010. For more information about this position, please contact Jennifer Tate (j.tate@massey.ac.nz). To apply for this position, please visit <http://jobs.massey.ac.nz> (reference A390-09B).

Postdoctoral Position in Plant Systematics / Genomics, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, Oregon State University

A postdoctoral position to apply genomic approaches to plant systematics is open in the laboratories of Dr. Aaron Liston and Dr. Richard Cronn at Oregon State University. This is an NSF-funded collaborative project with Dr. Mark Fishbein at Oklahoma State University. The position involves the sequencing of the genome of *Asclepias syriaca* (milkweed) and chloroplast genomes from ca. 150 species of *Asclepias* and relatives. Research will involve next generation sequencing using the Illumina platform, genome assembly

and annotation, and phylogenetic analysis. The applicant will work collaboratively with researchers and graduate students and be responsible for aspects of project coordination, supervision of 1-2 undergraduates, writing manuscripts and contributing to the development of research directions. Duties will encompass sample preparation for Illumina sequencing, assembly and annotation of genomic sequence data, and phylogenetic analysis. The applicant is required to have a Ph.D. in biological sciences with expertise in plant systematics. Experience with the Linux operating system and computer programming is highly desirable.

Salary will be commensurate with experience and the position will be renewed annually for up to 3 years. To apply for this position, candidates should send a resume including description of past research, copies of publications, future professional interests, and the names and contact information for three references to Aaron Liston at listona@science.oregonstate.edu.

Closing date: November 1, 2009 or until the position is filled.

Position available: December 1, 2009.

Postdoctoral Fellow, California Academy of Sciences

Position Title: Postdoctoral Fellow, Planetary Biodiversity Inventory Project (PBI)

A postdoctoral position is available for one year with annual renewal possible up to five years to work on the Miconieae (Melastomataceae) PBI project. This NSF-funded multi-institution project will produce a web-based, phylogenetically informed monograph for the 1,800 species of the neotropical tribe Miconieae that includes comprehensive descriptions, images, identification keys, and distribution maps for each species. Primary responsibilities will include the creation of species descriptions, SEM images of reproductive and other features, interactive keys, field work and morphological phylogenetic analyses. The incumbent will contribute to all aspects of the project and will work closely with a PI and Research Assistant based at the California Academy of Sciences (CAS). Assigned responsibilities require a Ph.D. and advanced knowledge of plant systematics as evidenced by research, publications, and field experience. Experience in tropical botany is desirable. This position reports to the CAS based Project PI and works closely with a dedicated research assistant as well as the curatorial support staff in the Department of Botany at CAS.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

- Under supervision of PI, prepare species descriptions and taxonomic keys using museum collections at CAS and other relevant herbaria
- Oversee and perform identification of collections pertinent to the project
- Plan and participate in field work, as needed, to generate collections relevant to the project
- Work closely with a research assistant to create SEM images of taxonomically important features and evaluate relevant literature
- Supervise research assistant activities in data basing collections
- Writing skills pertinent to the project

- Follow all Academy safety regulations
- Follow all Academy safety regulations
- Other duties as assigned

EDUCATION and/or EXPERIENCE:

The ideal candidate will possess the following education and/or equivalent experience:

- Ph.D. with specialty in Plant Systematics and experience in conducting research and field work
- Experience with preparation of taxonomic keys, revisions and/or taxonomic monographs

COMPENSATION/BENEFITS: Salary is commensurate with experience. This is a full-time position. This position is eligible for excellent medical and dental benefits. It is also eligible for participation in a supplemental retirement annuity and flexible spending accounts.



FUNDING AND AWARD OPPORTUNITIES

Request for Proposals - The John W. Marr and Myrna P. Steinkamp Funds

The Colorado Native Plant Society supports research projects in plant biology from the John W. Marr and Myrna P. Steinkamp funds. These separate funds honor the late Dr. John Marr, Professor at the University of Colorado and the first President of the CONPS, and Myrna Steinkamp, a founding member of CONPS who worked on behalf of the Society for many years in a variety of capacities. Both funds were established to support research on the biology and natural history of Colorado native plants by means of small grants. The Steinkamp Fund targets rare species and those of conservation concern. Both field and laboratory studies are eligible for funding. Thanks to the generous contributions of many members and supporters, a total of nearly \$3,000 is available, although individual awards will not exceed \$1,000. Recipients of the awards must agree to summarize their studies for publication in *Aquilegia*.

The Board of Directors is now soliciting proposals for a February 15, 2010 deadline. Information on guidelines and requirements for proposals may be obtained by visiting our web site at http://www.conps.org/research_grants.html. If your questions are not answered by our web site, you may contact Board member Jan Loechell Turner by e-mail at jltturner@regis.edu or by phone at 303-458-4262.

Lawrence Memorial Award – 2010 Nominations

The Award Committee of the Lawrence Memorial Fund invites nominations for the 2010 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 2010 and should be directed to: Dr. R. W. Kiger, Hunt Institute, Carnegie Mellon University, 5000 Forbes Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890 USA. Tel. (412) 268-2434.



NEWS FROM OTHER SOCIETIES

Systematics, Evolution, and Biogeography of Compositae (V.A. Funk, A. Susanna, T. Stuessy & R. Bayer, eds.) IAPT: Vienna. Published in August 2009.

The Compositae (Asteraceae) are the largest and most successful flowering plant family in the world with ca. 1700 genera and 25,000 species. This volume is based on recent morphological and molecular data and has overview chapters that cover topics such as chromosome numbers and chemistry as well as a chapter on every clade in the family. Nearly every chapter has a color-coded biogeography tree and color photos of plants and there is a summary chapter with a ca. 900 taxon tree (metatree) for the whole family. Appendices include an illustrated glossary and a combined literature cited (each chapter has a literature cited as well). A pdf file of the metatree can be found at www.compositae.org.

This is the first family wide phylogenetic treatment for the Compositae and the book contains 44 Chapters, 1000 pages (ca. 200 in color) contributed by over 80 authors. It is a bargain at \$110 (including shipping) for addresses in the USA and Canada and \$120 for addresses elsewhere in the world. Please email compositaebook@gmail.com or go to www.compositae.org for information on ordering. This low price is possible because of the support of IAPT and the Smithsonian Institution. All proceeds go to IAPT.



SPECIAL COURSES

Plant Resources and Ecology in Eastern China Summer Study Abroad

Through lectures and field trips to famous mountains and wetland park and lakes in eastern China, students will gain skills in field botany and knowledge of wetland and

lake ecology, plant biodiversity and its uses in China. The course enhances cross-cultural exchange during this 3 week program by having students from Zhejiang University join the class and visits to famous Chinese gardens, markets, and museums in Shanghai, Hangzhou, and Suzhou cities, as well as visits to villages and the Buddhist and Taoist temples in the mountains.

DATES: May 18-June 8, 2010

COURSES: PB 495/595: Plant Resources and Ecology in Eastern China.

Taught in English by Dr. Jenny Xiang & Dr. David Boufford (Harvard University Herbaria)

Course details:

<http://www4.ncsu.edu/~qyxiang/>

<http://www4.ncsu.edu/~qyxiang/other/2010%20Study%20Abroad%20-%20Plant%20Resources%20&%20Ecology.pdf>

APPLY: Apply online at <http://studyabroad.ncsu.edu> by **February 12, 2010**. Scholarship information also available online.



WEB SITES

Online Database for Plants of the Northern Great Plains

In 2004, Black Hills State University Herbarium (BHSC) launched a long-range plan to use computer technologies to deal with specimens of the Northern Great Plains housed in herbaria throughout the region. The project, initially funded by the National Fish & Wildlife Foundation, databased all regional species of the family Poaceae, and placed these online in 2005. The BHSC used computerized procedures to maintain the database for grasses for several years before launching a second exciting and more ambitious project in 2006 funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF): to create a database for all plants of the region. This database is now online and is a capable research tool for many activities such as producing checklists for the relatively unknown flora of the Northern Great Plains region, tracking the historical and recent appearance of invasive plant species, and for learning about the plants and plant resources that are our natural heritage.

The BHSC web site is open and ready for your use and enjoyment. This is a free resource for plant enthusiasts, educators, and research professionals everywhere. We welcome you to access the site at: <http://herbarium.bhsu.edu>. Watch for updates and improvements (including distribution maps) in the near future.

