

◆ Pacific Division News ◆

American Phytopathological Society

Winter 2002

From the President

Greetings,

This is the time of year when the Division president usually tells the members how great the Division's annual meetings are. I have a confession to make. I am not a cheerleader. I'm not optimistic on demand. I tend to get weary when the exhortations come, and I have a low gag reflex. So I'm not going to tell you that the upcoming Pacific Division meeting will be one of the best and if you miss it will be to your eternal regret.

I do however, think it is an opportune time to reflect on why one goes to meetings at all. What purpose does the Divisional meeting serve? In short, why bother?

I would argue that much that is done throughout the field of plant pathology is not revolutionary or earth moving. Some of the work is silly, some I consider wrongheaded, and precious little is truly provocative. However, that is not to say that the field lacks work that is relevant, interesting, and exciting. Most of the work being done chips away at the mountain of the unknown – little pieces are taken off and fit into a larger mosaic of understanding. Hopefully much of it will eventually prove useful in managing plant diseases, or in somehow diminishing their impact.

Scientific meetings offer an opportunity to see what the progress is on building that mosaic. They provide a venue in which

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Alberta
British Columbia
Saskatchewan
Alaska
Arizona
California
Colorado
Hawaii
Idaho
Montana
Nevada
New Mexico
Oregon
Utah
Washington
Wyoming



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Meet in San Jose

What:

2002 annual meeting of the APS-Pacific Division

When: June 22 - 24th, 2002

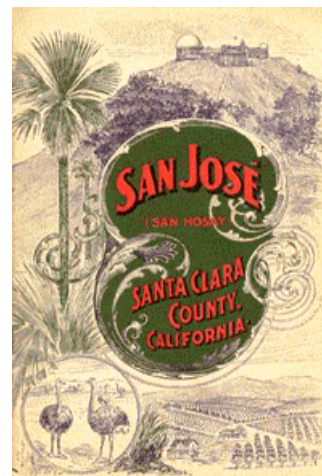
Saturday, 22nd - field trip to visit agricultural sites in the scenic California central coast (see page)
Paper sessions – June 23 - 24 (see below)

Where:

San Jose Hilton & Towers
300 Almaden Blvd.
San Jose, CA 95110

<http://www.hilton.com/en/hi/>

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1908 Chamber of Commerce Bulletin

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2002 Annual Meeting: San Jose *(Continued from page 1)*

[hotels/index.jhtml?ctyhocn=SJCSHHF](#)

Where to Stay:

Reservations may be made directly with the hotel by calling (408) 287-2100 or 1-800-HILTONS. **Be sure to request the group rate for the American Phytopathological Society Pacific Division Annual Conference.**



ROOM RATES:

Standard room: Single \$89.00
Double \$89.00
\$20.00 for each additional person

Towers: Single \$119.00
Double \$119.00
\$30.00 for each additional person.
Tower rooms include complimentary continental breakfast, afternoon refreshments, and evening hors d'oeuvres.

Check in time for all rooms are 4:00 p.m., with a checkout time of 1:00 p.m.

The charge for self-parking is \$8.00 per day (with in and out privileges) or \$12.00 per day for valet parking.

How to get there:

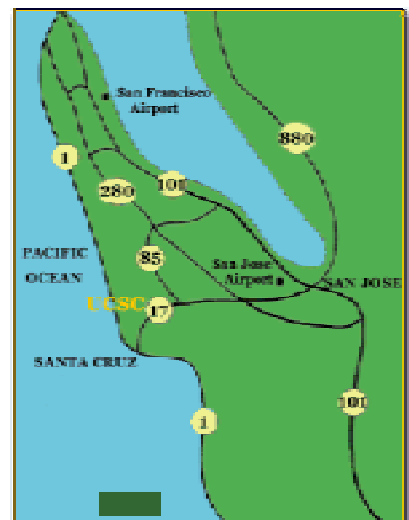
San Jose has its own international airport, which is 4 miles from the Hilton. There is *no complimentary shuttle service from the hotel*, but a taxi ride will cost only about \$10.00 - \$15.00. Alternately, catch the free VTA SJC Airport Flyer (#10 shuttle) in front of the baggage claim area to connect with VTA Light Rail @ the Metro/Airport Station. Catch a south-bound train to the Convention Center Station, cost \$1.25.

Visitors may fly into the San Francisco airport, which is 35 miles from the Hotel, about 45 minutes drive time. A taxi or limo from the San Francisco airport will cost between \$70.00 - \$75.00.

What's there:

Funny hat contest. Oh, no I guess that was the last meeting. Just 60 minutes south of San Francisco and 90 minutes north of the coastal cities of Monterey and Carmel, the area offers an abundance of scenic and entertainment opportunities, including world class golf courses (bring your wallet), a water park, the famed Monterey Aquarium, and beautiful beaches in Carmel and Monterey.

The Hilton San Jose & Towers is located in the center of the downtown business district and Silicon Valley. The meeting site is within walking distance of the Tech Museum of Innovation, Civic Auditorium, Montgomery Theater, Center for Performing Arts, Plaza de Cesar Chavez, and numerous downtown restaurants. There has been significant development and restoration of downtown San Jose in the past few years. For a map of the downtown area, see http://www.sjcc.com/downloads/downtown_map.pdf.



Registration forms will be coming soon to a computer near you.

EARLY CAREER AWARD

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

All application materials must be received by March 29, 2002

This award was established in 1999 to honor selected individuals belonging to the Pacific Division with 10 or fewer years of postgraduate experience and/or service. The award can be for a single outstanding contribution or for sustained significant notable contributions to plant pathology in extension, research, teaching or industry.

Any member or group of members belonging to the Pacific Division may make nominations.

The Early Career Award is to be awarded as appropriate only in years when exceptional candidates are nominated. No more than one award will be given each year. Nominations will be held over for three years and can be updated by the nominating member(s) as appropriate.

To nominate a candidate:

Prepare a nomination statement (no more than two pages double-spaced) giving the name, year and name of institution granting degrees, current position and affiliation of the nominee. Include a description of the accomplishments and any supporting citations or other material that qualify the nominee for the award.

Prepare an accurate biographical sketch of the nominee not exceeding 1,000 words.

Submit 5 copies of the nomination statement and biographical sketch or a Word file of these documents by **March 29, 2002** to:

Dr. William M. Brown
Chair, Early Career Award Committee
Colorado State Univ
Plant Science BS
PM Room 120
Fort Collins, CO 80526-0001

Phone: (970) 491-6470
FAX: (970) 491-6863

Around the Pacific Division

Fulbright Scholar, *Dr. Iben Thomsen* from the Danish Forest and Landscape Research Institute, completed recently a nine-month sabbatical working in **Gary Chastagner's** laboratory at Washington State University-Puyallup. Dr. Thomsen is a researcher and senior adviser in forest pathology with responsibility for fungal and abiotic diseases on trees, not only in forests but also in the broader field of Christmas trees, greenery, and urban and landscape settings. During her stay at WSU Puyallup, Dr.

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LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Nomination deadline: March 29, 2002

APS Pacific Division Lifetime Achievement Award

Nominations are invited for the Pacific Division Lifetime Achievement Award. This award is given to senior members of the Pacific Division of the American Phytopathological Society (APS) in recognition of distinguished contributions to plant pathology and service to the Pacific Division. Any current member of the Pacific Division and the APS who has made outstanding contributions throughout his or her career to the science of plant pathology is eligible for nomination. The contributions may have been in research, teaching, extension, or any other aspect of plant pathology in either an academic or non-academic environment.

To nominate a candidate:

Prepare a nomination statement (no longer than 2 pages double-spaced) giving the name, position, and affiliation of the nominee and a critique that includes the nature, scope, and relevance of the contributions that qualify the nominee for consideration. *Contributions specific to service to the Pacific Division should especially be included.*

Prepare an accurate biographical sketch of the nominee not exceeding 1,000 words.

Submit a Word file of these documents by **March 29, 2002** to:

Iraj J. Misaghi
Chair, Lifetime Achievement Award Committee
Department of Plant Pathology
University of Arizona
Forbes Bldg. - Room 204
Tucson, AZ 85721-0001

Phone: (520) 621-7156
FAX: (520) 621-9290
Email: misaghi@u.arizona.edu



Field Trip Planned

Plan now to participate in the field trip just prior to the paper sessions of the upcoming Pacific Division meeting. The field trip will take place on **Saturday, June 22nd**.

The trip, being planned by **Carolee Bull** and **Steven Koike**, will take in agriculture in the central coast of California. With rich soils, a mild climate, and access to major markets, there is a great diversity of high value crops grown in the area.

Look for more details and registration information in the next newsletter.

Call for Papers

The Pacific Division is soliciting abstracts for the upcoming annual meeting. We will have *only* oral presentations this year.

Abstracts for the June 22-24th Pacific Division meeting are due no later than **April 22, 2002**. Forms are available at <http://www.apsnet.org/meetings/div/instruct.asp> Be sure to click on the form for the **Pacific Division**. Also *read* the guidelines for abstract submission.

Payment should accompany each abstract. We regret that we cannot accept payment with credit cards or journal vouchers. Please send \$45.00 payment by check, money order, or bank draft, **payable to the American Phytopathological Society Pacific Division to:**

Peter Bristow, Secretary-Treasurer APS-Pacific Division
WSU-Puyallup, REC
7612 Pioneer Way E
Puyallup, WA 98371-4998

Students may apply for travel funds. See the information on student travel awards below.

Graduate Student Paper Competition Awards

Graduate students are encouraged to enter a paper into the student competition. Competition winners receive a cash award: \$200.00 for 1st place, \$150.00 for 2nd, and \$100.00 for 3rd, plus a plaque commemorating their accomplishment.

Students must be:

- Enrolled as a regular student in an accredited graduate school in the Pacific Division,
- Must be a member of the Pacific Division (it is not too late to become a member!),
- Be sole or senior author of the paper, and make the oral presentation.

Students may enter only one paper in the competition, and it must deal with research in plant pathology. Papers are judged on content (manner in which the data was obtained), originality of the research, and presentation of the results.

Last year nearly all entrants in the competition were from the University of California, and it is time to broaden the scope of the competition.

Students who are interested in entering the competition need only check the appropriate box on the Pacific Division abstract form (<http://www.apsnet.org/meetings/div/instruct.asp>) and make sure you are a member of the Pacific Division.

Students in need of monetary assistance for travel to the meeting should apply for a student travel grant. The Pacific Division has available up to five student travel grants of \$200.00 each. Students who win travel grants from the Pacific Division will automatically be entered in the competition.

So give it a whirl – as they say, you can't win if you don't enter!

STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS

Application deadline April 22, 2002

APPLICATION PROCEDURE:

All application materials must be received by April 22, 2002

Applications are invited for the Pacific Division STUDENT TRAVEL AWARD. This award, established in 2000, is intended to increase opportunities for students attending institutions within the Pacific Division region to participate in APS Pacific Division meetings. Awards of \$200 will be available to APS/APS Pacific Division student members giving oral presentations at the Division meeting. Students who receive an award will not be eligible to apply for an award the following year. Preference will be given to students who have never received a Division travel award. Students who receive a travel award will automatically be entered in the graduate student paper competition.

Application packets must include the following:

1. Abstract as submitted for the Division meeting.
2. One page letter that includes the following:
 - a. Description of past attendance and participation in any APS meetings (i.e., presentations, committee activities, etc.). Indicate if you ever received a Pacific Division Student Travel Award. If you have received an award, indicate year in which the award was granted.
 - b. Briefly (one paragraph each) describe how attendance at the Division meeting would benefit you and suggest one way to increase the involvement of students in Division meetings.
3. Supporting letter (one page maximum) from your major professor. This letter can include
 - a. Reason student is attending the meeting.
 - b. Scientific, academic and creative merits of the student.
 - c. Any special circumstances that make attendance at the meeting dependent on receiving a Student Travel Award.

Submit a Word file of the supporting documents by April 22, 2002 to:

Michael E. Stanghellini
 Chair, Student Travel Award Committee
 Univ. of California
 Plant Pathology Department
 Riverside, CA 92521-0122

Phone: (909) 787-4115
 FAX: (909) 787-4294
 Email: mstang@citrus.ucr.edu

(Around the Division continued from page 3)

Thomsen worked on a noble fir Christmas tree *Annosus* root rot project and bud abortion problems. She also had an opportunity to learn more about the Christmas tree and timber industries in the Pacific Northwest.

Dr. Dennis Gonsalves of Cornell University was invited by **Oregon State University Botany and Plant Pathology graduate students** to present "Virus Resistant Transgenic Papaya: Commercialized in Hawaii, But Will the GMO Controversy Block Its WorldWide Deployment?"

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President's Message (continued from page 1)

colleagues can interact, both within the structure of the meeting, but also in a museum, a bar (yes, you may buy me a drink), or wherever your inclinations take you. "Off topic" conversations and musings can lead to a fresh approach to a situation, a sudden inspiration, or perhaps an idea on how to deal with that troublesome technique that just hasn't been working out as well as you had hoped.

Specifically, Divisional meetings allow direct interaction with the parent society's president, who addresses the members at the business meeting. Nationally, APS is being shaped in significant ways by non-scientific staff who look after the organization as an organization. APS is in the process of redefining itself, and there are issues brewing that can have a profound impact on the organization and on the Divisions themselves. Take advantage of the opportunity to bend the ear of the president with your thoughts. The Pacific Division has had a marked impact on policy matters in the past.

The more intimate atmosphere of It is a chance to find out what's been happening in the region – and there's been no shortage of action there, given the importance and prominence of sudden oak death. And there are always interesting papers presented.

Lastly, and more personally, in addition to those reasons above, I go to get away from the phone, from the drop-ins, from the daily routine that diffuses the focus of the larger picture – that I work in plant pathology because I find it a means to explore the natural world in a way that is interesting and, not incidentally, helpful to people.

So don't come to the Pacific Division Annual meeting because I say so. Come for your own reasons. We look forward to seeing you. Melodie Putnam

“a Division meeting fosters closer ties and makes it easier to meet new people.”

Around the Division

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Jules-rir-sima-ah recently completed the requirements for a MS in Life Science with a concentration in Biology at New Mexico Highlands University. His thesis, "SINGLE-STRANDED DNA-BINDING (SSB) PROTEIN GENE IN EXTRACHROMOSOMAL DNA (PSA45) ISOLATED FROM THE SEVERE STRAIN OF WESTERN ASTER YELLOWS PHYTOPLASMA" was completed under the direction of Mary Shaw. Jules has accepted a position at Lovelace Respiratory Research Institute.

Mary Shaw has been serving as Chair of the NMHU Department of Biology since August 2001.

Anne White of HortResearch in Auckland, New Zealand, will visit the laboratory of **Joseph Smilanick** at the new USDA ARS San Joaquin Valley Agricultural Sciences Center in Parlier, California, from April to July, 2002. Her visit is part of a project, partially supported by the California Avocado