Annual Report Issue
See pages 8–9 for APS highlights from 2006 and links to the complete annual report.

Is Your APS Membership Relevant?
In order to ensure your APS membership is relevant to you, we need to keep up on your unique needs. Every 3 years, we ask MemberSurvey.com, an independent research company, to survey all APS members via the Internet. It is time again to seek your input for the 2007 comprehensive survey. Your reply is vital for valid results. The responses are the main resource used by Council and all the APS programming groups to plan future endeavors. Your answers will be kept strictly confidential by MemberSurvey.com. Please watch your e-mail in January for a special web link to complete the survey. Thank you in advance for helping us enhance the relevancy and value of your APS membership.

Thank You Volunteers!
“Nothing great was ever achieved without enthusiasm.”
— Ralph Waldo Emerson

APS thanks the hundreds of volunteers that donate their time and knowledge to make this society great! An updated listing of APS volunteers is now available at www.apsnet.org/members/salute.asp.

APS PRESS Announces Appointment of New Editor-in-Chief and Editorial Board Members

APS PRESS welcomes Margery Daughtrey, who assumes the responsibility of APS PRESS editor-in-chief in 2007 to replace Rose Gergerich, who currently serves in this position. We also extend a warm welcome to four new Editorial Board members who began their 3-year terms in January 2007. Incoming Senior Editors James H. Graham, Brian McSpadden Gardener, Gary P. Munkvold, and Annemiek C. Schilder fill vacancies left by retiring Board members Anne Alvarez and Carolee Bull.

APS PRESS acknowledges and expresses gratitude for the valuable contributions of Alvarez and Bull. Members of the Editorial Board provide the essential expertise and editorial capacity that ensures the quality of APS PRESS products. It is the dedicated volunteer efforts of senior editors like Bull and Alvarez that help make the products of APS PRESS a valuable and ongoing contribution to the discipline of plant pathology.

Margery Daughtrey is a senior extension associate with the Department of Plant Pathology, Cornell University. She has conducted a research and extension program on the management of diseases of ornamental plants since 1978 at Cornell’s Long Island Horticultural Research and Extension Center in Riverhead, NY. She provides diagnosis and educates growers on the management of greenhouse and nursery crop diseases and investigates controls for problems such as powdery mildew, downy mildew, and Pythium and Phytophthora root rots. In collaboration with Craig Hibben, she investigated and reported on the cause and control of the new dogwood anthracnose disease that arose in the late 1970s. Daughtrey holds a B.S. degree in biology from the College of William and Mary and an M.S. degree in plant pathology from the University of Massachusetts. She has served as editor-in-chief of Phytopathology News and has completed terms as section editor for Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases, senior editor for APS PRESS, and communicator for OPAE. Daughtrey is coauthor of the Compendium of Flowering Potted Plant Diseases, the Ball Field Guide to Diseases of Greenhouse Ornamentals, and Diseases of Annuals and Perennials. She has received the Society of American Florists’ Alex Laurie Award for Research and Education, the Futura Award from Bedding Plants International, the Scholar’s Award from the NYS Arborists, and the Cornell IPM Award and has also been honored as Citizen of the Year by the Long Island Farm Bureau.

James H. Graham received his B.S. degree in biology from the University of California, Irvine and his Ph.D. degree from Oregon State University in mycology in 1980, working on mycorrhizal symbiosis and soilborne diseases. In 1981, he was appointed assistant professor of soil microbiology at the University of Florida’s Citrus Research and Education Center (CREC) and was promoted to professor in 1991. At CREC, he principally worked on the management and epidemiology of diseases of citrus caused by Phytophthora spp. and their interaction with root pests and on the agroecology of arbuscular mycorrhizal fungi. When citrus canker was discovered in Florida in the mid-1980s, he redirected his program and made contributions to research on host/strain relationships of Xanthomonas axonopodis attacking citrus and in their survival, detection, and epidemiology in the context of the state/federal Citrus Canker Eradication Program (CCEP).

In 1994, he and Tim Gottwald were recognized by APS with the Lee M. Hutchins Award for their...
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research on citrus bacterial diseases in Florida. As an authority on citrus canker, Graham has worked extensively with CCEP, extension personnel, and citrus industries in South America. In professional service, he has acted as an associate editor for *Phytopathology*, has served on several APS subject matter committees, has served from 1996 to 2005 as section editor of mycorrhizal symbioses papers for *Plant and Soil*, and is currently an advisor to the Editorial Board for *New Phytopathologist*. He is coeditor of the second edition of the *Compendium of Citrus Diseases*.

Brian McSpadden Gardener is an associate professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at The Ohio State University. He obtained a B.S. degree in honors biology from the University of Illinois and a Ph.D. degree in botany from Michigan State University. His post-doctoral work at the ARS Root Disease and Biological Control Research Unit in Pullman, WA, convinced him that many questions of microbial diversity and ecology needed to be answered in order to develop improved strategies for the biological control of plant diseases. He is currently based at the Wooster campus of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center and manages a research program that consists of both basic and applied biocontrol studies. His laboratory specializes in characterizing the diversity, genetics, and ecology of soil- and plant-associated microbes that promote plant health. He has served APS as an active member of the Biological Control Committee and as associate editor for *Phytopathology*.

Gary P. Munkvold is an associate professor of plant pathology at Iowa State University (ISU), located at ISU’s Seed Science Center in Ames, IA. His current research program focuses on seedborne pathogens and pathogens affecting seed production of agronomic crops. He also is responsible for teaching a graduate course in seed pathology. From 2003 to 2006, he was research coordinator for the Pathology, Entomology, and Seed Science group at Pioneer Hi-Bred, International, Inc. in Johnston, IA, with global responsibilities for coordinating and improving disease and insect resistance evaluation of Pioneer corn hybrids. The group provides technical support on plant pathology, entomology, and seed science issues to all Pioneer business units, oversees Pioneer’s internal phytosanitary inspection procedures, and conducts innovative research on corn–pathogen and –insect interactions. Munkvold was an assistant and associate professor at ISU from 1993 through 2002, with research and extension responsibilities for diseases of agronomic crops. He also participated in teaching plant pathology and IPM courses and conducted research on toxigenic *Fusarium* species, interactions between insects and plant pathogens in corn and soybeans, and management of gray leaf spot of corn. He has served as associate and senior editor for *Plant Disease* and as associate editor for *Phytopathology*. He received B.S. and M.S. degrees from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology in 1992 from the University of California, Davis.

Annemiek C. Schilder is an associate professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at Michigan State University in East Lansing, MI, with research, extension, and teaching responsibilities. She obtained her B.S. degree in agronomy at the University of Louisiana and her M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology from Cornell University. She worked as a post-doctoral fellow at the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture in Ibadan, Nigeria. At Michigan State University, her research program focuses on the integrated management of diseases of small fruit crops, such as grapes, blueberries, strawberries, brambles, and cranberries. Her research areas include pathogen identification and characterization, fungal ecology, effects of disease on fruit yield and quality, host–pathogen interactions, and alternative disease control strategies. She has served as section editor for *Fungicide and Nematicide Tests* and as a member of several APS committees.
A Vision for a Global APS
Jan Leach, APS President, jan.leach@colostate.edu

In the October 2006 issue of Phytopathology News, I described an ongoing process of identifying critical issues that APS governance and membership need to address within the next 5-10 years for the society to remain viable and relevant to its membership. One such issue is the role of APS in advancing the science and profession of plant pathology globally. There are several reasons to plan strategically for our future in the global arena. First, we need to ensure that APS continues to provide value and remains relevant to members that reside both inside and outside of the United States. Currently, 34% of APS members are located in almost 100 different countries outside the United States. In fact, large numbers of APS members reside in the Asian (353) and Latin American (343) regions, which are major growth areas in science and technology (Fig. 1). Second, all APS members need access to the highest quality and most current research information, no matter where it is generated. Finally, we are obligated to ensure that future plant pathologists are trained to meet the challenges posed as agriculture and trade become increasingly global.

APS members are already thinking and working globally. A comparison of papers published in APS print journals in 1995 and 2005 shows interesting trends in national and international research (Fig. 2). Although the total number of papers that were published over the 10-year period changed little (687 vs. 698), substantial increases have occurred in the number of papers with only international authors (33.2 to 46.4%) and U.S. + international authors (9.3 to 11.7%). These changes reflect similar overall increases in international authorship in science and technology.

Our membership demographics and the trends toward increasing publications based on international research are two of several indicators that globalization of APS is already occurring. We now need to plan for the future to ensure that APS is in the position to provide needed platforms to facilitate research collaborations, information exchanges, and member training. In other words, we need to ensure that the future APS will remain relevant to our members. The almost seamless technologies for sharing and moving information around the world today provide APS with many opportunities in the international arena. The challenge will be to focus our efforts on the most critical opportunities for the future of the society and our membership.

With that challenge in mind, the Office of International Programs (OIP) has been charged to work together with other relevant committees and groups (e.g., Office of Electronic Communications, Office of Public Affairs and Education, Public Policy Board, etc.) to develop a strategic plan for how to best position APS to meet future needs in the international arena. The APS officers proposed the following vision for our international initiatives, i.e., “To advance the science and profession of plant pathology through international collaborations for the benefit of all members.” Our charge to OIP is to adapt and develop this vision into a focused proposal, complete with projects, reasonable timelines, and funding requirements. The proposal will be presented to APS Council for discussion, consideration, and action.

While this charge has been directed at OIP or a subcommittee appointed by OIP, ideas are welcomed from the membership. The charge should be considered in the context of “What can APS do because of our unique position?” In that context, consider these questions: 1) How can APS foster advancement of plant pathology internationally? 2) How does an international outreach strengthen the science and support the financial security of APS? 3) How do we ensure the efforts are mutually beneficial? 4) Realizing that focus is needed, what collaborative opportunities provide the best value to members and best further plant pathology internationally? 5) In what specific areas of the world should APS focus, i.e., where would collaborations with APS be most likely to succeed to the benefit of our membership? 6) What types of initiatives should we focus on that would best benefit our membership? 7) What are the financial and/or technological requirements to accomplish the goals? 8) What can we learn from truly international societies about “what makes them international?” 9) Who will champion the proposed activities within APS? 10) What roles can other APS committees (e.g., Office of Electronic Communications, Office of Public Affairs and Education, Public Policy Board, etc.) play to further the vision?

Please send any comments or suggestions to OIP Director Randy Ploetz (rcp@ifas.ufl.edu). This is one opportunity for you to help guide the future of APS.

1www.rand.org/pubs/monograph_reports/MR1248/MR1248.appb.pdf#search=%22internationalization%20of%20scientific%20societies%22
The 2006 International Spinach Conference was held in La Conner in northwestern Washington, the primary spinach seed production region in the United States. More than 150 spinach growers, researchers, breeders, consultants, seed dealers, field representatives, and extension educators traveled to La Conner for the conference on July 13–14, some from as far away as Denmark, England, Holland, Japan, and New Zealand. Presentations covered topics on general production, weed control, horticulture, and plant pathology in spinach and spinach seed production. Participants also toured local seed-processing facilities and vegetable seed fields.

Lindsey du Toit, Washington State University (WSU) vegetable seed pathologist, and Tim Miller, WSU weed scientist, coordinated the conference, which was sponsored by 13 seed companies and organizations.

Plant pathology-related papers and posters were presented on the following topics:

- “Overview of Races of the Downy Mildew Pathogen on Spinach and Efforts to Develop Molecular Markers Linked to Disease Resistance Loci” by Jim C. Correll, C. Feng, S. T. Koike, T. C. Bentley, A. N. Tomlinson, B. M. Irish, and T. E. Morelock (University of Arkansas)
- “Genetic Mapping and Identification of Important Traits in Spinach Using a Genomic BAC Library” by Abel N. Tomlinson, J. C. Correll, C. Feng, and B. M. Irish (University of Arkansas)
- “Efficacy of Mustard Cover/Biofumigant Crops for Management of Weeds and Fusarium Wilt in Spinach Seed Production” by Lindsey du Toit and Tim Miller (Washington State University)
- “Efficacy of Seed Treatments for Control of Stemphylium botryosum in Spinach” by Lindsey du Toit, Mike Derie, and Louise Brissey (Washington State University)
- “Efficacy of Seed Treatments for Control of Stemphylium botryosum in Spinach” by Lindsey du Toit, Mike Derie, and Louise Brissey (Washington State University)
- “Screening for Resistance to Stemphylium Leaf Spot of Spinach” by Beiquan Mou (USDA-ARS), Steven T. Koike (University of California), and Lindsey du Toit (Washington State University)
- “Generation of an Open Pollinated Near-Isogenic Spinach Line with Homozygous Resistance to the Downy Mildew Pathogen” by Traven C. Bentley, B. M. Irish, and J. C. Correll (University of Arkansas)
- “Genetic and Molecular Characterization of Isolates of V. dahliae” by Maria I. Villarroel (University of Arkansas), L. J. du Toit (Washington State University), and J. C. Correll (University of Arkansas)

To obtain a copy of the full proceedings from the 2006 International Spinach Conference, contact Lindsey du Toit at dutoit@wsu.edu or +1.360.848.6140.
Greetings from the APS Foundation

A. R. Chase, APS Foundation Chair; archase@chaseresearch.net

We have had an exciting year with APS Foundation in 2006. Our annual meeting in Québec City was great, as you can tell from reading the experiences of some of the Student Travel Award winners over the past few months’ issues of Phytopathology News.

The student travel funds have increased by almost 50% over the past 2 years. The combined effects of the stock market recovery as well as the generous donations in our 100 for 100th campaign have made a real impact. We were able to make 31 Student Travel Awards to Québec City at an increased level of $500 per award. It was especially good to hear that these awards help leverage additional funding. Mauricio Montero, from the Universidad de Costa Rica, could not have attended without using the award to leverage additional funding. Another important milestone is that we made the first award to a student studying for the doctor of plant medicine. Denise Thomas, from the University of Florida, received the J. Artie and Arra Browning Student Travel Award. We hope to see this continue and grow in future years.

The 6th I.E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium was held on “Genetics and Genomics of Pathogenicity and Host Resistance.” The five speakers represented universities from all over the United States and the Philippines. This year, the International Travel Award was made to Walid Hamada of the Institute National Agronomique de Tunis.

Several new student travel funds have been established. We awarded the Myron K. Brakke Student Travel Award for the first time in Québec City. There were also two newly established awards made. These are the Landis International Student Travel Fund (the first of its kind established by a private company) and the Milton and Nancy Schroth Student Travel Fund. Both awards will be made for our 2007 annual meeting in San Diego this year. We now have an impressive 43 Student Travel Awards.

During the annual meeting in Québec City, we received $21,773. We are looking forward to an exciting meeting in San Diego and hope you will come by the booth to participate once again in the future. We are planning some special California treats to tempt all of you.

Recruit New Members and Win a Trip to the Centennial Meeting!

Now there are even more reasons to tell your colleagues about the benefits of membership! Beginning this month, APS members who recruit new members through December 31, 2007, will be entered into a drawing for a complimentary trip to the Centennial Meeting held in July 2008.

For each new member you recruit, your name will be entered into the drawing; so the more recruits you bring in, the higher your chances are of winning! The complimentary trip includes up to $500 in airfare, hotel stay, and meeting registration.

“Members are the most important way prospective members learn about APS,” says Barb Christ, APS senior councilor-at-large, Pennsylvania State University. “The majority of new members join because a current APS member has referred them. Increasing the number of members in the APS community enables the society to create new products and services that meet member needs and have the ability to tackle important issues.”

Encourage your colleagues to join now and be a part of APS in time to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the society! By sharing the value of APS membership with your colleagues, you can help shape and support the next 100 years of plant pathology and the future of APS.

Visit the Member-Get-A-Member webpage on APSnet (www.apsnet.org/members/refermember.asp) to learn more and to download special membership applications. Be sure to write your name, or ask your recruit to write your name, in the member referral area of the application. You can also use the online referral option on the Member-Get-A-Member webpage to automatically send the details. You can check the Membership Directory to see if your colleague is already a member.

Contact the APS membership department at +1.651.454.7250 or apsinfo@scisoc.org with questions regarding this special campaign.

Increase your chances of winning—start recruiting new members today!

Important APS Dates to Remember

January 2007
15 7th I.E. Melhus Graduate Student Symposium applications due. www.apsnet.org/foundation/semelhus.asp
16 International Travel Award applications due. www.apsnet.org/members/oip/travel.asp

February 2007
26 Plant Disease Management Reports (PDMR), formerly F&N Tests/B&N Tests, final submission of reports with payment. www.apsnet.org/online/pdmr/guidelines/

March 2007

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Impact of U.S. Congressional Elections on Science Budgets

Kelly Eversole, APS Washington Representative, eversole@eversoleassociates.com

The U.S. midterm elections in November have altered dramatically the face and outlook of Congress and will affect appropriations and science-related issues in the 110th Congress, which will begin in January. While the democrats do not officially take over the House and Senate leadership until January, the results of the elections have already changed the prospects for wrapping up the fiscal year (FY) 2007 appropriations bills before the end of the year. This, in turn, affects the funding levels for most science and technology programs.

Though the FY 2007 began on October 1, Congress passed stop-gap funding until December through a “continuing resolution” for most agencies since the regular appropriations bills had not been approved. This is significant to researchers since the appropriations bills establish the funding levels for all of the U.S. agencies that operate competitive and noncompetitive science and technology research programs and, in some cases, the bills establish the specific funding level for some programs, such as with the USDA’s National Research Initiative (NRI). A continuing resolution provides a minimum level of funding so that agencies can keep operating, albeit at a reduced level. When agencies operate under a continuing resolution, it is usually impossible to start new programs or increase funding levels for existing programs since the final budget for the year is unknown.

The current continuing resolution provides for agency funding levels to be the lowest of either the FY 2006 appropriations bill, the Senate-passed version of the FY 2007 appropriations bill, or the House-passed version of the FY 2007 appropriations bill. For the USDA’s NRI, this means that the funding level under the continuing resolution will be based on $181 million (the FY 2006 level), $9 million less than that approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee. For the NRI to get the $190 million level, Congress must enact an agricultural appropriations bill.

Typically, a continuing resolution is a short-term funding bill and is not intended to outline the funding for the entire fiscal year. At the time of this writing, Congress is expected to extend the stop-gap spending resolution to February. Debates are underway as well on whether to enact a year-long continuing resolution until the March 7th adjournment of the 109th Congress. Under a year-long continuing resolution, the NRI program would remain at the FY 2006 level, thereby decreasing the level of science that can be funded when one takes inflation into account. Under any scenario, the outlook is not good for the enactment of the individual appropriations bills and that could result in stagnant spending levels for most science and technology programs.

In addition to having an immediate impact on funding for science and technology, there will be major, long-term effects as a result of the changing leadership on the Appropriations Committees.

Agricultural Appropriations Changes
Rosa DeLauro (D-CT) will become the chair of the House Agricultural Appropriations Subcommittee that provides funding to the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and USDA, taking over from Henry Bonilla (R-TX). She has focused her recent efforts on food safety issues and has been supportive of science funding in a broad sense. Funding needs at the FDA could have an impact on the overall funding available to the USDA, and this could affect the USDA research programs, as well. On the Senate side, Herb Kohl (D-WI) will chair the Agricultural Subcommittee. He has been a staunch advocate of the USDA’s NRI program and we can expect him to continue to lead congressional efforts to increase competitive programs for agricultural research.

Science Appropriations Changes
Alan Mollohan (D-WV) will chair the House Science Appropriations Subcommittee that has jurisdiction over the National Science Foundation (NSF), NASA, and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). While being a supporter of increasing funding at the NSF, he has focused a lot of his efforts recently on increasing funding for NASA and NOAA. On the Senate side, Barbara Mikulski (D-MD) takes over the helm of the subcommittee with jurisdiction over NSF, NASA, and NOAA. She has been a strong advocate of increasing funding for both the NSF and NASA.

Outreach
APS Engages High School Students at National FFA Career Show

Microscopes to peer through and the lure of a Crime Scene Investigation (CSI) theme was the “hook” APS used this year to engage many of the 50,000 high school FFA members and their advisors as they perused the FFA National Agricultural Career Show, October 25–27, 2006, in Indianapolis, IN.

During the show, APS representatives Gail Ruhl, Dan Egel, Ryan DeFord, and Ray Martyn, all from Purdue University, distributed 400 teacher resource packets to high school teachers and ag advisors. Students engaged in a CSI exercise that illustrated how distinct differences in the appendages found on powdery mildew cleistothecia contributed to a mock murder investigation. The CSI exercise was a big hit and it was encouraging to hear the reactions of teachers to the materials provided by APS in their teacher packets.

Students stopping by the APS booth had questions ranging from what does “phytopathological” mean and what do you do as a plant pathologist, to asking about what was causing the spots on the tomato leaves in their garden. The display of various compendia, DVDs, and the new Schumann/D’Arcy book, Essential Plant Pathology, attracted considerable interest.
All applied sciences, and plant pathology is no exception, are rapidly changing their approach to scientific activity, broadening their field of study (from genome-wide analyses to modeling, from chemicals to organic agriculture) and merging disciplines, as well as changing methodologies for their analyses (bioinformatics for genomics, ITC for epidemiological studies, computational screening for chemicals, etc.). This rapid change is speeding up innovation, technologies, and knowledge in general. But these changes, in order to be approved and sustained by stakeholders, have to be communicated and, most importantly, discussed, as recent examples have shown (see, for example, the problem of acceptability of genetically modified organisms in Europe). Who is supposed to communicate with stakeholders? Sociologists agree that scientists have to engage in this challenge. How do APS members perceive their role as communicators and their relationship with science and society?

For a preliminary answer, an exploratory survey was conducted in cooperation with Valeria Arzenton, sociologist working at the Italian research center of Observa – Science in Society (www.scienceinsociety.org). On July 31, during the lunch break of the APS/CPS/MSA Joint Meeting in Québec City, 450 questionnaires were distributed.

There were 101 questionnaires returned (ca. 22.5%). The age and sex distribution was uniform (50% E, 46% M). The majority of respondents were involved in academic activity (more than 70%). The limited sample is not fully representative of the overall community of plant pathologists, but the results can be used for interesting reflections and inferences that will also facilitate the design of a new comprehensive survey.

According to the APS document “Vision of Plant Pathology in the 21st Century” plant pathologists “will contribute to a greater public understanding of science.” The survey shows that there is a will to achieve this goal. In fact, 70% are in favor, or partially in favor, of the idea that not only journalists, but also scientists, have the duty to talk about science and 90% agree that scientific activity should include science communication to the public. Unfortunately, the 90% rate of respondents does not fit with the percentage of authors (only 32.5% in 2006) that write interpretive summaries, the praiseworthy initiative of Plant Disease that aims to spread scientific knowledge to a larger audience. The survey shows that around 80% of participants identified scientists and farmers as the most interested stakeholders in their research/work. Thus, there are reasons for writing summaries for an extended audience but a minority of scientists do it. Is there an explanation for the low level of participation in open communication activities to stakeholders (such as writing an interpretive summary)? The answer might be found in a recent survey carried out by the British Royal Society (www.royalsoc.ac.uk/page.asp?id=3180): the fundamental social need of scientists to be involved in communication issues with the public is discouraged by the lack of reward in terms of career and by the lack of appreciation from colleagues. A discussion within APS on whether it might be useful to create incentives and increase the acceptance of societal communication activities would be a good starting point to increase attention toward this fundamental task of scientific enterprise. The survey also addressed other questions related to the social dimension of science. The results can be found at http://matias.pasquali.googlepages.com/surveyscienceandsociety; further aspects will be addressed in future publications.

Acknowledgements: The author wishes to thank APS for allowing the survey and all the respondents.

Fig. 1. Stakeholders identification. The y axis indicates the number of people (n = 101).

To view the CSI lesson, along with other K–12 lessons and laboratory exercises, visit the APSnet Education Center at www.apsnet.org/education.
Danie Beadle, APS Secretary, Bayer CropScience, danie.beadle@bayercropscience.com

The ninety-eighth year of The American Phytopathological Society (APS) expanded on the momentum of the past and steered us toward a thriving and flourishing future. With the help of APS staff and benefits of countless volunteers, societal presence has expanded and accomplishments continue to build. Below are but brief highlights of some of these stellar achievements.

Detailed APS Annual Report and Treasurer’s Report Available Online

A detailed version of the 98th Annual Report is available at www.apsnet.org/members/gov/2006/. The Report of the Treasurer is also available at this site or can be found in the January issue of Phytopathology.

APS 2006 Highlights

APS Journals—To ensure that the online versions of our journals remain visible and useful, APS has signed a contract enlisting the services of the electronic service provider Atypon Systems, with anticipated launch in early 2007. APS is now a member of CrossRef, an association of nearly 2,000 publishers, that facilitates article reference cross-linking. APS also continues to work with the University of Wisconsin library to scan all back issues of Phytopathology.

APS PRESS—APS PRESS, in its continuing efforts to explore the expansion of its readership and the diversity of its content, began in 2006 to copublish four books with the Entomological Society of America. The first of these, *Use and Management of Insecticides, Acaricides, and Transgenic Crops*, was delivered in early July. APS PRESS is also copublishing six CDs/DVDs with Stumm Films and Syngenta, beginning with the DVD *Mycology Vol. 1 “Lower Fungi and Fungus-like Organisms.”*

Plant Disease, Molecular Plant–Microbe Interactions, and Plant Disease, making them freely available to readers on the web. Currently, *MPMI* is available online back through 1994; *Phytopathology*, back through 1987; and *Plant Disease*, back through 1997.

Plant Management Network—The Plant Management Network (PMN) continues to move to a position of greater financial stability, with 56 partnering organizations and companies. PMN journals are now indexed by AGRICOLA as well as CAB Abstracts. A Strategic Advisory Board has been formed, chaired by Dennis Gross, to ensure dissemination of integrated science-based solutions to global practitioners. In collaboration with industry, an internship posting service was launched. *Fungicide and Nematicide Tests and Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases* were merged into a new publication *Plant Disease Management Reports (PDMR)*, to be published by Plant Management Network beginning in 2007.

Visitors to PMN continue to rise, with more than 170,000 recorded in the past 12 months, many being non-plant pathologists.

Alliances—APS continued to build on alliances and interactions with sister societies, focusing on international collaborations and working closely with societies such as the Australasian Plant Pathology Society. The APS annual meeting was hosted by the Canadian Phytopathological Society and was jointly attended by the Mycological Society of America. Guidelines for the Sister Society Initiative drafted by the Office of International Programs are under review, with anticipated implementation of select portions in 2007. The APS Public Policy Board (PPB) is also focused on maintaining alliances and meets regularly with other societies via CoFARM and CSSP. Through the PPB, APS has worked with a number of scientific societies to facilitate the significant increases that have occurred in the National Research Initiative (NRI) over the last years. Finally, in November, APS held a second National Soybean Rust Symposium in St. Louis, MO. This meeting enjoyed tremendous support from many federal agencies, private-sector organizations, and industry. Diversity of disciplines was well represented, with more than half the participants being non-APS members.

Leadership Forum—APS sponsored its fifth Leadership Forum to provide its volunteers the tools required to effectively execute strategic governance. Under the guidance of Tecker consultant Bud Crouch, six discussion threads were woven by the leaders of our council, boards, offices, and APS staff. They included The Challenge of Leading an Association Today, Building a Strategic Governance Team, Structure of the Volunteer Work Force, Staff’s Role in the Leadership Team, Building a Knowledge-Based Governance Strategy, and finally, Volunteers of the Future. Resources were provided to assist our leaders in accomplishing their strategic direction.

The year also marks the release of the society’s innovative new plant pathology textbook for introductory students. The *Essential Plant Pathology* textbook, written by award-winning educators Gail Schumann and Cleo D’Arcy, gives students a refreshing introduction to our science. The authors include a companion CD-Rom that integrates easily with the book and the APS Online Education Center. The CD-Rom provides interesting click-and-learn exercises for students, as well as PowerPoint images for teachers, and much more.
Public Policy Board—Results of PPB efforts to call attention to the need for applied plant pathology research (the CAUSE initiative) are that a new interagency CSREES-NSF Microbial Observatories Program was established and John Sherwood, former PPB chair, is currently serving in a 50% appointment as CSREES program leader to develop that program. PPB also worked to organize a meeting with the USDA National Plant Disease Recovery System to review disease threats and biosecurity plans. PPB also continued its communications efforts with USDA APHIS on regulations for moving pathogens. APS now has a member appointed to the new USDA APHIS PPQ Permitting Board of Advisors.

Centennial Meeting Coordinating Committee—An ad hoc committee was established at midyear 2006 to serve as an overarching coordinating group to bring together all of the key elements of the Centennial Celebration. It is composed of members of the Centennial Planning Committee; the Scientific Programs Board (SPB), the presidential lineage, and APS staff. Revisions to the traditional meeting format are under review, including an abbreviated oral format. The theme for the plenary session is “Agriculture: Global Issues—Global Solutions.”

Scientific Programs Board—SPB is considering how the board might be restructured to address the concept of smaller, focused meetings held outside of the annual meeting that would highlight specific topics of broad or immediate interest. Changes also continue in the annual meeting structure, such as opportunities to highlight the work of students, including undergraduates, and early career professionals.

Office of Public Affairs and Education—The Office of Public Affairs and Education (OPAE), working with staff and the Office of Electronic Communications, is currently developing a user-friendly website for the public with information on plant diseases. Initially, web pages for potato wart, citrus greening, and Ramorum blight will be developed; these pages will be used to foster relationships with commodity groups affected by these select agents. OPAE also selected the first recipient of the new Plant Pathology Journalism Award, recognizing outstanding achievement in increasing public awareness, knowledge, and understanding of plant pathology by science writers and journalists of general media publications. Pam Henderson, crops and issues editor of Farm Journal Media, was selected for her nine-article series entitled “Asian Soybean Rust Takes Root in the U.S.”

Financial Advisory Committee—APS continues to stand on a solid financial footing. The 2005-2006 fiscal year showed a profit, with reinvestment of funds following the proactive planning of the Investment Advisory Committee. Fixed costs were also distributed by undertaking management of two new scientific societies, the Controlled Release Society and the International Society of Brewing Technologists. With these additional resources, APS has the opportunity to experiment with initiatives that seek to increase member value.
Plant Health Progress Announces New Senior Editors

Plant Health Progress is pleased to announce the appointment of Mark C. Black, James J. Farrar, and Robert K. D. Peterson as senior editors of the journal beginning in January 2007.

Mark C. Black is a professor and extension plant pathologist with the Texas Cooperative Extension. From his lab at the Texas A&M University Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Uvalde, he provides diagnostic services for growers, extension agents, consultants, and urban clientele and develops control strategies for diseases important in south-ern Texas. He works with peanut breeders to develop peanut varieties with partial resistance to Tomato spotted wilt virus for use in Texas and Oklahoma. To develop control strategies for Pierce’s disease of grape, he investigates supplemental plant hosts of Xylella fastidiosa, site risk factors, pathogen diversity, and rootstock resistance. Teaching contributions include providing field tours for students of field crops diseases and contributing to an online plant disease management course. He has been involved with numerous committees of the American Peanut Research and Education Society and been an associate editor of Peanut Science. Black has served on several APS committees and been a section editor of Biological and Cultural Tests for Control of Plant Diseases.

James J. Farrar is an associate professor of plant pathology and chair of the Department of Plant Science at California State University, Fresno. He received his B.S. degree (1987) in plant pathology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, an M.S. degree (1990) in plant pathology from the University of California-Davis, and a Ph.D. degree (1995) in botany from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He teaches undergraduate courses in plant pathology; diagnosis and control of plant disease; and food, society, and environment and a graduate course in epidemiology and control of plant disease. Since California State University, Fresno is a teaching university, his appointment is essentially 100% teaching, but faculty are also expected to do research. His current research focus is control of cavity spot of carrot. He contributed several chapters to the APS Compendium of Umbelliferous Crop Diseases as well as journal articles on vegetable and field crop diseases.

Robert K. D. Peterson holds a Ph.D. degree and is an associate professor of entomology at Montana State University, where he leads the research, teaching, and outreach program in agricultural and biological risk assessment. More specifically, the program is centered on comparative risk assessment and includes biotechnology risk, invasive species risk, infectious disease risk, and pesticide risk. Additional areas of research emphasis include plant-stress ecophysiology and integrated pest management, especially economic decision level development. He has served on numerous local, regional, and national committees and is currently an associate editor of Agronomy Journal and an Editorial Review Board member of Environmental Health Perspectives. He also is on the annual meeting planning committee for the Entomological Society of America, where he will serve as program chair for the 2007 annual meeting.

They will join continuing senior editors Diane Cuppels, Thomas Kuhar, Michael Matheron, Gary Moorman, Craig Rothrock, and Patricia Timper on the Editorial Board. Mike Benson is editor-in-chief of Plant Health Progress.

Plant Health Progress, an international e-journal of applied plant health management is one of four journals published by the PLANT MANAGEMENT NETWORK. Article types include Plant Health Briefs, Plant Health Research, Plant Health Reviews, Diagnostic Guides, Plant Health Management articles, Symposia proceedings, Letters to the Editor, Plant Health Perspectives, and Industry News. All PMN journals feature free color images and no page charges. To learn more about publishing with Plant Health Progress visit www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/php/.

The National Plant Diagnostic Network Partners with Plant Management Network

The Plant Management Network (PMN) is pleased to welcome the National Plant Diagnostic Network (NPDN) as its newest partner.

NPDN is a collective of land grant university plant disease and pest diagnostic facilities from across the United States. It was established by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service (CSREES) to develop a networking linking plant and animal disease diagnostic facilities across the country.

Its mission is to enhance national agricultural security by quickly detecting introduced pests and pathogens by providing the means for the quick identification and establishment of protocols so that these pests and pathogens are immediately reported to appropriate responders and decision makers.

PMN is a cooperative not-for-profit collaboration of the plant science community at large. Its primary goal is to provide a comprehensive one-stop Internet resource for applied plant and agricultural science information.

PMN currently has partnerships with 56 university, industry, and academic nonprofit organizations. For more information on PMN partnerships, please contact Phil Bogdan, partner-subscriber relations, at pbogdan@scisoc.org or +1.651.994.3859.

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Sam Gnanamanickam has been appointed by Novozymes Biologicals, Inc. as a senior scientist (research and development) in their Plant Care Group. He will be developing new PGPR and biocontrol strains to enhance and expand commercial offerings of the Roots product line. Gnanamanickam obtained his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from the University of Hawaii in 1976 and taught plant pathology and researched rice diseases at the Center for Advanced Studies in Botany, University of Madras, India, for 29 years. He also holds an adjunct professorship in plant pathology at the University of Arizona. Gnanamanickam's years at University of Madras included post-doctoral work at Agriculture Canada in London, Ontario; a visiting scientist assignment at the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Los Baños, Philippines; and several short visiting professorships (sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation's International Rice Biotechnology Program) to the University of Hawaii, Kansas State University, Purdue University, the University of Wisconsin, and Cornell University. He developed research collaboration with several leading plant pathologists worldwide and supervised the research of 25 Ph.D. students. At the University of Madras, Gnanamanickam's work focused on the biological control of rice diseases blast (Magnaporthe grisea), bacterial blight (Xanthomonas oryzae pv. oryzae), and sheath blight (Rhizoctonia solani) with rice-associated bacteria and on the improvement of rice to these constraints by molecular marker-assisted backcross breeding and rice transformation. The transgenic indica rices of elite cultivars IR50 and CO39, that contained genes for blast and bacterial blight resistance, were developed by him and his students in collaboration with Swapan Datta of IRRI (Crop Sci. 42:2072-2079, 2002; Mol. Breed. 14:61-71, 2004). He has also developed the following two edited volumes on biological control: Biological Control of Crop Diseases, Marcel Dekker Publishers, New York, April 2002, and Plant-Associated Bacteria, Springer, Netherlands, May 2006.

Sue L. Blodgett has been named the new head of South Dakota State University’s Department of Plant Science effective February 1, 2007. Blodgett, an entomologist, has worked at Montana State University since 1994. She is currently a professor of entomology in the Departments of Plant Science/Plant Pathology and Animal and Range Sciences and has held previous assignments as integrated pest management coordinator, acting department head for entomology, and sustainable agriculture professional development coordinator. Blodgett earned a B.S. degree in biology from Syracuse University, an M.S. degree in vegetable crops from Cornell University, an M.S. degree in entomology from Kansas State University, and a Ph.D. degree in entomology from Kansas State University.

Gary Munkvold recently rejoined the faculty of Iowa State University and has been named the new endowed chair in seed science at Iowa State University. Munkvold will lead a research, outreach, and teaching program in seed health in the Department of Plant Pathology and the Seed Science Center. Munkvold, an internationally recognized seed pathologist, was a member of the Iowa State University faculty from 1993 through 2002, with research and extension responsibilities for diseases of agronomic crops. Since 2003, Munkvold has been a research coordinator for the Pathology, Entomology, and Seed Science Group at Pioneer Hi-Bred International, Inc., Johnston, IA, where he had global responsibilities for coordinating and improving disease and insect resistance evaluation of Pioneer’s germ plasm.

Emmanuel Byamukama, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Plant Pathology at Iowa State University (ISU), received first place in the Norman Borlaug Graduate Student Poster Competition held at ISU on October 16 for his poster entitled “The within-field temporal and spatial spread of bean pod mottle virus in soybean.” Byamukama received a certificate and a $100 cash award. The poster was coauthored by Young Choi, an undergraduate student from Bard College in New York, who was a participant in the ISU Summer Internship Program for Women in Science and Engineering. Department of Plant Pathology faculty members Forrest W. Nutter, Jr. and Alison Robertson were faculty advisors and also coauthors of the study.

Mirko Ivanovic, a professor and head of the Department of Plant Pathology at University of Belgrade, Serbia, is visiting Mark Gleason’s lab at Iowa State University (ISU) from August to December 2006, as part of the Faculty Exchange Fellow program of USDA’s Foreign Agricultural Service. The primary purposes of Ivanovic’s visit are to revise his course curricula in integrated pest management and sustainable agriculture and to gain an understanding of how cooperative extension functions in the United States. The experience gained in these areas will be valuable to help Serbia redesign its agricultural outreach programs. Ivanovic is sitting in on several ISU courses this fall and is participating in a range of extension events in Iowa and other North Central states. During his visit, Ivanovic also participated in the department’s seminar series by presenting a seminar entitled “Population structure and biological characteristics of Phytophthora infestans in Serbia.”

Jairo Osorio, a research scientist with Corpoica, Colombia, visited the Department of Plant Pathology at Iowa State University (ISU) in October. Osorio, an alum of ISU, received his M.Sc. degree in plant pathology under the direction of Denis McGee, before moving to Texas A&M for a Ph.D. program. Osorio is currently the IPM program manager for Corpoica, the federal agency in Colombia charged with conducting agricultural research. During his visit, Osorio met with Mark Gleason and Forrest W. Nutter, Jr. concerning collaborative research projects involving the epidemiology and management of Colletotrichum acutatum in strawberry and the application of GIS and remote sensing technologies to detect, identify, and quantify Asian soybean rust in soybean. In addition to meeting with other faculty and students, Osorio also presented a departmental seminar entitled “Highlights of plant pathology in Colombia: Major diseases of fruit crops.”

Monday Ahonsi recently joined the Hong Lab at Virginia Tech's Hampton Roads Agricultural Research and Extension Center in Virginia Beach, Virginia. Prior to his arrival, Ahonsi was a JSPS (Japanese Society for the Promotion of Science) Postdoctoral Research Fellow at Gifu University in Gifu, Japan for two years. Ahonsi received his doctoral degree in crop protection from Ahmadu Bello University in Zaria, Nigeria in 2000. He was a graduate research fellow of the International Institute of Tropical Agriculture, Ibadan in Nigeria, where he also worked for a year as a consultant after his doctorate. He was a post-doctoral associate at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Zurich, Switzerland on a 3-year multinational European Union project, “Risk Assessment of Fungal Biological Control Agents.” At Virginia Tech, Ahonsi works with a team of scientists including mechanical engineers, plant physiologists, agronomists, and entomologists to develop and assess the efficacy of biocontrol agents to control crop pests. His research interests include the biology of plant pathogenic fungi and their interactions with their hosts, and the development of biocontrol agents to control diseases of agricultural and ornamental crops.
and exemplary contributions to the broader community. Outreach is defined as activities above and beyond what an individual does as an employee of the university. Fernando was also the recipient of the USA/Sri Lanka Foundation 2006 Life Time Achievement Award for his exceptional scientific contributions to the world, the highest honor given to a scientist by the Foundation, which is based in Los Angeles, CA. This is the first time a plant pathologist has won either of these awards.

**Retirement**

Alexander (Sandy) Purcell retired as a professor emeritus in July 2006 from the University of California, Berkeley. Purcell joined the faculty of the Department of Entomological Sciences at Berkeley in 1974 as an assistant professor. He served as vice chair and later as chair of the department until its reorganization into the Department of Environmental Sciences, Policy and Management. He was a distinguished graduate of the United States Air Force Academy in 1964. After serving 6 years as an air force pilot, Purcell completed his Ph.D. degree in entomology at the University of California, Davis in 1974 and joined the Berkeley faculty that same year. His research mainly involved the vector transmission of prokaryotic plant pathogens and the epidemiology and control of plant diseases caused by the bacterium *Xylella fastidiosa*, phytoplasmas, and spiroplasmas. His work on diseases caused by *X. fastidiosa* involved research on Pierce’s disease of grape, almond leaf scorch, citrus variegated chlorosis in Brazil, and oleander leaf scorch. He worked on insect vectors involved in phytoplasma-caused diseases such as *X*-disease (cherry buckskin), aster yellow, and peach yellowleaf. Over the last 10 years, Purcell also became interested in secondary (facultative) bacterial symbionts of sap-feeding insects, chiefly aphids and leafhoppers. He taught courses in general entomology, vector entomology, applied entomology, and pest management and coauthored the entomology textbook *Introduction to Insect Biology and Diversity*. A symposium honoring his career as a vector entomologist was held at the Entomological Society of America annual meeting in 2004 and included as speakers APS members Rodrigo Almeida, Judy Brown, Bruce Kirkpatrick, Steve Lindow, and Astri Wayandane. Purcell plans to continue researching and consulting on *X. fastidiosa* as a professor emeritus.

**In Memory**

Paul J. Wuest, a professor emeritus of plant pathology at The Pennsylvania State University (Penn State), died on September 5, 2006, losing a heroic battle against a disease that might have crippled his body but never conquered his spirit and creative sense of humor.

Paul joined the Penn State faculty in 1964 as an assistant professor and extension specialist in the Department of Plant Pathology, with responsibility for all aspects of commercial mushroom cultivation. He retired as professor emeritus in 1999, only because his physical health prevented him from continuing at the commitment level he was accustomed to. Paul dedicated his life to the mushroom community as a mushroom extension specialist and researcher and became known worldwide for his candor and practical approach to the challenges of the commercial cultivation of mushrooms.

Paul earned a bachelor’s degree in horticulture in 1958 and a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology from Penn State in 1963 under the direction of James R. Bloom. He joined the U.S. Army Combat Engineer and Chemical Corps as 2nd lieutenant (1958), was promoted to captain (1963) and stationed at the U.S. Army Biological Lab in Frederick, MD, and was honorably discharged in 1968. In 2006, he was honored as a distinguished alumnus of the College of Agricultural Sciences and Department of Plant Pathology at Penn State.

Paul’s responsibilities at Penn State included teaching graduate and undergraduate courses in plant pathology, plant disease control, and integrated pest management, and he guided the research of many graduate students pursuing advanced degrees. His research program concerned the horticultural and disease aspects of mushroom farming in Pennsylvania, United States, and internationally. Through his extension program, he identified the needs of mushroom farmers and conducted a comprehensive educational program to address these needs.

During his career, Paul published 30 refereed papers and more than 100 extension and trade publications covering all aspects of mushroom cultivation. He published three books, and one, *The Penn State Handbook for Commercial Mushroom Growers*, continues to be a popular standard reference for growers all over the world. This handbook provides general information in terms growers can relate to and yet includes enough details, including color photos and drawings on pests and diseases, to enable growers to identify their problems. Paul developed a best management practice manual that provided a methodology for the farm community to operate without detracting from the environment.

His research contributions included thermal sensitivity of fungal pathogens of *Agaricus bisporus*; etiology of *Verticillium dahliae*;
bacterial blotch disease; and spawn temperature on the influence of LaFrance, a viral disease of mushrooms. He was a leader in bringing integrated pest management (IPM) to the mushroom community. Paul managed and directed a highly successful IPM program that currently is used in Europe, Ocean Asia, and the Americas.

In 1994, he organized the 1st International Spent Mushroom Substrate (SMS) Symposium in Philadelphia because he had anticipated that one of the next issues confronting mushroom growers would be the disposal of SMS. The 2nd SMS Symposium, held this past September, was dedicated to Paul. The mushroom community continues to build on his legacy.

Paul was loved and admired by many in the mushroom community. He was a thoughtful, dedicated, caring, and respected scientist and educator. Many of his students have gone on to become successful mushroom community members and scientists, and others are successful scientists in other fields. He will be remembered for his sense of humor and positive outlook on life. Even as he was physically failing, he never complained, never showed any frustration, and never gave up. He has been an inspiration and source of strength to many farmers, students, scientists, and family members.

Paul is survived by his wife, Jan, four children, and nine grandchildren. It is the wish of the mushroom industry and the Department of Plant Pathology to establish a memorial endowment in his name that will support the activities of plant pathology graduate students at Penn State working on mushroom problems. To contribute to the endowment, please make a contribution to the endowment in his name that will support the mushroom industry and the Department of Plant Pathology. To have your job listing also included in Phytopathology News, simply select the option on the online form (there is an additional $30 fee). If you have any questions contact the APS Placement Coordinator (apsplacement@scisoc.org).

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**Classified Policy**

You can process your job listing at www.apsnet.org/careers/jobpost.asp. Your posting will be live within 3–5 business days and will remain on the website for up to 3 months or until a listed closing date, at which point it will drop off the listing. Fees for posting online are $25 member/$50 nonmember for graduate or post-doc positions and $200 member/$250 nonmember for all other positions. To have your job listing also included in Phytopathology News, simply select the option on the online form (there is an additional $30 fee). If you have any questions contact the APS Placement Coordinator (apsplacement@scisoc.org).

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**Post-Doctoral Associate**

The duties will include alignment, editing, and analyses of the Pi-ta gene dataset; alignment, editing, and analyses of the sampled gene fragments flanking Pi-ta; analysis of SNP diversity across the Pi-ta genomic region; growing plants; infection assays, and other work related to determining blast resistance phenotypes in sampled accessions. A Ph.D. degree in genetics, biology, molecular genetics and plant pathology, or a related field is required. Experience in DNA sequence analysis, computational analysis, bioinformatics, and rice pathology is desirable. The candidate must demonstrate proficiency in the English language, oral and written. **Salary**: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. **Closing Date**: February 1, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Interested applicants should send their resume, official college transcript, and three letters of recommendation. **Contact**: Yulin Jia, USDA-ARS DB NRRC, 2890 Hwy 130 E, P.O. Box 1090, Stuttgart, AR 72160 U.S.A. **Fax**: +1.870.672.9315; **E-mail**: yjl@usda.gov; **Phone**: +1.870.672.9300; **Web**: www.uark.edu.

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**Assistant Professor—Phytobacteriology**

Tenure-track position available with approximately 90% research in the Louisiana Agricultural Experiment Station and 10% teaching in the Louisiana State University College of Agriculture. The faculty member will conduct basic research on bacterial plant diseases. Securing extramural funding for research and publishing the results are expected. Duties include teaching phytobacteriology and advising graduate students. Applicants must have earned a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology or related discipline with emphasis, course work, and/or experience in phytobacteriology. Interpersonal, oral, and written communications skills and a willingness and ability to work in a team-oriented environment are essential. **Salary**: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. **Closing Date**: February 28, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Letter of application should include candidate’s qualifications and provide 1) a complete resume, 2) transcripts of all college credits, 3) three letters of recommendation, 4) brief statements of research and teaching interests, and 5) other pertinent data.
The Department of Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology at Montana State University seeks to fill a tenure-track, 9-month-academic-year-appointment faculty position in the genetics of plant–microbe interactions. The successful candidate is expected to develop a competitive research program focused on the genetics of plant–microbe interactions and a translation of the findings to end-users. Teaching responsibilities will include participation in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses in genetics, mentoring students, and outreach activities. Candidates must have a Ph.D. degree in plant genetics, plant pathology, plant sciences, or related field. Montana State University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Access/Equal Opportunity Employer. Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience. Closing Date: February 20, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Complete position announcement and application procedure may be seen at www.montana.edu/level2/jobs.html. Screening begins February 1, 2007, with start date of August 15, 2007. Contact: Luther Talbert, c/o Irene Deckert, Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology Dept., 119 PBB Facility, Bozeman, MT 59717-3150 U.S.A. Fax: +1.406.994.7600; E-mail: deckert@montana.edu; Phone: +1.406.994.5171; Web: www.montana.edu/level2/jobs.html.

Assistant/Associate Professor—Plant Pathology

The Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Purdue University invites applications for a tenure-track faculty position (extension/research) at the rank of assistant or associate professor. This person will be responsible for extension and research programs that focus on economically important diseases that affect soybean, corn, and wheat production in Indiana and the region. Applicants must have a Ph.D. degree in plant pathology and post-doctoral experience is preferred. The successful candidate will be expected to develop progressive extension education programs that engage various clientele groups, including producers, agri-business representatives, and regional and county extension field staff. Furthermore, the individual will conduct research on contemporary disease-related issues in agronomic crops and will need to obtain extramural funds to support this research program. The successful candidate’s activities will complement the Purdue University field crops extension team, which includes other plant pathologists as well as weed scientists, entomologists, agronomists, and agricultural economists within the College of Agriculture. The candidate must possess excellent skills in written and oral communication and proficiency in the use and application of modern technologies. Experience in obtaining extramural grants is preferred. Although teaching is not a major component of the position, the successful candidate will be expected to contribute to the teaching mission of the department and have demonstrable experience teaching at the higher education level. Salary: Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience. Closing Date: January 5, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Interested applicants must submit a letter of application that includes a personal statement of their professional goals; a description of extension, research, and teaching interests; a complete curriculum vitae; a summary of extension, research, and other professional experience; and the names and contact information for four references. Contact: Charles Woloshuk, Purdue University, Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, 915 W. State Street, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2054 U.S.A. Fax: +1.765.494.0363; E-mail: woloshuk@purdue.edu; Phone: +1.765.494.3450; Web: www.btiny.purdue.edu.

Graduate Research Assistantship

Graduate student assistantships are available in forest pathology at the School of Forest Resources, University of Florida, Gainesville. Assistantships can be at the M.S. or Ph.D. level and may involve research on various topics in forest pathology, depending on student/advisor interests and needs of the State of Florida. A B.S. or M.S. degree in plant pathology, biology, agriculture, microbiology, forestry, or related discipline required. More information may be found at www.sfrf.ufl.edu/gradprograms.html. Salary: Graduate assistantships include tuition waiver, stipend, and benefits. Closing Date: February 13, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Contact: Jason Smith, School of Forest Resources and Conservation, University of Florida, 134 Newins-Ziegler Hall, PO. Box 110410, Gainesville, FL 32611-0410 U.S.A. E-mail: jasons@ufl.edu; Phone: +1.352.846.0843; Web: www.sfrf.ufl.edu/gradprograms.html.

Specialty Crops Production

The University of Vermont (UVM), Department of Plant and Soil Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, invites applications for a full-time, 9-month, tenure-track assistant professor position. The faculty member is expected to establish an independent, competitively funded research program, resulting in national recognition. Research should focus on herbs, flowers, vegetables, small fruits, or other specialty plants that address agricultural and environmental issues in cold climates. Research should address the application of basic ecological principles for sustainable production, organic crop production, tolerance to environmental stressors, or disease and pest management. The successful applicant will join a growing and vibrant interdisciplinary department that shares a mission to expand, integrate, and extend the knowledge of plant/soil ecosystems in the production of plants; the creation of a living landscape; and the sustenance of environmental quality. The successful candidate will be expected to teach one or two courses per semester that contribute to the ecological agriculture and sustainable landscape horticulture majors in the department. Leadership and organizational skills directed toward coordinating experiential learning at the undergraduate and graduate level are desired. Required qualifications include a Ph.D. degree in horticulture, plant science, plant biology, plant ecology, or related area. Desirable qualifications include industry and teaching experience. Salary: Undecided. Closing Date: January 16, 2007 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Applicants should submit a letter of application, curriculum vitae, a statement of interests and vision regarding research and teaching, and three letters of reference. Apply online at www.uvmjobs.com. Contact: Leonard Perry, Search Committee Chair, University of Vermont, Dept. of Plant and Soil Science, 105 Carrigan Dr., Burlington, VT 05405-0082 U.S.A. Fax: +1.802.656.4656; E-mail: leonard.perry@uvm.edu; Phone: +1.802.656.2630; Web: http://www.uvm.edu.

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**Phytopathology**  
January 2007, Volume 97, Number 1

Characterization of a γ-3 Proteobacteria Responsible for the Syndrome “Basses Richesses” of Sugar Beet Transmitted by *Pantastiridius* sp. (Hemiptera, Cixiidae).


**Plant Disease**  
January 2007, Volume 91, Number 1


**MPMI**  
January 2007, Volume 20, Number 1


**Plant Health Instructor**  
www.apsnet.org/education


**Plant Management Network**  
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**Plant Health Progress**  
February 2007
27-March 1 — Real-Time PCR Workshop. Lexington, KY. (pvincell@uky.edu)

July 2007

Other Upcoming Events
January 2007
23-25 — Real-Time PCR Workshop. Lexington, KY. (pvincell@uky.edu)

May 2007
5-9 — Sudden Oak Death Science Symposium III. Santa Rosa, CA. http://nature.berkeley.edu/comif/sodsymposium/

April 2007

May 2007
3-4 — International Congress, Commission of European Communities, COST 924 “Novel Approaches for the Control of Postharvest Diseases and Disorders.” Bologna, Italy. (bibcriof@agrsci.unibo.it)
21-27 — IUFRO Meeting of WP 7.02.02: Foliage, Shoot and Stem Diseases of Forest Trees. Sopron, Hungary. (szaboi@emk.nyme.hu)

July 2007
26-29 — Joint Meeting of the WERA-97, NCERA-184. Idaho Falls, ID. (jwindes@uidaho.edu)

August 2008
30-September 2 — 10th International Fusarium Workshop. Alghero, Sardinia, Italy. www.cdf.umn.edu/scab/10th_fhb_wkshp.htm