



BOTANY 2008 - Botany Without Borders Call for Abstracts

The **Botanical Society of America (BSA)**, **Canadian Botanical Association/L'Association Botanique du Canada (CBA/ABC)** and their partner societies will hold a joint annual meeting at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada, July 26 – 30, 2008. Other societies participating in the BOTANY 2008 conference will include: the **American Fern Society (AFS)**, and **American Society of Plant Taxonomists (ASPT)**. The theme for BOTANY 2008 is **Botany without Borders**. The joint annual scientific program will run from Sunday through Wednesday. The seventh annual Forum focusing on botanical education and outreach will be held on Sunday the 27th.

All interested in botany and plant biology are invited and encouraged to attend BOTANY 2008 and to present scholarly and/or educational work. Six presentation options are available, and each presentation requires an abstract. The deadline for abstract submissions is **April 1, 2008**. All abstracts and the final program will be available online at the BOTANY 2008 web site prior to the conference, and optional hard copies will be distributed on-site to conference registrants if requested.

PRESENTATION TYPES

CONTRIBUTED PRESENTATIONS

- *Oral Paper* – Oral papers, or podium presentations, will be 15 minutes in length (inclusive of questions). Papers will be grouped into topical sessions and included within the program of the disciplinary Section/Society or thematic topic chosen by the submitting author.
- *Poster* – Posters should fit onto bulletin boards 4' high by 4' wide. Materials may be secured to bulletin boards with push-pins, which will be provided. All posters will be on display for the duration of the conference, with several, conference-wide poster sessions held throughout the conference. Posters will be grouped into topical sessions and included within the program of the disciplinary Section/Society or thematic topic chosen by the submitting author.
- *Problem-Solving Session* - Problem-solving sessions provide the opportunity to bring together experts to discuss timely, controversial, or perennial topics related to botanical research. Moderators will facilitate 1 to 1.5 hour discussions in a relatively informal setting during the Scientific Meeting. Example problems range from current challenges in research techniques, data analysis, dissemination of findings, grant funding, human resource management, outreach and collaboration.
- *Education Forum Session* – Forum Sessions will address educational and outreach issues. These sessions provide the opportunity to moderate interactive panel, roundtable, or breakout discussions focusing on a range of topics in a relatively informal, discussion-oriented setting during the Education Forum. Informational-type presentations are also possible. Forum Sessions will be 1 hour in length, and individual sessions will be grouped within a topical theme, or 'thread,' chosen by the submitting author.

INVITED PRESENTATIONS

- *Symposium or Colloquium Presentation* – Invited symposium and colloquium presentations are arranged in advance and coordinated by the symposium and colloquium organizers, societies, and/or societal sections. Symposium presentations will be 30 minutes in length (inclusive of questions), and colloquium presentations will be 15 minutes in length (inclusive of questions).

- *Special Lecture* – Special Lectures are arranged in advance by the disciplinary sections and participating societies, and these are typically 45 minutes to 1 hour in length.

SUBMISSION OF ABSTRACTS (DEADLINE: APRIL 1, 2008)

Submission of abstracts for all presentation types should be conducted online at the BOTANY 2008 web site: <http://www.2008.botanyconference.org>. For each abstract, the submitting author will be asked to submit the following information:

- names, institutions, e-mail addresses, and postal addresses for each author
- abstract title
- abstract narrative (limited to 300 words)
- keywords or key-phrases (limited to 6)
- AV needs
- related web links (optional)
- uploaded files (optional)
- whether the abstract should be considered for an award
- whether the submitting author is willing to preside over an oral paper session

Electronic copies of the abstract submission will be sent by e-mail to the submitting author, the Program Chair of the disciplinary Section/Society selected, and the BSA Program Director. The submission site will open in February 2008, and the deadline for receiving abstracts is **April 1, 2008**.

The same individual should not be the first author on more than three abstracts.

AUDIO-VISUAL INFORMATION

Computer-based PowerPoint presentations will be the standard presentation option. The BOTANY 2008 web site will provide specific information in May 2008 about which version(s) of PowerPoint and which types of media (e.g., CDs, Zip, etc.) will be supported. Additional audio-visual and technology needs (e.g., video cassette players, overhead transparencies, additional monitors, 35 mm slide projector, etc.) will be available for a fee. These options will need to be requested when the abstract is submitted online, and the submitting author, sponsoring section/society, or symposium/colloquium organizer will be responsible for the costs and will need to approve them.

REGISTRATION, HOUSING, & EVENTS

Preliminary registration and housing costs will be posted on the BOTANY 2008 web site in February 2008. A complete Registration Brochure for BOTANY 2008 will be mailed to members of all four participating societies in March 2008. The Brochure will also be available online at the BOTANY 2008 web site, and it will contain detailed information about registration, housing, social events, field trips, workshops, tours, and all costs.

QUESTIONS

Questions about the scientific or educational program for BOTANY 2008 should be directed to the appropriate sectional or societal Program Chair listed on the conference web site, or to:

- The BSA Program Director: Karen S. Renzaglia, Department of Plant Biology, Mailcode 6509, Southern Illinois University, 1125 Lincoln Drive, Carbondale, Illinois, 62901-6509, USA. Tele: 618.453.3229, Fax: 618.453.3441, E-mail: renzaglia@plant.siu.edu.

Questions about registration, housing, social events, field trips, workshops, tours, and any other aspect of the conference should be directed to:

- The BSA Conference Director: Johanne Stogran, BSA Conference Office, 2813 Blossom Avenue, Columbus, Ohio 43231, USA. Tele: 614.899.9356, Fax: 614.895.7866, E-mail: johanne@botany.org.