



# SOUTHERN SECTION AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS NEWSLETTER

## 2002 ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting of the Southern Section of the American Society of Plant Physiologists will be held on the campus of the University of Georgia in Athens during March 2-4, 2002, at the **Georgia Center for Continuing Education**,

You can find information and updates concerning the meeting by visiting: <http://www.ss-aspp.org/ss-aspp/meetings02.html>

This year's local coordinators are:

Dr. Scott Merkle, (smerkle@uga.edu)

Dr. Deborah Mohnen, (dmohnen@ccrc.uga.edu)

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## ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

The 2002 Annual Symposium of the SS-ASPB will be held the morning of Monday, March 4th and will address "Mechanisms for Regulation of Plant Metabolism"

Speakers will include:

**Dr. Rob Ferl**, (Plant Molecular and Cellular Biology Program, Horticultural Sciences Department, University of Florida): "14-3-3 Proteins and the Final Resolution of Signal Transduction Events"

**Dr. James Mahan**, (Plant Stress and Water Conservation Lab, USDA-ARS, Lubbock, TX): "Thermal Dependence of Enzyme Inhibition; implications for Herbicide Efficacy and Resistance."

**Dr. Michael E. Salvucci**, (Western Cotton Research Laboratory, USDA-ARS, Phoenix, AZ): "Regulation of Photosynthesis by Rubisco Activase, a AAA+ Protein"

The organizer for the Annual Symposium is Dr. Tim Sherman.

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## CALL FOR PAPERS

This is the first and only call for papers! Complete and return the attached Paper Title Submission Form as soon as possible. (You can also submit your title and register electronically at the web site, but you must mail in payment to the address listed below.) Note that the presenting author must be specified. Forms must arrive no later than February 8, 2002. Meeting programs will be available at the SS-ASPB web site and at the registration desk.

Forms should be mailed, faxed, or emailed to:

Ruth Grene (formerly Alscher)

435 Old Glade Road

Dept of Plant Pathology

Virginia Tech

Blacksburg, VA 24061-0330

The Annual Meeting will accommodate both oral and poster presentations. However, for consideration for the "**Best Graduate Student Paper**", the presentation must be oral. Oral presentations will be limited to 15 minutes including discussion. A carousel and slide projector will be provided for those giving oral presentations, but presentations via Microsoft PowerPoint (PC-compatible!) are greatly to be preferred. *Students are requested to hand in their presentations (slides, zip disk or CD-ROM) to Dr. Grene at the door of the mixer on Saturday evening.* Details about requirements for the presentation are available at the web site. Student participants in the competition must submit an abstract (not to exceed 250 words) for use by the judging committee only. Abstracts should accompany the Paper Title Submission Form and Registration Form and arrive by the **February 8th deadline.**

We will also hold a competition for "**Best Undergraduate Student Poster**". Undergraduates should also submit an abstract (as above). Winners of both student competitions will receive a framed certificate and cash award. The American Society of Plant Biologists provides financial support for these competitions. Meeting registration and banquet fees are waived for all students presenting papers (see Conference Registration below).

Dimensions for the poster presentations will be 4 x 4 ft. Participants should provide their own pins for mounting posters. Posters will be displayed throughout the meeting (Sunday March 3 and Monday, March 4th). Author attendance times will be announced in the meeting program.

## UNDERGRADUATE MINORITY PARTICIPATION AWARD

Minority undergraduate students are invited to attend and participate in the annual meeting of the Southern Section of the American Society of Plant Physiologists (SS-ASPP). With the co-operation of the national society, SS-ASPP is pleased to provide as many as 5 travel awards to further stimulate such participation and encourages all eligible students to apply for

these funds. Travel grants will be awarded on the basis of application contents, which will be reviewed by the SS-ASPP Executive Committee. Accompaniment of the student to the Annual Meeting by the sponsoring mentor will be considered a plus.

The cash value of the award will be determined by actual travel expenses (ground/mileage) incurred by the student, two nights lodging at the host hotel, \$25/day per diem for meals and incidental expenses, registration fee for the meeting and a ticket to attend the meeting banquet.

Applications should follow the guidelines outlined below and be sufficiently in-depth to allow the Committee to make an informed decision. Please provide the following information.

*Your name, academic address and contact numbers, name of academic mentor, list of plant science courses, list of related biology courses completed, statement of career goals, your perception of how you will benefit by participating in the meeting.*

**In addition, a supporting letter submitted by your academic mentor must be received by the application deadline.** Applicants should also indicate whether or not they will be presenting their research and participating in the Undergraduate Poster Competition. **Application Deadline: February 15th 2002**

**Mail to:**

Dr. Mel Oliver  
USDA-ARS  
Plant Stress and Water Conservation Lab  
3810 4th St  
Lubbock TX 79415

## CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Please register for the Annual Meeting by filling out the attached Conference Registration Form and sending it along with your payment to **Ruth Grene, Secretary/Treasurer SS-ASPB** at the address given above. (As mentioned above, you can also register electronically at our web site, but you must mail in your payment.) The registration fee is \$65.00 and covers the cost of the meeting and symposium program, the Saturday Mixer, and refreshment breaks (Sun./Mon.).

*If you are presenting a paper in the student competitions, your registration fee and banquet fee will be waived, but you must still submit a registration form, and you must still pay the SS-ASPB dues (\$5.00). Fees are due by Feb. 8, 2002.*

As an incentive to students (graduate or undergraduates) from nearby universities who might be interested in listening to some or all of the scientific presentations, there will be no charge to attend the talks, posters, and symposium. We request only that interested students submit a registration form indicating that they will attend the "talks only". This will allow us to more accurately gauge the amount of refreshments needed during the breaks. Students (attendee basis only) who want to attend the mixer and

banquet may also do so, but will pay the full cost for those functions, just as a guest.

## HOTEL RESERVATIONS

A block of lodging rooms has been reserved, with rates of \$62.00 - 81.00 per night (no room tax). To make a room reservation, please call the **Georgia Center for Continuing Education**, (800-884-1419). Their local phone number is (706-542-6364) and fax is (706- 542-6465). If there are any problems, our local contact at The Georgia Center is Nancy Breme, (Nancy\_Breme@gactr.uga.edu). **Be sure to ask for the SS-ASPB rate. Reservations should be made on or before February 8, 2002.** After this date, any unused rooms in the block will be released to the general public and the special conference rate might not be available. Please make your reservation as soon as your plans are finalized.

## TRAVEL.

You may fly to Atlanta or to Athens. Atlanta Airport is served by major airlines, and offers a shuttle service (\$30.00 fee one way) to the University, stopping right at the Georgia Center. If you plan to fly into Atlanta please call the AAA Airport Express at (800-354-7874) to make a reservation in advance. If you plan to fly into Athens, (it will cost more!), there is a cab service that will provide transportation to the Georgia Center for a \$5.00 fee. Parking is available in the South Campus Parking Deck, located just north of the Georgia Center. The deck is operated by The University of Georgia and is open around the clock. Vans and other vehicles over seven feet tall cannot fit in the deck, but arrangements can be made for alternative parking. The current rates are \$.50 for the first 30 minutes, \$2.00 for the first hour, \$2.00 for each additional hour, and a maximum of \$8.00 for each 24-hour period parked. If you are lodging at the Georgia Center, a daily flat-rate parking charge of \$10.00 per day may be added to your room bill, if you wish, and you will be given a pass for the parking deck. Directions to the meeting site, including parking facilities, are available at:

<http://www.gactr.uga.edu/conferences/about/directions.phtml>

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## ACTIVITIES

**OPENING MIXER** Our traditional mixer is an opportunity to visit with old friends and make new ones. It is scheduled for Saturday evening, **March 2nd from 7 -9 p.m.** Hors d'oeuvres and two beverages will be provided (cost is included in the registration fee). For those not registered for the meeting, the cost of attending the mixer is \$25.00 (includes 2 drinks).

**SUNDAY BANQUET** The annual banquet (**March 3rd, 6:30-9:00 p.m.**) will follow Sunday's talks and posters. The cost will be \$35. A French Theme Buffet will be served, with several choices of entrée (meat and fish). *If you wish to have a vegetarian meal, please tell the hotel when you*

*register*. Wine will be served with dinner. For those wishing to purchase other alcoholic beverages, a cash bar will be located in the banquet area from 6:00-6:45. If a student friend or spouse not registered for the meeting wishes to attend the banquet, the price will be \$35 for each additional person.

**The winners of the student presentation competitions will be announced at the banquet.**

## **2001-2002 SS-ASPP OFFICERS**

### **CHAIR**

Dr. Jay Mellon  
USDA-ARS/SRRC  
POB 19687  
New Orleans, LA 70179-0687  
Phone: (504) 286-4358  
Email: [jmellon@commsserver.srrc.usda.gov](mailto:jmellon@commsserver.srrc.usda.gov)

### **VICE- CHAIR**

Dr. Tim Sherman  
Univ. of South Alabama  
Dept. of Biology  
Life Sciences Bldg. Room 124  
Mobile, AL 36688-0002  
Phone: (334) 460-752  
Email: [tsherman@jaguar1.usouthal.edu](mailto:tsherman@jaguar1.usouthal.edu)

### **SECRETARY- TREASURER**

Dr. Ruth Grene (formerly Alscher)  
Dept of Plant Pathology,  
435 Old Glade Road,  
Virginia Tech,  
Blacksburg, VA 24061  
Phone: 540-231-6761, 540-392-1898  
Fax 540-231-5755  
E mail: [ralscher@vt.edu](mailto:ralscher@vt.edu)

### **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Dr. Cindy Putnam-Evans  
Email: [evansc@mail.ecu.edu](mailto:evansc@mail.ecu.edu)  
Dr. Joyce G. Foster  
Email: [jfoster@asrr.arsusda.gov](mailto:jfoster@asrr.arsusda.gov)  
Dr. Melvin J. Oliver  
Email: [moliver@mail.csrl.ars.usda.gov](mailto:moliver@mail.csrl.ars.usda.gov)

**ISSUE REQUIRING A VOTE OF THE MEMBERSHIP...**

Due to confusion created as a result of our first electronic newsletter dissemination, we assume that many of you did not notice the ballot associated with the Fall newsletter. We are soliciting a vote on officers, meeting sites, and important constitutional issues. The text for the biographical, location, and constitutional wording changes can be found at:

**BALLOT**

**Please mail a printout of your completed ballot to (or bring it with you to the meeting)**

Dr. Cindy Putnam-Evans  
East Carolina State University  
Dept. of Biology  
N-108 Howell Science Complex  
Greenville, NC 27858  
Phone: (252) 328-4811  
Email: evansc@mail.ecu.edu

**CANDIDATES FOR SECRETARY-TREASURER**

*Please vote for one*

Dalton Gossett -----  
Caryl Chlan -----

**CANDIDATES FOR VICE CHAIR**

*Please vote for one*

Ruth (Alscher) Grene -----  
Write-in -----

**CANDIDATES FOR CHAIR**

*Please vote for one*

Tim Sherman -----  
Write-in -----

**LOCATION FOR THE 2003 MEETING**

*Please vote for one*

Auburn University – Local Coordinator, Robert Locy -----  
University of North Texas, Denton, TX – Local Coordinator, Kent Chapman -----

**PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS**

*Please vote by indicating Y or N in the space provided.*

Amendment A -----  
Amendment B -----  
Amendment C -----

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR A

# UNDERGRADUATE MINORITY PARTICIPATION AWARD

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The cash value of the award will be determined by actual travel expenses (ground/mileage) incurred by the student, two nights lodging at the host hotel, \$25/day per diem for meals and incidental expenses, registration fee for the meeting and a ticket to attend the meeting Banquet.

Applications should follow the guidelines outlined below and be sufficiently in-depth to allow the Committee to make an informed decision. Please provide the following information.

***Your name, academic address and contact numbers, name of academic mentor, list of plant science courses, list of related biology courses completed, statement of career goals, your perception of how you will benefit by participating in the meeting.***

**In addition, a supporting letter submitted by your academic mentor must be received by the application deadline.** Applicants should also indicate whether or not they will be presenting their research and participating in the **Undergraduate Poster Competition**.

**Application Deadline: February 15<sup>th</sup> 2002**

**Mail to:** Dr. Mel Oliver  
USDA-ARS  
Plant Stress and Water Conservation Lab  
3810 4th St  
Lubbock TX 79415

# Meeting Registration Form

For the ANNUAL MEETING of the SOUTHERN SECTION of the AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS (SS-ASPP)

March 2-4, 2002 at the Georgia Center for Continuing Education, U. of Georgia, Athens, GA

Please print or type-complete a separate form for each participant

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Title \_\_\_\_\_

Organization \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Daytime Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Check here if you are a student and will attend only the talks, posters, or symposium (There is no charge for this.) If you would like to attend the mixer or banquet, however, please enclose payment at the "guest" rates.

Participant Registration fee: *Please return or fax before February 26, 2001.*

\_\_\_\_\_ \$65.00 per person - [includes meetings on Sunday and Monday and Saturday's Mixer (with tickets for 2 drinks)]

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 per person - Sunday Banquet

\_\_\_\_\_ \*\* Check here if you are presenting a paper in one of the student competitions.

\_\_\_\_\_ \$5.00 per person - SS-ASPP Dues (if not paid previously) This is not required for students who will only attend talks.

Will a guest be accompanying you at the mixer or banquet? Guest fees:

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25.00 per person - Saturday Mixer (includes 2 drinks)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$35.00 per person - Sunday Banquet

Spouse or Guest Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Total Amount Enclosed**

Make check payable to: **SS-ASPP**

Mail checks to :  
Ruth Grene, Secretary /Treasurer, SS-ASPP  
435 Old Glade Road  
Dept. of Plant Pathology  
Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0330

For lodging reservations, please call the **Georgia Center for Continuing Education, (800) 884-1419.**

## Paper Title Submission Form

Completed forms should arrive no later than **February 8, 2002**.

Dues (\$5.00) must be current through 2001 in order to present a paper at the meeting. This requirement also holds for students participating in the "**Best Graduate Student Paper**" or the "**Best Undergraduate Student Poster**" competitions. Membership in the American Society of Plant Physiologists does not constitute membership in the Southern Section. Use the attached registration form to make dues payments to SS-ASPP (if you did not pay when you sent in your national dues).

Type of Presentation: Oral  Poster

Graduate Student Competition Presentation\*: Yes  No

Undergraduate Student Poster Competition\* Yes  No

Key Words (subject area): \_\_\_\_\_

Projection equipment required: 35 mm Slides  Overheads  PowerPoint projector

Title of Presentation: \_\_\_\_\_

Author(s) (give full names): \_\_\_\_\_

Affiliations(s) and address(es): \_\_\_\_\_

Name, Phone Number, and email of Presenting Author: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail, fax or email all information to:**

Dr. Ruth Grene  
435 Old Glade Rd.  
Dept. Plant Pathology  
Virginia Tech  
Blacksburg, VA 24061-0330

(540) 231-6761 phone

(540) 231-5755 fax

Email: [ralischer@vt.edu](mailto:ralischer@vt.edu)

\* Abstract must be received by the deadline for competition.