



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/meetings.html> (Tim will have to update the URL).

This year's local coordinators are:

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

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

ANNUAL SYMPOSIUM

The 2002 Annual Symposium of the SS-ASPP 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.

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-ASPP 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. Students participating in the "**Best Graduate Student Paper**" competition should be aware a high quality presentation and strict adherence to time guidelines are important considerations. 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. Details about requirements for this 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 Physiologists 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 positive attribute.

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**

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 payments.) 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 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, is available at:

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

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. A French Theme Buffet will be available, with several meat and fish choices of entrée. If you wish to have a vegetarian meal, please tell the hotel when you register. The cost will be \$35. 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.

As an added incentive for attendance, the winners of the student presentation competitions will be announced at the banquet.

2001-2002 SS-ASPP OFFICERS

CHAIR

Dr. Jay Mellon
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VICE- CHAIR

Dr. Tim Sherman
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SECRETARY- TREASURER

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EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

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Dr. Joyce G. Foster
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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
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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 -----