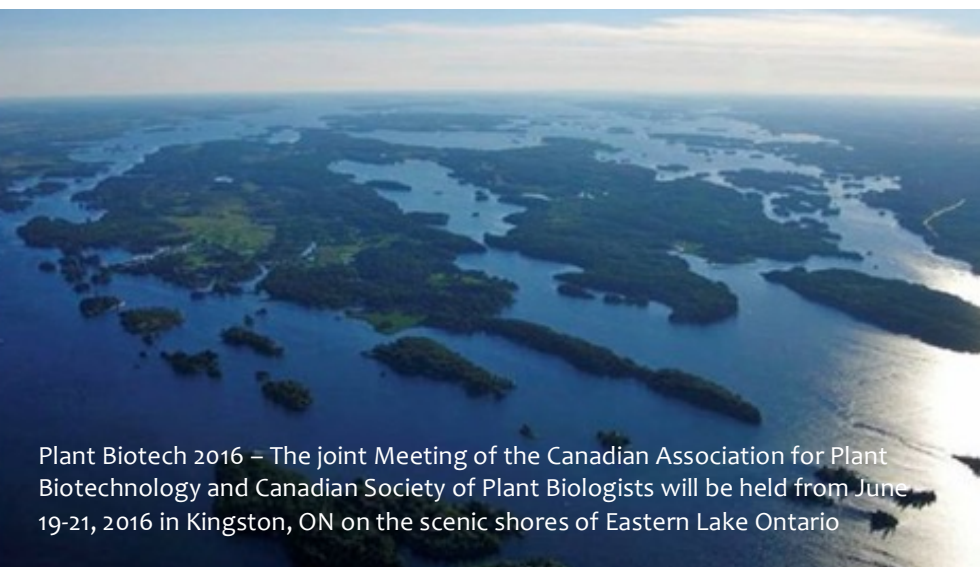


Bulletin



Canadian Society of Plant Biologists/
Société canadienne de biologie végétale



Plant Biotech 2016 – The joint Meeting of the Canadian Association for Plant Biotechnology and Canadian Society of Plant Biologists will be held from June 19-21, 2016 in Kingston, ON on the scenic shores of Eastern Lake Ontario

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Message from the President Message de la Présidente

Dear CSPB/SCBV members



Upcoming Annual Meeting at

Queen's University: the year seems to fly by and while we only just met in Toronto for the Eastern Regional Meeting, registration for the Annual Meeting at Queen's University in Kingston is already underway. This annual meeting is shaping up to be a great event with an excellent line-up of invited speakers. It will be held as a joint meeting with the Canadian Association for Plant Biotechnology (CAPB). I would like to thank the

organizers Wayne Snedden, Kenton Ko, Bill Plaxton, Sharon Regan (Queen's University), Michael Stasiak (University of Guelph), Yafan Huang (Performance Plants), Abdelali Hannoufa (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada), and Gary Tian (GT Biotech) for the time and effort they are dedicating to the organization of this conference.

Past Eastern Regional Meeting at the University of Toronto: My thanks

also go to the organizers of the recent Eastern Regional Meeting at the University of Toronto - Daphne Goring, Darrell Desveaux and Nicolas Provart with their team. The meeting took place on November 20-21, 2015, and with 168 participants it was a great success. 3/4 of the participants were students and postdocs highlighting how important the ERM is as a venue for our junior scientists. The meeting included two invited plenary speakers, nine oral



CSPB/SCBV executive committee members Vince de Luca, Barry Micallef and Sheila Macfie (upper left picture) during a break at the Eastern Regional Meeting 2015 held at the University of Toronto's St. George Campus

sessions with 66 presentations and a poster session with 37 presentations. 50 students competed for the Director's Award for the best oral presentation and 29 students competed for the Director's award for the best poster presentation. Congratulations go to Jennifer Doucet (University of Toronto) for the best oral presentation and Philip Carella (McMaster University) and Matt Stata (University of Toronto) for honourable mentions. Kudos also to Ubaid Midhat (Queen's University) for the best poster award and Nicolas Bensoussan (University of Western Ontario) for honourable mention in this category.

While we are gearing up for the annual meeting in Kingston, I would like to update you on a number of ongoing dossiers:

Government relations: Canada has a new government since November 2015. On behalf of the Society, the executive sent letters to congratulate the new Ministers with portfolios relevant to the interests of our Society. In the letter we briefly

presented the mandate of the Society and explained the link to the respective ministerial portfolios (the letters are available on the CSPB/SCBV web site). We also invited the Ministers to join the upcoming Annual Meeting and encouraged them to seek the dialogue with our scientists. I had the opportunity to meet the Minister of Environment and Climate Change, the Honourable Catherine McKenna, and the Minister of Agriculture and AgriFood, the Honourable Lawrence MacAuley in person when they independently visited Montreal in March. My Faculty had invited Minister MacAuley to the Macdonald Campus and I seized the opportunity to give him the short summary of the activities of the CSPB/SCBV.

Society logo: As decided by the membership at the last annual meeting in Edmonton, the Executive has taken steps to renew the logo of the Society. An internal logo competition yielded a few interesting concepts, that were subsequently used for a professional logo competition. The most promising logo designs submitted in this competition will be presented to the membership for input.

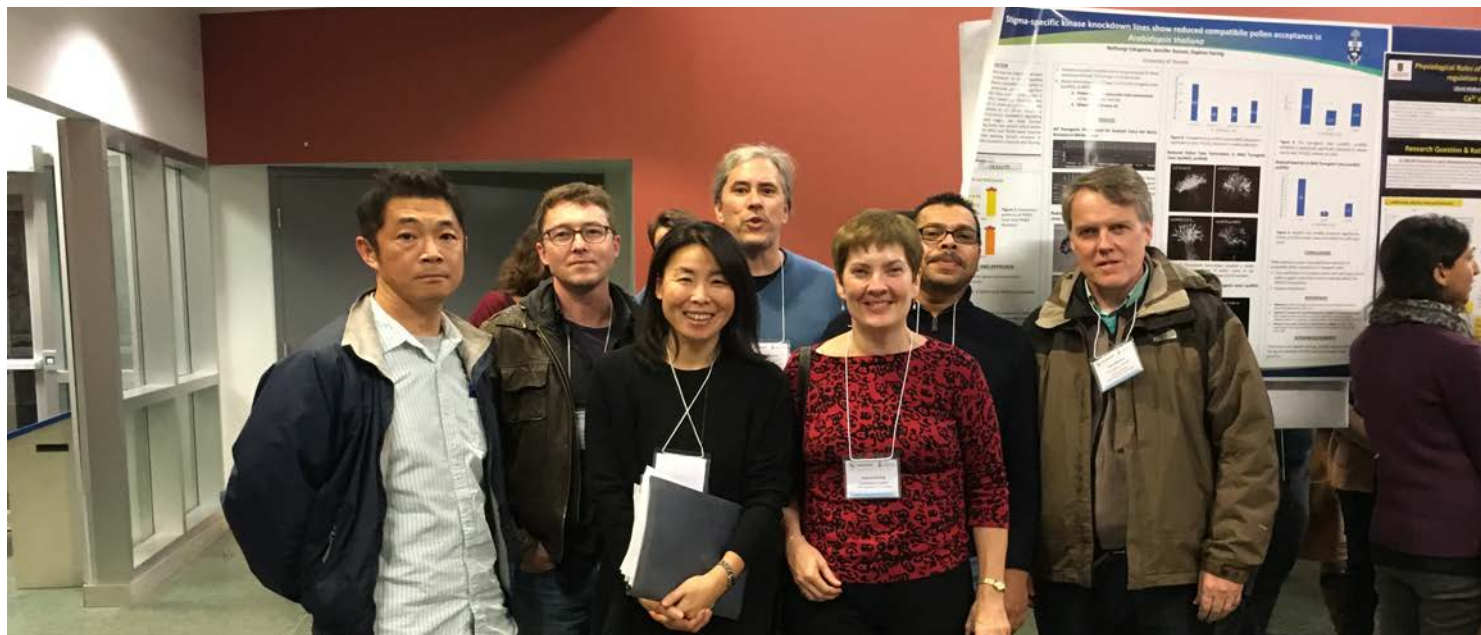
I am looking forward to meeting you all at the upcoming meeting in Kingston! Au plaisir de se revoir à l'Université Queens en juin!

Anja Geitmann

President CSPB/SCBV



CSPB/SCBV president Anja Geitmann getting friendly with an unusual model system when meeting the Minister of Agriculture and AgriFood Lawrence MacAuley during his visit at McGill in March 2016.



The organizers of the 2015 Eastern Regional Meeting

From left to right: Eiji Nambara, Darrel Desveaux, Keiko Yoshioka, Nicholas Provart, Daphne Goring, Dinesh Christendat, Peter McCourt

Eastern Regional Meeting 2015 at the University of Toronto

Ingo Ensminger, University of Toronto

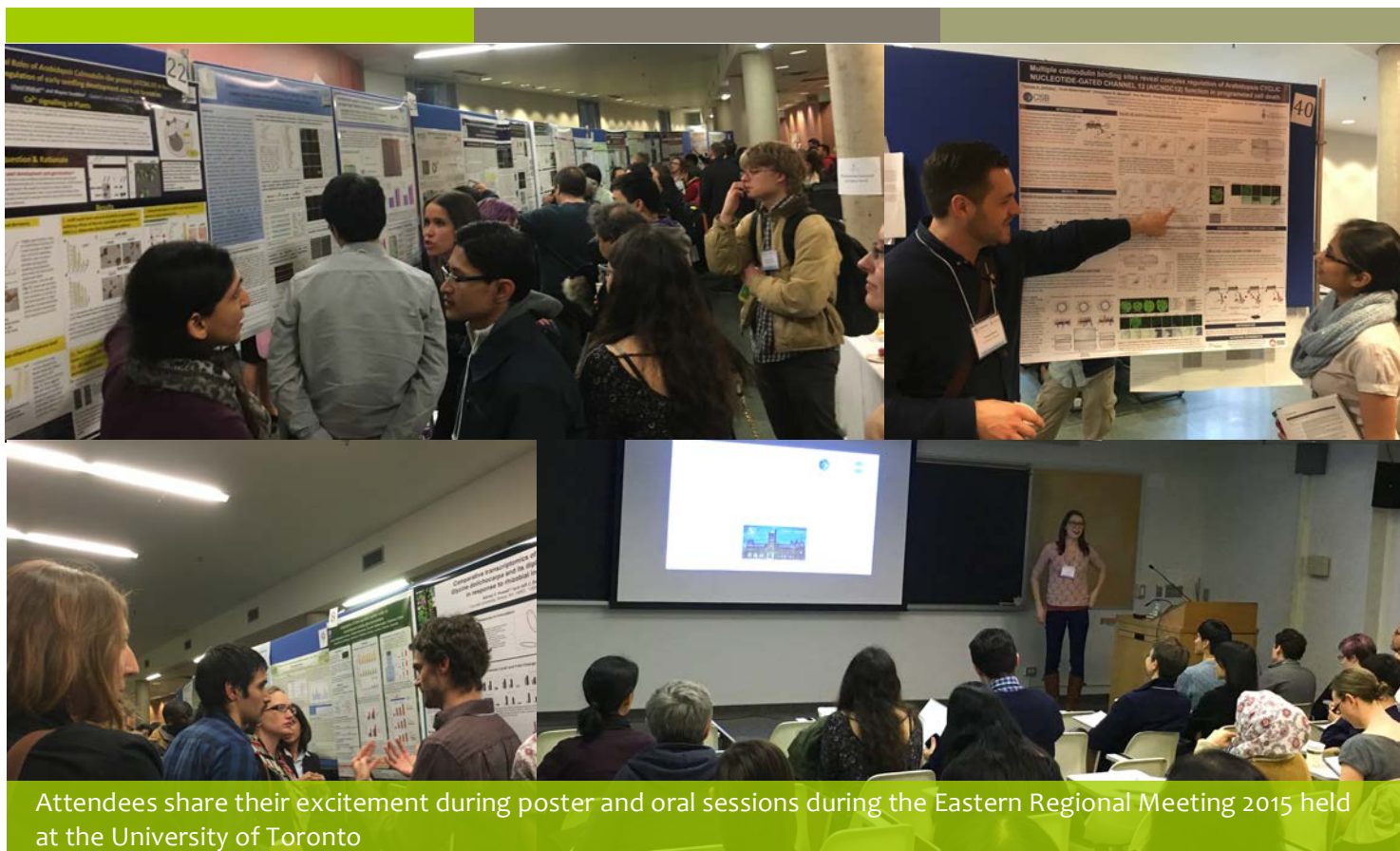
The Eastern Regional Meeting 2015 was held November 20-21 at the University of Toronto, St. George Campus. With 168 attendees and 87 student presentations the event was set to see a strong competition for the Director's awards for the best oral and poster presentations.

Best oral presentation: Jennifer Doucet (UofT) from Daphne Goring's lab won the award for the best oral presentation with her talk on

“Investigating the roles of stigma-expressed RLCKs in compatible pollen signaling”. Honorable mention were received by two students, Philip Carella (McMaster University) from Robin Cameron's lab with work presented on “Comparative Proteomics of

Winners of the Director's award for the best oral presentation, from left to right: Daphne Goring (Organizer), Jennifer Doucet (Best oral presentation), Philip Carella and Matt Stata (Honorable mention), Dinesh Christenstad (organizer).





Attendees share their excitement during poster and oral sessions during the Eastern Regional Meeting 2015 held at the University of Toronto

(Continued)

Arabidopsis Phloem During the Induction of Systemic Acquired Resistance”, and Matt Stata (University of Toronto) from Tammy Sage’s lab for his talk “Control of Alternate Chloroplast Patterns in C4 Bundle Sheath and Mesophyll Cells”.

Best poster presentation: Ubaid Midhat (Queen’s University) from Wayne Snedden’s lab received the poster award for presenting her work on “Characterizing the roles of *Arabidopsis* calmodulin-like protein, CML39, in hormonal regulation of early seedling development and fruit formation”. Nicolas Bensoussan (University of Western Ontario) from Vojislava Gribic’s lab received Honorable mention for the poster on “New insights into the spider mite mouthparts, their mode of action and their effect on plant tissues associated with feeding”.

The Organizing Committee included Eiji Nambara, Keiko Yoshioko, Dinesh Christendat and Peter McCourt and was chaired by Dapne Goring, Darrell Desveaux and Nick Provar. The CSPB/SCBV webmaster, Michael Stasiak set up the meeting

website and Lynn Gole and Tamar Mamourian volunteered their services to manage the finances for this meeting.

The Eastern Regional Meeting 2016 will be held at McMaster University.

June 19-21, 2016 - Upcoming Annual General Meeting in Kingston

Wayne Snedden, Queen’s University

The plans for the upcoming annual general meeting (AGM) are coming along well and the website will continue to be updated regularly. This year the meeting will be held June 19-21st in historic Kingston, Ontario at Queen’s University and is a joint

meeting between the CSPB/SCBV and the Canadian Association for Plant Biotechnology (CAPB). Kingston is a 2.5-3h train or car commute or short 45-min flight from Toronto, Ottawa, or Montreal.

Queen's campus is a 10-min walk to downtown Kingston where restaurants, pubs, and amenities abound. In 2013, the BBC listed Kingston as one of the top 5 university towns in the world. The meeting will unofficially open with a social mixer at the Queen's Grad Club on Saturday evening, June 18th, so try to make it to this fun meet-and-greet event! This year's meeting is themed "Plant Biotech 2016" and includes 10 national and international invited speakers with expertise in various areas of biotechnology, from food security to alternative plant-based products. We also expect plenty of basic science from the many disciplines of plant biology represented by our CSPB/SCBV and CAPB members. As this article goes to press, there are about 250 registrants and more than 20 official sponsors and exhibitors. A preliminary program is posted on the website and will be finalized through May and updated. You won't want to miss presentations by the CSPB CD Nelson Award winner, Dr. Janice Cooke (University of Alberta), and the Gold Medal Winner, Dr. Barry Shelp (Guelph

Local organizers are ready for the Plant Biotech 2016 Meeting – The joint Meeting of CSPB and CAPB in Kingston. Left to right: Wayne Snedden, Bill Plaxton, Yafan Huang, Hannoufa Abdelali, Kenton Ko, Sharon Regan and Gary Tian



University). There will also be an CSPB-hosted education workshop and a presentation by NSERC on science funding. The meeting will close early afternoon on Tuesday, June 21st. In addition to some great science, this year the banquet, which sold out at the early-bird deadline, will be held on a cruise ship through the 1000 Islands of the St. Lawrence River. Let's hope for good weather so we can enjoy some roof-top patio time and take in the scenic cruise while socializing with your fellow CSPB/SCPB members. The organization committee for the meeting is represented by

CSPB/SCBV and CAPB members: Wayne Snedden, Bill Plaxton, Yafan Huang, Abdellai Hannoufa, Kenton Ko, Sharon Regan, Gary Tan, and Michael Stasiak. We look forward to seeing you in June!

Relevant links:

AGM website <http://www.cspb-scbv.ca/meetings/2016AGM/index.shtml>

Queen's: <http://www.queensu.ca/>

About Kingston: <http://www.queensu.ca/about/kingston>

Former CSPB/SCBV President Deep Saini appointed as next President of the University of Canberra



Deep Saini, vice-president of the University of Toronto and principal of UofT Mississauga is the next vice-chancellor and president of the University of Canberra, Australia. He will leave for the southern-hemisphere at the end of July 2016. Deep is excited to lead a 1.6 Billion dollar plan of the University to expand its campus, and with a smile he adds, he is also excited that he

will be able to play golf for 12 month of the year. For Deep and his family Canada will remain home: "My wife and I will keep a base here in Canada, and from time to time we also need to look after our daughters and their families." Deep has been a member of CSPB/SCBV since 1983 and has served as the President of the society from 2003 to 2005.

Recruiting an Eastern Region Director

CSPB/SCBV needs YOU - Get involved in the Society

The Canadian Society of Plant Biologists is seeking to recruit a candidate to serve on its Executive Committee as **Eastern Region Director**.

Responsibilities of the Eastern Region Director include:

1. The Regional Directors are liaison officers and represent their respective regions at the executive.
2. The Regional Directors are to promote membership in their respective regions. This may involve periodic correspondence with regional members asking them to urge colleagues and students to join the Society.
3. Each Regional Director is responsible for the choice of site and local organizing committee for his/her respective Regional Meetings.
4. Although the local organizing committee generally looks after the details, the Regional Director is responsible to the Executive committee for the meeting.

The Regional Director should also advise the local organizing committee of the requirements of the Society.

In addition, **the society is looking for motivated individuals to serve on several committees**. Most of these committees recognize excellence in plant biology through awards such as The Gold Medal Award, the C.D. Nelson Award, the David J. Gifford Award in Tree Physiology and the Gleb Krotkov Award that honour outstanding contributions to plant physiology in research and in service to the society.

The Canadian Society of Plant Biologists invites those interested in serving on one of its committees please contact Jean-Benoit Charron (jean-benoit.charron@mcgill.ca).

Journal and Conference Updates

Special Issue on Plant developmental evolution

Call for manuscripts

Plant evolutionary-developmental biology (plant 'evo-devo') seeks to understand how and why plant morphological characters have evolved to produce the tremendous diversity of form in living plants. It draws from concepts and techniques of molecular biology, developmental biology, genetics, genomics, evolutionary biology and ecology, and attempts to synthesize principles from these disciplines to yield an understanding of how developmental systems respond to



New
Phytologist

selection pressures for novel characters.

We invite submissions for a Special Issue on Plant developmental evolution. Submissions are welcome on all aspects of plant developmental evolution, and we welcome submissions of synthetic reviews as well as experimental studies.

Deadline for submission: 1 September 2016

For more information, see newphytologist.org/evo-devo-special-issue

Submit your paper to New Phytologist

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Read the journal and submit your manuscript: newphytologist.com



Journal of Plant Physiology in Canadian hands

Herbert J. Kronzucker, University of Toronto

This past year, Herbert J. Kronzucker, Distinguished Professor at the University of Toronto, assumed the post of Editor-in-Chief at the *Journal of Plant Physiology* (JPP). JPP is a major journal in functional plant biology, founded in 1909 and with roots dating as far back as 1818. Today JPP is published by Elsevier, Netherlands, and publishes 18 issues per year.

Herbert works with regional offices in Jena and Leipzig, Germany, and Beijing, China, with Elsevier headquarters in Amsterdam, Netherlands, and London, U.K., and with production offices in Chennai, India. Since beginning his appointment, he has led the redesign of the journal's mandate and scope and appointed new, prestigious Advisory and Editorial Boards, strongly increasing Canadian presence at the journal.

Current Canadian editors include Drs. Dev T. Britto (Toronto; review editor), Norman P.A. Huner (Western; Advisory Board), Greg C. Vanlerberghe (Toronto, subject editor), and Abir U. Igamberdiev (Memorial, subject editor). As part of its new mandate, JPP is increasingly focusing on conceptual papers, perspective articles, Special Issues, and reviews, and invites Canadian authors to send their work. JPP's 5-year impact factor currently sits at 3.037, with a predicted 17% increase in its impact factor for 2015.

For the journal's new mandate and scope, see: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-plant-physiology/>

For Herbert's introductory editorial, see: <http://www.journals.elsevier.com/journal-of-plant-physiology/editorial/>



The 38th New Phytologist Symposium: Colonization of the terrestrial environment

Bristol, UK, 25 – 27 July 2016

This symposium will explore the contribution that plants and mycorrhizal fungi made to the colonization of the terrestrial environment. The focus will be on four major themes: interrelationships, anatomy – developmental genetics, refining biogeochemical models, and anatomy and physiology of early land plants – what we can learn from extant species.

For more information, see newphytologist.org/symposia/38

Twitter: [#38NPS](https://twitter.com/#38NPS)

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Message from the Vice President

With our annual general meeting almost upon us, I would like to thank the organizing committee chaired by Wayne Sneddon for putting together an exciting program under the theme **Plant Biotech 2016**. This joint meeting with members of the Canadian Association for Plant Biotechnology (CAPB) promises to stimulate new research ideas and opportunities for CSPB/SCVB members. I am also hopeful that many CAPB members will consider becoming permanent members of our society.

The organizing committee has assembled an impressive array of plenary speakers including leading academic and industry researchers including Roger Beachy (World Food Center), Clint Chapple (Purdue), Tom Greene (Dupont), Maurice Maloney (Global Institute for Food Security), Jiangxin Wan (Performance Plants), and Jian-Kang Zhu (Purdue), and two recent recruits to the Canadian research scene, Jun Suk Lee (Concordia) and Jacqueline Monaghan (Queens). The meeting will also highlight talks by our most

recent Gold Medal winner Barry Shelp (Guelph) and the 2015 CD Nelson Award winner Janice Cooke (U Alberta).

I also take this opportunity to welcome all new members to the society, especially the students and post-doctoral fellows who will be attending a CSPB/SCVB meeting for their first time. One of the aims of these meetings is to provide a forum for young members of the society to present their research in recognition of the need to develop strong communication skills. I am pleased to see that the organizing committee has scheduled many opportunities for junior members of the society to present their work either as posters or seminars. The society has also allocated additional funding from the George H Duff Travel Bursary to offset the financial burden of travel for students and post-doctoral members. As a further incentive, prizes will be awarded for the most exceptional presentations. Between now and the meeting I will be seeking volunteers to help with the



important task of judging student posters and seminars.

Looking ahead, our next AGM will be here at UBC in Vancouver in 2017 and in 2018 we will have another joint meeting with ASPB in Montreal. In 2019, there will be another assembly of Canadian Plant Societies under the auspices of Plant Canada in Guelph. The Canadian Weed Science Society has agreed to organize the 2019 meeting but CSPB/SCBV will likely help out.

I am looking forward to seeing many of you in Kingston for our summer equinox meeting, June 18-21.

Geoffrey Wasteneys

UBC Vancouver

Treasurer's News

Sheila Macfie, University of Western Ontario

The transfer of the treasury from Harold Weger to me was completed in early April, although I still rely heavily on Harold's advice and experience. Harold has graciously agreed to retain the position of Membership Officer.

Membership continues to hold steady at about 400, with a healthy contingent of student and postdoctoral members. New members from any area of study within plant biology are welcome and I encourage current members to



promote our Society to their colleagues. The annual membership fees are reasonable and the application process is simple (on-line: http://www.cspb-scbv.ca/membership_paypal.shtml or by mail: <http://www.cspb-scbv.ca/documents/MembershipForm.pdf>). Membership renewal is equally easy and the forms can be accessed through the websites listed above. Des versions françaises des formulaires d'adhésion sont aussi disponibles (<http://www.cspb-scbv.ca/membership-f.shtml>). If you are one of many who have trouble remembering to renew your membership every year, there are options to renew for up to three years at a time. At the bottom of the

membership form, you will notice an opportunity to make a donation to one of two charitable funds: the George Duff Travel Fund and the Ann Oaks Scholarship Fund.

The Duff travel bursary program (http://www.cspb-scbv.ca/awards_travel.shtml) was established to offset travel costs to the annual CSPB-SCBV meeting for some student and post-doc members of the Society. Funding for this program comes from donations from CSPB-SCBV members as well as from Society general revenues. The deadline for application for 2016 has passed and the total number and value of Duff Travel Bursaries for this year will be

announced at the upcoming Plant Biotech 2016 conference in June.

The Ann Oaks Doctoral Scholarship (http://www.cspb-scbv.ca/awards_oaks.shtml) was established by the late Dr. Ann Oaks and is topped up by donations from Society members. The value of the award is equivalent to an NSERC PGS-D. Students of Plant Biology who apply for an NSERC scholarship are automatically considered for this award (no extra application is necessary). The scholarship can be held by only one student at a time and is renewable for a total of three years of support. The current holder of the award is eligible for two more years of funding.



I'd like to remind our members of Fascination of Plants Day which is happening for May 2016. If you are participating in this activity for May 2016, please send us photos or brief summaries of your activities.

For more information please go to the website at: <http://fascinationofplantsday.org/>

For Fascination of Plants Day, May 18th 2017, I will be developing an activity and small pamphlet for CSPB members to use. I am currently doing a test run with students here at NMSU and will revise the pamphlet likely with students in spring 2017 to make it ready to go.

Education Director's Spring Report

Emily Indriolo, New Mexico State University

The idea is to have a small handout that can be simply copied and used across Canada so everyone doesn't have to come up with a new activity for this first time and then we can revise it as we go.

In regards to the education section of the website, the CSPB executive is looking various options to make the website more interactive. Once we have made our decision on the changes to the website, I will start to upload course materials as well as updating our links to teaching materials such as the very excellent teaching tools in plant biology from *Plant Cell*.

For the time being, I would highlight the need to keep connecting with colleagues at different universities

to share course materials and adaptations to improve course content across the board. I am using dropbox to exchange materials with colleagues here at NMSU as well as U of M and McGill.

Last but certainly not least, I would like to remind the membership of the Education Workshop at the Annual General Meeting this June at Queen's from June 18-21. The Education Workshop will focus on classroom management from the viewpoint of a lecturer to that of a graduate teaching assistant. The structure of this will be a brief outline of methods to manage the classroom with a panel to help guide the rest of the attendees through the various topics you may encounter in the classroom.

CSPB Inside



CSPB/SCBV Exec Committee Members 2016

Left to right and top to bottom: Anja Geitmann, President (McGill) | Vincenzo De Luca, Past President (MacMaster) | Geoff Wasteneys, Vice President (UBC Vancouver) | Barry Micallef, Secretary (U Guelph) | Sheila Macfie, Treasurer (U Western Ontario) | Ewa Cholewa, Eastern Regional Director (U Nipissing) | Mark Belmonte, Western Regional Director (U Manitoba) | Ingo Ensminger, Communications Director and Bulletin Editor (U Toronto) | Emily Indriolo, Education Director (NMSU) | Carl Douglas, Science Policy Director (UBC Vancouver) | Glen R. Uhrig, Student/PDF Representative (ETH Zurich) | Jean-Benoit Charron, Senior Director (McGill)

Committee Members | Composition des Comités

Ann Oaks Scholarship Committee | Comité des Bourses d'Études Ann Oaks

Harold Weger (Regina) Chair 2018
Elizabeth Weretilnyk (McMaster) Co-Chair 2018
Frederique Guinel (Laurier) 2016
Sheila Macfie (Western Ontario) 2019 Treasurer
George Espie (UT Mississauga) 2017
Doug Campbell (Mt Allison) 2019

C.D. Nelson Award Committee | Comité du Prix C.D. Nelson

Nathalie Beaudoin (Sherbrooke) 2016 Chair
Mark F. Belmonte (Manitoba) 2017
Annick Bertrand (AAFC, Québec) 2018

Communications Committee | Comité des Communications

Ingo Ensminger (Toronto) 2017
Jacqueline Monaghan (Queen's/Sainsbury) 2018
Barry Micallef (Guelph) 2016
Michael Stasiak (Guelph) webmaster

David J. Gifford Tree Biology Award Committee | Comité du Prix David J. Gifford en biologie des arbres

Karen Tanino (Saskatchewan) 2016 Chair
Hugo Germain (UQTR) 2017
Armand Séguin (NRC Québec) 2018

Committee Members continued

Education Committee | Comité en éducation

Emily Indriolo (New Mexico State U) 2017
George Haughn (British Columbia) 2016
Jin Suk Lee (Concordia) 2018

Gleb Krotkov Award Committee | Comité du Prix Gleb Krotkov

Barry Shelp (Guelph) 2016 Chair
François Ouellet (UQAM) 2017
Bhinu Pillai (Dow AgroSciences) 2018

Meeting Site Committee | Comité des congrès

Geoff Wasteneys (UBC) 2017
Daphne Goring (Toronto) 2017
Olivia Wilkins (McGill) 2018

Nominating Committee | Comité des candidatures

Jean-Benoit Charron (McGill) 2017 Chair
Steeve Pépin (Laval) 2017
Greg Moorhead (Calgary) 2018

Ragai Ibrahim Award Committee | Comité du Prix Ragai Ibrahim

Soheil Mahmoud (UBC Okanagan) 2016 Chair
R. Glen Uhrig (ETH Zürich) 2016
Simon Chuong (Waterloo) 2016
Danielle Way (Western Ontario) 2017

Society (Gold) Medal Award Committee | Comité de la médaille de la biologie végétale

Guy Samson (UQTR) 2016 Chair
Line Lapointe (Laval) 2017
Greg Vanlerberghe (U of Toronto) 2018

Contributors to Bulletin Issue 21

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Ingo Ensminger
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Daphne Goring
Emily Indriolo
Sheila MacFie
Herbert Kronzucker
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Wayne Snedden
Geoffrey Wasteneys

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Wayne Snedden, McGill University, Queen's
University, UBC Vancouver, University Nipissing

The Bulletin is the official newsletter of the Canadian Society of Plant Biologists/Société Canadienne de Biologie Végétale (CSPB/SCBV). The next Bulletin will appear in November 2016.

Editorial Deadline for Bulletin Issue 22 is

October 15, 2015

**Please submit your contributions,
comments, photos and
announcements before the
editorial deadline to:**

communications@cspp-scpv.ca