APS Members Have Gone Green!

Thank you to APS members who renewed online during 2009, helping APS save on paper and postage!

Douglas Boze of the Idaho Crop Improvement Association was the winner of the drawing for a Solio Universal Solar Charger. Boze now has the ability to use the power of the sun to charge personal electronic devices, such as cell phones, MP3 players, GPS units, and more.

As you renew your membership for 2010, please remember to renew early to avoid extra paper invoice mailings! Remember, you can renew for one, two, or three years, making you economically and environmentally conscious—save money by locking in pricing and avoid invoice mailings for two years!

Annual Meeting Call for Papers

Mark your calendars! The APS Scientific Planning Board invites submissions of both oral and poster presentations for the 2010 APS Annual Meeting to be held at the Opryland Hotel in Nashville, TN. The 2010 theme, “Creating Possibilities,” encourages attendees to embrace change, while looking for new opportunities to create scientific excellence. Online submission of abstracts for the meeting will open February 1, 2010.

Phytopathology News Welcomes Doug Jardine as New Editor-in-Chief

Phytopathology News has a new editor-in-chief, Doug Jardine. Jardine, a plant pathology professor and extension specialist at Kansas State University (KSU), has served APS for many years. He is a member and the former secretary-treasurer and councilor of the North Central Division. He served as APS secretary from 1998 to 2001. Most recently, he completed a six-year term as director of the APS Office of Public Relations and Outreach (OPRO). He has also served on numerous APS standing and ad hoc committees, chairing the Archives and History, Youth, and Ad Hoc Networking Committees. Currently, he is serving a one-year term as past director of OPRO as the board transitions to a new director.

As editor-in-chief, Jardine looks forward to maintaining the high standards set for Phytopathology News by its previous editors-in-chief. He hopes to seek reader input on what current features are still relevant to the modern plant pathologist and what new features should be considered in a world of increasing social networking. He has an interest in history and was thrilled with the historical features that ran in Phytopathology News as part of the APS centennial celebration. In the future, look for a continuance of these types of features.

Jardine received his B.S. and M.S. degrees in horticulture in 1976 and 1977, respectively, from Michigan State University (MSU). He then joined the Michigan Cooperative Extension Service, where he worked as a county extension 4-H agent and a county extension agriculture agent. In 1983, he returned to MSU and completed his Ph.D. degree in plant pathology in 1985. He joined the KSU Department of Plant Pathology as an assistant professor and extension specialist in 1985. In 1991, he was promoted to associate professor and to professor in 1999. Presently, Jardine serves as extension program leader for the department, and his extension responsibilities include the diagnosis and management of disease pests of field row crops. His research interests include evaluation of novel seed treatments on soybean and grain sorghum and the management of sooty stripe disease on grain sorghum.

Jardine replaces Joyce Loper, who has been editor-in-chief of Phytopathology News since 2007. APS welcomes Jardine to Phytopathology News and the leadership and fervor for plant pathology he brings to our publication and the association.

Share APS in Less than a Minute!

How do you explain APS to your colleagues? What makes you excited about your APS membership or attending the annual meeting? Listen as APS members put their feelings into words through a series of video clips.

Visit www.apsnet.org/join/succeed to listen to 41 seconds of APS Pioneer Fellowship winner Rob Duncan explain how APS helps plant pathogens succeed. For 43 seconds, join Andrea Pabon at an APS annual meeting and hear how it makes her hungry for more—www.apsnet.org/join/hungry.

Share these clips with your colleagues and let them know what APS is all about. Encourage them to join online after viewing the video clip or now at http://tinyurl.com/joinAPS. Those joining now can save $10 on APS membership, plus new members will also be entered into a drawing for a video camera, so they can start their own APS story.
Online Access Open for Recent Articles Published on the Future of Plant Pathology

The dual feature articles in the December 2009 issue of Plant Disease touch on common concerns in these challenging times: the future of plant pathology as a discipline and profession and how to best educate students for careers in plant pathology. To encourage dialogue on these important topics, open access to these articles is being made available for a limited time. You may access both now through January 31, 2010. Read and share the articles, “Disciplinary, Institutional, Funding, and Demographic Trends in Plant Pathology: What Does the Future Hold for the Profession?” and “Education in Plant Pathology: Present Status and Future Challenges,” published at http://apsjournals.apsnet.org/toc/pdis/93/12.

Submission Guidelines for Phytopathology News

Many members regularly submit items for the newsletter; others may do so more sporadically. Whether you know the editor-in-chief’s e-mail by heart or you have never submitted a single article before, what follows are the most common guidelines for article submissions to Phytopathology News. If you have any questions regarding article submissions, contact Editor-in-Chief Doug Jardine at jardine@ksu.edu or at PhytoNewsEditor@scisoc.org. Materials should be submitted via the online submission form found at www.apsnet.org/members/phyto/submissionform.aspx.

People Section: Guidelines for the people section are 250 words (for announcements of new appointments, awards, presentations, collaborations, or other activities of APS members).

Meeting Summaries: 600 words or less.

Retirement Notices or Obituaries: 600 words or less.

Events: To have your meeting included in the monthly calendar of events, fill out the online submission form from at www.apsnet.org/meetings/calendar.

Letters to the Editor: Letters to the editor (400 words or less) are welcomed and encouraged; please send them to Jardine at the addresses listed above.

Corrections: Have you read something incorrect on APSnet or in Phytopathology News? If so, e-mail Amanda Aranowski (aaranowski@scisoc.org). Items must be submitted within six months of the event’s occurrence to ensure timeliness of the newsletter. Note that editors may trim the length of articles exceeding these guidelines. When submitting photos to run with articles, verify that they are a high-resolution (at least 300 dpi) color image and no less than 2 in. by 2 in. (50.8 mm by 50.8 mm). Do not embed images in the word document that you are submitting; attach images as a separate file. If you are submitting photos, please include a caption that includes the names of those pictured.
An Update on the APS Committee for Diversity and Equality

Sarah Ware, APS Committee for Diversity and Equality Past Chair, sware@ballhort.com, and María L. Burgos-Garay, Current Chair, mb483@psu.edu

The former Joint Committee of Women in Plant Pathology and Cultural Diversity (JCWPPCD) has changed its name! We are now the Committee for Diversity and Equality. This dynamic group has an interesting and interwoven history. In 1982, the Women in Plant Pathology Committee (WIPP) was established as a standing committee to address issues related to women in APS. The Diversity Committee was established to address issues related to minority members of APS and approved as a standing committee in 1992 at the Portland meeting. The name was changed to the Cultural Diversity Committee (CDC) in 1994. At the 2002 APS Annual Meeting in Milwaukee, WI, WIPP and CDC met to discuss the possibility of joining forces, as they felt most of their goals were similar. The merger was approved by APS Council and in 2003 the newly united committees met for the first time to form the Joint Committee of Women in Plant Pathology & Cultural Diversity (JCWPPCD).

In summer 2009, members of the Joint Committee of Women in Plant Pathology & Cultural Diversity voted to change the name to the Committee for Diversity and Equality. The name was changed for two reasons, the first being practicality; the former name was just too long! Even the acronym, “JCWWCD,” was a mouthful! The second reason for the name change was to clearly reflect our mission. The former name appeared to exclude men, which was not at all the intent. Issues of women in plant pathology are important to the committee, but equally important are issues related to minorities of both genders. By changing the name we want to enhance the inclusion of any APS member who can contribute to the committee’s mission. We encourage new leaders to help in this endeavor—everyone is welcome.

This committee has been very active in recent years. At the 2008 centennial meeting, our committee sponsored a diversity symposium entitled “Optimizing Opportunities for Everyone in Plant Pathology.” The presentation featured APS members who shared their experiences and strategies to overcome obstacles as women and minorities. This great presentation has been uploaded to the APS website. You can watch it at www.apsnet.org/webcasts/plenary.asp. It includes audio and slide presentations of all speakers.

The Committee for Diversity and Equality hosts a social event every year. Two years ago, we began encouraging members to dress in the traditional attire of their home countries or countries in which they have lived. It has been a great addition to our social event. New ideas are welcome to make this event fun and exciting. The socials are always a lot of fun and the traditional outfits serve as great conversation-starters.

All members of APS are invited to take part in our activities. New initiatives to ensure and foster diversity and increased participation by minorities are at the core of our mission. We are working diligently to put together a great program for the 2010 annual meeting in Nashville, TN. Please join us in the effort to promote diversity and close gaps that are still present and should not be ignored. We hope to see you in Nashville!

APS Journals Online Makes Citing Easy

Do you ever wish that your research citations would format themselves? APS Journals Online’s citation formatting feature works with citation management software, including EndNote, BibTex, ProCite, Medlars, Reference Manager, RefWorks, and RefWorks China. Citation information can be downloaded automatically to your software, or metadata can be displayed that you can copy and paste into the software. To start taking advantage of this great feature today, visit http://apsjournals.apsnet.org. You may utilize this feature from the abstract page of any paper.
APS Foundation

APS Foundation Adjustments, Strategies, and Exciting Opportunities after a Challenging Year

George Abawi, APS Foundation Board Chair, gsa1@nysaes.cornell.edu

On behalf of all of us at the APS Foundation, I am writing to provide you with a brief update on the foundation's programs, and strategic changes to address current economic conditions we are all facing, exciting new endowment funds, as well as to seek your feedback and the continued support of our members, the society, and our profession.

The unusual economic situation and the poor performance of the financial markets over the past 18 months significantly impacted the foundation's investments and revenue generated from the endowment funds. Because of this situation, the Foundation Board had to institute a new operating model to reduce expenses and to be more cost effective. For example, we cancelled the mid-year Foundation Board meeting at headquarters in 2009 and plan to do so for 2010 as well, and are now relying on monthly telephone conferences to conduct board business. This is saving considerable expense. Unfortunately, it also was necessary to cancel the traditional donor recognition luncheon at the 2009 annual meeting in Portland and the 2010 meeting in Nashville. The annual appreciation luncheons have been our way to thank our donors and to report on new foundation initiatives. For 2010, we are looking at new methods for keeping you informed throughout the year. Perhaps the most important and significant change for the coming year relates to the awards themselves. Because of the market collapse, the values of all endowments decreased significantly, and, in some cases, are “underwater”—i.e., have less than the minimum funds needed to make an award. As a result, the foundation has elected not to present some of the awards in 2010. This decision was not easy, but was necessary to allow time for the recovery of the investments. The recent market rebound has helped, and hopefully it will continue, allowing us to resume all awards in time for the 2011 meeting.

Despite the unfavorable financial climate, I am pleased to report that the foundation still managed to have a rather good 2009, thanks to the hard work and continued generosity of colleagues and friends. Member contributions to the foundation were steady and one new student travel award (Evanthia D. & D. G. Kontaxis Travel Fund) was established. In addition, a new fund was also initiated for development (Turfgrass Pathology Student Travel Fund). In addition, the Raymond J. Tarleton Student Fellowship Fund was established to support research and travel expenses for a qualified graduate student. The foundation was able to fund 28 student travel awards, four early career professional symposium awards, six student symposium awards, four professional recognition awards, three research awards, and 16 abstract support awards in 2009. All of the individual awards may be seen at: www.apsnet.org/foundation/awardees.asp.

I am also pleased to report that the Foundation Board has completed work on two new millennium endowment funds, the APS Public Policy Endowment and the APS Early Career Professional Development & Training Fund. These new initiatives were developed out of the foundation’s interest in expanding its initiatives and appealing to the broader membership for participation. (See the corresponding article for details on these exciting new opportunities.)

On behalf of the many individuals who have benefited from the foundation’s programs, I would like to thank all of the current and past contributors. To reach the foundation’s financial goals, many more contributors are needed. Currently, only 7% of the APS membership contributes to the foundation and we need to increase participation if the foundation is to support a larger segment of our society. The APS Foundation really is one of the best investments you can make as a plant pathologist. The member-driven board of the foundation is focused on keeping expenses to a minimum while maintaining maximum donation impact. You will be pleased to know that nearly 97% of your donation goes directly to the cause you care about most—sustaining the profession and science of plant pathology! If you’ve never considered the APS Foundation in your contribution plan, now is the time. If you have benefited from a foundation award in the past or perhaps donated to one or more of the funds several years ago but haven’t thought about it recently, now is the time. We are counting on you to help us achieve our goals. Together, we truly do make a difference for APS, our members, and our profession!

For more information about the APS Foundation or any of its initiatives, please feel free to contact George Abawi or any Foundation Board member, www.apsnet.org/foundation. Also, please don’t forget to stop by the foundation’s booth at next year’s meeting in Nashville.
Two new funds have recently been established with the APS Foundation to sustain areas of our science with significant potential but with limited current support. The foundation encourages your contributions to these new initiatives. To discuss these opportunities in more depth please contact APS Foundation Chair George Abawi (gsa1@nysaes.cornell.edu).

The APS Public Policy Endowment is being developed to support the unique opportunity initiated by the APS Public Policy Board (PPB), namely, to establish an annual APS-Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) Fellowship that provides support for an APS member to spend several months working at the White House OSTP each year. OSTP holds a prominent role in advancing the administration’s agenda in fundamental science, education and scientific literacy, investment in applied research, and international cooperation. This invitation is quite rare; in fact, APS is the first agriculture-or plant-related group with an agreement for a fellowship with OSTP. In addition to this opportunity, PPB is investigating other similar opportunities for plant pathologists to be involved in policy initiatives at the national level with various agencies and/or policy groups. The APS Foundation is initiating this endowment with a goal of $1.3 million dollars in funds, to provide the necessary ongoing award for the fellowship. In a strong showing of support for this initiative, APS Council approved a matching program of up to $50,000 for initial contributions to this program. This is a great opportunity for doubling the impact of your contribution to the foundation. Several colleagues have already donated to this endowment. Contributors to this endowment at the level of $50,000 will be “Founding Donors” and will have this designation on all materials. However, broad support at all levels is sought from the APS membership, sustaining members, and friends of APS.

The recent APS Education Initiative research findings identified the need for broader experiences and enhanced opportunities in preparation for careers in plant pathology. In response, the newly formed APS Early Career Professional Development & Training Fund is focused on assisting new plant pathologists in broadening their experiences and skills by providing financial support for their participation in one of the following activities, as well as others judged appropriate by the APS Foundation: 1) a short internship with industry or special research laboratory; 2) an international internship to attend a workshop, regional meeting, and/or to visit an international center to gain a unique networking opportunity and a global perspective; 3) participation in an interactive grant-writing training/workshop; 4) participation in a workshop for curriculum development offered by APS or in collaboration with other scientific societies or institutions; and 5) support for the APS Leadership Institute. The APS Foundation is establishing the APS Early Career Professional Development & Training Fund with a goal of $500,000 to provide the seed funds needed for five or more early career professionals annually to cover expenses associated with their participation in professional skill-enhancing activities. Several APS members have already contributed to this proposed fund. Contributors to this fund at the level of $10,000 will be considered “Founding Donors” and will have this designation on all materials. However, broad support at all levels is sought from the APS membership, sustaining members, and friends of APS.

Show your support and become one of the first to make your donation to one of these exciting new initiatives. Simply complete the donation form at www.apsnet.org/foundation/donationform.asp today.

Online Application for 2010 Student Travel Awards Opens Next Month

The online application process for the 2010 APS Student Travel Awards will open February 15, 2010. (Once activated, the online application will be available at www/scientificsocieties.org/aps/foundation/travel) APS student members giving oral or poster presentations at the 2010 APS Annual Meeting in Nashville, TN, August 7–11, are eligible to apply. However, students who received an award in 2009 will not be eligible for an award until 2011. Award winners will receive $500 to support their travel to the 2010 APS Annual Meeting. Applications are due by NOON Central Time on March 23, 2010, and advisor letters are due by NOON Central Time on March 30, 2010. These deadlines are strictly enforced; no applications or advisor letters will be accepted after the posted deadline.

Awards are available to all manners of study, including doctors of plant medicine, international students, as well as any area of scientific interest, including (but not limited to) virology, nematology, and forest pathology. “As a recipient last year, the award enabled me to attend the conference, establish lasting contacts, and participate in various APS activities,” says Heather A. Olson of North Carolina State University, chair of the APS Graduate Student Committee (GSC). "I’m really excited to see what students are passionate about since the hot topics are a great way to communicate their interests. Considering the theme for the Nashville meeting is ‘Creating Possibilities in Plant Pathology,’ I hope that some of the hot topics generated through this application process can be incorporated into future meetings.”

Eligible students are encouraged to review the following application requirements:

1. Submit the abstract from your oral or poster presentation for the 2010 APS Annual Meeting. (Abstracts for the 2010 APS Annual Meeting are due March 15 and must be submitted through the meeting submission process in addition to this Travel Award application.)
2. Make a case for a hot topic that you feel needs to be presented as a symposium at the next APS Annual Meeting (maximum length 2,999 characters). Include the following:
   • What topic would you choose for such an event?
   • What is the significance of this topic with respect to current scientific and/or social contexts?
   • What are the implications of the topic for plant pathology and human or environmental welfare?
   • Why should APS host a symposium on this topic?
   • Provide names of actual speakers you think can address different aspects of your chosen topic and explain how their expertise will enrich the symposium.
3. Identify your graduate advisor or other sponsor in the field of plant pathology who will write a letter on your behalf explaining the following:
   • What is the bearing of the student’s research and/or study program on plant pathology as it pertains to human and/or environmental welfare?
   • How does the student’s research and/or study program fit into the research goals of your facility or academic institution? Please Note: For students in nonthesis degree programs, e.g., doctor of plant medicine, the advisor/sponsor should comment on the student’s potential for a successful career in applied plant pathology.

"I encourage all eligible graduate students to apply for the APS Travel Award," says Olson. "We look forward to rewarding the most insightful and progressive ideas in all subjects."
Plant Management Network: Salute to Partners

The Plant Management Network (PMN) is a not-for-profit collaboration of the plant science community at large. PMN is jointly managed by The American Phytopathological Society, American Society of Agronomy, and Crop Science Society of America. Its mission is to enhance the health, management, and production of the world’s agricultural and horticultural crops. Partners help support the network while sharing its benefits. Your organization’s participation provides support; publicizes your logo and website to PMN’s 350,000-plus annual visitors; increases regional, national, and international usage of your existing web-based information; and provides your employees or constituents with complimentary or discounted subscription access. For information on joining the PMN partners program, e-mail partners@plantmanagementnetwork.org.

Salute to 2009 Partners

Companies
Syngenta Crop Protection
Bayer CropScience
Dow AgroSciences
Monsanto
Mosaic
Pioneer Hi-Bred
Springer
Agdia
American Peat Technology
BIOREBA
Decagon Devices
EnviroLogix
SipcamAdvan
AC Diagnostics
Chase Horticultural Research

Universities
University of Alaska-Fairbanks
University of Arizona
University of California at Davis
Colorado State University
University of Connecticut
Cornell University
University of Florida
University of Georgia
University of Illinois
Iowa State University
Kansas State University
University of Kentucky
Louisiana State University
University of Maryland
Michigan State University
University of Minnesota
Mississippi State University
University of Missouri
Montana State University
University of Nebraska
New Mexico State University
North Carolina State University
North Dakota State University
Ohio State University
Oklahoma State University
Oregon State University
Penn State University
Purdue University
Rutgers University
South Dakota State University
University of Tennessee
Texas A&M University
Virginia Tech University
Washington State University
University of Wisconsin
West Virginia University

Nonprofit Organizations
American Forage and Grassland Council
American Phytopathological Society
American Seed Trade Association
American Society of Agronomy
American Society for Horticultural Science
American Society of Agronomy
Canadian Phytopathological Society
Canadian Society of Agronomy
Council for Agricultural Science and Technology
Crop Adviser Institute
Crop Science Society of America
CropLife America
Entomological Society of America
International Plant Nutrition Institute
National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants
National Plant Diagnostic Network
Plant Health Initiative
Royal Netherlands Society of Plant Pathology
Society of Nematologists
United States Golf Association Green Section
Weed Science Society of America

Companies/Institutions: Join Us in 2010!

Benefits for Partners...
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What Partners Support...
• Low-cost or free access for all
• Low publication costs
• Free access in developing countries

Become a PMN partner today!

Society Spotlight

The European Association of Phytopathologists

The recently established European Association of Phytopathologists (EAP) is now operational (www.eapnet.eu). The association is specifically for phytopathologists of government laboratories, government agencies, or institutions consistently involved in official diagnosis and testing. Established in 2007, EAP is dedicated to the development, improvement, and implementation of diagnosis, detection, identification, and classification of bacterial plant pathogens; education and training in the above mentioned areas; provision of advice and expertise to plant health regulatory bodies; the promotion of technical and scientific collaboration; and the exchange of information through communication networking.

Decagon Devices Becomes Latest Plant Management Network Industry Partner

Decagon Devices’ instruments are used throughout the world in organizations of all sizes, including universities, research and testing laboratories, government agencies, vineyards, farms, and industrial testing facilities.

Decagon was founded in 1983 by Gaylon Campbell, a renowned soil scientist at Washington State University. Almost 25 years later, Decagon has grown into a prosperous business that retains an emphasis on research and engineering. And as the designer, manufacturer, and marketer of its instruments, Decagon prides itself on excellent customer service and support.

Learn more about Decagon Devices and the nearly 70 other PMN partners at www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/partners/profile.

Partners like Decagon support PMN’s nonprofit publishing mission: to enhance the health, management, and production of agricultural and horticultural crops. To learn more about how you can support this mission and gain from the benefits of partnership, visit www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/partners.
Outreach

High School Students Learn about Plant Pathology at the National FFA Convention

“Yuck! What’s wrong with those peaches?” This was just one of many questions asked by high school students and teachers when they visited the APS booth at the 82nd National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, IN, October 21–23, 2009. Brown rot of stone fruit was the featured disease for the APS booth at the National FFA Career Show, which attracted more than 50,000 attendees from all 50 states. The booth, sponsored by the APS Office of Public Relations and Outreach, piqued the curiosity of attendees by showcasing disease samples from agronomic and horticultural crops. The samples, provided by Gail Ruhl and Janna Beckerman (Purdue University), allowed students and teachers to learn how pathogens affect plants and about the threats diseases pose to our agricultural and natural ecosystems.

APS representatives Eric Honeycutt (Bartlett Tree Research Lab) and Jean Liu (Pioneer Hi-Bred International) spoke with students and teachers about various topics, including the featured disease, plant pathology careers, and educational resources available through APS. Disease compendia and the textbook, *Essential Plant Pathology, Second Edition* by Gail Schumann and Cleo D’Arcy, were some of the resources on display at the booth. Teachers who visited the booth were given a packet that contained a lab exercise for brown rot, a career brochure, and a list of resources available in the APS Education Center. The APS representatives also shared information about their education and career path with students, as an example of the various options available to them. Honeycutt spoke about how his experience as an active FFA member in high school led him to pursue graduate studies in plant pathology and a career in diagnostics.

FFA is a national youth organization of more than 500,000 student members preparing for careers in the science, business, and technology of agriculture, with more than 7,000 local chapters in all 50 states, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands. Leadership and personal development through agricultural education is part of the FFA mission. “Lead Out Loud” was the slogan of the 2009 convention.

Mentors Needed for Future Plant Pathologists

Have an interest in mentoring future plant pathologists? APS has partnered with PlantingScience.org and is encouraging member involvement as “scientist mentors” in this unique approach for reaching thousands of middle and high school students and enhancing plant science education.

The spring session will take place February 15 through April 15, 2010. Your mentor participation consists of only a few hours over this time period. The PlantingScience team and systems handle all communications and notifications to keep you up to speed with your assigned team.

Several plant pathologists are already participating. To join this unique outreach effort, simply sign up at www.plantingscience.org to become involved today.

Contact PlantingScience staff by e-mail (psteam@plantingscience.org) or phone (+1.314.577.9535) if you have any additional questions about the program or how to join.
The 2009 Annual Report of The American Phytopathological Society offers a momentary, quintessential view of the activities our membership and staff have accomplished to enhance the growth and development of our society. Strategically focused and committee-driven activities will relay the vitality and rich voluntarism our society readily enjoys. These are the activities we pursued to remain “a diverse global community of scientists who provides credible and beneficial information related to plant health; advocates and participates in the exchange of knowledge with the public, policy makers, and the larger scientific community; and promotes and provides opportunities for scientific communication, career preparation, and professional development for its members.”

Detailed APS Annual Report and Committee Listings Available Online; Treasurer’s Report Moves to Phytopathology News

A detailed version of the 101st Annual Report is available at www.apsnet.org/members/gov/ReportArchive. The report of the treasurer is being relocated from publication historically in the January issue of Phytopathology to its new location to be published annually in the February issue of Phytopathology News. Watch your issue next month for full details. In addition, the annual committee listings historically published in the January issue of Phytopathology will now be published on APSnet at www.apsnet.org/members/gov/pdfs/Committees.pdf.

APS 2009 Highlights

APS Journals—The ISI impact factors continued to hold steady or increased compared with competing journals (MPMI—4.13; Phytopathology—2.19; Plant Disease—1.87). Electronic open access was shortened for Phytopathology reducing it from 24 to 12 months with the September issue 2009 issue. Upgrading of online service has allowed open-access article icons to be seen in PubMed. Phytopathology will see review articles completely redesigned in 2010, including full color similar to Trends in Ecology and Evolution or Nature. They will contain a glossary with key definitions as well as conceptual charts and boxes. Anticipate at least six review articles per year to be published.

APS PRESS—With new publications, such as Compendium of Beet Diseases and Pests, Second Edition (book and image CD), Compendium of Hop Diseases and Pests (book and image CD), Diseases of Herbaceous Perennials (book and image CD), Plant Virus Image Collection and Teaching Resource CD, Taxonomy, Phylogeny, and Ecology of Bark-Inhabiting and Tree-Pathogenic Fungi in the Cryptonectriaceae, and the release of Esential Plant Pathology, Second Edition (book and DVD), APS PRESS contributed a positive surplus in FY09 and is meeting budgeted income goals in the first four months of FY10. Future releases include Plant Bacteriology textbook, Diseases Caused by Bacteria: An Image Database and Educational Resource CD, Cercoarea Leaf Spot of Sugar Beet and Related Species, Citrus Tristeza Virus Complex and Tristeza Diseases, Compendium of Wheat Diseases and Pests, 3rd Ed. (book and CD), and Fire Blight: History, Biology, and Management. In preparation for developing e-books, APS PRESS held a focus group with librarians to help determine a strategy for delivering e-book content to libraries and has begun to work with the vendor that delivers our e-journals. A strategy to develop an integrated database for the content of the Compendium of Plant Disease series is also being planned.

Plant Management Network—The site continued to show record growth with 359,026 unique site visitors in 2008 and an increase in the number of peer-reviewed journal articles. Fiscal resources continued to improve with increased sponsorship from land-grant partners, industry, societies, and associations, resulting in better than breakeven on a direct basis for year-end FY 2009. A new Ag Practitioners Portal was introduced to serve crop advisers, extension agents, and producers (www.plantmanagementnetwork.org/ag).

APSnet—With the purchase of “Microsoft’s SharePoint” Content Management System, APS is currently rebuilding the entire website, classifying and migrating over 120,000 pages of content. The first stage of the new APSnet will launch in spring 2010. The second stage, in fall 2010, will incorporate collaboration tools and workspaces for members and member groups. The Office of Electronic Communication (OEC) worked with staff members to refine the taxonomy used to “tag” information in the new CMS, as well as provided input on the appearance and navigational functionality of the redesigned APSnet.

Annual Meeting—Coming off a successful centennial meeting in 2008, the 2009 APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR, was another success with 1,481 attendees representing 45 countries. Student attendance continues to grow from 264 in 2007 to 299 in 2009. In 2009, the “going green” endeavor continued as both the registration brochure and the abstract book were available online only. Abstract printing stations at the meeting made the abstracts available to all attendees, but reduced both printing and shipping costs and carbon footprints. A new registration and abstract submission system was also introduced that has streamlined online processes.

Auxiliary Meetings—The Auxiliary Meetings Board has undertaken two meetings for 2009—the second National Plant Diagnostic Network Meeting in Miami, FL, and the 2009 National Soybean Rust Symposium in New Orleans, LA.
APS Public Policy Board (PPB)—Numerous issues were addressed by PPB in 2009, including food safety (met with produce safety staff from both FDA and multiple levels of USDA [FSIS, CSREES] at the spring meeting in Washington, DC; proposed an Interagency Initiative, including FDA, CDC, and food safety centers of excellence through the Office of Science and Technology Policy, as a possible mechanism for identifying new funds); culture collections (with funding from USDA, hosted a second major national workshop in January 2009, which included international representation to further coalesce plans for the development of a new national microbial culture resource); USDA-APHIS (established relationships with new APHIS leadership at spring PPB meeting and began conversations about delisting select agents); genomics (organizing a workshop in 2009 to review the state of the plant-associated microbial genomics, need for additional sequences of crops and associated microbes, and opportunities for accelerated studies); industry issues (at the spring meeting, initiated work with EPA to establish an EPA Fellowship, at no cost to APS, for an APS member); and general funding for plant pathology-related issues (secured congressional support for the continuation of the NSF contribution to the microbial genome sequencing program and support for maintaining the focus on economically important plants in the NSF plant genome research program).

Office of Public Relations and Outreach (OPRO)—In an effort to keep plant pathology in the forefront of the scientific community and general public, APS joined a consortium of scientific societies as a partner in the “PlantingScience” program which aims to improve understanding of science while fostering an awareness of and an appreciation for plants and general public, APS joined a consortium in the forefront of the scientific community (OPRO) that includes international representation to further coalesce plans for the development of a new national microbial culture resource; USDA-APHIS (established relationships with new APHIS leadership at spring PPB meeting and began conversations about delisting select agents); genomics (organizing a workshop in 2009 to review the state of the plant-associated microbial genomics, need for additional sequences of crops and associated microbes, and opportunities for accelerated studies); industry issues (at the spring meeting, initiated work with EPA to establish an EPA Fellowship, at no cost to APS, for an APS member); and general funding for plant pathology-related issues (secured congressional support for the continuation of the NSF contribution to the microbial genome sequencing program and support for maintaining the focus on economically important plants in the NSF plant genome research program).

Office of International Programs (OIP)—The “OIP Global Experience,” a program aimed at helping plant pathologists work with scientists and extension personnel in developing countries in training and outreach efforts, awarded grants for two international projects: “Plant Parasitic Nematode Identification Workshop” ($3,000) by Paula Agudelo and Marco Arevalo; and “A Workshop in Bolivia on Statistics in Plant Disease Epidemiology and Agriculture” ($4,000) by Karen Garrett.

Future of Education in Plant Pathology—The ad-hoc committee held a national workshop in March 2009 on The Future of Education in Plant Pathology and Related Disciplines. In addition to APS, there were representatives of eight other plant science-related societies, invited university leaders, graduate students, early-career education fellows, department heads, and representatives from government and private sector employers. During the workshop, data regarding the current and projected status of the plant sciences in the United States were reviewed, strategies for strengthening vulnerabilities in education and research training opportunities identified, and action plans for working together to carry out the proposed strategies were developed. The 14-point action list was presented to APS Council at the annual meeting and is currently being incorporated into the APS priorities.

Expanded Inter-Society Relations—What began as an experiment with the Chinese Society of Plant Pathology (CSPP) in 2006 to strengthen relationships with other societies by engaging them in ventures that would benefit members of both societies, has now progressed to the formation of an APS-CSPP planning board or working group to coordinate the activities between the two societies. The goal of the working group will be to further facilitate interactions between the two societies that will benefit the respective membership. Priorities continue to be the facilitation of publication in APS journals and cosponsoring symposia and workshops at national and international plant pathology meetings. The new planning group will work closely with the APS Scientific Planning Board to coordinate these activities. One of the proposals is to cosponsor a technical writing and editing workshop and an early career writing and editing workshop at the 2011 APS Annual Meeting in Hawaii. This would be a prelude to sponsoring a symposium at the 2011 APS Annual Meeting in Hawaii.
Beijing. The symposium would be recorded for distribution to various government agencies in both countries as evidence of the successes of cooperative programs.

Culture Collections—The APS Ad Hoc Committee on Culture Collections, along with PPB and with support and participation from USDA-ARS and USDA-APHIS, held a second workshop to facilitate the establishment of a National Plant Microbial Germplasm System (NPMGS) in January 2009. A proposed structure of the NPMGS was more clearly defined through the second workshop with the current envisioned system including the creation of the following core elements: a centralized hub with backup collections located at the USDA-ARS facility at Fort Collins, CO; a system of “BioBanks,” based primarily on existing collections (government and university, etc.), each with taxon-specific expertise; a federated database system linking “BioBanks” and the central hub information to other domestic and international collection databases; and finally, a management structure, involving a Steering Committee of federal employees and a Scientific Advisory Board made up of stakeholders, including APS representatives. An executive summary has been generated and provided to PPB for distribution to policy makers during their midyear meetings in Washington, DC.

Leadership Institute—A new “Leadership Institute” is currently under development, with plans to provide APS members the opportunity to equip themselves with the skills required to function efficiently in the current environment and to become leaders. The scope will not only be on those leadership and administrative skills for their primary place of employment, but also to function effectively in a volunteer organization such as APS. Ultimately, the goal of the institute is to mentor individuals in the use of these everyday skills, strategic planning (big picture thinking), and governance issues so as to develop future leaders of organizations. The first institute is planned for the 2010 APS Annual Meeting.

New Social Media Community Tools—APS has been working to build an even broader online community through the establishment of accounts with LinkedIn, Facebook, YouTube, and Twitter. The new APS2.0 tools offer all members the opportunity to stay connected to the global community throughout the year via tools they use regularly. Another great benefit of these efforts is outreach. Plant pathology videos are available for the public to view, and “tweets” via the Twitter account have been followed by a variety of scientific journals and other important outside sources. Monthly highlights of these new tools will be featured each month in this year’s Phytopathology News.

During their recent visit to China, APS Past Presidents Jim Moyer and Jan Leach received a beautifully hand-painted vase as a gift in honor of the APS Centennial from CSPP President Youliang Peng, professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at China Agricultural University.

More than 30 participants representing APS, universities, industry, USDA, NSF, the Smithsonian Institution, several international culture collection systems, and congressional staff members met to more clearly define a plan for an NPMGS.
Public Policy Update

Assuring the Safety of Plants for Food: Plant Pathologists and Food Safety Professionals Working Together

Jacque Fletcher, PPB Chair, jacqueline.fletcher@okstate.edu; Jeri Barak, PPB Member, barak@plantpath.wisc.edu, and Kellye Eversole, PPB DC Representative, eversole@eversoleassociates.com

Bringing the power of plant pathology to bear on food safety problems in plants was the *topique du jour* in Washington recently. A half-day listening session on “Assuring the Safety of Fresh Produce” was cosponsored by APS and FDA on November 12, 2009. Talks by APS members were presented at the FDA Center for Food Safety and Nutrition (CFSAN) in the morning and at the USDA’s Whitten Building in the afternoon. Organized by Public Policy Board (PPB) Chair Jacque Fletcher and APS’s Washington liaison Kellye Eversole, along with FDA’s Michael Mahovic, the FDA event was at the request of the FDA CFSAN leader, Samir Assar, at the conclusion of his first attendance at the APS Annual Meeting in Portland, OR.

As a food scientist, Assar was impressed with the breadth of research and outreach undertaken by plant pathologists, from extension specialists with their knowledge and trusted relationships with growers to the applied and basic research scientists in APS who represent a vast knowledge of the interactions among pathogens, plants, and cropping environments. The symposium at FDA is timely as congressional action is moving forward on the Food Safety Enhancement Act of 2009 with recent approval by the House of Representatives and consideration ongoing in the Senate. The proposed legislation would give the FDA recall power on food and bring farms under the purview of FDA via mandatory farming practices designed to ensure the safety of fresh produce in the United States. FDA is drafting voluntary guidelines to assure safe food at this time.

The morning listening session was attended by key members of the FDA CFSAN produce safety staff: APS speakers included Fletcher, Oklahoma State University; Jeri Barak, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Manan Sharma, USDA-ARS-Beltsville, MD; Jerry Bartz, University of Florida; Sally Miller, Ohio State University; Steven Rideout, Virginia Technical Cooperative Extension; and Eversole, Eversole Associates. FDA was interested in hearing about detailed research conducted by plant pathologists working in the area of food safety. Fletcher gave an overview of ongoing research among APS members that relates directly to the health problem of human pathogens on fresh produce. Barak highlighted basic research that included *Salmonella* gene characterization, the influence of plant-associated bacteria on the survival and proliferation of *Salmonella*, and efforts to identify *Salmonella* “resistance” in Solanaceae crops. Sharma spoke about the efforts in his laboratory to answer the question of pathogenic *E. coli* internalization in lettuce and differential virulence gene expression between cells colonizing ground beef or lettuce. Bartz reported on the internalization of pathogens through the tomato stem scar and cantaloupe netting and under what conditions this internalization may occur in the packing house and field. Miller shared some of the preliminary results of a survey of the perceptions and understanding of good agricultural practices and regulations from medium-sized growers in the Midwest. Rideout discussed the role of cooperative extension in helping farmers avoid conditions that could lead to foodborne illness outbreaks and new FDA research at his agricultural research station. Finally, Eversole spoke about APS’s Food Safety Research Initiative that includes 1) the creation of a cooperative multiagency effort, including FDA, USDA, NSF, and CDC, among others; 2) the plan for back-to-back symposia at the annual national meetings of both the International Association for Food Protection (IAFP), August 1–5 in Anaheim, CA, and APS, August 7–11, 2010, in Nashville, TN; and 3) new funding initiatives spanning the full spectrum of plant pathology and food safety. The FDA gave our APS group a warm reception, welcoming plant pathology contributions to food safety research and making plans for future collaborations.

In the afternoon session at USDA headquarters, the diverse audience included CFSAN members who were unable to attend the morning session; researchers from the University of Maryland, Georgetown University, USDA-ARS Food and Nutrition Service, and the Institute of Food Technologists; and a member of the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries. APS speakers repeated their morning presentations with the addition of Mahovic, FDA-CFSAN, who spoke about the FDA’s interest in the APS Food Safety Research Initiative. APS was encouraged to consider the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program as a source of potential funding; details are area available at www.ams.usda.gov/scbgp.

This double symposium established a good working base to prepare for the dual symposia at the IAFP and APS annual meetings, a potential full-scale workshop in Washington in 2010/2011, and the creation of an interagency funding initiative on produce safety.
Student Awards

Margaret Ellis and Alissa Kriss, Ph.D., students in plant pathology at The Ohio State University (OSU), were the first recipients of travel awards from the university’s Blair F. Janson and Wilmer G. Stover Scholarship. The scholarship was established by Janson, professor emeritus in OSU’s Department of Plant Pathology, to support undergraduate and graduate student education. Janson served the department from 1950 to 1976 and was the first plant pathology extension specialist in Ohio. Stover was a faculty member from 1910 to 1952 and taught nearly all of the department’s plant pathology and mycology courses during this time. Stover advised numerous graduate students, including Janson. The travel awards to Ellis and Kriss helped fund their participation in Atatürk University’s International summer school program in July 2009. During their three-week visit, Ellis and Kriss also met with plant pathologist Recep Kotan and other faculty and students in the Department of Plant Protection. They also visited Yeditepe University in Istanbul as guests of OSU alumnus Fikrettin Sahin, professor and chair of the Department of Genetics and Bioengineering. During their study abroad, Ellis and Kriss learned about Turkey’s culture and agriculture industry, and established collaborations with plant pathologists in the country. Ellis is working on the characterization and management of soybean seedling diseases with faculty advisor Anne Dorrance, and Kriss is investigating the epidemiology of Fusarium head blight with faculty advisor Larry Madden.

Recognition and Outstanding Advocacy

Jo Handelman, a professor in the Departments of Bacteriology and Plant Pathology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UWM) has received UWM’s Women’s Philanthropy Council’s Champion Award. The award is presented for outstanding advocacy to women.

Jo Handelman

Collaborations

Brian McSpadden Gardener, associate professor with The Ohio State University (OSU), Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center in Wooster, OH, was selected to participate in South Korea’s World Class University (WCU) program. The WCU program is funded by the Korea Science and Engineering Foundation and invites international scholars to collaborate with Korean faculty members to enhance research and education in selected fields. McSpadden Gardener is collaborating with Hunseung Kang and Young Cheol Kim at Chonnam National University (CNU) in the development of technologies related to bioenvironmental control. Together, they developed a proposal that was one of 29 selected for the WCU program. Their work will focus on the identification of novel biocontrol organisms, characterization of the genetic and biochemical basis for plant disease suppression, and development of pilot scale production and evaluation systems for biofungicides.

Michael Goodin, an associate professor at the University of Kentucky, as their invited guest speaker during the fall semester of 2009. In his lecture, entitled “Virus interactomes: Live and in color,” Goodin detailed the use of bimolecular fluorescence complementation to elucidate interactions between virus and host proteins, and viral cell-to-cell transport in planta. During his visit in Athens, GA, Goodin also collaborated with Katherine Mills Luján, a Ph.D. student in Mike Deom’s virology program, on visualizing protein-protein interactions in the Beet curly top virus-\textit{Arabidopsis} pathosystem. SAPP’s president, Sydney Everhart, organized several additional events to complement Goodin’s seminar and work visit, including dinner with students in downtown Athens, the requisite pizza lunch after the seminar, a social hour, and dinner with department faculty and students.

Awards

Lindsey du Toit, associate professor in the Plant Pathology Department of Washington State University (WSU), recently was selected to receive WSU’s 2009 Kenneth J. Morrison Extension Award. This award, established in 1987, recognizes annually those individuals who have made significant contributions to agriculture in the state of Washington, especially in crop production and/or soil management. du Toit’s research and extension program is located at the Northwestern Washington Research and Extension Center in Mt. Vernon, where she works on epidemiology and management of diseases affecting vegetable seed crops (primarily small-seeded vegetables) in the Pacific Northwest.

Young Cheol Kim, Hunseung Kang, and Brian McSpadden Gardener.

Sydney Everhart, organized several additional events to complement Goodin’s seminar and work visit, including dinner with students in downtown Athens, the requisite pizza lunch after the seminar, a social hour, and dinner with department faculty and students.
Arthur Kelman passed away at age 90 on June 29, 2009, in Raleigh, NC. Kelman grew up in Providence, RI, where he entered the University of Rhode Island in 1937 with a focus on plant pathology. After he completed his undergraduate studies, he continued to study plant pathology at North Carolina State University (NCSU) at Raleigh. He was called to duty during World War II, serving for three years as a member of the Signal Intelligence Unit in North Africa, Sicily, and Italy, where he received a field commission as a second lieutenant. Kelman returned to graduate school at NCSU in 1946, remaining there to complete his Ph.D. degree and to accept a position as an assistant professor of plant pathology in 1949. While in North Carolina, he met and married Helen Parker, a native of North Carolina.

Kelman established a world-renowned research program while at NCSU. His primary interest was on the understanding and control of Granville Wilt of flue-cured tobacco, but Kelman was always a champion of the importance of understanding complex biological problems in order to develop effective control practices, and his creative and insightful research led to numerous fundamental and practical contributions that have enhanced our understanding of the biology and ecology of phytopathogens, especially mechanisms of virulence and pathogenesis. Kelman also is credited with the initiation of the Forest Pathology Program at NCSU. While at NCSU, he received the award of Outstanding Instructor in the School of Agriculture in 1956. In 1961, he received a Distinguished Teacher Award and was named the William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology. In 1965, he moved to the University of Wisconsin at Madison (UWM) to assume the chair of the Department of Plant Pathology, a position he held for 10 years. His research at UWM focused on bacterial plant pathogens and the diseases they cause. He was noted for his contributions on bacterial plant pathogens and the diseases they cause. He taught the basic undergraduate course in plant pathology for many years, and in 1987, received the Amoco Excellence in Teaching Award and the Spitzer Excellence in Teaching Award from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences. He was a highly respected mentor of graduate students and those relationships often resulted in career-long associations. His skill as a mentor is legendary and extended well beyond students to include many young faculty members and administrators. In 1975, he was named the L. R. Jones Distinguished Professor of Plant Pathology and later served as the Wisconsin Alumni Research Foundation Senior Research Professor (1985–1989). He received an honorary doctor of science degree from the University of Rhode Island (1977); the E. C. Stakman Award, University of Minnesota (1987); the Researcher of the Year Award, Wisconsin Potato and Vegetable Industry (1988); the North American Seed Potato Researcher of the Year Award (1988); and the University Distinguished Scholar, Department of Plant Pathology, NCSU (1989). For his many research contributions, he was elected into the National Academy of Sciences. Following retirement in 1989, Kelman returned to NCSU as a Distinguished University Scholar and remained actively affiliated with the university and the profession of plant pathology. In 1999, he received an Outstanding Alumnus Award from the Department of Plant Pathology, NCSU, and a similar award from the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences, NCSU, in 2000. He served as chief scientist for the USDA/NRI Competitive Grants Program from 1991 until 1993. In addition to his contributions as a scientist and teacher, Kelman was recognized as an effective leader in the institutions he served and his professional societies. For example, he was active in faculty governance at UWM and served as chair of the University Committee. At the national level, he was elected a fellow of APS, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the American Academy of Microbiology. He served as president of both APS and the International Society of Plant Pathology. In 1983, he received the Award of Distinction, the highest honor awarded by APS. Kelman’s exceptional career as a scientist, mentor, and leader provide an enviable legacy in plant pathology and agricultural research for generations to come.

Richard Kiesling, professor emeritus at North Dakota State University (NDSU), passed away on July 15, 2009, in Gainesville, FL, surrounded by his family. Kiesling was born on November 20, 1922, in Rockford, IL, where he was raised. After high school graduation in January 1941, he worked for the Illinois Bell Telephone Company. He then entered the University of Wisconsin-Madison (UWM) in 1942. He enlisted in the Army Reserve Corps on November 3, 1942, and was called to active duty in March of 1943. He saw military service in Europe, returned to the United States in May 1946, and reentered UWM. He married Frances Groth Mowers on June 22, 1947, in Belvidere, IL, and they moved to Prairie du Sac, WI. He graduated from UWM in 1949 with his B.S. degree in plant science and minors in entomology and agronomy. He continued his graduate education at UWM under the direction of James G. Dickson. Kiesling received M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in plant pathology in 1951 and 1952, respectively, with research that focused on the histology of covered smut of barley. Kiesling then joined the Department of Botany and Plant Pathology at Michigan State University (MSU) where he served as assistant professor (1952–1957) and associate professor (1957–1960).

In 1960, Kiesling was named professor and chair of the newly formed Department of Plant Pathology at NDSU. He was a strong, effective, and visionary leader of the department until his retirement in 1988. With strong support from the College of Agriculture, Kiesling increased the breadth and depth of the department’s research, teaching, and extension programs, growing the faculty from three tenure-track faculty members in 1960 to 13 at his retirement. While building the department, Kiesling remained active in teaching and research, both of which were his passion. His research at NDSU focused on the genetics and other aspects of covered smut of barley. He taught graduate-level courses on fungal genetics and also on the principles and practices of plant pathology with, as was described by one of his colleagues of the day, “unmatched enthusiasm.” He directed five M.S. and nine Ph.D. students through his career. A significant number of his doctoral students have gone on to have very successful careers in plant pathology, both in the United States and elsewhere in the world. Kiesling was an active member of APS, holding the office of president of the North Central Division of APS in 1963. He was extremely active in service to NDSU and the community of Fargo, ND. Among other things, he was a long-time member of the Gateway Lions Club in Fargo and held offices as newsletter editor, president, and secretary.

In 1990, Kiesling and his wife moved to Gainesville, FL, where he pursued his love of the outdoors through gardening and bird watching. Kiesling is survived by his wife, Frances, four children, and five grandchildren.
Research Associate

A post-doctoral research associate position is available in the Food Quality Laboratory, in Beltsville, MD, at USDA-ARS, Beltsville Agricultural Research Center. The research associate will investigate the role of fungal cell-wall-degrading enzymes and other virulence factors important in postharvest decay of pome and stone fruits (mainly apples, pears, peaches, and nectarines). The incumbent will investigate pathogen-mediated host modulation and mechanisms of host resistance in apple cultivars with the long-term goal of developing potential control strategies to reduce postharvest decay. A Ph.D. degree in plant pathology/related field required. Applicants must have experience which demonstrates: knowledge of the principles, techniques, and procedures implemented in the area of plant pathology; skill in molecular biological/proteomic methods for studying host-parasite interactions; and the ability to design, plan, conduct, and publish research in peer-reviewed journals. Salary: $60,989. Closing Date: February 25, 2010 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Submit a brief letter describing your career interests and goals along with a copy of your most current CV, transcripts, and names and contact information for three references to William S. Conway. USDA-ARS is an equal opportunity employer and provider. Contact: William Conway, USDA-ARS, 10300 Baltimore Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705 U.S.A. Fax: +1.301.504.5107; E-mail: william.conway@ars.usda.gov; Phone: +1.301.504.6128.

Post-Doctoral Positions in Genomics of Fungal Tree Pathogens

Two post-doctoral positions are available to work on comparative and evolutionary genomics of fungal tree pathogens. Applicants are to be part of a multidisciplinary research team and address topics such as comparative and population genomics of poplar rusts with different virulence and host-specificity and landscape and population genomics of the fungal associates of the Mountain Pine Beetle (MPB). With the complete genome sequence of the poplar rust, and of G. clavigera, an MPB fungal associate, these projects possess extensive genome resources to investigate the evolution of host specialization and pathogenicity in tree pathogens. Ph.D. degree in bioinformatics or informatics with experience in biology/Ph.D. degree in biology (with strong experience in computational biology/bioinformatics) preferred. Candidates should have record of publications in peer-reviewed scientific journals and fluency in English. All qualified applicants encouraged to apply; however, Canadians/permanent residents of Canada given priority. Closing Date: February 23, 2010 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) To apply, submit a CV, a cover letter, and names and contact information of three references. Contact: Richard Hamelin, Department of Forest Sciences, Faculty of Forestry, 2424 Main Mall, Forest Sciences Centre #3032-2424 Main Mall, Vancouver, BC, V6T 1Z4, Canada; Email: richard.hamelin@ubc.ca; Phone: +1.604.827.4441; Web: www.forestry.ubc.ca.

Specialty Crops Genetics and Breeding

The College of Agriculture at Purdue University in West Lafayette, IN, seeks an academic year, tenure-track assistant or associate professor in the genetics and breeding of specialty crops. The successful candidate will utilize genetic diversity and the tools of modern genetics to establish an internationally recognized/externally funded research program. Research is primary scholarly focus. Teaching/mentoring expected. Questions may be directed to Ray Martyn and Cary Mitchell. Qualifications: A Ph.D. degree in plant genetics, plant breeding, or related discipline. Excellent oral/written communication skills and post-doctoral or equivalent professional experience desired. Experience in contemporary technologies to enhance genetics and selection programs, phenotypic plant selection, statistical genetics, and/or bioinformatics considered advantageous. Applications should include a cover letter, including a statement of professional goals for research and teaching, CV with full list of publications, and the names and contact information, including email addresses, of four references. Application materials should be sent electronically as .pdf files to Colleen Martin. Closing Date: January 15, 2010 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Contact: Colleen Martin, Purdue University, 629 Agriculture Mall Drive, West Lafayette, IN 47907-2010 U.S.A. E-mail: martinc@purdue.edu; Phone: +1.765.494.1306; Fax: +1.765.494.0391; Web: www.hort.purdue.edu or www.btny.purdue.edu.

Post-Doc with the University of Lausanne

The mutually beneficial arbuscular mycorrhizal (AM) symbiosis occurs between the majority of terrestrial plants and Glomeromycota fungi. AM fungi enhance the phosphate and nitrogen nutrition of their hosts and receive carbohydrates in return. This bidirectional nutrient exchange is believed to take place within root cortex cells at the so-called arbuscules that correspond to intracellular fungal haustoria. Development of arbuscules induces polarization of the colonized cell and is accompanied by the synthesis of an extensive periarbuscular membrane (PAM). PAM remains in continuum with the peripheral plasma membrane (PPM) and governs the molecular dialogue between the fungus and plant. In a novel proteomics approach, the successful candidate will determine the molecular constituents of the PAM and PPM subdomains of the polarized arbusculated cell. A background in plant biochemistry or proteomics desirable. Closing Date: February 6, 2010 (This closing date is open until the position is filled.) Contact: Uta Paszkowski, University of Lausanne, Department of Plant Molecular Biology, Biology Building, Lausanne, Europe 1015 SW1; E-mail: uta.paszkowski@unil.ch; Phone: +41216924210; Web: www.unil.ch/dbmv/page7038.html.

Faculty Position Open

A position is available on August 1, 2010, at the assistant professor, associate professor, or professor level. The area of interest is phytobacteriology, including the diagnosis and control of plant diseases, physiological plant pathology, epidemiology, resistance breeding, and biotechnology. Duties: Research, regular teaching load, and other assigned works. Closing Date: February 2, 2010 (This closing date is not adjustable.) Please send these documents to Chao-Ying Chen, Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology, National Taiwan University, No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei 10617, Taiwan, with stamp sealed before February 1, 2010, and confirm the application by e-mail to cychen@ntu.edu.tw. Contact: Chao-Ying Chen, National Taiwan University, No. 1, Sec. 4, Roosevelt Road, Taipei, Taiwan. Fax: +886-2.23657735; Email: cychen@ntu.edu.tw; Phone: +886-2-33605207. ●
Phytopathology News

January 2010, Volume 100, Number 1

Involvement of the Plant Polymer Suberin and the Disaccharide Cellulobiose in Triggering Thaxtomin A Biosynthesis, a Phytotoxin Produced by the Pathogenic Agent Streptomyces scabies.


Plant Disease

January 2010, Volume 94, Number 1


Phytopathology News

January 2010, Volume 23, Number 1


Calendar of Events

**APS Sponsored Events**

**February 2010**
- 7-8 — APS Southern Division Meeting. Orlando, FL. www.cals.ncsu.edu/plantpath/activities/societies/aps/SouthernAPS.html

**March 2010**
- 24-26 — APS Potomac Division Meeting. Ocean City, MD. www.apsnet.org/members/div/potomac

**June 2010**
- 6-8 — North Central Division Meeting. Rapid City, SD. www.apsnet.org/members/div/northcentral
- 20-23 — APS Pacific Division Annual Meeting (in conjunction with the Canadian Phytopathological Society). Vancouver, Canada. www.apsnet.org/members/div/pacific

**August 2010**

**October 2010**

**Upcoming APS Annual Meetings**
- August 7-11, 2010 — Nashville, TN.
- August 6-10, 2011 — APS/IAPPS Joint Meeting. Honolulu, HI.
- August 4-8, 2012 — Providence, RI.

**Other Upcoming Events**

**January 2010**
- 12-13 — The 3rd Plant International Meeting for Specialized Plant Sector Business Leaders. Angers, France. contact.ftpo@ubifrance.fr.

**February 2010**

**March 2010**
- 7-12 — Phytophthora Diseases in Forest Trees and Natural Ecosystems—5th Meeting of the IUFRO Working Group. Rotorua, New Zealand. pam.taylor@scionresearch.com

**April 2010**

**May 2010**
- 3-6 — Fourth International Rusts of Forest Trees Conference. Florence, Italy. www.iufro.org/science/divisions/division-7/70000/70200/70205/activities/#c14972

**June 2010**
- 6-11 — 12th World Congress of the International Association for Plant Biotechnology. St. Louis, MO. www.IAPB2010.org

**July 2010**
- 26-28 — 34th International Carrot Conference. Kennewick, WA. www.pnva.org/carrotconf

**August 2010**
- 11-15 — 5th International Rice Blast Conference. Little Rock, AR. www.ars.usda.gov/irbc2010
- 16-18 — Symposium on Silicon in Agriculture. Viçosa City, Minas Gerais, Brazil. www.siliconagriculture.com.br
- 16-20 — ISHS 12th International Workshop on Fire Blight. Warsaw, Poland. www.fireblight2010.pl

**September 2010**

**August 2013**