



International Committee American Society of Plant Biologists

DRAFT MINUTES - Committee meeting by Zoom conference, November 5 & 6, 2020, 7am ET

Because of time zones and limited availability, two meetings are arranged. Members joined one of two Zoom meetings.

Members

Anja Geitmann (geitmann.aes@mcgill.ca) - Chair
Matthew Tucker (matthew.tucker@adelaide.edu.au)
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Agenda

1. Welcome & Introductions
2. Approval of the agenda
Agenda was approved.
3. Workshop(s) for Plant Biology 2021
The discussions were informed by the result of a collective brainstorm done by email. Discussions narrowed down on the following ideas of workshops for PB 2021:
 - a. International research collaborations
 - invite researchers with experience in leading international collaborations and networks
 - panel discussion
 - b. International mobility for students and postdocs
 - invite speakers who are well traveled
 - invite one or several representatives of funding agencies providing financial support for international mobility of ECR
 - panel discussion with Q&A session, followed by a mixer
 - volunteers: Matt, Dominique

A decision was taken to focus on option b, a workshop for ECR.

Action item: Anja to submit the workshop proposal to the Program Committee for the december 4 deadline.

Follow-up: The following workshop proposal was submitted to the PB2021 Program Committee:

Building an international career

The International Committee would like to host a workshop tailored for early career researchers (graduate students, postdoctoral fellows) to discuss experience with and provide advice for building an international career. We will hear from experienced science globetrotters what to consider when planning for graduate studies or postdoctoral work abroad, and how to access scholarships for international mobility.

The workshop will consist of the following three elements:

- Panel discussion with a two or three senior researchers and one or two junior scientists with international careers*
- Short presentation(s) by one or two representative(s) of funding agencies awarding mobility grants (e.g. HFSP). Even in case of an in-person conference, this could be done via video feed.*
- Mixer (if even is online this would be organized in breakout rooms): Participants would be invited to socialize with the panelists and other scientific globetrotters. For this portion, we would solicit at least half a dozen junior and senior colleagues with international experience to make themselves available.*

The mixer at the end of the workshop is a crucial element of the event since it allows for individual conversations or small groups that change dynamically. For this reason, we would like to schedule this workshop in the late afternoon and offer drinks (cash bar or included in workshop registration).

4. Other opportunities

The committee discussed its presence on Plantae and the possibility of organizing an online event on the topic of international germ plasm exchange

- exchange of germ plasm is often complicated by difficulties at customs
- invited speaker could be policy makers, politician
- would be important to make statement to government
- could involve a major company
- Lead: Ruben; assisted by Pablo

Action item: Ruben to reach out to Pablo and to initiate the organization of this event.

5. Other business - None

6. Adjournment