

Program Committee, Portland, OR. April 2nd & 3rd 2022

In Person: Wayne Parrott, Katie Hathaway, Angelica Lunod, Adam Steinbrenner, Enamul Huq, Crispin Taylor, Gustavo Macintosh, Jithesh Vijayan, Robin Cameron, Shinhan Shu, Cody Bekerring, Theresa Meyers, Phil Taylor.

On Line: Jenn Lewis, Jean Rosenberg.

Notetaker: Phil Taylor.

Morning session

- 1) Approval of minutes from last meeting
 - a. No comments, changes were noted by the group.
 - b. Motion to approve was unanimous.
- 2) ASPB updates (Crispin Taylor):
 - a. Sarah Black – VP for content and communications
 - i. Explore and leverage synergies among all content channels
 1. Conference(s)
 2. Journals
 3. Informal/less formal – workshops, webinars, etc.
 - ii. Potential richer/deliberate integration of journal ed boards in PB programs
 - iii. Potential synergies between conference programming and upcoming journal Focus Issues
 - iv. Potential expansion of Plant Biology brand to other ASPB-organized conferences
 2. Strategic planning
 - i. 2-day (virtual) session in March
 - ii. Follow-up to define Core Ideologies – Purpose, Mission, Values
 - iii. Process will unfold over coming couple of months
 1. Finished product is the intended focus of Town Hall conversations in Portland and online
 2. Will inform budgeting for 2023 and beyond
 3. Plan includes expectation for annual refresh, with input from the community in the first quarter of each year
 3. Centennial
 - i. Centennial Challenge going remarkably well
 1. Shout-out to Brian Larkins and the rest of the Centennial Challenge Committee, who are doing a very heavy and successful fundraising lift
 - ii. Pending three-part history project
 1. The Society – a series of essays on major changes since the early 80s
 2. The science – a series of articles in the journals that bring both retrospective and prospective insights into specific topical areas, with authors who are at corresponding stages of their careers
 3. The people – essentially a compendium of existing/still accumulating biographic material from Legacy Society Founding Members and Pioneers
 4. ROOT&SHOOT

- i. NSF-BIO LEAPS RCN
 - 1. Professional societies as agents of change
 - 2. Creating a discipline that is nurturing and welcoming of all
 - 3. And corresponding leadership structures/practices that intentionally reflect the diversity that we need to see in our communities
 - ii. Five-year award started in October; we are really just now getting up to speed
 - 1. Consultant hired – watch for an email on Monday for an opportunity to join the conversation next week
 - 2. Staff person hired – relieves pressure on Mary Williams (PI) and me (co-PI); helps make sure we get ourselves coordinated and active
5. BOTTOM LINE
- i. I have convinced myself that the next few years represent a major pivot point for the organization, and that we will start our second 100 years with notably different structures and practices, poised for continued success and expanded reach – and a more diverse and inclusive community.

3) - [Overview of PB2022 schedule](#) - [preliminary program on web](#)

- Review of the schedule (Angelica)
 - Discussion on the timing of award distribution. Have a few given out at different times during the meeting.
 - Working of calendar of open spaces and topical networking sessions
- Plenary sessions (Teresa)
 - Q&A - via Audience Response System - Access for moderator
 - Planning to use the app to ask questions, ability to type questions into the app. Training to moderators to take place. Use this just in the plenaries this year. Alternate between the app and the room.
 - Plenary speakers & brown bag lunch with ECR members (Teresa)
 - Enhance networking between plenary speakers and ECR. Need to work on logistics and how to ensure distribution across plenary speakers. Likely set up as roundtables in the exhibit space. Expectation has been set for plenary speakers. Ice breaker lounge could also be used for this. Could also work via a signup system.
 - ACTION: Theresa to work with Jithesh and Al Meyers (chair of ECR section) to develop action plan – include CSPB representation (coordinate via Robin)
 - Ice-breaker lounge (Cody)
 - Managed by ECRs, designed to facilitate information networking and connections. Rotating shifts in the lounge. Positioned next to the posters and innovation pavilion. Sponsored by Bayer.
 - Crispin – can we use for “meet the XXX” sessions? E.g. Ed Board members.

- Revisit similar opportunities like “Between the Palms” in this space.
- ACTION: include CSPB (coordinate via Robin)
- Workshops (Teresa)
 - Once again, very strong community response. ~45 workshops, 32 workshops taking place, including 6 that will take place pre-workshop.
 - Virtual workshops available to all registrants.
 - Strong diversity around topics and organizers.
 - Monday is “workshop day” 16 workshops that day on site.
 - 5 for EDI, 13 for professional development and 14 for technical development and innovation.
- [Community-suggested Concurrent sessions](#) (Wayne)
 - For the first time, concurrent proposals solicited from the community.
 - 15 were selected, still need a few speakers
 - Several were not selected
 - Proposals for next year:
 - Reduce the number of community proposals
 - Reduce the number we ask for (4) to add flexibility (support for this)
 - Could the not selected proposals be used in other content streams?
- Sponsorships to support travel from hardship locations (Jean)
 - Can we develop proposal to give complementary registration to those who are more in need? (Geographic diversity, PUI, etc)
 - Offering full & partial scholarships to sponsors and exhibitors – currently six registrations for the African network.
 - Needs planning for PB2023. Develop a “bank” of registrations and work with EDI committee to think about the best value proposition in a particular location.
 - Needs alignment on how the “bank” would best be allocated. Honor system for identifying minorities working internationally
 - Teaming with RU programs
 - Need to think about support structures for folks were bringing into the meeting landscape.
 - Two sub-teams formed:
 - 1) Gifting: Phil | Adam | Jean
 - 2) Nurturing conference experience for Undergrads: Cody | Gustavo | Jithesh | Shoshanna | Winnie
- Cadmium app & networking capabilities (Katie)
 - Participants who register for on-demand will have access to the app during the meeting.
 - There are expanded poster options and features.
 - Networking opportunities (e.g. matchmaking) enhanced.

- Need to consider how to encourage more senior members of the community to participate.
 - Form ad hoc app committee: Jithesh | Cody for Katie to connect with initially, but whole committee to get involved in testing.
- Party and band (Jean)
 - [The Nines](#) 
 - Was thinking about an outside event, but that is logistically and cost prohibitive at the Convention Center.
 - Party likely in the atrium of the convention center.
- Plant Week declaration and associated activities
 - Education committee planning an outdoor event with education materials and food trucks. Needs a “whole society” approach.
 - Whole thing needs pricing up.
 - Connection to the BiPOC art exhibit? Is this one event or two?
 - Important to focus on the plan.
 - Is there’s sponsorship (e.g. Impossible Foods) to support and provide content.

4) EDIC Briefing for program planning

- Looking for ways to diversify this program.
- Ensure we are thinking about this the right way.
- Shared rubric for speaker aspects.
- Discussion to improve the situation from several perspectives
- Several tools at our disposal to support this (links available).

Saturday – program put together.

Sunday Topics:

- 1) Look at demographics -generally aligned that we’re in good shape.
- 2) Proposal from Ambassadors to have a dedicated session. Concept was not well liked by the committee, general feeling that there were better ways to highlight ECRs and Ambassadors throughout the meeting content.
- 3) Future planning discussion
 - Need for meetings that cater to the membership needs.
 - Innovate with the format for Savannah:

- New concept for plenaries. Match diversity criteria that we have in place across the slate.
 - President's Symposia (Gustavo): Connectivity to African American farmers in Georgia. One specific talk from Natalie Baszile, others working on basic plant biology addressing issues related to the south. Bring in farmer/chef from nearby. Wayne can connect to Commissioner of Ag for GA to identify speakers.
 - Continue with community symposia request (could it be both for concurrent and major symposia).
 - Need to start planning outreach activities in Savannah (many of HBCUs within driving distance of Savannah across GA, SC, NC, FL, AL)
 - Need topics and conveners for four plenary symposia for Savannah.
 - Discussion around shifting the format away from "sage on the stage" towards more of a Q&A.
 - Jitesh's list:
 - Translational research for global impact- Vi Shukla (Gates foundation)
 - GMO in modern era- Dame. Cathie Martin/ Jonathan Jones/J. Napier/ Wayne Parrott
 - developments in System biology- Sabeeha Merchant/ Michael Purugnan/ Gloria Carrouzi
 - Redox signaling at the intersection as environment sensing and response - Andreas Meyer/ Christine Foyer/ Ron Mitler
 - tool/ resource development for functional genomics- Joe Ecker
 - Journal Focus issues:
 - Fruit crop plants, July 2023
 - Cell walls, sometime 2023
 - Polarity of protein location, August 2023
 - Biomolecular condensates, June 2023
 - Photosynthesis, Jan 2024
 - Gene editing technologies, May 2024
 - Global Climate change (Shinhan)
 - Encouraging HBCU participation; Add HBCU to abstract dropdown, marketing to HBCUs prior to the abstract opening
 - **ACTION: Wayne to create a google doc with this list and any from a community solicitation, for us to have a discussion in the next ~2 months.**
- 5) Jean – need to understand what we want the meeting to look like (hybrid, etc) for 2023. That's the way to build the budget.
- 6) 2024 discussion. What do we need to put in place now to get things moving for 2024.
- a. Discussion on Hybrid
 - b. Look at ideas from the pre-call with Enamul, Jenn, Cody & Phil.
 - c. More concrete proposals need to be brought forward at the Portland meeting.
 - d. High profile speaker discussion.

- e. 2023 meeting in August – different level of engagement with the maize community?
- f. Form some subteams to work on different aspects:
 - i. Phil, Cody, Enamul, Jenn on 2024.