

Anne Pringle
Mycological Society of America President
Annual Report for Council Meeting on July 20, 2020

Dear Mycologists,

I write to you in the midst of a global pandemic and from a country in the grips of an economic crisis. Academia is being reshaped by an abrupt shift to online learning and will continue to be impacted by sharply reduced budgets.

I also write just weeks after the killing of George Floyd and at a moment when the United States appears to be reckoning with the legacy of slavery and current racial disparities perhaps more deeply than we ever have before.

In my mid-year report I listed quite a few priorities we aimed to tackle this year, including:

- Continuing to evaluate and restructure our membership options
- Continuing to improve accounting protocols (and make accounting easier to understand)
- Creating a yearly budget and using the budget to rationalize expenses and prioritize how we spend money
- Making sure the Finance Committee is in good shape by identifying MSA members who have a background in finance and are willing to manage our money
- Rethinking the roles of Councilors to give them more to do
- Improving our social media presence, making it more nimble and working to attract a wider audience
- Revamping our website
- Revamping the Manual of Operations (our “MOP”)
- Having a contest to redesign/create a new logo for MSA

Executive Council had also planned to meet in person in Madison May 2020 to talk about our plans and priorities, and to strengthen our already strong relationship with The Rees Group.

All of it will have to wait.

In the face of the pandemic, Executive Council made the decision to postpone our Gainesville meeting until 2022 (in 2021 we will meet with the Botanical Society of America in Boise). We also decided to hold our first-ever virtual meeting. The virtual meeting will be nearly free (just \$10) to MSA members. I hope it is a success.

Financially, MSA is still in good shape, despite the roller coaster ride of global stock markets. We will want to be prudent with our money in the near future, although I note over the last several years we have perhaps been too prudent, and were in danger of not meeting our mission as a non-profit by holding on to too much cash (...but spending nearly \$17,000 to host the virtual meeting has helped solve that peculiar problem).

In Spring MSA members did vote to do away with various committees and offices that hadn't functioned well in a long time. I hope the trend of thinking through and streamlining our organizational structure continues.

But in closing, MSA's growing focus on equity and diversity issues seems timelier than ever. As a society, we've done some things well (our diversity statement, released just last year) but have lots of work left to do (we ask our awards committees to think about diversity but provide no mechanism for them to identify which candidates are from underrepresented groups). I look forward to doing much more in future.

Black Lives Matter.

Sincerely,

Anne Pringle
President

President-Elect Annual Report
Marc Anthony Cubeta
July 1, 2020

In the past year, I worked closely with MSA members and The Rees Group (TRG) to address Society concerns and issues. Together we have made collective progress in six areas;

1) Developed a newly designed award plaque with input from the MSA Executive Council, Awards Coordinator Andrea Porrás-Alfaro, and Kaylee Walters and Cori VanGalder of TRG.

2) Continued to discuss plans for the joint annual meeting with the Botanical Society of America (BSA) in Boise Idaho from July 17-22, 2021 with JoAnne Stogran, BSA Program Coordinator, Leonora Bittleston and Merlin White, MSA local arrangements committee, and Heather Hallen-Adams, MSA 2021 program chair.

3) Served in an advisory capacity for developing educational resources and organizing an online teaching symposium for the 2020 MSA virtual meeting with the Education Committee, Emily Cantonwine (chair), Sara Gremillion, Michelle Pearson, and student representative Chance Noffsinger with input from MSA 2020 program chair Lisa Grubisha and Bill Stoeffler of TRG.

4) Addressed the financial needs of the Student committee with Treasurer Jessie Glaeser to increase student interaction with Executive and General Councils. I want to thank Erica Koconis of TRG, MSA student committee chairs Rebecca Shay and Kristi Gdanetz-MacCready, and MSA student committee treasurers Austin Frewert and Rob Powers for their input.

5) Facilitated the Society's membership in the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM disciplines with assistance from Geromy Moore (Diversity and Inclusion Committee chair). I want to thank members of the Diversity and Inclusion Committee for their insightful and valuable input in developing the recently released statement of solidarity with MSA leadership.

6) Participated in the International Year of Plant Health special event held at The US Botanical Gardens in Washington DC in early March 2020, as a representative for MSA. At this event, I interacted with members of the American Phytopathological Society and other scientific societies and organizations, post-doctoral researchers, graduate and undergraduate students, Congressional representatives, senators and staffers to better communicate the importance of fungi to plant health and society. I want to thank the Executive and General Councils for their support in providing me with an opportunity to attend this special event and to Romina Gazis for serving as an ad hoc reviewer of grant proposals that provided graduate students with funds to participate in this event.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc Anthony Cubeta

2020 Annual Report of the Vice President

Dear colleagues,

It's my honor to present the 2020 Annual Report of the Vice President for MSA.

Over the past year my primary roles as Vice President have been to coordinate the MSA elections; to establish the location for the 2022 MSA meeting; to participate in the planning of the 2020 virtual MSA meeting; and to interact with the Council and Executive Council on matters arising. I would like to thank President Anne Pringle and President-Elect Marc Cubeta for their superb mentorship during my role as Vice President -- a tradition I hope to carry forward. Here I summarize my main activities with respect to 2020 MSA elections and the 2022 MSA meeting.

1. Elections were conducted in spring 2020 to fill five positions: Vice President of the MSA, and four Councilor positions (Ecology/Conservation, Systematics/Evolution, Genetics/Cell Biology, Symbiosis/Pathology). Candidates for election reflected nominations from MSA membership and suggestions of the MSA Nominations Committee. The election process was facilitated by Kaylee Walters and Cori VanGalder of the Rees Group, whose help was greatly appreciated. I also thank everyone who stood for election and all who took the time to nominate a candidate.

A majority of MSA members who received and opened the ballot cast a vote. Elected and non-elected candidates were contacted by email and/or phone after the election concluded. It is a pleasure to congratulate the following MSA members on election to their respective positions:

Julia Kerrigan, Vice President
Sydney Glassman, Councilor, Ecology and Conservation
Allison Walker, Councilor, Systematics and Evolution
Sara Branco, Councilor, Genetics and Cell Biology
Romina Gazis, Councilor, Symbiosis and Pathology

I also welcome Matt Kasson, appointed by Council for one year to fill the Councilor position vacated by Julia as she assumes her duties as Vice President.

The newly elected members will begin their terms at the end of the business meeting at the MSA 2020: Mycology from the Cloud virtual meeting. Each has been invited to attend the MSA Council Meeting on July 20, 2020, as a guest. Election results were published in the June 2020 issue of *Inoculum*.

2. Plans for the 2022 MSA meeting have shifted relative to the outlook presented in the mid-year report. As the 2020 meeting transitioned to an online format, discussions with the local organizers in Gainesville raised the possibility of avoiding cancellation penalties and leveraging their hard work by holding the 2022 meeting 'in the swamp'. After consultation with other societies and reviewing dates to avoid overlapping with IMC and other meetings, the dates of July 10-14, 2022 were proposed for the 2022 meeting. I hope we will have the chance to come together as a society in Gainesville in 2022, and I thank Matt Smith for helpful communication and hard work to make this happen.

On a personal note, thank you to our membership for the opportunity to serve MSA and our discipline, and thank you to the Council for considering this report.

Sincerely,

A. Elizabeth (Betsy) Arnold
MSA Vice President

2020 Annual Report of the Executive Vice President

A summary of activities since assuming the duties of EVP after the annual meeting in Minneapolis, MN is as follows:

- The last business meeting minutes of the 2019 MSA Annual Business meeting in Minneapolis, MN were published on the MSA website <https://msafungi.org/msa-meeting-minutes-and-reports/>. The 2019 annual council meeting minutes from Minneapolis, MN have been compiled and posted to the MSA website.
- 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 The Rees Group for publication on the MSA website and include: MSA Constitution and By-laws, MSA Manual of Operations, MSA Awards Committees and MSA roster.
- The fall ballot was assembled with President Anne Pringle. The ballot included approval of amendments to the MSA Constitution and Bylaws for extending the period of eligibility for the Alexopoulos Prize for family and medical leave, and changes to the councilor names to align better with areas of expertise.
- Conducted 13 email polls as follows:
 - **2019-12**—Council approved the request from Roy Halling for Emeritus Member Status
 - **2019-13**—Council approved the nomination of Matthew Kasson as Associate Editor for Mycologia
 - **2019-14**—Approval of the Karling Annual Lecture Committee candidates
 - **2019-15**—Approval of the MSA Diversity Statement
 - **2019-16**—Request for Emeritus Member Status for Albert P. Torzilli
 - **2019-17**—Request for Emeritus Member Status for Lori M. Carris
 - **2019-18**—MSA Sponsorship of Year of Plant Health at \$2,500 level
 - **2019-19**—Mycologia Executive Editor Nomination of Rosa Mouriño
 - **2020-01**—Mycologia Associate Editor Nomination of Alfredo Justo
 - **2020-02**—Request for Emeritus Member Status for Don Hemmes
 - **2020-03**—Approval of the MSA Honorary Awards Nominees 1
 - **2020-04**—Approval of the MSA Honorary Awards Nominees 2

- **2020-05**—Appointment of Matthew Kasson as MSA Councilor to replace Julia Kerrigan elected Vice President
- Worked with Executive Council, the Awards Coordinator, the Program Chair, and The Rees Group on the spring and fall ballots, calls for membership renewals, calls for Annual Meeting symposia and workshops, the call for nominations of officers for MSA council, calls for student, mentor travel, honorary, distinctions and research awards and 2020 meeting announcements.
- The spring ballot proposed changes to the constitution and bylaws was assembled with President Anne Pringle. The ballot included removal of inactive special expertise committees and society representatives.
- Worked with President Anne Pringle to identify MSA members fill remaining committee vacancies
- Prepared three Executive VP columns for *Inoculum* (September 2019, January/February 2020, June 2020 issues)
- Worked with President Anne Pringle 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
- Wrote and posted the minutes of the 2020 Midyear Executive Council Meeting to the MSA website.
- Worked with Executive Council, The Rees Group, and the Program Chair to decide on and then organize the 2020 Virtual Meeting.
- Worked with President Anne Pringle and Executive Council to organize the agenda for the annual Council Meeting; contacted officers and committee chairs to submit annual reports; and compiled the agenda and packet for meeting
- Responded to email and other inquiries addressed to the MSA
- The death of the following members and friends of MSA were reported:
 - Carlene “Cardy” Raper – Sept 5, 2019
 - Samuel J. Mazzer – September 21, 2019
 - Jos Wessels – Nov 1, 2019
 - Stanley J. Hughes – Nov 7, 2019
 - Ian K. Ross – Nov 29, 2019
 - Douglas E. Eveleigh – December 30, 2019
 - Nick Read – March 21, 2020
- 149 new members from 12 countries joined MSA since the last annual meeting and will be presented for approval by member vote via email:
 - **Canada:** Jonathan Mack, Sean McCotter
 - **Germany:** Hermine Lotz-Winter
 - **Hungary:** Neha Sahu, Torda Varga
 - **Japan:** Takamichi Orihara

- **Mexico:** Valeria Flores, Daniel Acosta García, Jesica Abril Hernandez Monroy, Raquel Aline Melo Saint-Cyr Frías, Olivia Rojo Nava, Julio Olguin, Ana Bermudez-Contreras
- **Netherlands:** Menno W. Boomsliuter
- **Nigeria:** Onyeka Onyolu
- **Pakistan:** Arooj Naseer
- **South Africa:** Janneke Aylward, Felipe Balocchi Schalchli, Leandri Bezuidenhout, Tanay Bose, Lieshen de Vos, Claudette Dewing, Arista Fourie, Mathew Harris, Minette Havenga, Darryl Herron, Fahimeh Jami, Daniella Kramer, Frances Lane, JieQiong Li, GuoQing Li, Feifei Liu, QianLi Liu, Kira Lynn, Ongeziwe Mbhele, Mandy Messal, Cobus Meyer Visagie, Jan Nagel, Wilma Nel, David Nsibo, Trudy Paap, Nam Pham, Jenna-Lee Price, Jane Ramaswe, Quentin Santana, Lebone Sebapo, Myriam Solis, Hiroyuki Suzuki, Cheyenne Theron, Ariska van Der Nest, Nicole van Vuuren, Stephanie van Wyck, Anien Viljoen, Andi Wilson, Neriman Yilmaz Visagie
- **Sweden:** Louis Mielke
- **United Kingdom:** Daniel Henk
- **United States:** Laura Barth, Kevin Chung, Spencer Cragun, Joe Gagne, Shuhua Ge, Lee Kurtz, Ashlynn Morin, Sean O'Mara, Nick Rajtar, Cara Santelli, Sofia Simeto, Daniel Stanton, Cristina Toapant, Wayne Anable, Dylan Baldassari, Arleen Bessette, Alan Bessette, Thea Chesney, Quinton Cromeens, Frankie K Crutcher, Cheng Gao, Will Hendricks, Robert Martin, Maria Morrow, Ethan V. Murdock, Eduard Pinkevitch, Prasanth P. Prabhu, Ashton Reece, Sue Urban, Annakay Abrahams, Brianna Almeida, Olivia Anderson, Charlene Aparicio, Jessa Ata, Johnny Balidion, Charles Bond, Caroline Burks, Luis Bustamante, Zack Cargile, Anita Davelos, Lauren Dorsch, Joseph Edwards, Zachary Guillian, Damian Hernandez, Morgan Ingraham, Kaitlin Knutson, Erika Lyon, Lisa Markovchick, Valerie Martin, Joseph Miller, Jason Miller, Kyle Mondron, Taryn Mueller, Jake Nash, Gary Olds, Bryan Rennick, Hannah Roden, Thomas Roehl, Wednesday Smith, Jose Solorzano, Anthony Vozzella, José Vargas-Muniz, Gian Maria Niccolo Benucci, Leonora Bittleston, Kaylee Boyle, John Dobbs, Louise Egerton Warburton, Sonya Erlandson, Astrid Ferrer, Hannah Frank, Daniel Gillies, Jacob Golan, Luisa Gomez, Ryan Guo, Elena Karlsen-Ayala, Shawnee Kasanke, Duncan Keller, Kevin Lauterjung, Soraya Leal-Bertioli, Ben Lemmond, Douglas Luster, Pat Miller, Eric Morrison, Katie Ohno, Emily Putnam, Layne Rogers, Klara Scharnagl, Bradley Schlottman, Danielle Stevenson, Esteban Valverde Bogantes, Jennie Wuest
- Four members were approved by Council for Emeritus status since the 2019 annual report and will be presented for approval by member vote at the Business Meeting:
 - Dr. Roy E. Halling, formerly New York Botanical Garden, member since 1973
 - Dr. Albert P. Torzilli, formerly George Mason University, member since 1972
 - Dr. Dr. Lori M. Carris, formerly Washington State University, member since 1985

- Dr. Don Hemmes, formerly University of Hawai'i, member since 1981

Respectfully submitted,
Marin Brewer

Treasurer's Report

July 1, 2020

Table 1. MSA Financial Position as of 30May 2020

Assets	31 Dec 2018	31 Dec 2019	30 May 2020
Current assets			
Checking/Savings – US Bank	\$ 297,324.19	\$ 201,442*	\$51,312
Checking/Savings – Park Bank		82,112	329,319
Total Checking/Savings	297,324.19	283,554	380,631
Other Current Assets			
TD Ameritrade– Combined	1,461,085.10	1,726,211	1,659,662
Prepaid Expenses	1,841.67		
Total Other Current Assets	1,760,250.90	1,726,211	1,659,662
Total Assets	1,760,250.96	2,009,765	2,040,293
Liabilities and Net Assets			
Accounts Payable	\$24,753.14	\$6,888	\$1,356
Long Term Liabilities (inc. deferred memberships)	27,270.00	27,627	6,310
Total Current Liabilities	52,023.14	34,515	7,666
Total Liabilities	52,023.14	34,515	7,666
Net Assets	\$1,708,227.82	1,752,814	\$1,975,250

Excess Revenue over Expenditures (net income)	(\$40,801.94)	222,435.14	57,377
Total Equity	\$1,708,227.82	1,975,250	2,032,627
Total Liabilities and Equity	\$1,760,250.96	2,009,765	2,040,293

On December 31, 2019 current assets include TD Ameritrade pooled operating funds \$431,553.69 and TD Ameritrade pooled endowment funds \$1,294,658.09. Since then 2020 has been extremely turbulent due to the global oil crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. The portfolio was rebalanced, taking advantage of low stock prices while they lasted, which bolstered the portfolio's recovery. As of June 18, 2020 there was a 2% decrease of \$32,338 since January 1 for a closing balance of \$1,691,915. This is still an overall 3.1% increase (\$50,391) from a year ago.

In 2020 we anticipate eliminating the US Bank bank account to simplify finances.

Table 2. Revenue and Expenses

	As of 31 Dec 2018	As of 31 Dec 2019	As of 30 May 2020
Ordinary Revenue			
Donations	\$186,065	\$41,433	\$1,810
Auction	500	11,266	
Meeting	515,544	158,365	530 ¹
Membership Dues	51,139	47,067	39,982
Publication (Mycologia)	82,840	83,624	114,154
Additional revenue	20,159	17,986	
Total Ordinary Revenues	733,970	361,914	156,476
Other income (investment)	(103,888)	279,405	(59,105)
Total Gross Revenue		641,319	97,371
Expenses			
General	\$8,466	19,002	7,196
Grants and Awards	139,349	86,157	503 ²
Meeting	569,581	164,074	500 ³
Officer Expenses	4,545	4,592	0
Management	34,805 (Allen Press)	46,090 (Rees Group) 15,566 (Allen Press) 3,400 (travel)	21,159 (Rees Group)
Publication	13,243	12,513	0
Editorial Travel to Meeting	3,005	10,473	0
Membership expenses		2,362	1,031

Travel speakers		14,564	0
Web/internet		25,541	2,178
Investment expense		14,549	7,427
Total Expenses	774,772	418,883	39,994
Excess Revenue over Expenses	(39,909)	222,436	57,377
Restricted Revenue over Expenses	(892)		
Change in Net Assets	(40,802)	301,537	30,528
Beginning Net Assets	1,749,030	1,708,228	2,009,765
Ending Net Assets	1,708,228	2,009,765	2,040,293

¹**Meetings** – The 2019 meeting in Minneapolis, MN brought in \$159,365 through registration, sponsorships, workshops, the foray and other special programs. Total expenses for the meeting were \$165,074 (-\$5708). The University of Minnesota was reimbursed \$5212.52 in January, 2020, as per their invoice. During the meeting, the auction raised \$11,265.71; donations for T-shirts (\$700) were designated for the new MSA Diversity Award fund. In 2020 a 2-day virtual meeting was organized due to COVID-19. Initial meeting registration fees (\$530) reflected above were reimbursed after May 30. The cost of the 2020 virtual meeting, including computer program costs, web fees and administration was \$13,260.

²**Grants and Awards** : Grants and awards in 2019 included \$42,692 (awards given at annual meeting), \$40,989 for Special Topics Awards to research topics of interest to an anonymous donor, and \$2,475 to the North American Mycoflora Project. In 2020 the final amount of awards was \$24,920 (not reflected in Table 2 since most were made after May 30), however 19 travel awards (\$750 each) were deferred for student travel to the 2021 or 2022 MSA meeting.

Donations: In 2019 donations included \$23,062 to board-designated and named funds, including \$1,667 for a one-time International Travel Award. Additional donations included \$2,000 to the Fungal Olympics and \$16,321 unrestricted donations. In 2020 donations (as of May 30) were \$1,810.

Publications: *Mycologia* netted \$60,638 in 2019 compared to \$66,591 in 2018. In 2019 expenses included \$10,473 for editors to travel to the annual meeting. Only \$3000 was spent for this purpose in 2018. In 2020 *Mycologia* netted \$114,154 with no travel expenses.

Student Section – The student section received donations of \$1,022 at the annual meeting in 2019 and \$100 in donations to date in 2020. On July 1, 2020 their estimated balance was \$2924.35. We are working with the Rees Group to develop better ways to track and manage their expenditures and donations.

Table 3: Balances of Board-Designated and Named Funds

Fund	Dec 31, 2019			May 30, 2020		
	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Donations 2019	Temporarily Restricted	Permanently Restricted	Donations 2020

Board Designated						
Meredith Blackwell Best Oral	13,186		250	13,486		300
Forest Fungi	25		75	25		
NAMA Fellowship	0		2000	0		
Applied Mycology Fund	65,828		75	24,839		
NA Mycoflora Fund	2,175		320	2,195		20
MSA Diversity Award	6,094		3985	6,209		115
Anonymous Endowment	40000			40,000		
John Taylor Best Oral	9030		9230	9,030		
Travel Funds						
Constantine Alexopoulos	7871	11557		7871	11557	
A.W. Barksdale/J.P. Raper	3550	6054		3550	6054	
Howard Bigelow	6892	10653	100	6892	10653	
Margaret Barr Bigelow	6293	12381	100	6293	12381	
Edward E. Butler	6392	10879	110	6493	10913	135
William C. Denison	7997	12238	75	7997	12238	
Harry Morton Fitzpatrick	6119	10000		6119	10000	
Emerson-Fuller-Whisler	5491	13616	100	5491	13616	
Richard P. Korf	6038	12787	130	6038	12787	
Everett S. Luttrell	8640	14575	200	8640	14575	
Harry D. Thiers	7080	28085	3050	7080	28085	
James M. Trappe	6294	13837	100	6294	13837	

Francis A. Uecker	3227	11251	120	3227	11251	
Kenneth Wells	2465	8950	50	2503	8950	50
Hope and Orson K. Miller	17877	26019	100	18008	26019	175
Gilbertson	7336	12015		7373	12028	50
Charles Kramer	6909	10224		6909	10224	
Simmons	154	36259		154	36259	
Research Funds						
A.H. and H.V. Smith	24587	26254	500	24625	26266	50
Martin Baker Research	48289	57694		48308	57700	25
Myron Backus	23362	47806		23362	47806	
Constantine Alexopoulos	13299	20059	200	13299	20059	
Clark T. Rogerson	19686	25380	50	19708	25388	30
John S. Karling	9604	10678		9604	25380	
R.W. Lichtwardt	-1835	15325	20	-1835	15325	
John Rippon Graduate Research	9977		500	10007		30
Undergraduate Research	1821			1921		100
S. Bartnicki-Garcia	16530		400	16660		130
Simmons	26377			26377		
Uncommitted Endowment Fund			16371			500
Fungus Olympics			2000			
IMC seed money			44191			
International Travel Fund			1222			
Student Section Fund			1022	2924		100

Additional Accomplishments:

Transition to Rees Group from Allen Press – The past year has been a time of transition. Much information from Allen Press was not turned over to the Rees Group. In addition, different ways of reporting income and expenditures are now being used to simplify MSA finances. This makes direct comparison of finances between 2019 and previous years difficult.

Renewal of Tax-Free Status: A biennial report was filed with the DC Government Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs, which is necessary to assure MSA tax-free status and permits us to buy insurance.

Respectfully submitted,
Jessie A. Glaeser
MSA Treasurer

Mycologia Editors Annual Report, July 1, 2020.

Betsy Arnold, Priscila Chaverri, Brandon Matheny, Rosa Mouriño Pérez, Chris Schardl, Brian Shaw

Mycologia Issue 112 (3) Has gone to press the week June 8. The journal has continued on-time printing of all issues throughout 2019-2020.

The 2019 impact factor for the journal was 2.149. This is a drop from previous years: [2.861 (2018), 2.762 (2017), 2.55 (2016), and 2.638 (2015)]. The cause of this change is that a highly

cited review has dropped out of the citation window, bringing the total number of citations down. The median number of article citations per article was higher in 2019 than 2018, which indicates that the general quality of papers published in *Mycologia* remains high.

Submissions to the journal in 2020 are occurring at a pace that will likely exceed any recent year. At the time of this writing, 171 manuscripts have already been received in 2020. The journal received 283 manuscripts in 2019. This was an increase over the previous two years: 222 (2018), 252 (2017). In 2019, 270 manuscripts received a final decision. The 2019 rejection rate was 68.1% in comparison to 57.9% (2018), 67.8% (2017) and 64% (2016).

The journal continues to maintain its international appeal. Submissions in 2019 originated from corresponding authors residing in 51 unique countries. Four hundred and forty eight unique reviewers originating from 51 countries contributed their expertise through *ad hoc* reviews for the journal in 2019.

The average time from submission to first decision was 40 days in 2019 [compared to 56 (2018), 55 (2017) and 50 (2016)]. The average time from submission to final decision was 77 days [(compared to 61 (2018), 74 (2017) and 76 (2016)].

The MSA and the editorial board would like to thank Executive Editor Chris Schardl for his exemplary dedication to the journal. Dr. Schardl completed his term as Executive Editor at the end of 2019.

The MSA and the editorial board also thank Review Editor Keith Seifert and Associate Editor Daniel Lindner for their service during their terms on the board of editors.

The Editors welcome new Executive Editor Rosa Mouriño Pérez and new Associate Editor Alfredo Justo.

Chris Schardl will remain on the editorial board for 2020 serving as Review Editor.

Upcoming challenges:

- 1) Covid-19 has also impacted the journal. Substantially more manuscripts have been submitted this year. This greater submission rate, coupled with uncertainty in our volunteers' work schedules has resulted in a slowing of the review process.
- 2) A large number of Associate Editors will be reaching the end of their term at the end of 2020. Many of these AE are eligible for a second term. For those who can not reenlist, replacement AE will need to be recruited.
- 3) Both Executive Editor Betsy Arnold and Managing Editor Brian Shaw will be completing their terms at the end of 2020.

July 3, 2020

To: Mycologia Society of America Council

Re: Association Management Membership Report, as of July 1, 2020

Prepared and submitted by Cori VanGalder, Membership Coordinator, regarding membership management and other services provided by The Rees Group, Inc (TRG).

The following report includes:

- MSA membership retention services
- MSA membership communication
- 2020 MSA Virtual Meeting registrations to date
- Additional management team roles within the MSA

Since March 2019, The Rees Group, Inc., has been very pleased to provide management services to the Mycological Society of America. Active management team members are as follows:

- Susan Rees, TRG President/CEO
- Bill Stoeffler, MSA Account Director
- Kaylee Walters, MSA Innovations Manager
- Cori VanGalder, MSA Membership Coordinator

Membership Retention Services

Renewals for the 2020 calendar year are still underway. The initial membership renewal reminder was sent to 1,021 current or recently lapsed MSA members on October 17, 2019, with follow-up emails sent on December 10, 2019, January 23, 2020, and March 7, 2020. In addition to the emails, 67 paper letters were sent via USPS as membership renewal reminders to members with no valid email address in the MSA database.

As of July 1, 2020, the MSA membership totaled 917 active members. This consists of 727 renewing, Emeritus, Life, and Honorary members and 190 new members.

Below please see a table of current and past MSA membership information, noting that 2012 – 2018 statistics were provided by previous management companies.

MSA Membership Data as of July 1, 2020

Membership Type	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
Individual Member Worldwide Online Only 1 YR	287	316	451	469	521	529	546	594	101
Individual Member Worldwide Online Only 2 YR	7	25							
Individual Member Worldwide Online Only 3 YR	15	6							

Individual Member Worldwide Online Only Auto-Renew	17								
Individual Member Worldwide Online & Print Journal 1 YR	35	42						1	538
Individual Member Worldwide Online & Print Journal 2 YR	4								
Post-Doctoral Member Worldwide Online Only	20	40	49	49	49	50	54	16	
Student Member Worldwide Online Only	137	206	186	186	235	164	187	180	46
Student Member Worldwide Online & Print Journal	2	2						1	166
Associate Member Worldwide 1 YR	47	29	40	40	36	17	18	17	26
Associate Member Worldwide 2 YR	1								
Associate Member Worldwide 3 YR	4	2							
Associate Member Worldwide Auto - Renew									
Additional Family Member 1 YR	4	4	7	8	3	6	2	2	
Additional Family Member 2 YR									
Additional Family Member 3 YR	1	1							

Emeritus Member Worldwide - No Journal	178	180	180	178	164	123	128	123	115
Emeritus Member Worldwide - Online Journal	10	8	12	9	16	41	34	51	2
Emeritus Member Worldwide - Print & Online Journal	2								48
Sustaining Member Worldwide - Online Only	1	1	2	1	1	4	4	8	
Sustaining Member Worldwide - Print & Online									8
Life Member Worldwide Online Only	68	70	71	71	69	70	68	4	
Life Member Worldwide Online & Print	7	7	8	8	6	4	6	70	76
Affiliated Member Worldwide Online Only 1 YR	2	1		3	1	1			
Affiliated Member Worldwide Online Only Auto-Renew									
Discounted Membership - Developing Country	34	2	4	5	5	2	1	1	
Honorary Member Worldwide Online Only	30	30	27	28	27	27	26	4	

Honorary Member Worldwide Online & Print		1	1	4	4	5	4	26	22
Complimentary Member	4								
Total	917	973	982	1059	1137	1043	1078	1098	1148

MSA continues to offer one-, two-, or three-year renewal periods, as well as an auto-renewal option. Members will receive an email in December reminding them that their card will be charged. There are currently 17 MSA members taking advantage of auto-enroll.

Additional Management Services

From February 2020 through July 1, 2020, 33 emails were sent to membership and supporters to keep them informed and engaged in MSA business. These emails consisted of membership reminders, award nominations, election ballots, student newsletters, meeting information and Inoculum-related content.

Since the 2019 election, TRG has created Google documents for all MSA award submission forms in an effort to streamline the application process. For the 2020 elections, we received 102 applications for the various MSA awards. Of those applications, 39 awardees were selected by the appropriate award committees. TRG worked closely with the Awards Coordinator and Committees in this process, which included ordering, proofing, and shipping the award plaques. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Travel Award recipients will be able to use their funding for future meetings. All other monetary award checks have been issued.

Since our last report of January 28, 2020, so much has changed. The COVID-19 pandemic forced the MSA Board to review and assess the possibility of holding the live meeting planned for July in Gainesville, Florida. The TRG team worked with the Board to make recommendations based upon our experience with other client meetings. Sadly, the pandemic forced MSA to cancel the annual meeting.

Cancellation of the annual meeting led to the exploration of other options available to allow for MSA to meet in 2020. TRG, at the request of the Board, provided recommendations on hosting an abbreviated meeting on-line. This pivot to an on-line meeting format required TRG to take a much larger role in the meeting process than was originally planned.

The key requirements for the on-line meeting included a full day of sessions, a virtual poster and graphical abstract session, and an on-line auction. All meeting functions needed to be accessible through a simple and secure interface. To meet these requirements, TRG recommended Zoom Meetings for the on-line session component; a WordPress-based solution for the posters; and Auction Frogs for the on-line auction.

Upon approval, TRG updated the MSA website, contracted for the online auction platform, and updated the Oxford Abstracts submission portal to support the on-line meeting objectives. We also worked with members of the Diversity Committee, Student Section, and Program Committee to ensure that the content would work with the selected platforms. To support the sales of T-shirts

and other meeting swag, TRG identified a “print-on-demand” service that would allow us to brand the meeting and hopefully increase revenue.

To support the selection of the Student Poster and Graphical Abstract awards, we worked with the Student Awards Committee to create and distribute a call for reviewers to assist in reviewing award submissions.

As of the writing of this report, the 2020 “Mycology from the Cloud” meeting is shaping up to be a successful event. We currently have 291 MSA members registered for the meeting, and 38 of those members attending the Pre-Meeting Workshop. It is fully anticipated that the lessons learned from coordinating this meeting will be beneficial to MSA in the future. While it is far too early to determine whether the 2021 meeting in Boise, Idaho, will take place, it is extremely likely that future meetings will have a larger on-line component.

TRG continues to work with the Board on the compilation and distribution of *Inoculum*. This initiative has been very successful and largely appreciated by the MSA membership. The single sign on (SSO) for *Mycologia* is fully functional and has greatly reduced management workload by allowing members to access the journal through the website.

Our accounting team is now providing monthly financial reports to the Treasurer and has supported the online meeting through procedures for identifying the allocation of receipts and disbursements for the event. We continue to log all donations received and to provide bi-annual reports to the Endowment Chair and the Treasurer. We also continue to provide tax receipt letters to the generous MSA donors.

We are grateful for the opportunity to be part of the MSA team and to work with MSA in meeting established goals and objectives.

MSA Finance Committee Report

D. Jean Lodge, Chair, Jessie Glaeser, ex officio, Treasurer, Anne Pringle, ex officio, President, members Charles Bacon, David Middleton, Chief Investment Officer

The MSA investment account had a value of \$1,682,056.30 on 29 June 2020, a 2.6% decrease of \$44,154.47 since the beginning of the year (beginning value \$1,726,210.78 on 1 January 2020), but a 3.1% increase (\$50,390.96) from a year ago. Thus the increase in value of our investments during the last half of 2019 more than offset the losses during the first half of 2020 – a remarkable feat given the high market volatility in 2020. Other than paying the annual commission and management fees to Middleton Advisory, there were no deposits or withdrawals. The investments are managed by our Chief Investment Officer (CIO), David Middleton at Middleton Advisory. Management fees are 0.92% of investment portfolio, charged as 0.23% quarterly). Our investments have performed well despite market fluctuations and the committee is pleased with the state of our portfolio which David Middleton adjusted as needed. The investment market will likely remain volatile and investment income will likely be down for at least the next several years, especially given the economic impact of the COVID-19 epidemic (see appended report and outlook from CIO David Middleton). We intend to remain on course for our investment time horizon of at least 15 years, making adjustments in our portfolio as needed to maintain stability.

According to the spending plan in our Investment Policy Statement, re-approved by the committee in January 2019, 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 2020.

The MSA Finance Committee last met on 25 January 2019 and all members affirmed our Investment Policy Statement. We currently have three vacancies on the committee so we will not convene another meeting until most or all of these positions are filled – or the number of committee members is reduced, as suggested by President Pringle.

On November 25, 2019, CIO David Middleton informed us that TD Ameritrade will be purchased by Charles Schwab. He was told by TD Ameritrade that yes, this is happening, but the agreement is still subject to customary closing conditions and the transaction is expected to happen in the second half of 2020. Before then, there are no changes expected in how we work with TD Ameritrade. When and if the transaction is completed, he is quite sure that Charles Schwab will continue to be an excellent custodian and I look forward to working with them. Schwab has driven major industry-wide improvements recently, leading to lower fees and better technology for everyone. Our CIO has used their services in the past and they have an excellent reputation.

The Finance Committee Chair during the last half of 2019, Dr. Jeff Stone, stepped down and Dr. D. Jean Lodge has replaced him on a 1-1.5 year term as the MSA Finance Committee Chair. The MSA President and President Elect are seeking a member who would train to become the new Finance Committee Chair.

Annual Report for the Diversity & Inclusion Committee 2019-2020

The MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee (DivCom) for 2019–2020 was composed of Adriana L. Romero-Olivares (Past-Chair), Geromy G. Moore (Chair), Don Natvig, Yan Wang, Bala Chaudhary, Brian Lovett (Doctoral Student), Anna Bazzicalupo (PostDoc), and Abeer Alqurashi (Doctoral Student). Elizabeth Feliciano (Masters Student) joined the committee as a Student Rep. Together we filled the two remaining officer positions: Brian Lovett as Chair-Elect and Anna Bazzicalupo as Secretary. DivCom is actively working to align our group members with our proposed MOP. For this reason, some members (who have not served four-year terms) are rotating off the committee early. Don Natvig, Bala Chaudhary and Yan Wang will have rotated off by the end of this year. DivCom sincerely appreciates their commitment and contributions these past years. We are working on recruiting an incoming officer for the 2020-2021 DivCom Secretary position.

It was a busy year for our committee! DivCom held six bi-monthly meetings to address many important topics. In coordination with the MSA’s Executive Council, we:

- Virtually represented MSA at the inaugural meeting (Sept 16) for the Societies Consortium (SC) to prevent harassment in STEMM, and participated in multiple virtual SC events throughout the year.
- Drafted recommendations for 2020 and future Meeting Organizers with considerations for diverse, inclusive, and accommodative meetings. We also created an abbreviated checklist. This is a living document, which may evolve as years pass and needs change.
- Looked over and recommended dissemination of “Inclusion of LGBTQ+ People in Bioscience Study” for a PhD candidate in Arizona.
- Earned Meeting Organizer approval (Lisa Grubisha) and laid groundwork for a Diversity Panel at 2020 MSA meeting. Postponed.
- Drafted an MSA Diversity Statement to acknowledge, consider and utilize when applying (or selecting recipients) for Mentor Student Travel Awards, and other MSA Awards. This statement is very important, especially for the MSA Diversity Award.
- Worked to create ‘Safe Mycology’ strategies for MSA meetings and events. This involved coordination of bystander intervention (‘Myco Ally’) training with Sherry Marts (Harassment Intervention Specialist); creating posters explaining types of harassment, what constitutes Safe Mycology and what a Myco Ally is/does; working with Bill Stoeffler (Rees Group) to draft a Reporting Protocol for incidences of harassment at MSA meetings and related events.
- Finalized the MSA Code of Conduct for meeting and society-related events. This CoC will require acknowledgement when registering for MSA meetings/events, and when creating/renewing MSA memberships. DivCom created a poster and flow-chart for display at future meetings.

- Offered suggestions for 2020 virtual meeting that include considerations for diversity and inclusion.
- Drafted an anti-racist Solidarity Statement for MSA to acknowledge the importance of Black mycologists, colleagues, students, friends and families in the aftermath of recent killings of innocent people at the hands of corrupt police and racist Americans. Offered ideas and assistance for MSA to contribute to outreach by working with Historically Black Colleges and Universities to build relationships with Black mycologists at these institutions.

DivCom also worked to increase the amount of money for the Diversity Award. At the 2019 MSA meeting, we offered swag for donations to the award, and handed out pronoun buttons. MSA EC and Student Section were kind enough to donate T-shirt sales to the Diversity Award. When we drafted the Diversity Statement blurb and explained how Award funds will be used, we input a link to allow interested persons to donate. As of June 2020, there is just shy of \$7000 in the Diversity Award coffers. We are \$3000 shy of our goal to start offering the MSA Diversity Award. Maybe by the 2021 meeting in Boise! Through Bonfire, MSA will have an online storefront where swag can be posted for printing and shipping. Proceeds will be shared between Student Section and DivCom.

Respectfully submitted,

Geromy G. Moore
Chair, MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Report of the MSA Education Committee, 2020.

The 2020 Education Committee consisted of Emily Cantonwine (Chair), Sara Gremillion, Michelle Pearson, Chance Noffsinger, and Marc Cubeta (*Ex Officio*)

In January, per the request of leadership, the Manual of Operations for the committee was reviewed and a list of proposed updates to the document were submitted for consideration. The committee also discussed possible nominees for the William H. Weston Award for Teaching Excellence in Mycology. Our nominee's application was submitted for consideration in February. In March, the committee worked with The Rees Group to develop an Online Teaching Resources page on the MSA website. This action was in response to the unexpected need of many within our membership to transition face-to-face courses to online instruction due to the Covid-19 pandemic. We are currently still accepting resources to share on this page. Since May, the committee has been organizing a Symposium for the 2020 Virtual meeting about Online Mycology Instruction.

2020 Annual Report of the MSA Distinction Committee

The 2020 Distinctions Committee consisted of Betsy Arnold, Lori Carris, Tim James, Anne Pringle, and Matthew Smith. Applications were received or updated for each of the following distinctions: the Alexopoulos Prize, the Gordon and Tina Wasson Award, the William H. Weston Teaching Award, and the Distinguished Mycologist Award.

Applications were made available for consideration by the Committee on March 5, 2020. The Committee met by online conference on March 13, 2020 to decide on awardees for each category. The potential for implicit and explicit bias was discussed by email and during the conference. The Chair reminded the Committee of the updated language for the guidelines for the Alexopoulos Prize, voted on by membership in fall 2019 and now implemented to make the award more inclusive. The Committee discussed all nominations thoroughly and members recused themselves from discussion in cases of close personal affiliation or conflict of interest.

After selections were made, the Committee Chair contacted nominators whose nominees were not awarded this year and thanked them for their nomination. She also reminded them that their nominations would carry over to a subsequent year (or subsequent years where applicable), and that the nomination package can be updated.

Awardees were contacted by the Chair and, after their names were submitted to the MSA President, they were contacted by President Anne Pringle with congratulations.

The 2020 Distinctions awardees are:

- Distinguished Mycologist Award: Dr. Greg Mueller
- Alexopoulos Prize: Dr. Sara Branco
- William H. Weston Award for Teaching Excellence in Mycology: Dr. Cathy Cripps
- Gordon and Tina Wasson Award: Mr. Christian LeChat

Biographies for each awardee were assembled by the Chair and submitted to President-Elect Marc Cubeta, who coordinated award plaques and photographs for the announcement to be made at the 2020 virtual meeting of the MSA. The Rees Group was notified to handle financial and logistical aspects of each award, and their help is gratefully acknowledged.

The Committee thanks all who participated in nominating a colleague for a Distinctions Award. The review process was a compelling reminder of the diverse and outstanding contributions of society members, and our colleagues, to mycology.

Respectfully submitted by the 2020 MSA Distinctions Committee: Chair, Betsy Arnold; members Lori Carris, Tim James, Anne Pringle, and Matthew Smith.

MSA Honorary Awards Committee Annual Report

2020 Nominees for MSA Fellow

The MSA Honorary Awards Committee (Kerry O'Donnell, Chair; member Donald H. Pfister). Because Thomas Volk was unable to Chair this Committee, President Ann Pringle requested that I continue as Chair, and at her request, Donald H. Pfister filled a vacancy. The Committee unanimously and enthusiastically supported the nomination of Drs. Momany, Stajich and Vellinga.

MSA Fellows are selected based on their service to the society, a scholarly record of mycological research, and teaching/outreach that promotes mycology. The following three MSA Fellows for 2020 have excelled in each of these areas.

Dr. Michelle Momany, The University of Georgia, has served the society through chairing six symposia at MSA meetings, as Councilor in Genetics/Molecular Biology, and as a member of the Karling Lecture committee. Research in the Momany lab focuses on polarity and the septin cytoskeleton in the model organism *Aspergillus nidulans* and antifungal resistance in the human pathogen *Aspergillus fumigatus*. The Momany lab was one of the first groups to characterize early development in *A. fumigatus*. Recently her lab has focused on understanding dormancy and germination of *A. fumigatus* spores and on antifungal-resistant *A. fumigatus* in the environment. She discovered the first noncore septin, the prototype for many septins not found in budding yeast or animals, and her lab has recently focused on the evolution of and interactions among septins. Dr. Momany's academic excellence has been recognized by election as a Fellow in the American Association for the Advancement of Science, as National Academies Education Fellow in the Life Sciences, and as a University of Georgia Women's Leadership Fellow. Lastly, Dr. Momany developed and has taught 8 different highly popular fungal courses at the University of Georgia for undergraduates and graduates.

Dr. Jason Stajich, The University of California-Riverside (UC-R), has served the society as MSA Councilor for Cell biology/Physiology, and as a member of the Karling Lecture committee. Research in the Stajich lab focuses broadly on comparative genomics, especially of early diverging fungal phyla (i.e., Chytridiomycota, Mucoromycota and Zoopagomycota) under his leadership as PI on the NSF-supported Zygolife Project and on melanized fungi. As one of the world's leading genome biologists, he made significant contributions as a core developer of BioPerl and he has devoted significant effort in the development of FungiDB, Funannotate, Ensembl Genomes, WormBase and the DOE-Joint Genome Institute's 1000 Fungal Genomes Initiative. Dr. Stajich's academic excellence has been recognized by receipt of MSA's 2014 Alexopoulos Prize, as Kavli Fellow, which is jointly sponsored by the U.S. National Academy of Sciences and The Kavli Foundation, as CIFAR Fellow 2019-2014 under Fungal Kingdom: Threats & Opportunities, among others. Lastly, Dr. Stajich developed and has taught 8 courses at UC-R focused on ecology and evolution, microbial pathogenesis and bioinformatics/genome analysis.

Dr. Else Vellinga, The University of California-Berkeley (UC-B), has served the society as MSA Councilor for Taxonomy and Systematics, twice as Member of the Committee on Conservation, as Member of the International Committee, as Liaison with Amateur Mycological Societies, and as Associate Editor for *Mycologia* from 2009-2015. Dr. Vellinga is a world expert in the taxonomy and systematics of macrofungi and possesses a prolific record of mycological scholarship that includes authoring or coauthoring over 100 professional papers and nine books, including taxonomic works that span across many groups of Basidiomycota and Ascomycota. Her recent scholarly work includes ecological and conservation themes as well as molecular systematics and evolution. She is recognized as a world leader in fungal conservation. The North American Mycological Society recently recognized her contributions by awarding her with the Gary Lincoff Award for Contributions to Amateur Mycology. She was instrumental in creating the course California Mushrooms, which is one of the most sought-after courses at UC-B. Lastly, Dr. Vellinga coauthored a study compiling gender biases at MSA, which catalyzed the formation of the MSA Diversity and Inclusion Committee that has shaped the society as we know it today. 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."

2020 Nominee for Honorary Member of MSA

A nomination for Honorary Member of MSA was not received by the MSA Honorary Awards Committee for 2020.

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

Respectively submitted, 28 June 2020.

2020 Annual Report of the MSA Research Awards Committee

The MSA Research Awards Committee for 2019–20 was composed of Gregory Mueller (Chair), Ari Jumpponen, Andrew Wilson, Camille Truong, and Benjamin Wolfe, with Tim James as ex-officio representative. Andrea Porras-Alfaro, Awards Coordinator, and Cori VanGalder, Membership Coordinator (Rees Group) provided excellent support and are gratefully acknowledged.

Applications for the Robert Lichtwardt, Bartnicki-Garcia, Martin-Baker, Emory Simmons, C.T. Rogerson, Smith Award, and Rippon Award were reviewed. Forest Fungal Ecology and Translational Mycology awards were not offered this year. Thirty applications, distributed across the awards were received. The Bartnicki-Garcia and C.T. Rogerson awards had the highest number of submissions. With the reduced number of awards relative to 2019, and subsequent fewer applications (30 versus 45), each committee member reviewed and ranked each of the applications. Each committee member independently ranked each application and provided written comments on each. Diversity of applicants in addition to research excellence was considered when ranking proposals. Chair Mueller compiled the individual rankings and shared the ranking and comments with the full committee for further discussion. Following discussion, the committee unanimously agreed on the final list of awardees.

2020 MSA Research Award Winners:

Robert W. Lichtwardt Student Research Award: Valerie Martin (\$1,000)

Martin-Baker Award: Yan Wang (\$3,000)

John Rippon Graduate Research Award: Paris Hamm (\$500)

Clark T. Rogerson Research Award: Tayrn Mueller (\$1,000)

Alexander H. & Helen V. Smith Award: Keaton Tremble (\$1,200)

Salomon Bartnicki-Garcia Research Award: Damian Hernandez (\$500)

Emory Simmons Research Award: Alison Harrington (\$8,500)

Respectfully Submitted, Gregory Mueller Chair, MSA Research Awards Committee

2020 Annual Report of the Mentor Student Travel Award Committee: The Mentor Student Travel Awards Committee received a total of 39 award applications for the 2020 MSA meeting. The committee selected the 19 recipients listed below. The committee continues to struggle with identifying applicants from underrepresented backgrounds, as the application form does not include any diversity information and details on applicant background is only sporadically provided by advisors. This precluded weighting the final applicant selection and contribute to the MSA mission of increasing diversity. Stephen Mondo (chair), Donald Walker, Vinson Doyle, Jane Stewart

Name	Lab	University	Level	Obs	Mentor
Sean W McCotter	Kronstad	U. of British Columbia	PhD	M	Francis A. Uecker
Nicole Colon-Carrion	Arnold	U. of Arizona	PhD	F	Alma Joslyn Whiffe-Barksdale
Lindsey E. Becker	Cubeta	North Carolina State U.	PhD	F	Charles Kramer Constantine J. Alexopoulos
Kasey Kiesewetter	Afkhami	U. of Miami	PhD	F	
Jose Efrain Ortiz Solorzano	Doyle	Louisiana State U.	Msc	M	Edward E. Butler
Spenser Babb-Biernacki Damian Hernandez	Doyle	Louisiana State U.	PhD	F	Everett S. Luttrell Harry Morton Fitzpatrick
Johnny Frias Balidion	Afkhami	U. of Miami	PhD	M	
	Cubeta	North Carolina State U. Middle Tennessee State U.	PhD	M	Harry D. theirs
J. Ashton Reece	Walker		Msc	F	Howard E. Bigelow
Bryan Rennick Maria-Jose	Bonito	Michigan State U.	Msc	M	James M. Trappe
Romero-Jimenez Xiomy-Janiria Pinchi-Davila	Porras-Alfaro	Western Illinois U.	Msc	F	Kenneth Wells
	Porras-Alfaro	Western Illinois U. U. of Wisconsin - La Crosse	Msc	F	Margret Barr Bigelow
Annie Schauster	Osmundson		Msc	F	Margret Barr Bigelow
Olivia Anderson Annakay Abrahams	Cripps	Montana State U.	Ug	F	Orson and Hope Miller Emerson-Fuller-Whisler
Sean Patev	Brewer	U. of Georgia	PhD	F	
	Hibbett	Clark U.	PhD	M	Robert L. Gilbertson
Brianna Almeida	Afkhami	U. of Miami	PhD	F	Richard P. Korf
Daniel Enrique Acosta García		National Autonomous U. of Mexico (UNAM)	PhD	F	
Darianne M Alvarez	Truong	U. of Mexico (UNAM) Ana G. Mendez U., Gurabo Campus	Ug	M	D. Rabern Simmons
	Cantrell/Mcguire/Roy		PhD	F	William C. Denison

Annual Report of the Student Awards Committee

This year we received thirteen applications for student awards: twelve applications for MSA Graduate Fellowships (five of whom also applied for the Backus Award and the NAMA Memorial Fellowship, and one who applied only to 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. All applicants were provided written feedback by email. Awardees were informed on April 9th and are as follows:

MSA Graduate Fellowship: Shuzo Oita, Yen-Wen (Denny) Wang

NAMA Memorial Fellowship: Carolina Guadalupe Pina Paez

Backus Award: Kevin Amses

Undergraduate Award: Lauren Kay Dorsch

We are now heading into the 2020 Annual Meeting in a virtual format and will be reviewing an expected 150 posters/graphical abstracts with audio recordings using the online abstract submission system. Judges with minimum qualifications of a PhD in a Mycology related field will be selected from volunteers requested through the MSA email list. We will celebrate the excellent work of these students through a video presentation in the virtual meeting.

-MSA Student Awards Committee

Jason Slot (Chair), Mia Maltz, Maj Padamsee, and Brandon Hassett

2 July 2020
Endowment Committee Report

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

A. Donations from Jan-Dec 2019:

Direct donations to MSA funds (not including the proceeds from the auction and t-shirt sales): \$41,433

Auction: \$11,965.71

Diversity Fund/Donations towards t-shirts: \$2,180

Correction: Due to a glitch in the accounting as MSA management was transferred from Allen to the Rees group, the total donations to the John Taylor Best Oral fund were \$9,030, not \$15,780.00 as reported last year. We apologize for the error.

B. Jan to end May 2020

Direct donations to MSA funds \$1,810

The direct donations that we received 2020 are down from previous years, possibly because renewing members were not guided through the donations options on the path toward 2020 renewal.

It is important to offer members the opportunity to donate, and the option will be reinstated in the renewal path for the next year.

D. Letters of thanks and tax receipts to MSA donors. Starting in Jan 2019, the Rees Group has used 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

A. Auction. Our 2020 auction will be online. All MSA members are invited to participate in the online auction <https://msafungi.afrogs.org/#/index>. All payments will be handled by the Rees Group. Many thanks to the 2020 donors who agreed not only to donate, but to mail items to the winning bidder

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Z. Berbee

Mary Berbee, Chair

Peter Avis

Suzanne Joneson

Paris Hamm

Annual Report of the Program Committee 2019-2020

Symposia and Workshops

In response to the call for symposia and workshops in September 2019, the Program Committee received 8 symposium proposals, 2 workshop proposals, and a request by the student group for a job panel discussion. The committee thought all proposals were acceptable.

One proposal did not request any funding. I asked all organizers if they would accept reduced funding so that all could participate. We had two proposals that addressed fungal-insect interactions, so I asked if they could combine speakers (3 from each original symposium) and they agreed.

Here is a list of the symposia (not in any particular order):

- Functional Perspectives on Fungal-Insect Interaction Organizers: Charissa de Bekker, Nemat Keyhani, Ian Will and Romina Gazis and the Bark Beetle Mycobiome International Research Coordination Network
- Gene regulatory networks in fungal development and morphogenesis – towards fungal evo devo. Organizers: Jaqueline Hess, Laszlo G. Nagy
- Fungal community structure, dynamics and function in decaying wood Organizers: Lynne Boddy, Michelle Jusino
- Fungal Chemistry: Variations On A Theme Organizers: Dr. Joan W. Bennett & Dr. Geromy G. Moore
- Fungi in marine sediment Organizers: Brandon T. Hassett
- Living in the dark with microbes and beasts: unearthing the ecology and evolution of Truffles Organizers: Gregory Bonito, Rosanne Healy
- Fungi transgressing their niches Organizers: Christoffer Bugge Harder, Marc-Andr  Selosse, Gareth Griffith, Bryn Dentinger

The two workshop proposals were on *Fusarium* taxonomy and systematics (by David Geiser) and on *Russula* identification (by Brian Looney and Slavomir Adamcik).

The student section submitted a proposal to host at lunch-time job panel discussion.

Changes to symposia and workshops due to change to a virtual meeting.

One symposium was able to participate in the virtual meeting 2020 (Boddy and Jusino). Four of

the symposia organizers were able to postpone until the MSA 2021 meeting (Hess & Nagy; Bennett & Moore; Hassett; and Bugge et al). Bonito and Healy moved their symposium to the MSA 2022 meeting. For the workshops, Looney and Adamcik will be able to have their workshop at the MSA 2021 meeting while Geiser will postpone until MSA 2022.

Virtural Meeting

As of July 2, 2020, there were 204 participants registered and 37 completed poster abstracts

submitted (4 more in progress). Registration closes on July 10.

On July 21, 2020 the student section will host the job panel and have a board meeting.

There will be three moderators for the job panel (Rebecca Shay, Tania Kurbessoian, Maria-Jose

Romero-Jimenez) and four panelists (Jessie Uehling, Chris Smyth, Rosanne Healy, Rachel Koch

Bach).

The MSA Virtural meeting, July 22, 2020.

There will be two symposia. The “Fungal Community Structure, Dynamics and Function in

Decaying Wood” symposium will have five presentations. Boddy and Jusino will be moderators.

The MSA Education Committee stepped up and put together a symposium “Teaching Mycology

Online: Lessons Learned” when asked in April 2020. They will make the symposium available as an education resource on the Education Committee web site for the benefit of present and

future MSA educators. The education symposium is organized and will be moderated by Sara

Gremillion and Emily Cantonwine.

Posters

Posters are submitted as traditional posters or graphical abstracts.

The REES Group (Bill, Cori, and Susan) were exceptional to work with in every aspect of

organizing and implementing the annual meeting. I have nothing but praise for this group.

2020 MSA Program Committee: Lisa Grubisha (Chair), Heather Hallen-Adams, Frances Trail,

Jason Slot, and Rebecca Shay (student representative)

2020 Annual Report of the Karling Lecture Committee

The MSA Karling Committee for 2020 consisted of Jason Stajich (Chair), Alisha Quandt, Kevin Garcia, and student representative Rob Powers.

In discussions that took place during September and October 2019, the committee considered more than 25 candidates that included nominees from previous years in addition to several new nominees. Committee members generated a ranked list of 5 individuals from the candidate list. 5 candidates received at least one ranked vote. Francis Martin was the top voted speaker closely followed by Greg Jedd and these two names were forwarded to the MSA Council. The Council subsequently approved the invitation of Professor Martin. However he was unable to accept the invitation to attend MSA 2020 due to scheduling conflicts. The committee subsequently invited Greg Jedd, who is a senior Principal Investigator at Temasek Life Sciences Laboratory (Singapore) and a professor at National University of Singapore. Dr Jedd is an expert in cell biology of fungi having and his work centers on cell growth and differentiation using model systems including the fungus *Neurospora*. Greg received his doctoral training from University of Chicago and completed postdoctoral work at the Rockefeller University where he used *Neurospora crassa* as a model system for studying cellular biology. Among Professor Jedd's many accomplishments is pioneering work on the proteins that form woronin bodies in ascomycetes and the role of self-organization of intrinsically disordered proteins in cellular processes. Some of his most recent work has

uncovered a protein responsible for gravity sensing in the zygomycete *Phycomyces blakesleeanus* (Mucoromycota) and discovered it was horizontally transferred from bacteria. He is investigating cell biology and evolution with creative techniques and advanced imaging to help shed new light on cellular mechanisms in fungal biology. The title of Dr Jedd's lecture will be "The fungal mycelium: Mechanobiology and evolution of microfluidic control"

—MSA Karling Annual Lecture Committee

Nominations Committee Report

The committee (Jim Anderson, Katrina Godsey, Georgiana May, Amy Rossman, and David Hibbett) completed its task in two parts. First, committee members made suggestions for the open positions (VP and the four Councilor categories) and then I compiled a comprehensive list of potential candidates. Second, each committee member voted for first and second, with the former receiving two points and the latter one. The candidate with the most points became the committee's first choice in each category. I sent the ranked list to VP Betsy Arnold on 19 February, 2020.

Annual Report MSA Student Section

July 2020

Part 1: MSA Student Section Executive Board 2020 - 2021

Elections this year will be open from July 1st, 2020 - July 20th, 2020, with the announcement of newly elected officers directly after.

Chair: Rob Powers - University of Michigan (*automatic transition*)

Vice-Chair:

Communication Chair:

Merchandise Chair:

Secretary:

Treasurer:

Post-doctoral Representative:

Webmaster:

Past-chair: Rebecca Shay - Michigan State University (*automatic transition, non-voting member*)

Part 2: August 2019 – July 2020 Year in Review

2.1 MSA 2019 in Minneapolis, MN– Events and Merchandise

At the 2019 MSA Annual meeting, the Student Section held a meeting attended by past and current Board members and current MSA student and postdoc members. The meeting comprised of updating members with what the Student Section is currently doing and asking for suggestions from attendees of what they would like the Student Section to do in the future. We also hosted a social event open to all students and postdocs where members could mingle and network amongst themselves.

Additionally, Student Section board members presented a poster The Student Section, with general information about who we are and what we do.

We also had a Student Section Swag table, where we raised funds for the Student Section with t-shirts, stickers, and hats. We also were generously donated the leftover IMC11 shirts and bags that we were able to give away for pure donations to the Student Section. We are currently working with the DIC and the Rees Group to develop one platform for streamlining Student Section Swag online orders.

The Student Section organized a symposium for the meeting, called Oh The Places You'll Go about mycological careers. We had 5 speakers from a variety of scientific careers about what they do in their position and how they got to that

position. The 6th speaker spot was left for questions for our panel, which allowed anyone to ask a question about any of the represented careers.

2.2 Outreach

A) Social Media Presence

As of June 23, 2020, the Student Section MSA Facebook page has 8055 likes [+2480 since August 2019] , the Twitter account (@MSAStudents) has 1,894 followers [+319] and our newly created Instagram account (msastudentsection) has 82 followers after less than a year of being active [August 19, 2019].

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 2019-2020 academic year.

D) Diversity Statement and efforts

The Student Section has embraced and adopted the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion statement that the Diversity Committee has put together, including putting it on our website. Additionally, we are aware that MSA has asked for feedback to increase our DEI efforts as a society. In addition to the methods provided by MSA to provide suggestions, the Student Section has created a form to allow for anonymous feedback to the Student Section (<https://forms.gle/LHjZ2V3CVihD4EwCA>), to provide suggestions for what we as students specifically can do. We believe anonymity may provide more feedback to us, and we welcome any and all suggestions from our members.

2.3 Finances

The Student Section has a balance of \$2,824.35 as of June 23, 2020. With Jessie Glaser's approval as Treasurer of Council, moving forward we will typically spend money out of our Student Section paypal account when purchases are made, to avoid reimbursement delays for any students.

2.4 Preparations for Annual Meeting

For this year's annual meeting, in addition to providing a conference guide for students, the Student Section had planned to hold a round table lunch panel, where students and postdocs could chat in small groups with a wide variety of people in mycological careers, and ask questions related to how to find a position, how to apply for a position, etc. However, due to COVID-19, we moved the round table to a virtual format, with a panel of 5-6 mycologists in a variety of careers. We plan to have pre-submitted questions as well as time for live questions. We are optimistic that this panel will translate well to an online format, and that participants will be able to get valuable career advice. Current planned panelists include Jessie Uehling, Chris Smyth, Rosanne Healy, and Rachel Koch. We are planning on having a government scientists and industry as well, but are waiting for confirmations. We're very excited that the Council was so enthusiastic about supporting the Student Section

MSA Student Section Board, 2019-2020

Chair: Rebecca Shay, Michigan State University

Vice-Chair: Rob Powers, University of Michigan

Secretary: Sara Getson, Michigan State University

Treasurer: Austin Frewert, Washington State University

Communication Chair: Tania Kurbessoian, University of California - Riverside

Merchandise Chair: Savannah Gentry, University of Wisconsin - Madison

Webmaster: Maria-Jose Romero-Jimenez, Western Illinois University

Postdoctoral Representative: Lotus Lofgren, University of California - Riverside

Past-Chair: Kristi Gdanetz-MacCready, University of Michigan

Memorials Editor Midyear Report
Meredith Blackwell
30 June 2020

1) General information

- Getting writers for full memorials for *Mycologia* is often difficult. Although people may agree initially, several years may pass before the memorial appears. Shorter memorials or very short notices are usually fast. John Taylor has a solution: write your own memorial or at least send a recent CV to a former student or younger colleague you can trust to submit it after your death!
- 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.
- All published memorials appear to be available as open access articles.

2) Unassigned

- Lafayette Frederick (March 9, 1923 -- December 29, 2018)
<https://www.aaas.org/5-things-about-me-biologist-lafayette-frederick>
- <https://www.the-scientist.com/supplement/lafayette-frederick-48196>

3) Memorials published in *Mycologia*

- Michael F. Allen, Dorothy E. Tuthill, Jack States, Stephen E. Williams & Terry W. Henkel (2019) In memoriam: Martha Christensen, 1932–2017. *Mycologia*, 111:190-193, DOI: 10.1080/00275514.2018.1544815
- Matthew E. Smith, Rosanne A. Healy James William Kimbrough, 1934–2017. 2019. *Mycologia* 111:517-524 DOI: 10.1080/00275514.2019.1598768
- Mary L. Berbee & John W. Taylor (2019): Kenneth Wells, 24 July 1927–19 July 2016, *Mycologia* 111: 525-528, DOI: 10.1080/00275514.2019.1591873
- Keith A. Seifert, Rasoul Zare & Richard C. Summerbell (2019) In memoriam: Walter Gams (1934–2017). *Mycologia* 111:690-697, DOI: 10.1080/00275514.2019.1619058
- Han A. B. Wösten (2020) Jos Wessels, 30 May 1934–30 October 2019, *Mycologia*, DOI: 10.1080/00275514.2020.1754055

4) Work in Progress

- Cletus Paul Kurtzman – Meredith Blackwell
- Donald J.S. Barr (September 18, 1937 - November 20, 2018) *Inoculum* (February 2019 -- Jim Ginns) invited for *Mycologia* Martha Powell and Joyce Longcore
- Ian Ross (May 22, 1930 -- November 29, 2019) -- Iris Charvat

5) Published in *Inoculum*

- Eddie Hillman (1992 -- November 2018) *Inoculum* (February 2019) (Josh Herr, Kristi Gdanetz MacCready)
- Jonathan D. Walton (1953 -- October 18, 2018) *Inoculum* (February 2019) (Heather Hallen-Adams)
- Hope H. Miller (1933-2018) – *Inoculum* (September 2018) Cathy Cripps
- Charles “Bud” Kramer (April 4, 1928 -- June 26, 2019) *Inoculum* (September 2019) (Jose Herrera)

- Carlene "Cardy" Allen Raper (January 9, 1925 -- 5 Sept 2019) *Inoculum* (September 2019) (Anonymous)
- Samuel J. Mazzer (April 8, 1934 – September 21, 2019) -- *Inoculum* (February 2020) (Jean Lodge)
- Douglas E. Eveleigh (December 6, 1933 -- December 30, 2019) – *Inoculum* (February 2020) (Joan Bennett)
- Ian Ross (May 22, 1930 -- November 29, 2019) – *Inoculum* (February 2020) (Stephen Poole, NOT Meredith Blackwell)
- Nick Read (December 7, 1954 – March 21, 2020) – *Inoculum* (June 2020) (John W. Taylor)

6) Published on MSA Facebook site

- John W. Rippon (May 19, 1932 - March 20, 2019) – Tom Volk invited for *Mycologia* (also 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>)

7) Archived requests

- Edward E. 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>
- Royall Tyler Moore (October 11, 1930--August 17, 2014)
- John Webster (25 May 1925 – 27 December 2014) – David Hawksworth was invited. He had already written about Webster, but agreed to write because he now has new information that can be used.
- Chirayathumadom Venkatachaliar -- (CV) Subramanian (August 11, 1924– February 5, 2016) – Keith Seifert (short perspective piece)

8) Acknowledgements

I thank Marin Brewer for her extremely helpful involvement.

**Archivist Annual Report
Meredith Blackwell
30 June 2020**

Meredith Blackwell and Ronald H. Petersen (Submitted) The MSA Archive: What, When, Where? *Inoculum* (June 2020)

This is the same information from the 2018 and 2019 reports.

“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.”

New business –the future depends on submitting digital materials to J. Dustin Williams <jdustin@andrew.cmu.edu> , Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or to me <mblackwell@lsu.edu>. Please send with the notice “to be added to the MSA Archives.”
Flash drive or electronic transmittal is OK. Please