

President Report

During this past year MSA made a big change to a new managing company. The executive committee evaluated three bids: Scientific Societies, The Rees Group and Allen Press. After careful evaluation of all the bids and what MSA could afford we selected The Rees Group. The Rees Group has done an excellent job in creating a better Webpage for the Society and has help the society develop an electronic Inoculum. Also, I was involved in sending a letter to NSF as a request from the Ecological Society against a new policy of limiting the number of proposal that a PI could be involved. NSF heard all the societies and change the policy in favor of the scientists. Also, we have been working together with the President Elect, Anne Pringle in developing new ethical policies for the society in terms of misconduct of any member either at a meeting or outside. We hope that during this coming year a new policy will be approved to be included in the MSA by-laws together with an explicit procedure in a case a member is charge with misconduct.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon A. Cantrell
MSA President

Annual Report of the President Elect June 2019

It's a total pleasure to give back to a society that has given me so much! Since our meeting in Puerto Rico last summer (in 2018), I've focused on the following: 1. Filling multiple vacancies across committees, 2. facilitating MSA's transition to new management, 3/4. streamlining committee work, 5. getting Inoculum back on its feet, and 6. setting up an Advisory Board for Mycologia. Profound thanks to the many people who've been willing to work with me and teach me about the inner workings of our society, particularly Executive Vice President Marin Talbot Brewer and the rest of the Executive Council.

1. In early January we had a number of vacancies on committees including Distinctions, Honorary Awards, Research Awards, Mentor Student Travel Awards, Student Awards, Nominations, Karling, Membership, Endowment, etc. By now we have filled most vacancies but there will be another round of solicitations shortly after the Minneapolis meeting ends. It's a challenge to fill committees, something we should think about if proposals to create new committees are ever sent our way (see also #4 below). Some committees, including the Membership and the Endowment committees, are a tremendous amount of work and if we can leverage our nascent relationship with The Rees Group (see #2 below) to make committee work easier (see #3 below) MSA would benefit. As I filled vacancies I sought to recruit scientists who work with fungi but don't traditionally participate in MSA, an

effort to increase the visibility of MSA among a broader community of fungal biologists. I think this is an effort worth continuing.

2. The entire Executive Council worked collaboratively to transition management of our society to The Rees Group (TRG). As far as I'm concerned the move has been a total success. TRG immediately identified a number of weaknesses within MSA (for example, we haven't been insured properly) and enabled our new website and a new format for Inoculum (see #4 below). As we move forward we want to be sure we can continue to afford TRG: as much as we like to raise money for student awards, etc. (and these awards are so important!) it's very obviously good value to be able to hire good management! And good management will enable our success in the long term. It should be a financial priority.

3. Working with MSA members, Marin, and TRG, I've been pushing to make committee work easier. I'll focus this report on two committees where there have been good changes: Membership and Awards (specifically, the job of the Awards Coordinator). Chores associated with both can be onerous, for example, in the past Membership has sent dozens of individual emails to lapsed members urging renewal, and Awards Coordinator Andrea Porrás-Alfaro has spent vast amounts of time coordinating the applications for our many awards and then collecting biographical information from award recipients (but as far as we can tell that information was rarely – if ever - used, and so students were writing reports that never saw the light of day). In the case of Membership I asked a group of community members, led by Teresa Pawlowska, to discuss the issues and provide MSA with advice on restructuring our membership formats. Based on their advice, TRG worked to restructure the options available to MSA members and we all hope this will make the committee's work easier. But I note I still have work to do to create a truly functional Membership committee. In the case of Awards, Andrea worked with TRG to implement a simple Google form, reachable from the MSA website, that can be used by award recipients to answer a series of straightforward questions about how monies were spent, etc. We now ask for photos and brief soundbites and the idea is to use this material in Inoculum to advertise how successful our awards are and how much MSA focuses on students! As we go forward, I hope we can continue our work streamlining the administration of all of our committees. Because there is still a lot of work to be done. A next target might be our Endowment Committee: because the auction is so much work, people are hesitant to join Endowment. If we can ask TRG to be more involved in the auction, people may be more willing to join the Endowment Committee.

4. We also need to evaluate the vast numbers of committees currently housed within our organizational structure: many of these committees have not been active in a very long time. Which committees do we really need to be successful as a society?

5. I'm happy to report Inoculum is back! And on sound footing. Our current plan is to publish three times a year, probably in late January, early June, and late October/early November. Our new format is electronic, distributed via email, and

easily read on a phone or computer. Our latest issue (June 2019) housed a reasonable number of news articles and also included society business, for example the results of our annual elections and a column from our Executive V.P. Published news articles are typically unsolicited and have ranged from a video of spore shooting to an update on the distribution of an underwater mushroom. Deep thanks to Don Natvig for serving as Co-Editor. Don and I now collaborate with Kaylee Walters at TRG to get things done: basically, we collect stories, put them in a Dropbox folder, and then Kaylee formats the stories into a draft issue, runs the draft issue by us, makes changes, and sends the final version. It's fairly straightforward and makes the job of editor fairly easy. I'm happy to continue serving as interim editor until we've got at least this next year of issues completed. I want to be sure we don't lose *Inoculum* again. We need to keep up momentum on news articles and expand our focus on society business: for example, it would be useful for the President of MSA to contribute a column at least once a year. I would welcome your feedback on the new *Inoculum*!

6. The leadership of *Mycologia* feels strongly about establishing an Advisory Board for the journal. Keith Seifert and Brian Shaw anticipate needing an AB to negotiate contracts and serve as a sounding board. Thus far I have identified three individuals who are willing to serve (and a few more who are not!). Over the next months I will work to find at least two more individuals who might serve as advisors. If you're willing, please let me know!

I've also spent time talking with many of you about issues ranging from our sexual harrassment policy, to whether or not it's appropriate to earmark funds from an auction for a particular cause, to potential changes in the publication landscape (and in particular a proposed "plan s")... many of these discussions are ongoing and are on our agenda for the Minneapolis meeting. I'm looking forward to it!

Yours in Service,

Anne Pringle

Annual Report of the Vice President

Elections were conducted in spring 2019 to fill vacancies for the Vice President, Treasurer, and Cell Biology/Physiology, Ecology/Pathology, Genetics/Molecular Biology, and Systematics/Evolution Councilor positions. The ballot and voting instructions were sent via email to 723 members with an open rate of approximately 53% (383 members) with 230 members casting their votes. Elected and non-elected candidates were notified of results via email and telephone after the election closed on 1 June 2019 and votes were counted. The following MSA members were elected; Elizabeth Arnold (Vice-President), Jessie Glaeser (Treasurer), Meritxell Riquelme (Cell Biology/Physiology Councilor), Julia

Kerrigan (Ecology/Pathology Councilor), Kathryn Bushley (Genetics/Molecular Biology Councilor), and Greg Bonito (Systematics/Evolution Councilor). Newly elected members were encouraged to attend the upcoming Council meeting as a non-voting guest and will assume responsibilities for their respective position at the end of the MSA annual business meeting in Minneapolis, MN. Election results were published in the Inoculum June edition.

Following approval from Council, an email message was sent to Johanne Stogran, Director of Conference Services for the Botanical Society of America (BSA) and Andrea Wolfe (BSA President) to formalize our commitment for participating with BSA in the joint meeting of our societies in Boise Idaho from July 17-21, 2021. The joint meeting will be held at the Boise Center and seven hotels with a variety of price points and loyalty programs are available for lodging. Johanne is in the final stages of contract negotiation to reserve a block of dormitory rooms at Boise State University to provide additional lodging. Heather Hallen-Adams (MSA program chair 2021), members of the local arrangements committee (Merlin White (chair), Emma Lookabaugh, and Leonora Bittleston) and Marc Cubeta will continue to communicate and interact with Johanne and the BSA program chair to organize the 2021 joint meeting.

I have communicated and sought input from Anne Pringle, members of Council, Adriana Romero (Diversity Committee Chair), and Lisa Battalia (Societies Consortium Educational Counselor and Advisor) about the possibility of MSA joining the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and medical (STEMM) fields. The Consortium's mission is to 1) support academic and professional disciplinary societies in fulfilling their mission-driven roles for excellence by addressing sexual harassment in all of its forms and intersectionalities; and 2) provide a collective voice that advances a climate and culture of professional and ethical conduct in STEMM fields. The cost for MSA to join the Consortium is \$500 per year.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc A. Cubeta
MSA Vice-President

2019 Annual Report of the Executive Vice President

A summary of activities since assuming the duties of EVP after the annual meeting in San Juan, PR is as follows:

- The last business meeting minutes of the 2018 MSA Annual Business meeting in San Juan, PR were published on the MSA website. The 2018 annual council meeting minutes from San Juan, PR were compiled by past EVP Sarah Bergemann and will be posted to the MSA website after approval.
- Coordinated with the Awards Coordinator the special call for the Special Topics Award (deadline 9/30/18)
- Committee members, officers and representatives of the MSA rotating off their positions were contacted and thanked for their service to the MSA
- New committee members, officers and representatives of the MSA were contacted and provided with a list a committee members and relevant section(s) of the MSA Manual of Operations
- MSA website documents were updated and sent to Allen Press for publication on the MSA website and include: MSA Constitution and By-laws, MSA Manual of Operations, MSA Awards Committees and MSA roster.
- Conducted 19 email polls as follows:
 - 2018-12— Council approved a request for discounted membership for Dr. Ahmed M. Abdel-Azeem
 - 2018-13 — Council approved a request for emeritus status for Dr. Richard Humber
 - 2018-14 — Council approved the top two candidates for the 2019 Karling Lecture selected by the Karling Lecture Committee
 - 2018-15 — Council approved sponsorship of Fungus Olympics
 - 2018-16— Council approved the Diversity and Inclusion Committee optional member survey
 - 2018-17 — Council approved the nomination of *Mycologia* Executive Editor Priscilla Chaverri
 - 2018-18 — Council approved a request for emeritus status for Dr. James Anderson
 - 2018-19 — Council approved a request for emeritus status for Dr. Linda Kohn
 - 2019-01 — Council approved a request for emeritus status for Dr. Bitty Roy
 - 2019-02 — Request for discounted membership for Gimhani Ramanayake
 - 2019-03 — Request for discounted membership for Manavi Ekanayake

- 2019-04 — Request for discounted membership for Dr. Meritzell Riquelme
- 2019-05 — Request for Emeritus Member Status for Dr. Salomon Bartnicki-Garcia
- 2019-06 — Request for Emeritus Member Status for Dr. Rick Kerrigan
- 2019-07 — Request for discounted membership for Cauê Oliveira
- 2019-08 — Funding for Translational Mycology and Forest Ecology Awards
- 2019-09 — Approval of Honorary Awards recommendation of MSA fellows Drs. Anthony Glenn, Meritzell Riquelme and Rosa Mouriño-Pérez and Honorary Member Dr. Zhu-Liang Yang
- 2019-10 — Approval of named student award to be announced at annual meeting
- 2019-11 — Approval of Joint MSA and BSA meeting in Boise, Idaho
- Submitted announcements to Allen Press Association Manager, Terry Leatherman, for call for membership renewals, the call for nominations of officers for MSA council (deadline 1/15/19), and the calls for student, mentor travel, honorary, distinctions and research awards (deadline 2/15/19).
- Organized the meetings and met via zoom teleconference with Executive Council on four occasions (10/19/18, 11/15/18, 12/14/18, and 12/27/18) to discuss association management proposals.
- Worked with President Sharon Cantrell and President-Elect Anne Pringle to identify MSA members fill remaining committee vacancies.
- Met with The Rees Group via teleconference on 1/23/19 to plan the transition from Allen Press to The Rees Group.
- Worked with President Sharon Cantrell to organize the agenda for Midyear Executive Council Meeting; made arrangements for the meeting via conference; contacted officers and committee chairs to submit midyear reports; compiled the agenda and packet for meeting
- Worked with Vice President Marc Cubeta, Awards Coordinator Andre Porrás-Alfaro, Local Arrangements Chair Georgiana May and Program Chair Tony Glenn to submit blast email announcements to The Rees Group for nomination of officers for MSA council, spring ballot, awards deadlines and MSA 2019 meeting announcements.
- Worked with Vice President Marc Cubeta to prepare and disseminate the 2019 ballot
- Coordinated the dissemination of applications and support letters to awards chairs (Distinctions, Honorary, Research, Student Mentor Travel and Student Awards)

- Worked with new Membership Committee, President-Elect Anne Pringle and The Rees Group to coordinate MSA renewal categories and effort.
- Worked with President Sharon Cantrell to organize the agenda for the annual Council Meeting; made arrangements for the meeting with the Local Coordinator, Georgiana May and Program chair, Tony Glenn; contacted officers and committee chairs to submit annual reports; and compiled the agenda and packet for meeting
- Coordinated with the Awards Coordinator the special call for the Special Topics Award (deadline 6/15/19)
- Invited MSA Volunteers to the Volunteer Reception of the annual meeting at the Bell Museum in Minnesota
- Organized Council dinner arrangements and invited councilors and officers to attend.
- Responded to email and other inquiries addressed to the MSA
- The death of the following members were reported:
 - Hope Miller (September 26, 2018)
 - Donald J.S. Barr (November 20, 2018)
 - Donald Marx (November 14, 2018)
 - John Rippon (March 20, 2019)
- 142 new members from 17 countries joined MSA since the last annual meeting and will be presented for approval by member vote at the Business Meeting (Wednesday, August 14):
 - **Australia**— Dee Carter
 - **Brazil**— Caue Oliveira, Diogo Rezende
 - **Canada**— Bruce Malloch, Mika Miyamoto, Thomas Witte
 - **Chile**— Giuliana Furci
 - **Colombia**— Maryam Chaib De Mares
 - **Costa Rica**— Efrain Escudero
 - **Egypt**— Ahmed Abdel-Azeem
 - **France**— Lena Larsen
 - **Germany**— Regina Siemianowski
 - **Japan**— Yasuhito Okuda
 - **Mexico**— Julieta Alvarez Manjarrez, Melissa Escarpita Gomez, Francisco Perez Pazos, Christian Armadon Quintero-Corrales
 - **Puerto Rico**— Darianne Alvarez, Carlos Fontanez-Rodriguez, Nahyrka Linares-Alamo
 - **Spain**— María Martín
 - **Sri Lanka**— Indunil Herath
 - **Taiwan**— Pao-Yang Chen

- **United Kingdom**— Joe Taylor
- **United States**— Julia Adams, Ashish Adhikari, Michelle Afkhami, Nouf Aldossari, Bryce Alex, Christin Anderson, Carly Anderson Stewart, William Argiroff, Olivia Asher, Kendra Autumn, Spenser Babb-Biernacki, Nicolaas Baudoin, Nick Baumgartner, Steven Baumgartner, Christopher Bivins, Regina Bledsoe, Alexander Bradshaw, Michael Bradshaw, Margaret Branine, Mia Brann, Marley Brown, Caitlin Bumby, Adam Carson, Humberto Castillo Gonzalez, Jairus Chittenden, Natalie Christian, Teresa Clements, Nicole Colon-Carrion, Megan Cullen, Sarah Cuprewich, Gunner Davies, Caroline Daws, Charissa De Bekker, Holly Elmore, Dylan Enright, Vincent Enriquez, Silenze Esquivel Benjamin, Samira Fatemi, Monika Fischer, Sam Fox, Austin Frewert, Shuhua Ge, Kyle Gervers, Sara Getson, Alexander Glasco, Matthew Gordon, Kirsten Gotting, John Hall, Paige Hansen, Samantha Harrow, Rach Helmich, Amy Honan, Jacob Hopkins, Kelsey Huisman, Kyle Ismert, Lynnaun Johnson, Erik Jones, Robert Jones, Michelle Jusino, Megan Keller, Kasey Kiesewetter, Kasia Kochersperger, Koko, Zachary Konkel, Jason Krastins, Ashley Lang, J. Lauritzen, Nicholas LeBlanc, Brian Lovett, Richard Maddux, Andrew Mann, Melissa Mercado, Matthew Meyer, Charles Mitchell, Annie Montes, Erica Mullins, Zachary Noel, Sean O'Mara, Shuzo Oita, Oregon Mycological Society, Stephanie Ostresh, Suzanne Ou, Carlos Pardo De La Hoz, Stephen Peterson, Brodie Pomper, Jeff Ravage, Emilia Rico-Munoz, Morgan Ritzi, María-José Romero-Jiménez, Allison Rowe, Mary Sabuda, Mareli Sanchez Julia, Annie Schauster, Kelsey Scott, Tatiana Semenova-Nelsen, Kensuke Seto, Maryam Shahrtash, Yeidymar Sierra Moya, Brantlee Spakes Richter, Raymond St. Leger, Daniel Stanton, Jacob Steenwyk, Danielle Stevenson, Stefanos Stravoravdis, John Stuart, Jordon Tourville, Ian Trautman, Keaton Tremble, Avery Tucker, Guillermo Valero David, James Veitch, Vanessa Velazquez, Ian Will, Soleil Young
- **Country Not Reported**— Vanina Castroagudin, Nicolle Omiotek, Dhanushka Udayanga
- Six members were approved by Council for Emeritus status since the 2018 annual report and will be presented for approval by member vote at the Business Meeting:
 - Dr. Richard Humber, formerly USDA-ARS, member since 1969
 - Dr. James Anderson, formerly University of Toronto, member since 1976
 - Dr. Linda Kohn, formerly University of Toronto, member since 1974
 - Dr. Bitty Roy, formerly University of Oregon, member since 1991

- Dr. Salomon Bartnicki-Garcia, formerly University of California, Riverside and Escondido Center for Scientific Investigation and Higher Education, member since 1969
- Dr. Rick Kerrigan, formerly Sylvan, Inc. Director of Research, member since 1978

Respectfully submitted,
 Marin Brewer
 Executive Vice President

**Mycological Society of America
 Treasurer’s Mid-Year Report: 16 January 2019**

In March 2019 MSA transitioned to The Rees Group (TRG) for membership services, including accounting. Indications from TRG have been that delays in getting information from our previous providers, Allen Press Membership Services, has prevented them from completing financial statements for early 2019. Therefore, this report communicates figures as of December 31, 2018.

Table 1. MSA Financial Position as of 31 Dec 2018

Assets	As of 31 Dec 2017	As of 31 Dec 2018
Checking- US Bank	\$ 220,058.29	\$ 297,324.19
Accounts Receivable	20,723.80	0
TDA-Combined	1,565,151.47	1,461,085.10
Prepaid Expenses	29,808.28	1,841.67
Total Assets	\$ 1,835,741.84	\$ 1,760,250.96
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Accounts Payable	\$ 34,451.96	\$ 24,753.14
Long Term Liabilities	52,260.12	27,270.00
Total Liabilities	\$ 86,712.08	\$ 52,023.14
Unrestricted Net Assets	711,400.99	850,589.51

Excess Revenue over Expenditures	138,688.52	(39,909.55)
Total Unrestricted	\$ 850,089.51	\$ 810,679.96
Restricted Net Assets	799,138.98	898,440.25
Restricted Rev over Expense	99,301.27	(892.39)
Total Restricted	\$ 898,940.25	\$ 897,547.86
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,749,029.76	\$ 1,708,227.82
Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 1,835,741.84	\$ 1,760,250.96

MSA experienced a decrease of \$ 75,490.88 (4.11 %) in total liabilities and net assets. However, In the 2-year period from Dec. 31, 2016, MSA experienced a \$ 198,876.48 increase (12.74% total over two years). Therefore, MSA concluded 2018 in strong financial condition.

The total restricted assets of **\$ 810,679.96** include **\$ 463,326.51** permanently restricted, and **\$ 434,221.41** temporarily and board restricted funds.

Table 2. Revenue and Expenses

	As of 31 Dec 2017	As of 31 Dec 2018
Revenue		
Donations	\$ 52,650.72	\$ 186,064.86
Student Section	1,765.00	1,771.38
Auction or other	10,311.50	500.00
Investment	147,422.52	(103,888.21)
Meeting	159,654.08	515,543.54
Membership Dues	58,776.00	51,138.99
Publication (Mycologia)	138,727.63	82,839.51
Total Revenues	\$ 569,307.45	\$ 733,970.07
Expenses		
General	\$ 9,243.93	\$ 8,465.62
Grants & Awards	72,019.32	139,349.00
Meeting	136,501.03	569,580.85
Officer Expenses	895.40	4,545.14
Management (Allen Press)	52,991.07	34,804.98
Publication	59,001.91	13,243.21
Editorial travel to meeting	0.00	3,005.22
Student section	165.00	1,777.99
Total Expenses	\$ 330,817.66	\$ 774,772.01
Unrestricted transfer	(\$ 99,801.27)	892.39

Excess Revenue over Expenses	138,688.52	(39,909.55)
Restricted Revenue over Expenses	99,801.27	(892.39)
Change in Net Assets	238,489.79	(40,801.94)
Beginning Net Assets	1,510,539.97	1,749,029.76
Ending Net Assets	\$ 1,749,029.76	\$ 1,708,227.82

DONATIONS

In December 2018 donations to MSA exceeded those of the previous year by 190% (2.9-fold). Donations included \$ 18,010.00 in permanently restricted travel funds, \$ 18,007.86 in permanently restricted research funds, and \$ 88,887.00 in temporarily restricted board funds to support special topic research awards, projects and fellowships.

PUBLICATIONS

Mycologia netted \$ 79,725.72 in 2017, and \$ 66,591.08 in 2018. Expenses included \$ 3,005.22 for editors to attend the annual meeting (IMC11).

MEETING

MSA acted as the financial administrator of the Eleventh International Mycological Congress (IMC11) in Puerto Rico, July, 2018. Meeting proceeds totaled \$ 515,543.54, including registration (\$ 470,335.54), IMA donation (\$ 10,660.00), Exhibitors (\$ 6,105.00), sponsors (\$ 25,035.00), and miscellaneous (\$ 3,408.00). Meeting expenses totaled \$ 569,580.85, but included \$ 73,249.42 in transportation costs, of which MSA committed \$ 54,000.00 to encourage participation of students, young researchers, and others especially from regions of the world that would otherwise have been less represented for economic reasons. Adjusting for this MSA commitment, the IMC11 meeting expense total was \$ 515,580.85, giving a net expense of \$ 37.29. Thus, the IMC11 meeting essentially broke even, and was a financial success.

Respectfully submitted
Christopher L. Schardl, Treasurer
July 20, 2019

Mycologia Editors' Report, July 8, 2019

Betsy Arnold, Priscila Chaverri, Brandon Matheny, Chris Schardl, Keith Seifert, Brian Shaw

The journal received 222 manuscripts in 2018. This was a decrease from 252 in 2017. In 2018, the rejection rate was 57.9% a decrease from 2017 (67.8%) and 2016 (64%). Therefore, one explanation for the lower submission rate in 2018

would be that papers that were less suitable for the journal were submitted in lower quantity in 2018. As of July 8, 146 manuscripts have already been submitted in 2019 setting a pace for submission which may exceed 2017.

The average time from submission to first decision was 56 days (compared to 55 in 2017 and 50 in 2016). The average time from submission to final decision (with author resident times removed) was 61 days (compared to 74 days in 2017 and 76 days in 2016). These times remain longer than would be ideal, but improvement in shortening the time to final decision is noted.

The journal continues to maintain its international appeal. The corresponding authors of the 222 manuscripts came from 40 unique countries. A total of 507 unique reviewers originating from 43 countries contributed their expertise through ad hoc reviews for the journal in 2018.

The 2018 impact factor was 2.861 compared to 2.762 (2017) 2.55 (2016), 2.638 (2015) and 2.471 (2014). This trend reflects a steady increase since a low of 1.587 in 2009.

Print issues of *Mycologia* 111 (3) were mailed in June, 2019. *Mycologia* 111 (4) is in production and will mail in August. All issues of Volume 111 have been on time. This marks the first time that print journals have mailed on time in at least 10 years. The Editors welcome Executive Editor Priscila Chaverri, who began her service in January 2019.

The MSA and the editorial board would like to thank Executive Editor Keith Seifert for his dedication and hard work with the journal over his 4 year term. In particular Dr. Seifert is to be commended for his stewardship in the transition of the journal to the new publisher. Dr. Seifert will remain on the editorial board for 2019 serving as Review Editor.

The MSA and the editorial board also thank departing Associate Editors Yu Ming Ju, Carolyn Young and Ning Zhang for exemplary service during their terms as Associate Editors. We thank all of our current Associate Editors for their ongoing service.

Issue of note:

Plan S is an open access initiative (started by Coalition S) in Europe. Several northern/western national funding agencies, the Wellcome Trust, and Gates Foundation have signed on to Plan S recently. Under Plan S, these funding entities will require that the research they support be published in Gold Open Access (freely available online, no paywalls) journals, with all copyright to be retained by the authors. The consortium is planning/threatening to start about 200-300 fully OA journals to serve fields that presently don't have them. So far, there is little indication that the big North American funders (NIH, NSF) are going to follow. The process is presently open for public comment, and there is a 'grace period' for publishers until the end of 2021 to comply.

Mycologia is what is called a Hybrid OA journal, as are most society journals, meaning it is a mixture of subscriber content and (in our case just a little) OA content. The income we generate from Taylor and Francis at the moment is mostly because of the subscriber content, i.e. the portion of our membership fees that goes for the journal plus our share of library subscriptions. Journals that are all OA have no subscribers because all content is freely accessible, and then they are supported entirely by Author Publishing Charges (APCs) that in many cases are now between \$2000-3000 per paper. If Mycologia went all OA, we would either have to pay all the APCs from the journal portion of the dues or go back to the rigidly enforced system of page charges used previously; we would share a percentage of the APCs, perhaps, but it seems likely that in any all OA scenario, Mycologia would then run as a cost to the society rather than as a source of income.

The MSA has the opportunity to publicly comment about concerns regarding the impact that Plan S would have on Mycologia.

Finance Committee Report July 2019

D. Jean Lodge, Chair, Chris Schardl, ex officio, Treasurer, Sharon Cantrell, ex officio, President, members Fred Spiegel, Charles Bacon, Jeff Stone (who replaced Brian Shaw and will become the new Chair); David Middleton, Chief Investment Officer

The MSA investment account had a value of \$1,639,268.44 on 14 July 2019, a 12.2% increase of \$178,183.34 year-to-date (beginning value \$1,461,051.10 on 1 January 2019). There were no deposits or withdrawals. The investments are managed by our Chief Investment Officer (CIO), David Middleton at Middleton Advisory. Management fees for this period were \$7,392.72. The increase in value of our investments during the first half of 2019 (\$178,183.34 gain) more than makes up for the losses in all of 2018 (\$104,066.37 loss). Thus our investments have performed well despite market fluctuations and the committee is pleased with the state of our portfolio. The investment market will likely remain volatile for at least the next several years, though we intend to remain on course for our investment time horizon of at least 15 years.

According to the spending plan in our Investment Policy Statement, recently re-approved by the committee, the level of spending in the pooled endowment fund will generally range from 2% to 6% (~\$33,000 - \$98,000). Expenditures for travel and research awards typically fall within this range so MSA Council should not encounter any restrictions in awarding grants and awards in 2019. No deposits or withdrawals were recorded in the pooled MSA endowment fund in 2018, as travel

and research awards were taken directly from the excess balance in the MSA operating expenses bank account. We will ensure that this is properly reported as a contribution to the endowment from the operating funds as a distribution from the endowment. David Middleton is coordinating with the Rees Group accountants to best ensure that endowment spending is reported correctly. We did not have an MSA auction in 2018, so 2018 contributions were raised via the donation web page on the MSA website and a generous donor. We recommended in January 2019 that item 5 of the Finance Committee MOP be emended to clarify that funds from the operating expense account and the uncommitted endowment funds be used to supplement travel and research awards in years when the committed endowments show losses or insufficient gains, and that overall spending from the endowment investments should range from 2% to 6% of the entire portfolio, as mentioned above.

The MSA Finance Committee met on 25 January 2019 and all members affirmed our Investment Policy Statement. Our Chief Investment Officer, David Middleton, indicated we could increase the percentages of ESG (environmental, social and governance) stocks and bonds in our portfolio. The MSA Finance Committee agreed to increase our ESG stock holdings up to 60%, and our ESG bond holdings to 25%.

The term for the chair of the finance committee (Lodge) and members Brian Shaw and Fred Spiegel were all scheduled to end in summer of 2019. To avoid an almost complete turnover in the committee composition and leadership in 2019, Brian Shaw stepped down early in January 2019 to make space for Jeff Stone, who will succeed Lodge as the MSA Finance Committee Chair in August 2019.

2019 Membership Committee Report

Teresa Pawlowska, Sarah Bergemann, Jennifer Bhatnagar, Francois Lutzoni, Tami McDonald, Aswathy Shailaja

Upon transition to The Rees Group, the committee was charged with re-examining membership categories and restructuring membership drives. In response, the committee made following recommendations:

1. **Membership categories and their benefits are not clearly explained on the MSA website.** In particular, **Affiliated**, **Associate** and **Sustaining** membership categories require clarification.
2. **Membership period should be flexible** (rather than 1 or 3 years listed now), i.e. members should be able to select any number of years for which they wish to subscribe.
3. **Auto-renew membership** option is highly desirable.
4. **Regular member** category should include an option to **fund Student/Post-Doctoral categories**, either by specifying the person to be funded or leaving the choice at the discretion of MSA.

5. **Past sustaining members should be actively encouraged** to renew their subscription. Access to past **sustaining member** listings was requested.
6. **New members** should be offered a discount on *Mycologia* for one year, and/or vintage print copies of *Mycologia* (if available).
7. It would be useful to **review** memberships status **before** and **after** the time when MSA annual meeting **abstracts are due** to better understand factors driving membership renewal.

The committee also suggested that:

1. While purchasing membership lists from other societies is acceptable, relying on reciprocity to engage these other societies with MSA is preferable.
2. It would be productive to **advertise MSA student benefits** at the Fungal Genetics Conference and ESA Microbiology sections as well as APS meetings.
3. Members of the **MSA Graduate Student Section** should be encouraged to reach out to their non-MSA member friends in own graduate programs to encourage MSA membership.

Report of the MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee 2018–2019

The MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee for 2018–2019 was composed of Adriana L. Romero-Olivares (Chair), Mathias Alfaro, Tanya Cheeke, Don Natvig, Yan Wang, Bala Chaudhary, Geromy Moore, Brian Lovett, and Abeer Alqurashi. Matias Alfaro and Tanya Cheeke have completed their 4-year term. Anna Bazzicalupo joined the committee and will start serving in August. Together, we chose the next chair of the committee, which will be Geromy Moore, and the Adriana L. Romero-Olivares, current chair, will become past-chair.

During the year 2018-2019 the Diversity and Inclusion Committee developed a document with general recommendations, including a code of conduct (COC), to make the upcoming and future MSA meetings more inclusive.

We planned fund raising activities for the Diversity Award in the upcoming MSA meeting and negotiated with the MSA Board a donation investment to our committee of \$1000 USD. With this, we spent \$365.11 USD on stickers and travel mugs to encourage donations during the upcoming MSA meeting. As of right now, we have received \$130 USD dollars in donations, and we expect to receive a total of \$1,550 USD throughout the next few months.

The Diversity and Inclusion Committee was involved in several discussions along the year, such as the lack of diversity in MSA awards, collecting demographic data in award applications, re-wording questions for MSA survey (to happen every 4 years), and becoming members of the consortium on sexual harassment in STEMM. We provided comments and recommendations for each one of these topics.

Finally, the MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee is working on creating a document with specific goals and activities to be carried out in the next few years. This document will be ready by the end of the summer and will serve as guide to focus our efforts in the upcoming years.

We suggest the following changes to the Manual of Operations:

- 1) "The chair is selected by consensus of the committee. The chosen chair should have at least two years left of service, so that once their chair term is over, they serve in the committee as past chair."
- 2) Include the new MSA online system and update the survey time, which was decided to happen every four years (next: 2021). The manual of operations currently says:

"2) Conduct anonymous surveys on the representation of MSA membership. The survey will be offered annually to all new and renewing members. The committee will work with Allen Press (Terry Leatherman is the current Association Manager) to update the diversity survey as needed. The results of the survey are assembled and presented as a poster at the annual MSA meeting, published in Inoculum or on the MSA website"

We suggest:

"2) Conduct anonymous surveys on the representation of MSA membership. The survey will be offered every four years (starting 2017) to all new and renewing members. The committee will work as needed to update the survey, and any update, should be notified to the MSA online website manager to implement on the website. The results of the survey are assembled and presented as a poster at the annual MSA meeting, published in Inoculum or on the MSA website"

Respectfully submitted,
Adriana L. Romero-Olivares
Chair, MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Report of the MSA Distinctions Committee 2018–2019

The MSA Distinctions Committee for 2018–2019 was composed of Dennis Desjardin (Chair), Betsy Arnold, Lori Carris, Anne Pringle and Matt Smith, with Charles Bacon (Past Chair) and Sharon Cantrell (MSA President) as ex-officio representatives. Our charge was to evaluate the nominations and select the awardees for four MSA awards, viz., Distinguished Mycologist Award, C.J. Alexopoulos Prize, W.H. Weston Award for Excellence in Teaching, and The Gordon and Tina Wasson Award. We received a limited number of nominations for the Distinguished Mycologist, Alexopoulos and Weston awards, but received no nominations for the Wasson Award. Each committee member made independent evaluations of all nomination materials and ranked their selections for each award. Where there were conflicts of interest, the committee member was recused from deliberations. The results were tabulated by Chair Desjardin and distributed to each committee member. A conference call amongst committee members was held where the rankings were discussed and final selections were made. The results of our deliberations are as follows:

Distinguished Mycologist Award – Donald. H. Pfister

Alexopoulos Prize – Gregory Bonito

W.H. Weston Award for Excellence in Teaching – Iris Charvat and Meike Piepenbring

Because no nominations were submitted for The Gordon and Tina Wasson Award, no selection was made.

Several comments can be made concerning the nomination and selection process. We were asked by MSA officers to consider diversity in our selection process. It should be noted, that the Distinctions Committee can only select from amongst the nominations submitted and if candidates representing a diversity of gender, ethnic background, socio-economic status or sexual identity are not nominated, they will not be represented in the awardees. We strongly encourage MSA members to nominate a diverse pool of qualified candidates, a request that has not been fulfilled.

I would personally like to suggest a change in the by-laws pertaining to requirements for the Alexopoulos Prize. In the description of requirements for the Alexopoulos Prize, #6 states: "Nominees who are not chosen for the prize in the year in which they are nominated will be reconsidered for up to two additional years (within the 10-year limit)." This statement has been interpreted in various ways over the years. 1) Each nomination will be considered for only 3 years within the 10-year eligibility period; or 2) the committee will automatically consider each nomination for 3 years, after which if the candidate is still eligible, they will need to be renominated. The important distinction here comes into play when a candidate is nominated early, for example 5 or 6 years post PhD and having 4-5 years for consideration within the 10-year eligibility period. If the requirement is interpreted as in example 1 above, the candidate would only be eligible for the first 3 years and if not chosen during this period, would be ineligible during the subsequent 1-2 years

of the 10-year period. If however, the requirement is interpreted as in example 2 above, the candidate would still be eligible for the award during those subsequent 1-2 years if they were renominated. My feeling is that it is not the fault of a qualified candidate if their nominator nominates them too early. I think a young mycologist should be eligible throughout the 10-year period post PhD no matter when during this period they are nominated. The committee could be charged with automatically considering them for 3 years, after which if they are still within the 10-year time frame, they would need to be renominated for consideration. With so few candidates nominated for the award, it is no extra burden to consider a candidate for more than 3 years. A compounding factor is that there has been a tendency within committee deliberations, that if several candidates are equally meritorious but of different years of remaining eligibility, the candidate in the last year of eligibility will be given preference. Please take this suggested change under consideration at your council meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Dennis Desjardin
Chair, MSA Distinction Committee

MSA Honorary Awards Committee Annual Report

2019 Nominees for MSA Fellow

Carol Shearer resigned from the Committee and was temporarily replaced as a voting member by D. Jean Lodge, the past-Chair. The MSA Honorary Awards Committee (Kerry O'Donnell, Chair; members D. Jean Lodge and Tom Volk) unanimously and enthusiastically supported the nomination of Drs. Anthony Glenn, Meritxell Riquelme and Rosa Mouriño-Pérez for MSA Fellow. Anthony Glenn was nominated by Scott Gold and Meritxell Riquelme and Rosa Mouriño-Pérez were nominated by Brian D. Shaw, Salomon Bartnicki-García and Robert W. Roberson.

Dr. Anthony Glenn is a Research Plant Pathologist in the Toxicology and Mycotoxin Research Unit with the ARS-USDA in Athens, Georgia. Much of his research with ARS over the past 18 years has focused on the evolution, molecular genetics and genomics of toxigenic *Fusarium* species, especially the fumonisin-producing corn pathogen, *F. verticillioides*. His pioneering research has helped elucidate various aspects of their biology, including denitrification, xenobiotic tolerance and nitric oxide detoxification. As an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Plant Pathology at the University of Georgia (UGA), Dr. Glenn contributes invited lectures on endophytes and mycotoxins for five courses at UGA. He has served the MSA in numerous capacities, including Councilor for Cell Biology/Physiology (2009-2011), *Mycologia* Associate Editor (2011-2016), Program Committee (2015-present), local organizing committee (2017 annual meeting in Athens, GA), and Program Committee Chair for the 2019 meeting at the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis.

Drs. Meritxell Riquelme and Rosa Mouriño-Pérez are Principal investigators in the Department of Microbiology, Center for Scientific Research and Higher Education of Ensenada (CICESE), Baja California, Mexico. The primary focus of their research has been directed at elucidating fundamental aspects of the molecular and cellular biology of hyphal morphogenesis, polarized cell growth and nuclear migration, using *Neurospora crassa* as a model system. By combining molecular biological and advanced confocal microscopic techniques, they have significantly advanced our understanding of exocytosis and the dynamic features of the Spitzenkörper, transport of chitin synthases in chitosomes, and the secretory pathways involved in chitosome transport. Drs. Riquelme and Mouriño have developed formal courses on fungal biology and have served as graduate and postgraduate advisors to numerous students at CICESE. They have both contributed significantly to the MSA. Dr. Riquelme has been an active member of the MSA since 2004 and served the society as Member of the “Karling Lecture Committee” (2005-2008), Member of the Genetics and Cell Biology Committee (2008-2010), Councilor for Cell Biology/Physiology Committee (2014-2016), and Co-guest editor of a special issue of *Mycologia* entitled “A comprehensive journey into the fungal Cell (published May/June 2016). Dr. Mouriño-Pérez has served the MSA and Councilor in Cell Biology/Physiology (2012-2014), Member of the Molecular Biology Committee (2015-2017), Associate Editor of *Mycologia* (2015-2020) and Co-editor on the special issue of *Mycologia* entitled “A comprehensive journey into the fungal Cell (published May/June 2016).

We would be remiss by not mentioning that Drs. Glenn, Riquelme and Mouriño-Pérez have actively participated in numerous annual meeting of the MSA. All three were approved by the full MSA Council. Once approved, the Committee Chair, Kerry O’Donnell, notified all three so that they could plan to receive the award at the August 2019 Annual Meeting in Minneapolis.

For future reference, our Committee urges that anyone nominating someone for MSA Fellow to carefully follow the Guidelines for selection of MSA Fellows detailed in the Manual of Operations (MOP). Specifically, “The MSA Fellow Award nomination should consist of a one-page overview of the nominees' activities including their contributions to the MSA. The criteria should include a minimum requirement for significant service to the society.”

2019 Nominee for Honorary Member of MSA

The MSA Honorary Awards Committee (Kerry O’Donnell, Chair; members D. Jean Lodge and Tom Volk) unanimously and unreservedly support the nomination of Dr. Zhu-Liang Yang as an MSA Honorary Member for 2019. Dr. Yang was nominated by Jianping Xu and Gregory Bonito.

After receiving his Ph. D. from the Universität Tübingen under the supervision of Prof. Frans Oberwinkler in Germany in 1997, Prof. Zhu L. Yang has served as principal investigator for over 30 national or provincial projects during the past 20 years at the Kunming Institute of Botany of the Chinese Academy of Sciences. His research group focuses on the taxonomy, molecular phylogeny, population

genetics, evolution and biogeography of macrofungi (mushrooms). He has published over 200 scientific papers in peer-reviewed journals and eight books alone or in collaboration. He is noted for his outstanding studies of the Amanitaceae, Boletaceae, Agaricaceae and Physalacriaceae, which have been widely cited by other mycologists. He and his team have collected over 50,000 fungal specimens in various parts of China and in many other parts of the world, which has made the mycological herbarium of the Kunming Institute of Botany (abbreviated as HKAS) the second largest mycological herbarium in China. Using these invaluable collections, he has formally described 21 genera and over 260 species. Dr. Yang has supervised 40 doctoral candidates and postgraduate students. Currently 22 Ph.Ds. and five masters who were mentored by Dr. Yang are actively working at mycological institutions. He has chaired or co-chaired symposia on fungal phylogeny and systematics held at several national or international congresses. Currently, he has scientific collaborations with mycologists in Australia, Canada, China, France, Germany, Japan, Malaysia, South Korea, Thailand, and the US. Based on his outstanding scientific achievements in the study of fungal diversity, his Ph.D. research was recognized as one of the best dissertations in 1997 by the University of Tübingen, Germany. During his tenure at the Kunming Institute of Botany, he received the National Science Fund for Distinguished Young Scholars of the National Natural Science Foundation of China in 2005, the Hundred Talents Program of the Chinese Academy of Sciences in 2010 and received the Tai Fung-Lan Award as a Distinguished Mycologist from the Mycological Society of China in 2017.

Members of the MSA Honorary Awards Committee strongly supported the nomination of Dr. Zhu-Liang Yang as an Honorary Member of Mycological Society of America to recognize his contributions to the field of mycology. Dr. Yang's nomination was approved by the full MSA Council. Once approved, President Sharon Cantrell notified Dr. Yang with the hope that he might be able to attend the 2019 MSA meeting and receive the award in person.

Our Committee relayed this information to Andrea Porrás-Alfaro, MSA Award Coordinator to facilitate the award process.

Respectively submitted, 12 July 2019.

2019 Annual Report of the MSA Research Awards Committee

The MSA Research Awards Committee for 2018–2019 was composed of Tim James (Chair), Greg Mueller, Ari Jumpponen, Andrew Wilson, and Camille Truong, with Jolanta Miadlakowska as ex-officio representative. We reviewed applications for the Robert Lichwardt, Forest Fungal Ecology (Graduate Student and Postdoc), Bartnicki-Garcia, Martin-Baker, Emory Simmons, Translational Student,

Translational Postdoc, CT Rogerson, Smith Award, and Rippon Award. In addition, since the last MSA meeting, we reviewed two Special Topics Awards in Applied Mycology made possible by generous donations of an anonymous benefactor. As of the time of my writing, we are conducting proposal review of the second call of the Special Topics. The number of submissions across requests for proposals (RFPs) was high. In 2019, we received 45 applications for the Regular Research Awards. As each member reviewed each of the applications, the workload was judged as high, meaning that less effort could be put into each proposal. In order to reduce the workload, I am making a number of recommendations, found in the last section of the report. In the following, I briefly summarize the applications and outcomes of each of the RFPs.

2019 Research Awards:

Receipt of Applications: As mentioned above, we received 45 applications. The following are the numbers in recent years: 2018: 29; 2017: 34; 2016: 47. The number of proposals is typically highest for Forest Fungal Ecology, Translational Mycology, and CT Rogerson awards. These awards were composited by Terry Leatherman of Allen Press, who did an excellent job of quickly replying to messages and in organizing the files using DropBox.

Review of Applications: Last year, standardization was achieved by the hard work of Jolanta and Andrea, and this year, the proposals were much more similar to each other, i.e., most awards ask for similar content. Each member reviewed all applications and then ranked the candidates. The rankings were used to determine awards after discussion among the committee. Typically a form letter was used to inform the student of the result, with very brief feedback as supplied by primarily the Chair's review and sometimes from the committee. This lack of more thorough feedback is considered a weakness in the utility of the process, and in multiple instances, students requested additional feedback on the merits and weaknesses of their proposals.

2019 MSA Research Award Winners:

Lichtwardt: Ian Will (\$1000)

Forest Ecology: students Kasey Kiesewetter (\$1250) and Suzanne Ou (\$1250); postdoc Ryan Stephens (\$1250) **Bartnicki-Garcia:** Samantha Harrow (\$500)

Simmons: Tania Kubessoian (\$9006.28)

Translational Mycology: students Nora Duncritts (\$1250) and Jillian Myers (\$1250); postdoc Natalie Christian (\$1250)

CT Rogerson: Terry Torres Cruz (\$1000)

Rippon: Paris Hamm (\$500)

A&H Smith: no applicants

Martin-Baker: no applicants

2018 Special Topics (Applied Mycology) Awards:

Applications: This call was very specific and included four topics in applied mycology including myconanotechnology and sustainable mycological products. The award totals were posted as ranging from \$2000-\$10000. We received 23 applications from graduate students up to full professors. Each committee member reviewed every proposal and ranked them. Following a discussion (led by ex-officio chair Jolanta Miadlikowska), four awards were made dispersing the 20K into four high ranking proposals.

2018 MSA Special Topics Award Winners:

Prof. Chris Shardl (\$4667)

Dr. Jessie Uehling (\$4000)

Mr. Carlos De la Hoz (\$4416)

Mr. Jacob Hopkins (\$4416)

2019 Special Topics (Applied Mycology) Awards:

Applications: This call has the generous support of \$40K from the anonymous benefactor. After an early deadline received few applications, the second deadline led to 31 applications submitted. The call was made more general than the call from 2018, with a clear definition given of what constitutes applied mycology. The applications were handled by Kaylee Walters, Innovations Manager for the Mycological Society of America. This was extremely well organized, again with timely responses to emails.

Review of Applications: The applications arrived in the middle of summer, and therefore it created some complications as many of the members were conducting field work or travelling. I am trialing a new approach to the review so that 1) the workload is reduced, and 2) feedback can be captured to be sent to the applicants. The general process would be that each committee member review half of the applications and provide scores for a number of categories and written comments. The chair would read and score all applications. The scores from initial review will be used to identify the strongest 8 or so applications. After time for the committee to review these 8 high-ranking applications, all members will evaluate the 8 top proposals, and a discussion will ensue wherein scores can be adjusted. Comments can then be passed to the applicants in the award letters. This strategy is essentially making the process more like a review panel. Depending on the outcome of this Special Topics review, the procedure may become standard practice, but I will leave this up to next year's chair Greg Mueller.

Changes to the MOP: None recommended this year.

Future Recommendations: As mentioned above, in part, I recommend a number of changes to the review of applications which will help reduce the workload. With 100 applications in one year, each with a 5 page proposal, this is a substantial amount of work, though it also an extremely rewarding committee on which to serve. I have the following recommendations:

1. Increase the number of committee members to 6 persons.
2. Carefully consider the committee composition with respect to area of specialization and diversity of committee members. The committee is currently composed of 4/5 male members and this does not reflect our Society very accurately. The number of proposals in ecology is very high because of the Special Topics RFPs and the Forest Ecology Awards. Please consider making sure ecology is well represented on the committee.
3. Applicants should ideally be provided feedback on their proposals. This is additional work for the committee, and therefore,
4. It is recommended that multiple rounds of review are conducted such that in the initial round, members review only half of the applications and that a scoring sheet is used to determine the proposals worth additional consideration.

I will be discussing these recommendations with the Research Awards Committee after the review of this year's Special Topics proposals.

Respectfully Submitted,
 Tim James
 Chair, MSA Research Awards Committee

2019 Annual Report of the Mentor Student Travel Award Committee

The Mentor Student Travel Awards Committee received a total of 45 award applications for the 2019 MSA meeting. The committee selected the 18 recipients listed below.

The committee struggled with identifying applicants from underrepresented backgrounds, as the application form does not include any diversity information. This precluded weighting the final applicant selection and contribute to the MSA mission of increasing diversity.

Sara Branco (chair), Stephen Mondo, Donald Walker, Vinson Doyle

Name	Level	Lab	University	Obs	Mentor
Margaret Branine	Undergrad	Branco	Montana State U	F	Margaret Barr Bigelow

Arthur Grupe	PhD candidate	Smith	U. Florida	M	James M. Trappe
Zachary Konkel	PhD candidate	Slot	Ohio State	M	Charles Kramer
Gillian Bergman	Undergrad	Busby	OSU	F	William C. Denison
Martha Fabiola Pulido-Chavez	PhD candidate	Glassman	UC Riverside	F	Constantine J. Alexopoulos
Ian Will	PhD candidate	deBekker	U. Central Florida	M	Alma Joslyn Whiffe-Barksdale
Buck Castillo	PhD candidate	James	U. Mich	M	Robert L. Gilbertson
Teddy Garcia-Aroca	PhD candidate	Doyle	Louisiana State U	M	Edward E. Butler
Paris Hamm	PhD candidate	Natvig	U. New Mexico	F	Harry Morton Fitzpatrick
Korena Mafune	PhD candidate	Vogt	U. Wash	F	Kenneth Wells
Sean Patev	PhD candidate	Hibbett	Clark U	M	Orson and Hope Miller
Francisco Eduardo Perez-Pasto	MS	Kennedy	U. Minn	M	Harry D. Theirs
Marcos Caiafa Sepulveda	PhD candidate	Smith	U. Florida	M	Howard E. Bigelow
Megan Buland	MS	Villari	U. Georgia	F	Francis A. Uecker
Indunil Subodhini Herath	Undergrad	Manamgoda	U. Sri Jayewardenepura (Sri Lanka)	F	Everett S. Luttrell
David Valero	MS	Slot	Ohio State	M	Emerson-Fuller-Whisler
Julieta Alvarez Manjarrez	PhD candidate	Orijel	Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México	F	Richard P. Korf
Kelsey Scott	PhD candidate	Slot	Ohio State	F	D. Rabern Simmons

Annual Report of the Program Committee 2018-2019

The Program Book has gone to print, and it looks fantastic. The scientific content of this meeting is going to be excellent.

Last fall the Program Committee received 11 proposals for symposia and 3 for workshops, which is a notably higher number of submissions than typical. The committee approved 6 symposia and 2 workshops for the meeting. The Committee is excited by the quality of the symposia, which will address a range of topics with 40 presentations. The titles and organizers are as follows:

1. Animal-associated fungi: From parasitism to mutualism (Danny Haelewaters)
2. New approaches to studying marine fungal diversity (Allison Walker)
3. Oh, the places you'll go: Career opportunities in mycology (Student Section)
4. Fire-created landscape mosaics as a driver of fungal diversity (Ari Jumpponen)

5. Nothing in Mycology makes sense...but John Taylor helped explain it (Jason Stajich)
6. Genealogy of Life: Fungal biology at the intersection of systematics, genomics, ecology, and evolutionary biology (Jana U'Ren)

The workshops include a roundtable update and discussion of future directions of the North American Mycoflora Project (Jean Lodge) and a hands-on session for the newly developed suite of tools called DeCIFR, an integrated online portal for fungal systematics, ecology, evolutionary biology, etc. (Ignazio Carbone).

In addition to the 40 symposia presentations, there are 126 contributed talks in 18 sessions over the three main days of the meeting, and there are 156 posters split over two days. Plus there's the Presidential Lecture (Sharon Cantrell) and Karling Lecture (Hanna Johannesson). Combined with the other meeting events, this will be an active, vibrant, and stimulating meeting.

The Program Chair worked closely with Georgiana May (the Local Arrangements Coordinator) and others with the University of Minnesota to address logistics of the scientific program and meeting location. We have also coordinated with the Awards Committee regarding student presentations.

As with previous years, MSA used the Oxford Abstracts (OA) system via AP for abstract submission and management. To quote the 2017 Annual Report for this Committee, "In addition to the printed program and the digital online copy of the program, OA generates a webpage that shows the outline of the meeting events that can be clicked to show details of a session. And, there are also tabs for titles, presenters, and topics (sub disciplines). This webpage is searchable for presentation details in a variety of ways."

This was the Program Chair's first time developing a program for a meeting, and it is his opinion that the relationship with Allen Press was truly excellent. The Program Chair strongly recommends a continuation of this partnership with Allen Press if possible, and further wishes to particularly note the excellent work of Chris Lapine. He was beyond helpful and truly went the extra mile to assist the Chair. Our sincere thanks to him for his enthusiasm and invaluable assistance, which made the Program development process smooth, efficient, and effective.

—MSA Program Committee: Tony Glenn (Chair), Lisa Grubisha, Heather Hallen-Adams, Kristi Gdanetz MacCready, and Frances Trail

Annual Report of the Student Awards Committee

This year we received twelve applications for student awards: nine applications for MSA Graduate Fellowships (eight of whom also applied for the Backus Award and the NAMA Memorial Fellowship; results were also communicated to the MSA Research Awards Committee to ensure the same students did not receive multiple awards). We received 3 applications for the Undergraduate Research Award. Awardees were informed on March 27 and are as follows:

MSA Graduate Fellowship	Blake Commer
	Rob Powers
NAMA Memorial Fellowship	Mara DeMers
Backus Award	Regina Bledsoe
Undergraduate Award	Olivia Asher

We are now heading into the Annual Meeting with 155 presentations to review (91 posters and 64 talks). To help with the daunting task of selecting the best poster and oral presentations I will put out a call for judging volunteers shortly. We will be coordinating with Elsevier and other Bestowers of Awards before the awards ceremony Wednesday, August 14 to ensure that awards are spread around generously, taking diversity and inclusion into account. We will celebrate the excellent work of these students in Minneapolis.

-MSA Student Awards Committee

Allison Walker (Chair), Jason Slot, Mia Maltz, Maj Padamsee

Endowment Committee Report

22 July 2019

I. Donations. Thanks to all who donated to MSA over the past years!

A. Donations from Jan-Dec 2017: 168 individual donations, \$62,629 total. The last report from the Endowment Committee was from July, 2017 by D. Hemmes. The committee lacked a chair from May, 2018-Feb 2019 (data from Allen Press) but Hemmes and MSA Exec VPs Bergemann and Brewer continued careful organization of records to the end of 2018.

B. Jan-Dec 2018: 162 individual donors, \$77,650 total. The Applied Mycology Award was funded with a \$40,000 donation and the Uncommitted Endowment fund received \$10,000, both from an anonymous donor. Amy Rossman donated \$11,000 in total, spread over four funds. Amy targeted her donations to increase MSA's investment in each of three funds (Wells, Uecker, Fitzgerald) to over \$10,000. This means that each of the three funds now generates enough income to support an annual travel award to a student. In 2018, MSA did not host a meeting, and so fund raising with meeting t-shirts and auction did not take place.

C. Jan-Jun 2019: 51 individual donations, \$18,375 total. Jason Stajich successfully raised \$15,780 of donations for the new John Taylor Award fund (see table). The society

Jan-Jun 2019 Fund	Amount
Butler Mentor Travel Donation	\$10.00
Korf Mentor Travel Donation	\$10.00
Robert W. Lichtwardt Research Award	\$20.00
Uecker Mentor Travel Donation	\$20.00
Forest Fungal Ecology Award	\$25.00
Orson & Hope Miller Mentor Travel	\$25.00
Trappe Mentor Travel Donation	\$25.00
Wells Mentor Travel Donation	\$25.00
Rippon Graduate Award	\$100.00
MSA Diversity Award	\$110.00
S Bartnicki Garcia Research Student Research Award Fund	\$200.00
Translational Mycology Award	500.00
Thiers Mentor Travel Donation	\$1,525.00
John Taylor award fund	15,780.00
Total	\$18,375.00

transitioned from management by Allen press to management by the Rees Group. Endowment records through Mar 7 2019 were from Allen; from May-June from Rees. Most people donate to MSA at the end of the year and the strong early numbers point to another year of generous donations.

D. Letters of thanks and tax receipts to MSA donors. For many years, the chair of the Endowment Committee, most recently Don Hemmes wrote and mailed out acknowledgments and tax receipts for donations. For donations received from May-Dec 2018, Mary Berbee and David Carmean (Mary Berbee's husband) generated letters and tax receipts in March 2019, using a database designed by David. Starting in Jan 2019, the Rees Group is using their member database to issue donation receipt letters. This simplifies the job of the Endowment Committee and reduces the chances that issuance of letters will be delayed.

II. Other MSA fundraising: Auction and meeting t-shirts

A. Auction. MSA received some great books and we are looking forward to active bidding. To broaden auction participation, to help track MSA auction items and to encourage our membership to dream about choice items and to prepare to bid high, Dave Carmean set up an online auction database.

All MSA members will be invited to participate in the online auction starting two weeks before the 2019 auction and banquet. All payments and item pick up must still take place in the MSA auction and banquet on Aug. 14. Competing bids will be accepted in the MSA auction and banquet; a reward for live participation. A member who cannot attend the meeting can designate someone else to act for them.

B. Meeting t-shirts. Savannah Gentry produced the winning design for the 2019 meeting. We sold 35 shirts with her design through advance online sales and have ordered an additional 115 shirts (150 total) for sale during the 2019 meeting. Shirts cost ~\$10 to print and by selling them at \$20 each, we should be able to contribute to MSA funds. In future years, rules for the design competition need to be better specified. To control costs, designs should use three or fewer colours, including black and white in the count. Winning a design competition is great but MSA needs to specify that it will pay an artist a salary if it is necessary to re-work the design several times.

Students receiving travel grants and other MSA awards will be asked to volunteer to sell t-shirts and help set up tables and lay out items before the banquet and auction.

Volunteers will sign up for slots online using a Google spreadsheet.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Berbee, Chair
Andrew Methven
Peter Avis
Suzanne Joneson
Paris Hamm

2019 Annual Report of the Karling Lecture Committee

The MSA Karling Committee for 2019 consisted of Don Natvig (Chair), Rebecca Shay, Jason Stajich and Alisha Quandt.

In discussions that took place during August and September 2018, the committee considered more than 20 candidates that included nominees from previous years in addition to several new nominees. In the end, each committee member generated a ranked list of 5 individuals from the candidate list. Seven candidates received at least one ranked vote. Hanna Johannesson was the committee's unanimous choice. Her name and that of the second-place candidate were forwarded to the MSA Council. The Council subsequently approved the invitation of Professor Johannesson, who generously accepted.

Hanna Johannesson is a professor at Uppsala University. She is an expert in evolutionary genetics with primary interests in fungal evolution. Hanna received her doctoral degree from the Swedish Agricultural University and was a postdoctoral associate with John Taylor at UC Berkeley. She has published broadly in the fields of fungal molecular evolution and reproductive biology. Among Professor Johannesson's many accomplishments is the fact that her work has helped advance the genus *Neurospora* well beyond its traditional status as model in cell biology and laboratory genetics.

—MSA Karling Annual Lecture Committee

Annual Report MSA Student Section, July 2019

Part 1: MSA Student Section Executive Board 2019-2020

Part 2: August 2018 – July 2019 Year in Review

2.1 Bylaws

2.2 Fundraising

2.3 Outreach

- a) Social Media Presence
- b) MSA Student Section Website
- c) Newsletters
- d) Outreach Depot

2.4 Preparations for Annual Meeting

Part 1: MSA Student Section Executive Board 2019-2020

Elections were held from June 10, 2019 until July 20, 2019. We received a total of 30 votes in the first contested election for multiple positions. The following individuals were elected:

Chair: Rebecca Shay – Michigan State University (*automatic transition*)
Vice-Chair: Robert Powers – University of Michigan
Communication Chair: Tania Kurbessoian – University of California Riverside
Merchandise Chair: Savannah Gentry – University of Wisconsin Madison
Secretary: Sarah Getson – Michigan State University
Treasurer: Austin N. Frewert – Washington State University
Post-doctoral Representative: Lotus Lofgren – University of Minnesota
Webmaster: María-José Romero-Jiménez – Western Illinois University
Past-chair: Kristi Gdanetz MacCready – University of Michigan (*automatic transition*)

Part 2: August 2018 – July 2019 Year in Review

2.1 Bylaws

Amendments to the Bylaws were unanimously approved by the 2018–2019 Executive Board, and ratified by a student section member-wide vote in June–July 2019. The amendment to the Student Section bylaws transferred the responsibility of the Student Section email address from the Webmaster to the Vice-Chair.

2.2 Fundraising

The Merchandise Chair shipped online orders of Student Section merchandise to customers. The Merchandise Chair created a new t-shirt design to be sold at MSA 2019 in Minneapolis. The Treasurer finalized the donations from IMC11 to the Puerto Rico students.

2.3 Outreach

A) Social Media Presence

As of July 20 2019, the Student Section MSA Facebook page has 5,575 likes [+1,120 since July 2018], the Twitter account (@MSAStudents) has 1,575 followers [+393].

B) MSA Student Section Website

The Webmaster updated the Student Section website, including creation of new sections, removal of irrelevant or outdated content, and archived previous Student Spotlights. Archived Student Spotlights are available at: <https://msastudents.org/student-spotlights/archived-student-spotlights/>

C) Newsletters

The Communication Chair and Webmaster created 7 newsletters. A total of 10 Student Spotlights were written by the Communication Chair and published in newsletters during the 2018-2019 academic year.

D) Outreach Depot

Previously collected educational resources (lesson plans, Powerpoint presentations, and lab activities for a variety of skill levels) were published to the Student Section website. We continued to solicit MSA members to submit materials they are willing to share that can enable outreach opportunities for students. All these materials are available at: <https://msastudents.org/outreach-materials/>

2.4 Preparations for Annual Meeting

The Secretary and the Postdoctoral Representative successfully proposed and organized a Symposium for MSA 2019, focused on non-academic career paths in mycology. The symposium will feature 5 speakers and a Question & Answer session. In addition to the symposium, the Student Section will host a social and an informal dinner outside of the conference center, and present a poster during MSA 2019 to facilitate networking between members.

— *MSA Student Section Executive Board 2018-2019*

Chair: Kristi Gdanetz MacCready – University of Michigan

Vice-Chair: Rebecca Shay – Michigan State University

Communication Chair: Lindsey Becker – North Carolina State University

Merchandise Chair: Savannah Gentry – University of Wisconsin Madison

Secretary: Rob Powers – University of Michigan

Treasurer: Cedric Ndinga Muniania – University of Minnesota

Post-doctoral Representative: Rachel Koch – Purdue University

Webmaster: Derreck Carter-House – University of California Riverside

Past-chair: Terry Torres-Cruz – Penn State University

Award Coordinator Report 2019:

Award coordinator continued with website updates and coordinated award announcements and the description of new awards with the award committee chairs.

Announcements and reminders went out as blast emails to all MSA members. As in previous years, the award coordinator collected award biographies and pictures for the publication in *Inoculum*. The award coordinator maintained a new award database in Google to coordinate with committee chairs before the emails are sent to the awardees and checks are produced. Standard template letters were created to notify awardees. Award coordinator also collected comments from committee chairs to improve the award submission and evaluation process. A new online form to submit award reports to MSA was created. A total of 75 awards were given in 2018 and 42 in 2019, special topics awards and presentation awards are still under review.

Submitted respectfully by Andrea Porrás-Alfaro, MSA award coordinator

Memorials Editor Annual Report
Meredith Blackwell
25 June 2019

Five memorials published in 2018 and 2019 are listed below. Other members who should have obituaries are also listed. Three comments include:

- The headers on the table of contents page may have become standardized for memorials and¹ inclusion of “In memorium” (not standardized) in the title, but this should be mentioned to Taylor & Francis to ensure this because of ease in searching.
- Although I have assigned the writers, I have not seen all memorials before or after they are submitted to *Mycologia*. I have no problem with this other than it is difficult to keep track of progress. (I am listed as memorials associate editor at the end of the associate editors list.)
- All of the memorials appear to be available as open access articles.

**1) Memorials:
Completed**

¹Obituary

In memoriam: Walter Gams (1934–2017) – Keith A. Seifert, Rasoul Zare, and Richard C. Summerbell (2019). *Mycologia* 111: Published online: 13 Jun 2019

¹Obituary

Kenneth Wells, 24 July 1927–19 July 2016 -- Mary L. Berbee and John W. Taylor (2019) *Mycologia* 111:525–528

¹Obituary

James W. Kimbrough, 1934–2017 -- Matthew E. Smith and Rosanne A. Healy (2019) *Mycologia* 111:517-524

¹Article

In memoriam: Martha Christensen, 1932–2017 -- Michael F. Allen, Dorothy E. Tuthill, Jack States, Stephen E. Williams & Terry W. Henkel
Mycologia 111:190-193

¹Article

Thomas Norwood Taylor (1938–2016) -- Christine Strullu-Derrien and Paul Kenrick (2018). *Mycologia* 110:448--452

¹Note the inconsistent listing of memorials on the TOC page, although there is a "Memorial" title above all the entries. The header "Obituary" may be standardized but it is not clear.

Assigned

John W. Rippon May 19, 1932 - March 20, 2019 – Tom Volk (See <https://www.facebook.com/msafungi/photos/from-tom-volkmy-dear-friend-and-medical-mycology-mentor-dr-john-rippon-passed-aw/1014632468747953/> and <http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/national-cremation/obituary.aspx?n=John-RIPPON&lc=2881&pid=192249341&mid=8226489>)

Work in Progress

Edward Butler (--2016) – David Rizzo and Rick Bostock
<http://www.worldcat.org/title/ucd-emeriti-association-oral-history-interview-with-edward-e-butler-january-23-2003/oclc/648874012>

Unassigned

- Royall Tyler Moore (October 11, 1930--August 17, 2014)
 - http://www.passedaway.com/notice/dr_royall_moore/14368/
 - https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royall_T._Moore
 - <http://www.news.cornell.edu/stories/2015/06/royall-moores-passion-fungi-funds-students>
 -
- John Webster (25 May 1925 – 27 December 2014) – David Hawksworth was asked this week. He had already written about Webster, so he was not asked earlier. He now has new information that can be used.
- Chirayathumadom Venkatachaliar -- (CV) Subramanian (August 11, 1924–February 5, 2016) – Keith Seifert (short perspective piece)
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._V._Subramanian
<http://www.currentscience.ac.in/Volumes/106/10/1438.pdf>
<http://www.fungiindia.co.in/images/kavaka/45/45.pdf>
["Tropical Mycology: Future Needs and Development"](#)
<http://www.britmycolsoc.org.uk/society/obituaries/professor-cv-subramanian-1924-2016/>
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/C._V._Subramanian
<http://ssbprize.gov.in/Content/Detail.aspx?AID=80>
<http://www.neglectedscience.com/alphabetical-list/s/chirayathumadom-venkatachaliar-subramanian>

- Cletus Paul Kurtzman

2) Wikipedia

Cathie Aime sent a list of all the memorials ever published in *Mycologia*. I would like to put the names and a link on the Wikipedia "List of mycologists" page <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_mycologists>. In the past MSA student members have added a number of mycologists to Wikipedia, but it is slow going. By using *Mycologia* citations nothing needs to be rewritten.

3) Selected publications

Keith Seifert's suggestion was accepted, and several memorials were accompanied by free access for a month to the *Mycologia* publications on the Taylor and Francis *Mycologia* website.

4) Acknowledgements

I thank Marin Brewer and Keith Seifert for their extremely helpful involvement.

Archivist Annual Report

Meredith Blackwell

25 June 2019

This is the same information from the 2018 report

The main activity of the archivist was to negotiate an agreement with the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, Pittsburgh, through J. Dustin Williams, Archivist and Research Scholar, to move the MSA Archives from its historical home at the NYBG. The advantage of the move is that the HIBD is an archive and would archive the MSA materials over time at no charge to MSA. Materials that are of interest would be scanned and made available to MSA. Because the HIBD encourages research on its collections, the materials would be available to researchers (e.g., history of mycology in the USA, numbers of students hired in the field, trends in costs of the journal). Sarah Bergemann visited NY in the winter [2018] and will provide an update on the materials that are to be moved. Hopefully the funds approved by MSA Council in 2016 are still available.