



BOTANICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

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Development Committee Report

The first meeting of the *ad hoc* BSA Development Committee was held at BSA headquarters in St. Louis, MO on February 20, 2007. The goal of the committee is to enhance the ability of the Society to meet the tremendous opportunities open to us as we tap and focus our potential on meeting our mission and objectives in the 21st century; to set a sustainable foundation for the future of the Botanical Society of America.

The members of the *ad hoc* committee included: Peter Raven, Hardy Eshbaugh, Jim Seago, Phil Lintilhac, Dennis Stevenson, Ed Schneider, Bill Stern, Greg Anderson, and Bill Dahl. David Northington, retired Texas Tech Univ. Botany faculty member, and now a development consultant living in Austin, Tx was the facilitator.

The major outcome of the initial meeting was a commitment to build the BSA endowment through the formation of a planned giving program, now termed the Legacy Society. Each member of the *ad hoc* committee has joined as a Founding Member of the Legacy Society and was asked to solicit friends/colleagues in an effort to form an enlarged, core group prior to the annual meeting in Chicago.

In June, all members of 25 years or greater were sent an invitation to join as Founding Members of the Legacy Society. As of the preparation of this report, approximately 30 BSA members have joined as Founding members of the Legacy Society. A social for the Founding members will be held on Wednesday afternoon during the annual meeting.

A copy of the Legacy form is attached (or can be downloaded from www.botany.org/BSA_Legacy/Ways_to_Give.php.) and I encourage all members of the Council to consider joining this important Society on behalf of BSA

Respectfully submitted, Ed Schneider, Chair, Development Committee