

American Bryological and Lichenological Society
2022 Annual General Meeting Minutes
Virtual, Tuesday 15 November 2022, 5-6 PM EST
37 Participants

Agenda

1. Welcome and introductions (President Scott Schuette)
 - Introductions and icebreakers – new and familiar faces and names!
2. Minutes from 2022 circulated via link in the zoom meeting.
 - https://docs.google.com/document/d/1FxlGCVYPhWG3YfQJwwiCRyI5EXUyHb5d/edit?usp=share_link&oid=109774632573105328440&rtpof=true&sd=true
3. News and updates
 - Membership & Highlights of Online Survey Results (Secretary Diane Haughland)
 - See ppt here:
https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/11hTFGMhmmJICDNGbTAdRHGRVkusRHFo6/edit?usp=share_link&oid=109774632573105328440&rtpof=true&sd=true
 - Daphne also noted we got 3-5 new members through the free student mixer at the 2022 meeting in Alaska.
 - Treasurer's Report (Treasurer Klara Scharnagl)
 - Provided by Scott S. as Klara was unable to attend: multiple years in a row with a \$5000 deficit, some of this may be balanced by reducing spending on print journals. Klara thanked everyone with their help and patience as she transitioned into the Treasurer role!
 - Investments/finance committee needed to determine how we will use our investment account, which is sitting at just over \$900,000.
 - Bryologist Highlights (Editor Jim Lawry)
 - Impact factor rebounding downwards after some very high impact review articles; submission and acceptance rate are both typical or slightly higher than usual. Reminder that we now offer open access at the fee of \$1000 per article, one time charge, hopefully will attract some high impact articles.
 - Sullivant and Tuckerman Best Paper Awards (both with \$1000 value)
The awards for the best papers published in The Bryologist in 2021 (Volume 124) were also announced at the annual business meeting. The winners are chosen after consultation between the current editor of The Bryologist and the two most recent past editors. The winners for 2021 are:
SULLIVANT AWARD for best paper on bryology for 2021 (volume 124): PALMER, D. & P. WILSON. 2021. Calcicolous and calcifugous bryophytes along the desert edge of the California Floristic Province. The Bryologist 124(1): 9–19.
TUCKERMAN AWARD for best paper on lichenology for 2021 (volume 124): OLIVEIRA JUNIOR, I., A. APTROOT & M. E. S. CÁCERES. 2021. Lichens from Monte Pascoal, Bahia, Brazil, with some new pyrenocarpous species and a key to the Pyrenula species from Brazil. The Bryologist 124(4): 552–568.
 - Evansia & Online Survey Highlights (Editor Scott LaGreca)
 - 19 high quality research articles, obituaries

- Strong voice asking for fewer research articles and more field trip reports and content similar to the British Lichen Society Bulletin. Scott is up to asking for that content and following up on those field trips, if that's what members want.
- James Lendemer updated us on progress digitizing old issues of Evansia. The first 15 are posted so at this rate it will be done by Christmas. Susan Will-Wolff has been instrumental in getting items that ABLS has copyright on digitized and online (including Licheographia Thomsoniana. Also thanks to Biodiversity Heritage Library and Susan Lynch at New York Botanic Gardens for making this happen!
- Website & Transition to new site (Klara Scharnagl)
 - Provided by Scott S. and Klara via email as Klara was unable to attend. Effective August 2022 our website is www.abls.org, older versions are offline. If folks want to renew membership or sign in to access journals, they must use the ABLS Allen Press site: <https://abls.allenpress.com/abls/HOME.aspx>
 - We are working to streamline this, and in the meantime Klara will add a tutorial on abls.org.
 - ACTION ITEM: Suggestion to ensure the Allen Press membership page is clearly marked as Allen Press – right now the URL reflects it but the webpage looks like ABLS.
- Awards (Scott Schuette)
 - Anderson-Crum and the Culberson-Hale awards for Student Field Research
 - Culberson and Hale Awards:
 - Heather Stewart-Ahn (Eastern Washington University): "Polyploidy and Chimerism: Investigating Their Role in the Evolution of Lichenized Fungi"
 - Stephen Sharrett (The Evergreen State College): "Distribution of *Pseudocyphellaria rainierensis*"
 - Anderson and Crum Awards"
 - John McLaughlin (San Jose State University): "Bryophyte Flora of Henry W. Coe State Park"
 - Haniska Herath (University of Kentucky): "Intraspecific variability of heat stress tolerance in *Marchantia inflexa*"
 - Our thanks to the Judges (Amelia Merced, Jeremy Hartsoc, Jessica Coyle and Heather Root) for donating their time and expertise
- Meetings (Incoming President Daphne Stone)
 - 2022 meeting highlights & awards
 - Lots of papers, 2 full sessions, 2 great field trips despite having to adjust localities of one due to snow, good uptake by bryo/lichen folks and other botanists. Mixer was successful, ABLS provided appetizers, 30 people signed up and 50 people came!
 - The 2022 A. J. Sharp Award & \$1000 for the best paper presented by a student at the ABLS annual meeting was announced after the meeting, selected by a team appointed by the Executive Committee. The winner for 2022 is:
 - Jeffrey Clancy for "Providing scale to a known taxonomic unknown – at least a 70-fold increase in species diversity in a cosmopolitan nominal taxon of lichen-forming fungi."
 - 2023 meeting (Boise, Idaho) mostl likely be hybrid, and will have some colloquia including early career guest speakers. Manu Dal Forno commented via chat that the meeting there in 2014 was great – Roger and Brent's field trip was awesome!

4. Action items/Announcement

- 2023 subscription rates (President Scott Schuette)

- Hard-copy subscriptions increased as follows to address the two-year deficit in operating costs. Online subscriptions and membership prices remain unchanged.
 - Evansia US/Canada Print & Online - from \$25 to \$30 USD
 - Non-United States/Canada Print & Online - from \$35 to \$40 USD
 - Bryologist US/Canada Print & Online - from \$60 to \$70 USD
 - Non-United States/Canada Print & Online - from \$85 to \$95 USD

5. Officer and Executive Committee upcoming elections & transitions (Scott Schuette)

- Elections committee needed to organize elections and solicit volunteers for election in 2023, and should be filled by non-EC members. Positions up for election in August 2023: President-elect (Bryologist), Secretary, Members at large (2), Student Member at large
- Journal Editors are appointed by EC – Jim Lawrey is up in 2025, Scott LaGreca would also like to stay on, so no need to
- Need 3 volunteers, have 4: Giovanna Bishop, Heather Stewart-Ahn, Scott LaGreca (via email), Stephen Sharrett (via email).

6. Membership items/discussion

Announcements

- Giovanna Bishop announced she is new Herbarium Curator at the University of Montana, ABLs members were very excited for her as few lichenologists and bryologists are fortunate enough to secure a full time permanent position like this. Congratulations!
- Brent Mishler – SoBeFree announcement is out, and we will distribute via abls listserv

Investment income & membership discussion

- Brent Mishler – make sure we never spend the principle, be fiscally restrained when considering that investment account. Scott S. noted that there is a percentage of the cash that needs to be spent each year. Bruce asked some follow up questions about whether our deficit includes investment income or excluding that. Scott S. and Klara will follow up.
- Bruce McCune spoke to the experience of the NW lichenologists and the value of having optional dues – promotes membership with perhaps minimal cost.
- Giovanna Bishop suggested we could try doing some clothing sales to both raise money and promote ourselves, again based on the success of the NW Lichenologists and their merchandise. Jim Lawrey indicated that we used to sell that kind of thing and it petered out, in part probably because of the hassle of passing on boxes of stuff between EC members. Definitely interest in doing this, but we'd be looking at volunteers to do this. Gabrielle Nielsen volunteered some artwork.

Publications

- Via Chat. Wendy Brown asked is there a way to allow older papers to be open access after say 10 years? Maybe on the ABLs website? Or does Allen Press restrict that opportunity? Jim Lawrey indicated that yes can make papers at BioOne open access after they're posted.
- Some support for offering at print on demand after we go electronic by members in attendance.

Permanent ABLs Business Address

- Scott S. indicated that they're also looking for a permanent address for ABLs, some discussion on whether it needs to be at an official institution or could be a post office box. Daphne Stone indicated she is FOR leaving the treasurer stuff at Berkeley. Brent Mishler indicated via chat they'd be glad to host it at UC Berkeley, if it can be established, it would be good to have a place that will keep getting mail. Susan Will-Wolf indicated that the treasurer does have to be bonded to conduct financial transactions.

ABLS contributions to conservation ranking

- Scott S. discussed the desire for ABLS to be more involved with conservation ranking and heritage organizations. Scott S. and Jessica Allen are working on this and will update ABLS as they progress.

7. Closing remarks and adjournment (Scott Schuette)

- Thanks to all those that attended and congratulations to the award-winners.