Putting on the Annual Meeting—
Behind the Scenes

Many of us arrive at ASPP's annual meeting excited to see our friends, full of expectations about the scientific program, ready to explore a new city, but also more than a little bewildered about how everything was decided and how the meeting was actually put together. Well, it's not a secret. What would you guys like to know?

How in the world did we end up in Charlotte this year? Believe it or not, it had nothing whatever to do with the fact that two of the past three Society presidents are from North Carolina. Site selection is an ongoing process that runs many years in advance of the meeting. ASPP's headquarters staff, specifically Ken Beam and Susan Chambers, play the lead role in investigating the suitability of cities proposed by the involved membership committees. Right now, site selection for the 1998 and 1999 meetings is underway; it is likely that the '98 meeting will be held in a central U. S. city such as St. Louis, Cincinnati, or New Orleans. ASPP targets so-called "second tier" cities—for example Portland, Oregon vs. San Francisco. Second tier cities try harder; typically they offer first rate facilities, in interesting locations, at substantially lower costs.

ASPP also makes a conscious effort to move the meeting site around the country, both to put the meeting in the "backyard" of different groups of our membership and to make the meeting accessible to sister organizations in other countries. Two years ago in Minneapolis we met jointly with the Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists; next year the plant biology subgroup of the Biochemical Society of Mexico has accepted our invitation to participate in our meeting in San Antonio. In continued on page 3

President Clinton’s
“Plant Stress” Remark
Is No Laughing Matter to ASPP

See stories on pages 6 and 7.
1995 ANNUAL MEETING
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

Charlotte, North Carolina
Saturday, July 29, through Wednesday, August 2

★★★★★ MAJOR SYMPOSIA ★★★★★

Saturday afternoon, July 29
Plant Pathology—Early Events in Pathogen Recognition
Organizer: Shauna Somerville, Carnegie Institution of Washington

Sunday morning, July 30
What Has Been the Impact of Plant Physiological Research on Crop Productivity?
Organizer: James Cook, USDA/ARS, Washington State University
Presenters (Titles TBA): Hans Bohnert, Dean Fairchild, Richard Hussey, Steve Jones

Monday morning, July 31
Water: Transport and Limitations to Development
Organizers: Malcolm C. Drew, Texas A&M University and Robert E. Sharp, University of Missouri
Presenters/Titles: Paul J. Kramer/Introduction; Ernst Steudle/Water Transport across Roots; Maarten J. Chrispeels/Aquaporins Facilitate Water Transport through the Plasma Membrane to the Tonoplast; William J. Davies/How Roots in Drying Soil Communicate with Shoots; John S. Boyer/Water and Reproductive Development in Maize

Tuesday morning, August 1
Breakthrough Developments in Understanding Cellulose Biosynthesis and Structure
Organizer: Malcolm Brown, University of Texas

Wednesday afternoon, August 2
President’s Symposium
Unraveling Unique Features of Plant Mitochondria
Organizer: James N. Siedow, Duke University
Presenters (Titles TBA): Maureen Hanson, David Day, Lee McIntosh, Sally Mackenzie
Vancouver in 1997, we will again meet jointly with the Canadians, and this time the Japanese Society of Plant Physiologists has accepted our invitation also to participate. In honor of the 75th anniversary of the Society, the annual meeting in 1999 likely will return to Washington D.C., where the first annual meeting was held, and we are hoping to arrange major participation by the European plant physiology society.

So there you have it. Why Charlotte?—I have no idea.

Why convention centers rather than college campuses? Some of our older members remember from personal experience when the annual meeting was held on college campuses, but most of us know only of its legend. The primary reasons for the switch from college campuses were that we grew too large and our program scheduling became too intricate for most, if not all, college venues to accommodate. We have come to expect to be able to move quickly and efficiently among concurrently run sessions and to have access to spacious poster sessions in huge rooms where temperature and sound don’t interfere with the business at hand, convenient and varied lodging and food options, and reasonable and predictable personal security. Modern convention center complexes are designed to offer all these amenities.

An added bit of excitement this year came from booking at the new convention center in Charlotte, which was not scheduled for completion until late this winter. Since you have to be completely out of your mind to take seriously a fearful that we might be hosting the first ever outdoor meeting. Not to worry!

The facility was completed as advertised and already has had its obligatory inaugural boat show; it will be a pristine and fully operational facility by the time of several members of the headquarters staff. At the meeting center in Charlotte, which was not up to the ASPP project completion deadline on a university campus, many of us were already had its obligatory inaugural boat show; it will be a pristine and fully operational facility by the time of several members of the headquarters staff. At the meeting center in Charlotte, which was not up to the ASPP project completion deadline on a university campus, many of us were fearful that we might be hosting the first ever outdoor meeting. Not to worry!

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highlight the program. One of the jobs of the program committee is to ensure that the program is not repetitious year to year in terms of topics or individual speakers. We also work to see that, over the course of a few years, we balance the program to represent all of the component disciplines of our Society.

An additional way that the membership makes it interests known to the program committee is through the abstracts they submit. At least half of the minisymposium topics for the Charlotte meeting were selected during our March meeting from “hot” topics that the program committee identified from submitted abstracts. Also at our meeting this March, we made the initial selection of topics for the five major symposia for the 1996 meeting in San Antonio. Our decisions were guided by trends that we noted in this year’s abstracts, by membership suggestions that we have received from solicitations in the newsletter and elsewhere, and by ideas that are generated within the program committee itself. We are excited about both the diversity and timeliness of this year’s program. I am confident that there are topics of primary interest as well as new, interesting areas to engage everyone.

What are you guys doing with my registration fee anyway? Even though the registration fee for ASPP’s annual meeting is a relative bargain in comparison to other meetings of its class, it’s far from being pocket change. The table at the right shows that while there are four sources of revenue for the meeting, only two of these come from sources other than the membership. Exhibitors at the meeting pay a fee to be there, and advertisers in our meeting supplement and program pay a fee for that privilege as well. Together this income is expected to cover about 16% of the cost of the meeting. Our headquarters staff feels we can improve this revenue stream substantially and is working hard toward that end. The remaining 84% of the cost of meeting is paid by the membership in the form of registration fees and tickets for special functions (e.g., dinner dance, women’s luncheon, special workshops, etc.).

The meeting is budgeted to break even. The major uncertainty in this budgeting is not in estimating the expenses but in predicting how many people will attend the meeting. Our target this year in Charlotte is 1200 attendees, and the meeting will come out slightly in the red or slightly in the black depending largely on how close to 1200 participants we come. If you have any questions about the figures in the table, please feel free to contact Susan Chambers or Ken Beam at headquarters.

Should I come to Charlotte this year? Absolutely. Who would want to miss a meeting that highlights the most recent major advances in plant physiology, debuts new exciting research areas, provides a forum for presenting and discussing the results that may be the bases for next year’s breakthroughs, promotes the exchange of ideas and experiences in teaching of plant biology, informs you about societal and political issues that affect our profession, and fosters an atmosphere in which old friendships can be renewed and new ones born? For me, having spent four years in the early 70s as an undergraduate in Winston-Salem, this meeting will also be something of a homecoming. For any of you who have the time and inclination to explore more than just the fair city of Charlotte, current ASPP president and long time North Carolina resident Jim Siedow assures me that his state’s many attractions are well worth seeing.

Don Ort
ASPP Secretary
USDA/ARS, University of Illinois

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<th>1995 ASPP Annual Meeting Budget Summary</th>
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Y’all come to Charlotte!
Recent Staff Changes at ASPP Headquarters

Three personnel changes have occurred at ASPP headquarters since early February: Lauren Ransome was hired as production editor of Plant Physiology; Sylvia Braxton, who has tracked journal manuscripts as an assistant in the manuscript management office since 1992, was promoted to publications assistant; and Aphrodite Knoop will join the staff on April 3 as manuscript assistant, succeeding Braxton.

Lauren Ransome received her B.A. degree, cum laude, in English from Spelman College in 1988. Lauren previously worked for Editorial Experts Inc., where she produced, edited, and proofread various publications for federal and private contractors. Her professional experience includes managing, editing, and coordinating journals, magazines, proposals, and audio/visual aid campaigns for many health-related organizations and institutions.

With Lauren joining ASPP, the three-person editorial team (managing editor Deb Weiner, senior production editor Mark Leader, and Lauren) of Plant Physiology is complete. As a production editor for the journal, Lauren will both edit and proofread accepted papers, along with ensuring that all accepted manuscripts conform to journal style requirements.

Sylvia Braxton will continue to work in the manuscript management office, primarily when the workload is particularly heavy or the office is understaffed due to illness or vacations. Sylvia will also train to assume responsibility for the increasing number of desktop publishing projects produced at headquarters. Her job will include, eventually, preparation of the pages of this newsletter.

Sylvia’s position in the manuscript management office will be filled by Aphrodite Knoop. Aphrodite will join manuscript manager Annette Kessler and Kim Davis to track the over 1800 manuscripts yearly that are received for both Plant Physiology and THE PLANT CELL. Aphrodite and Kim will concentrate their efforts on Plant Physiology, Annette on THE PLANT CELL.

First-Ever Joint United States-Mexico Plant Biology Symposium Planned for November

In November 1995, ASPP will co-sponsor (with the Biochemical Society of Mexico) the first United States-Mexico joint meeting in plant biology, to be organized around the topic “Agrobiology, Molecular Physiology, and Biotechnology of Crops Important to Mexican Agriculture.”

Mexican plant physiologists, biochemists, and molecular biologists long ago organized themselves as the Plant Biology section of the Biochemical Society of Mexico. They meet in even-numbered years with all the other biochemists and in odd-numbered years by themselves. Maarten Chrispeels, Federico Sanchez, and Virginia Walbot are spearheading the effort to attach a joint United States-Mexico symposium to their 1995 biennial section meeting.

Many Mexican scientists have been trained in the United States as students or postdocs, and many U.S. investigators have formal or informal contacts and collaborations with Mexican scientists. An objectives of this first conference is to attract to Mexico U.S. scientists who may have active collaborations with Mexican colleagues and to attract Mexican postdocs and graduate students now working in the United States.

The organizers sought the co-sponsorship of ASPP, and the executive committee has agreed that closer contacts between Mexico and the United States are needed and that sponsorship of this conference would be an excellent vehicle to facilitate these contacts. The Society hopes that this first sponsorship will extend to future meetings, and it is in this spirit that ASPP president Jim Siedow extended an invitation to the Plant Biology section of the Biochemical Society of Mexico to participate formally in ASPP’s 1996 annual meeting to be held in San Antonio (see related story on page 1).

Support for this joint symposium will come from CONACYT, the scientific research organization of Mexico. North of the border support will be sought from the National Science Foundation (International Programs) and from the agricultural biotechnology industry. The organizers hope that companies in the United States will also see the wisdom of expanding our contacts with Mexico.

Details of the program of the November 1995 joint United States-Mexico plant biology meeting can be found in “Gatherings,” on page 22.

SUMMER PLANT BIOCHEMISTRY COURSE PLANNED AT WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Intensive Two-week Course Planned; Travel and Housing Assistance Available

The DOE/NSF/USDA Tri-Agency-supported Plant Biochemistry Research and Training Center (PBRTC) at Washington State University, in Pullman, will conduct an intensive training course for students interested in plant biochemistry from July 15 through July 29.

The course will cover fundamental principles as well as the latest advances in plant biochemistry in such areas as structure-function of plant organelles; ion transport; carbohydrate and lipid biosynthesis/metabolism; nitrogen fixation and amino acid metabolism; synthesis, catabolism, and mechanism of action of plant hormones; biochemical of unique plant products such as terpenoids, alkaloids, cyanoglycosides, and phenylpropanoids; signaling mechanisms in plant defense responses towards pests and pathogens; protein synthesis and intracellular targeting of macromolecules.

Topics will be covered by experts from on campus and invited speakers from throughout the world. Funds are available to partially offset travel and housing expenses for up to 40 participants.

For further information and an application form contact: Ms. Karen Maertens, Plant Biochemistry Research and Training Center, Institute of Biological Chemistry, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6340, telephone 509-335-5496, fax 509-335-7643, e-mail maertens@wsuvml.csc.wsu.edu.
ASPP Newsletter

ASPP Relieves Confusion Caused by Clinton’s Plant Stress Remark

In his State of the Union address, President Bill Clinton gave the following examples of purportedly wasteful spending to illustrate why Congress should pass the line-item veto:

“For years Congress concealed in the budget scores of pet spending projects. Last year was no different. There was a million dollars to study stress in plants and $12 million for a tick removal program that didn’t work. It’s hard to remove ticks. Those of us who’ve had them know. But I’ll tell you something, if you’ll give me the line-item veto, I’ll remove some of that unnecessary spending.”

Many ASPP members, including president Jim Siedow, reacted to Clinton’s mention of plant stress research as an egregious example of “unnecessary spending.” The reaction and some of the resulting media attention are reported in the following stories.

ASPP PRESIDENT SIEDOW PRESSES FOR CLARITY AFTER PLANT STRESS COMMENT BY PRESIDENT CLINTON

White House Science Advisors “Gasped” at Controversial Plant Stress Remark in President’s State of the Union Address

When asked by ASPP about President Clinton’s plant stress remark, an Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) official made it clear that the White House supports plant stress research. Catherine Woteki, OSTP senior policy analyst said that she and Marcie Greenwood, OSTP associate director for science, “gasped” when they heard the plant stress remark in the State of the Union speech. (Greenwood shortly thereafter announced her resignation for reasons believed to be unrelated to the plant stress remark.)

Woteki said that OSTP generally gets the opportunity to review science-related remarks in advance of such speeches but the opportunity wasn’t afforded for this year’s address. Published reports said that the speech was being rewritten throughout the day it was eventually given and that even the length of the speech varied greatly from what was expected that same afternoon. This apparently helped negate the opportunity for the normal review by OSTP.

The OSTP response was in accord with the major point raised in a letter sent by ASPP President Jim Siedow to President Clinton on January 31 which explained the importance of plant stress research.

Siedow explained that “research on plant stress covers a wide range of biological stresses that crops and other plants are subjected to daily. These stresses include drought, intense cold and heat, weeds, insects, and a host of diseases, including those caused by viral fungal and bacterial pathogens.”

Siedow explained that these stresses reduce agricultural productivity by billions of dollars each year. He said that farmers spend significant amounts of money for irrigation, herbicides, pesticides, continued on page 8, column 2
ASPP Response in News Media Explains Plant Stress Research

“You’d Be Gaga Too” from Plant Stress
The Washington Post—February 14

In the “Capital Notebook” column written by Guy Gugliotta in The Washington Post February 14, the importance of plant stress research and ASPP’s support for it was colorfully explained. “For years, Americans have talked to their plants, sometimes with extraordinary results,” the article noted. “Better buds and leaves, lusher lobbies, enhanced performance at the 4-H Club and ‘Show and Tell.’”

“Why not go the extra mile? Valium, Prozac and other miracles of medical science have made the stresses of the mod-

continued on page 8, column 3

Plant Stress Remark Termed “A Scurrilous Episode That Has Not Drawn the Opprobrium It Deserves”
Science & Government Report—March 1


In his article on research and development budget cuts, Greenberg asks the question of how hard President Clinton will fight for his R&D budget.

“The President is not likely to make a do-or-die stand for the National Science Foundation,” the newsletter said. “In fact, in a scurrilous episode that has not drawn the opprobrium it deserves, Clinton took the Proxmire route in his latest State of the Union Address, ridiculing the expenditure of ‘a million dollars to study stress in plants,’ and vowing that with a line-item veto, such nonsense would not survive.”

The article pointed out that the American Society of Plant Physiologists defended plant stress research in a letter to the President, “which explained the goals of enhancing plant resistance to heat, cold, weeds, insects, etc.”

Greenberg speculates on whether someone at the White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) got a pre-delivery look at that speech as is customary for senior White House staff.

“And if they did, why wasn’t the offensive line flagged? And if it was, why did it survive? Makes you wonder,” Greenberg wrote.

ASPP learned that OSTP did not get the opportunity to review the final speech. (See related story on page 6.)

“Apoplectic over Plant Stress”
U. S. News & World Report—February 13

“Apoplectic Over Plant Stress” was the headline run by the U.S. News & World Report in its coverage of ASPP’s response to President Clinton’s plant stress comment. The article said that President Clinton used a $1 million government-financed study of “plant stress” as an example of wasted public funds. “His wrath apparently was aimed at a $1 million federal grant to Texas Tech University to help build a $12.7 million laboratory for the development of drought-resistant wheat and pasture grasses,” the news article said.

“But in a letter to the White House, James Siedow, president of the American Society of Plant Physiologists, worried that the public would ‘mistakenly interpret plant stress as meaning emotional stresses.’ Instead, he informed the president, plant stress refers to the effect on certain flora of drought, disease, pests and extremes of temperatures. Moreover, the study of the phenomenon is indispensable in helping scientists breed plants that can live in harsh environments like that in the Great Plains, where the depletion of the Ogilala Aquifer threatens many farms,” the article said.

The article concluded with the recollection that another well-known public figure had similarly ridiculed plant-stress studies two years ago. “His name: Ross Perot.”

The story ran under a full color photo of wheat framed against a blue sky. The caption for the photo was “Waves of grain. An emotional issue in the wheat fields.”
ASPP LETTER TO THE EDITOR
EXPLAINS IMPORTANCE OF PLANT STRESS RESEARCH

Following is a letter to the editor from ASPP president James Siedow that was printed in the February 11 issue of The Washington Times.

After hearing President Clinton’s reference to research on plant stress in his State of the Union Address January 24, the question arising in the minds of many plant scientists was how broad and accurate is the public understanding of the term, “plant stress.”

Unfortunately, it’s likely that many people who heard Mr. Clinton’s speech could mistakenly surmise that plant stress research involves the study of psychological or emotional factors relating to plants. There have been great strides made in the study of plants, but any thought that an ear of corn reclines in a field and recalls the emotional trials of its formative days is pure fantasy. The notion that the federal government would support research on such a topic is just as fictional.

To plant scientists, “plant stress” refers to a wide range of biological and environmental stresses that crops and other plants are subjected to daily. These include drought, cold and heat, weeds, insects and a host of diseases, including those caused by viral, fungal and bacterial pathogens. Research on plant stress enables plant scientists to develop, for example, new varieties of plants that are resistant to such stresses, leading to high yields of corn, wheat, rice, soybeans and other crops. Clearly, funding for plant-stress research helps ensure adequate food supplies and is essential to the well-being of the public.

James N. Siedow
Durham, N.C.

Mr. Siedow, a professor of botany at Duke University, is the president of the American Society of Plant Physiologists—The Editor
Tech University have been developing drought-resistant plants since 1978. This research is particularly important to the Great Plains region that depends upon the Ogala Aquifer, a huge underwater lake that farmers have pumped since the 1930s. “It is a non-renewable resource.”

Plant stress research helps scientists to develop crops through use of biotechnology that would make more efficient use of the limited rainfall, thereby salvaging crops, the article explained.

Rep. Larry Combest (R-TX), representing a district including Lubbock, pointed out that funds for the plant stress research lab were approved in the “legislative sunshine” in both the authorization and appropriations process.

“We went through the whole process,’ Combest said. ‘We’ll put ours on the table alongside anybody else’s.’”

Gugliotta concluded, “Fair enough.”

CONTRIBUTION OF FUNDAMENTAL RESEARCH TO SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE RECOGNIZED

The workshop report titled, “Research in Support of Sustainable Agriculture” recognizes the contribution of fundamental research to sustainable agriculture.

The report, issued in January, is from a workshop held October 20-21, 1994, in Raleigh, North Carolina. The workshop was supported by USDA and the North Carolina Agricultural Research Service and coordinated by the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). The workshop had been proposed at a meeting of plant science societies coordinated by ASPP.

The conclusions of the report include:
- “fundamental research is important to sustainable agriculture . . .”
- “sustainable agriculture involves conversion from a resource-based to a knowledge-based agriculture . . .”
- “research portfolios must include support for fundamental-, component-, and systems-level research.”

The workshop participants also concluded that new directions in agricultural research and the potential to impact the political process are possible through building common values and consensus between scientific societies and sustainable agriculture interest groups.

The finding that fundamental research is important to sustainable agriculture by the diverse groups represented at the workshop is relevant in discussing the 1995 Farm Bill and a protocol that was used by USDA to evaluate research it supports. That earlier protocol had given no credit to fundamental research for its contribution to sustainable agriculture. The numeric rating code of that protocol placed fundamental research at zero. This zero rating could have had a chilling effect on support for fundamental research within USDA, because research in support of sustainable agriculture is a priority area for the Department. Work by ASPP, CoFARM, and others helped lead to abandonment of the earlier protocol.

A USDA official said status of the revised protocol and how it would be used is uncertain. The workshop report has been issued and provided to key officials at a time when Congress is considering the 1995 Farm Bill.

ASPPComments on EPA “Plant-Pesticides” Statement

In comments filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on February 23, 1995, ASPP questioned the agency’s statement of policy concerning “plant-pesticides.”

As explained in its statement of policy published November 23, 1994 in the Federal Register, EPA is planning to define “plant-pesticides” as, “a pesticidal substance that is produced in a living plant and the genetic material necessary for the production of the substance, where the substance is intended for use in the living plant.”

ASPP’s comment letter said that it is unfortunate that the natural immunity (or resistance) systems of plants are being defined as “plant pesticides” under the EPA statement of policy.

“Nature and humans have been developing plants with natural resistance to pests and other stresses for many centuries. The use of biotechnology has increased the ability of plant scientists to improve the natural defense response systems of plants,” ASPP president James Siedow noted.

“With restrictions on the use of chemical pesticides applied to plants, people in the nation and in many parts of the world are becoming increasingly dependent for food on improvements in natural plant defense systems made possible through biotechnology,” ASPP commented.

Tremendous Potential for Public Good in Agricultural Biotechnology

“Agricultural Biotechnology and the Public Good” was discussed at a recent presentation of the National Agricultural Biotechnology Council by Ralph W. F. Hardy, president and CEO of the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research, Inc., and a member of ASPP.

Dr. Hardy explained that the potential offered by research in agricultural biotechnology is both huge and critical for a nation’s security and sustainability. He said there are major opportunities in agriculture made possible by biotechnology for alternative agricultural products.

He said that research using biotechnology offers the U.S. the opportunity to take care of its liquid-based fuel needs. Imports of petroleum for fuel contribute significantly to large U.S. trade deficits.

Hardy pointed out that many agricultural biotechnology companies are not currently profitable. Regulatory relief in the form of being more predictable, simpler, and accelerated is needed, Hardy noted.

The presentation was held on Capitol Hill. NABC was formed in 1988 and consists of more than 20 institutions including the Boyce Thompson Institute and universities from the U.S. and Canada.

Deadline for copy for the May/June 1995 issue of the ASPP Newsletter is May 1, 1995.
PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Siedow Urges ASPP Members to Cast “a Positive Vote for the Futures of Both ASPP and Plant Biology” by Approving Creation of the ASPP Education Foundation

I am writing this letter to ask your help in establishing the American Society of Plant Physiologists Education Foundation (ASPPEF), the mechanism by which ASPP can become an active participant and leader in the effort to impart a better understanding of the importance of plant biology to the welfare of society.

In a little over a month, you will receive in the mail the ballots for this year’s ASPP election. In addition to the normal election of officers, you will also be asked to approve a number of changes to the ASPP constitution and bylaws. All the proposed changes have been reviewed and approved by the Society’s constitution and bylaws committee; all also received the unanimous endorsement of the ASPP executive committee at its winter meeting. In the interest of the future growth and development of the Society, I ask you to vote in the affirmative on all the proposed amendments.

Most of the amendments are primarily housekeeping changes that will formalize new committees and awards that have been in place for several years now on an ad hoc basis. Two of the proposed amendments, however, are considerably more substantive. Both deserve elaboration.

The first of these amendments would alter Section 7 (“Amendments”) of the current bylaws to allow the bylaws to be amended in the future by a favorable vote of a two-thirds majority of the full ASPP executive committee rather than two-thirds of the voting membership. The mechanism for amending the ASPP constitution would not change: any constitutional amendment would still require affirmation on the annual ballot by two-thirds of the members voting. One rationale for changing the way bylaws are amended is that it will bring us in line with the procedures of other 501(c)3 organizations (i.e., the nonprofit category to which we belong). Another rationale is that the amendment will allow the flexibility needed for the effective operation of the Society. A constitution defines the nature and the principles of an organization; it can be changed only with the consent of the membership, meaning that change will occur slowly and deliberately. Bylaws, on the other hand, deal more directly with the day-to-day operation of the organization, and need to be able to be changed relatively more easily than the constitution to meet new operating contingencies as they arise.

The second constitutional amendment that deserves elaboration is the one that would establish the ASPPEF.

It is worth briefly reviewing the history of the ASPP Education Foundation. The seed for some kind of ASPPEF was sown by Hans Kende during his years as a member of the ASPP board of trustees. I first heard the idea in 1992 at the annual meeting in Pittsburgh. Kende gave a presentation to the membership at the business meeting in which he eloquently outlined the need for forming an ASPPEF. As is often the case with new ideas in the Society (or any society for that matter), it took some time for Kende’s idea to fully establish itself. However, during the cruise held the last night of the Pittsburgh meeting, Russell Jones, the then newly elected ASPP president-elect, told me that he wanted to make the formation of a foundation a primary focus of his presidency. As chair of the board of trustees at the time, I realized that the Society needed to identify additional sources of revenue, and I was fully supportive of Russell’s efforts. As fate would have it, I subsequently followed Russell in the presidential succession, and I remain committed to the vision that Hans Kende and he initiated. And, I believe I can speak with authority when I say that Bob Buchanan, who will succeed me in this office, also is committed to making the foundation a success.

Why have an ASPPEF? Russell Jones addressed this issue in his final president’s letter last fall (ASPP Newsletter, September/October 1994, p. 1-2). The answer is reasonably simple. For most of its life, the ASPPP has done primarily two things, both quite successfully: publish journals and a few books and hold an annual meeting. Our sources of income largely reflect those two activities. Because the annual meeting roughly breaks even, as do individual subscriptions, our primary source of income is library subscriptions, which pay the bills to produce the journals and maintain the Society’s member services. However, in recent years it has become clear that ASPPP must become involved in new areas—areas that do not generate their own income—such as involvement in public affairs and greater participation in all levels of education. Clearly, we cannot expect the already-strapped libraries to pay for these new initiatives. Other sources of funds must be found if the Society is to be in a position to pursue these initiatives effectively. Among the limited alternatives available, Hans Kende’s idea of an ASPPEF foundation comes to the fore.

Why an education foundation? If you have been reading these presidential letters religiously, that won’t require much elaboration. As put forward by my predecessor on numerous occasions and reiterated by me in both of my previous letters, education in the broadest context is the next frontier for the ASPPP (see page 31 for the goals of the ASPPEF). Most of the new ventures suggested for the Society in recent years have contained some education component. The case for ASPPP playing a larger role in education is a no-brainer, but with that decision to do so comes the need to find the resources that can fund these new education initiatives. This brings us to the ASPPP Education Foundation. The ASPPEF literally opens all possibilities to us. What the Society decides to do in the area of education will be limited only by the imagination of its members and the extent to which the ASPPP and its board of directors can sell the ideas to potential donors, be they other foundations, corporations, philanthropically inclined individuals, or governmental agencies, among others. This makes for an elastic and entrepreneurial situation. The Society and its Foundation will represent a partnership that not only will generate ideas for new educational roles for ASPPP, but also will work to identify the sources of funds and solicit the funding needed to support those ideas.

continued on page 11
Let's not be too idealistic about the future. I am not so naive as to believe there is such a thing as a free lunch, and the ASPPEF is no exception. Making the ASPPEF a success will require the same combination of elements that has made for success in ASPP's previous endeavors over its 71 years: the creativity, hard work, and commitment of members who are willing not simply to generate the ideas but also to put in the effort needed to see those ideas through to fruition.

This brings me to my final point. A crucial component of successfully launching the ASPPEF will be the quality of the leader who initially heads it, the chair of its board of directors. In that respect, we are off to a flying start. After getting the approval of the executive committee to move forward with the ASPPEF project last summer, then-president Russell Jones began to seek the names of individuals who might serve as ASPPEF's first chair. Among the several that surfaced was that of Richard Laster. After we held several discussions with him, Dick agreed to take on the challenge. I am pleased to say that the executive committee unanimously supported Laster's nomination as ASPPEF's first chair.

Richard Laster, whose name was recommended to ASPP by John Bedbrook of California's DNA Plant Technology Corporation (DNAP), brings a wealth of relevant business and civic experience to his new position. He retired in 1994 from his position as chairman of the board of DNAP, which he had previously served as CEO from 1982 to 1992. Following his graduation from college (bachelor of chemical engineering, Polytechnic Institute of New York), Laster went to work for General Foods Corporation, where he stayed until 1982. He worked in various positions at General Foods, including being responsible for all manufacturing and coffee research at Maxwell House and heading the Food Service Division and Technical Research for Maxwell House. He ended his career at General Foods as executive vice president and director, before moving on to DNAP.

In addition to a distinguished career in the food and agricultural biotechnology industries, Dick Laster also has a considerable background working with foundations and fund-raising enterprises. Among others at present, he is chair of the State University of New York Purchase College Foundation, a trustee of Polytechnic University, a member of the Corporation of the New York Botanical Garden, and a member of the executive committee of the Center for National Policy. In the past, he served as chair and vice president of the United Way in his local community.

Richard Laster's background makes him ideally qualified to serve ASPP as the inaugural chair of the board of directors of ASPPEF. His first responsibility in that capacity will be to work with the Society's president, Jim Siedow, to recommend twelve individuals to serve on the board along with the six ex officio members from ASPP's executive committee (see page 31). Once the board is complete, Laster will then begin the business of overseeing the activities of the foundation and soliciting funds to support those activities.

These are exciting times for ASPP, as the Society branches out into new areas to improve both the public perception of plant biology and the quality of plant science education. It is fortuitous, indeed, that the Society found Dick Laster to help launch this effort.

Your ballot to elect ASPP officers for 1995-1996 and to approve amendments to the Society's constitution and bylaws is coming your way in May. Watch the mail and REMEMBER TO VOTE!

Ballots must be received at ASPP headquarters by June 23 to be counted.

James N. Siedow  
ASPP President, 1994-1995  
Duke University  
jsiedow@acpub.duke.edu
Meeting Held to Discuss Plant Science Education Journal

Fifteen plant science researchers and educators, representatives from three funding agencies (NSF, USDA, and DOE), and ASPP staff members met at ASPP headquarters in Rockville, Maryland, to envision the possibility of a plant biology education journal that would strengthen links between education and research. Here is a summary of the recommendations of the meeting participants. The Education Committee is seeking comments and responses to these recommendations. Want a full-length copy of the report and/or have suggestions? Contact Susan Singer (Biology, Carleton College, Northfield, MN 55057, phone: 507-663-4391, e-mail: ssinger@carleton.edu).

Purposes of a possible ASPP-supported plant education journal:

1. Provide needed information for plant biologists in education.
2. Provide a respected publication outlet for innovative plant biology educators.
3. Make a significant statement by the plant biology community about the value of education.

Major conclusions/recommendations of workshop:

1. The goal of such a publication would be to enhance the quality and promote the position of plant biology in post-secondary education.
2. The audience would be post-secondary educators.
3. The publication would focus broadly on educational advances in plant biology.
4. Peer review would be essential for a high quality publication.
5. The journal would initially be in printed format with certain components (details of laboratory protocols for example) available on the Internet. It would be important to keep open the possibility of a more on-line, interactive publication in the future as computer technology continues to advance and more individuals gain access.
6. A quarterly publication would be recommended. A yearly publication would be too infrequent to meet the need for information and would lack the impact of a more frequent publication. Also, many libraries will not subscribe to journals published less than quarterly.
7. The editor and editorial board would be key in the success of this journal. Initially, articles would be solicited by invitation.
8. This journal would represent an opportunity for the plant biology research community to take a leadership role in education. ASPP has a strong commitment to education and a proven track record with publication (THE PLANT CELL and Plant Physiology). While ASPP would be able to take the lead in publication, it would be essential to make this a broadly based plant biology education journal. Thus, co-sponsorship of other plant biology societies would be sought, e.g., Botanical Society of America, International Society for Plant Molecular Biology, Society for Developmental Biology, Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists, among several other possibilities.

The workshop participants brainstormed about the types of articles that might be published in such a journal. A mere sampling of their ideas follows:

- Ideas and issues in education—Overview articles focusing on reform efforts in science education or synopses of innovative ideas.
- Pedagogy articles—For example, ways to present difficult concepts in class, successful approaches to collaborative education, effective use of case studies in the classroom, application of cognitive science studies to teaching plant biology.
- Papers with historical, philosophical, or cultural value—For example, Don Kaplan’s position that the cell theory does not apply to plants.

- Misconceptions in plant biology—This could include both student misconceptions and new interpretations or questioning of well-established theories.
- Model systems that work for teaching (and don’t work)—How to use them and where to find the necessary resources.

This meeting was supported jointly by the Directorate for Biological Sciences (Division of Integrative Biology and Neuroscience) and the Directorate for Education and Human Resources (Division of Undergraduate Education) of the National Science Foundation (grant DUE-9530097).

ASPP/Frederick County, Maryland, Outreach Program Continues

Doug Luster of the USDA/ARS and Maxine Highsmith of Shaw University, with help from WAS-ASPP members Jim Saunders, Tom Tworkoski, and Carl Pike, are continuing the development of a partnership with the Frederick County (MD) school system (FCSD). Larkin Hohnke, director of science programs for FCSD and Dan Gadra, FCSD superintendent, are actively involved with these ASPP members in planning this outreach program.

The basis for the partnership is that the ASPP will be able to provide resources, lab exercises, skill training programs, and information about plant science opportunities for teachers and students. For instance, a Fast Plants workshop with hands-on teacher-scientist cooperation is being planned for this summer. In addition, future “in service” sessions with WAS-ASPP members demonstrating plant science lab exercises for county science teachers are also being discussed. Jim Saunders has compiled a library of resource information, including sources of teaching tools and scholarships, programs focused on summer training, and opportunities at local institutions such as USDA, Hood College, and NCI.

continued on page 14
Information on the multitude of programs for science students and teachers is also being collected and disseminated to FCSD science faculty by Doug and Maxine.

The overall goal is to take advantage of the resources and people in the ASPP to provide plant science education information and expertise across the spectrum of FCSD teachers and students. Highlights of this long-term, on-going project will be reported in this column.

Planning for Workshops Well Under Way

As announced in last issue’s Education Forum, the ASPP education committee is organizing two workshops for this summer’s annual meeting in Charlotte to address issues of concern to students and educators in plant physiology. The workshop now titled Career Options in Plant Biology (née “Get a Job”) is designed to help those who are in or about to enter the job market to get an idea of potential employment options. The following speakers have been lined up: Laura Privalle, Ciba-Geigy Biotechnology Research—North Carolina; John Greenler, Zephyr Community Farm—Wisconsin; Dayle McDermitt, LI-COR Inc.—Nebraska; Phil Kerr, E. I. DuPont de Nemours, Quality Grains—Iowa; Roger Krueger, American Cyanamid—New Jersey; Susan Singer, Carleton College—Minnesota; Machi Dilworth, NSF—Virginia. Several other speakers are in the pipeline.

Also all set is the workshop now titled Grant Opportunities in Teaching and Education (née “Get a Grant”) with Dr. Terry Woodin, Program Director, Division of Undergraduate Education, Directorate for Education and Human Resources, at NSF.

Dates, times and places for these two workshops will be announced in several places, including this column, the abstract supplement to Plant Physiology (due in June), and the official program of the ASPP annual meeting.

Nominees Sought for ASPP Excellence in Teaching Award

The ASPP Excellence in Teaching Award committee is currently accepting nominations for the 1995 teaching award. The committee is seeking candidates with demonstrated excellence in education in plant science at the undergraduate level. Details of the nomination procedure were mailed to members in mid-February or are available from ASPP headquarters. Deadline for nominations is April 7.

Fusicoccin Source Located

Dr. Holly Barton of St. Mary’s College of Maryland posted a request for a source of fusicoccin in this column about a year ago. Prof. G. S. Muromtsev, director of the All-Russia Institute of Agricultural Biotechnology responded that his institute can supply highly purified (90%) fusicoccin in quantities that are unavailable through other commercial sources. Inquiries may be sent to Prof. Muromtsev, director of iAB at <mur@agrobio.msk.su>, or Timiryazevskaya St. 42, Moscow, 127550, Russia; fax 011-7-095-9770947.

Educational Resources Available on Internet

Christopher Smith at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln has provided the following information on educational resources available through the various projects he oversees. Most are designed for K-12 levels, but those of you in post-secondary education who spend time surfing the Internet may want to catch a wave over to Lincoln and check out what is available. Some of the ideas are no doubt adaptable to undergraduate courses. For further information contact Chris directly at <csmith@ccrvms.unl.edu> or <csmith@nd4.nde.state.ne.us>.

BRAIN database materials (lesson plans, etc.) are accessible by both gopher and anonymous ftp. Gopher to <nd4.nde.state.ne.us>, then follow the route: “6. K12 Educational Information & Resources/3. Curricular Resources (by Discipline).”

For biochemistry experiments, select; “5. Biochemistry & Biotechnology/”

For physiology experiments, select “1. Anatomy & Physiology/“and you will be linked to a list of physiology lesson plans on the UC-San Diego gopher (or you can gopher direct to: <ec.sdcs.K12.ca.us>.

On the Nebraska Department of Education (NDE) gopher, lesson plans written by Nebraska educators are also organized under, “6. K12 Educational Information & Resources/4. Nebraska Living Laboratory Experiments Notebook.”

Another access method is anonymous ftp to <nd4.nde.state.ne.us> /brain/education/living-laboratory/. All of the lesson plans on the NDE gopher are archived here. Chris advises to be aware that the filenames are rather user-unfriendly (potholes in the information superhighway).

Chris requests that if anyone has suggestions or comments...good or bad...please let him know at: Christopher Smith, School of Biological Sciences, Nebraska Math & Science Initiative/K12 Project/BRAIN Project, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Lincoln, NE 68588-0118; telephone 402-472-2710.

Plant Physiology Laboratory Manual Available

Prof. Terence M. Murphy of the Plant Biology Section at University of California, Davis has drafted a new manual for a laboratory course in plant physiology. Fifteen laboratory exercises ranging from tissue culture to electron transport to photomorphogenesis are described. Detailed instructions and theoretical underpinnings are provided for numerous techniques such as electrophoresis, ELISA assays, a $^{14}$CO$_2$ assay for Rubisco activity, and others. The manual also includes a semester calendar as well as sections on health and safety issues and how to keep a lab notebook.

Dr. Murphy says that most, but not all, of the experiments have been class-tested in this, the first draft version and that he would be happy to accept comments and suggestions. He raises the possibility that this could lead to an extensive “Current Protocols” type of lab manual with contributions from many sources.

An ASCII text version of the manual is available for perusal on the UC Davis gopher server. From the UCD root gopher server (accessible from the “All the Gophers in the World” list), select: The Student/Class Resource Materials/Plant Physiology. A hard copy of the manual, with figures, may be obtained from the author for the cost of reproduction and postage ($10). Contact the author by e-mail at <tmmurphy@ucdavis.edu> for details.
As was announced several times over the past few months, Plant Gene Register (PGR) articles, formerly published in print form in *Plant Physiology*, are now published only electronically on the World Wide Web (www). Beginning January 1, 1995, all PGRs were to be submitted via e-mail directly to PGR editor Paul Staswick (pgr@crcvms.unl.edu), following detailed format instructions that have been printed in the front of *Plant Physiology* since late fall (November 1994, January 1995, February 1995, and March 1995).

At last count, 19 PGRs are online, and more are being added every week. To access the articles via www, use the URL http://ophelia.com/Ophelia/aspp.html/index.html. To access them through gopher, point your gopher client to ophelia.com, select the “Ophelia Publishing” folder and finally the “Plant Gene Registry” folder.

PGRs that were accepted as print manuscripts will continue to be printed in *Plant Physiology* until the supply is exhausted, sometime during the summer. Any paper PGR manuscripts that are sent in now are returned to the authors with instructions on how to submit electronically.

Those of you who do not have www or gopher access should speak to your system administrator to see if it is possible to install these clients. If you cannot get www or gopher access, however, it is possible to access the PGRs through telnet. For instructions on how to access via telnet, contact Deborah Weiner, managing editor of *Plant Physiology* at her e-mail address, diweiner@access.digex.net.

**ANNUAL MEETING NOTE**

The annual abstract supplement to *Plant Physiology* will be published this year in June.

The supplement will be mailed to all subscribers to *Plant Physiology* and to all meeting registrants who register by July 1.

The supplement will include a comprehensive overview of the entire annual meeting program, as well as the abstracts for oral and poster presentations.

Persons planning to attend the 1995 ASPP Annual Meeting in Charlotte, North Carolina, should bring their supplements with them. Only a limited supply will be available on site.

**COMING IN MAY**

Your 1995 ASPP Annual Meeting Registration Package

Save Money! Register by June 19.
NSF AWARDS TRAVEL GRANT FOR MINORITY STUDENTS AND FACULTY

June 1 Application Deadline for Unique Program That Will Pair Awardees with Volunteer Mentors

The National Science Foundation has approved a travel grant proposal submitted by ASPP's minority affairs committee (MAC). The grant is designed to encourage greater participation by minority students and minority faculty at scholarly gatherings of plant scientists.

A unique and critical aspect of the effort that differentiates ASPP's proposal from other, similar programs is that ASPP hopes to pair each travel awardee with a mentor who has similar research interests. Mentors, who will not be eligible for travel grants, will counsel the awardee at the meeting and will help to provide networking opportunities. The committee hopes that relationships thus formed will endure and that mentors will continue over a long period to participate actively in helping awardees as they pursue careers in plant science.

The grant will provide support for 15 to 20 minority students or faculty to attend meetings, conferences, and workshops within the continental United States during the period July 1, 1995, through May 31, 1996. Applicants for travel awards must be U.S. citizens. Awards will be based upon the merit of the applications.

Application forms for both travel grant applicants and persons volunteering to serve as mentors are included in the center of this newsletter and are due at ASPP headquarters by June 1, 1995. Applicants will be notified of the decision of the committee by the end of June. Questions about the travel grant and mentoring program can be directed to Deborah Weiner, ASPP-MAC liaison, telephone 301-251-0560, ext. 18, e-mail diweiner@access.digex.net, or to Ken Beam, ASPP executive director, 301-251-0560, ext. 15, e-mail kmbeam@access.digex.net.

ROBERT RABSON RETIRES FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Dr. Robert Rabson, since 1979 director of the Division of Energy Biosciences of the U.S. Department of Energy and for his entire career a tireless advocate of basic plant science research, retires from his position on March 31. In his job at DOE, and in previous positions, Rabson has had a considerable influence on plant science funding in the United States. Martin Gibbs, former editor of Plant Physiology, commented, “Bob Rabson deserves special attention for his promotion of and fighting for funding of plant science research by DOE. He established plant science funding within a federal agency that...had at that time little sympathy for this purpose.”

A native of Brooklyn, New York, Rabson was in the U.S. Army from 1944 to 1946, serving in both Europe and the Philippines. Following his military service, he earned his bachelor's degree (botany) and his doctorate (genetics and biochemistry) at Cornell University. He conducted postdoctoral research in plant biochemistry at Oak Ridge National Laboratory, and then spent 1958 to 1963 on the faculty of the Department of Biology of the University of Houston.

In 1963, Rabson went to work for the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission to manage evaluation of research projects in plant science and related areas. While in that position, he helped in 1965 to establish the Michigan State University-Atomic Energy Commission Plant Research Laboratory (today known as the MSU-DOE Plant Research Laboratory). Philip Filner, in comments made at a retirement luncheon for Bob, said, in telling of first meeting Bob in 1964 when PRL was in the planning stage, “At the time, Bob was already the scientist at the AEC headquarters who was focused on doing good things for plant biology. To this day, that remains Bob’s professional mission.”

During the course of his career with the federal government (1963-1995), as the AEC metamorphosed into the present-day Department of Energy, Rabson has been involved in plant science research, either as an active researcher or as a manager of plant research programs. He developed what is today called the Division of Energy Biosciences and has successfully steered it through the murky political/bureaucratic waters of the federal government—to the benefit of numerous laboratories and researchers all across the United States.

Bob Rabson served ASPP as chair of its publications committee in 1985-1986, and he was the Society’s treasurer for the period 1988-1991. In 1986, ASPP gratefully honored Rabson for his outstanding service to the profession of plant physiology by presenting him the Adolph E. Gude Award. Among other honors, he also received the U.S. Department of Energy Exceptional Service Medal in 1986, and he was elected a fellow of AAAS in 1988.

Latest Data from ISI Show ASPP Has Considerable Impact as Plant Science Publisher

The most recently published impact factors of ASPP’s journals, THE PLANT CELL (9.367) and Plant Physiology (2.847), rank them first and fifth, respectively, among all plant science journals worldwide. ASPP is the only publisher to have two journals in the top five. These rankings, published in 1994, are for articles cited in 1993.

Impact factors are calculated and published yearly by the Institute for Scientific Information, publisher of Current Contents, in its Science Citation Index Journal Citation Reports. The figure is calculated by counting all citations in a calendar year to articles published in a journal during the preceding two years, and dividing that sum by the total number of articles published in that journal during the same two-year period. Thus, for example, the 1993 impact factor of Plant Physiology was calculated by counting all citations in 1993 to articles published in Plant Physiology during 1991 and 1992 and then dividing that total by the total number of articles published in Plant Physiology in 1991 and 1992.
OBITUARIES

Byron E. Janes

T. J. Reitsma
ASPP headquarters was recently informed of the death of T. J. Reitsma, from Lisse, Netherlands. Dr. Reitsma was a new member of ASPP, having joined in 1994.

Randolph T. Wedding
Randolph T. Wedding, an active member of the ASPP for 45 years, died January 2, 1995, from complications associated with pneumonia.

Randy grew up in St. Petersburg, Florida, where his family was in the nursery business. Despite not enjoying commercial gardening (weeding, watering, and hoeing), he got interested in some of the problems of why plants respond to specific conditions. So, after spending two years at the local junior college, he transferred to the University of Florida at Gainesville, where early on he found what he wanted to do. From his own statement made at his retirement function in 1993, he said, “As it happened, the first course I took there at the University of Florida was plant physiology, and the discovery that there were reasons why plants performed as they did (even though we don’t know most of them) thrilled me to the core.”

Wedding obtained his B.A. degree in 1943 and then joined the U.S. Navy. In 1945, he went back to Gainesville and completed his M.S. degree in 1947. He earned his Ph.D in 1950 at Cornell University, where Prof. O. F. Curtis was his research advisor. That year, he accepted a position as junior plant physiologist in the division of plant physiology of the California Citrus Experiment Station, Riverside, California. He progressed up the academic promotion ladder and was ultimately promoted to full professor in 1963.

In the early 1960s, the small campus of UC Riverside was given permission to expand academic offerings to include graduate programs. Randy and some colleagues (mostly plant biochemists) were instrumental in establishing a Ph.D. program in biochemistry and in the creation of a Department of Biochemistry. He was named chair of the Department of Biochemistry in 1966 and continued in that position for nine years, during which he greatly influenced the development of strong undergraduate and graduate programs in biochemistry.

Randy’s research interest changed over the years. Early on, he was interested in the metabolic control of auxins. This evolved in time to such control of succinyl coenzyme A synthetase, malate oxidation in plant mitochondria, NAD-malic enzyme kinetics, and phosphoenolpyruvate carboxylase. He spent several sabbatical periods at Oxford, England, in research collaboration with Professors Godfrey Blackman and Jack Harley.

Randy published more than 100 journal research papers prior to his retirement in July 1993. But after his retirement, his research publication rate was the highest of his career. In fact, in early November 1994, I visited with Randy in his laboratory the day before he was persuaded to see a doctor about the “flu” that he thought he could shake. He was in the process of revising a research paper for publication, in spite of not feeling very well.

In his long and productive academic career, Randy had more than 20 graduate students and postdoctoral colleagues working with him at UC Riverside. In addition, a number of undergraduate majors in biochemistry conducted their senior research projects in his laboratory.

Although Randy was an individual who did not suffer fools very kindly, he was extremely considerate of and patient with students, both with his own graduate students and with undergraduates he and the late Prof. Leland Shannon jointly taught for a number of years.

Along with his membership in ASPP, Randy held memberships in the American Society of Biochemistry and Molecular Biology, Biochemistry Society (UK), New York Academy of Science, Scandinavian Society of Plant Physiologists, Japanese Society of Plant Physiologists, Society of Experimental Biologists, Phi Kappa Phi, Phi Sigma, Sigma Xi, and AAAS. He also served a number of years as a member of the editorial board of Plant Physiology.

Many of Randy’s colleagues on campus and around the world will remember him for his work, friendship, and devotion to his primary interest—plant physiology.

Mack Dugger
University of California, Riverside

PEOPLE

• William P. Jacobs, professor of biology emeritus at Princeton University, and a long-time member of ASPP, was a plenary speaker at the Ninth Congress of the Federation of European Societies of Plant Physiology, which was held last summer in Brno, the Czech Republic. He was also awarded a medal by the Agricultural University of Brno.

• The Waltham, Massachusetts, newspaper, The News Tribune, included a story in its February 24 edition about the efforts of Martin Gibbs to obtain and deliver laboratory chemicals to scientists in the countries of the former Soviet Union. Gibbs was quoted as saying, “The political and economic crisis in the former Soviet Union has devastated the once-thriving scientific community.”

• Brian Larkins, a professor in the Department of Plant Sciences at the University of Arizona and editor-in-chief of THE PLANT CELL, has been appointed the first holder of the Harry W. and Elsie M. Porterfield Chair. The appointment for the endowed position became effective January 1, 1995, and will last five years, followed by a review for continuation.

Funds generated from the Porterfield endowment will be used to support Dr. Larkins’s research program on seed storage proteins as related to nutritional quality of cereals. Larkins and his colleagues have recently determined the origin of the lysine-containing proteins in corn seeds, and they have developed a simple laboratory test (see related story in the January/February newsletter, page 10) that will assist plant breeders in identifying cereals with improved lysine content. The development of staple cereals with a balanced amino acid content is expected to have a significant impact on human and livestock nutrition.

Deadline for abstracts for the 15th International Conference on Plant Growth Substances has been extended until April 30. See page 22 for details of the meeting.
COMING IN JULY!

IN TIME FOR FALL SEMESTER 1995

A special issue of
THE PLANT CELL
devoted to discussions of
genetic and molecular approaches to plant biochemistry

Introduction by Joe Varner

Amino Acid Biochemistry
R. Last, G. Coruzzi, G. Galili, K. Herrmann

Pigments and Secondary Products
E. Cornish, P. Scolnik, R. Croteau and D. McGarvey, D. von Wettstein,
T. Kutchan, R. Sederoff, D. Delmer

Storage Products
A. Smith and C. Martin, J. Ohlrogge, P. Shewry

Cell Processes and Environmental Adaptation
B. Taylor, A. Gatenby, J. Schroeder, J. Callis, T. Bisseling, N. Crawford,
R. Dixon and N. Paiva, H. Bohnert, J. Siedow

The issue will go to all subscribers to THE PLANT CELL.
Individual copies also will be sold, with discounted prices for bulk orders.

Watch for announcements of how to order this special issue.
Plan to order early to have copies in place for fall 1995 classes.
All announcements are subject to editing. Wherever possible, submit announcements via e-mail to jcarson@access.digex.net. Alternatively, mail submissions to Jody Carlson, ASPP Newsletter, 15501 Monona Drive, Rockville, MD 20855-2768 USA. Because announcements are scanned into the computer, **fixed transmissions will not be accepted**.

### FUTURE ASPP ANNUAL MEETING SITES

**1995: Charlotte, North Carolina**
Saturday, July 29, through Wednesday, August 2

**1996: San Antonio, Texas**
Saturday, July 27, through Wednesday, July 31

**1997: Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada**
Saturday, August 2, through Wednesday, August 6

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**APRIL**

April 7-8
ASPP Midwestern Section Annual Meeting
Kellogg Center, Michigan State University, East Lansing
For further information, contact: Ray Zielinski, Secretary/Treasurer MWASPP, Department of Plant Biology, University of Illinois, 1201 W. Gregory Dr., Urbana, IL 61801; telephone 217-333-6785, fax 217-244-1336, e-mail rez@uiuc.edu.

April 7-12
Plant Mitochondria: From Gene to Function
Durham, North Carolina
Contact Jim Siedow, DCMB-Botany, Box 91000, Duke University, Durham, NC 27708-1000, USA; telephone 919-613-8180, fax 919-613-8177, e-mail jsiedow@acpub.duke.edu. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

April 19-22
14th Annual Symposium
Current Topics in Plant Biochemistry, Physiology, and Molecular Biology
Will Plants Have a Role in Bioremediation? University of Missouri, Columbia
For more information and registration materials contact: IPG Symposium, University of Missouri, 117 Schweitzer Hall, Columbia, MO 65211; telephone 314-882-7796, fax 314-882-5635. See January/February 1995 ASPP Newsletter for details.

**MAY**

May 8-13
First International Symposium of Sucrose Metabolism
Mar del Plata, Argentina
Contact: Dr. Horacio Pontis or Dr. Graciela Salerno, Fundacion para Investigaciones Biologicas Aplicadas, Casilla de Correos 1348, 7600 Mar del Plata, Argentina, telephone 54-22-74-8257, fax 54-22-74-3357, or Dr. Ed Echeverria, Citrus Research and Education Center, 700 Experiment Station Road, Lake Alfred, FL 33850, USA, telephone 813-956-1151, fax 813-956-4631. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

May 18-20
Phytochemicals and Health
10th Annual Penn State Symposium in Plant Physiology
Pennsylvania State University University Park
For more information contact: Jack C. Shannon, 102 Tyson Building, Penn State University, University Park, PA 16802; telephone 814-863-2192, fax 814-863-6139, e-mail jack_shannon@agcs.psu.edu. See January/February 1995 ASPP Newsletter for details.

May 20-24
1995 Congress on In Vitro Biology: Interplay of Cells with Their Environment
Denver, Colorado

May 23-30
Microinjection Techniques in Cell Biology
Marine Biological Laboratory
Woods Hole, Massachusetts
Application deadline was March 14, 1995. Contact Admissions Coordinator. Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, MA 02543; telephone 508-548-3705, ext. 401, or e-mail admissions@mbl.edu. See January/February 1995 ASPP Newsletter for details.

May 24-26
NABC 7
Genes for the Future: Discovery, Ownership, Access
Columbia, Missouri

May 26
Seminar: Mentoring and Teaching
Indiana University, Bloomington
For more information and registration forms, contact Kenneth D. Pimple, TIE Project Director, The Poynter Center, 410 N. Park Ave., Bloomington, IN 47405; telephone 812-855-0261, fax 812-855-3315, e-mail pimple@indiana.edu (bitnet: pimple@indiana.bitnet). See January/February 1995 ASPP Newsletter for details.
JUNE

June 1-4
1995 Symposium on Biochemistry and Molecular Biology of Fatty Acids and Glycerolipids
South Lake Tahoe, California
Contact meeting organizers, John Orlugge, Michigan State University, Botany & Plant Pathology, East Lansing, MI 48824 (e-mail 22546mg@msu.edu, fax 517-355-1926) or Jan Jaworski, Chemistry Department, Miami University, Oxford, OH 45056 (e-mail jan@miamiaacs.muohio.edu, fax 513.529.4221). See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

June 7-11
6th International Meeting on Arabidopsis Research
Madison, Wisconsin
Scientific program was prepared by the North American Arabidopsis Steering Committee: F. M. Ausubel, j. Chory, G. Coruzzi, J. Ecker, M. Estelle, D. Meinke. M. Sussman also served on the committee. Sessions (chair/presenters): Genomics and Related Technologies (J. Ecker/R. Schmidt, M. Bevan, D. Bouchez); Development I-Embryonic (D. Meinke/D. Shevell, B. Schwartz, M. West); Development II-Post-Embryonic (R. Pruitt/D. Preus, P. Springer, A. Ray, K. Schneid); Development III-Post-Embryonic (G. Jurgens/K. Barton, T. Lau, B. Scheres, L. Di Laurenzo); Development IV-Flowers (E. Meyerowitz/W. Weigel, V. Irish, B. Savidge, M. Aukerman); Development V-Environmental Effects on Development (R. Hangarter/T. Eich); N. Wei, M. Ahmad); Biochemical Genetics (R. Last/R. Last, M. L. Guerinot, N. Crawford); Biochemical Genetics II (C. Somerville/C. Chapple, C. Benning, B. Lemieux, C. Nawrath); Growth Regulators I (M. Estelle/J. Kieber, J. Ecker, M. Bennett, S. Abel); Growth Regulators II (R. Finkelstein, J. Giraudat, N. Harberd); Response to Environmental Stress and Pathogens I (K. Davis/D. Davis, A. Britt, M. Thomashow, J. Fraam); Response to Environmental Stress and Pathogens II (B. Staskawicz/X. Dong, R. Innes, M. Coleman); Cell Biology/Cell Structure (N. Raikhel/N. Raikhel, J. Nasrallah, J. Schroeder). Registration deadline is April 5. Contact: Wisconsin Union/Arabidopsis Meeting, Conference Services, 800 Langdon Street, Madison, WI 53706 USA.

June 11-16
Gordon Research Conference
Plant Cell Genetics and Development:
Apical Meristems and Primordia
Wolfeboro, New Hampshire
Application form in February 3, 1995, issue of Science, or from Gordon Research Conferences, University of Rhode Island, PO Box 984, West Kingston, RI 02892-0984. Attention limited to 135. Posters strongly encouraged. Send poster abstracts with application and e-mail to both messigng@mbcl.rutgers.edu and rajorgensen@ucdavis.edu. Some funding available for developing scientists; apply to chair: rajorgensen@ucdavis.edu. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

June 18-23
Molecular Genetics and Ecology of Pesticide Resistance
Yellowstone Conference Center
Big Sky, Montana

June 26-30
International Workshop
Peroxidase biotechnology and Application
Puschino (Moscow Region), Russia
Contact Dr. I. G. Gazaryan, Division of Chemical Enzymology, Department of Chemistry, Moscow State University, 119899 Moscow, Russia; fax: 7-95-939-27-42. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

JULY

July 4-7
9th International Rapeseed Congress
Cambridge, England

July 9-15
European Symposium on Photomorphogenesis in Plants
Stiges, Barcelona, Spain
Co-Chairs: Gary Gardner, Bernard Phinney. Symposium topics (chair/ participants): Signal transduction I (T. Lomax/I. Herskowitz, J. Ecker, R. Jones, C. Neuhaus); Signal transduction II (A. Bleecker/J. Giraudat, N. Olszewski, M. Bennett); Hormone biosynthesis I (J. MacMillan, C. Spray, Y. Kamiya, R. Winkler, P. Hedden, H. Chiang); Regulation of flowering (M. Koornneef/J. Martinez-Zapater, E. Dennis, D. Joofu, R. Amasino); Hormones and cell wall metabolism (D. Cosgrove/M. McCann, S. Fry, D. Nevin, J. Woessner); Signaling molecules I: Flcitors, jasunate, systemin, etc. (T. Boller/B. Parthill, H. Schaller); Hormonal regulation of membrane functions: (K. Schumaker/H. Barbier-Brygoo, R. Hedrich, M. Somarin, M. Blatt, J. Schroeder); Hormone metabolism (G. 

July 2-7
7th International Symposium on Preharvest Sprouting in Cereals
Abashiri, Hokkaido, Japan
Contact: Secretariat, 7th International Symposium on Preharvest Sprouting in Cereals, Kitami Agricultural Experiment Station, Kunreppu, Hokkaido 099-14, Japan, telephone 0157-47-21 46, fax 0157-47-2774 or M. K. Walker-Simmons, USDA-ARS, 209 Johnson Hall, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6420; telephone 509-335-4969, fax 509-335-1864, e-mail simmons@wsuwml.edu. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

July 14-18, 1995
15th International Conference on Plant Growth Substances
Minneapolis, Minnesota
Co-Chairs: Gary Gardner, Bernard Phinney. Symposium topics (chair/ participants): Signal transduction I (T. Lomax/I. Herskowitz, J. Ecker, R. Jones, C. Neuhaus); Signal transduction II (A. Bleecker/J. Giraudat, N. Olszewski, M. Bennett); Hormone biosynthesis I (J. MacMillan, C. Spray, Y. Kamiya, R. Winkler, P. Hedden, H. Chiang); Regulation of flowering (M. Koornneef/J. Martinez-Zapater, E. Dennis, D. Joofu, R. Amasino); Hormones and cell wall metabolism (D. Cosgrove/M. McCann, S. Fry, D. Nevin, J. Woessner); Signaling molecules I: Flcitors, jasunate, systemin, etc. (T. Boller/B. Parthill, H. Schaller); Hormonal regulation of membrane functions: (K. Schumaker/H. Barbier-Brygoo, R. Hedrich, M. Somarin, M. Blatt, J. Schroeder); Hormone metabolism (G. 

May 28-June 3
10th International Congress on Nitrogen Fixation
St. Petersburg, Russia
Organizer of this meeting is Igor Tikhonovich, and it will be held under the auspices of the Research Institute for Agricultural Microbiology. For more information, contact: Prof. I. Tikhonovich, Congress Organizer, Research Institute for Agricultural Microbiology, P. B. 364, General Post Office, 190000, St. Petersburg, Russia; fax 812-470-46-62, e-mail chief@riam.spb.su.
Schneider/R. Bandurski, D. Mok, T. Yokota); Hormones and stress (E. Bray/R. Sharp, D. Bartels, S. Prat); Integration of growth processes: (B. Phinney/T. Jacobs, O. Cohen/O'Neill, J. Nick, T. Lomax, E. Liscum); Interactions of fundamental knowledge and applications using transgenic plants (H. Klee/R. Walden, Sandberg/O. Olsson, P. Constantino, H. Shibaoka); Regulation of growth and development by light (O. Chary / R. Hangarter, L. Kaufman, R. Kendrick). This meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting of the Plant Growth Regulator Society of America (July 18-20, No. 22, Vol. 22), Minneapolis, Minnesota. For information, contact Dr. Duane Greene, Program Chair, Department of Plant and Soil Science, University of California, Berkeley, 455 LSA, Berkeley, CA 94720. Some funds will be available to help defray meeting expenses for senior graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty within the first three years of their faculty appointment who plan to present a poster. To apply for funding, contact chair: swick@molbio.cbs.umn.edu (Department of Plant Biology, University of Minnesota, 220 BSC, 1445 Gortner Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108; telephone 612-625-4718 or fax 612-625-1738). Application form in February 1995 issue of Science or from Gordon Research Conferences, PO Box 984, West Kingston, RI 02892-0984.

July 15-29
Plant Biochemistry Summer Course
Washington State University, Pullman
The DOE/NSF/USDA Tri-Agency supported Plant Biochemistry Research and Training Center (PBRTC) at Washington State University will conduct an intensive training course for students interested in plant biochemistry. The course will cover fundamental principles as well as the latest advances in plant biochemistry in such areas as structure-function of plant organelles; ion transport; carbohydrate and lipid biosynthesis/metabolism; nitrogen fixation and amino acid metabolism; synthesis, catabolism, and mechanism of action of plant hormones; biochemistry of unique plant products such as terpenoids, alkaloids, cyanoglutocides, and phenylpropanoids; signaling mechanisms in plant defense responses towards pests and pathogens; protein synthesis and intracellular targeting of macromolecules. Topics will be covered by experts from on campus and invited speakers from throughout the world. Funds are available to partially offset travel and housing expenses for up to 40 participants. For further information and an application form contact: Ms. Karen Maerten, Plant Biochemistry Research and Training Center, Institute of Biological Chemistry, Washington State University, Pullman, WA 99164-6340, telephone 509-335-5496, FAX 509-335-7643, email maerten@WSUVM1.csc.wsu.edu.

July 16-20
5th Brazilian Congress of Plant Physiology
Lavras, MG, Brazil

July 17-21
Fourth International Symposium on the Molecular Biology of Potato
 Wageningen, The Netherlands
For information please contact the Congress Bureau: LAC-Section OCC, Mrs. M. van Amstel, PO Box 88, 6700 AB Wageningen, The Netherlands; telephone 31 8370 9111; fax + 31 8370 18552. See January/February 1995 ASP News Letter for details.

July 18-20
Plant Growth Regulator Society of America 22nd Annual Meeting
Minneapolis, Minnesota
For information, contact Dr. Duane Greene, Program Chair, Department of Plant and Soil Science, University of California, Berkeley, 455 LSA, Berkeley, CA 94720. Some funds will be available to help defray meeting expenses for senior graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, and faculty within the first three years of their faculty appointment who plan to present a poster. To apply for funding, contact chair: swick@molbio.cbs.umn.edu (Department of Plant Biology, University of Minnesota, 220 BSC, 1445 Gortner Ave., St. Paul, MN 55108; telephone 612-625-4718 or fax 612-625-1738). Application form in February 1995 issue of Science or from Gordon Research Conferences, PO Box 984, West Kingston, RI 02892-0984.

July 30-August 2
American Society of Plant Physiologists Annual Meeting
Charlotte, North Carolina
Contact: Susan Chambers, ASPP Headquarters, 15501 Monona Drive, Rockville, MD 20855-2768; telephone 301-251-0560, ext. 11, fax 301-279-2996, e-mail chambers@access.digex.net.

July 31-August 4
August 7-13
August 14-18
September 11-15
Laboratory Courses: Techniques for Characterization of Complex Carbohydrates
Athens, Georgia
The Complex Carbohydrate Research Center (CCRC) of the University of Georgia offers four courses this summer. July 31-August 4: MS and MS/MS Analysis of Glycoconjugates (intended for scientists with an interest in MS and some experience with glycoconjugates; experience with MS beneficial but not required); August 7-11: Separation and Characterization of Glycoprotein Oligosaccharides (intended for scientists with little experience in carbohydrate analysis); August 14-18: Structural Analysis of Oligosaccharides (intended for scientists with some experience with glycoconjugates —or who have finished the first course; will focus on techniques of composition and linkage analysis; experience with basic biochemical techniques is a prerequisite); September 11-15: NMR of Carbohydrates (will focus on 1H and 13C, one- and two-dimensional NMR spectroscopy as applied to carbohydrates; some basic skills in operating an NMR spectrometer required). All courses
will consist of hands-on laboratory work, demonstrations, and lectures; laboratory manual including selected analytical techniques and references will be provided. Each course limited to 10 participants. Cost of registration is $500 for individuals from non-profit institutions, $1100 for others. Registration includes lunch but not lodging and travel expenses. The courses are supported jointly by the Department of Energy Plant and Microbial Carbohydrate Center, and the NIH Biomedical Carbohydrate Resource Center of the CCRC. For further information or to apply, contact: Dr. Roberta K. Merkle, Complex Carbohydrate Research Center, 220 Riverbend Road, University of Georgia, Athens, GA 30602-4712; telephone 706-542-4402, fax 706-542-4412, e-mail rmerkle@uga.cc.uga.edu.

AUGUST

August 6-11
10th International Workshop on Plant Membrane Biology
Regensburg, Germany
Contact Widmar Tanner or Norbert Sauer, Lehrstuhl für Zellbiologie und Pflanzenphysiologie, Universität Regensburg, Universitätstrasse 31, 93053 Regensburg, Germany; fax 49-941-943-3552. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

August 7-11
4th International Congress on Amino Acids Vienna, Austria
Contact: Bijay K. Singh, American Cyanamid Company, P.O. Box 400, Princeton, NJ 08543-0400 USA, or L. Bubec, Department of Pediatrics, University of Vienna, Waehringer Guertel 18, A-1090, Vienna, Austria. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

August 7-11
10th International Conference on Frankia and Actinorhizal Plants
University of California, Davis
Contact: Dr. A. M. Berry, Department of Environmental Horticulture, University of California, Davis, CA 95616; fax 916-752-1919 e-mail amberly@ucdavis.edu. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

August 13-17
Phytochemical Society of North America Annual Meeting
Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, Canada
Contact: Dr. James H. Saunders, Plant Sciences Institute, USDA, 800 South 30th Street, Room 5, Beltsville, MD 20705, telephone 301 504-7477, fax 301 504-6478; or Dr. Pedro Barbosa, Department of Entomology, University of Maryland, College Park, MD 20742, telephone 301 405-3946 office, fax 301 314-9290. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

SEPTEMBER

September 3-7
4th International Workshop on Pathogenesis-Related Proteins in Plants: Biology and Biotechnological Potential
Kloster Irsee, Germany
Contact: Dr. Erich Kombrink, Abteilung Biochemie, Max-Planck Institut für Züchtungsforschung, Carl-von Linné-Weg 10, D-33829 Ktioln, Germany, fax +49-221-5062-313. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

September 11-13
Physiological Responses of Plants to Pathogens
University of Dundee, Scotland
This meeting is sponsored by the Association of Applied Biologists in association with the British Society for Plant Pathology. In spite of sharing a common interest in plant injury, research into the underlying physiology is often pigeon-holed into different slots depending on the organizational level, e.g. crop, whole plant, or cell, under investigation. In addition, our understanding of plant-pathogen interactions is often isolated from that obtained from research into the physiological effects of pests and parasitic plants. The aim of this conference is to bring together experts from the complete spectrum of disease physiology research, from those working with the whole crop to those considering changes at the cellular level. Six platform sessions are planned: effects on growth and development and yield; carbon assimilation and utilization; water and nutrient relations; protein and nitrogen metabolism; physiological changes during resistance; signaling during interactions between plants and pathogens and pests. Contact Dr. Dale Walters, Plant Science College, Auchincruive, Nr Ayr KA6 5HW, UK.

OCTOBER

October 1-4, 1995
International Symposium: Engineering Plants for Commercial Products/Applications
University of Kentucky, Lexington
Co-organizers: Glenn B. Collins and Robert J. Shepherd. To be added to the conference mailing list, send your name and address to: International Symposium on Engineering.
Plants, c/o Conferences and Institutes, 218 Peterson Service Building, Lexington, KY 40506-0005 USA; e-mail monica.stoch@ukwang.uky.edu, telephone 606-257-3929, fax 606-323-1053.

October 8-12
Third International Symposium: Cytochrome P450 Biodiversity
Woods Hole, Massachusetts
Contact: Dr. John C. Loper, Department of Molecular Genetics, University of Cincinnati School of Medicine, Cincinnati, OH 45267-0524, fax 513-558-8474. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

October 8-12
International Symposium: Dynamics of Physiological Processes in Woody Roots
Ithaca, New York
Contact Dr. Mary A. Topa, Boyce Thompson Institute, Tower Road, Ithaca, NY 14853-1801, USA; fax 607-254-1242, e-mail mat80@cornell.edu. See November/December 1994 ASPP Newsletter for details.

November 5-9
First Joint USA-Mexico Symposium Agrobiology, Molecular Physiology, and Biotechnology of Crops Important to Mexican Agriculture Cocoyox, Mexico
Organizers: Maarten Chrispeels, Federico Sanchez, Virginia Walbot. To be held simultaneously with the VII Congreso de Bioquimica y Biologia Molecular de Plantas, the Mexican equivalent of the ASPP annual meeting. Many Mexican scientists have been trained in the United States as students or postdocs, and many U.S. investigators have formal or informal contacts and collaborations with Mexican scientists. One of the objectives of this first conference is to attract to Mexico U.S. scientists who may have active collaborations and to attract Mexican postdocs and graduate students now working in the United States. Program: Legume crops and nitrogen fixation (A. Hirsch, F. Sanchez, C. Sengupta-Gopalan, M. Lara, J. Acosta, C. Vance); Molecular mechanism of development in cereals (V. Walbot, A. Munoz Orozco, E. Sanchez de Jimenez, R. Meeley, R. Schmidt, R. Boston); Plants under stress (T. Hisao, D. Hoisington, L. Mendoza-Onofre, P. Morgan, A. Covarrubias, R. Gaxiola, R. Sharp); Signals from the environment to the nucleus (J. Schroeder, N. Raikhel, L. Herrera-Estrella, S. Assmann, T. Hernandez); Crop biotechnology (R. Beachy, M. Chrispeels, D. Diaz de Leon, J. Leemann, A. Herrera, H. Klee); Regulation of metabolic processes (R. Munoz); Disease and insect resistance (R. Rivera, A. Blanco-Labra). The conference will consist of a number of symposia, minisymposia, and poster sessions organized around the broad topics listed above. Slots for minisymposium speakers are still available and additional speakers will be selected on the basis of abstracts that have been submitted. For more information and registration packets (hotel reservation forms, abstract forms, etc.) send your complete mailing address to Maarten Chrispeels (mchrispeels@ucsd.edu) or Alejandra Covarrubias (crobles@pbr322.ceingebi.unam.mx).
Editor's note: Printed below is the text of the proposal to create an American Society of Plant Physiologists Education Foundation. ASPP's executive committee approved the proposal at its meeting in Portland, Oregon, in 1994. On the annual ballot that will be mailed to all members in the spring of 1995, the membership of ASPP will be asked to approve the Foundation by adding it to the Society's constitution and bylaws. This statement will be published in the Newsletter until the time of the election.

Mission Statement
The American Society of Plant Physiologists Education Foundation (ASPPEF) promotes and supports education in the plant sciences to enhance the role of the plant sciences in a global society.

Goals
1. To promote the teaching of plant sciences at all levels.
2. To advance public understanding and appreciation of the value of plant sciences to the welfare of society.
3. To support the development of new initiatives in emerging areas of plant science education.
4. To provide a mechanism for individuals and organizations to support education and research in the plant sciences.

Composition of the ASPPEF Board of Directors
The Board of Directors will be a standing committee of the Society and shall consist of one member designated as the Chair appointed to a three-year term by the President with the approval of the Executive Committee, twelve members recommended by the Chair and the President for approval by the Executive Committee, and the following ex officio members: the president, the president-elect, the immediate past president, the chair of the board of trustees, the treasurer, and the executive director. Each appointed member of the Board of Directors will serve a three-year term (NOTE: Initially, the terms of the twelve will be staggered such that four will be appointed for four-year terms, four for three-year terms, and four for two-year terms.)

Duties of the ASPPEF Board of Directors
The Board of Directors of the ASPPEF shall oversee the management of all activities of the Foundation. The ASPPEF will report to the Executive Committee through the Chair of its Board of Directors. The Board of Directors will be responsible for developing the ASPPEF budget, which will be presented to the Board of Trustees to be included as part of the Society's annual budgetary process. Final approval of the ASPPEF budget will rest with the Executive Committee.

Approval
The structure outlined above will be subject to the approval of the ASPP membership as required by the constitution and bylaws of the Society. Until this approval is granted, the ASPPEF Board of Directors will exist as an ad hoc committee of the Executive Committee of the Society.

Review
Continuation of the Foundation will be subject to review once every five years by the Executive Committee to examine the ASPPEF operation and success in achieving its goals. The review committee will be an ad hoc committee chaired by the Past President and consisting of five other individuals appointed by the President. The Review Committee will make a recommendation to the Executive Committee which will then make a decision regarding continued authorization of the ASPPEF.

Budgetary Issues
1. The ASPPEF budget will be developed by the Board of Directors as a self-contained, independent fund within the overall society budget.
2. To provide an initial base of funding for the ASPPEF, one million dollars will be moved from the ASPP General Endowment into a separate (restricted) fund, to be designated the ASPP Education Foundation Endowment. Use of the funds in the ASPPEF Endowment will be subject to the same annual limit of 5.0% of the market value currently associated with the use of the General Endowment.

Duties of the Chair of the Board of Directors
The duties of the Chair of the Board of Directors include directing the activities of the Foundation, working with the President to identify members of the Board of Directors, recruiting volunteers to accomplish Foundation goals, assisting in cultivating corporations, foundations and other donors compatible with ASPPEF goals, and reporting to and serving as a member of the ASPPP Executive Committee.