

Northeastern Division Annual Meeting

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The Northeastern Division (NED) of APS held its 69th annual meeting October 28-30 2009 at Hotel Palace Royal in Quebec City (QC, Canada). **Russell Tweddell** (Université Laval) assisted by **Danny Rioux** (Canadian Forest Service), **Benjamin Mimee** (Université Laval), **Tyler Avis** (Carleton University), and **Gaston Laflamme** (Canadian Forest Service) handled local arrangements for a meeting that hosted 70 registrants. The program began on Wednesday (October 28) afternoon with an informal discussion of applied plant pathology during the extension/industry meeting presided by **Andrew Wyenandt** (Rutgers University). Attendees also had the option of a tour of Old Quebec or a Forest Pathology tour. The evening social focused around a cocktail, music, and an exciting Plant Pathology Jeopardy competition organized by **Margery Daughtrey** (Cornell University) and **Jim LaMondia** (Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station).

The Symposia on Plant Defense Mechanisms (Thursday morning) and on Breeding for Improved Disease Resistance in Plants (Friday morning) were organized by **Andrew Wyenandt** and **Danny Rioux**. Presentations were given by invited speakers: **Richard Bélanger** (Université Laval) on “The mechanisms of silicon-induced disease resistance”, **Kamal Bouarab** (Université de Sherbrooke) on “*Elicitation and suppression of plant immunity*”, **Armand Séguin** (Canadian Forest Service) on “*Will the poplar-rust pathosystem become a model in molecular forest pathology?*”, **Danny Rioux** on “*Structural defense mechanisms in trees: what’s new?*”, **Stacy Bonos** (Rutgers University) on “*Fifty years of breeding for disease resistance in turfgrasses: Where we've been and where we're going*”, **Marie-Josée Mottet** (Direction de la recherche forestière, Ministère des Ressources naturelles et de la Faune) on “*Breeding hybrid poplar to improve resistance to Septoria musiva in Québec*”, and **Philippe Tanguay** (Canadian Forest Service) on “*Breeding strategy for improving resistance to white pine blister rust (Cronartium ribicola)*”. Twenty-six contributed papers were presented including nine entered into the *Graduate Student Competition*, which was coordinated by **Robert Marra** (Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station). **Joseph Roberts** (Rutgers University) won the “*Graduate Student Presentation Award*” with his presentation entitled “*Summer N-fertilization effects on annual bluegrass putting green turf*”.

On Thursday (October 29) evening, the banquet was attended by 62 persons who were welcomed by APS President **Barbara Christ** (Penn State University) and NED President **Jim LaMondia**. During the banquet, the Division presented the *Early Career Achievement Award* to **Stacy Bonos** and the *Award of Merit* to **Richard Bélanger** and **George Abawi** (Cornell University). At the end of the banquet, NED President **Jim LaMondia** passed the American chestnut gavel to **Norman Lalancette** (Rutgers University). The NED officers for 2009-2010 are **Norman Lalancette**, President; **Russell Tweddell**, Vice President; **Beth Gugino** (Penn State University), Secretary/Treasurer; **Wade Elmer** (Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station), Division Councilor; and **Jim LaMondia**, Immediate Past President. In 2010, the NED annual meeting will be held in Northampton (MA).



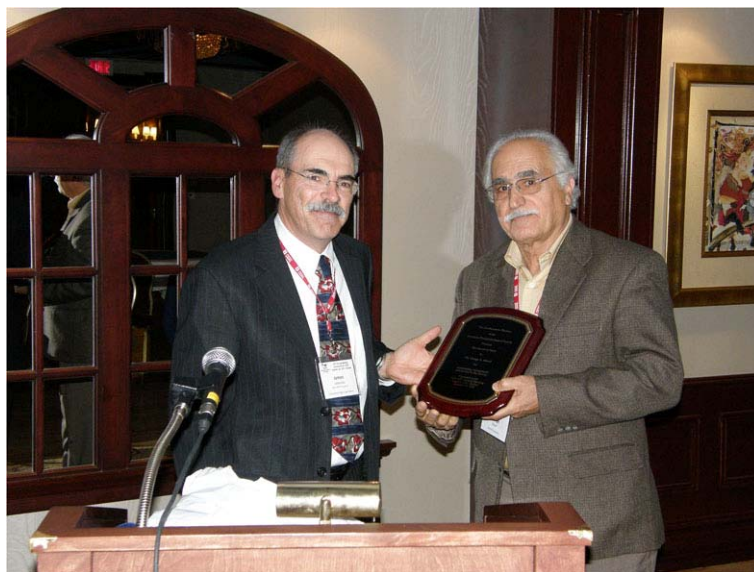
NED Forest Pathology Tour participants



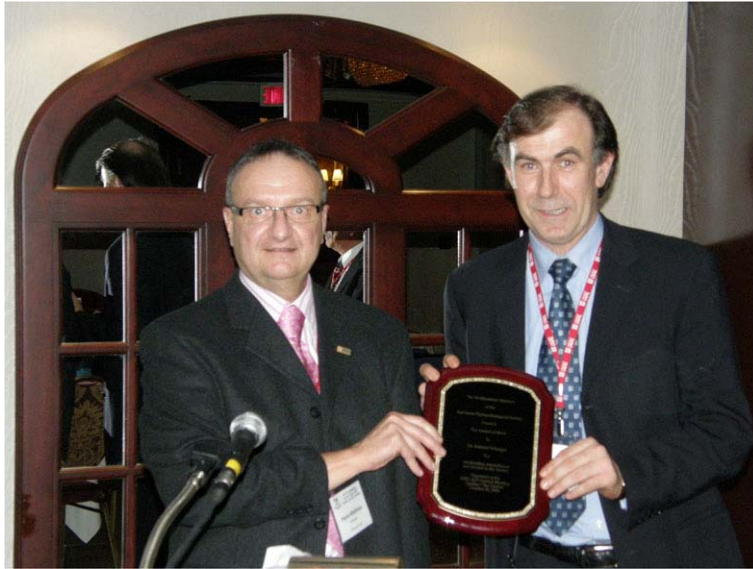
Joseph Roberts (right) receives the *Graduate Student Presentation Award* from Robert Marra.



Stacy Bonos (center) receives the *Early Career Achievement Award* from Jim LaMondia (left) and Bruce Clarke (Rutgers University).



George Abawi (right) receives the *Award of Merit* from Jim LaMondia.



Richard Bélanger (right) receives the *Award of Merit* from Pierre-Mathieu Charest (Université Laval).



Northeastern Division President-Elect Norman Lalancette (right) receives the American chestnut gavel from current president Jim LaMondia.