

The Bryological and Lichenological (B&L) Section met with the American Bryological and Lichenological Society (ABLS) for Botany 2004 at Snowbird, Utah. The B&L Section co-sponsored with ABLS two symposia, ("The biology of rarity" and "Sexual dimorphism in bryophytes"), four paper sessions and a poster session during meeting. ABLS President-elect Nancy Slack and Local representative Larry St. Clair coordinated the sessions. The Section also co-sponsored two field trips, a pre-conference moss field trip led by Clayton Newberry and a post-conference lichen trip organized by Larry St. Clair. The Section also co-sponsored a breakfast social and a mixer.

At Botany 2004, the A. J. Sharp Award for the outstanding paper presented by a student was given to Erin Martin for her presentation (co-authored by Bruce McCune and Linda Geiser), "Variation in the occurrence of rare epiphytic lichens of the western Oregon Cascades." Honorable mention went to Sylvia Pressel for her paper (co-authored by Jeffrey Duckett), "Protonemal diversity: new insights into moss systematics," and Lyn Baldwin for her paper (co-authored by Gary Bradfield), "Remnant patch size influences bryophyte richness and abundance in British Columbia temperate rainforests: implications for management." The winner receives a stipend of \$500 from the B&L Section and a free membership and subscription to *The Bryologist* from ABLS. The runners receive a free membership to ABLS for a year.

In addition, awards for the outstanding papers published in *The Bryologist* in 2003 were presented at the meeting. The Tuckerman Award, given for the outstanding paper on lichenology, was awarded to James Lawrey and Paul Diederich for "Lichenicolous fungi: interactions, evolution, and biodiversity." Honorable mention went to Bernard Goffinet, Jolanta Miadlikowska, and Trevor Goward for "Phylogenetic inferences based on nrDNA sequences support five morphospecies with the *Peltigera didactyla* complex (lichenized Ascomycota)." The Sullivant Award, given for the outstanding paper in bryology, was awarded to Merritt R. Turetsky for "The role of bryophytes in carbon and nitrogen cycling." Honorable mention went to Viivi Virtanen for "Phylogeny of the Bartramiaceae (Bryopsida) based on *rbcL*, *rps4*, and *trnL-trnF* sequence data. The winners of the Tuckerman and Sullivan Awards receive a cash award of \$500.

In 2005 the B&L Section will meet with ABLS at the BSA Botany 2005 conference in Austin, and a number co-sponsored activities are planned: the annual ABLS (and B&L Section) Breakfast, the A. J. Sharp student award competition for best paper, the ABLS and B&L Section mixer, and a one-day pre-conference field trip to local bryological and lichenological collecting sites. The Section will sponsor a full-day symposium, "Desiccation tolerance in bryophytes and lichens," and a half-day symposium, "Finding funding for research and inventory assessments for bryophytes and lichens." The Section will provide some support for travel expenses associated with the symposia.

In 2006, the B&L Section will again meet with ABLS at the BSA meeting in Chico, CA. However, in 2007 and 2008, ABLS is planning to meet separately from BSA. This means the B&L Section will have to work alone to arrange paper sessions and other activities at these BSA meetings. The Section will arrange to name Local Representatives for the 2007 and 2008 meetings at the appropriate time.

Respectfully submitted,  
James Lawrey  
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