

# inoculum

Vol. 46(5)  
October 1995  
ISSN 0541-4938

Newsletter of the Mycological Society of America

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## Important Dates

November 15 — Deadline for  
next *Inoculum*.  
July 27–31, 1996 — MSA  
Annual Meeting with  
American Phytopathological  
Society (Indianapolis)

## About This Issue

The proceedings of the annual meeting will be spread over two issues of *Inoculum*. This issue includes the announcement of awards, the minutes of the Council and business meetings, and the report on *Mycologia*. The reports of the officers and the report of the Endowment Committee will appear in the next issue.

Member participation is solicited in several articles in this issue. D. Jean Lodge seeks your comments on a draft MSA/British Mycological Society policy statement on fungal biodiversity and conservation (see page 4). Mary Palm invites members who are interested in being apprised of political issues that might have an impact on science and research (page 16), and calls attention to some of these concerns on page 2.

An early deadline for the next issue. The editor goes on vacation November 28, so copy for *Inoculum* 46(6) is due November 15.

Ellen Farr

## National Science Foundation News

### Extracted from ASC Washington Initiative

#### Amy Y. Rossman

ASC recently met with Meredith Lane, incoming program officer for the Research Collections in Systematics and Ecology (RCSE) program at NSF. Issues and concerns about RCSE and NSF that have been heard over the last few years were reviewed; none were new to her. The need for statistical information on past awards was appreciated; we expect an updated summary of award dollars by institution to be available soon. We obtained lists of awards for programs of interest to ASC members, and we are preparing an analysis of those awards.

It is clear that in the future, NSF will favor awards to institutions that show evidence of strategic planning and priority-setting. Rather than submitting several independent departmental RCSE proposals, an institution should review the general context of institutional needs and priorities, and submit proposals that fit into some kind of overall strategy. Proposals should address the issue of prioritization, and may refer to future plans beyond the current proposal. This does not mean that an institution must only choose one proposal, but that a shotgun approach will not reflect well on ANY of the proposals. One must also keep in mind that NSF has a Congressional mandate to diversify its awards across geographical regions. In recent years, some institutions have submitted proposals which, if fully funded, would have taken as much as 300% of the RCSE budget. In these competitive times, a more realistic approach is being called for. It would also help for grant submitters to avoid "entitlement thinking"; that is, the assumption that because the collection is there, it deserves federal funds.

Minor revisions to the RCSE guidelines are expected this Fall. It is likely that collections and database proposals will be somewhat more separate, to facilitate reviews. NSF is looking for additional peer reviewers, particularly those with technical expertise on databases and information management. These persons need not be systematists or even biologists, but might be persons who are working

with you on your database problems. Also, senior-level researchers with some administrative experience and familiarity with NSF programs are particularly urged to apply for rotator positions at NSF. Persons wishing to suggest reviewers should contact Meredith Lane at <MeLane@NSF.gov>.

NSF is looking for ways to improve its peer review process. A meeting of university officials will be held in September to discuss peer review, followed by a Spring forum for scientists. Those with comments on NSF's peer review may send e-mail to <proprev@nsf.gov>.

## Excerpts from ASC Washington Initiative

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**Vol. 9 (13), August 1, 1995,  
K. Elaine Hoagland, Executive  
Director**

**Prepared by Mary Palm**

**The Endangered Species Act and The Public Conscience of Biologists Hearings** have begun in the Senate.... The first hearing on July 13 featured several scientists and environmentalists, along with authors of two recent books that draw policy conclusions concerning the act. These authors use scientific half-truths and misinformation on environmental biology to present rosy views that much of the public and policy makers want to hear.... These authors are taken seriously by public media—both have recently been reviewed favorably in the New York Times.

Biologist Stuart Pimm of the University of Tennessee testified concerning some of the distortions that these books contain. He believes that it is the responsibility and duty of biologists to publicly set the record straight when facts are distorted. A recent editorial in *Science* by John Gibbons, Assistant to the President for Science and Technology, is even more explicit: "There are those who believe that scientists should stay out of politics. This is not a luxury we have.... Each of us needs to be a partisan for science.... on concern over the possibility that the work of generations that has put us at the forefront of world science and technology could be

undone in a few budget cycles. It is a personal partisanship based on conviction, and such partisanship is the **moral calling of every citizen in a democracy** (emph. added)." (*Science*, July 14, 1995, p. 143.)

The work of our natural history collections and scientists will be seen as irrelevant, or at best, as an unaffordable luxury, if these distortions are allowed to stand. If you see biological arguments used for policy purposes in op-ed pieces or book reviews that are flat wrong, based on your expertise, **write a response** (emph. added). Most publications now accept comments by e-mail, and it does not take long to make a response. Even if not published, your voice will be heard, and experts ARE often published (a letter by Judy Meyers and Hardy Eshbaugh as ESA and AIBS Presidents, respectively, was recently published in the New York Times).

Responses are also urgently needed to talk radio nonsense about the environment and biodiversity. These programs should not be dismissed, for they set a background tone for much common thought about issues such as global climate change and endangered species. Average citizens are genuinely concerned when they hear horror stories about property rights and jobs versus environment. We need to understand the concern while presenting accurate information that can serve to bring the policy debate into balance while validating the

importance of collections-based research. It is possible to respond while maintaining dignity and professional credibility. Prepare for a phone call by jotting down a few key sentences using local, verifiable examples that the public can identify with (e.g., documentation of local extinctions or habitat loss that have affected the quality of life). Persons who feel confident and secure in their knowledge can volunteer to appear alone as a formal guest (especially if you have written something relevant to environmental issues) or one-on-one with a person expressing alternate views.

**The USDA has withdrawn its proposed rule on the introduction of nonindigenous organisms.** ASC and several of our member institutions had commented on the rule. APHIS intends to publish an advance notice of proposed rule making in the near future, leading to a new proposal to improve current regulations affecting the movement of plant pests. Further public comment will be solicited before a new rule is drafted. APHIS will organize appropriate meetings and also will participate in scientific society meetings, as well as establishing a forum on the Internet and receiving written comments. For further details, consult the Federal Register, Vol. 60, No. 116, Friday, June 16, 1995. ASC is in touch with an author of the rule, who is a member of our Biosystematics and the Law Committee.

# The First Seven Years of the Agaricus Resource Program

Richard W. Kerrigan

The Agaricus Resource Program (ARP) was started in 1988 to encourage the discovery, acquisition, preservation, characterization, and distribution of novel germplasm of *Agaricus bisporus*, the cultivated button mushroom, and other closely related species of *Agaricus*. The program has been funded annually by ten to twelve commercial, quasi-governmental or government laboratories in the United States, the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, Switzerland, France, Italy, and China. These funds are primarily used to provide bounties, an incentive to motivate the collection and donation of viable samples of wild germplasm to the ARP. Bounties can range as high as \$100 for a genetically unique new isolate of *A. bisporus*. Collectors are also reimbursed for their costs. More details are given below.

While "Dollars-for-Diversity" may strike some as crass, it has proven to be the most cost-effective means of overcoming the severe genetic bottleneck afflicting resource collections of this species. In the 1980s there appear to have been fewer than 20 independent lines of *A. bisporus* in mainstream culture collections worldwide, including those of commercial laboratories. This may well be a record low for any commercially important crop species. To judge from many herbaria and culture collections, this species has apparently been disdained by serious mushroom collectors (for speculation on possible reasons, see Kerrigan, R. W. 1993. New prospects for *Agaricus bisporus* strain improvement. Rept. Tottori Mycol. Inst. 31:188-200).

As for money, the ARP bounty provisions are intended to be of potential assistance to students and practitioners of mycology, including those in developing countries. Bounties may always be declined by those primarily interested in contributing to scientific and agronomic progress.

Anyone with sufficient knowledge of mushroom taxonomy (an ability to recognize different species of *Agaricus*) may contribute samples to the ARP, either under the bounty program (assumed) or as gifts (if stated). Any person or organization may become a sponsor of the ARP, receive the annual germplasm distributions with an essentially unrestricted right to use the material scientifically or commercially, and receive as well updates on what is known about the genotypes and field origins of each isolate. Details are given below. [The ARP was originally known as the "Agaricus Recovery Program."]

## What The ARP Has Accomplished Since Fall, 1988:

Number of samples received: 212, number of viable *A. bisporus*: 160, number of definite novel genotypes: 58, number of genotypes known/duplicated: 19, number of samples distributed: 174, number of countries sampled: 9, number of continents sampled: 4, number of collectors responding: 32, (see thanks below), number of new populations discovered: 1, number of new taxa published: 1, number of publications enabled: 5, (see list below), number of bounties paid: 122, amount of bounties paid out: \$5750, amount of costs reimbursed: \$1272, herbarium support provided: \$600.

It is difficult to quantitatively summarize the genetic novelty obtained via the ARP. Numerous new alleles at nuclear marker loci, and several new mtDNA haplotypes, have been found in the collection. Ten of fourteen known mating types are available only from ARP strains (P. Callac, pers. comm.).

My sincere thanks to the following individuals, whose efforts have placed collections in the ARP:

A. Martyn Ainsworth, B. W. Beebe, Jerry B. Burnett, Laverne Chariton, James E. Cunningham, Vincent Demoulin, Den-

nis E. Desjardin, Royce Harvey, P. Heinemann, Jin Jiankang, Robert G. Kenneth, Martha Kingsbury, Lavina MacCubbin, (Hanne)lore Lebrecht, Pavel Lizon, Albert Marchal, Shea Moss, J. J. Muchovej, Jack Parkin, Bruce Prior, Dana Richter, Clark T. Rogerson, Robert Sellers, Myron L. Smith, Fred Stevens, Christopher Thayer, Thomas J. Volk, Glenn Walker, Wang Fang-hui, Lynn Williams, Nathan J. Wilson, Henry Young, Kathrine Scates, Jim Hammond, Marilyn Shaw, and R. O. Hausner.

Thanks also to Doris A. Anders, Stephanie Digby, Robert W. Fisher, Lenhart Gidholm, Hans Kothe, David Porter, Richard Scrase for interest and/or effort.

Special thanks to Ian K. Ross, James B. Anderson, Paul A. Horgen, and Mark Spear & Sylvan Spawn Laboratory for providing overhead support to the ARP along the way. AND, without the sponsorship of the following organizations, operation of the ARP would not have been possible: Sylvan Spawn Laboratory Inc., Amycel/Spawn Mate, Campbell's Fresh Inc., Lambert Spawn Co. Inc., J. B. Swayne Spawn Co., Proefstation voor de Champignoncultuur - Horst, Hauser/Sylvan Pilz AG, Somycel S.A., Centre Technique du Champignon / INRA CR Bordeaux, Royale Champignon, Italspawn, Fujian Research Institute of Light Industry - Fuzhou, Penwest Foods Co., Horticultural Research International - Wellesbourne.

## Partial list of publications on Isolates in the ARP collection:

Callac, P., C. Billete, M. Imbernon, and R. W. Kerrigan 1993. Morphological, genetic, and interfertility analyses reveal a novel, tetrasporic variety of *Agaricus bisporus* from the sonoran desert of California. *Mycologia* 85:835-851.

Kerrigan, R. W. (in press) Global genetic resources for *Agaricus* breeding and cultivation. *Can. J. Bot.*

Kerrigan, R. W., P. A. Horgen, and J. B. Anderson 1993. The California population of *Agaricus bisporus* comprises at least two ancestral elements. *Sys. Bot.* 18:123-136.

Kerrigan, R. W., M. Imbernon, P. Callac, C. Billette, and J.-M. Olivier 1994. The heterothallic life cycle of *Agaricus bisporus* var. *burnettii* and the inheritance of its tetrasporic trait. *Exp. Mycol.* 18:193–210.

Wang, Z. S., J. H. Liao, F. G. Li, Z. N. Chi, and H. C. Wang. 1993. Identification of field-collected isolates of *Agaricus bisporus*. *Micol. Neotrop. Apl.* 6:127–136.

[Four other publications on ARP strains were submitted as of March '95. Other projects in various laboratories are being readied for publication.]

#### Abstracts:

Robison, M., and P. A. Horgen 1994. RNA polymerase-like sequences in the mitochondria of *Agaricus* species. IMC V, Vancouver.

Sonnenberg, A. S. M., C. Gere, and L. J. L. D. Van Griensven 1994. Mitochondria in a wild collection of the [white] button mushroom *Agaricus bisporus*. IMC V, Vancouver.

#### Information for field mycologists: contributing samples to the ARP:

As part of a program to recover, characterize, and preserve wild germ plasm of the cultivated "button mushroom" species *Agaricus bisporus* (sometimes called *A. brunnescens*), a bounty of up to \$100.00 (US) is offered for each living sample of a unique wild collection which is forwarded to the address below. The reward program has long-term funding commitments from several mushroom

breeding laboratories and commercial spawn producers. The germ plasm recovered by this effort will be used in evolutionary studies on the origin and diversity of *A. bisporus*, and will be conserved for future controlled breeding programs leading to improved cultivars. Each *A. bisporus* bounty will be proportional to the genetic uniqueness of the isolate, scored for several genetic markers (allozymes and RFLPs). Certain related species are also sought.

Full collection data are expected. The bounty scale is: new combination of known alleles across loci (\$25), new combination of alleles at one or more loci (\$50), new allele at one or more loci (\$100), previously-recovered genotype (\$0), closely related species such as *A. subfloccosus* or *A. subperonatus* (not *A. campestris* or *A. bitorquis*) (\$0-100 depending on novelty and origin).

*Note:* In the event that genetic analysis is not complete within one year of contribution, an upgradable bounty of \$25.00 will be paid to the collector.

Sporocarp tissue-cultures, on agar slants, padded inside of a crush-proof box, are the preferred form of sample. They should be sent by air mail (or express post or courier, during hot weather), marked "Urgent - Perishable. Keep away from heat. Do not freeze." Any customs declaration should state "Research culture of edible *Agaricus* mushroom on sterile agar medium."

Clean spore prints are the next best option. These should be air dried (no or little heat). Aluminum foil is ideal for such prints. With old sporocarps, remove several gills and wrap the gills in facial tissue-paper ('Kleenex'). Prints and gills may be air-mailed.

When necessary, ARP *may* accept fresh, sound sporocarps from US locations. *Call first:* weekdays: 412-352-1521; else (8 a.m.–9 p.m. EST): 412-297-5844; ask for Rick.

When available, voucher specimens should be dried, boxed and sent later by surface post (Declared Value for US Customs = \$0), and/or deposited in a recognized herbarium. Unless you are given other instructions, all materials should be sent to: *Agaricus Resource Program*, Attn. Dr. R. W. Kerrigan, RD #1, Box 461, Worthington, PA 16262 USA.

During very hot or very cold weather, please call before sending live biological materials, in case special delivery arrangements need to be made. Costs of sending samples will be reimbursed promptly. Bounties will be distributed annually, following genetic characterization of isolates. I encourage anyone who finds *A. bisporus* growing away from sites of commercial cultivation to participate in this effort.

Information For Sponsoring Organizations is available from me at the above address, or by e-mail to <rwk@sylvanres.com>.

An open invitation to MSA members to comment on a draft joint statement with the British Mycological Society. Please direct any suggestions or Comments to D. Jean Lodge at </S=D.LODGE/OU1=R08F16D01A@mhs-fswa.attmail.com> or by mail or fax (see MSA Directory).

#### Joint BMS-MSA Policy Statement on Fungal Biodiversity and Conservation (Draft 11/18/94 (approved by the BMS))

Fungi are a fundamentally important group of organisms that interact with all other organisms, including humans. Fungi have traditionally been used as an important source of food, drink and pharmaceuticals including antibiotics. Furthermore, fungi mediate critical biological and ecological processes in natural and agricultural ecosystems, including the regulation of soil fertility and nutrient cycling, facilitation of mineral nutrient uptake in plants, and regulation of plant and animal populations. Fungi and lichenized fungi can serve as indicator species for differentiating old-growth and more recently disturbed habitats, and may be useful for monitoring changes and degradation of the biotic and abiotic environment.

1. The British Mycological Society and the Mycological Society of America are committed to the conservation of fungi and their habitats. To this end they will foster and support those activities which will ensure the survival of fungal populations.
2. The Societies will encourage research on the factors that maintain or cause declines in fungal populations and diversity.

# Mycological Society of America Prizes and Awards for 1995

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## Distinguished Mycologist Awards

The Distinguished Mycologist Award is given annually to an individual whose career has been outstanding on the basis of published research and service to MSA. This year the committee selected two individuals to receive this honor.

**Dr. Karl Esser** began his studies of biology and biochemistry at the University of Cologne in 1946 and received his Ph.D. in 1952. After a postdoctoral position in the Laboratory of Genetics at the University of Paris in 1952-53, he returned to the University of Cologne as a scientific assistant in the Department of Botany, then in 1963 was appointed Professor for General Biology at the Ruhr-University Bochum. During his tenure at Ruhr-University Bochum, which lasted until 1989, Dr. Esser served variously as Vice Dean and Dean of the Faculty of Biology as well as the Director of the Botanical Garden, and he holds the highest academic rank in Germany. He served as President of the 14<sup>th</sup> International Botanical Congress in Berlin and the International Mycological Congress in Regensburg. Dr. Esser's scientific accomplishments include 220 original papers, short communications, and reviews in fungal genetics, biochemistry, molecular biology, and gerontology.

Noteworthy are his studies on development and aging in *Podospora*, the genetics of mating incompatibility, and he has been credited with the discovery and characterization of the first plasmid DNA in a mycelial fungus. His books *Genetics of Fungi* and *Cryptogams I and II* have been translated into English and have been adopted extensively. Dr. Esser has received several honorary degrees, including the Chevalier de 'l'Ordre de la Palme Academique from the French government.

**Dr. Bryce Kendrick** began his academic track at the University of Liverpool, from which he received his B.Sc. with honors in 1955 and his Ph.D. in 1958. Bryce then moved to Canada as a National Research Council Post-Doctoral Fellow in Ottawa. After six years as a Research Officer at the Plant Research Institute in Ottawa, he went to the University of Waterloo as an Assistant Professor and became Full Professor in 1971. Dr.

Kendrick was awarded a Guggenheim Fellowship in 1979, received the D.Sc. from the University of Liverpool in 1980, and was elected Fellow of the Royal Society of Canada in 1981. From 1985 until his recent retirement, he served as Associate Dean for Graduate Affairs. Although he has demonstrated a generalist's interest in science, he is best known for his contributions toward the systematics, development, and ecology of the Hyphomycetes. He has authored or co-authored more than 186 publications, including 10 books, several of which have had broad appeal and use. His two volumes of edited proceedings from the Kananaskis conferences he organized are considered landmark works, and have greatly influenced the course of systematic research since their publication. *The Genera of Hyphomycetes*, written with Carmichael et al., has become a standard reference for the identification of hyphomycetes.

[Rodney Roberts, Chair Awards Committee]

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## The Constantine J. Alexopoulos Prize:

The Alexopoulos Prize is awarded annually to a young mycologist who has received the Ph.D. within the last ten years in recognition of research quality and originality. It is given in memory of the late C. J. Alexopoulos.

**Dr. Rytas Vilgalys.** Since receiving his Ph.D. in 1985 under Orson Miller, Rytas has developed one of the leading evolutionary mycology programs in North America. His broad interests have led him to work with plant and human pathogens such as *Rhizoctonia* and *Cryptococcus*, as well as other more innocuous basidiomycete genera such as *Collybia*, *Pleurotus*, and *Omphalina*, all of which have

been vehicles to learn more about population genetics and speciation in fungi. He has been a prolific writer of influential papers. These papers are not only technically elegant but also stimulate us to think anew about how we view the population biology of fungi. One recent paper on speciation in *Pleurotus* was recently published in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*. Rytas has also devel-

oped into an effective mentor of students. His eclectic interests provide his students with a broad freedom to choose research projects and have led him to fruitful collaborations with colleagues from a broad range of disciplines. In short, the originality, quantity, and quality of Rytas' work have made him the outstanding choice to receive this year's Alexopoulos Prize.

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## MSA Graduate Fellowships:

**Yatika Kohli** received a B.S., M.S. and Master of Philosophy in Botany from Punjab University in 1987, 1988 and 1989, respectively. Ms. Kohli then received a M.S. degree in Botany from the University of Toronto in 1992, and expects to receive her Ph.D. in Botany from the University of Toronto under the direction of Dr. Linda M. Kohn. Yatika's dissertation and proposal are entitled "Clonality and clonal lineages in field populations of *Sclerotinia sclerotiorum*." Yatika has previously received several University of Toronto Open Fellowships, the Elizabeth Ann Wintercorbyn Award from the University of Toronto, and a University medal and scholarship from the Punjab University.

**Steven Doggett** received his B.S. and M.S. in Biology from Southwest Missouri State in 1987 and 1989, respectively, and expects to receive his Ph. D. in 1995 from the Institute of Ecology, University of Georgia at Athens, under the direction of Dr. David Porter. Steven's dissertation and proposal are entitled "Life history and development of *Zygorhizidium planktonicum*, a fungal parasite of freshwater diatoms". Steven has previously received a Grant-in-Aid Research Award from the Phycological Society of America (1994) and the Odum Foundation Award from the UGA Institute of Ecology (1993), and has been awarded a USDA Postdoc-

toral Research Fellowship to study host specificity of fungal parasites of freshwater algae.

**Greg Saenz** received his B.S. in Biology from California State University in 1990, and expects to receive his Ph.D. in Plant Biology from The University of California, Berkeley, in 1996 under the direction of Dr. John W. Taylor. Greg's proposal and dissertation are entitled "Molecular evolution of the Erysiphales (powdery mildews) and the Meliolales (black mildews)." Other recognition that Greg has received includes the Outstanding Graduate Student Instructor, Dept. of Biology, UCB, 1993-94, a Mentored Research Fellowship, UCB, 1992-93, and honorable mention from the National Research Council, Ford Foundation Doctoral Fellowship. The MSA Graduate Fellowship awarded to Greg was funded by the North American Mycological Association.

## Backus Award

**David Gernandt** received his B.A. in Biology from the University of Oregon in 1992, and expects to receive his Ph.D. from the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Oregon State University under the direction of Dr. Jeffrey Stone. David's dissertation research proposal was entitled "Symbiosis and speciation between pinoid conifers and foliar fungi." Other honors received by David include graduating from The University of Oregon magna cum

laude, and membership in Phi Beta Kappa at Oregon.

## MSA Graduate Research Prize

(Oral Presentation)

**M. S. Doggett and D. Porter.**

Sexual reproduction and resting spore development in *Zygorhizidium planktonicum*: an obligate parasite of freshwater diatoms.

**M. Freitag, N. Dighole, and M. S. Sachs.**

Isolation and characterization of Uv-induced mutations affecting the responses of *Neurospora crassa* to arginine.

## MSA Graduate Research Prize

(Poster Presentation)

**D. S. Lowry and R. W. Roberson.**

The effects of nocodazole and cytochalasin d on cytoplasmic cleavage in zoosporangia of *Allomyces macrogynus*: an ultrastructural study.

**A. R. Tuininga, P. T. Rygiewicz, and K. J. Martin.**

Global climate change effects on ectomycorrhizae.

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## William H. Weston Award For Teaching Excellence

**George C. Carroll** is the 1995 recipient of the Mycological Society of America's William H. Weston Award for Teaching Excellence. Dr. Carroll, a native of Alton, Illinois, earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Botany from Swarthmore College before graduating from the University of Texas, Austin, with a Ph.D. in Bot-

any. Dr. Carroll was hired at the University of Oregon in 1967 where he has risen through the ranks to become a professor in the Biology Department.

Dr. Carroll has developed a well-deserved reputation for excellence in research as evidenced by over 40 published articles, book chapters and

books, which includes being co-editor with Don Wicklow on two editions of "The Fungal Community." He is perhaps best known for his work with microbial ecology, fungal leaf/stem endophytes, and fungus-insect interactions. George has been the academic advisor for six doctoral and six master's students. In addition, he has

shared his skill and knowledge of fungal ecology with mycological colleagues throughout the world.

George Carroll has a long and active association with the Mycological Society of America. He has served on the MSA Council, as a member of the Sustaining Membership Committee, as chair of the Endowment Committee and Associate Editor of *Mycologia*, as program chair of the annual meeting, on the program committee for the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Mycological Congress, and on the Executive Board for the International Mycological Association.

In expressing his teaching philosophy, Dr. Carroll stated that there are nine goals a good teacher strives for: 1) organize and prepare class material well; 2) explain and clarify course objectives; 3) use effective examples and illustrations in class; 4) stimulate interest; 5) be respectful of students' questions, opinions, and problems; 6) organize course assignments well; 7) write fair examinations; 8) relate

course material to prior knowledge and tie it in with the broader picture, e.g., current social and economic issues; and, 9) design useful out-of-class assignments. These goals have served George well, as evidenced by the letters from students and colleagues which accompanied his nomination.

One Ph.D. student noted that "George's lectures embody all of the attributes that we who teach hope to achieve—each lecture is seminar-like in its organization and polished presentation. They are meticulously researched, with an updated bibliography of several pages for each lecture as a subtle encouragement to students to investigate the subject in greater depth." The student goes on to say that "His lecture material is taken almost entirely from the original literature and includes discussion of the fundamental research that defines a subject, relevant methodologies applied to problems, and the significant contributors to an area of investigation, together with the most recent published work and its significance." These sen-

timents were repeated numerous times in several of George's supporting letters.

Several letters which accompanied George's nomination mentioned his talents as a gardener, marvelled at his collection of unusual ornamental plants, and uttered amazement at the fact that George was not only an excellent mycologist but a superb all-around botanist with excellent knowledge of phanerogams. Many of his students and colleagues also were quick to point out the "human side" of George who, with his wife Fanny, cared for them as people and friends, and who had always been generous to graduate students and post-doctoral scholars.

It is with great pleasure that we present the William H. Weston Award for Teaching Excellence in Mycology to George C. Carroll.

[Andrew Methven, Chair of the Teaching Committee]

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## Alexander H. and Helen V. Smith Research Award

**Dr. Toby Feibelman** is the 1995 recipient of the Alexander H. and Helen V. Smith Research Award for her proposal "A morphological and molecular approach to the systematics of the Cantharellaceae."

Dr. Feibelman has previously concentrated her studies on the Gulf Coast taxa of *Cantharellus* and *Craterellus*. She recently discovered a new species of *Cantharellus* from the Gulf Coast which is distinctive by its morphologi-

cal and molecular characteristics. A paper, co-authored with Drs. J. W. Bennett and W. G. Cibula, describing this new taxon, has been submitted for publication. Dr. Feibelman will visit the University of Michigan Herbarium and examine the collections and supporting documentation of *Cantharellus* and *Craterellus* made by A. H. Smith and colleagues from other regions of North America. Two of the primary goals of this proposal are to analyze the *Cantharellus tubaeformis*

complex and also to compare the Gulf Coast taxa of Cantharellaceae to Smith's collections of the same or similar species from other areas in North America. Questions concerning generic delimitation, phylogeny and biogeography of species will be addressed.

[Timothy J. Baroni, Chair of the A.H. and H. V. Smith Awards Committee]

## Change of Address

Allen Press now handles such MSA membership services as maintaining the MSA mailing list, preparing mailing labels, and processing membership applications and renewals. Send all corrections of directory information (including e-mail addresses) directly to Allen Press. MSA's contact at Allen Press, Karen Hickey, can be reached by any of the following:

Mycological Society of America  
Attn.: Karen Hickey  
P.O. Box 1897  
Lawrence, KS 66044-8897

phone: 800-627-0629 (U.S. and Canada)  
913-843-1221  
fax: 913-843-1274  
e-mail: khickey@allenpress.com

## Bequest Received

The Society has received a bequest of \$10,000. from the estate of the late John S. Karling, formerly Professor Emeritus, Purdue University. The funds have been placed in the Endowment Fund and are slated to partially support the annual John S. Karling Annual Lecture (superceding the MSA Annual Lecture). We wish to convey our thanks to the Karling family and to express our sympathy.

Linda M. Kohn

# MSA Official Business

## Minutes—MSA Council

6 August 1995, Santa Fe Room, Town and Country Hotel and Convention Center, San Diego, California

1. The meeting was called to order by President Amy Rossman at 8:05 a.m.

All Council members were present except for Karen Nakasone and Keith Seifert, both of whom had previously sent regrets. Also attending were David Griffin, Diane Te Strake, Jean Lodge, Al Torzilli, George Carroll, Orson Miller and new Councilor, Kerry O'Donnell and new Vice President, Mary Palm.

2. President Rossman announced the death of Helen Smith on August 3. A Memorial Service will be held on August 18 or 19.

3. The minutes of the 1994 Council meeting were approved as printed in *Inoculum* 45(3): 18–21, with the provision that some typographical errors, due to electronic transfer, would be corrected.

4. The minutes of the 1995 Mid-year meeting of the Executive Committee as printed in *Inoculum* 46(2):4–7 and MSA Bulletin Board were approved.

5. Vice-President Ginns reported the results of the 1995 election. They are as follows: Vice President, Mary Palm; Treasurer, Richard Howard; Councilor for Cell Biology/Physiology, Harvey Hoch; Councilor for Ecology/Pathology, Brenda Callan; Councilor for Genetics/Molecular Biology, Georgiana May; Councilor for Systematics/Evolution, Kerry O'Donnell.

6. Secretary Kohn circulated her report.

7. Treasurer Baroni circulated his report. He reported that the Society is in very good financial condition with assets currently at the \$300,000.00 level. MSA assets have been doubled in the last three years and the Treasurer noted that much of these revenues have come from the fund

raising activities of the Endowment Committee, especially George Carroll and Jeff Stone. The Endowment Funds were separated from the Operational Funds in May, 1995 and are now managed by the investment firm of Wheat First Butcher and Singer. Orson K. Miller, Jr. is chairing the Investment Committee and overseeing this new effort by the Society to increase interest earnings on Endowment Funds.

As of 31 July, 1995, Society membership consisted of 1245 paid members, a net increase of 29 members over the last year (compared with 70 new members in 1994). Members are urged to continue to recruit new members.

Although a full audit was commissioned, it has not been completed or paid for, but an audit will be carried out. At the suggestion of Treasurer Baroni, a motion that the Society subsidize an official audit during the final year of each Treasurer was unanimously approved.

An increase in the budget of the Secretary from \$2,000 to \$3,000, to reflect increases in postage and other expenses, was unanimously approved, necessitating a change in the By-Laws which will appear on the 1996 ballot.

8. President Rossman announced a \$10,000 bequest from the estate of John Karling, to be used in any way the Society sees fit. A motion to move this to the Endowment Funds was unanimously approved. Secretary Kohn will prepare an announcement of the bequest to appear in *Inoculum*.

### 9. *Mycologia*.

A. In-coming Editor-in-Chief, David Griffin prefaced his remarks by expressing his honor in being entrusted with this job

and pledging to do his best in serving as the last editor of the twentieth century. He reported that the transition from David McLaughlin was going smoothly. Griffin now has the *Mycologia* computer and files, including files on manuscripts in progress. All new submissions to *Mycologia* should now be sent to Griffin; an announcement has been made on the Mycology Bio-net/Bulletin Board and will be announced in *Inoculum*.

Editor-in-Chief Griffin has just visited Allen Press where he was able to trace the progress of a manuscript from receipt to mailing; he now has a good understanding of the process and is very impressed by the facilities at Allen Press.

Griffin acknowledged the improvements implemented by outgoing Editor-in-Chief McLaughlin, including the enlarged format and the panel of Associate Editors. Griffin sees his main job to be ensuring that these changes work, upholding the standard and improving the journal. Toward improving the journal, he presented the following objectives:

- Increase number of submissions with a 10% yearly increase the goal; changes implemented by McLaughlin should enable this increase.
- Broaden topics of submitted papers to include more papers in Biochemistry, Molecular Biology and Molecular Genetics.
- Make Reviews a regular feature, with a goal of one per issue. This would include not just full length reviews (approximately 10 pages) but also mini-reviews of two pages with a short reference list. For example, the journal *Cell* publishes such reviews. Council can help to solicit reviews and communicate ideas to Review Editor Kohn.

- Publish Symposium proceedings in *Mycologia*.
- Produce an advertising brochure for *Mycologia* and the MSA, highlighting the highly competitive processing time of 3-5 months between acceptance and publication and the topnotch photo-reproduction standards of the journal. Griffin's first deadline will be November 3, with Allen Press shipping the finished product on February 15, one month faster in production than previous years. An Ad Hoc committee working with Sandi Frank (New York Botanical Garden) will develop a simple but effective brochure. Also, AIBS member societies can place one free advertisement in *Bioscience* yearly and the Committee will take advantage of this.
- Put the *Mycologia* table of contents and abstracts on a WWW page either through the Allen Press or the New York Botanical Garden. Griffin will investigate the costs.
- Reduce time taken in manuscript review and revision. Dave McLaughlin has tracking records on-line.
- Build an updated data base of reviewers. A questionnaire has appeared on the MSA Bulletin Board and in *Inoculum*. The questionnaire was also circulated at the Council Mtg., and was to be circulated at the MSA Business Mtg., and the Social/Auction. Though Griffin has inherited a list from McLaughlin, the list must be updated and enlarged.
- Purchase of equipment for the Editorial Office, to include a printer and fax telephone-answering machine was approved.
- At the suggestion of President Rossman, Sandi Frank will get *Mycologia* on Current Contents Life Sciences and MedLine (it is currently on CC Agriculture).
- Encourage MSA membership to submit to *Mycologia* and to submit revised papers electronically with a view toward CD ROM publication (in addition to paper).

B. Out-going Editor-in-Chief McLaughlin presented his report. The nomination by the Editorial Board and Associate Editors of Charles W. Mims to serve a 5-year term on the Editorial Advisory Committee was approved by Council. A proposal from the last Editorial Board meeting in Vancouver that the Editorial Board members and Associate Editors be eligible to nominate and vote for Board Members was presented for approval by Council. This proposal was tabled pending discussion and definition of the role of the Editorial Board.

Index Editor David Farr wishes to be replaced. President Rossman will investigate the delegation of indexing to the Al-

len Press (including cost) and, if necessary, the feasibility of Farr continuing to compile the host indices. The best solution would be a new Index Editor, a computer competent volunteer.

C. Sandi Frank, (New York Botanical Garden), reported that the cost of the increase in *Mycologia* format size from 7.5 x 10" to 8.5 x 11" exceeded Allen Press estimates by approximately \$14,000.00. This is due to the large number of pages still printed in the larger format, especially partial pages and illustrations surrounded by white space, increase in paper prices and postage. Frank expressed concern about costs in the long term.

To cover publication costs, Frank suggested publishing fewer, larger issues per year, revamping page charges, increasing dues, or increasing the MSA per member fee (currently \$22.50 since 1991). Past President Blackwell pointed out the recent increase (to \$60.00 in yearly dues in 1991) is already in effect, but that the extra funds generated have not yet been called upon to support publishing because in 1992 Sandi Frank renegotiated the contract with Allen Press. It was not possible to reconcile NYBG and Allen Press disbursement reports. After discussion, it was determined that Frank, President Rossman, President Elect Pfister, and Treasurer Baroni, Vice President Ginns, Secretary Kohn and Incoming Editor-in-Chief Griffin should meet while at San Diego for a discussion of this and various other issues. Also, Frank will continue to investigate reduction of production costs of the journal, without sacrifice of quality.

D. Distribution of back issues of *Mycologia*. Copies in excess of 100 have been destroyed at Allen Press and will soon be destroyed at Beltsville, so that a total of 100 sets remain. The Society is seeking to distribute these among institutions in Latin America and Asia, some of which could pay for shipping, many of which could not. It was pointed out that countries such as Vietnam are developing and that the influence of the Society could be enhanced through distribution of *Mycologia*. It costs \$359.19 to ship a set by m-bag. After discussion a motion was approved to expend \$10,000 from the Reserve Funds (Unrestricted), in which there is currently approximately \$75,000 from Sustaining Members dues, in order to assemble and ship 31 complete *Mycologia* sets. The By-Laws indicate that the Sustaining Member dues "shall be used to promote interest in the field of mycology, to further mycological research and education...". A new

Ad Hoc Committee on International Affairs will oversee ongoing distribution of the remaining 69 sets, to be funded by gifts and/or interest from income if the Reserve Fund is invested in a money-yielding account or Money Market Fund. The availability of these *Mycologia* sets will be advertised on WWW and on the MSA Bulletin Board, as well as in *Inoculum*. Interested institutions unable to pay for shipping must apply for financial support for shipping from the Society.

E. Managing Editor Halling circulated his report and a copy of the original Contract between The Mycological Society of America and The New York Botanical Garden, accepted by the Society 28 December 1932 in Atlantic City, N.J. Halling pointed out that the Contract has been informally annotated over the years, but can be modified to suit both parties with a 6 month grace period to modify modifications. Instead, President Elect Pfister will draft a Memo of Understanding outlining how things operate today.

10. *Mycological Memoirs*  
Committee Chair Michael McGinnis reported that no new proposals have been received this year. The committee is discussing the possibility of evaluating a manuscript being managed by APS Press. Council discussed the future of *Mycologia Memoirs* (MM). Suggestions for reviving MM included working with APS Press, publishing symposia in MM, and changing the name to convey more of a sense of contemporary research. The Committee has one member remaining this year and the relationship between this Committee and the Publications Committee was discussed. President Elect Pfister will reconstitute the MM Committee with new members.

11. *Publications Committee*  
Chair Christopher Lucarotti reported that the Mycological Guidebook was advertised in *Inoculum* 46(1) and that 27 out of the remaining 46 copies have now been sold. Keith Seifert prepared a brief on CD-ROM publishing which has been reviewed by Committee members and forwarded to President Rossman.

12. *Inoculum*  
A. A report from Editor Ellen Farr (not present) was circulated, presented to Council by President Rossman. *Inoculum* is now being published six times a year and is bundled with *Mycologia*. Three issues have been published since Farr took over in January 1995 and costs are within expected limits. She has made an effort to

simplify the format to facilitate placement of issues on the Internet Gopher server. Abstracts for the 1995 Annual Mtg. were submitted to her as camera ready copy by the Program Chair and then incorporated directly into the newsletter. The current print run for the newsletter is 1400 copies. All three issues of *Inoculum* plus the Abstracts of the 1995 Mtg. are fully indexed and available on the Smithsonian's Natural History Gopher Server. The new publishing arrangement with Allen Press has reduced the workload of the Editor, but she still must assemble the issues in multiples of four pages and meet mailing deadlines. Ellen actively solicits material for *Inoculum* from the MSA membership.

B. The publication of letters critical of mycological publications in any journal, not just *Mycologia*, was discussed. Scholarly exchange, including letters critical of in-house articles are published in many journals, e.g., *Science*, *Nature*, *Ecological Research*, on the condition that the author can rebut. It was felt that such discussion adds perspective and interest to journals and articles. Council gave conditional approval to publication of such letters in *Inoculum* as long as the author can rebut and the Editor has discretion to edit, or to reject. The goal will be high quality, scholarly exchange. Amy Rossman will develop guidelines on length, number of times rebuttals can be made, etc. A suggestion that *Mycologia* publish letters and discussion around papers published in *Mycologia* was taken to the *Mycologia* Editorial Meeting on Monday, August 7.

13. President Elect Pfister reported that the Mycology Bulletin Board is maintained by Jean Cargill. Secretary Kohn reported that a World Wide Web (WWW) page will be set up for the MSA, hopefully this fall. Sandi Frank indicated that the *Mycologia* Table of Contents and Abstracts could be put on the New York Botanical Garden WWW page. The advisability of having the MSA Directory on-line with no further hard copy versions, except on request was discussed. No decision was made.

14. **Finance Committee** Chair Orson Miller circulated his report and presented it. The Committee has undertaken a conservative, ladder investment strategy designed to increase income on Endowment Funds. The Finance Committee, working with Wheat First Butcher Singer has invested \$92,517.71 from the MSA Endowment this year and for the next four years in high quality debt securities issued by the U.S. Government. \$11,855.91 has been invested in a Money Market Fund (CRG)

at 5% average yield and \$80,661.80 in U.S. Treasury Note Bonds with current yields of 6.1-6.9%. Brokerage Fees are \$50.00 for each \$20,000 invested. A monthly statement is issued to the Committee and a quarterly statement to Officers of the Society. The Money Market Fund has check writing privileges and serves as a place to deposit interest derived from the bond ladder, a temporary place for accessible funds which the Society wishes to keep totally liquid. Finance Committee Chair Miller and the MSA Treasurer are authorized to sign checks.

There was some preliminary discussion of more aggressive investment strategies for a small portion of the Operational Funds.

President Rossman expressed appreciation to Orson Miller and to the Finance Committee for their efforts to build the wealth of the Society.

15. **Endowment. Committee** Chair, George Carroll circulated and presented a report—with his retirement from the Committee, his last report. The history of the Endowment was outlined, from the birth of the Alexopoulos Fund at IMCII under the stewardship of Henry Aldrich, through to George assuming his duties of Endowment Chair with a mandate to save money, disburse money in keeping with donor wishes, seek money and build the Endowment. He outlined the following guiding principles: accrue money, set up a number of funds named after living mycologists with students who would contribute in acknowledgment of their mentor, give donors a clear statement on how donations would be used, set up awards in a uniform manner to facilitate administration, maintain a stable target payout for accounts (5%), show preference for graduate student travel grants and awards to build the future of the Society, and show progress fast.

The MSA Endowment system is non-traditional but provides management latitude. There are two parts of the Endowment coming into principle. Ten named funds (11 including Alexopoulos) which may increase in number. Once a named fund reaches \$1500 but is not yet fully vested, the Chair may make an award by borrowing from the General Fund until the named fund grows to become vested and to repay the "loan". It can take 2-5 yrs to build a fund and to pay back the General Fund. The second part of the Endowment, the General Fund (Restricted), largely the result of T-shirt sales and Auction, currently has about \$20,000 of which \$12,000 is "lent out" and \$8,000 is in the account

as a cushion. This system does not insure absolute fidelity to interest payments from funds, but part of the interest is available for other purposes to be determined.

The Alexopoulos Fund has not had a significant contribution for the last 10 yrs. Chief donors have been contacted and they desire that the award continue to be given. Carroll suggested three alternative options for shelving the fund while continuing awards under the fund name: increase targets by soliciting more contributions, make awards in alternate years, or amalgamate funds.

There is now approximately \$105,000 in the Endowment Fund built from approximately \$30,000 under a system that has been in operation for three years. \$500,000-1 million is the goal over the next 15-20 years in order to generate an interest payout of at least \$25,000-\$40,000 per year. Carroll notes "Could our society use this much money wisely? You bet! This year we received requests for 26 graduate travel stipends. The Society has been looking for \$10,000 to send complete sets of *Mycologia* to academic institutions ... Senior research prizes on the order of \$5,000 instead of \$1,000 would more realistically serve the needs of worthy projects."

President Rossman commended Carroll for the vision to see a big endowment and noted that a \$1 million goal was not unrealistic. A discussion on the endowment followed, focused on the merits of basing awards solely on interest payouts vs. the present system, and on investment strategies for increasing income on endowment principle. The following proposals from George Carroll were considered and/or approved: (1) That the target endowment for Mentor Graduate travel funds be raised from \$2,000 to \$3,000 was approved. Carroll will write to named mentors to advise them that the threshold has been raised and further contributions will be sought. (2) That the target for the A.H. and H.V. Smith fund be set at \$20,000 and the payout be fixed at \$1,000 Council was informed that Helen Smith's wish that the fund be brought to target level will be realized. There was no further need to consider this proposal. (3) That the number of mentor travel awards be decided by informal consultations between the Endowment Chair, the Treasurer, the Awards Chair, and the MSA President one month prior to the time that the awards are announced was approved, with the added stipulation that the Finance Chair be included in this decision-making process. (4) That the Alexopoulos Prize Fund be

capped at \$10,000 with money from the uncommitted endowment and the Alexopoulos prize be fixed at \$500 (5% payout) was discussed and withdrawn.

(5) That an interest-receiving account be set up within the operational budget of the MSA, with all interest generated from the investment of MSA endowment funds to be paid into that account and payments of endowed awards and prizes to be made from that account. Any surplus in the account could be spent at the discretion of MSA Council. This proposal was discussed and deemed not necessary at this point, given other discussion under Finance. (6) That if a given named fund has received no contributions after 5 years, it will be capped at the targeted amount with money from the uncommitted endowment. This proposal was considered to be a preface to (4) and was therefore withdrawn.

President-Elect Pfister will appoint a new Endowment Committee Chair.

Councilor Faye Murrin announced the donation of the Richard Nolan library to the MSA by his widow, Anna Nolan. The approximately 250 books, 50% on Mycology, 50% on Entomology, will be sold by mail auction. They will be advertised on the MSA Bulletin Board, in *Inoculum*, and through APS and the Society for Invertebrate Pathology. President Elect Pfister will write a letter of thanks to Anna Nolan.

A motion for the \$10,000 Karling bequest to be placed in the Endowment, with the \$500 payout to fund the honorarium of the John S. Karling Lecture (superseding the MSA Annual Lecture) was unanimously approved. Travel expenses will be paid from Operational Funds.

#### 16. Program Activities.

1995 Annual Mtg. President Rossman expressed thanks to John Klironomos for his outstanding efforts as a local organizer assisting Mike Allen. Thanks also to John's fellow postdoc, Sharon Harney. The year-long efforts of Rytas Vilgalys and the entire Duke Mycology crew were also applauded.

**Awards.** Tim Baroni announced that the A.H. and H.V. Smith Research Award will go to Dr. Toby Feibelman (Tulane Univ.) for her proposal "A morphological and molecular approach to the systematics of the Cantharellaceae".

The Awards Committee report was submitted by Rodney Roberts. Awards will be made as follows: Distinguished Mycologist, Karl Esser and Bryce Kendrick (2 Awards); Alexopoulos Prize, Rytas Vilgalys; MSA Graduate Fellowships,

Yatika Kohli, Steven Doggett and Greg Saenz; Myron P. Backus Award, David Gernandt. Two Graduate Research Prizes for Oral Presentation and two Graduate Research Prizes for Poster Presentation will be awarded at the MSA Auction and Social. The Awards Committee of Rodney Roberts, Dennis Desjardin, Joanne Ellzey, and Daniel Wubah were commended for their work on behalf of the Society.

Thirteen Mentor Travel Awards at \$150 each were awarded for 1995. The Committee chaired by Walter Sundberg included Karen Snetselaar and Jim Clark. Thanks to this committee for a fine job.

The William H. Weston Award for Teaching Excellence in Mycology is to be awarded to George Carroll.

Effective announcement of Awards was discussed. Three steps will be taken: (1) Unsuccessful applicants will receive a letter from the Awards Chair either encouraging them to reapply the next year (Graduate Fellowships and Mentor Travel Awards, Smith) or requesting an update of their package in the second year of eligibility (Alexopoulos). This will be added to the Manual of Operations; (2) The awards and instructions for application will appear on the cover of *Inoculum* as well as inside as well as on the MSA Bulletin Board; (3) an announcement in the form of an insert on Astrobright paper will be included with the November mailing.

Effective acknowledgment of Award winners. President Elect Pfister will work with incoming Awards Chair Dennis Desjardin on publicity and notification of Department Chairs and Deans of Awards winners.

Awards Committees—duties and structure. Secretary Kohn will ask Walter Sundberg to update the Manual of Operations on the duties of the Mentor Travel Award Committee; this is a relatively new committee and it is important to draw on the experience of the Chair. President Pfister will work on a reorganization of the present Awards and Travel Mentor Committee structure.

**Future Meetings.** The 1996 will be held with the American Phytopathological Society, July 27-31, in Indianapolis, Indiana. The meeting convenes on a Sunday, Council will meet on Saturday. Elwin Stewart is Program Chair.

Vice President Ginns led the discussion of the site for the 1997 meeting.

It was agreed the 1997 Annual Meeting will be in conjunction with AIBS, August 3-7, in Montreal, Quebec. Steve Miller will be Program Chair. Developing plans for the 1998 meeting point to the

likelihood of a stand alone MSA meeting in June. A change in the Manual of Operations indicating that the Vice President and President Elect shall work together on planning the meeting site commencing two years ahead will be made.

A 1999 meeting in conjunction with the International Botanical Congress in St. Louis, MO will be put before Council for vote. MSA Representative, Meredith Blackwell, is seeking suggestions for symposia.

**17. Annual Lecturer.** A motion to pay the expenses of the Annual Lecturer from Operational Funds was approved. Expenses include registration, travel and accommodation. Previously requests for more than \$250 required approval by Council. The Committee should indicate estimated cost to Council when proposing a speaker. A change in the Manual of Operations to advise the Vice Chair to lead the committee in selecting a speaker one full year in advance, with the Chair in charge of the current year's speaker, will be made.

**18. Public Relations.** Discussion was led by President Rossman, Vice President Elect Mary Palm (AIBS Representative for Public Responsibility) and Al Torzilli (Representative, Council, AIBS and MSA Rep. at the 1995 AAAS Affiliates Assembly). This is an important time for educating the U.S. Federal Government on behalf of science research. At the behest of President Rossman and with informal approval from Council, the MSA joined other societies at the request of AIBS in sending letters. Also a letter from MSA in support of the National Biological Service was drafted by Al Torzilli and Mary Palm at the request of AIBS to its affiliate societies. The MSA Executive Committee, at the mid-year meeting, approved sending the letter to the two appropriate Congressional subcommittees. A notice was also published in *Inoculum* encouraging members to write to the subcommittees. Mary Palm will establish an email address group of MSA members that are interested in being apprised of political issues that are before Congress which might affect science and research, thereby directly or indirectly affecting members of the MSA. This information often is available just shortly before an important vote is to take place, therefore it is imperative that interested members are notified in a timely manner.

Diane Te Strake, Representative, Committee of Section G, Biology, AAAS, reported on the 1995 AAAS Meeting in Atlanta. She offered to act as a mentor to a

Washington area senior Ph.D. student or Post Doc at the 1996 mtg. to be held 8-13 February in Baltimore. In order to foster policy awareness, Al Torzilli will investigate AIBS Congressional Fellowships and make this information available to eligible MSA members, probably in the *Inoculum*. Nominations have been made for three MSA members to become AAAS Fellows, but the fate of these nominations has not yet been determined. It was noted that MSA member Miriam Zolan is now a Council Delegate for the Biological Sciences Section of AAAS and serves until 1998.

19. **International Affairs.** An Ad Hoc Committee on International Affairs will be formed by President Elect Pfister. In response to comments from some international members requesting greater involvement in the Society, Secretary Kohn introduced the idea of an International (Extra-North American) Councilor and an International (Extra-North American) Mentor Travel Award. The new committee will consider these proposals, as well as distribution of extra sets of *Mycologia*.

20. A report from Diane Te Strake, **AAAS Representative** was received outlining AAAS activities.

21. A report was received from Al Torzilli who represented President Amy Rossman at the **AAAS Affiliates Assembly** on June 26, 1995. The meeting focused on science and public policy, public awareness of science and science funding.

22. A report was received from Al Torzilli, MSA Representative to the **AIBS Council**, which met on November 7, 1994.

23. Mary Palm, MSA Representative for **Public Responsibility**, AIBS presented her report which included a copy of a letter in support of the National Biological Service (NBS), signed by President Rossman and sent (with Executive Committee approval in February, 1995), to two appropriate Congressional subcommittees.

24. A report from Amy Rossman Representative to the **American Type Culture Collection** was received. Al Torzilli has been appointed the new Representative for 1996-1999.

25. A report was received from Jim Ginns, Representative to the **Association of Systematics Collections (ASC)**.

26. A report was received from Roger Goos, Representative to the **U.S. National Committee of the International Union of Microbiological Societies (USNC/IUMS)**.

Roger reported on the Annual Meeting of USNC/IUMS at the National Academy of Sciences Building in Washington, D.C., on March 26-27, 1995. After serving as MSA Representative for six years, Roger strongly recommends continued MSA membership in USNC as a way to voice mycological concerns in a larger forum.

27. Meredith Blackwell presented her report to council as Representative to the **International Mycological Association (IMA)**. IMC5 was sponsored by IMA and was attended by about 1,500 delegates from 60 countries, chiefly the U.S., Canada, European countries and Japan, reflecting lower numbers of mycologists in other regions as well as a scarcity of travel funds. Although the meeting was scientifically successful, IMA dues income was lower than anticipated. The remedy for future meetings seems to be in curtailing disbursement of travel expenses to symposium speakers and in cutting other IMA costs, such as a printed newsletter. IMC6 will be held 23-28 August 1998 in Jerusalem, Israel and is being organized by Prof. M. Galun (Congress Address: Secretariat, 6<sup>th</sup> International Mycological Congress, P.O.B. 50006, Tel Aviv, 615000, Israel; FAX 972-3-5175674).

28. Jean Lodge, **Liaison on Biodiversity**, presented her report in which she outlined five types of activity: coordinating a joint MSA/BMS statement on biodiversity issues, coordinating and facilitating distribution of back issues of *Mycologia* and other references to Latin American libraries, disseminating information in response to inquiries, contributing to workshops on methods of fungal inventory, and writing papers on fungal diversity. The joint MSA/BMS statement on biodiversity, drafted at the request of Dr. Roy Watling, Chair of the BMS Committee on Biodiversity and based on previous BMS statements and Amy Rossman's *Inoculum* editorial, was presented to Council. After discussion, a decision was made to publish the statement in *Inoculum* and solicit comment from the MSA membership.

29. Michael Allen, Representative, Committee for the **National Institute for the Environment**, reported on NIE hearings in Washington, D.C., which occurred in mid-July as part of the budget review for the US Fish and Wildlife Service. The hearings were generally positive with a perceived need by the speakers for an institute devoted to environmental issues. On the negative side was a concern that given the general trend to reduce budgets, the

NIE would become a target along with other environmental funding efforts.

30. Lafayette Frederick, **Society Incorporation Representative**, reported that the document for registration was received in March and forwarded to the MSA Treasurer.

31. Thomas Harrington, Chair of the **Annual Lecturer Committee**, reported that the Committee selected Robert Metzner to present the Annual Lecture at the 1995 meeting in San Diego. The lecture was to be "Mating in *Neurospora*: unexpected roles for chromosome structure." Two additional points were raised. First, despite the stipulation in the MSA Manual of Operations that a \$200 honorarium support the Annual Lecturer, in this case, where the Lecturer was not a member of the MSA, the Committee felt that all expenses should be reimbursed. The Committee went ahead and covered the expenses of the 1995 Lecturer. Second, the Committee feels that the selection process for the Annual Lecturer should be initiated more than a year before the meeting. It is suggested that the Vice-Chair (Chair-designate) initiate the selection process more than one year ahead, then host the Annual Lecturer and make other arrangements as Committee Chair in the year that the Annual Lecture is to be presented.

32. Stephen Peterson, Chair of the Committee on **Culture Collections**, reported that the MSA culture collection committee had nothing to report this year because it took no action of an official nature.

33. The name of one mycologist, Karl Esser, was forwarded to Council by Robert Gilbertson, Chair of the **Honorary Member Committee**. Dr. Esser was unanimously approved and his name was forwarded to the membership for approval at the annual business meeting.

34. Dennis Desjardin, Chair of the Committee on **Liaison with Amateur Mycological Societies and Clubs**, reported on an active year. Highlights were a Conference on Western Mycology, hosted by Jim Trappe and Mike Castellano in Corvallis, attended by many western MSA members and members of amateur mycological societies in the Pacific Northwest. Also, three Bay area mycological societies will co-host the 1996 NAMA Foray in Monterey. Dennis has been asked to serve as Chief Mycologist. They are currently planning a wide array of lectures, workshops and forays, and they anticipate offering an open discussion on "Ways to incorporate amateur mycologists in generating

useful scientific data.”

Last, Dennis reported on projects underway across the US to build databases augmented by the collections of amateurs that will aid professionals in documenting the distributional patterns of fleshy fungi, and that will eventually lead to a better understanding of which taxa may be rare, threatened or endangered.

35. David McLaughlin reported that **Memorials** have been published during the last year for William Bridge Cook, Renee Pomerleau, and Rolf Singer. Memorials are in press for Leland Shanor and James Sinden. A memorial has been requested for Richard Nolan and one is in preparation for Francis Uecker.

36. James Adaskaveg reported that the **Foray Committee**, after consultation with several mycologists in Southern California, decided that the 1995 meeting in San Diego would not have a foray. Conditions in the area were not expected to be conducive to collecting fungi in August. Plans for the 1996 foray will be made within the

next several months in consultation with the Local Arrangement Committee Chair.

37. Scott Redhead reported that the **Nomenclature Committee** has been relatively inactive as a committee. Pavel Lizon published a synopsis of recent nomenclatural changes in *Inoculum* this year. Individuals on the committee have addressed occasional inquiries. But Scott, after serving on this committee for two terms, recommends that it be dissolved. Instead, he recommends compiling a list of MSA members who could serve as nomenclatural consultants on an *ad hoc* basis.

38. Andrew Methven, Chair of the **Teaching Committee**, reported that George Carroll has been selected as the 1995 recipient of the William H. Weston Award for Teaching Excellence in Mycology. The Committee continues to maintain the teaching slide collection. The Committee is down to ten copies of the *Careers in Mycology* poster and is investigating the possibility of reprinting it. No requests for the hard copy form of the Mycology Test

Bank have been received and the Committee is considering how to go about posting an electronic version. The Committee is proceeding with plans to ensure that mycology is included in K–12 education curricula. Ed Braun represented the committee at a meeting this spring in Wisconsin on science education. Members should note that the Teaching Committee will forward copies of the Mycology Teaching Manual to those interested in field testing exercises or in submitting new material. John Clausz is directing publication of the manual with a target publication date of 1–2 yrs hence.

39. Council unanimously approved **Emeritus status** for Minoru Aragaki from the Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa, Dept. of Plant Pathology.

40. The meeting was adjourned at 5 p.m. by President Rossman.

Linda M. Kohn, Secretary

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## Minutes—MSA Business Meeting

August 9, 1995, Friars/Sierra/Padre Room, Town and Country Hotel, San Diego, California

1. The meeting was called to order by President Rossman at 8:35 a.m.

2. President Rossman made some general announcements, introduced those sitting at the head table, and thanked various officers and members for their efforts over the past year on behalf of the Society. President Rossman introduced James Rodman, Program Director for Systematics at NSF, who made a brief presentation. Rodman described the 1995 PEET program (Partnerships for Enhanced Expertise in Taxonomy). The PEET program was designed to rejuvenate monographic work on poorly understood groups. Unfortunately, this program will only be repeated if funds can be leveraged from other programs (and not earlier than fiscal 1997). Eighty-eight proposals were received by the March deadline in the 1995 competition (16 on fungi); 20–21 grants will be awarded (4 on fungi). Fungi were second only to insects in awards given for groups of organisms. NSF hopes to work with leaders in the field in the future, e.g., on computerization initiatives. While he indicated that mycologists were doing as well on average as any other group in securing NSF funding, Rodman urged mycologists to take advan-

tage of the Doctoral Dissertation and Thesis Improvement programs. While he noted that NSF “is still there” despite budget cuts, he encouraged MSA members to “speak up for Science” at every opportunity—specifically to write letters, call in to talk radio, and act to promote scientific research to the public and to elected officials.

3. The minutes of the 1994 Business Meeting, as published in *INOCULUM* 45(3):21, were approved.

4. Vice President Ginns announced the results of the election.

5. Secretary Kohn’s report was circulated and presented.

6. Treasurer Baroni circulated his report and presented highlights from that report. President Rossman presented him with a certificate from Council expressing thanks for his work as Treasurer.

7. All new 1995 members were approved as was one new emeritus member.

8. Dr. Karl Esser was elected unanimously as an honorary member.

9. George Carroll presented his final report as Endowment Committee Chair. President Rossman thanked him for his outstanding work in building the MSA Endowment.

10. Outgoing *Mycologia* Editor-in-Chief, David McLaughlin presented his report. President Rossman presented him with a certificate signed by Council in gratitude for his service as Editor.

11. *Mycologia* Managing Editor, Roy Halling presented his report.

12. Secretary Kohn presented highlights from the minutes of the 1995 Council Meeting.

13. Walter Sundberg announced the recipients of the Mentor Travel Awards: Young-Mee Ahn (Park), Univ. of Illinois (Luttrell Award; C. Shearer superv.); Tracy Bunting, Rutgers Univ. (Bigelow; B. Clark, superv.); G. R. Davidson, Purdue Univ. (Butler; C. Bracker, superv.); Michael Freitag, Oregon Grad. Inst. of Sci. & Technol. (Barksdale/Raper, M. Sachs, superv.); Paul Gieser, Univ. of Minnesota (Bigelow; G. May, superv.); F.A. “Mimi” Harrington, Cornell Univ. (Denison; R.P.

Korf, superv.); Jose Herrera, Kansas State Univ. (Denison; C. L. Kramer, superv.); Yatika Kohli, Univ. of Toronto (Korf; L.M. Kohn, superv.); Robert E. Marra, Cornell Univ. (Denison; M. Milgroom, superv.); S. Coleman McCleneghan, Univ. of Tennessee (Bigelow; R. Petersen, superv.); Donna L. Moore, Univ. of Arkansas (Alexopoulos; F. Spiegel, superv.); John P. Schmit, Univ. of Chicago (Thiers; G. Mueller, superv.); John P. Shields, Univ. of Georgia (Wells; D. Porter, superv.); Toby Feibelman, Tulane Univ. (Butler; M. Fingerma, superv.); Katie Enkerli, Univ. of Georgia (Butler; C. Mims, superv.)

14. Awards Chair, Rodney Roberts announced the recipients of Graduate Student Awards: MSA Graduate Student Fellowships were awarded to Yatika Kohli and Steven Doggett, the NAMA Award went to Greg Saenz, and the Myron P. Backus Award was made to David Gernandt.

15. Tim Baroni announced that the A.H. and H.V. Smith Research Award was made to Dr. Toby Feibelman, Tulane University, for her proposal "A morphological and molecular approach to the systematics of the Cantharellaceae."

16. President Rossman presented the Weston Award for Teaching Excellence in Mycology to Dr. George Carroll.

17. The Alexopoulos Award was presented to Dr. Rytas Vilgalys.

18. The Distinguished Mycologist Award was presented to Drs. Bryce Kendrick and Karl Esser.

19. President Rossman turned over the presidential gavel to Donald H. Pfister, the 1995-1996 President.

20. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m. by President Pfister.

Linda M. Kohn, Secretary

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## MSA Official Committees and Representatives 1995-1996

Representative, Committee of Section G, Biology, American Association for the Advancement of Science, 1994-1997: Diane TeStrake

Representative, Council, American Institute of Biological Sciences, 1994-1997: Albert P. Torzilli

Representative for Public Responsibility, American Institute of Biological Sciences, 1994-1997: Mary Palm

Representative, American Type Culture Collection, 1995-1998: Albert P. Torzilli

Representative, Association of Systematic Collections, 1995-1998: Amy Y. Rossman

Representative, U.S. National Committee, International Union of Microbiological Societies, 1995-1998: Amy Y. Rossman

Representative, International Mycological Association, 1993-1996: Meredith Blackwell

### STANDING COMMITTEES

#### *Mycologia* Memoirs

Jean Lodge, Chair 1995-1998

Lori Carris, 1994-1997

M. E. Barr Bigelow, 1995-1998

Paul Lemke, Sustaining Members Committee, ex officio

Linda M. Kohn, MSA Secretary, ex officio

#### Committee on Finance

Orson Miller, Chair, 1994-1997

David Porter, 1993-1996

Harold Burdsall, 1994-1997

Martha Powell, 1994-1997

#### Committee on Endowment

Jeff Stone, Chair 1994-1997

Jack D. Rogers, 1993-1996

Robert W. Lichtwardt, 1993-1996

Don Hemmes, 1995-1998

Joseph Spatafora, 1995-1998

#### Advisory Committee on Nomenclature

Gary Samuels, Chair 1993-1996

Pavel Lizon, 1994-1997

Dennis Desjardin, 1995-1998

#### Committee on Sustaining Membership

Paul Lemke, Chair 1994-1997

Paul Stamets, 1993-1996

Dean Glawe, 1993-1996

Rick Kerrigan, 1994-1997

#### Committee on Honorary Members

Melvin S. Fuller, Chair 1993-1996

S. Bartnicki-Garcia, 1994-1997

Meredith Blackwell, 1995-1998

#### Committee on Teaching Mycology

Andrew S. Methven, Chair 1993-1996

Karen Snetselaar, 1994-1997

Thomas J. Volk, 1994-1997

Edward Braun, 1994-1997

Don Ruch, 1995-1998

#### Committee on Publications

Jean Cargill, Chair 1995-1998

Keith Seifert, 1993-1996

John Zak, 1994-1997

Jeff Stone, Chair, Endowment

Committee, ex officio

David Griffin, Editor, *Mycologia*

ex officio

Ellen Farr, Editor, *Inoculum*, ex officio

### ROTATING COMMITTEES

#### Program Committee

Elwin Stewart 1990-1996

Steven Miller 1991-1997

Mary Berbee 1995-1998

#### Committee on Awards

Dennis Desjardin, Chair, 1993-1996

Joanne Ellzey, 1994-1997

Daniel Wubah, 1994-1998

David Hibbett, 1995-1999

#### Committee on Annual Lecturer

James Anderson, Chair, 1993-1996

Keith Egger, 1994-1997

Thomas Bruns, 1995-1998

#### Committee on Culture Collections

Mary Berbee, Chair, 1992-1996

June Wang, 1993-1996

Frank Dugan, 1994-1997

Linda M. Kohn, MSA Secretary, ex officio

#### Committee on Nominations

Donald J. S. Barr, 1992-1996

Martha A. Powell, 1993-1997

Meredith Blackwell, 1994-1998

Ronald Petersen, 1995-1998

#### Committee on Phytopathology

Michael Garraway, 1993-1996

Robert A. Blanchette, 1994-1997

Josephine Taylor, 1995-1998

#### Committee on Medical Mycology

Michael Rinaldi, Chair, 1993-1996

Estelle Levetin, 1994-1997

#### Committee on Ecology

Maren A. Klich, Chair, 1993-1996

Paul Widden, 1994-1997

Keith Clay, 1995-1998

**Committee on Liaison with Amateur Mycological Societies and Clubs**

Scott Redhead, Chair, 1995-1996  
Carl B. Wolfe, 1994-1997  
Richard Homola, 1993-1996  
Lorelei Norvell, 1995-1998

**SPECIAL COMMITTEES AND ASSIGNMENTS**

**Foray Committee**

James E. Adaskaveg, Chair  
Gerry L. Benny  
Robert L. Gilbertson  
Clark T. Rogerson

Linda M. Kohn, MSA Secretary, ex officio  
James Ginns, President elect, ex officio  
Donald H. Pfister, President, ex officio  
**Committee on Publication of Memorials**  
David Griffin, Chair, Editor, *Mycologia*  
Sandra Anagnostakis, Historian  
Donald H. Pfister, President

**Historian**

Sandra Anagnostakis

**Smith Award Committee**

Timothy J. Baroni, Chair

James Trappe  
Nancy Smith Webber  
**Liaison on Biodiversity**  
Frank Dugan  
**Liaison on Society Incorporation**  
Lafayette Frederick  
**Liaison for Conservation of Cultural Resources**  
Gregory Mueller  
**Affiliated Societies**  
The Boston Mycological Club  
Illinois Mycological Association

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**MSA Publications**

***Mycologia*, Editor-in-Chief**

Annual Report  
*Mycologia*, Volume 87

This report covers the period July 1, 1994 - June 30, 1995

**I. Manuscripts:**

Number carried over from 1992-93	99
Number received	182
Total	281
Accepted or published	120
Rejected	46
Withdrawn	18
On hand, pending final action (in review process or under revision by author)	97
Total	281

Volume 87: Numbers 1-3 published; Nos. 4, 5 in press; No. 6 manuscripts on hand for a partial issue.

**II. Editorial Board Election**

The Editorial Board is being reduced gradually to 5 members, thus only a single candidate is being forwarded to Council for approval. Terms of three members, Alan Jaworski, Gary J. Samuels, and Paul Szaniszlo expire at the end of this calendar year. The Editorial Board and Associate Editors were polled for names of replacements and an election held. Charles W. Mims is nominated to serve a 5 year term on the Editorial

Advisory Committee and has agreed to serve if confirmed by Council.

**III. Editorial Board Election Process**

With the change to the associate editor system it became unclear who nominates and votes on members of the Editorial Board. It was proposed at the last Editorial Board meeting in Vancouver that the Editorial Board members and Associate Editors be eligible to nominate and vote for Board members. Approval of this change is requested of Council.

**IV. Associate Editors**

Six people have been appointed Associate Editors and two of these, Meredith Blackwell and Gregory Mueller, will begin in fall of 1995. Two Associate Editors have been on sabbatical. David Griffin, the incoming Editor, was appointed as an Associate Editor to fill in for one of the members on sabbatical and to gain experience with the Associate Editor system. Two Associate Editors, George Carroll and John Taylor, resigned this year. They each made major contributions to the editing process and deserve special thanks.

Some problems were encountered with the flow of manuscripts to Associate Editors going on sabbatical. The Editor took over management of some of these manuscripts. Better planning to insure that manuscripts will be handled in a timely manner will solve this problem.

**V. Index Editor**

The Index Editor, David Farr, has requested to be relieved of responsibilities for this task. A replacement has not been found. Allen Press was consulted to see if they could take on the task, but they were unable to handle an index as complex as *Mycologia*'s. In particular, they were unable to locate anyone locally who could handle the Host Index. David Farr has agreed to continue as Index Editor for the present.

**VI. Electronic Submissions of Manuscripts**

Electronic submission of manuscripts began in May. These manuscripts are being copyedited at the Press from marked copy submitted by the Editor and result in a modest savings per page in production costs.

**VII. New Editor**

Transfer of the editorial responsibilities to the new Editor-in-Chief David Griffin will occur during July and August. A task still remaining is to update the Editor's instructions as these have not been changed in 10 years.

**VIII. Reflections**

It has been an exciting 5 years for *Mycologia*. The changes in the journal recommended in the Report of the Ad Hoc Planning Committee on the Future of MSA and approved by Council have been implemented. The journal has been redesigned and enlarged, and cover categories implemented to advertise the interests of the Society. In

addition, publication of reviews has begun, an Associate Editor system has been implemented, and we have begun to move to electronic processing of manuscripts. Examination of the data on manuscripts processed over the last 5 years indicates that there has been about a 20 percent increase in submissions and an increase in the rejection rate. The future of the journal looks bright, but if the journal is to reach its full potential, it needs the best and most significant papers of its members.

It has been an honor to serve the Society. I want to thank the many members of the Editorial Board and the Associate Editors for their efforts, and especially Marilyn Allison whose secretarial assistance has been an invaluable asset in the Editorial Office.

Respectfully submitted,  
David J. McLaughlin

## **Mycologia, Managing Editor**

Managing Editor's Report for *Mycologia*, Fiscal Year 1994-95

### **Publishing Activity**

During NYBG FY 1995, *Mycologia* was published as issue nos.:

86(4) September 20, 1994  
86(5) November 23, 1994

86(6) January 25, 1994  
87(1) March 14, 1994  
87(2) May 3, 1994  
87(3) \*

### **Circulation**

The circulation records for NYBG FY 1995 are as follows:

Issue	Subs.	Comp	Exch.	Total
86(4)	1,173	15	94	1,282
86(5)	1,177	15	94	1,286
86(6)	1,199	20	93	1,312
87(1)	837	12	93	942
87(2)	920	15	93	1,028
87(3)	*			

\*This issue was published on July 6, 1995, which excludes it from NYBG Fiscal Year 1995.

During NYBG FY 1995, a total of 13 copies of the *Index* were sold. A check in the amount of \$650.00 was sent as payment to Tim Baroni on July 31, 1995.

### **Marketing And Promotion**

The journal was advertised in the Allen Press 1995 *Subscription Catalogue*. In addition, both *Mycologia* and the *Mycologia Index* were displayed at the following meetings: Natural History Conference (April 14-15, 1994, Albany, NY), SEB Annual Meeting (Mexico City, Mexico, June 19-24, 1994), AIBS (Knoxville, TN, August 7-10, 1994), Latin American Botanical Congress (Mar del Plata, Argentina, October 2-8, 1994).

Both the journal and the *Index* were promoted in a mycology brochure that was distributed at the IMC-5 in Vancouver, August 14-21, 1994, and was piggy-back mailed with one issue of *Mycologia*.

### **Finances**

The subscription price (institutional buyers) was increased for volume 87 to cover some anticipated expenses; MSA membership dues were not affected. The subscription rates are: \$99.00 (Domestic) and \$109.00 (Foreign). We anticipate that some costs will go up during the next fiscal year. A postage increase and higher prices from Allen Press took place in January 1995, as well as some salary adjustments. A comparison of costs of producing *Mycologia* in the old format vs. the new format has been compiled by Sandi Frank. The comparison showed that the new 8.5 x 11 inch format is more expensive to produce (~\$14,500 more). Final numbers for Fiscal Year 1994-95 are not available yet. The budget for Fiscal Year 1995-96 was recently submitted for review and approval. The final Financial Report for Fiscal Year 1993-94 has been submitted to the Editor-in-Chief of *Mycologia* for publication.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roy E. Halling, Managing Editor

## **Mycological News**

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### **Issue Awareness Group**

I am establishing an email address group of MSA members who are interested in being apprised of issues, especially those that relate to science and research which may directly or indirectly affect members of MSA. This information often is available just shortly before an important decision is to be made, therefore it is imperative that interested members are notified as quickly as possible. See the "Excerpts from ASC Washington Initiative" on page 2 for more discussion.

If you would like to be part of this address group, please send me an email at <mary@fungi.ars-grin.gov>. If you have written letters to government officials or periodicals about issues, please share them with the group. They can serve as an important source of facts, examples, and inspiration.

Additionally, if you learn of issues that members need to be notified about, please send that information to me and I will disseminate it.

Mary E. Palm  
AIBS Rep. for Public Responsibility

### **Brazilian Mycological Society**

The Brazilian Mycological Society (SBMy—Sociedade Brasileira de Micologia) was founded in March 1990 by a group of mostly medical mycologists. During the Society's First Congress, held at Porto Alegre—RS in August 1995, officers were elected for 1995-1997. Dr. Bodo Wanke was elected president and Dr. Katia Rodrigues general secretary.

The society has about 50 members, both professional research scientists and undergraduate students. The

SBMy aims to promote a better cohesion among mycologists of all ages and educational levels as well as mycological activities in the broadest sense in Brazil. Activities of the SBMy include a biannual congress and collaboration with domestic and international scientific organizations.

For further information please contact Dr. Katia F. Rodrigues, Departamento de Micologia, IOC/FIOCRUZ, Av. Brazil 4365; Manguinhos, 21045-900 Rio de Janeiro—RJ, BRAZIL. FAX: 021 590-3545.

## BSA Mycological Section

I am pleased to announce the existence of the Mycological Section of the Botanical Society of America. This section was formed at the AIBS meetings in San Diego, August 9, 1995.

The goals of the Mycological Section are:

- a: To arrange a suitable program discussing recent advances in the fields of theoretical and applied mycology in connection with annual meetings of the Botanical Society of America, Inc.,
- b: To cooperate whenever desirable and possible with other organizations to encourage studies in the fields of mycology, and
- c: To act in whatever capacity it may find expedient as an organization of mycologists.

We hope to communicate as mycologists across disciplinary lines, and to integrate the study of mycology more fully into the studies of biology, botany and education. The BSA co-sponsored workshops and symposia with the MSA at the recent AIBS meeting in San Diego, California.

I encourage you to become a new member of the Botanical Society of America, Mycological Section. To do so, please write to: Botanical Society of America, Business Office, 1735

Niel Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43210-1293, USA. Phone: 614-292-3519. Fax: 614-292-3519

Diane Greene, Chair, Botanical Society of America, Mycological Section, Dept. of Botany and Plant Pathology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, Oregon 97331. Phone: 503-737-2468. OSU Herbarium: 503-737-4106. Fax: 503-737-3573. <greened@ava.bcc.orst.edu>.

## News of Mycologists

**Kurt A. Zeller** has accepted a new position as a postdoctoral associate (as of August 18<sup>th</sup>) in the Department of Plant Pathology, Throckmorton Hall, at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506. His new electronic mail address is <kzeller@plantpath.pp.ksu.edu>.

**Ms. Joan M. Dingley** (Auckland, New Zealand) received the award of CBE (Companion of the British Empire) in this year's 'Queen's Birthday Honours List' in recognition of her contributions to Science in New Zealand.

Ms. Dingley, a native New Zealander, joined the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research in the early 1950's as a mycological taxonomist. Ms. Dingley dedicated most of her career to study of the Hypocreales, and was among the first of the 'modern' mycologists to place great emphasis on the teleomorph/anamorph connection through cultural studies. Her monographs of the hypocrealean fungi in the mid 1950's stand as one of the few floristic monographs for Australasia, and are the first major revisions of the Hypocreales on a large scale since Seaver's work for North America that was completed early in this century. Along with G.H. Cunningham, and later R.F. McNab, Ms. Dingley was the primary repository for taxonomic knowledge of fungi in New Zealand. Although she never formally studied for a Ph.D., she was granted an honor-

ary doctoral degree from Massey University in 1994. Early in her career she travelled to England, where she worked with E.W. Mason at the then Commonwealth Mycological Institute at Kew, learning about anamorph fungi, especially as regards the Hypocreales. Back in New Zealand she learned *Fusarium*, and collaborated with P.J. Brook in pinning down *Pithomyces chartarum* as the cause of the facial excema allergic reaction in sheep. Joan collected much of the New Zealand material of the Aphyllophorales that G.H. Cunningham studied, and saw his two major works (Thelephoraceae of Australia and New Zealand, 1963; Polyporaceae of New Zealand, 1965) through to publication after his death in July 1962. She was one of the few women working in DSIR in the fifties and sixties, and was always amused (in hind sight) in recounting her many battles against the male, Ph.D.-trained, hierarchy that dominated New Zealand science at the time. Joan Dingley is a natural field biologist who knows well the flora and mycobiota of New Zealand through her wide travels in the New Zealand bush. Her enthusiasm for the bush and its mycota, and her international recognition were certainly influential in inducing other mycoluminaries such as Stan Hughes, Egon Horak, Bryce Kendrick, and Ron Petersen to join visit the country and join her in contributing to knowledge of New Zealand's mycobiota. I was privileged to have worked with her for about twelve years from 1973 until 1985. Ms. Dingley officially retired from her position at DSIR in the late 1970's, but has been extremely active in developing the Auckland Botanical Garden. Today she lives in her childhood home, in Auckland, a graceful Victorian place with a semi-wild garden. We owe Joan Dingley a debt of gratitude for her long service to Mycology.

Gary Samuels

# New Ideas and Techniques

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## Microwave-assisted fixation for electron microscopy

Having worked with *Physarum* plasmodia for more than 30 years, I thought I had tried every possible fixation for transmission EM. However, several recent papers (see below) and the new Pella catalog were singing the praises of tissues fixed in a microwave oven, so our lab group (Donna Williams, Lorraine McDowell, and I) tried fixing some pieces of plasmodium growing on agar. Even on the first trial, the results were excellent, better than I ever saw with chemical fixation alone. Since we only had a cheap Gold Star oven normally used for heating frozen dinners for lunch, it took some experimentation. Fixation times are very short (20-30 sec). We commend the technique to mycologists to try.

The most important parameter is the final temperature of the specimen in the fixative. It should reach 45-50 degrees C. Under our conditions, we used 3 ml of 2% glutaraldehyde/2% formaldehyde (made fresh from paraformaldehyde powder) in cacodylate buffer at pH 7.2, in a 100 ml beaker containing 50 ml of water. 20 sec. in the microwave brought the sample temperature to 47 degrees, as measured immediately afterwards by a bulb thermometer inserted in the fixative tube. The samples were then washed and fixed for 1 hour in 2% osmium tetroxide (same buffer) at room temperature, and then dehydrated and embedded as usual in Spurr resin.

We commend microwave fixation to you for trial. Times will depend on the wattage of the oven (ours is 750 watts) and how long it has been in use that day. You must check the temperature of the sample after each run, because times are not strictly reproducible, in our experience. Some recent references are listed below (also see the new Pella catalog). Good luck!

J. Histochem. Cytochem. 43: 307; 43: 383; 40: 1247.

J. Neuroscience Meth. 55: 173-182  
Microscopy Res. Tech. 25: 286; 24: 514; 21: 355.

Henry Aldrich

## Two tips for routine culturing

**Plastic Syrup Bottles for media.** Operating a small lab has caused me to investigate some unusual possibilities for operations. Recently I found that some plastic pancake syrup bottles are autoclavable, and I have tested their use in agar media preparation. The advantages to using these bottles is that they have a pop-top through which the liquid is poured, and the orifice area of this pop-top is very small. The small orifice presents several advantages: 1) exposure to ambient air is reduced, therefore reducing risk of contamination 2) one has greater control pouring small volumes than with medicine bottles 3) the "no-drip" top varieties keep unwanted drips absent or minimal and 4) If there is medium left after pouring and you wish to store the medium, all you have to do is pull down the snap top to

close the lid, keeping unwanted motion around the critical media pouring orifice to a minimum and thereby reducing the risk of contamination. The disadvantages are 1) the bottles are usually tall, making them somewhat more unwieldy than glass medicine bottles or flasks 2) if you are doing critical growth and nutritional studies, there is a chance that plasticizers or hydrocarbons from the container may affect your experimental results. But if you are doing routine culturing, this last point is not a problem. Before you go out and try using a syrup bottle, be sure to test its ability to withstand steam/pressure sterilization. I have tried several local brands with success, but I haven't tested *all* of the brands of containers.

Steven Carpenter

**Microwave radiation to melt agar media** I have found that small microwave ovens are useful in melting down prepared agar media. Some of the small ovens are designed such that it is impossible to stand bottles upright in the microwave chamber. This can be alleviated by upending the microwave on one of the sides so that the bottle can sit upright - be sure that the fan exhaust for the microwave is not impeded or it will overheat. Be sure to crack the media lid slightly, as steam is produced during the melting process. You can melt down a medicine bottle of 200 ml of media in about 3.5 min, saving a lot of time and energy as compared to using a steamer.

Steven Carpenter

# Mycological Classifieds

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Read the Mycological Classifieds for announcements of courses, employment opportunities, positions wanted, and mycological goods and services offered or needed.

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## Fellowships/Scholarships

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The National Research Council plans to award approximately 20 **Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowships for Minorities** in a program designed to provide a year of continued study and research for Native

American Indians, Alaskan Natives (Eskimo or Aleut), Black/African Americans, Mexican Americans/Chicanos, Native Pacific Islanders (Micronesians or Polynesians), and Puerto Ricans. In a national competition, Fellows will be selected from among recent doctoral recipients who

show greatest promise of future achievement in academic research and scholarship in higher education. Deadline for submission of applications is January 5, 1996. Address all inquiries concerning eligibility, application materials, and program administration to the Fellowship Office, TJ 2039, National Research Council, 2101 Constitution Avenue, Washington, D.C. 20418.

**Scholarship Available (northern California).** The Mycological Society of San Francisco will award a scholarship To honor the memory of Esther Colton Whited and the ever-present counsel of Dr. Harry Thiers, The MSSF offers scholarships to outstanding students of mycology who are attending institutions of higher learning in northern California. Interested applicants should be advised that the scholarship committee prefers candidates at the graduate level doing research in agaricology. Applicants must submit two letters of recommendation (one of which must be from a professor of mycology), submit a description of their research project, and agree to give a presentation at a general membership meeting of the MSSF. Deadline for applications is December 1, 1995. Send all documents to: Scholarship Committee, Attention Robert Mackler, 157 Mesa Ct., Hercules, CA 94547-1451.

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### Fungi Wanted

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I need some fungal isolates of different *Fusarium oxysporum* f. sp. *vasinfectum* races for investigations with Random Amplified Polymorphic DNA (RAPD). This fungi causes wilt on cotton. I'm very interested to get nature material of infected plants and to get isolates from China. Thank you and greetings from Berlin. Olaf Hering [bbadd@zedat.fu-berlin.de](mailto:bbadd@zedat.fu-berlin.de)

I am currently studying molecular and pathogenic variation in white pine blister rust in North America and am trying to increase my representation of collections in many geographic regions. If any of you would be inter-

ested in collecting a few **rust-infected *Ribes* leaves** this fall, I will greatly appreciate your help. Let me know, and I will send collection envelopes and dessicant to keep the urediniospores viable so that I will be able to increase and purify the strains. I would also be interested in knowing of European and Asian contacts that could send me non-viable spores or extracted DNA. Thanks!

Paul Zambino, USDA Forest Service, Forestry Sciences Lab, 5985 Highway K, Rhineland, WI 54501. Phone: 715-362-1178. Fax: 715-362-1166. <[paulz@puccini.crl.umn.edu](mailto:paulz@puccini.crl.umn.edu)>.

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### Mycological Goods and Services

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**Mold Identification Services.** We identify fungal molds for industry, agriculture and academia. Information is available via e-mail at [microbe@peak.org](mailto:microbe@peak.org) or by writing Cascade Research Associates & Abbey Lane Laboratory, P.O. Box 1665, Philomath, OR 97370 USA. Phone: 503-929-5984. [Steven Carpenter]

**Wild Mushroom Cards Available.** Set of 36 Cards (32 Different Edible Mushrooms and 4 Information Cards). Each set of cards comes packaged in a plastic case for convenient field use. Cards include common and scientific name, photo, fruiting season bar graph, description and habitat. For price and ordering details, contact: "Fungi by Progy," 37 Elizabeth St., Johnson City, NY 13790. <[progovit@spectra.net](mailto:progovit@spectra.net)>. [Richard Progovitz]

**Maitake Mushrooms Available.** The Maitake mushroom (*Grifola frondosa*) is the king of the Asian medicinal fungi. It is also a delicious edible mushroom. Current research suggests that the bioactive polysaccharide compounds in maitake (beta-glucans and others) are potent immune-system boosters and tumor fighters. Maitake has also been shown to have a beneficial effect on blood pressure and blood lipids even in small doses. The Maitake mushroom is more active when eaten than Shiitake, Reishi and other medicinal fungi. We have a new sup-

ply of dried maitake as well as good sources for any other Asian fungi. We can also supply Reishi, Shiitake, Zhu-ling mushrooms and extracts.

For prices and additional information contact: David Williams, Tradeware, Box 406, White Marsh, VA 23183. Phone: 804-693-2239. Fax: 804-693-7122. <[73614.2275@compuserve.com](mailto:73614.2275@compuserve.com)>.

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### Positions Available

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**Post-Doctorate in Molecular Biology** (Molecular studies on the Lasiosphaeriaceae), University Of Hong Kong, Department Of Ecology & Biodiversity.

I am looking for a recently qualified Ph.D. student of molecular biology (preferably rDNA sequencing & RAPD) to carry out a post doc at HKU to work on the Lasiosphaeriaceae. Special duties: to help set up and run the molecular biology lab in this department. This is a three-year position with a starting date of January 1996. Application deadline 31 Oct 1995. Salary HK \$33,000 per month (approx USA\$ 4000 per month). Also medical and sports benefits. Contact Kevin D Hyde <[kdhyde@hkucc.hku.hk](mailto:kdhyde@hkucc.hku.hk)>

The Department of Biological Sciences, Arkansas State University, invites applications for a **research assistantship in mycology** starting January 1996 (availability contingent upon funding). Student will be expected to participate in a research project, be involved in undergraduate teaching and complete course work leading to a Master's degree in biology. Project proposes to investigate the role and use of wood-decaying fungi in the formation of nesting cavities for primary and secondary nesters (e.g., woodpeckers, flying squirrels, owls) as a wildlife management technique in the Olympic Peninsula, Washington. If interested, contact Dr. Martin J. Huss by mail, Department of Biological Sciences, Arkansas State University, P.O. Box 599, State University, AR 72467, or on the internet at [mhuss@navajo.astate.edu](mailto:mhuss@navajo.astate.edu) or by telephone at (501) 972-3082.

Two Research Assistantships are available beginning August 1996 at the University of Kansas for graduate students working toward the Master's or Ph.D. degree, to do research on Trichomycetes associated with insects and other arthropods. Some background in mycology (or entomology) and systematics necessary. Experience with or interest in molecular systematics desirable for one of the positions. Contact Robert W. Lichtwardt, Department of Botany, University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS 66045. Phone: 913-864-3740. Fax 913-864-5321. <licht@kuhub.cc.ukans.edu>.

Applications are invited for a **PhD studentship** for three years in Molecular Fungal Ecology/Taxonomy. Applicants should hold a Masters degree or equivalent and have working experience in molecular biology and mycology or phytopathology. The successful applicant will work on the characterization of selected isolates of the root endophyte *Phialocephala fortinii* (Hyphomycetes) by both species- and strain-specific genetic markers and study the population structure and distribution of this fungus. The experimental program will use classical mycological and plant pathological techniques as well as molecular genetic techniques. Methods to be used

will include RAPD and RFLP markers, and sequencing of single-copy genes. Norway spruce (*Picea abies*) will be used as model host plant. Applications including a full curriculum vitae, a copy of the Masters thesis, publications (if any) and letters of recommendation by two referees should be sent to: Prof. Dr. O. Holdenrieder or Dr. Thomas N. Sieber, Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH), Department of Wood and Forest Sciences, Forest pathology and Dendrology, ETH-Zentrum, CH-8092 Zuerich, Switzerland. Deadline for application is October 31, 1995.

Dear MSA Members:

Through our Society all of us can help to make an impact on the current and future strength of mycology. In recent years the Endowment Committee has been active in setting up a number of funds, most of which are intended for rather specific uses or for special kinds of awards or prizes.

There is another way we can contribute to the long-range financial health of the Society, which can translate to greater assurance of support for mycology and generations of mycologists well into the future. This is to make a bequest to the Society in your will. Although many of us would prefer to put this aspect of our personal future aside, the reality is that the future always catches up with us.

Your bequest, especially if it contributes to an unrestricted fund, could be used for many purposes. For instance, it might provide wider support for travel and research fellowships for graduate students or senior mycologists, support for special programs at annual meetings, or foreign travel for research. Future MSA Councils and Endowment Committees would no doubt find many worthy projects to fund that would have as their goal the strengthening of mycology in ways not available through other support channels within or outside of the Society. |

Please consider adding such a bequest whenever you update your will.

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University of Kansas  
Lawrence, KS 66049, U.S.A.  
FAX (913)864-5321  
<licht@kuhub.cc.ukans.edu>

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# inoculum

The Newsletter  
of the Mycological  
Society of America

ISSN 0541-4938  
Volume 46, No. 5  
October 1995

*Inoculum* is published six times a year and is mailed with the society's journal, *Mycologia*.

Submit contributions to the editor by electronic mail (a message in plain ASCII text), on diskette along with hard copy (ASCII text or common word processor, specify format and software on the diskette), or as hard copy. The editor reserves the right to select, delete, edit, and correct copy submitted for publication in accordance with the policies of *Inoculum* and the Mycological Society of America.

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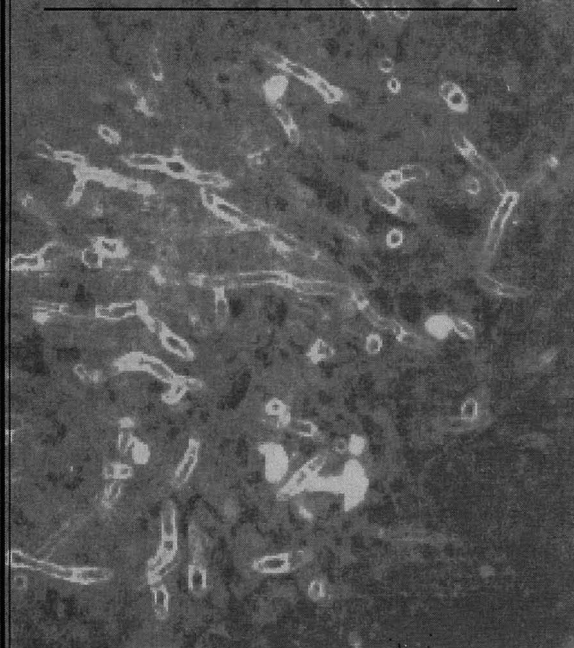
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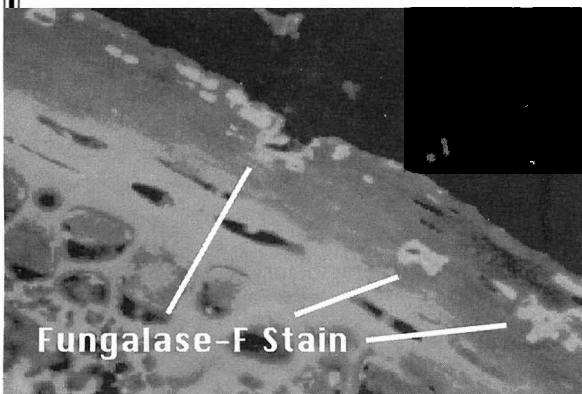
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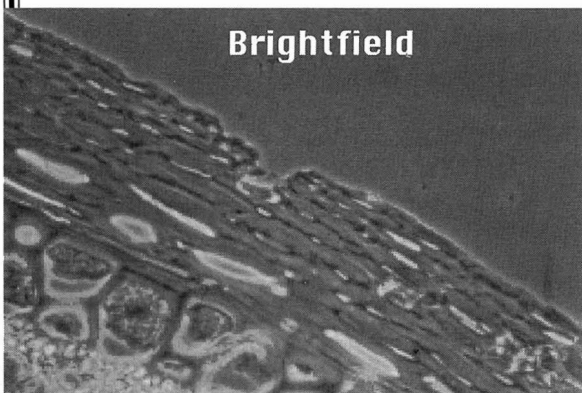
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