Dr. George B. Cummins, 1904-2007

Prof. George Baker Cummins, Past-President and last living charter member of the Mycological Society of America, died 30th March, 2007 in Tucson, Arizona at the age of 102. Cummins' professional specialty for almost his entire career was the taxonomy, biology and geographic distribution of the rust fungi (Uredinales, now known as Pucciniales); a group of more than 7000 species of obligate plant parasites, which he studied in the internationally renowned...
J. C. Arthur Herbarium at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. Cummins published nearly 120 peer-reviewed papers and ten books, the most recent at the age of 98! For his authoritative and vast scientific productivity, he was recognized as the world’s foremost authority on the rust fungi.

In addition to his vast contributions to the science of Mycology, George (to his many colleagues and students) provided great service to the Mycological Society of America, in which he held all the offices of the Society, including President in 1946. He became a life member of MSA in 1967 and was granted the highest award of the Society, the Distinguished Mycologist Award, in 1981, the first year of the award.

George was an integral part of the School of Agriculture at Purdue University where he ably served as department member and department head. Purdue University honored this service in 1981 by awarding George an honorary doctoral degree. His achievements were also honored by Montana State University where he was granted an honorary doctoral degree in 1963, and the Banco Nacional of Mexico, which named him “Mencion honorifica” in 1982. Dr. Charles Bracker, upon his own retirement from Purdue University, held a distinguished professorship that he named the George B. Cummins Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Mycology in honor of George.

It is not certain whether George gained the distinction of oldest mycologist, but he definitely merited the title “Oldest Uredinologist” (the previous “record holder”, the Swiss mycologist Eugéné Mayor, died in 1976 at the age of 99). George produced a remarkable 73 years worth of continually cited papers that have relevance today. George Cummins will be sorely missed by all who knew him or use his work.

Source: Based on information from a Mycological Society of America symposium at Asheville, NC, in July 2004, “Symbiosis after 100 years honouring George Baker Cummins” and other materials written in the year of his 100th birthday supplied by Robert L. Gilbertson, Markus Scholler, and Meredith Blackwell.

Cathie Aime
cathie@nt.ars-grin.gov

Join MSA
and live to be 100

MSA poster (2004) used to recruit students showing George Cummins collecting rust fungi on Sonoran Desert plants (ca. 1980).
Greetings! It’s spring, morels are popping up here in the Midwest, the Deep Hypha issue of Mycologia should be in your hands by the time you read this, the AFTOL article in Mycological Research is in press, lots of people are already registered for this year’s MSA meeting in Baton Rouge (but the more the better), and there was great participation in the recently completed MSA election, so all is well in the mycological world.

While we hold you in suspense regarding the outcome of the election until the business meeting at the Annual Meeting, I am pleased to report that all of the by-law changes were approved. This includes the formation of the new Membership Committee. Expanding membership in the MSA is critical to the continued success and impact of the Society. Maren Klich (mklich@srrc.ars.usda.gov) is serving as chair of that committee and Rich Baird (rbaird@plantpath.msstate.edu) will continue on the committee as the point person for Sustaining Memberships (thanks Maren and Rich!). We’ll be adding two additional members to the committee in the near future. For now, send your ideas for attracting new members and ways to better serve our current members to Maren, Rich, or any of the officers. Your help in this important task will be invaluable – spread the word, encourage your students and colleagues to join, and provide us with suggestions on how we can better serve our current members and reach out to new ones. Mycology is thriving, and with your ongoing support, the MSA can enhance its role in encouraging, leading, and facilitating mycological research throughout the world.

Greg Mueller
President
gmueller@fieldmuseum.org

MSA Council has completed one email poll since my last report, approving the following:

• MSA Executive Council poll 2007-01: It was moved by Mycologia ME Jeffrey Stone and seconded by President Mueller that Executive Council authorize HighWire to create a link to JSTOR via the Mycologia webpage at HighWire. Background: Mycologia back content is now up and running on JSTOR. The next step is to make a link to JSTOR via the Mycologia page at HighWire. This will require working with someone at JSTOR to develop and test this mechanism. This effort will incur a development/testing cost in the range of $1500-2000. Approved.

New Members: It is my pleasure to extend a warm welcome to the following new (or re-turning) members. New memberships will be formally approved by the Society at the Annual Business Meeting in Baton Rouge in August 2007.

• Canada: Damon Ryan Dewsbury, Rafic Dulymanmode, Daniel Durall, Alison Fischer
• Germany: Frank Kauff
• Puerto Rico: Carmen Teresa Acevedo, Felix Emanuel Rivera-Marianni
• Spain: Dario Suarez Gracia
• Thailand: Itthayakorn Promputtha
• United States: Alan R Biggs, Olga Blinkova, Emily Cantonwine, Preeti Chaudhary, Naveed Davoodian, Ana Alice Eleuterio, Glenn Freeman, Chris Karch, Ryan Michael Kepler, David McNeill, George K. Mugambi, Bernadette D O’Reilly, Edwin Rene Palencia, Anne Pringle, Jean B. Ristaino,
EMERITUS CANDIDATES: There have been no applications for emeritus status. Emeritus status is conferred upon retired or retiring members who have at least 15 years good standing with the Society.

DEATHS: I am deeply saddened to report the recent deaths of two venerable mycologists: **Dr. George Baker Cummins**, President of the MSA 1946-47 and the oldest living charter member of the Society, on March 30th (see article, this issue); and **Dr. Tsuguo Hongo**, long time member of the MSA and Honorary member since 2003, on April 1st. Dr. Hongo was a distinguished Japanese mycologist who worked primarily on systematics and biogeography of Agaricales. Dr. Hongo received his doctoral degree from Kyoto University and held the position of Professor at Shiga University in Otsu City (near Kyoto), until his retirement. He served as President of the Japanese Mycological Society from 1987-1988. Throughout his career Dr. Hongo made numerous substantial contributions to agaricology, including the publication of over 200 taxa and several lushly illustrated field guides and books on Japanese mushrooms. Throughout his long and illustrious career Dr. Hongo maintained extensive communications with mycologists around the world, and was always a welcoming host in Japan.

REMINDER: MSA DIRECTORY UPDATE: Is your information up-to-date in the MSA directory? The Society is relying more and more on email to bring you the latest MSA news, awards announcements and other timely information, and our newsletter. To ensure that you receive Society blast emails and the *Inoculum* as soon as it comes out, and so that your colleagues can keep in touch, please check the accuracy of your email address and contact information in the online directory. This can be accessed via our web site at [www.msfungi.org](http://www.msfungi.org). If you need assistance with updating your membership information, or help with your membership log-in ID and password, please contact our Association Manager at Allen Press, the always-helpful Kay Rose at krose@alenpress.com.

**Cathie Aime**
MSA Secretary
cathie@nt.ars-grin.gov

**MSA DONORS’ HONOR ROLL: SPECIAL THANKS**

Special thanks are due to Jean Boise Cargill, whose name was inadvertently and regretfully omitted from the MSA Donors’ Honor Roll for FY2006. On behalf of the MSA Endowment Committee, I would like to extend a very special thank you to Jean for her generous donations to the Margaret Barr Bigelow Fund and the unrestricted endowment in August, 2005. These donations help keep our society strong and provide a critical resource for encouraging the growth of mycology as a field. Thank you, Jean, for your tremendous support of the MSA.

**Betsy Arnold**
arold@ag.arizona.edu

**MSA AUCTION IS COMING SOON**

It’s never too soon to think about donating your mycological treasures to the MSA Auction! Out-of-print mycology books, historical photographs of mycologists, and photos and illustrations of mushrooms and other fungi are always popular — and items ranging from mycological t-shirts to myco-kitsch are more than welcome. Remember that the auction proceeds go to the MSA General Endowment Fund, which supports student fellowships and travel to meetings. Please notify Betsy Arnold (arnold@ag.arizona.edu) of the items you plan to donate so that we can compile a catalog. Donated items may be brought to the meeting registration area or mailed to M. Blackwell, Department of Biological Sciences, LSU, Baton Rouge LA 70803. Thank you!

**Betsy Arnold**
arold@Ag.arizona.edu
President’s Mid-Year Report

These past 5 months have been busy and have gone by very quickly. The first task of the president is to recruit volunteers to participate in the society through committee activities. In my case, I had nearly 30 committee slots to fill – but the process was not as difficult as I had feared due to our members’ willingness to serve the MSA. The MSA functions because of the hard work and dedication of outstanding volunteers – my belief that the MSA is a vital society is continually reinforced by the enthusiasm of the membership.

There were three major themes that received the bulk of my attention during this period: planning for the 2007 meeting in Baton Rouge, publications (Mycologia, Inoculum and our website) and membership issues.

Thanks to the incredible hard work of local program coordinator, Meredith Blackwell, and the program committee chaired by Gerry Adams, the 2007 meeting is on track to be a great success – both scientifically and socially. Preparing for the meeting also provided the impetus to develop and refine some of the logistics that we need for all meetings; Secretary Karen Snetselaar and her husband Mike McCann developed a terrific, easy-to-use online meeting registration tool – this has drastically reduced registration costs for this and upcoming meetings, and David Geiser refined the abstract submission page which now works great. These changes not only will benefit this year’s meeting but future meetings as well – THANKS! Executive Council also agreed to waive the registration fee for non-USA and Canadian members who present in symposia. Lastly, there have been discussions with Meredith Blackwell, Don Pfister (MSA Historian), and Vice-President Roy Halling about how best to celebrate the society’s 75th Anniversary.

The Deep Hypha issue of Mycologia will be out soon! Thanks go out to everyone involved with this important milestone. Don Natvig (Editor-in-Chief) and his staff, and Jeff Stone (Managing Editor) have been instrumental for keeping the quality of the journal at the highest level and for making progress in getting publication back on time. Inoculum is in great hands with its new editor, Jinx Campbell (see her report). Except for 121 people that have not provided email addresses, Inoculum will now be distributed only via the MSA website. The MSA Website has a new webmaster, Kathie Hodge. She has great ideas to improve an already excellent resource.

While the MSA in 2007 is made up of an enthusiastic and dedicated membership and our public products (Mycologia, Inoculum and website) are first-rate, the society faces several important challenges. First, MSA continues to see a slow but fairly steady decline in members. This is somewhat surprising given the growth in the number of scientists working on various aspects of fungal biology. To help address this, a proposal to form a Membership Committee has been submitted to membership for approval. It will be critically important for this committee to make new contacts and to recommend ways to attract and retain new members. Council will need to be receptive to the committee’s recommendations and be proactive in implementing initiatives to increase membership. Individual members can also greatly help in this matter, for example, Steve Harris, Councilor for Genetics and Cell Biology, is bringing information on the Deep Hypha issue of Mycologia and MSA to the FGB meeting in Asilomar. The second set of challenges revolves around Mycologia. Mycologia is the leading general mycology journal in the world, with production quality and quality of papers second to none. However, we need to focus attention on the user experience of submitters and reviewers as well as continue to push to get publication dates on track. Mycological Research and other journals are making a concerted effort to attract authors, both by soliciting manuscripts and by improving the ease of the submission and review process. We need to take advantage of the Deep Hypha issue to advertise Mycologia, reach out to potential authors, and ensure a good user experience for our members.

Lastly, I want to thank Cathie Aime, Secretary, and Karen Snetselaar, Treasurer, for their outstanding work on behalf of the society and for helping me. The President’s job would not be possible without them.

Submitted by Gregory M. Mueller

President-Elect’s Midyear Report

Efforts have been made to invite the Lichenological and Bryological Societies to meet with the Mycological Society at the 2011 meetings in Fairbanks, Alaska. To this point, no confirmations have been made. The President-Elect will organize a mycological photo contest at the Annual Meetings in Baton Rouge to help raise funds for the society and help celebrate the 75th anniversary of the society.

Submitted by Don Hemmes

Vice President’s Midyear Report

By the February 15, 2007 nomination deadline for MSA Council positions, 74 nominations for Vice President, Treasurer and Councilor posts were received from MSA membership. 23 nominations were received from the Nominations Committee chaired by Linda Kohn. Candidates for Treasurer were the most difficult to fill. Once a ballot was established, arrangements were made with Kay Rose (at the MSA Business website) for posting an electronic ballot beginning 27 February to run for 6 weeks. Three amendments to the By-laws will also appear on the ballot.

Submitted by Roy E. Halling

Continued on following page
MSA BUSINESS

Secretary’s Midyear Report

This report presents secretarial activities conducted between August 2006 and February 2007. My deepest appreciation goes to Past-Secretary Faye Murrin for her continued assistance during this transition period and to MSA Council, especially President Mueller, Vice President Halling, and Treasurer Snetselaar who have been extraordinarily helpful and patient.

1. Assisted President Gregory Mueller in filling positions on the 2006-2007 Society Roster, including approximately 27 new appointments. Sent the new Roster to newsletter Editor Jinx Campbell for publication in Inoculum 58(1) 2007 and to webmaster Kathie Hodge for posting on the MSA website.

2. Moderated email correspondence with Full Council and Executive Council including five email polls. Council voted the approval of: (1) two new Mycologia Associate Editors for the term 2007-2009: Peter Letcher and Steve Harris; (2) the appointment of Kerry O’Donnell to serve on the Editorial Advisory Committee for 2006-2011; (3) the addition of a $15-25 supplement to registration fees for the 2007 annual meeting to be used to cover registration costs of non-USA & Canadian MSA members presenting in this year’s annual meeting symposia; and (4) the nomination of Patrick Keeling to give this year’s Karling Lecture at the MSA Annual Meeting in Baton Rouge, August 2007.

3. Moderated, along with President Mueller, the approval and editing of blast emails sent out to Society members on behalf of the MSA. These included: (1) a call for Symposia proposals for the 2007 MSA meeting in Baton Rouge, originating from Program Chair Gerry Adams; (2) a call and a reminder for MSA Awards nominations and applications, originating from Awards Coordinator Faye Murrin; (3) a call for nominations for council, originating from Vice President Roy Halling; (4) the Spring Ballot, including six council positions and three by-law amendments, originating from Vice President Halling; and (5) MSA 2007 annual meeting announcement and deadline dates, originating from Program Chair Adams.

4. Assisted President Mueller in organizing the midyear Executive Council meeting in Chicago, scheduled for March 3rd, by polling Executive Council and guests for date preferences, arranging accommodations and meeting room with the venue, helping to prepare the agenda for the meeting, and other arrangements.

5. Issued a call to all Society Officers, Councillors, committee Chairs and Society representatives, Inoculum Editor, Webmaster, Allen Press Representative, and 2007 and 2008 Annual Meeting Coordiators, for midyear reports and agenda items in preparation for the midyear Council meeting. In total, received seven reports and one formal motion. Compiled reports and motions along with an updated Society Roster, agenda, and minutes from previous two Council meetings in a package for distribution electronically prior to the meeting and by hard copy at the meeting.

6. Prepared three Email Express columns for publication in Inoculum. Columns included new members and emeritus candidate lists supplied monthly by Kay Rose of Allen Marketing and Management, and summaries of Council activities.

7. Assisted in the publication in Inoculum of announcements for Call for Nominations and Call for Awards applications.

8. Responded to routine correspondence on a wide variety of issues. In total, responded to more than 820 emails relating to MSA business.

Submitted by Cathie Aime

Treasurer’s Midyear Report

General financial situation: The bottom line for fiscal 2005-2006 showed a net profit of $19,414. Total assets increased from $584,783 to $598,944. Because of the way we do our accounting, interpreting the balance sheets is a little complex. Most of the “profit” was due to contributions to the Endowment ($17,862). Note that total expenses for 2005–2006 were up more than 50K over 2004, while revenue was down by 11K. This is mainly due to high expenses for Mycologia and a drop in revenues because of a slight drop in both subscriptions and memberships, while there was only a very small increase in individual subscription rates. In 2004 we only paid for four issues of Mycologia, while in fiscal 2005 we paid for only five. Because the journal is still running late, we are still “behind” on paying for issues (there are six per year). We have a couple more years of higher than normal expenses coming up. At some point it would be good to separate the operating budget from the endowment budget for some reporting purposes so it would be easier to track where we are with respect to the operating budget. At the very least we should report separately a budget for Mycologia.

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Revenue</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>Difference</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contributions</td>
<td>17,862</td>
<td>12,184</td>
<td>5678</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dues and Subscriptions</td>
<td>294,122</td>
<td>288,904</td>
<td>5218</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dividends and interest</td>
<td>23,716</td>
<td>21,113</td>
<td>2603</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net income (loss)</td>
<td>19,414</td>
<td>39,012</td>
<td>-19,598</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Revenue</td>
<td>355,114</td>
<td>361,213</td>
<td>-6099</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Expenses</th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>Difference</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Services</td>
<td>350,702</td>
<td>295,121</td>
<td>55,581</td>
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<tr>
<td>Management and General</td>
<td>1,750</td>
<td>4,211</td>
<td>-2,461</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fundraising</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>-50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Expenses</td>
<td>352,452</td>
<td>299,382</td>
<td>53,070</td>
</tr>
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Net assets or fund balances:

<table>
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<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2005</th>
<th>2004</th>
<th>Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Excess (deficit) for the year</td>
<td>2,662</td>
<td>51,831</td>
<td>-59,169</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net balance at beg. of year</td>
<td>584,783</td>
<td>512,730</td>
<td>72,053</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other changes in net assets</td>
<td>11,499</td>
<td>10,222</td>
<td>1,277</td>
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<tr>
<td>Net assets at end of year</td>
<td>598,944</td>
<td>584,783</td>
<td>14,161</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued on following page
**Meeting finances:** For the second year in a row the MSA showed a net loss on the meeting. This was not unexpected, and it was due to support provided for symposia. It is especially important to provide support for quality symposia when we meet with other groups, as we have in the past two years. For the next two years, we are meeting alone (in Baton Rouge and at Penn State in PA). At meetings organized by the MSA we generally do not lose money.

**Publication finances:** *Mycologia* expenses increased very quickly in 2003-4 and 2004-5. In 2004-2005 some 200 pages more than usual were published, as the backlog of manuscripts was reduced. The extra expense incurred in publishing these extra pages created a short-term problem for the *Mycologia* budget, which has been addressed by reducing page numbers for the current year. Other increased publication costs have created long-term challenges. A comparison of all mycology journals showed that *Mycologia* subscription rates seemed to be far below other journals that have far less impact. Based on a recent ISI article, *Mycologia* ranks 5th of all Mycology journals for the period 1981-2004, and it ranked 5th for 2003 alone. We need to advertise the long-term success of the journal. The Managing Editor has put in place a plan for gradually increasing subscription rates. At the same time, a discount for subscribers who utilize subscription services has been implemented. This seems to be working; so far in 2006-2007, about the same number of institutions have renewed as last year at this time. Note, however, that the long-term subscription trend is still downward. We need to put in place a five-year budget plan for *Mycologia* that is adjusted annually based on subscription income and other factors and includes spending priorities for enhancements to the journal. The world of academic publishing is in a state of transition. It is important that we keep up with current events in this area, and that we consider development opportunities for the appropriate members of the editorial staff.

**Membership:** In fiscal 2005 both institutional and membership numbers were down slightly. However, financially we are staying very slightly ahead because of increases in subscription rates (see graphs).

As far as 2006-2007 is concerned, so far we are quite a bit below where we were last year at the same time (end of Feb.) in terms of membership renewals, although as stated previously we have about the same number of paid subscriptions. There is quite a bit of variation in the dates when memberships and subscriptions are paid, so this doesn’t mean too much.

**Endowment finances:** The endowment contributions continue to be very strong. Member contributions to the restricted endowments have increased every year for at least the past several years. The newly established Orson Miller Mentor Travel fund is already at nearly $10,000. Contributions to the unrestricted endowment have been up and down but generally quite strong for the past several years as well.

*Submitted by Karen Snetselaar*
MSA BUSINESS

Inoculum Editor’s Mid-Year Report

I took over as editor of Inoculum in December 2006. My first issue was 58(1), which came out January 1, 2007. I would like to thank the previous Editor, Richard Baird, and the Production Manager, Robyn Hearn, and his team at MSU for their hard work in making the transition a smooth one.

Production: Production of Inoculum is currently $4000 a year and this is carried out at MSU. Inoculum went to an on-line only format beginning with issue 58(1). As such, printing is reduced from 1400 hard copies to ~121 copies for members who do not have web access. The production team at MSU will carry out printing and mailing at a cost of around $1200 per annum, depending on the page size of each edition. This is a great saving over the current cost of printing at Allen Press of $14,000 per annum.

Journal workload: Each issue of Inoculum averages 26 pages. It is produced bimonthly. Regular sections in each issue include MSA Business, including a message from the President and the Secretary of the Society, and Mycologist’s Bookshelf, which contains reviews of newly published books. There is a feature article on the front page, which has covered many different aspects of mycology, for example, reports on people and institutes, the history of mycology in Hawaii, a report on the bioquest in the Great Smoky Mountains, a rebuttal, and articles on myxomycetes and oomycetes, have all been covered. Additionally Inoculum publishes news about upcoming symposia, conferences and workshops, and circulates information on awards, nominations, endowments and honors.

Page Charges: We do not have page charges for submission to Inoculum. There are no plans to introduce these.

Color Illustrations: Color illustrations are encouraged now that we have an on-line only format.

Submitted by Jinx Campbell

MSA Webmaster’s Report

I move that the Society: a) transition to a new hosting service, Lunarpages, in Spring/Summer 2007; b) develop sleeker web pages using wordpress to streamline maintenance and manage content. BACKGROUND: The website is MSA’s public face. It is critical for recruiting new members and giving the impression that we are a fresh, dynamic organization. MSA needs a web facelift, but we don’t have a lot of money to spend on web development. Furthermore, we need an “easy” website interface, because we’d still like to run this operation using volunteers.

Current situation: The current MSA website is functional, but not beautiful. It can be updated through hand-written HTML. Our current internet service provider does not supply tools that would permit a different approach, and lacks good customer service.

Possible solutions: A) (Preferred, and so moved): Use a Content Management System to render the MSA website. These systems separate site content from site design. Once a site layout is in place, content can be altered through a simple web interface. Conversely, site-wide changes to layout can be implemented without hand-coding many different pages. B) Hire a professional web development firm to manage the MSA web pages. I haven’t investigated costs on this, but I suspect they would be prohibitive. C) Continue to manage the pages using hand-coded HTML. Roy Halling set up the current page design and it is functional and fairly simple to manage. We could continue without major changes, perhaps enhancing the site with new imagery. When I started as Webmaster in Fall 06, I developed a draft, css-coded layout. However, it is extremely dense with code and therefore difficult to update content. I no longer think this is the way to go.

Therefore, I propose we switch to a different internet service provider, Lunarpages, that provides more services than our present provider, your-site. Lunarpages costs are $2 higher per month ($6.95 per month based on a 24 month pre-paid subscription vs. the $5 we are currently paying). Key enhancements are improved customer support and the ability to install free content management systems. The change to Lunarpages will permit migration of the website from hand-coded HTML to a content management system, Wordpress. Wordpress is blogging software that separates page content from site design. Once the site is assembled, the MSA webmaster and MSA officers can alter page content without knowledge of HTML. Wordpress offers RSS feeds, which allow members to subscribe to periodical news updates and/or job listings.

Why Wordpress?: Wordpress is blogging software. It is free and in extremely widespread use. Many custom, free layouts exist (Wordpress Themes), and there is a large online support community. The blogging features of Wordpress make it easy to maintain frequently updated items like job listings and meeting announcements, and users can subscribe to receive updates if they wish. Alternatives to Wordpress are Drupal and Joomla (both also freely available through Lunarpages, but both have a steeper learning curve). I use Wordpress to manage my blog (the Cornell Mushroom Blog), which I designed and developed with help from the Cornell IT group. Although Cornell won’t support the MSA site, I can find help here now and then. See the Appendix (pg X) for a look at the Wordpress interface and my draft site layout, which I am developing on my own Lunarpages account (so incidentally, I can vouch for the service provider).

Costs: There is no cost for site design, which will be done by the webmaster. We would abandon our old service provider, your-site.com, which seems moribund to me, in that they take 2 days to respond to customer service inquiries and offer no enhancements beyond a basic web server. I believe we currently pay $5/month for your-site. [Adding Wordpress to our service is possible for an additional $3.97/month, but it does not solve the customer service prob-
We would subscribe to Lunarpages, which requires up-front payment of a two year subscription at $6.95/month. As part of the subscription, Lunarpages will also assume annual payments for registration of our domain name, MSAfungi.org (this saves us a bit of money; I do not know the current cost).

**Timeline:** Transitioning the site is time-consuming, including the following steps:

1. Finalize website layout in Wordpress—Spring 07
2. Migrate content by hand—Spring 07
3. Subscribe to Lunarpages.com—Summer 07
4. Go live (Lunarpages transfers the domain name—Summer 07

Once the transition has been made, maintenance of the site is straightforward.

*Submitted by Kathie T. Hodge*

**Report from Abstract Submission Site Manager**

The abstract site is up and running for the 2007 meeting. Izabela Makalowska updated it — it is similar to the old version, but on a new server, and hopefully more reliable and browser-compatible than the previous version. It is also more open so that I can get it restarted next year without having to ask her. Kathie Hodge posted a link on the MSA website and hopefully the abstracts will start trickling in.

*Submitted by Kathie T. Hodge*

**Report from 2007 Local Organizing Committee**

Everything is set as in previous report, except for booking a bus for the foray and checking on taxi service telephone numbers for reserving ahead. The meeting will not pay for a bus or van for airport to campus travel. The bus and phone numbers will be determined in April or May in time for a last minute (~18 July) meeting BLAST with final instructions.

After consulting with several long time members I decided not to get a brief case or special bag. There will be a folder for a few hand-outs and the program book, but those attending should be told to recycle a bag from another meeting. Many people who bring computers will already have a bag.

**Finalized arrangements**

**Registration:** Lobby of Life Sciences Building with adjacent auditorium for showing of the 75th MSA Anniversary slide show (Don Pfister and Meredith Blackwell).

**Meeting rooms:** Choppin Hall, four rooms on second floor (elevator accessible), each with 130 seat capacity; one room on first floor with 300 seat capacity.

**Posters:** French House with box lunches; noon - 1:30; 6, 7, 8, and 9 August. MEMBERS SHOULD BE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO BUY THE BOX LUNCH OPTION.

**Business Breakfast:** 8 August 2007, 8-9:30 am, Faculty Club.

**Social and Auction:** 9 August 2007, 6-10 pm, Faculty Club; there will be a Mardi Gras theme with a band for the first 1-2 hours of the social.

**Housing:**
- East Campus Apartments
- The Lod Cook Hotel
- Faculty Club for those who do not want to walk far in the August heat

**Field Trip:** Vicinity of St. Francisville Louisiana (David Lewis and Meredith Blackwell).

**Funding:** $2000 College of Basic Sciences, Kevin Carman, Dean; $2000 Department of Biological Sciences, Terry Bricker, Chairperson. Additional funding will pay for symposia on gene expression (Louise Glass, organizer) and bar-coding (John Taylor, organizer).

*Submitted by Meredith Blackwell*

**Report from 2008 Local Organizing Committee**

On Feb 23rd I met with our local Outreach people, Janet Patterson and Nancy Eckard, about the 2008 meeting. The dates we have held are Aug 10-13, although we are looking into the possibility of running a schedule similar to that for the 2007 meeting, where Council meets on Sat Aug 9, the foray is on Sun Aug 10, and we have three full days of talks/etc on Aug 11-13.

Our full local arrangements committee is scheduled to meet on March 29th. We have submitted our proposal from 2005 and our preliminary budget. We are having discussions now as we go through the details for it, and we know that there are many things that need to be changed. The biggest question I have is about our proposed registration costs ($395/$445 for regular members, $195/$245 for students) and whether that is considered workable. We will do what we can to bring that down a bit. On the positive side, Penn State has a very professional conferences group and I expect that we will get quality service. Those proposed registration fees include the mixer, social and breakfast.

I will happily consider any input from Council on the 2008 meeting. I think people will enjoy it!

*Submitted by David Geiser*
Minutes of the MSA 2007 Midyear Council Meeting

Saturday, March 3, 2007
Palmer House Hilton
Chicago, Illinois

CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES
1. The 2007 mid-year Executive Council Meeting was called to order by President Gregory M. Mueller at 8:30 am in the Clark 9 Meeting Room of the Palmer House Hilton, Chicago Illinois. All MSA Executive members were present: President Gregory M. Mueller, President-Elect Don E. Hemmes, Vice President Roy E. Halling, Past President James B. Anderson, Treasurer Karen Snetselaar, and Secretary Cathie Aime, Mycologist. The meeting was open to all MSA members and was adjourned at 11:00 am. The meeting was recorded by Secretary Faye Marrin and Council for the lack of a written report and proceeded with a summary of the financial status of the Society. It is uncertain at this time how the recent stock market ups and downs have affected the Society. We’ve been finding better rates in Certificates of Deposit (CDs), for which interest rates have been going up. He explained that the current strategy is simply to be defensive, and that we should continue to spend the Endowment interest each year on awards.

2. President Mueller presented his report [Inoculum 58(3)]. The majority of President’s efforts have been in three main areas: the annual meeting, publications, and ways to increase and maintain Society membership. He gratefully acknowledged that the Baton Rouge meeting is run by volunteers, and that the Society may not be able to cover all of our membership fees do appear to be going to publications, especially Mycologia, perhaps more than is true for other societies. It was recognized that the subscription rates need to reflect the quality of the journal, and a discussion ensued of how to make subscription fees eventually cover more of the publishing costs for Mycologia. Treasurer Snetselaar also discussed the cyclical nature of annual meeting expenses; MSA tends to make money on stand-alone meetings and to lose money on joint meetings; we should be making money over the next few annual meetings, which may be used to increase membership. The newly established Orson K. Miller fund is doing well and the Endowment, in addition to the MSA fees, pays for Computer Science with Allen Press what it costs to provide on-line only subscriptions to Mycologia.

3. President-Elect Hemmes reported [Inoculum 58(3)] that he is continuing in his efforts to arrange a joint meeting with the Lichenological and Bryological Societies to meet with the Mycological Society at the 2011 meetings in Fairbanks, Alaska, and potential contact individuals were discussed. He also reported on arrangements for a photo contest, as well as efforts to obtain photographs of all past MSA Distinguished Mycologists, as part of the MSA’s 75th anniversary celebration, which will be announced by Blast email.

4. Vice President Halling presented his report [Inoculum 58(3)] on the spring budget. He thanked the Nominations Committee, chaired by Linda Kohn, for their timely submission of a slate of candidates. All candidates have been contacted and the Spring Ballot is now in place; voting will cease on April 10.

5. Secretary Aime presented her report [Inoculum 58(3)] and thanked Faye Marrin and Council for easing the transition period between Secretaries. Action to be taken (by Secretary Aime): to contact Kay Rose at Allen Press to ascertain what is currently being included in the new member packet.

FINANCIAL AND PUBLICATION REPORTS
6. Treasurer Snetselaar presented her report [Inoculum 58(3)], the highlights of which included the following. She has begun preparing for the transitional duties, given that there is a steep learning curve to the post of Treasurer. For instance, it is difficult to present an accurate budget for just one meeting, as meeting expenses don’t fall under a single fiscal year. However, much of our membership fees do appear to be going to publications, especially Mycologia, perhaps more than is true for other societies. It was recognized that the subscription rates need to reflect the quality of the journal, and a discussion ensued of how to make subscription fees eventually cover more of the publishing costs for Mycologia. Treasurer Snetselaar also discussed the cyclical nature of annual meeting expenses; MSA tends to make money on stand-alone meetings and to lose money on joint meetings; we should be making money over the next few annual meetings, which may be used to increase membership. The newly established Orson K. Miller fund is doing well and the Endowment, in general, set new records this year. However, membership numbers are down compared to the same time period last year. A discussion ensued of the timing of membership renewal notices with agreement that the Secretary should modify the future, and that membership fees do appear to be going to publications, especially Mycologia, perhaps more than is true for other societies. It was recognized that the subscription rates need to reflect the quality of the journal, and a discussion ensued of how to make subscription fees eventually cover more of the publishing costs for Mycologia. Treasurer Snetselaar also discussed the cyclical nature of annual meeting expenses; MSA tends to make money on stand-alone meetings and to lose money on joint meetings; we should be making money over the next few annual meetings, which may be used to increase membership. Council has discussed the issue of the lack of a written report and proceeded with a summary of the financial status of the Society. It is uncertain at this time how the recent stock market ups and downs have affected the Society. We’ve been finding better rates in Certificates of Deposit (CDs), for which interest rates have been going up. He explained that the current strategy is simply to be defensive, and that we should continue to spend the Endowment interest each year on awards.

7. Finance Committee Chair Stone apologized for the lack of a written report and proceeded with a summary of the financial status of the Society. It is uncertain at this time how the recent stock market ups and downs have affected the Society. We’ve been finding better rates in Certificates of Deposit (CDs), for which interest rates have been going up. He explained that the current strategy is simply to be defensive, and that we should continue to spend the Endowment interest each year on awards.

8. The report of Inoculum Editor Jinx Campbell [Inoculum 58(3)] was accepted. Council expressed its thanks for her continued important work on behalf of the Society and in supervising the switch from a print-based to primarily online newsletter.

9. The report of Webmaster Kathie Hodge [Inoculum 58(3)] included one motion for consideration by Council: Motion: (approved unanimously) moved by Webmaster Hodge and seconded by President Mueller that the Society: a) Transition to a new hosting service, Lunarpages, in Spring/Summer 2007, and, b) Develop sleeker web pages using WordPress to streamline maintenance and manage content.

10. The report of Managing Editor Stone included the following items. JSTOR is ready for release in March; once released, Mycologia will be available in fully searchable form. A discussion followed on how to provide authentication to JSTOR for MSA members and on how usage charges will be assessed and tracked. It was also noted that since all back content starting in 1885 will be available on-line, the Society should then consider drastically reducing our inventory of back-issues, which costs us money to maintain in storage with Allen Press. It was also noted that other Societies have disposed of the majority of their back-issues once back content becomes available on-line. ME Stone also solicited discussion on how much to charge for single article pay-per-view, noting that JSTOR will charge $4 in addition to the MSA fees.

Motion: (approved unanimously) moved by Past President Anderson and seconded by Vice President Halling that the Society no longer maintain an extensive back issue inventory of Mycologia. This will proceed by a) placing an announcement in Inoculum and a
11. The report of Mycologia Editor-in-Chief Cathie Aime highlighted the good news that the special Deep Hypha issue of Mycologia is being printed, and commended the hard work of Meredith Blackwell and Joey Spatafora in overseeing the entire issue. There followed a lengthy discussion of the pros and cons of the AllenTrack system currently used for submission and handling of Mycologia manuscripts. It was agreed that improving the journal’s interface with authors should be given first priority, including the inclusion of explicit on-line instructions to facilitate the submission process.

Action to be taken (by Vice President Halling): to review/audit the system we use for handling manuscripts intended for Mycologia, from submission to final acceptance, including the solicitation of ideas and input from members of the Mycologia Editorial Advisory Committee.

Action to be taken (by ME Stone): will walk through the on-line submission process and make suggestions for text instructions that can be posted on the submission pages.

12. President Mueller informed Council of three issues regarding the International Mycological Association (IMA). MSA’s IMA representative, John Taylor, has been elected Vice President of IMA; it was decided that Taylor should continue to act as MSA representative to IMA. Pedro Crous of Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures (CBS, Utrecht, The Netherlands) intends to revitalize the international journal Studies in Mycology, which could fill the niche left by Mycological Memoirs, and has asked that this be announced in an upcoming issue of Inoculum. Finally, it was discussed and determined not to require deposit of taxonomic/publication data in MycoBank as a condition of publication in Mycologia at this point in time.

Action to be taken (by Secretary Aime): to contact [a suggested member] to write a short announcement for Inoculum about Studies in Mycology.

Action to be taken (by President Mueller): will contact Representative Taylor regarding Council’s decisions on these items.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

13. MSA 2007. The report of Meredith Blackwell, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee [Inoculum 58(3)] was gratefully received. President Mueller reported on the good progress being made on the program, noting that Deep Hypha will be funding two symposia in 2007, and that we will hold the social on the last day of the program this year, rather than in the middle.

14. MSA 2008-2010. The report of David Gelber, Chair of the Local Organizing Committee 2008 [Inoculum 58(3)] was gratefully received; there was unanimous agreement that the meeting is in good hands at Penn State. President Mueller confirmed that the 2009 meeting will be held in Snowbird, Utah, and that Bradley Kropp will be Local Organizing Chair. The 2010 meeting is scheduled for University of Kentucky in Lexington, with the possibility of a joint meeting with the grass endophyte meeting. President-Elect Hemmes reported that he will confirm specifics of the 2011 meeting, scheduled for Fairbanks, Alaska, with Local Organizer Gary Laursen.

OTHER BUSINESS

15. President Mueller solicited ideas with which to task the Membership Committee, should the election of the committee be approved by the membership in the Spring Ballot. These include gathering and tracking different types of membership data; design of effective membership recruitment brochures and posters; and advertising at other society meetings such as Fungal Genetics and Lichenology.

16. Vice President Halling opened discussion initiated by an MSA member who inquired whether a new Council position in Environmental Health and Medical Mycology should be created. However Council felt that there would not be enough membership interest to support a new position at this time.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30 pm

Cathie Aime, Secretary

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### Mycological Society of America — Gift Membership Form

Sponsoring a gift membership in MSA offers tangible support both for the recipient of the membership as well as for mycology in general. Providing both Mycologia and Inoculum, a gift membership is an excellent way to further the efforts of our mycological colleagues, especially those who cannot afford an MSA membership. In addition to a feeling of great satisfaction, you also will receive a convenient reminder for renewal of the gift membership the following year.

I want to provide an **MSA Gift Membership** to the following individual:

**Name**

**Institution**

**Complete Address**

**Phone**

**FAX**

**Email**

Please send renewal notices to:

**(YOUR name)**

**(YOUR address)**

**Phone**

**FAX**

**Email**

I agree to pay $98* for this membership by check (payable to MSA, drawn on US bank) __ VISA ___ Mastercard ___

**Acct. #** __________ Name (as it appears on card) ___________________________ Exp. date __________

Send this form to: MSA Business Office, PO Box 1897, Lawrence KS 66044 or FAX to (785) 843-1274, Attn: Processing Department

*If this membership is given after June 1, please add $10 to cover postage for past issues.
Dear fellow mycologists,

I am a volunteer with Mountain Justice Summer (www.MountainJusticeSummer.org), which is having a training camp May 20-27 at Narrow Ridge. I have been working for three years with MJS here in eastern TN north of Knoxville trying to stop mountain top removal coal mining in Appalachia. After reading Paul Stamet’s book “Mycelium Running” I decided to (re) introduce mycoremediation as a way to help generate soil on reclaimed mine sites in order to help heal the scars to the land. As mycologists, we are taking a stand against this destruction by calling for a halt to ALL new coal mining. Our goal is to put ourselves out of work by remediating all existing coal mining sites. This project has moved forward by leaps and bounds as we now have the support of a local Knoxville mycology company called Everything Mushrooms.com; a new store that opened on April 6, 2007 at 619 N. Broadway St. in Knoxville TN, (865) 329 7566. The owner, Bob Hess, is a very personable fellow who told me of all the community outreach opportunities that his business would love to participate in. We talked about the prospects and potential of soil generation on mine sites and decided that local species bordering the mine sites would be the optimal species as they are accustomed to the onsite pollution. We spoke of putting coal sludge into Petri dishes with local mycelium to see what happens. Bob offered to help create and catalog a culture bank of surviving specimens to aid in future mycoremediation of specific mine sites. He also offered use of the on site culture lab and autoclave equipment. A limited amount of fresh spawn would be donated, though this amount could increase with outside donations of grain or other suitable medium. Later that day I called local coffee roasters and found that they were willing to donate burlap bags for free. Free is the main idea here.

I think mine reclamation is a floundering enterprise because of a lack of top soil needed by mushrooms, the lack of cutting edge research and the unwillingness of modern reclamation experts to embrace mycoremediation. I recently attended a workshop at the Appalachian Studies Conference at Maryville College in TN. The workshop was put on by a member of a tree planting team at the University of Tennessee at Knoxville (UTK), which is supposed to be the leader in reclamation studies, though the program is actually funded by National Coal Company of Florida and other coal interests. The presenter said that only one in three trees planted on reclaimed mine sites survives; though I think the number is lower and that all trees had negative grown, meaning they had shrunk during the first 2 years after planting. When I asked about mycoremediation I was told that they added a small handful of mycelium to the soil around the tree but that was it. Afterwards I asked about using Paul Stamet’s burlap bag stuffed with woodchips process and the idea was completely shot down. I was told that only trees could generate soil. This is completely wrong and it is crazy that the idea could not get through the presenter’s head. So we are starting this process from the grassroots. I am looking for people who want to start up mycoremediation businesses; start this program in your community as a non or not for profit project, or come to TN and help out with our program. The mountains of Appalachia are calling you. Will you heed the call as I have and bury your heart deep in the soil?

Another aspect of our campaign to end mountain top removal is to help create alternative economies in these economically depressed areas that usually survive on or near mono economies of mining or logging. With the decline in coal mining, mycoremediation of these mined lands will provide much needed jobs. It is an ideal situation because we would be using mycelium already existing on the edge of the site, which is already acclimated to the climate, toxins and general environment. We therefore won’t have to introduce non acclimatized, non native species, allowing us to keep our startup costs lower. I, as well as many of you, know it is not that hard to propagate mushrooms, especially if you do not want to consume them or take them to
Timothy J. Baroni was promoted to the rank of Distinguished Professor of the State University of New York on 20 March 2007. This rank is the highest in the State University system and above the rank of Full Professor. The honor is only bestowed on faculty who have distinguished themselves in scholarship on an international scale. A candidate for this promotion is first reviewed at the local institution and if selected, the President of the Institution recommends the candidate for the next level of review. A panel of Distinguished Professors from throughout the SUNY system review the credentials and select those individuals in the SUNY system that qualify to be considered for the promotion. The final review of the candidates is vetted by the Board of Trustees of the State University of New York. Only five other faculty at SUNY - College at Cortland have ever been promoted to this level by Board of Trustees of the State University of New York. The last promotion to this rank was in 1999 (a Biologist) and before that in 1984 (an Artist) and in 1973 (English and Psychology). At least 12 prominent mycologists wrote letters to support Baroni’s promotion and he will be forever grateful to those individuals for their enthusiastic recommendations.

Tim Baroni
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Fig. 2. Mountaintop removal coal-mining has buried up to 2000 miles of Appalachian Streams. Many of these polluted and buried streams serve as tributaries to major American Rivers on both sides of the Continental Divide, emptying into both the Gulf and Atlantic Ocean. (Photo from www.appalachianvoices.org).

The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor or the MSA. Any comments or remarks should be directed to the author directly.

Timothy J. Baroni — Distinguished Professor

The Alternative Communities and Economics (Beyond Coal) conference is Nov 2-4, 2007 at the John 23rd Pastoral Center in Charleston, WV and we hope to be one of the community presenters. The general ideas are to look for economic development as a safety net for when mountain top removal (MTR) is abolished and/or when the coal is gone, and as an economic incentive to hasten the end of MTR, hopefully all without the “big business comes in, community becomes dependent on that business (polluting factory or whatever), that business oppresses community, community dies when business leaves” model. Rather than a mono-economy run by an outside corporation, we’d likely be having a few panels, hopefully at least one of which will be of successful home-grown businesses that provide goods and services we’ll need after the collapse—things like sustainable locally grown food (mushrooms and such), earth-friendly shelter, energy, etc.

If you would like to make a donation of money to aid in transport, time, live mushroom specimens, spore prints, wood chips, sawdust, burlap, hay or straw, know how, or just have a strong back with a weak mind, I would love to work with you. I hope you feel the same call to action that I have felt in trying to stop the destruction of the mountain soil, mushroom populations and clean water due to coal mining. Contact me at mattlandon2001@yahoo.com. Thanks. Matt.

Matt Landon
mattlandon2001@yahoo.com

market. This is the new job for the Appalachian laborers that does not require many skills.
I just read with great interest Nicholas Money’s article, “Miss Potter’s First Love”. As were many others, I, too, had been taught that Beatrix Potter believed in the symbiotic nature of lichens, and was turned away by the Victorian scientific elite for trying to present evidence that would support this hypothesis that Simon Schwenender proposed in the 1860s.

Since there is no surviving record of her studies, I went through her writings to try to get her beliefs in her own words. However, I was surprised to read in “Beatrix Potter’s Letters (published 1989; Frederick Warne, London), she wrote to Charles MacIntosh, the local expert on mosses and fungi, on Jan. 22, 1897, “You see we do not believe in Schwenender’s theory, and the older books say that the lichens pass gradually into hepaticas, through the foliaceous species. I should like very much to grow the spore of one of those large flat lichens, and also the spore of a real hepatica in order to compare the two ways of sprouting. The names do not matter as I can dry them. If you could get me any more spores of the lichen and the hepatica when the weather changes I should be very much obliged.”

This is the only record I know of that expresses her views clearly; that she believed that lichens are not a symbiosis, but, rather, a single organisms whose lineage evolved into liverworts, and that she was hoping to find ontogenetic evidence for this alleged evolutionary connection.

Her biographers got it wrong themselves in what Beat- rix Potter believed. For example, Leslie Linder, who trans- lated her code writing in “The Journal of Beatrix Potter,” (2nd ed., 1989; Frederick Warne, London) attempts to interpret her abstruse journal entry of Dec. 30, 1896 in a footnote, such that she believed in the symbiotic nature of lichens. However, Potter’s notes to herself actually make more sense in the context of her comments in the aforementioned letter. She viewed herself as an “old-fashioned lichenologist” who apparently cast doubt on Schwenender’s hypothesis, by asking “whether the algae had spores, too, or how they always came to be on hand.” This is the phraseology of a critic, and not of a believer.

Therefore, Beatrix Potter was not discriminated against for trying to promote an innovative idea, as the male establishment that would not accept her was also skeptical of Schwenender. Rather, she was excluded merely because she was a woman, which would make the sexism that she expe- rienced even more egregious.

While she was a great naturalist and botanical illustrator, she was actually a conservative in the face of what must have been an astounding assertion in the 1800s about the dual nature of lichens. I wanted dearly for her to be cleverer than the men who excluded her, but alas, she was as wrong as they were.

Scott Kroken
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The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Editor or the MSA. Any comments or remarks should be directed to the author directly.

**Mycologia Back Issues Added to JSTOR**

The electronic archiving service JSTOR has added the complete back run of Mycologia to its collection of journals in the biological sciences. Fully searchable electronic text of all articles published in Mycologia, including the Journal of Mycology (from 1885), can now be accessed through the JSTOR website (http://jstor.org). Mycologia began online publication with HighWire Press (http://mycologia.org) beginning with Volume 94 (2002), so online access to Mycologia content prior to Volume 94 is now available for the first time. Mycologia content will be continually added to the JSTOR collection with a moving wall of three years (current Volumes 94 and 95 are available through both HighWire and JSTOR).

JSTOR is a nonprofit organization supported by grants from the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation whose mission is to maintain an electronic archive of scholarly journals. JSTOR currently supports 669 online journals, comprising over 1.5 million articles and 22 million pages. Access to the JSTOR archive is available only through participating libraries or affiliated publishers. Currently there are about 600 libraries that have access to the JSTOR Biological Sciences Collection, which includes Mycologia. JSTOR maintains several collections in various disciplines that it markets separately to its participating libraries, so MSA members may have to ask their libraries to add the Biological Sciences Collection to their holdings in order to access Mycologia back content, even if the library already subscribes to other JSTOR collections. MSA members who do not have access to this collection through their institutional library will soon be able to access the Mycologia back content though a member username/password function that will be linked to the Mycologia HighWire Press website. Pay per view downloads will also be available from the Mycologia website for non MSA members for a nominal cost. We thank the libraries of Oregon State University and the University of Illinois at Urbana Champaign, which assisted with the loan of back issues for scanning.

Jeff Stone
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Aflatoxin and Food Safety


Aflatoxin and Food Safety is one in a series of food science and technology books that emphasizes the roles of aflatoxins in food crops and methods to control them. A list of contributors and a preface are followed by 27 chapters and an index. Each chapter is organized by an outline, text and references. Introductory chapters address the substantial costs of aflatoxins to society and agriculture, with subsequent chapters detailing aflatoxin perspectives to the specific countries of Africa, South America and Mexico. Although the authors discuss the levels of aflatoxins found in grains and humans, the current acceptable levels are not mentioned until chapter five to put the numbers into perspective.

Chapter five focuses on world-wide aflatoxin regulations comparing the regulations of acceptable mycotoxin levels in foods between various countries. Toxin production by Aspergillus flavus and A. parasiticus are also explained. Fungal ecology and the geographic soil density and distribution of species and the crops they affect are followed by the metabolic pathways involved in aflatoxin production. The black and white figures depict sterigmatocystin and secondary metabolites as well as representative gene and enzyme involvement.

Once the basis for aflatoxin production is discussed, two chapters address human health and cancer. These chapters may have fit better directly after the chapters of mycotoxin levels in foods since they do not seem to fit into the follow-up chapter of sampling and analysis.

Tables explain clean-up, chromatography methods, and detection limits of aflatoxins during sampling analysis. New immunochemical methods such as fiberoptics, resonance, test strips, and microbeads are examined, as well as feasible monitoring methods. Biological control of aflatoxins can utilize competitive bacteria, yeast, or fungi, as well as toxins produced by biological agents to inhibit the aflatoxin-producing fungi. Breeding corn and utilizing field and molecular biology techniques with quantitative trait loci to make crops resistant to insects (Bt corn, silk maysin) or stress is also included. The chapters also emphasize crop and insect management. Chemical detoxification (Chapter 26) seems a better fit next to sampling and analysis. Although some of the authors use the correct taxonomy, Fusarium moniliforme was used repeatedly throughout even though it is now known as F. verticillioides.

The language is appropriate for a reference book at the graduate level and higher, and is a relatively easy read. Many chapters have similar introductions, providing substantial redundancy. Since this book is a compilation and review of the current status of aflatoxins, the chapters did not always seem to flow in a logical manner. For example, gene expression was located between monitoring and control, whereas placement after the molecular section in chapters 8 and 9 might have been more helpful. The manufacturing process of foods and potential changes in the structure or toxicity of aflatoxins is not addressed, although based upon the title one might expect a chapter on food manufacturing. Although the text does not mention many specific procedures for the research, the expansive references in each chapter provide articles to find methodologies relevant to each research area. This reference book is a great addition to researchers in the agriculture and mycology field.

— Anna R. Oller
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Recently Received Books


Previously Listed Books


Juliet Pendray is a member of the Vancouver Mycological Society (www.vanmyco.com). She writes fungal crossword puzzles, primarily for the amusement of herself and also as a tool for her own education. Juliet has just completed a crossword dealing with fungal lifestyles that should be of interest to the Inoculum readership.

Several Habits of Highly Successful Fungi — A Fungal Lifestyle Puzzle

ACROSS
1. Spore generating structure of e.g. molds
6. Wizard country – or – native land of the Labrinthomyces truffle (slang)
9. Osmotic pressure (abbr.)
11. Interrelationship
16. ____ thecium, closed fruit body without predefined opening
19. Stem surface
20. Ustilago maydis home
21. Some Mucor species can erode this organic structural material
22. White-spored, usually ectomycorrhizal, host-adaptable, springtail eating genus
24. Tree-shaped invagination
27. Endoplasmic reticulum (abbr.)
28. Endo
29. Pointed
31. Delimitation e.g. pickers know that some forest fungi fruit when the mycelia reach an ____
32. Amatoxins interfere with RNA in this organ
33. A sun-loving partner of some fungi
34. Ser ____, the Golden Armillaria grows in Tibet
36. A light-absorbing structure in a chloroplast
38. What “They” do
41. Pileipellis with parallel hyphae
42. Attached to stipe
44. Australian nocturnal marsupial preferential mycophage (common name)
46. Dark coloured (prefix)
48. Perithecia form atop this tissue mass
49. Ergot home
50. Mushroom-eating gastropod
51. Rhiza
53. Universal, as in veil
54. Less than (prefix)
55. ____ cyst, a lichen globular structure enclosing photobionts
56. An exudate sometimes used as a defense against insects
58. A Gymnosporangium globosum alternate host bears this fruit
61. Destructive, or disease causing
62. Fungi
65. e.g. A prominent macro feature of Calostoma species
66. Common term for lignin consumers (2wds)
68. ____ myces sp. have a mutualistic relationship with certain insects
69. Units of reproduction from a fruiting body (2wds)
70. What ferocious oyster mushrooms do to nematodes

DOWN
1. Genus with a sweet tooth
2. Generally where the cap is in relation to the basidia
3. Distribution of fungi on earth
4. In the 1900s a Cryphonectria wiped out virtually all of the Castanea dentata in this country (abbr)
5. Seal named Liam who belongs to me (sounds like)
6. Spore guttule contents
7. Spore with tail (prefix)
8. First three letters of term for a cap
10. A trophism of genera such as Arthrobotrys, Dactylaria, Monacrosporum and Zoophagus
12. A common agar media used e.g. for culturing ascomycetes (abbr.)
13. A dikaryotization phenomenon
14. Significant trail (2 words)

Continued on following page
Cookery Corner

From this edition we have a new regular feature: Cookery Corner. Please send any recipe that you would like to submit and share to the Editor, Jinx Campbell at jinx.campbell@usm.edu. The only stipulation is that recipes must contain mushrooms (obviously!!!!). I am starting the ball rolling with this Southern recipe.

Mushrooms Au Gratin
A rich and delicious side dish casserole for mushroom lovers, made with fresh mushrooms, sour cream, and cheese.

INGREDIENTS:
16 ounces sliced mushrooms
2 tablespoons butter
1 egg yolk
1/3 cup sour cream
1/4 teaspoon salt
1/8 teaspoon pepper
3 tablespoons fresh chopped parsley
1/3 cup shredded Swiss or Monterey Jack cheese

PREPARATION:
Heat butter in a skillet over medium-low heat. When butter is foamy, add mushrooms and cook until lightly browned, stirring constantly.

Whisk together the sour cream, egg yolk, and salt and pepper; stir into the mushrooms. Heat through, stirring. Spoon mushroom mixture into a shallow baking dish; sprinkle with the chopped parsley and shredded cheese. Bake at 425° for 10 minutes, until cheese is melted.

Serves 4.
Fantastic Photo Fiesta

From this edition we have a new section: Fantastic Photo Fiesta, which I hope will become a regular feature. If you have any photographs of interesting fungi that you would like published in Inoculum please send them to the Editor at jinx.campbell@usm.edu. They don’t have to be new or novel, just pictures that you would like to share with everyone. You don’t need a blurb either; just a photo with a brief caption. And make sure it is a high resolution photo (GIF is best) so that it is clear when printed. The Editor reserves the right to decide whether a photograph is suitable for reproduction or to crop if necessary. Thank you to everyone who submitted photographs this month.

**Peltigera canina.** Submitted by Jack Murphy.

**Phallus (Dictyophora) multicolor** (Berk. & Broome) Cooke. Submitted by Roy Halling.

**Asterophora lycoperdoides** (the mushroom on a mushroom). Submitted by Jack Murphy.

**Patamona Amerindian, Parkinson Auston, holding Nolanea dragonspora from the Pakaraima Mountains of Guyana in 2004.** Submitted by Jordan Mayor.

Continued on following page
Two tropical stinkhorns from Barro Colorado Island in Panama, photographed in 1954 and submitted by Bob Lichtwardt. *Dictyophora indusiata* (on the left) was found in the “egg” stage, transported to the lab, and grown to beautiful adulthood. *Staheliomyces cinctus* (on the right) was discovered when Bob’s wife, Betty, told him she smelled a stinkhorn while they were walking on a trail. They went deep into the forest, zigzagging toward the odor like flies seeking carrion, and came upon this perfect specimen. Voila!

*Podaxis beringamensis* Priest & M. Lenz (on termite mounds). Submitted by Roy Halling.

*Phallus impudicus* buttons. Submitted by Jack Murphy.

*Aurapex penicillata*, a new genus and species on native Melastomataceae and exotic Eucalyptus in Colombia. Submitted by Marieka Gryzenhout.

*Gymnopus* sp. on a *Dicymbe corymbosa* leaf from the Pakaraima Mountains of Guyana in 2004. Submitted by Jordan Mayor.
Food- and Air-Borne Fungi Course Offered in Ottawa

A course entitled “Introduction to Food- and Air-Borne Fungi” will be offered 18-22 June, 2007, at Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada in Ottawa.

More than 100 mould and yeast species common in indoor air and on food will be examined, including important species of *Penicillium*, *Aspergillus*, *Fusarium*, *Trichoderma*, *Stachybotrys*, *Cladosporium*, *Mucor*, *Rhizopus*, *Alternaria* and *Scopulariopsis*. This five day course is appropriate for those interested in food spoilage, indoor air quality, industrial hygiene, mycotoxins, pharmaceuticals, biodeterioration, etc. Instructors: Robert A. Samson and Jos Houbraken, Centraalbureau voor Schimmelcultures. Keith A. Seifert and John Bissett, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

For more information, please contact Keith A. Seifert, Biodiversity Theme (Mycology & Botany), Eastern Cereal and Oilseed Research Centre, 960 Carling Ave., Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0C6 CANADA. Phone: 613-759-1378. Fax: 613-759-1701. Email: seifertk@agr.gc.ca or visit the course web site at http://www.indoormold.org (click on Courses on the top menu, then on the Ottawa course in the list of courses).

Keith A. Seifert
seifertk@agr.gc.ca

MycoLOGIA Back Issues Available Free on Cyberliber

The MSA has kindly agreed to permit the digital library for mycology, Cyberliber (www.cybertruffle.org.uk/cyberliber), to scan and make freely accessible on-line back-copies of Mycologia. To date, volumes 1-17 have been put on the site, with the intention that further volumes will appear in the future.

Cyberliber also provides access to scanned images of many other mycological works, including volumes 1-52 of Mycotaxon, all of the 19th century journals Grevillea and Michelia, significant runs of some other journals, all of the Fries and Persoon sanctioning works, all of Zahlbruckner’s lichen indexes, and much more. Through collaboration with Libri Fungorum (http://194.203.77.76/LibriFungorum), another major digital library for mycology, volumes 1-20 of Saccardo’s Sylloge, all of Petrak’s Lists and several volumes of Index of Fungi can also be accessed. A reciprocal arrangement means that many of the Cyberliber holdings can also be accessed through Libri Fungorum.

David Minter
d.minter@cabi.org

Conservation of Microfungi — A New Initiative

Despite evidence of decline in many populations, fungi are almost completely unprotected worldwide. Most conservation law covers only animals and plants. Most protected areas lack policies to manage fungi in their care. The need for fungal conservation is rarely vocalized, so most policymakers are unaware of the issue. The few existing resources are directed only to Basidiomycetes. For other fungi - microfungi - the conservation gap is total. The present initiative aims to address this problem.

Three specialist groups are being established for conservation of microfungi at a global level. These groups will aim to work in collaboration with the two existing IUCN Species Survival Commission Specialist Groups (one for fungi in general, the other for lichens) and with conservation-minded mycologists worldwide. The groups will prepare global conservation plans for the organisms they represent and seek to stimulate awareness of threats, including climate change.

A draft and preliminary website for each group has been constructed (www.cybertruffle.org.uk/ascos for non-lichen-forming ascomycetes & conidial fungi; www.cybertruffle.org.uk/rustsmut for rusts & smuts; and www.cybertruffle.org.uk/moulds for chromistans, chytrids, myxomycetes and zygomycetes). These websites will make available each plan and, it is hoped, will evolve to become a focus for conservation of microfungi, providing information and advice.

Mycologists with expertise in these groups and with an interest in conservation of microfungi are invited to contact Dr David W. Minter (d.minter@cabi.org). When writing, please identify the group which interests you, specify your expertise and provide information about the sort of contribution you could make to the work of the group.

David W. Minter
d.minter@cabi.org

Last Call for Back Issues of Mycologia

Because the entire back content of Mycologia is now available through JSTOR, the MSA will no longer be maintaining an extensive inventory of hard copy back issues. After December 31st 2007 hard copy issues older than 10 years will no longer be available for purchase. You will be able to order back issues through December 2007 through the Allen Press MSA member website. We will continue to maintain an inventory of back issues at Allen Press with a moving wall of 10 years.

Jeffrey Stone
Mycologia Managing Editor
stonej@science.oregonstate.edu

Inoculum 58(3), May 2007 21
Postdoctoral Positions in Molecular Mycology and Pathogenesis

Postdoctoral positions are available in multiple areas of fungal research. These positions are supported by an NIH training grant that includes 23 principal investigators at three neighboring institutions: Duke University, North Carolina State University, and the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Collectively, these faculty members offer the opportunity to acquire experience in several areas of fungal research, including molecular mechanisms of human or plant fungal pathogenesis, fungi as model system organisms, genomics, molecular systematics, population genetics, antifungal chemotherapy, and clinical mycology. Potential applicants may review the participating faculty and their research programs at mgm.duke.edu/microbial/training/mmptp.htm

Postdoctoral Fellows receive NIH-level stipends commensurate with their years of postdoctoral experience, health insurance, and travel funds to participate in scientific meetings. Only US citizens or permanent residents are eligible.

Application process. Prospective applicants should contact one or more of the participating faculty members to explore the training options and develop a research plan. The completed application should include (1) a cover letter and the applicant’s CV, (2) a letter from the prospective mentor(s), (3) two letters of recommendation, and (4) a one-page synopsis of the proposed research project. Submit inquiries and applications to T.G. Mitchell, Box 3803, Department of Molecular Genetics and Microbiology, Duke University Medical Center, Durham, NC 27710, or email tom.mitchell@duke.edu.

Graduate Assistantship in Marine Mycology Research

The Department of Coastal Sciences (www.usm.edu/gcrl/coastal_sciences/) at the University of Southern Mississippi (www.usm.edu) is requesting applications from highly qualified students for its MS or PhD program in coastal sciences with a focus in marine mycology. The Department of Coastal Sciences is located at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (www.usm.edu/gcrl) in Ocean Springs, MS (www.oceanspringschamber.com/) on the Gulf of Mexico.

Current research in marine mycology at GCRL includes the diversity of saprophytic marine fungi in natural and created saltmarshes; the role of marine fungi as indicators of saltmarsh restoration success; improving saltmarsh and seagrass restoration using symbiotic fungal associations; fungal infections of captive and wild-stranded bottlenose dolphins; colonization and species succession on artificial reefs; the use of fungi in mycoremediation to abate pollution in coastal sediments.

Successful applicants will be provided a 12-month Research Assistantship with a tuition waiver. Candidates should possess a relevant BS degree (GPA >= 3.0), and MS (GPA >= 3.5) if applying for the PhD program. The position is available starting January 2008 and will be open until filled. Interested individuals should contact: Dr Jinx Campbell, Asst Professor Marine Mycology, Department of Coastal Sciences, University of Southern Mississippi, 703 East Beach Drive, Ocean Springs, MS 36594, Tel: 228-818-8878.

Jinx Campbell
jinx.campbell@usm.edu

Insect Flower of Korea, 2007 Exhibition

Insect flower, which grows from dead insects, has been known for a long time as a curious fungus. It is one of the important natural resources, which is believed to enhance vitality of human health. Exploration of this resource has shown that Korea has the highest diversity of insect flower in the world. Mass production of Insect Flower has led to its commercialization. Novel anti-cancer compound ‘Militarin’ from Cordyceps militaris has opened the new era of research field. Production of ‘Biro’, which can be easily taken, helps many people restore their health.

The past 23 years I have spent in search of the Insect Flower, wandering countless numbers of mountains and gorges in Korea. During that time, Insect Flower has given me a sense of awakening. A feeling of wisdom comes when the infection process of Insect Flower is observed. Protection of nature is inevitable while looking at the habitat of Insect Flower. The birth and rebirth of Insect Flower and its life cycle give the impression of dignity of human life. Insect Flower, being already awarded and praised by the scientific community, is now my master leading me to the future.

In order to expose the essentiality of Insect Flower to an unlimited audience, this exhibition is once again opened for the benefit of the public. The purpose of this exhibition is to highlight this curious mushroom to the public, and especially to students, on the occasion of the 60th Anniversary of Kangwon National University, Chuncheon, Korea. The slogan is “Insect Flower: Symbol of Korea”.


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jmsung@kangwon.ac.kr
http://www.mushtech.org
MYCOLOGY ON-LINE

Below is an alphabetical list of websites featured in Inoculum during the past 12 months. Those wishing to add sites to this directory or to edit addresses should email <jinx.campbell@usm.edu>. Unless otherwise notified, listings will be automatically deleted after one year (at the editors discretion).

Ascomycota of Sweden
www.umu.se/myconet/asco/indexASCO.html

Australasian Mycological Society Website (53-4)

Authors of Fungal Names (54-2)
www.indexfungorum.org/AuthorsOfFungalNames.htm

Bibliography of Systematic Mycology
www.speciesfungorum.org/BSM/bsm.htm

British Mycological Society (54-1)
www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/

Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory;
Meetings & Courses Programs (58-2)
meetings.cshl.edu

Collection of 800 Pictures of Macro- and Micro-fungi
www.mycolog.com

Cordyceps Website
www.mushtech.org

Cornell Mushroom Blog (58-1)
hosts.cce.cornell.edu/mushroom_blog/

Cortbase (58-2)
andromeda.botany.gu.se/cortbase.html

Corticoid Nomenclatural Database (56-2)
www.phyloinformatics.org/

Coverage in Ukraine of Higher Fungal Ranks (56-2)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/lists/index.htm

Cyberliber Mycological Publications (57-4)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/cyberliber/index.htm

Cyberliber (58-3)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/cyberliber/

Cybertruffle’s Fungal Valhalla (56-2)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/valhalla/index.htm

Dictionary of The Fungi Classification
www.indexfungorum.org/names/fundic.asp

Distribution Maps of Caribbean Fungi (56-2)
www.biodiversity.ac.psiweb.com/carimaps/index.htm

Distribution Maps of Georgian Fungi (56-2)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/geomaps/index.htm

Distribution Maps of Ukrainian Fungi (56-2)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/ukramaps/index.htm

Electronic Library for Mycology (56-2)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/cyberliber/index.htm

Entomopathogenic Fungal Culture Collection (EFCC),
www.mushtech.org

Fun Facts About Fungi (55-1)
www.herbarium.usu.edu/fungi/funfacts/factindex.htm

Funga Veracruzana (53-6)
www.uv.mx/institutos/forest/hongos/fungavera/index.html

Fungal Environmental Sampling and Informatics Network (58-2)
www.bio.utk.edu/feisin/

HighWire Press (58-3)
mycologia.org

Index of Fungi
www.indexfungorum.org/names/names.asp

ING (Index Nominum Genericerorum) Database (52-5)
ravenel.si.edu/botany/ing/

Interactive Key, Descriptions & Illustrations
for Hypomyces (52-6)
nt.ars-grin.gov/sbmilweb/fungi/keydata.cfm

Interactive Key to Hypocreales
of Southeastern United States (57-2)
nt.ars-grin.gov/sbmilweb/fungi/keydata.cfm

ISHAM: the International Society for Human and Animal Mycology
www.isham.org

JSTOR (58-3)
jstor.org

Libri Fungorum Mycological Publications (58-3)
194.203.77.76/LibriFungorum/

Mold Testing and Identification Services (58-2)
www.pioneer.net/~microbe/abbeylab.html

Mountain Justice Summer (58-3)
www.MountainJusticeSummer.org

Mycologia On-Line (53-3)
www.mycologia.org

Mycological Progress (52-3)
www.mycological-progress.com

The Myconet Classification of the Ascomycota
www.fieldmuseum.org/myconet

Mycosearch web directory/search engine (51-5)
www.mycosearch.com

Mushroom World [new Korean/English site in 2001] (51-6)
www.mushworld.com

NAMA Poison Case Registry (51-4)
www.sph.umich.edu/~kwcee/mpcr

Northeast Mycological Federation (NEMF)
foray database (58-2)
www.nemfdata.org

Pleurotus spp.
www.oystermushrooms.net

Rare, Endangered or Under-recorded Fungi in Ukraine (56-2)
www.cybertruffle.org.uk/redlists/index.htm

Registry of Mushrooms in Art
members.cox.net/mushroomsinart/

Searchable database of culture collection
of wood decay fungi (56-6)
www.fpl.fs.fed.us/rwu4501/index.html

Species of Glomeromycota Website (55-3)
www.amf-phylogeny.com

Systematics of the Saprolegniaceae (53-4)
www.ilumina-dlib.org

Tripartite Similarity Calculator (55-1)
www.amanitabear.com/similarity

The TRTC Fungarium (58-1)
bbc.botany.utoronto.ca/ROM/TRTCFungarium/home.php

U.S. National Fungus Collections (BPI)
Complete Mushroom Specimen Database (57-1)
www.ars.usda.gov/ba/psi/sbml

Website for the mycological journal Mycena (56-2)
www.mycena.org/index.htm

Wild Mushrooms From Tokyo
www.ne.jp/asahi/mushroom/tokyo/
NOTE TO MEMBERS:
Those wishing to list upcoming mycological courses, workshops, conventions, symposia, and forays in the Calendar of Events should include complete postal/electronic addresses and submit to Inoculum editor Jinx Campbell at jinx.campbell@usm.edu.

May 14 to June 13, 2007
Insect Flower of Korea Exhibition
Kangwon National University,
Chuncheon, Korea.
jmsung@kangwon.ac.kr

May 21-26, 2007
IUFRO WP 7.0.02: Foliage, shoot and stem diseases of forest trees
Sopron, Hungary
szaboi@emk.nyme.hu
http://iufro.nyme.hu

June 6-8, 2007
Food Mycology 2007 (ICFM)
Key West, FL
www.foodmycology2007.com

July 13-27, 2007
Field Mycology Bio 523
Raquette Lake, Adirondack
Forest Preserve, NY
http://www.cortland.edu/summer

August 4-9, 2007
MSA Meeting
Baton Rouge, Louisiana
Louisiana State University
http://www.msafungi.org/

October 21-26, 2007
XIV International Botrytis Symposium
Cape Town, South Africa
http://academic.sun.ac.za/botrytis2007

December 3-6, 2007
Asian Mycology Congress (AMC) XTH International Marine and Freshwater Mycology Symposium (IMFMS)
Penang, Malaysia
http://ippp.um.edu.my/amc2007

July 25-30, 2009
BSA/MSA meeting
Snowbird, Utah
NOTE CHANGE OF DATE

Change of Address
Send all corrections of directory information, including email addresses, directly to Allen Press

Mycological Society of America
Attn: Kay Rose, Association Manager
P.O. Box 1897 [810 E 10th St]
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Email krose@allenpress.com

Note: Members may also submit directory corrections via the form included in the MSA directory via the MSA Home Page: www.msafungi.org
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AREAS OF INTEREST
Mark most appropriate area(s)

___ Cell Biology – Physiology (including cytological, ultrastructural, metabolic regulatory and developmental aspects of cells)
___ Ecology – Pathology (including phytopathology, medical mycology, symbiotic associations, saprobic relationships and community structure/dynamics)
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