# Mycological Society of America – Midyear Meeting

**March 5, 2022**

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2022 Midyear MSA Executive Council Meeting
1:00 PM EST, March 5, 2022
Agenda

Join Zoom Meeting
https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87543932514?pwd=T0FMNnJBVkJRV0FPK1JtZHBadm4rZz09
Meeting ID: 875 4393 2514
Passcode: 784692

A. Welcome and Roll Call – President
B. Approval of 2021 Mid-Year EC Meeting Minutes and 2021 Fall Quarterly EC Meeting Minutes – Executive Vice President

C. Reports:
   1. President’s report – President Betsy Arnold
   2. Past President’s report – Past-President Marc Cubeta
   3. President-Elect’s report – President-Elect Julia Kerrigan
   4. Vice President’s report – Vice-President Cathie Aime
      a. Nomination of Officers
   5. Executive Vice President’s report – EVP Emily Cantonwine
   6. Treasurer’s report – Jessie Glaeser
   7. Editors’ report – Chris Schardl
   8. Finance Committee report – Matias Cafaro
   9. Endowment Report – Peter Avis
   10. Association Management Report – Susan Rees and Bill Stoeffler

D. Discussion items:
   a. Committee motions and statements (Betsy Arnold)
      i. Mycologia at T&F
      ii. Book funding request
      iii. SPORES
      iv. Diversity Award and Interchange Ambassador Award
      v. Bylaws / Constitution
         1. International chapter
         2. Membership dues and associated change to bylaws
            a. Proposal for gift memberships for students in developing countries
      vi. Surveys proposed (website, Mycologia external board, diversity)
      vii. Code of conduct
   b. Contract renewals (Betsy Arnold)
   c. MSA Website proposals (Betsy Arnold)
   d. New MSA awards (Betsy Arnold)
   e. Funds for 2022 Awards (Jessie Glaeser)
   f. 2022 MSA annual meeting, Gainesville, FL (Betsy Arnold)
   g. 2023 MSA annual meeting (h.
   h. IMA update (Betsy Arnold)
   i. MOP release (Betsy Arnold)
   j. Other matters
Dear colleagues,

It’s my honor to present my Mid-year report as President of MSA.

From our 2021 meeting to present, I’ve been engaged in working with society members and leadership, and our partners at the Rees Group, in several areas.

**2022 MSA meeting.** We continue to work with enthusiasm and cautious optimism toward our goal to meet in person in Gainesville for our 2022 MSA Annual Meeting. Our teams are working hard to develop a safe and inclusive conference that will welcome those who desire to be present in person and those unable to travel for any reason. I have met with our program chair Frances Trail and local arrangements coordinator Matt Smith on several aspects of the meeting planning process. Warm thanks go to Matt and Frances, our Program Committee, our partners in The Rees Group and at the University of Florida, our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee, our Student and Postdoc Section, and our MSA leadership for working toward a fabulous MSA meeting in Gainesville, July 10-14. MSA members should please stay tuned for the call for abstracts and registration, information about our auction, news of our exciting symposia, and more. In the meantime we remain attentive to health data and the best safety and inclusion practices for the well-being of our society and our communities.

**Diversity, equity, and inclusion.** I’ve stayed in close contact with our DEI Committee to address several initiatives that were brought forward to our Executive Council in our quarterly meeting (Dec. 2021). These include (a) establishing a funding opportunity via Amazon Smiles (anticipated in spring 2022), with funds received to be shared between the DEI Committee/Diversity Award Fund and our Student and Postdoc Section; and (b) establishing a funding plan to extend and grow the Interchange Ambassador Award (to be reviewed at our mid-year meeting). I also am in support of the DEI Committee’s upcoming survey for demographics of MSA and the version of the SPORES program-mentoring program as discussed at the quarterly meeting in December. Both are in process/development now. We continue to use our updated principles for holding diverse and inclusive meetings as we plan our 2022 meeting.

I am also happy to share that the MSA Diversity Award Fund continues to attract support from our members, now surpassing the traditional $10,000 threshold for activation of the award. I thank the members of our society who created this award fund and have worked steadily toward its growth. With leadership from current chair Anna Bazzicalupo, past chair Brian Lovett, and members past and present, our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee is now working with MSA’s executive council to formalize the award’s scope and application process ahead of the 2022-2023 award season.

After discussion at our quarterly meeting, we also are moving forward on how best to adjust the membership fee structure for the society in a manner that is more inclusive and supportive of diversity. This requires a vote of membership because it is in our core documents (Constitution/By-laws). I appreciate the work of Emily Cantonwine on the related revision to our standing documents, with a vote to be called in spring 2022.

**MSA website.** I am working with our Electronic Communication and Web committee, and our partners in the Rees Group, for these forthcoming and important changes to our web presence. The report from Danny Haelewaters includes many excellent suggestions that we discussed in a Zoom call in early 2022, with a focus on improving the website’s accessibility, attention to diversity and inclusion, and pathways to donate. This will be a major goal for my remaining time in term.

**Mycologia.** Our flagship journal continues to flourish thanks to stewardship from Managing Editor Chris Schardl and our advisory board, led by Steve Harris. As of Feb. 1, we welcome two new Executive Editors (Anthony Amend and Terry Henkel) and our new Review Editor (Brandon Matheny). We look forward to your submissions to our society’s outlet for excellent work in all aspects of mycology. I am grateful for the opportunity to have served as Executive Editor for the past five years and as Review Editor of the past
year, and am excited to see the journal continue to grow. One important change has been requested of the publisher: to more clearly indicate on the *Mycologia* portal that the journal is affiliated with the Mycological Society of America. We also are discussing ‘philosophical and practical orientation’ for new editors, to help convey the history and importance of *Mycologia*.

**New awards.** We are thrilled and grateful to have activated the new MSA Climate Change Research Award as part of the remarkable awards portfolio offered by MSA. This award reflects the generosity of an anonymous donor and showcases one of the many ways MSA can support impactful research. We thank the donor and acknowledge the leadership of Greg Mueller and Allison Walker in setting up the new award in time for this awards cycle. Thanks too to our Research Awards Committee for adding this to their annual workload.

It also is wonderful to note that through a generous donation from another anonymous donor, we are poised to announce **new Mentor Travel Award** at our 2022 meeting. I reached out to the person for whom the award has been named. This person is planning to attend the MSA meeting, and thus will be present for the formal announcement of the award.

**International Mycological Association.** The IMA has incorporated recently under Swiss law. I am in touch with the President to discuss the final resolution of lingering matters from the last IMC, pending opening of the IMA bank account. In the interim we have **revised the relationship of MSA to IMA**, such that now one individual from MSA will not vote twice – which we discovered the current model for IMA elections. Instead, MSA will vote once as a society through our Vice President, and hold a second voting position (via the President) that is meant to be inclusive of Canada and Mexico. Because mycological societies of the breadth of MSA are not yet fully established in either Canada or Mexico (both have outstanding societies that are traditionally more centered in particular areas of mycology), we are exploring ways forward to include perspectives from Canada and Mexico. To this end we are exploring an international chapter under leadership from Cathie Aime (thank you Cathie), to be discussed in spring 2022.

**Other MSA business.** The **Manual of Operations** was revised from July to October to streamline content, update inclusive language, and remove redundancies. In addition, I added new details for awards to match the detailed content for other awards, and formatting was cleaned up for ease on the eyes/clarity. This MOP will next be revised by Cathie Aime under Julia Kerrigan’s leadership. Thank you for your review Julia over these past months. I am very happy to have filled all key **committee assignments** thanks to the wonderful volunteer spirit of our society members. I am working with advice from past-president Marc Cubeta on a renewal of the **contract for the Rees Group**, for which we presently have a short-term extension. I remain in **contact with Julia Kerrigan** in advance of her upcoming presidency, discussing matters arising.

Throughout all of our activities, I continue to appreciate the **incredible support of the Rees Group in all aspects of MSA activity, and the excellent work of our Executive Council and Council.** I further thank Marc for his ongoing and meaningful mentorship and good advice. I look forward to the coming months of activity and service on behalf of MSA.

Respectfully submitted,

Betsy Arnold (she/her/hers)
Midyear Report of the Past President
February 21, 2022

Thanks to all the volunteers, participants, and especially for the leadership of Program Committee Chair Heather Hallen-Adams, that contributed to the success of the joint Botanical Society of America and MSA annual meeting in July 2021. Since my involvement with the joint meeting, I have worked closely with President Arnold, Treasurer Glaeser, members of the Executive Council, and The Rees Group on several Society related issues. After more than a year of discussion and interaction with Taylor and Francis representative Henrietta Thompson and MSA members about our Mycologia publishing agreement, a revised five year contract was developed, approved, and signed by President Arnold in November 2021. Our original contract for Management Services with The Rees Group, Inc. ended on December 31, 2021, and was extended to remain in effect until March 31, 2022, until our new MSA Society Agreement Renewal contract can be developed and approved. I currently serve as the MSA liaison and representative to the American Association for the Advancement of Science and recently attended the 15 February 2022 Committee of Section G: Biology business meeting. The meeting was very educational and interactive, and I learned much about AAAS accomplishments, awards, budgets, events, governance, fellow nomination procedures, and meetings. My tentative plan is to provide a comprehensive synthesis of AAAS activities, particularly those of interest to MSA members, in my July 2022 annual report. I interacted with Bill Stoeffler of The Rees Group to identify an agency in Washington DC to handle tasks associated with our Liaison for Society Incorporation position and to assume the responsibilities of Nor Faridah Dahlan who is stepping down after serving 15 years in this position. I want to extend my sincere appreciation and thanks to Faridah for her many years of volunteer service in this important position that is critical for maintaining our non-profit 501(c)(3) status. I participated in the quarterly meeting of the Executive Council on 3 December 2021 and Finance Committee meeting on 5 January 2022 and provided input to President Arnold on committee vacancies, the Climate Change Research Award, the International Mycological Association, and revisions related to MSA Sustaining members in the Manual of Operating Procedures.

Respectfully submitted,
Marc Anthony Cubeta
MSA Past-President
Mid-year Report of the President-Elect

The following is a summary of Society-related activities I have performed; this report is organized according to the responsibilities of the President-Elect outlined in the MSA Manual of Operations (MOP). I assumed office at the end of the business meeting during the MSA Annual Meeting held virtually July 20, 2021. I have served as a member of the Council and Executive Council and engaged in meetings, discussions, and votes. Details of some of those items are presented elsewhere following MSA guidelines. Fortunately, there has not been a need for me to preside over Council meetings due to the absence of the President.

I have served as an ex officio member of the Program Committee for the next Annual Meeting, to be held at the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida, July 10–14, 2022. The Committee is under effective leadership by the chair, Frances Trail, and the other committee members, and we are grateful for their contributions. The committee approved six symposia; four were new proposals and two were from previous years, when symposia were deferred due to virtual meetings. Details are in the report of the Program Committee.

Concurrently, I have served as an ex officio member of the Education Committee. Under the excellent guidance by the chair, Sara Gremillion, the objectives of the committee are being successfully achieved. A proposal for a symposium at the 2022 Annual Meeting was submitted and awarded. A nominee for the Weston Award was submitted and accepted. The committee continues to highlight our outstanding educators in the Inoculum’s Educator Spotlight, showcasing the ways in which Society members contribute to educating future generations of mycologists.

The Manual of Operations has undergone relatively detailed changes in recent years. Thus, at the suggestion of President Arnold, I focused on topics with which I have experience rather than review the entire document. I have proposed a several changes, to be discussed with the Executive Council, and will make additional edits as I navigate additional responsibilities in the MSA.

I have served as our Society's liaison to the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS). The Diversity and Inclusion Committee chair, Anna Bazzicalupo, and I attended the 2021 AIBS Council Meeting, which was expanded to engage organizations committed to increasing diversity in the biological sciences. We attended a two-day virtual conference, the topic was: Enabling Scientific Societies to Support Inclusive, Diverse, Equitable, and Accepting (IDEA) Scientific Environments. Specific outcomes for MSA, summarized by Anna and paraphrased by me, include: Maintain a strong voice from leadership to keep IDEA values and initiatives at the core of the Society and consistent through leadership changes; promote inter-committee communication; and, incentivize participation of students by waiving membership fees if they are serving on a committee.

I have continued with a task appointed to the Vice President, which is to identify potential meeting sites for the next unassigned Annual Meeting. Since we have had virtual meetings the last two years, this task has been ongoing. Accessibility, attractiveness of the setting, affordability, and local perspectives on diversity are being considered in making the final proposals. I have discussed planning with President Arnold and Past President Cubeta prior to being presented for approval by Council. Currently, we are looking at two options for the 2023 meeting. First is a stand-alone meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona, July 29–August 3. This would be in conjunction with Northern Arizona University, and through an arrangement where they can offer event planning services, reduced rates, and related discounts. The second option is a joint meeting with the Botanical Society of America (BSA) and other societies in Boise, Idaho, July
22–26, 2023. MSA has had joint meetings with BSA in previous years, and we have found them to be excellent meeting planners and fair in financial arrangements.

I have met with MSA Vice President Aime, MSA President Arnold, and Past President Cubeta to maintain mentorship and keep up-to-date on MSA initiatives and matters relating to our society’s activities.

The remaining activities outlined in the MOP will be performed in the upcoming months. Specifically, new committee assignments will be ongoing so that they will be filled, ideally, by the annual meeting. Additional responsibilities will be done during and around the time of the annual meeting in July.

On a personal note, thank you to our membership for the opportunity to serve MSA and our discipline, and thanks to the Council for considering this report. I look forward to seeing you at the 2022 meeting!

Respectfully submitted,
Julia L. Kerrigan
MSA President-Elect
The call for nominations went out to membership in early 2022. The number of people nominated by the membership were as follows: President (11), Treasurer (7), Councilors for Genetics/Cell Biology (5), Symbiosis/Pathology (8), Systematics/Evolution (10), Ecology/Conservation (8). The MSA ballot was assembled as specified in the bylaws. One set of nominees were assembled from those receiving the highest number of membership nominations; the other set of nominees were chosen by the Nominations Committee, Chaired by Georgiana May, including a selection of alternates, should top nominees not be available to run. All top nominees have been contacted; approximately ½ have agreed to run thus far. With rare exception most of these nominations were unique, that is to say only one person nominated each person once. The exceptions to this pattern were the office of the vice president and councilors for Systematics/Evolution and Ecology/Conservation, where several candidates received multiple nominations.

Discussion concerning the creation of a new Chapter of MSA have been conducted via zoom with the leadership of CanFunNet. Leadership is discussing with their membership and will notify MSA of their intent to continue (or not) by the end of February.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathie Aime
Executive Vice President’s 2022 Midyear Report

Below is a summary of my Executive Council activities since the 2021 annual meeting.

- Supported Past Executive Vice President Marin Brewer with minutes of the 2021 MSA Annual Council Meeting and 2021 MSA Annual Business Meetings published on the MSA website - https://msafungi.org/msa-meeting-minutes-and-reports/.
- Sent an email to each MSA committee members, officers, and representatives rotating out of their positions to thank them for their service to the MSA.
- Welcomed the 2021-2022 MSA committees, officers, and representatives by email and provided committees with a list of members and the relevant section(s) of the MSA Manual of Operations.
- Worked with the Student and Post Doc Section President to identify student representatives to fill committee vacancies.
- Updated the MSA Roster of appointments for the 2021-2022 year.
- Met with Cori Van Galder and Bill Stoeffler with The Rees Group to discuss roles of the MSA Executive Vice President and The Rees Group.
- Conducted 6 email polls for MSA Council vote.
  - 2021-07: Nomination of Anthony Amend as Executive Editor of *Mycologia*
  - 2021-08: Nomination of Peter Avis as Chair of the MSA Endowment Committee
  - 2021-09: Approval of the ranked list of candidates for the Karling Annual Lecture
  - 2021-10: Motion to approve Emeritus Member status for Dr. Glen Stanosz
  - 2021-11: Motion to approve the nomination of Dr. Terry Henkel for Executive Editor at *Mycologia*.
  - 2022-01: Motion to pay for color images for Karling Lecture papers published in *Mycologia*.
- Reminded MSA Officers, Committee Chairs, and Representatives of approaching deadlines based on timelines noted in the MSA Manual of Operations.
- Reviewed blast email announcements for the call for symposia (deadline 10/15/21), membership renewals, the call for nominations of officers for MSA council (deadline 1/15/22), and the calls for student, mentor travel, honorary, distinctions and research awards (deadline 2/15/22).
- Reviewed job posting requests for the website.
- Reviewed the Fall 2021 version of the MOP.
- Worked with Bill Stoeffler of The Rees Group to propose new language in the MSA Bylaws related to membership dues. Worked with President Arnold and Vice President Aime to compose a statement in the Bylaws for Chapters. Noted a few possible conflicts between the bylaws and manual of operations for Executive Council discussion.
- Worked with Cori Van Galder of The Rees Group to create a calendar of business activities based on timelines noted in the MSA Manual of Operations.
• Generated a timeline table of columns and announcements for publication in *Inoculum* based on the MSA Manual of Operations.
• Prepared two Executive VP columns for *Inoculum* (October 2021 and February 2022 issues)
• Worked with President Betsy Arnold to organize the agenda for the fall quarterly and midyear Executive Council Meetings and helped to make or communicate arrangements for the meeting via video conference.
• Met via video conference (12/3/2021) with Executive Council during the fall quarterly meeting to discuss matters related to committee motions, updates and other action items.
• Prepared minutes for the fall quarterly meeting.
• Contacted Officers and Committee Chairs to request midyear reports. Compiled the agenda and packet for meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Emily Cantonwine
Treasurer’s Report
January 2022

Table 1. MSA Financial Position as of 31 Dec 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assets</th>
<th>31 Dec 2019</th>
<th>31 Dec 2020</th>
<th>31 Dec 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Current assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking/Savings – US Bank</td>
<td>$201,442.16</td>
<td>4.48</td>
<td>998</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Checking/Savings – Park Bank</td>
<td>82,112.13</td>
<td>318,138.25</td>
<td>262,794</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Checking/Savings</td>
<td>283,554.29</td>
<td>318,142.73</td>
<td>263,792</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Other Current Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TDAmeritrade– Combined</td>
<td>1,726,210.78</td>
<td>1,986,325.91</td>
<td>2,332,615</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Assets</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,009,765.07</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,304,468.64</strong></td>
<td><strong>2,596,406</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Liabilities and Net Assets</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts Payable</td>
<td>$6,888.50</td>
<td>1,356</td>
<td>1,3556</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Long Term Liabilities (inc. deferred memberships and publications)</td>
<td>27,627.00</td>
<td>26,333.00</td>
<td>21,280</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Current Liabilities</td>
<td>34,515.50</td>
<td>27,688.98</td>
<td>22,636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities</strong></td>
<td><strong>34,515.50</strong></td>
<td><strong>27,688.98</strong></td>
<td><strong>22,636</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Excess Revenue over Expenditures (net income)</td>
<td>222,435.14</td>
<td>301,530.09</td>
<td>296,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Equity</strong></td>
<td>1,975,249.57</td>
<td>2,276,779.66</td>
<td>2,573,770</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Total Liabilities and Equity</strong></td>
<td>2,009,765.07</td>
<td>2,304,468.64</td>
<td>2,596,406</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table 2. Revenue and Expenses

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>31 Dec 2020</th>
<th>31 Dec 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ordinary Revenue</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donations</td>
<td>24,902</td>
<td>19,201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Auction</td>
<td>2,256</td>
<td>4,857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>T-shirt sales</td>
<td>545</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>3925</td>
<td>3,956</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Membership Dues</td>
<td>53,167</td>
<td>44,703</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Publication (Mycologia)</td>
<td>114,624</td>
<td>121,595</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>111,089 (royalty)</td>
<td></td>
<td>118,305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3,535 (subscriptions)</td>
<td></td>
<td>3,290</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional revenue</td>
<td>-----</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Ordinary Revenues</strong></td>
<td>199,420</td>
<td>194,312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other income (investments)</td>
<td>224,136</td>
<td>241,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Gross Revenue</strong></td>
<td>423,556</td>
<td>435,712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Expenses</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>General – administrative, dues, insurance, postage, misc.</td>
<td>8,445</td>
<td>4,907</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grants and Awards</td>
<td>26,114</td>
<td>38,335</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meeting</td>
<td>14,035</td>
<td>732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management</td>
<td>50,783 (Rees Group)</td>
<td>51,291 (Rees Group)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>640 (travel)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Expenses</strong></td>
<td>122,023</td>
<td>138,721</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Excess Revenue over Expenses</strong></td>
<td>301,533</td>
<td>296,991</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beginning Net Assets</td>
<td>2,009,765</td>
<td>2,304,469</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ending Net Assets</td>
<td>2,304,469</td>
<td>2,596,406</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Investments**: Current assets include TD Ameritrade pooled operating funds $583,154 and pooled endowment funds $1,749,461. On December 31, 2020, pooled operating funds were $496,581.48 and pooled endowment funds $1,489,744.43. The average investment return on the portfolio for 2021 was 10.9%. David Middleton, our financial advisor, has provided us with a balanced approach in our investments which allowed us to avoid much of the pandemic-induced market volatility. Because of inflation, our investment in bonds has been decreased from 35% to 25%. More investment options are now available that focus on screening for environmental and
social responsibility. When the Finance Committee meets in June, 2022, they will discuss increasing the proportion of the account which emphasizes these factors.

**Awards:** The 2021 awards included $38,335 given at the annual meeting and an additional $3,000 (4 awards at $750 each) in travel awards that winners can apply to the 2022 meeting. In 2020, we awarded 19 travel awards at $750 each ($14,250) that can be applied to the 2022 meeting.

**Donations:** In 2021 board-designated and named funds received $7,917. The Student Section received donations of $411.71, and the Fungal Diversity Survey $205. An additional $668 was given for unrestricted donations. An anonymous donor generously gave $10,000 to be given as an award for research into the interaction of mycology and climate change. The Diversity Committee received donations of $2,312, resulting in a current balance of $10,448 (thus surpassing the minimum $10,000 balance traditionally required for funding of awards). Total donations in 2021 were $19,201 compared to $24,902 in 2020. Donations and balances of funds are listed in Table 3 (below).

**Publications:** In 2021 *Mycologia* brought in $118,305 in royalties and $3,290 in subscription revenue. The bill for publication for 2020 ($12,091) was paid in fiscal year 2021, so the actual net revenue from *Mycologia* was $108,872. The publication costs for 2021 will be paid in 2022.

**Meeting** – The 2021 virtual BSA/MSA meeting was largely managed by BSA. MSA expenses were only $732 for bank card processing fees and internet fees. MSA received $3,956 from BSA, and the auction brought in another $4,857.

**Administrative** - The major administrative cost is our contract with The Rees Group ($51,291, $4,274/month). Additional expenses include: accounting fees ($1,065); bank fees ($94), copying ($16), postage and phone ($344); dues and fees to other organizations ($500); insurance ($2,374).

**Student Section** – The student section received donations of $412 in 2021. I am working with the Student Section Treasurer to monitor and resolve the balance of the section's finances.

Respectfully submitted,

*Jessie A. Glaeser*

MSA Treasurer
Table 3. Balances of Board-Designated and Named Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>December 31, 2020</th>
<th>December 31, 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temporarily</td>
<td>Permanently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Designated</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
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<td>Meredith Blackwell</td>
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Mycologia, through Taylor and Francis, has continued on-time publication of all issues throughout 2021. The 2020 two-year impact factor for the journal was 2.696. This was a considerable increase over the 2019 impact factor of 2.149, and within the range of years 2016-2018. The most cited paper was a review article (37 citations for Vega 2018, *The use of fungal entomopathogens as endophytes in biological control: a review*).

The journal received 186 new manuscripts and 136 revisions in 2021. These were substantial decreases compared to 2020 (299 new, 136 revisions), 2019 (283 new) and 2018 (222 new). The 38% reduction in new manuscript submissions is a concern for the sustainability of the journal. A possible reason is the drop in impact factor, which has however recovered rapidly. If that is the main reason, a rebound in the number of submissions should soon be evident.

In 2021, 201 manuscripts received final decisions, of which 70 were accepted and 131 were rejected. Of the rejections, 97 (74%) were without peer review (“desk rejection”). The 2021 rejection rate was 65%, which was comparable to 68% in 2020, 68% in 2019, and 58% in 2018.

This was the second year for which the journal allowed a Reject and Resubmit option, which was rendered for 29 manuscripts, a 52% decline from 2020. The shift away from using this option may be a reaction of editors to several manuscripts being resubmitted without sufficient improvement. There was some discussion at the Editorial Board meeting about using this option more sparingly.

In the manuscript review process, achieving reasonable times to decision continues to be a challenge. The time to first decision averaged 44 days (up 10% from 2020).

Mycologia continues to be generous with extended deadlines for authors to submit revisions, and average turnaround time was 63 d for revision 1. Times for editors to render decisions on revised manuscripts have increased in 2021 compared to 2020, averaging 39 d (32 d in 2020) for revision 1 (n = 72), 21 d (14.3 d in 2020) for revision 2 (n = 49), 8 d (10 d in 2020) for revision 3 (n = 24), 9 d (6 d in 2020) for revision 4 (n = 4) and 1 d (19 d in 2020) for revision 5 (n = 1).

The journal continues to maintain its international appeal. Submissions in 2021 originated from corresponding authors residing in 44 countries representing every inhabited continent. Ad hoc reviewers numbered 403 from 48 countries including 139 from the U.S.A, 17 from Canada and 22 from Mexico.

The MSA and Mycologia Editorial Board thank outgoing Associate Editor Toby Spribille, and outgoing Executive Editors Betsy Arnold (who also served as Review Editor) and Brandon Matheny for their expert and dedicated service.

The MSA and Editors welcome new Executive Editors Anthony Amend and Terry W. Henkel, and are grateful to Brandon Matheny for assuming the role of Review Editor for 2022.
The MSA newsletter, *Inoculum*, was published three times in 2021, namely in February, June, and in October. Cori VanGalders and Emily G. Cantonwine worked out a more structured timeline for *Inoculum*’s timeline, starting in 2022:

- Sept 1 - call for content; Oct 1 - content deadline; Oct 30 - Sept/Oct Inoculum published
- Jan 1 - call for content; Feb 1 - content due; Feb 28 - Jan/Feb Inoculum published
- May 1 - call for content; June 1 - content due; June 30 - May/June Inoculum published

In 2021 the editors were Michaela Schmull and Anne Pringle.

Content varies from issue to issue, from standard Society reminders of membership renewal and meeting registration, to news and articles of interest to all lovers of fungi and fungus-like organisms. Content is written and submitted by members, including the photos that grace the header of each issue.

Articles included in every issue of the newsletter are: President’s Corner, Executive Vice-President’s Report, Educator’s Spotlight, Book Reviews, and the call for Fungal Photos. Issue dependent are Meeting Announcements, In Memoriam, and MSA News and Announcements. *Inoculum* also announces elections with candidate statements, and profiles the winners. Regularly included are thanks to our generous donors, announcements of award winners, and information related to upcoming meetings/recap of past meetings, classifieds, and reminders for membership renewals as well as user profile updates. We announced in *Inoculum*’s October issue the newly established section of “Volunteer Opportunities” that can be found on the MSA website under “Membership – Job Opportunities – Volunteer Opportunities”. During the past year, “Society news” included furthermore:

*MSA Needs a Process to Recognize and Respond to Membership Concerns*

*Seeking Feedback on Ethical Collaboration Standards Towards Decolonizing Mycology*

*A Word of Thanks*

*Congratulations to the 2021 MSA Interchange Ambassadors!*

In 2021, there were eight book reviews, six memorials, and six special interest articles submitted and published, along with numerous photographs and other announcements.

Articles published over the last year that would not be considered ‘Society news’ are listed below.
Shining a Spotlight on an Ancient Partnership Between Fungi and Millipedes

World Fungus Day: We Need You!

Fungi of the Greater Antilles – Puerto Rico: Marasmius haematocephalus (Mont.) Fr.

Phoma violacea Defacement of White House Columns

To Armenia.. In Pursuit of Knowledge, Lichens, and Mushrooms

Emerging Armillaria

All past issues of Inoculum are archived in PDF format on the MSA website, msafungi.org, under “Publications” and available for viewing at any time. We continue to be thankful to everyone who submits content and look forward to sharing Inoculum with membership for a long time to come.
The MSA Editorial Advisory Board (EAB) is composed of Steven Harris (Chair), Christine Hawkes, Nicole Donofrio, and Bryn Dentinger. The Council met on Jan. 25th, 2022, and advanced the following two suggestions to the MSA President and the Mycologia Managing Editor;

1. Based on our own experiences and those of our colleagues, there is increasing frustration with for-profit publishers such as MDPI and Frontiers, and a greater push to prioritize society-affiliated journals as a venue for publishing our best work. Ironically, if you look at the Mycologia web site, the only indication that the journal is affiliated with MSA is a small block of text in upper right corner. It might be worth working with Taylor and Francis to see if that text could be more prominently displayed. We want prospective authors to know loud and clear that this is a society journal.

2. We thought that it might be helpful to conduct a survey of MSA membership to get a sense of their Open Access experiences and preferences. What OA options would prospective authors be comfortable with? Are people happy with a hybrid approach? The EAB would be happy to provide input on questions for this.

The EAB agreed to meet again at a date to be determined in May, 2022.
The MSA Karling Committee for 2022 consisted of Kevin Garcia (Chair), Leonora Bittleston, Peter Kennedy, and Maria-Jose Romero-Jimenez. In discussions that took place during September 2021, the committee considered 29 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. 5 candidates received at least one ranked vote. Christine Hawkes was the top voted speaker, and her name was forwarded to the MSA Council. The Council subsequently approved the invitation of Dr. Hawkes, who accepted the invitation to attend MSA 2022. Dr. Hawkes is a Professor in Microbiology at North Carolina State University. She received her doctoral training from the University of Pennsylvania and completed a Smith Postdoctoral Fellowship at UC Berkeley and an NSF Postdoctoral Fellowship in Microbial Biology at the University of York (UK). Dr. Hawkes studies how these symbiotic fungi affect the ability of plants to tolerate stresses such as drought through ecological, physiological, genetic and chemical pathways. She also addresses the questions that affect our ability to use symbiotic fungi as tools in agriculture, such as where they are found and what drives their distributions, how fungi interact with each other in the plant, and how they assemble into communities. The title of Dr. Hawkes’s lecture has not been finalized.

—MSA Karling Annual Lecture Committee
Midyear Report MSA Program Committee for 2022 annual meeting in Gainesville, Florida

Program Committee
Frances Trail, Chair (2018-2022) trail@msu.edu
Jason Slot (2019-2023) slot.1@osu.edu
Ning Zhang (2020-2024) ningz@rutgers.edu
Nhu Nguyen (2021-2025) nhu.nguyen@hawaii.edu
Tania Kurbessoian, Student Rep (2021-2022) tkurb001@ucr.edu
Heather Hallen-Adams ex officio, Past Chair hhallen-adams2@unl.edu
Julia Kerrigan, ex officio, President Elect jkerrig@clemson.edu

Symposia and Workshops
A call for symposia and workshop proposals went out in September 2019. Seven proposals were received by the due date, October 15, 2019. One proposal was withdrawn due to changing situation of the proposer. The committee thought all proposal were acceptable. One proposal, the Latinx proposal, did not request any funding and will take place during social hours.

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

Living in the dark with microbes and beasts: unearthing the ecology and evolution of Truffles
Organizers: Gregory Bonito, Rosanne Healy
Fungi as food: a mycocentric perspective on below-and above-ground food webs. Peter Kennedy
Schooling in the Swamp: Lesions in education from the classroom to the community. MSA Education Committee, Sara Gremillion, chair.
Fungal Chemistry: variations on a Theme. Joan Bennett and Geromy Moore
The power of citizen science to advance fungal conservation. Haelewaters and Gonçalves Latinx mycelium at MSA. Nicole Colon-Carrion.

A belated request from the student section (mid-February 2022) was turned down because of the uncertainty of accommodating them. The focus of that Symposium had not been decided. Perhaps we can make a special effort to include students as the extra speaker in these symposia? With finalization of the symposia and the venue set up (thanks to Matt Smith et al), the schedule is beginning to take shape. Abstract submission is being developed and the hope is to go live with the website around March 1 and abstract due date in April.
Memorials Editor Midyear Report  
Meredith Blackwell  
13 January 2022  

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!  
- Cori Van Gelder will implement a permanent web page she suggested to post memorial information.

2) Editorial Concerns  
- In the past I have not always received information about member deaths nor seen all memorials before or even after they are submitted to *Inoculum* or *Mycologia*. I have no problem with this other than it is difficult to keep track of progress for reports. There are suggestions in the MOP to determine where memorials are to be published that have been ignored in the recent past.

- Published memorials were not available as open access articles as was supposed to be routine. Open access memorials are good PR for *Mycologia* and MSA. It is important to always title them “In Memoriam” and to have a section title “Memorial” so the publisher can be certain to make it open access.

- Several years ago Keith Seifert had a good idea, and memorials listed several papers published by the subject in *Mycologia* as open access for several months. This was not done for Lennie Farr’s memorial and maybe others. I think the posting of publications should be continued.

- All *Mycologia* memorials are supposed to be open access. They are not consistently available.

- was discovered by accident; apparently the society was not contacted.

3) Assigned for *Mycologia*  
- Jack D. Rogers (September 3, 1937 - June 14, 2021) – Julia Kerrigan will be in charge of assembling information from Jack’s many colleagues and students. See https://news.wsu.edu/2006/03/17/enthusiastic-for-his-vocation/ and a video at https://news.wsu.edu/2014/05/14/a-new-future-for-fungi-from-the-past/ https://www.semanticscholar.org/paper/A-Festschrift-in-Honor-of-Professor-Jack-D.-Rogers-Glawe-Ammirati/5d071f2958cc7e98b41818c7aa479b8aea1c765a
• Stanley J. Hughes (September 17, 1918 -- November 7, 2019) – Keith Seifert and Scott Redhead.

• Robert Shaffer () –Tom Bruns

4) Memorials published in Mycologia


5) Work in Progress

• Cletus Paul Kurtzman – Antonis Rokas, Tom Jeffries?

• Ian Ross (May 22, 1930 -- November 29, 2019) -- Iris Charvat

• Lafayette Frederick (March 9, 1923 -- December 29, 2018) see https://www.aaas.org/5-things-about-me-biologist-lafayette-frederick; https://www.the-scientist.com/supplement/lafayette-frederick-48196. Fred’s death was not known until an obituary

6) Published or uncoming in Inoculum and additional URLs provided for more information

• Alexander Kovalenko (10 December 2021 - 10 December 2021) – upcoming Inoculum
  Yuri Novozhilov
  "We are sad to hear of the death of Alexander (Sasha) Kovalenko, in St. Petersburg, 10 December 2021. Sasha was an outstanding mycologist known throughout the world. He built a strong and impactful program as head of the Laboratory of Systematics and Geography of Fungi at the Komarov Botanical Institute (https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Komarov_Botanical_Institute).
  He was a leader in the European mycological community.

His colleague, Yuri Novozhilov, contributed the following memorial:

Alexander Kovalenko, known as Sasha, was born on 13 September 1953 in Novocherkassk, Rostov Oblast, into a family of biologists. In 1975 he graduated with honors from the Faculty of Biology of Kuban State University.
Sasha continued his postgraduate studies at the Komarov Botanical Institute of the Russian Academy of Sciences in St. Petersburg. He successfully defended his Ph.D. thesis "Fungi of the order Agaricales s. l. in the mountain forests of the central part of the Northwest Caucasus" in 1981. Subsequently, all his scientific activity was connected with this institute.

Sasha was an outstanding mycologist known throughout the world for his research on several different aspects of biology, ecology, and diversity of agaricoid fungi, including systematics of Hygrophoraceae and Boletaceae as well mycorrhizal symbiosis and conservation of fungi.

He raised several generations of undergraduate and graduate students. For a long time, from 1986 to 2018, he headed the Laboratory of Systematics and Geography of Fungi. Thanks to his efforts, the Laboratory of Systematics and Geography of Fungi became a leader of mycological studies in Russia. From 2002 to 2018 he was also a deputy director for science at the Institute, and also the first deputy. Later he was editor-in-chief of the leading Russian mycological journal, Mycology and Phytopathology, and a member of the editorial boards of the international journals Mycological Progress (Germany), Acta mycologica (Poland), and the Ukrainian Botanical Journal. He was the founder and head of the Commission for the Study of Macromycetes, the St. Petersburg Mycological Society, as well as the main editor of the popular scientific journal Planet of Fungi. Sasha was the initiator of a long-term project to study fungi and myxomycetes in Vietnam. He led fungal conservation activities in Russia and was a member of the Executive Committee of the European Council for the Conservation of Fungi involved in the work on the protection of fungi of the World."

- Donald Thomas Wicklow (22 June 1940 - 21 November 2021) – upcoming Inoculum
  "Donald Thomas Wicklow (22 June 1940 - 21 November 2021)

Don Wicklow was a long time MSA member and benefactor. He is well known as editor with George Carroll of two editions (1981 and 1992) of the Fungal Community: Its Organization and Role in the Ecosystem, as well as for his many publications on fungal ecology, especially mycotoxins and other fungal metabolites. Don held eleven patents on new fungal natural products.

Don began his mycological studies at San Francisco State University with BS and MS degrees under the direction of Harry Thiers. Don received his PhD at the University of Wisconsin in 1971. Don spent 37 years at the USDA National Center for Agricultural Utilization Research in Peoria, Illinois. Don’s sister is the mycologist Dr. Marcia Wicklow-Howard.

In addition to MSA membership Don belonged to several other biological societies and was honored as a Fellow of the American Academy of Microbiology and as a Centenary Fellow of the British Mycological Society.

See: https://www.pjstar.com/obituaries/pils0107445

- Donald J.S. Barr - MSA Past President (September 18, 1937 - November 20, 2018) Jim Ginns February 2019:s.n.
In Memoriam: Jonathan D. Walton June 16, 1953 - October 18, 2018 February 2019:s.n. corrected url


In Memoriam: Ian Ross (May 22, 1930 -- November 29, 2019) – Inoculum February 2020:s.n. (correction: Stephen Poole, NOT Meredith Blackwell)


Steven E. Carpenter (October 15, 1951 - June 9, 2020) Inoculum (upcoming) Amy Rossman.


7) Acknowledgements
I thank Marin Brewer and Marc Cubeta for their helpful involvement.
1) [New item]
I thank Marin Brewer, who sent all the correspondence from her tenure as Executive Vice President for archiving to J. Dustin Williams at the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation (HIBD). Dustin’s “thank you” message also makes clear how easy society members can access materials that are archived at the HIBD.

On Dec 20, 2021, at 10:44 AM, J. Dustin Williams <jdustin@andrew.cmu.edu> wrote:
Hi Meredith,

It is wonderful to hear from you. I hope things have been going well for you!

Thank you very much for sending these. We will make copies, keep them backed up separately as well, and include them with the physical materials we have received so far.

I just recently received a request from Dr. Ron Petersen regarding "Alex Kosta's Collectors Items," which we were able to provide to him digitally, thanks to you. I cannot express how grateful we are for all you have done over the years for the Institute.

Please let us know if there is anything at all that we can do for you.

Thank you, and have a great holiday,

Dustin

On 12/17/2021 11:40 AM, Meredith M Blackwell wrote:
Dear Dustin,

Here is the collection of digital files from the MSA Executive Vice President that constitutes the society archive for early August 2018-late July 2021. Thanks for archiving these files. I hope it is the start of a long run.

Best wishes for a happy holiday,

Meredith

2) [This is repeated information from earlier 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.”

The future depends on submitting digital materials to J. Dustin Williams <jdustin@andrew.cmu.edu>, Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or to me <mblakwell@lsu.edu>. Please send with the notice “to be added to the MSA Archives.” Flash drive or electronic transmittal is OK. Please let me know if you submit directly.

New information for 2021:

3) The Rees Group and President Marc Cubeta requested information on awards; the information was needed to respond to questions from an administrator who was notified of a MSA award winner. I began writing short descriptions and biographies for named awards. The Alexopoulos Prize was completed and sent to the Rees Group.

4) I wrote a memorial for John Karling for the introduction of the Karling Lecture. There had never been a Mycologia memorial for Karling, but there was lots of information easily available on the Internet, although it was scattered.

5) A short Story Corps-type series of recorded interviews suggested by the Reed Group and tentatively called Truffle Tales, is being developed with President Cubeta and the Rees Group. Although a number of topics have been suggested, others will be solicited from members.

6) An entry for Inoculum about the 2020 Charles Thom awardee, Nancy Keller, was submitted; this included a short biography of MSA charter member Charles Thom.
Midyear Report - Education Committee Submitted by Sara Gremillion, Committee Chair, 12/16/2021

I. We submitted a symposium proposal for the MSA July 2022 meeting titled: “Schooling in the Swamp: Lesions in Education from the Classroom to the Community”

II. The Ed committee has begun “Educator Spotlight” in Inoculum–an interview and photo of a notable Mycology educator. With each interview the instructor shares teaching materials that are linked to the MSA website for all members to use. In 2021 we highlighted: Terry Henkel (April 2021) and Brandon Methany (Oct 2021). Future highlights will include focus on including females, underrepresented minorities, and instructors from a variety of institutions including 2-year community colleges.

III. In early 2021, MSA was contacted by a woman in NY looking for a Mycologist to speak to her daughter’s 2nd grade virtual class. The request was passed on to our committee and the parent passed us to the teacher, Ms. Tanisha Ellerbee, Science Specialty Teacher, PS32/Samuel Mills Sprole Elementary School in Brooklyn NY. Committee members Chance Noffsinger (Student member) and Sara Gremillion presented “Fun with Science & Fungi” to Ms. Ellerbee’s class on Feb. 11th, 2021. Sara gave the introduction and Chance presented a 45 minute PPT (see image below, student faces are distorted for privacy). We had over 35 students participate.

Email from Ms. Ellerbee

[External] Re: [External] Confirming tomorrow’s visit

Ms. Ellerbee Science <Tanner.Ellerbee@ps32.org>

To: me, chance

Sun and Chervon,

Thank you so much for meeting with us this morning. It was a wonderful experience for many of our students. They are incredibly curious about all things in the natural world! I encouraged them to send me questions that they might have for you that they weren’t able to ask. Thank you for sharing the slideshow and notes. We’ll likely do the spore prints later on.

Thanks again!

Tanisha Ellerbee
IV. Committee members reached out to Mycology educators in 2021 to ask and request teaching materials. We ran into copyright issues with images within lectures, etc. so no materials were shared. In the future we will ask for lab exercises or assignments (no course lecture materials)
MSA Electronic Communication and Web Page Management Committee
The purpose of the committee is to coordinate electronic communication within the Society, including its website (https://msafungi.org), Mycologia Online, *Inoculum*, the annual meeting website, and social media (Facebook, Twitter). The Committee is responsible for raising awareness among Society members of the options available to them. The MSA Webmaster is an MSA Presidential appointee, maintaining the official MSA website.

Committee members
Danny Haelewaters, 2019-2023 (Chair, MSA Tweetmaster)
Andrew Loyd, 2020-2024 (MSA Webmaster)
Soleil Young, 2020-2024
Elizabeth (Liz) Bowman, 2021-2025
Jacqueline Lemmon, 2021-2022 (Student Rep)
Michaela Schmull (*ex officio*, Inoculum Editor)

Facebook
*MSA Facebook page administrators*: Cori VanGalder (Rees Group), Liz Bowman.
As of January 15, 2022, the page has 4,176 likes and 4,439 followers.
The “Facebook Page Reach”, which represents the number of people who saw any content from the page, was higher in 2021 (5,280) compared to 2020 (3,880) but also very concentrated in that year (around the MSA Annual Meeting).

2020:

![](image)

2021:

![](image)

The majority of people interacting with the Facebook page are between 25 and 44 years old, and are based in the US (64.8%), followed by Canada (3.7%) and Mexico (3.5%).
Twitter

*MSA Tweetmaster: Danny Haelewaters*

As of January 15, 2022, the @msafungi account has 5,344 followers.

Website

*MSA Webmaster: Andrew Loyd*

Suggestions for the Midyear Council meeting

1) In addition to the tabs MEETINGS, MEMBERSHIP, AWARDS, PUBLICATIONS, STUDENTS, ABOUT US, and VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES, a suggestion of this committee is to add a "DIVERSITY, EQUITY, AND INCLUSION" tab, with the following content:

- Society’s diversity statement
- Links to:
  - Diversity Award (once active)
  - Interchange Ambassador Award
  - Interchange Invitee Award
- Responsibilities and activities of the MSA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee
- A safe contact person for questions, reports of harassment at Annual Meetings, …

2) Is the current MOP sufficient for this committee’s responsibilities? The need for Facebook administrators and a Tweetmaster, as well as their continuation when people rotate off, should be part of the MOP. With the Council’s approval, we will draft an updated MOP for the Electronic Communication and Web Page Management committee to be approved at the 2022 MSA Annual Council Meeting in Gainesville, Florida. During MSA2019, in the absence of an MOP, then-MSA President Anne Pringle appointed an MSA “Tweetmaster” (Danny Haelewaters). [Copyright to Anne for the term MSA Tweetmaster.] We suggest that moving forward, MSA Tweetmasters continue to be appointed by the MSA President and that this be added to the MOP.

3) Online Teaching Resources and Job Opportunities are hidden away in the MEMBERSHIP tab. These should be presented more prominently, perhaps under a separate tab LINKS, RESOURCES, or LINKS AND RESOURCES.

4) The Committee would like to solicit feedback from the MSA membership about the MSA website and the Society’s online activities. We propose a survey to be sent to the membership as to be able to provide formal recommendations to the MSA Council by the Annual Meeting about potential shifts in online activities.

Planned in spring 2022

1) We are planning a committee meeting to discuss a number of items:

- Committee membership;
- Bringing in new Facebook administrators and a new Tweetmaster;
- An *Inoculum* article or ad to find new volunteers for this Committee, along with the proposed survey, also to be posted on the VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES page (mid-April);
- Weekly postings on our social media accounts. In 2021, the Committee was less active in posting regular content on the Facebook page compared to previous years.
- Actively post new *Mycologia* articles when they are published (Taylor & Francis may be interested in promoting—touch base with Christopher L. Schardl, Managing Editor)

2) Betsy Arnold, current MSA President, asked about the Committee’s engagement to review existing content of the MSA website, specifically looking at whether the Society’s web presence feels inviting, professional, inclusive, and accessible. The Committee will review pages and present recommendations by the 2022 MSA Annual Council Meeting.

3) Pending approval of suggestion #4 above, the Committee will work with MSA leadership to develop a survey soliciting feedback from the MSA membership, to be sent out in mid-April (alongside an *Inoculum* article/ad) and analyse results by the 2022 MSA Annual Council Meeting.

*Submitted on January 15, 2022*

*Danny Haelewaters, Chair*
**Membership Committee**

**Mid-year 2022**

Teresa Pawlowska, Sarah Bergemann, Jennifer Bhatnagar, Omon Isikhuemhen, Andrew Mann

The Membership Committee:

1) is collaborating with the Diversity & Inclusion Committee to waive membership fees for students serving on MSA committees,

2) Is interacting with Van Cotter, who chaired the Committee in the past, for ideas to increase sustainable membership.
The MSA investment account had a value of $2,332,614.64 on 1 January 2022, an 8.1% increase of $189,973.55 since last midyear report (beginning value $2,142,641.09 on 26 June 2021). The increase in value of our investments during the second half of 2021 continued to grow at a slower pace than the previous report (18%). Still a remarkable feat given the market volatility during the year due to the COVID-19 pandemic and inflation. Overall, MSA’s investments had a great year since total gains were 10.9% for 2021 (Jan-Dec). 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 Finance Committee is pleased with the state of our portfolio, which David Middleton has adjusted as needed. The impact of inflation (6.8% yearly for 2021) will likely affect our rate of return for next year; hence, the CIO recommendation to reduce the amounts of cash investments. The account has 59.83% invested in the stock market, which should allow us to keep up with inflation. We continue to encourage the CFIO to increase investment in social and environmental responsible companies. We intend to remain on course for our investment time horizon of at least 15 years, adjusting our portfolio as needed to maintain balance and stability.

According to the spending plan in our Investment Policy Statement, the level of spending in the pooled endowment fund will generally range from 2% to 6%. 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 2022.

The MSA Finance Committee will meet later in 2022 to review our Investment Policy Statement. The Finance Committee composition remains the same: two regular members (the Chair and Vice-Chair), 3 ex officio members, the Chief Financial Investment Officer (CFIO), and the Society Management Group Liaison. Currently, ex officio member, D. Jean Lodge, past chair has completed her term.
Endowment Committee Mid-Year Report

I. Donations From Jan-Dec 2021

Thanks to all you donated in 2021, yet another very challenging year.

Direct donations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Calendar Year</th>
<th>Total Donations</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>$19,201</td>
<td>14 of 39 funds had &gt; donations than in 2020; Unrestricted donations and research funds led</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>$24,902</td>
<td>$10,465 to the Board Designated Forest Fungi fund</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>$26,084</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>$94,982.86</td>
<td>Includes $40,000 to AppliedMycology Award and $10,000 to uncommitted Endowment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Other MSA Fundraising

The 2021 Online auction surpassed the 2020 online auction in revenue generated. However, this is less than half that was raised during the 2019 in person auction. It will be interesting to see what will happen in 2022 with an anticipated hybrid auction model including the traditional MSA Meeting auction and potential online auction that could be soon launched.

MSA 2021 Auction (on-line) revenue:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MSA Meeting Year</th>
<th>Auction Modality</th>
<th>Revenue</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>Hybrid In-Person/Online(expected)</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>$4857</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>Online</td>
<td>$2256</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>In-Person</td>
<td>$11266</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
III. A previous discussion about the sharing of the quarterly donation spreadsheet with the endowment committee has been resolved and moving forward MSA treasurer will share quarterly information with this committee for consideration.

IV. A conversation that is beginning includes questions about the MSA donor base: Who are the typical donors to MSA? Just MSA members? Others? Can we grow some more donors? Should we approach some we have not previously engaged? The committee looks forward to answering these questions.

V. Balances of Funds – See Table 3 in Treasurer’s Report (reproduced below)

Table 3. Balances of Board-Designated and Named Funds

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fund</th>
<th>December 31, 2020</th>
<th>December 31, 2021</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Temporarily</td>
<td>Permanently</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restricted</td>
<td>Restricted</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Designated</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Meredith Blackwell</td>
<td>13966</td>
<td>780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Best Oral</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forest Fungi</td>
<td>10465</td>
<td>10440</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NAMA Fellowship</td>
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<td>2000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applied Mycology Fund</td>
<td>24,839*</td>
<td>24839*</td>
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<td>Fungal Diversity Survey</td>
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<td>895</td>
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<td>MSA Diversity Award</td>
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<tr>
<td>Anonymous Endowment</td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>John Taylor Best Oral</td>
<td>9090</td>
<td>60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Symposia</td>
<td></td>
<td>1000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Travel Funds</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constantine Alexopoulos</td>
<td>7965</td>
<td>11588</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.W. Barksdale/J.P. Raper</td>
<td>3550</td>
<td>6054</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Howard Bigelow</td>
<td>6917</td>
<td>10728</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Margaret Barr Bigelow</td>
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<td>13206</td>
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<tr>
<td>Edward E. Butler</td>
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<td>11013</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William C. Denison</td>
<td>8022</td>
<td>12312</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry Morton Fitzpatrick</td>
<td>6126</td>
<td>10002</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emerson-Fuller-Whisler</td>
<td>5491</td>
<td>13616</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Richard P. Korf</td>
<td>6213</td>
<td>12912</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Everett S. Luttrell</td>
<td>8655</td>
<td>14580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harry D. Thiers</td>
<td>7174</td>
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<td>James M. Trappe</td>
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<td>Francis A. Uecker</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kenneth Wells</td>
<td>2540</td>
<td>8976</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hope and Orson K. Miller</td>
<td>18201</td>
<td>26160</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gilberson</td>
<td>7426</td>
<td>12045</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charles Kramer</td>
<td>6909</td>
<td>10224</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simmons</td>
<td>154</td>
<td>36259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Research Funds</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A.H. and H.V. Smith</td>
<td>23444</td>
<td>26273</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Martin Baker Research</td>
<td>45353</td>
<td>57715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Myron Backus</td>
<td>22415</td>
<td>47823</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Constantine Alexopoulos</td>
<td>12419</td>
<td>20099</td>
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<tr>
<td>Clark T. Rogerson</td>
<td>18723</td>
<td>25393</td>
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<tr>
<td>John S. Karling</td>
<td>9679</td>
<td>10703</td>
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<tr>
<td>R.W. Lichtwardt</td>
<td>-2633</td>
<td>15392</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John Rippon Graduate Research</td>
<td>9857</td>
<td>380</td>
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<tr>
<td>Undergraduate Research</td>
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<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. Bartnicki-Garcia</td>
<td>16250</td>
<td>220</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Simmons</td>
<td>17877</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Section Fund</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unrestricted donations</td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Totals</strong></td>
<td>24902</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sincerely submitted by

Peter Avis (Endowment Committee Chair)

**Endowment Committee**
Megan Romberg (2020-2024), Antonio Izzo (2020-2024), Kabir Peay (2021-2025), Kathryn Picard, Student Rep (2021-2022), Jessie Glaeser, ex officio, Treasurer A. Elizabeth Arnold, ex officio, President
Part 1: MSA Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee 2021-2022
Brian Lovett (Past-Chair), 2019-2022 – Postdoctoral Research Associate, West Virginia University
Anna Bazzicalupo (Chair), 2019-2023 – Postdoctoral Research Associate, University of British Columbia
Sonya Erlandson (Vice-Chair), 2020-2024 – Postdoctoral Research Associate, USDA-ARS NCARL
Elizabeth Feliciano (Secretary), 2021-2025 - PhD student, University of Florida
Lotus Lofgren (Early Career Member), 2018-2021 – Postdoctoral Research Associate, Duke University
Fabiola Pulido-Chavez (Student Member), 2019-2023 – PhD candidate, University of California Riverside

Part 2: Activities through August – December 2021 (monthly meetings)

(1) We have proposed a document outlining guidelines for safe fieldwork in mycology to be supported by the MSA and advertised on our webpage. The EC would discuss how appropriate it is for the MSA to support a document.

(2) Ambassador/Diversity award: starting in 2023, we proposed to merge the Ambassador Award (which is only available for two years 2021-2022) and the Diversity Award (which is planned as something to keep issuing every year). The wording and aims of both awards is almost identical. We propose to merge them and continue granting the award as we did last year.

(3) S.P.O.R.E.S.: we proposed to launch a mentoring program for students attending the in person meeting. This program will assign two mentees per mentor. We asked the Board for feedback on an initial draft of a proposal. After hearing back with great suggestions we are working on a plan to request money for 10 mentors and 20 students. A final proposal will be completed in February 2022.

(4) Membership waiver for students on MSA committees: we proposed to incentivize the participation of students in the running of the MSA by waiving membership fees for their year(s) of service. After meeting with the Rees group it seemed to be easily doable with a coupon system upon payment.

(5) Amazon Smiles: as a way to get more donations, we proposed to create an Amazon Smiles and sign up as a charity. After meeting with the Rees group this seems possible and we propose the donations should go to the Diversity Committee, the Student Section, and Travel Awards.

(6) Ambassador Award check in. Last year’s awardees were contacted for informal feedback about the award process and progress. One awardee was in the process of IRB approval for activities and planned to complete activities in March 2022.
other awardee had completed some workshops, with more workshops and meetings scheduled, and noted students were very engaged and excited during the workshop. Neither had specific feedback about the process. Both had what they needed to accomplish their proposed activities. A formal written summary of their activities will be submitted after completion in 2022.

(7) Membership Survey - Brian Lovett has obtained an IRB certificate for our questions and we are close to being able to start the survey.

(8) Two of our members carried out a meeting with the student award committee and Dr Arnold to discuss ways in which the committee can responsibly incorporate the diversity of the candidates for poster and best presentation awards.

(9) We have continued to fundraise to reach our Diversity Award Fund goal of $10,000. Over this period, we have nearly reached this goal with donations, Bonfire campaigns and generously shared sales with the MSA Student Committee.

Dr. Anna Bazzicalupo, Dr. Brian Lovett, Dr. Sonya Erlandson, Dr. Lotus Lofgren, Elizabeth Feliciano and Fabiola Pulido-Chavez
Mid-year Report MSA Student and PostDoc Section January 2022

Part 1: MSA Student and PostDoc Section Executive Board 2021 - 2022

Part 2: July – December 2021

- MSA SPS at MSA/Botany 2021
- Fundraising and Outreach

Part 3: January - July 2022

- MSA Student and PostDoc Section Monthly Virtual Events/Colloquium
- MSA Student and PostDoc Section at MSA 2022
- MSA Student and PostDoc Section MSA Student Awards Panel
- MSA Student and PostDoc Section M&Ms - Musings & Mycologists
- MSA Student and PostDoc Section Spotify Podcast - The MSA Students and Postdocs Podcast

Part 1: MSA Student Section Executive Board 2020-2021
Chair: Tania Kurbessoian (University of California - Riverside)
Vice-Chair: Maria-Jose Romero-Jimenez (Oregon State University)
Secretary: Claudia Bashian-Victoroff (Case Western Reserve University)
Treasurer: Abbey Neat (Oregon State University)
Communication Chair: Xiomy Janiria P. Davila (University of Georgia)
Merchandise Chair: Madeline Lueck (Washington State University) Webmaster: Alden Dirks (University of Michigan)
Postdoctoral Representative: Cassie Ettinger (University of California, Riverside)
Past-Chair: (automatic transition from Chair, non-voting) Rob Powers, University of Michigan

Part 2: July 2021 – Dec 2021 Mid-Year in Review
2.1 MSA 2021 MSA/Botany 2021
At the MSA/Botany 2021 Virtual meeting, the Student Section held a moderated mentorship panel for students to ask questions and learn how to maneuver mentorship struggles and successes. The panel consisted of Carolee Bull, Ashley Shade, Arthur Grupe and Terry Torres Cruz. It was moderated by MSA Student Section Board members. Attendance was great with over 25 participants on the Zoom session. Feedback from students was uniformly positive.

Additionally, the MSA Student Section Board held our annual meeting, attended by past and current Board members and current MSA student and postdoc members. The meeting consisted of updating members on what the Student
Section is currently doing and soliciting suggestions from attendees of what they would like the Student Section to do in the future. The meeting had approximately 25 attendees and we received excellent ideas and feedback from the attendees.

Online Bonfire sales brought in $12.04

2.2 Fundraising and Outreach

(a) Fundraising

Our current paypal account total as of January 2022 is $1,965.18, which includes the 2020-2021 previous balance and money from donations at MSA 2021. We have a discrepancy our Treasurer noticed and notified the MSA general Treasurer, of which is under investigation. The grand total for fundraising includes expenses and costs of new material purchase and transport, which are summarized in Table 1 at the end of this document.

(b) Social Media Presence

As of January 10 2022, the Student and Postdoc Section MSA Facebook page has 8266 likes, the Twitter account (@MSAStudents) has 2792 followers, the Instagram account (@msastudentsection) has 212 followers, and the LinkedIn group has 200 members. The Student and Postdoc Section also started a youtube account to upload pre-recorded colloquium talks as well as any other event (mentorship or other panel events) with a total of 22 subscribers.

(b) Newsletters

The Communication Chair and Webmaster have created two newsletters since July, with two Student Spotlights, gift guides, recipes, and fungal facts. We have also been soliciting fungal photos on our social media pages. We have fully transitioned to using Canva for newsletter design, and the newsletters are sent directly to all student section members by the Rees Group.

(c) MSA Student and Postdoc 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/. The old swag page was also removed and replaced by the bonfire account.
(d) MSA Student and Postdoc Section Trivia Night

On November 18 2021 - 12 students and postdocs joined virtually for a mycological trivia game set-up by the Treasurer and Secretary. The winning team will receive a mask with a design picked from another social event (MSA SPS Design Contest).

(e) MSA Student and Postdoc Section Design Contest

The Merchandise chair devised an event where the MSA SPS body could submit images they designed to be featured on the future MSA SPS merchandise. We had 7 successful submissions. Voting to be completed by January, and the image to be uploaded onto bonfire by the end of January.

(f) MSA Student and Postdoc Section Colloquiums

MSA SPS has had a total of 7 successful colloquiums since January 2021. The Vice chair has been coordinating these events by inviting two speakers (usually from the same lab or school) to present their work. This is recorded and can be viewed anytime on our youtube page. https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzMUz474HUIMJB2m34gQ9bA These links are shared to the speakers to share on their own CVs.

Part 3: January 2022 - July 2022

3.1 Monthly Student Sponsored Virtual Events/Colloquium

At the Student and Postdoc Section Board Meeting during Botany/Mycology 2021 numerous students suggested that the Student Section hold panels, talks, and other virtual get-togethers throughout the year. We will continue to hold this colloquium as a means for students and postdocs who haven’t had the opportunity to share their work can now share it on a more public forum. Future monthly events are planned that include panels on DEI, mental health in graduate school, international student get-togethers, student socials, and additional student seminars and colloquia.

3.2 MSA Student Section Presence at MSA 2022

a) Virtual Student Social or In-person Student Social

As the discussion of in-person or a virtual conference is still being discussed - we plan to host a virtual social for all student and postdoc members to network and mingle during the conference.

b) Board Meeting
The Student and Postdoc Section e-board will hold their last meeting with this elected board at the annual MSA meeting. This meeting is open to all student and postdoc members, but will be conducted as a board meeting.

c) **Student Section Poster**

Our poster will be updated and presented at MSA 2022, to increase awareness of the Student Section.

d) **Swag**

Our swag will be updated and available at MSA 2022. We look forward to the meeting every year to raise funds for the Student Section, to use in our future endeavors. Switching our merchandise front to Bonfire will allow us to sell a wider range of designs, and to easily make available shirts with custom designs from members.

3.3 **MSA Student and PostDoc Section MSA Student Awards Panel**

This year as a response to our board meeting during MSA/Botany 2021 we are holding a Student Awards Panel with individuals with active roles in the MSA awards section to provide guidance, tips and tricks to apply to particular awards offered by MSA. This will be attended by: Allison Walker, Maj Padamsee, Ari Jumpponen, and Vinson Doyle. This event will be held on January 13th 2022.

3.4 **MSA Student and PostDoc Section M&Ms - Musings & Mycologists**

An event spearheaded by our PostDoc Representative. We will be interviewing and listening to mycologists old and new on their struggles and successes on their career paths. These events will be recorded and posted both on our youtube account but also on our new podcast! We will try to have these monthly, but may depend on the number of individuals interested and their availability.

3.5 **MSA Student and PostDoc Section Spotify Podcast - The MSA Students and Postdocs Podcast**

An account created by our Vice Chair, seeing we already generate the visual and mp4 of each virtual event we record, we thought why not have just the audio available to be listened to as we work in the lab workbench. We are excited to continue this and feature our panels and M&M’s first but are open to branch out and do more!
# TABLE 1.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>August 2021-December 2021 Overview</th>
<th>Current Funds</th>
<th>Notes</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total Balance</td>
<td>$ 4,131.13</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PayPal Account Balance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total Balance</td>
<td>$ 3,154.90</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>PayPal Account Balance</td>
<td>$ 1,963.38</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Notes:**
- King group balance for student and postdoc action
- Inception August 2021-December 2021: $12.36 $1,977.22
- King group balance for student and postdoc action
- Outgoing August 2021-December 2021: $1,165.60 $2,487.91
- Outgoing August 2021-December 2021: $ - $1,977.22
- NA: $ - $2,487.91

The King Group balance for the NSF-UPS section changed unexpectedly. Not sure if it's due to the loss of a key person or the turnover of funds. It is being investigated.
January 20, 2022

To: Mycological Society of America Executive Council

Re: Association Management Membership Report, as of January 20, 2022

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
- 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
- Cori VanGalder, MSA Membership Coordinator

Membership Retention Services

Renewals for the 2022 calendar year are still underway. The initial membership renewal reminder was sent to 1,267 current or recently lapsed MSA members on November 15, 2021, with follow-up emails sent on December 17, 2021 and January 24, 2022. Additional reminders are scheduled for February and March of 2022. In addition to the emails, 48 paper letters were sent via USPS as membership renewal reminders to members with no valid email address in the MSA database.

As of January 20, 2022, the MSA membership totaled 668 active members. This consists of 627 renewing, Emeritus, Life, and Honorary members and 41 new members.

Below please see a table of current and past MSA membership information, noting that 2014 – 2018 statistics were provided by previous management companies.
MSA Membership Data as of July 1, 2021

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>Individual Member Worldwide Auto-Renew</td>
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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 59 MSA members taking advantage of the various auto-renewal options. In an effort to incentivize multi-year renewals, TRG has suggested changing the MSA bylaws to allow the board greater discretion in setting dues. These suggested changes have been submitted to the Executive Council for consideration.
Additional Management Services

From July 1, 2021 through January 1, 2022, 32 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.

2022 Award applications are underway, including a new award funded by a very generous anonymous donation of $10,000, the MSA Climate Change Resource Award. In the month of February, TRG will work with the Awards Chair to contact all student travel awardees regarding the 2020 and 2021 travel awards that are to be used toward the 2022 meeting since the previous two years have resulted in virtual meetings.

In the fall of 2021 TRG created custom form that allows members to donate to the various endowment funds in the process of enrolling or renewing their membership with MSA, eliminating the need to complete two different transactions. This was implemented in advance of the 2022 renewal period, and utilized quite a bit.

TRG has been working with the program chair, Frances Trail, and several other MSA members to offer our assistance with the 2022 meeting in Gainesville, Florida. Bill is tentatively planning a site visit to provide a clearer view of opportunities, while keeping the safety of all attendees as the main priority.

We are also working with the Executive Council, program chair, and local coordinators to facilitate the auction as a hybrid live/on-line event. Additionally, we are working with the venue to identify cost-effective ways to facilitate on-line participation in the meeting for those who can not travel to Gainesville in July.

TRG continues to maintain the MSA website with input and direction from membership and the Council. Updates provided regularly include meeting information, job postings, and award updates, along with other requests made and approved. The awards pages were revised at the end of 2021, which included changing the format of historic awards information from PDF documents that required download to each having award having its own web page of past awardees. This update required the creation of roughly 30 new pages and the revision of 25 others for consistency.

TRG continues to work with the editors on the compilation and distribution of Inoculum. This initiative has been very successful and largely appreciated by MSA membership.

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

The 2021 MSA Executive Council meeting by video conference (Zoom) was called to order at 2:01 PM EST on Friday, February 12, by President Marc Cubeta. Attending were President Marc Cubeta, Past President Anne Pringle, President-Elect Betsy Arnold, Vice President Julia Kerrigan, Treasurer Jessie Glaeser, and Executive Vice President Marin Brewer. Invited guests included Managing Editor Chris Schardl, Finance Committee chair Mathias Cafaro, Endowment Committee chair Mary Berbee, and The Rees Group representatives Bill Stoeffler and Cori Van Galder. Executive Vice President Brewer had distributed electronic copies of the midyear Executive Council meeting packet by email on Friday, February 5, 2021. The midyear Executive Council meeting packet included the meeting agenda, 2020-2021 midyear reports, minutes of the 2020 Executive Council meeting held by videoconference, the 2020-2021 Official MSA Roster, and copies of the MSA Constitution and By-Laws. The Appendix included the 2020 MSA annual investment report.

Executive Vice President Brewer referred to the 2020 MSA Executive Council Meeting minutes in the Executive Council packet and asked if there were any corrections.

Motion to approve the 2020 minutes was made and unanimously approved.

Officers’ Reports

President’s Report: President Cubeta reported that he has filled all MSA committees and they are very active and engaged. There is a new Inoculum editor, Michaela Schmull. The Taylor and Francis contract for Mycologia is moving forward and will be reviewed by TRG, then sent to MSA Council for approval. Cubeta thanked Executive Council for their contributions to the Food Bank Challenge. After much deliberation on whether to hold the 2021 meeting in-person, hybrid, or online, it was decided that the joint annual meeting with the Botanical Society of America (BSA) will be online. The cost estimate for a comprehensive hybrid meeting was very high, so it may not be a feasible option in the future. President Cubeta reported that the Manual of Operations (MOP) revisions are moving forward and he finished revising his sections. Fungal Fables about the history of MSA are being recorded with Meredith Blackwell. The first story has been recorded. They are now called Mycological Memoirs: The Storied Fungus.

Past President’s Report: Past President Pringle stated that she wants to ensure efforts that began when she started on Executive Council get finished or passed to someone who finishes them. A code of conduct for the society is needed. We have one for meetings, but not yet for the society. Pringle stated that we need to continue being thoughtful moving forward about who MSA represents when we make statements on behalf of the society. We need to be thankful to major donors. Pringle stated that there is not much for her to do as AAAS representative.
**President Elect’s Report:** President Elect Arnold discussed her role as the American Institute of Biological Sciences (AIBS) representative. She reported that there are not many action items and her role is mainly keeping track of their initiatives, one of which prompted formal comments on student visas. AIBS has training opportunities to learn how to communicate with congress people, as well as other trainings, but they cost money. These opportunities will be discussed with Executive Council on a case-by-case basis. Arnold reported that she attended the AIBS virtual annual meeting that presented many policy perspectives. She participates on the MSA Education Committee, which is now a very active and engaged committee. Arnold thanked Executive Council for feedback on the Ambassador Interchange Program, which is moving forward. She is transitioning to Review Editor for Mycologia and will find someone to replace her in the next month as Executive Editor. She is in contact with Matt Smith about the 2022 annual meeting in Gainesville.

**Vice President’s report:** Vice President Kerrigan summarized her report. She is starting to consider annual meeting locations for 2023. She is reviewing the membership nomination ballots for open officer and councilor positions. Kerrigan reported that she sent the nomination information to Amy Rossman, chair of the nominations committee, so they can assemble their list of candidates. Kerrigan will be receiving their list of nominees soon. She will then ask the nominees if they are interested in standing for election and begin developing the ballot.

**Treasurer’s report:** Treasurer Glaeser summarized her report. She stated that investments grew 12%. Our investor David Middleton is optimistic about economic growth. The revenue and expenses tables were assembled by The Rees Group (TRG) who are now managing all finances. Glaeser mentioned that the numbers are a bit off this year because we did not have an in-person annual meeting. The biggest source of revenue for the society was Mycologia. The ordinary revenue was approximately $200,000 with $225,000 from investments for $423,000 in total revenue. Expenses totaled $122,000, including $14,000 for deferred travel awards. TRG services cost $50,000 per year, but Glaeser stated that it is well worth it due to their excellent and professional management of our society. She reported that travel and research should not take up more than 2-6% of investments. Glaeser mentioned that she has been helping the student section with their finances. She mentioned that donations were down this year, but we received $10,000 from a generous benefactor.

**Executive Vice President’s Report:** Executive Vice President Brewer summarized her activities for the year and items in her midyear report including 10 email polls conducted since the last annual meeting. Most of her efforts have focused on updating the MSA roster, contacting each committee to let them know their responsibilities and to introduce the current members, and thanking past committee members and officers. Brewer reported that she requested and compiled the midyear committee and officer reports, organized the midyear meeting agenda and assembled and sent out the Executive Council midyear meeting packet. Brewer has been working with Past President Pringle and Cori Van Galder of TRG to revise the Manual of Operations (MOP). She has also worked on amending the By-Laws, which will be discussed in detail later in the meeting.
**Finance Committee report:** Committee chair Cafaro reported that the Finance committee is doing well. Last year the portfolio grew 12%, but the total increase is 18% because we closed the US Bank account. He reported that even in midst of a complicated year the market has increased in value. The committee met in August and reviewed the MOP and spending policy, but did not change much. Cafaro reported that most of the revisions were on how the committee will work and who votes. He stated that our Chief Financial Investment Officer David Middleton is doing an excellent job with investments and sends Carafo weekly reports.

**Mycologia Editors’ report:** Managing Editor Chris Schardl reported on the activities of the editors and the journal. The 2019 impact factor fell from 2.86 to 2.15 due to a highly cited article no longer being considered in the metric. There were 299 new manuscripts received, which was an increase from previous years. The 67% rejection rate was consistent with past years. Schardl reported that there is now a reject and resubmit option. The biggest struggle with the journal is reducing the turnaround time of 40 days to first decision. Submissions came from 53 countries and reviewers from 58 countries. Schardl thanked the editors who rotated off the editorial board. Betsy Arnold is replacing Schardl as Review Editor. We need a new Executive Editor to replace Arnold. Schardl thanked Brian Shaw for his dedication and efforts as managing editor.

Past President Pringle suggested that the Presidential Address be submitted as a review. She suggested that the Karling lecture should also be submitted as a review.

**ACTION ITEM:** Pringle will contact Alisha Quandt, chair of the Karling Committee to ask Anita Sil about contributing to this.

**Endowment Committee report:** Committee chair Berbee discussed the Food Bank contributions and mentioned that TRG took care of organizing the donations. She reported that we still had many donations even in a rough year. There was $24,000 in total donations. This was down from previous years due to large contributions in the past from an anonymous donor. There were also fewer individual donations, but this could be due to how membership renewal occurs. Berbee reported that the 2020 Auction was fun but not a big fundraiser for 2020. Berbee would like information on donations, especially big donors, so we can thank them. She would like the donations page to show up during membership renewal.

**ACTION ITEM:** Van Galder will send Berbee regular information on donors every 3 months.

**ACTION ITEM:** Cubeta will organize an ad hoc committee that includes members of Membership and Endowment committees and TRG to think through issues with membership autorenewal, to develop membership categories, and to enhance donations during membership renewal.
Society management association report: To enhance the website so that visitors do not have to download files, Stoeffler suggested converting pdf documents on the website to webpages, such as the pdfs for past award winners. There will be a cost to this for web development work. Stoeffler asked if MSA needed any assistance from TRG for the 2021 meeting with BSA now that it is online.

Cubeta mentioned he will keep TRG involved with some of our plans.

ACTION ITEM: Stoeffler will put together a proposal for web development costs.

New Business:

Many of the discussion items on the agenda were already addressed in officers’ reports or other reports.

IMC payment resolution: IMC documents from the 2018 meeting were sent to Treasurer Glaeser. Past MSA Presidents had signed contracts with IMA that a 40 euro levy fee on each registrant be returned to IMA. President Cubeta is working with TRG and IMA representatives to resolve this issue.

2021 Joint MSA-BSA meeting: The student travel awards can be registration awards. Some accepted symposia from 2020 want to move to the 2023 Gainesville meeting. They may need to reapply.

2020 and 2021 Mentor Travel Awards: Student awardees from 2020 and 2021 can use their travel award toward registration for this year or for travel to next year’s meeting but have to pick one. Awards Coordinator Tony Glenn and the mentor travel awards committee will need to contact them.

MOP revisions: Executive Vice President (EVP) Brewer provided an update on the major revisions to the MOP. Revisions have been submitted by the respective committees, officers, and representatives. Cori Van Galder has assembled all revised sections and EVP Brewer is currently reviewing and editing all sections.

ACTION ITEM: When finished Brewer will send the revised version to President-Elect Arnold for final edits and suggestions. The goal is to have a complete revised MOP by the annual council meeting.

By-Laws amendments: EVP Brewer shared several proposed amendments to the MSA Constitution and By-Laws to remove specific language about committees, remove the Nomenclature Committee and the Society Incorporation Representative, and to replace the Amateur Mycological Clubs and Societies committee with an Amateur Mycological Clubs and Societies Liaison.

A motion to accept the proposed amendments and put to a vote by MSA membership was made and approved unanimously.
**ACTION ITEM:** EVP Brewer will work with Vice President Kerrigan to add the proposed amendments to the spring ballot.

The meeting was adjourned by President Cubeta at 4:50pm EST.
December 3, 2021
2021 MSA Executive Council Fall Quarterly Meeting Minutes

Call to Order and Roll Call

The 2021 Fall Quarterly Meeting of the MSA Executive Council (EC) by video conference (Zoom) was called to order at 2:33pm CST on Friday, December 3, by President Betsy Arnold. Attending were President Arnold, Past President Marc Cubeta, President-Elect Julia Kerrigan, Vice President Cathie Aime, Treasurer Jessie Glaese, and Executive Vice President Emily Cantonwine. Invited guests were Bill Stoeffler and Cori Van Galder, representatives of The Rees Group. The meeting began with a moment of silence to think of Susan Rees, who recently lost a loved one.

Minutes

Executive Vice President Cantonwine noted that minutes had not been recorded for quarterly meetings in the past and asked if this should be started. President Arnold said there were times that sensitive issues were discussed within the EC but that in general she was in favor of there being minutes of these meetings for transparency within the society. After discussion it was agreed that minutes be taken at all Executive Council meetings and that a procedure of “Executive Session” be called by the President for sensitive discussions that are not to be detailed within meeting minutes. It was decided that the 2021 MSA Executive Council Meeting Minutes be approved at the 2022 Mid-Year meeting instead of the Fall Quarterly Meeting, if necessary, as it was not clear if they were approved during the last Council meeting.

Discussion Items

President Arnold summarized updates made to the updated MOP submitted by Past President Anne Pringle and Past Executive Vice President Marin Brewer, which include editing out antiquated language and extraneous text, adding text for several missing awards, and adding a new appendix proposed by the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee (DEIC) about selecting a meeting site. PE Kerrigan is conducting the final review. President Arnold informed VP Aime that next year, as President-Elect, she will have the honor to review and update the MOP.

Action Item – President Elect Kerrigan will complete the final review of the updated MOP and it will ‘go live’ this month.

President Arnold shared that MSA has been approached by two individuals who would like to create funded awards. One is an anonymous donor, with Greg Mueller as intermediary, who would like to create an annual $10,000 Research Award to a single MSA undergraduate, graduate student or post-doc to study the role of fungi to mitigate climate change. President Arnold asked for procedural wisdom for the creation of an anonymous award and feedback on their wish to advertise the award this cycle with the typical MSA deadline of February 15th. After some discussion, it was decided that there was a need to confirm the donor meets MSA’s mission, vision, values, and goals, either via a third party or an MSA Executive, and that an ad hoc committee may be established to handle the evaluation.
of award for this cycle, pending President Arnold’s discussions with the Awards Chair and Dr. Mueller. Items that required clarification were questions about whether past award winners would be eligible to receive the award again and if MSA had full control over who was selected.

**Action item** - President Arnold will reach out to Greg Mueller with this feedback.

The second is a funded award by one of Ron Petersen’s former students to be named in his honor. The donor has suggested the award be for the best international student presentation. During discussion it was pointed out that a specific definition of “international” would be needed to understand the donor’s intent and that the award might be unnecessarily exclusionary since international students are eligible for the best student presentation awards. It was proposed that a Mentor Travel opportunity for international students might be a better option while still being a meaningful way to attract international students.

**Action Item** - President Arnold will reach out to the donor with this feedback.

President Arnold shared four ideas from the DEIC for EC feedback. The first is a proposal to waive MSA membership fees for students who serve on MSA Committees as an incentive to get involved and to thank them for their efforts. The EC agreed that the minimal financial cost was something MSA could afford and supported the idea.

**Action Item** - President Arnold will take this proposal to the MSA Membership Committee and the MSA Student Section for feedback. These sorts of changes require alteration to the By-laws, a matter addressed further below.

The second is a proposal to establish a student mentoring program at the annual meeting known as SPORES (Society Prioritizes Our Recruitment of Every Student). Students would be paired and connected with a mentor for the meeting’s duration. DEIC asked for feedback and requested that Council support funds to pay for one breakfast and/or lunch for students and mentors involved at the annual meeting. President Arnold shared that the logistics related to how mentors and students are selected and matched would need to be developed and asked EC members whether the program should be developed further and taken to Council for a vote. After discussion the consensus was to suggest a pilot program be conducted first, with fewer mentors and students than originally proposed, and that the DEIC consider opening the program to all first-time attendees of an MSA annual meeting, as well as to take the lead on figuring out the logistics.

**Action Item** - President Arnold will share this feedback with the DEIC and ask for a formal proposal before the next Council meeting.

The next proposal was to create an Amazon Smiles for MSA. Bill shared that MSA does meet the criterion for Amazon Smiles as a 501C3 and that he saw no reason why we should not do so. There were no objections.

**Action Item** - President Arnold will explore the idea further.
The last DEIC proposal was to merge the MSA Diversity Award, which has yet to be awarded but has funds that are near endowment level, with the piloted Ambassador Interchange Award to support the continuation of the Ambassador Interchange Award. Treasurer Glaeser reported that the MSA Diversity Award account was near the $10,000 endowment threshold with $9223. President Arnold asked if there was a charter for the award and no one could recall.

Action Item - Present Arnold will reach out to Marin Brewer, Anne Pringle and former Chairs of the DEIC to see if they have institutional knowledge related to the original intent of the MSA Diversity Award before bringing this to Council.

President Arnold shared that at a recent meeting with Program Chair Frances Trail, Local Arrangements Coordinator Matt Smith, and The Rees Group regarding the 2022 MSA Annual Meeting the question of Covid-19 safety at the 2022 meeting was brought up. She asked the EC for feedback regarding the possibility of having a vaccine and/or mask mandate for the meeting. Bill Stoeffler pointed out that there is a greater liability risk for MSA if a member were to have a negative reaction to the vaccine because of a mandate than if a member were to contract Covid-19 while attending the meeting. Because of this The Rees Group does not recommend a vaccine mandate. Bill Stoeffler also shared that the CLEAR Heath Pass service might be a useful way for members to easily and privately share vaccination status and/or Covid-19 test results at the meeting. Further discussion regarding the possibility of requiring a vaccine or mask mandate occurred in Executive Session. No actions are required at this time.

President Arnold provided a progress update on the donated Nancy Smith Weber books and asked EC members for feedback on the next steps. After discussion President Arnold decided that an online spreadsheet with the complete list of books be shared so that notes can be compiled to prioritize where items go, and that Meredith Blackwell and the Endowment Committee be involved in the process. PP Cubeta noted that some items had been marked for donation to an institution. He also stated that he had not yet sent the Thank You letter to the family as he was waiting until the plan for the books was finalized.

Action Items –
- Cori Van Galder will generate a list of donated books with notes about condition in a spreadsheet and make this list available online to share for the purpose of prioritizing where items go, i.e. auction or library.
- Treasurer Glaeser will help as needed.
- VP Aime will share the list with Meredith Blackwell to get her input, and others as needed (e.g., Don Pfister).
- President Arnold will invite the Endowment Committee to contribute to prioritization.
- PP Cubeta will send a letter of thanks to the family in the near future.
- President Arnold will work with The Rees Group on an auction format and plan.

President Arnold shared that the International Mycological Association (IMA) is in the process of formalizing their existence under Swiss Law and that currently MSA’s representative, the Vice
President, has one vote as the Society’s representative and a second vote as the representative of North America. President Arnold suggested that North American representation be shared with Canada and Mexico, however, there are currently no national mycological societies in these countries. VP Aime shared that she was told the second vote was because she was a member of the IMA Executive Council, rather than a representative for North America. Thus the situation is somewhat unclear.

Action Item - President Arnold and VP Aime will explore options to improve inclusivity of Canada and Mexico for the sake of inclusive representation of mycological organizations across North America.

President Arnold asked Bill to provide an update on the requested documentation from the IMC (International Mycological Congress) from the Puerto Rico meeting. Bill reported that there had been about $3000-$4000 collected this fall from previous sponsors that were previously known but not collected. He stated the documents received appear to be what is needed for the audit, and that they do not appear to change last year’s assessment of the settlement with IMA. President Arnold expressed her wish to have the issue resolved next year.

Action Item - A smaller group, including Bill Stoeffler, PP Cubeta, and President Arnold, will meet in January to go over the materials.

PE Kerrigan provided an update on two possible 2023 meeting locations, a joint meeting with BSA in Boise or a sole meeting in Flagstaff. PE Kerrigan shared pros and cons for each option and asked for guidance on the selection process. PP Cubeta stated that BSA was great to work with but that many MSA members prefer to meet alone. President Arnold noted that Flagstaff would be the first MSA meeting in the Southwest. She also stated that only about 115 MSA member attended the joint online meeting with BSA, so it will not feel like a repeat. PE Kerrigan noted that according to the MOP the local arrangements committee is to be created after site selection and she asked the committee for feedback on a couple of possible names. Bill Stoeffler offered to connect PE Kerrigan with Jane Shephard, TRG’s Director of Meetings, if she needed help with structure. It was pointed out that there were some unwritten procedures related to the site selection by the President-Elect in the MOP. It was also suggested that adding a mentoring-system for the upcoming Program Chair to the MOP in the Program Chair section may also be valuable. President Arnold offered her assistance if Flagstaff was selected as the meeting site since the location is relatively close by for her.

Action Items –
- PE Kerrigan will have a 2023 meeting site, local arrangements coordinator and foray coordinator selected before the midyear EC meeting.
- PP Cubeta and PE Kerrigan will meet to so that unwritten details related to the site selection process by the President Elect be added to the MOP.

The mid-year council meeting is tentatively set for mid-February.
New Business

EVP Cantonwine shared that President Arnold had approved a new section be added to the MOP for the Management Group. This will be addressed during next year’s MOP review.

EVP Cantonwine also reported that active MSA members are not always keeping up with membership dues, and that the issue may be related, at least in part, to the membership renewal process. Bill Stoeffler explained that members who choose autorenewal are penalized because they do not receive the $10 early bird discount, and because the membership dues structure is set in the bylaws, leadership is unable to correct without a full membership vote. He suggested the language in the bylaws be changed so that the EC had the power to modify dues without full membership vote. President Arnold asked that a draft motion be sent to EC for review so the motion will be ready for a vote at the mid-year council meeting.

Action Items –
- Bill Stoeffler will compose a draft motion with EVP Cantonwine proposing the dues section of the bylaws be modified to state that the dues categories and amounts are set each year by the EC. The motion will be sent to EC members for comment in time for a vote at the midyear meeting.
- President Arnold asked EVP Cantonwine will consider whether other items should go to Council for a vote at the midyear meeting.

VP Aime shared that she and Steve Harris, who is a Department Head in Iowa and founder of CanFunNet (Canadian Fungal Research Network), have discussed the possibility of CanFunNet becoming a Canadian Chapter of MSA. CanFunNet has more than 1000 members, with 300 who have signed up for virtual meetings. Bill Stoeffler reported there would be no issue with MSA having a Chapter based on the status of the Society but that language would need to be added to the bylaws.

Action Item - VP Aime will develop a proposal to integrate CanFunNet as a Chapter with note of possible costs and benefits to MSA, and receive feedback from Susan Rees, Bill Stoeffler and EVP Cantonwine prior to consideration by Council.

Bill Stoeffler shared that membership and profile forms do not include an informed consent statement regarding how information is shared.

Action Item – Bill Stoeffler will create a proposal to add an informed consent statement on the membership and profile forms for Council to vote on at the midyear meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:20pm CST.
MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

CONSTITUTION

(Adopted August 1999; as amended May 2019 by a vote of the General Membership)

ARTICLE I. NAME

The name of this organization shall be the MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA, hereinafter referred to as the Society.

ARTICLE II. PURPOSE

The purpose of the Society is to promote and advance the science of mycology and to foster and encourage research and education in mycology in all its aspects.

ARTICLE III. MEMBERSHIP

Membership in the Society shall be open to persons or organizations who share the stated purposes of the Society. The Society provides an inclusive environment for everyone interested in mycology without regard to gender, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, disability, physical appearance, race, ethnicity, age, professional status, or religion. All members have the opportunity to participate fully in the Society governance, annual meetings, and activities sponsored by the Mycological Society of America.

ARTICLE IV. OFFICERS

The Officers of the Society shall be the President, President-Elect, Vice President, Executive Vice President (formerly “Secretary”), and Treasurer. The Executive Vice President and Treasurer shall each serve terms of three years. The Vice-President shall serve a term of one year, followed by one year as President-Elect, followed by one year as President. After a one-year term, the President shall serve on the Council for two years as Past-President. Terms of office begin and end at the close of the annual business meeting of the Society and thus may deviate by several months from the terms prescribed elsewhere in this document. Because these are time consuming jobs, officers of the society should be mid-career to senior members of the field so that serving the society does not endanger their career development and job security.

ARTICLE V. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The President, President-Elect, Vice President, Executive Vice President, Treasurer, and the immediate Past President shall serve as the Executive Council.

ARTICLE VI. COUNCIL

The Council shall consist of the President, President-Elect, Vice-President, Executive Vice President, Treasurer, the two preceding Past Presidents, a Chairperson representing each Section, and eight Councilors, two from each of the following four subject areas: 1) Ecology/Conservation, 2) Systematics/Evolution, 3) Genetics/Cell Biology, and 4) Symbiosis/Pathology. The Council shall provide effective and responsible guidance to the Society. Each member of the Council must be an Individual Member of the Society. Councilors shall serve for terms of two years.
The Council shall
   1) approve the actions of the Executive Council as necessary,
   2) make recommendations to the Officers and the Executive Council for action and response by the Officers,
   3) consider agenda items brought before it by the Officers, Executive Council or members, and
   4) initiate agenda items for its meetings.

ARTICLE VII. AWARDS

The Society may make awards for the purposes of travel to meetings, research, and recognition of outstanding members.

ARTICLE VIII. BY-LAWS

The provisions of the Constitution of the Society shall be carried out in accordance with the current By-laws of the Society.

ARTICLE IX. AMENDMENTS

Amendments to this Constitution may be made by a majority vote of the members voting by mail and/or electronic ballot, provided that suggested amendments have been discussed and approved by Council in time to be communicated to all members of the Society at least one month prior to the date for tallying ballots.

ARTICLE X. SECTIONS

Sections such as an MSA Student and Postdoc Section may be organized to advance the specific interests of MSA groups. Each Section and its Bylaws must be approved by vote of Council. A Section will be represented on the Council by its Chairperson or by another elected official designated by the Chairperson. The Section elects its own officers and shall present an annual report to MSA's Executive Vice President. Each shall be governed as specified in MSA's Constitution and Bylaws. All members of a section must be MSA members. If a section is inactive for two or more years, the Executive Vice President of the MSA shall notify Council, and the section may be discontinued by action of Council.
MYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA

BY-LAWS

(As amended May 2021 by a vote of the General Membership)

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

The Society shall consist of (A) individual members, (B) post-doctoral members, (C) student members, (D) emeritus members, (E) life members, (F) family members, (G) sustaining members, and (H) honorary members. Any person or group interested in the study of fungi shall be eligible to apply for membership. A person may become associated with the Society as an Associate Member, and societies may become Affiliated Societies. Members, Associate Members, and Affiliated Societies may be approved or elected by majority vote at any annual meeting of the Society or by Council by majority vote. Individuals from developing countries for whom fees are an obstacle to membership are encouraged to contact the society’s association management company to request a discounted rate. Discounts will be subject to approval by Council. All members in good standing are entitled to receive publications of the Society as stipulated below. Dues of those otherwise qualified may be paid as a gift by any member.

(A) Individual Member: Any person interested in the study of fungi. Privileges of individual membership include the right to vote on Society business, to hold office, to attend meetings of the Society, to appear on the program of such meetings, and to receive online access to each of the following: the official journal of the Society, the official newsletter of the Society, the membership directory, and other occasional publications.

(B) Post-doctoral Member: A full-time post-doctoral associate endorsed by his or her project investigator. Post-doctoral associates qualify for individual membership with all privileges at a reduced rate for a maximum period of five years.

(C) Student Member: A full-time student in good standing endorsed by his or her major professor or department chair. Students qualify for individual membership with all privileges at a reduced rate for a maximum period of seven years.

(D) Emeritus Member: A person who has retired from active professional employment after having been an individual member of the Society for fifteen years or more. The individual must make a request to the Executive Vice President, and upon recommendation of the Council, Society members may elect such members to emeritus status. Emeritus Members, shall not pay dues, but shall retain all the privileges of individual members with the exception that they will not receive the journal. An Emeritus Member may be an Emeritus Member Subscriber who elects to receive the journal at a reduced rate.

(E) Life Member: An individual member who pays a one-time life membership fee in an amount determined by the Council. A Life Member, upon election by the Society, shall have all the privileges of an individual member.

(F) Family Members: Family members qualifying for individual membership. One full membership fee and a reduced fee for each additional member entitle the family to a single journal and newsletter subscription; otherwise, each family member has the full privileges of an individual member.

(G) Sustaining Member: An individual or corporation recruited and recommended for sustaining membership by the Committee on Sustaining Membership. Sustaining members must be approved by Council. A sustaining member shall have the privileges of an individual member as well as those specified by the Committee on Sustaining Membership.
(H) **Honorary Member:** Distinguished, senior scientist with a long record of significant contributions to the science of mycology and who resides and works in a country other than the United States and Canada. Any member of the Society may submit nominations, accompanied by a detailed documentation of the credentials of the nominee, to the Committee on Honorary Awards. The Committee will review the nominations and report its recommendations to the Council. The nomination must be ratified by a majority vote of the Council by email poll. Honorary members shall have all of the privileges of an individual member but shall not pay dues. New Honorary Members will be immediately notified by the President to encourage their participation in the next MSA Annual Meeting and a notice of their election will be placed in the next Newsletter. An Honorary Membership is usually awarded to one scientist per year. The committee may choose to make no award(s) in any given year if no satisfactory nominations are received.

(I) **Associate Member:** An individual who wishes to receive the newsletter of the Society and/or attend the annual meetings of the Society. Associate members will not receive the official Journal of the Society and may not vote in Society elections or hold office.

(J) **Affiliated Society:** An organization that represents a community of interest in some aspect of mycology. Approval by Council required. Each affiliated organization shall pay annual dues as an individual member. It will receive one subscription to each publication of the Society, and it shall be entitled to one vote in the business of the Society through its president or other officially designated representative. Members of affiliated organizations shall be eligible to attend all meetings of the Society, but shall not be eligible to hold office in the Society or to vote on the business of the Society unless qualified under some other category of Society membership.

**ARTICLE II. DUES**

(A) Each active membership shall be maintained through the payment of dues to the Society as defined herein. Members who renew on or before December 31 for the next calendar year receive a $10 discount on their dues. The membership year and the publication year of the Society's official journal shall run concurrently with the calendar year. Bills for dues shall be mailed to members, affiliates, and associates several months prior to December 31 and shall be payable in advance on or before December 31. Delinquency in payment of dues shall be sufficient grounds for the removal of the member from the Society rolls.

(B) The schedule of dues for the different classes of members shall be determined by the Council and voted on by the Membership. Dues information will be published regularly in the Newsletter. The current dues schedule (without discount) is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Membership Type</th>
<th>Annual Dues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Individual Member</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Post-doctoral Member</td>
<td>$70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Member</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emeritus Member Subscriber</td>
<td>$50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Associate Member</td>
<td>$40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Member</td>
<td>$90 plus $20 annually for each additional member.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sustaining Member</td>
<td>$278 or more, annually.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Life Member</td>
<td>$2500, single payment</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Affiliated Society</td>
<td>$90</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Emeritus and Honorary Members pay no dues.

Members from developing countries, as defined by the WHO [http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups](http://data.worldbank.org/about/country-classifications/country-and-lending-groups) may request a 50% reduction in membership dues subject to approval by MSA Council.
A gift of a membership may be given at a rate appropriate to the status of a qualified recipient by any member.

**ARTICLE III. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND COUNCIL MEMBERS**

New officers, including Vice-President, Executive Vice President, and Treasurer, and Council Members are elected from two slates of nominees by the following procedure:

(A) The Vice-President, as election manager, shall oversee the mailing of a request for the nomination of officers and council members to members of the Society at least four months prior to the annual meeting. The call for nominations should encourage diversity and a balanced representation of the Society.

(B) At least three months prior to the annual meeting, the nominating committee will provide to the Vice President a second slate of candidates for officers and council members.

(C) Generally the nominees of the membership and of the nominating committee shall be the individuals receiving the largest number of votes in each nomination race. In some cases it may be necessary for the Vice-President to coordinate the nominations in the following manner. Should the nominee of the nominating committee and the one of the membership be the same, the nominee receiving the second highest number of votes from the membership shall be placed on the ballot. Should the nomination votes received by a candidate place him or her among the two highest nominees for more than one office, the nominee shall decide for which office he or she wishes to be nominated. Permission from each of the individuals nominated by membership and the nominating committee shall be obtained by the Vice-President before a nominee is placed on the ballot.

(D) The Vice-President shall prepare the final ballot with information about the candidates. At least two months before the annual meeting the final ballots shall be distributed electronic ballot to all members, with paper ballots available upon request to the Executive Vice President. The Vice-President will oversee their counting. A majority of those voting shall elect. A tie vote for any office shall be resolved by Council. Those elected will be notified by the Vice-President so that they may attend the Council Meeting as observers prior to their assumption of office.

(E) Any officer or councilor unavailable, unable, or unwilling to fulfill the responsibilities of office may be replaced by Council with another person to serve out the remaining term of office.

**ARTICLE IV. EDITORS, COMMITTEES, AND REPRESENTATIVES**

(A) The President with approval of the Council shall appoint the Editor-in-Chief or Executive Editors of the official journal, the Managing Editor of the journal and editors of other official Society publications. People in early stages of their careers who lack job security should not be appointed as an Editor-in-Chief or Executive Editors, Managing Editor, or Newsletter Editor. The terms of office for the Editor-in-Chief or Executive Editors and the Managing Editor shall be 5 years, with the possibility of renewal for one term. The Editor-in-Chief or Executive Editors, with approval of Council, shall appoint associate editors for three-year terms, with the possibility of one consecutive renewal. No associate editor shall serve for more than 6 consecutive years, although long-serving associate editors may be appointed again after a lapse of two years. With approval of Council, the Editor-in-Chief or Executive Editors may replace Associate Editors in the event they do not carry out their duties or abuse their duties. The Newsletter Editor shall serve for a term of three years. The appointments should encourage diversity and a balanced representation of the Society.

(B) The Executive Council shall consist of the immediate Past-President, President, President Elect, Vice-President, Executive Vice President, and Treasurer. The Executive Council will meet as necessary,
usually annually in early Spring, and will 1) monitor progress of MSA committee activities, 2) prepare a budget forecast, and 3) attend to all other pressing business of the Society. Any member of the Executive Council may refer a decision of that body to the full Council for consideration.

(C) **Committees.** There shall be three types of committee in the Society: temporary (ad hoc), rotating, and standing. Unless otherwise stipulated, the President appoints members annually to fill vacancies on committees. Terms of service on committees begin at the time the member is appointed and end at the annual business meeting in the final year of the term. Each committee will normally consist of 3-5 members, with terms staggered such that normally no more than 1, and never more than 2 positions become vacant in any given year. In case of resignations the President will appoint a replacement to serve the remainder of the term for the vacant position. The appointments should encourage diversity and a balanced representation of the Society.

(D) **Temporary Committees** may be established by the President to complete some specific task; members normally serve for a term of one year. Such committees may be reappointed by a new President for an additional term if more time is necessary to complete the task.

(E) There shall be **Rotating Committees** for General Service — Nominations, Program, the Karling Lecture, Endowment, and Editorial Advisory, and Rotating Committees for Awards — Student Awards, Mentor Travel Awards, Research Awards, MSA Distinctions, Honorary Awards. The Chair of a Rotating Committee is that member serving his/her final year on the committee. The President-Elect may agree to appoint a student or postdoctoral researcher proposed by the Student Section to a one-year term on a rotating committee. The student will not usually serve as Chair. Committees suitable for student or postdoctoral researcher participation will be based on Council vote and specified in the Manual of Operations. Addition of a student or postdoctoral member will increase the number on the roster of the committee by one. The most recent past-chair of a rotating committee retains ex officio, non-voting status on the committee for one year to assure smooth transitions in committee leadership.

(F) There shall be **Standing Committees** which deal with the following areas: Education, Finance, MSA Webpage and Electronic Communication, Membership, and Diversity and Inclusion. The President (or, where stipulated, Council) appoints the committee chair, who serves as chair until the end of his or her term on the committee. The President-Elect may agree to appoint a student or postdoctoral researcher proposed by the Student Section to a one-year term on a standing committee. The student will not usually serve as Chair. Committees suitable for student or postdoctoral researcher participation will be based on Council vote and specified in the Manual of Operations. Addition of a student or postdoctoral member will increase the number on the roster of the committee by one. The most recent past-chair of a standing committee retains ex officio, non-voting status on the committee for one year to assure smooth transitions in committee leadership.

(G) **Society Representatives.** The President appoints representatives to the following organizations. Terms of office are for three years, except where otherwise stated.

- American Association for the Advancement of Science, Committee of Section G, Biology
- American Institute of Biological Sciences, Council
- International Mycological Association

(H) **Assignments, Ex Officio Committees**

(1) Historian. Appointed by Council for indefinite term. Maintains Society archives and provides historical information about the Society to Council and the President on request.

(2) Liaison with Amateur Mycological Clubs and Societies. Appointed by the President for a term of two years. This representative facilitates communication with amateur clubs and societies.
(3) Foray Coordinator. Appointed by the President for a term of three years. Arranges for forays before or after each annual meeting.

(4) Local Arrangements Coordinator. Appointed by the President for a term of one year. This person(s) work closely with the program and endowment chairs to assure adequate facilities for the annual meeting.

(5) Committee on Publication of Memorials. Ex officio committee consisting of Memorials Editor, President, Executive Vice President, and Historian. The Memorials Editor is appointed by President and approved by Council for indefinite term. The committee ensures that timely Memorials of recently deceased members are published in the Society’s journal or newsletter.

(6) International Affairs Liaison. Appointed by Council for indefinite term. The liaison acts as an advocate for non-US/Canadian members of MSA and facilitates long-term collaborations between MSA and other mycological associations and societies. The liaison facilitates interactions among MSA members in the international community.

ARTICLE V. MEETINGS

(A) An annual meeting for the transaction of Council and Society business and for the presentation of scientific papers shall be held at such time and place as the Council may decide. Collecting forays may be held each year at a time and place to be selected by the Foray Coordinator. Additional meetings, including special or local meetings for the presentation of papers or the carrying out of forays, may be arranged by the Council at its discretion. A quorum of the Council for transaction of business at its annual meeting, or in the interim by mail, shall be eight. A quorum of the Society for the transaction of business at any general meeting shall be a minimum of twenty-five members entitled to vote.

(B) Programs for annual or other meetings shall be arranged by the Council. Responsibility for the scientific portion of the meeting will be delegated to the Program Committee.

(C) Members wishing to make presentations at the annual meeting shall submit to the Chairman of the Program Committee any information requested in advance of the annual meeting. When meetings are held jointly with another society, forms containing the formal intention to present and the abstract plus any required fee will be submitted to a designated program authority. Such information shall be due on or before an appropriate date listed in the call for presentations, and the Chair of the Program Committee shall be authorized to refuse any titles received after that date. Except by invitation, no member shall offer more than two presentations at any one meeting; presentations of joint authorship are attributed to the presenting author.

ARTICLE VI. PUBLICATIONS

The journal of the Society shall serve as its official outlet for disseminating mycological information. It shall also serve for the publication of Memorials, reports on the audits of the Society, and any other items deemed germane to the business of the Society by the Editor-in-Chief or Executive Editors. The Society Newsletter shall publish short informal articles, meeting abstracts, Society notices, letters, and any other material deemed appropriate by the Newsletter Editor. Book-length monographs may be published as Mycologia Memoirs. Other publications may be authorized by the Council.

ARTICLE VII. GENERAL PROHIBITIONS

Notwithstanding any provision of the Constitution or by-laws which might be susceptible to a contrary construction:
(A) The Society shall be organized exclusively for scientific and educational purposes;
(B) The Society shall be operated exclusively for scientific and educational purposes;
(C) No part of the net earnings of the Society shall or may under any circumstances inure to the benefit of any private shareholder or individual;
(D) No substantial part of the activities of the Society shall consist of carrying on propaganda or otherwise attempting to influence legislation;
(E) The Society shall not participate in or intervene in (including the publishing or distributing of statements) any political campaign on behalf of a candidate for public office;
(F) The Society shall not be organized or operated for profit;
(G) The Society shall not
   1) Lend any part of its income or corpus without the receipt of adequate security and a reasonable rate of interest to,
   2) Pay any compensation, in excess of a reasonable allowance for salaries or other compensation for personal services actually rendered, to,
   3) Make any part of its services available on a preferential basis, to
   4) Make any purchase of securities, or any other property for more than adequate consideration in money or money's worth from,
   5) Sell any securities or other property for less than adequate consideration in money or money's worth to, or
   6) Engage in any other transaction that results in a substantial diversion of its income or corpus to any officer, member of the Council, or substantial contributor to the Society.

The prohibitions contained in this Section G do not mean to imply that the Society may make such loans, payments, sales, or purchases to anyone else, unless such authority be given or implied by other provisions of the constitution or by-laws.

(H) The Society shall not tolerate discrimination or harassment in any form.

ARTICLE VIII. FINANCES

(A) All funds of the Society shall be deposited to the credit of the Society in such banks, financial firms, or other depositories as the Council shall direct.

(B) All checks, drafts, or other orders for the payment of money in the name of the Society shall be signed by such officer of the Society and in such manner as the Council shall direct.

(C) The annual accounting period of Society funds shall begin on January 1 and end on December 31 of the succeeding calendar year.

(D) Prior to each annual meeting the Treasurer shall prepare a summary of the Society’s financial status. At the conclusion of the Treasurer’s term, normally every three years, the Treasurer will commission a professional audit. This audit shall include all financial activities of the society, including the publication of the official journal, endowment funds, and operating budget. The Treasurer’s report shall be read at the annual business meeting and published in the Society's newsletter.

(E) Receipts from membership dues shall be used exclusively for the stated purposes of the Society and serve as the primary source of revenues for operational costs. The Endowment shall be composed of the Restricted Endowment and the Uncommitted Endowment. The Restricted Endowment is a permanently restricted account maintained for the purpose of providing earned investment income to support specific activities of the society as designated by those establishing these funds. Subfunds included within the Restricted Endowment are the Named Alexopoulos Prize Fund, the Alexander H. and Helen V. Smith Award Fund, the Martin-Baker Research Award Fund, the Myron P. Backus Award Fund, the Karling Lecture Fund, and the Clark T. Rogerson Award Fund, and the Named Mentor Travel Award funds. As required by law, the principal of each of these funds must be
maintained by the MSA in perpetuity, and the income can be used only for purposes for which the fund was established. Establishment of new Restricted Endowment funds requires the approval of Council. The Uncommitted Endowment is used to support activities of the society including special projects (e.g., special publications, workshops) that enhance mycology as a discipline and serve the goals of the Society. Allocation of the Uncommitted Endowment is approved by vote of Council. Council may vote, on an annual basis, to use income from the Uncommitted Endowment to supplement income from Named Restricted Endowment funds to enable making an award from Named Funds whose principals do not generate sufficient income. Council may vote to temporarily restrict principal of the Uncommitted Endowment such that income is used for special purposes; such restrictions must be reviewed every three years.

ARTICLE IX. USE OF THE SOCIETY'S NAME

Unauthorized use of the name of the Mycological Society of America for advertising or other business ventures is prohibited. The circulation of any unauthorized literature shall be taken as prima facie evidence of the violation of the intent and purpose expressed in this By-law. Any member may be expelled from the Society either by a majority vote of the Society at its meetings or by a majority vote of the Council such for a violation.

ARTICLE X. AMENDMENTS

These by-laws may be amended by a majority vote of the members. Voting on amendments is administered by the Executive Vice President at the direction of the Council, provided that suggested amendments have been brought to the attention of the Council in time to be mailed to all members of the Society at least one month previous to the date established as the deadline for voting.
The Mycological Society of America 2021–2022 Official Roster

Executive Council
A. Elizabedt Arnold, President (2021-2022) barnoldaz@gmail.com
Julia Kerrigan, President-Elect (2021-2022) jkerrig@clemson.edu
M. Catherine Aime, Vice President (2021-2022) macaire@purdue.edu
Emily Cantonwine, Exec. Vice President (2021-2024) egcantonwine@valdosta.edu
Jessie Glaeser, Treasurer (2019-2022) jessieglaeser@yahoo.com
Marc Cubeta, Past President (2021-2022) macubeta@ncsu.edu

General Council
(Includes Executive Council listed above)
Anne Pringle, Past Past President (2021-2022) anne.pringle@wisc.edu
Romina Gazis, Councilor Symbiosis & Pathology (2020-2022) r.gazis@regina.uofm.ca
Sydney Glassman, Councilor Ecology & Conservation (2020-2022) sydney.glassman@ucr.edu
Sara Branco, Councilor Genetics & Cell Biology (2020-2022) sara.branco@ucdenver.edu
Allison Walker, Councilor Systematics & Evolution (2020-2022) allison.walker@acadiau.ca
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Anthony Amend, Executive Editor (2022-2024)

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Christine Hawkes (2019-2024) chawkes@ncsu.edu
Nicole Donofrio (2020-2025) ndonofi@udel.edu
Bryn Dentinger (2020-2025) bdentinger@nhmu.utah.edu

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Amy Rossman, Book Review Editor amydianer@yahoo.com

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Meredith Blackwell, Memorials Editor mblackwell@lsu.edu
A. Elizabeth Arnold, ex officio, President
Emily Cantonwine, ex officio, Exec. Vice President

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Toby Spribille (2016-2021)  
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Joey Tanney (2021-2023)  
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Allison Walker (2018-2023)  
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Andy Wilson (2018-2023)  
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Mycologia Online Access  
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Mary Jane Epps (2021-2025)  
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Tyler Hacking Student Rep (2021-2022)  
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Julia Kerrigan, ex officio, President-Elect  
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Electronic Communication & Web Page Management
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Andrew Loyd, Webmaster (2020-2024)  
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Soleil Young (2020-2024)  
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Jacqueline Lemmon, Student Rep (2021-2022)  
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Michaela Schmüll, ex officio, Inoculum Editor

Finance
Matias Cafaro, Chair (2020-2024)  
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Bill Stoefller, non-voting active member, The Rees Group Liaison  
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Jean Lodge, ex officio, Past Chair
Jessie Glaeser, ex officio, Treasurer
A. Elizabeth Arnold, ex officio, President

Diversity and Inclusion
Anna Bazzicalupo, Chair (2019-2023)  
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Lotus Lofgren, Early Career Researcher Rep (2021-2025)  
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Brian Lovett, Past Chair (2019-2022)  
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Elizabeth Feliciano, Secretary (2021-2022)  
enoemife@umich.edu
Alexis Sullivan, Student Rep (2021-2022)  
Alexis.sullivan1@wsu.edu

Honorary Awards
Don Pfister (2019-2022)

ROTATING COMMITTEES – AWARDS

Mycological Society Distinctions
Matt Smith, Chair (2017-2022)  
trufflesmith@ufl.edu
Lori Carris (2018-2023)  
carris@wsu.edu
Tim James (2019-2021)  
tyjames@umich.edu
Greg Bonito (2020-2025)  
bonito@msu.edu
Sara Branco (2021-2026)  
sara.mayer.branco@gmail.com

Mycological Online Access  
onlineaccesshelp@taylorandfrancis.com
**Research Awards**
- Ari Jumpponen, *Chair* (2017-2022)  
  ari@ksu.edu
- Camille Truong (2018-2023)  
  camille.truong@rbg.vic.gov.au
- Benjamin Wolfe (2019-2024)  
  benjamin.wolfe@tufts.edu
- Jose Vargas-Muniz (2020-2025)  
  jose.vargasmuniz@siu.edu
- László Nagy (2021-2026)  
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**Mentor Student Travel Awards**
- Vinson Doyle, *Chair* (2018-2022)  
  VDoyle@agcenter.lsu.edu
- Jane Stewart (2019-2023)  
  jane.stewart@colostate.edu
- Ryoko Oono (2020-2024)  
  ryoko.oono@lifesci.ucsb.edu
- Louis (Jamie) Lamit (2021-2025)  
  ljlamit@syr.edu

**Student Awards**
  PadamseeM@landcareresearch.co.nz
- Brandon Hassett (2019-2023)  
  brandon.hassett@uit.no
- Astrid Ferrer (2020-2024)  
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- Suzanne Joneson (2021-2025)  
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**ROTATING COMMITTEES – GENERAL SERVICE**

**Endowment**
- Peter Avis, Chair (2016-2022)  
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- Megan Romberg (2020-2024)  
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- Antonio Izzo (2020-2024)  
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- Kabir Peay (2021-2025)  
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- Kathryn Picard, *Student Rep* (2021-2022)  
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- Jessie Glaeser, *ex officio, Treasurer*
- A. Elizabeth Arnold, *ex officio, President*

**Karling Annual Lecture**
- Kevin Garcia, *Chair* (2019-2022)  
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- Peter Kennedy (2020-2023)  
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- Leonora Bittleston (2021-2024)  
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- Maria-Jose Romero-Jimenez, *Student Rep* (2021-2022)  
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**Nominations**
- Georgiana May, *Chair* (2018-2022)  
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- David Hibbett (2019-2023)  
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- Greg Mueller (2020-2024)  
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- Marc Cubeta (2021-2025)  
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- Terry Torres Cruz, *Student Rep* (2021-2022)  
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**Program**
- Frances Trail, *Chair* (2018-2022)  
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- Jason Slot (2019-2023)  
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- Nhu Nguyen (2021-2025)  
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- Julia Kerrigan, *ex officio, President Elect*

**Student and Postdoc Section**
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- Abbey Neat, *Treasurer* (2021-2022)  
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- Madeleine Lueck, *Merchandise Chair* (2021-2022)  
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**ANNUAL MEETING COMMITTEES**

**MSA 2022 Local Arrangements**
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**MSA 2022 Foray Coordinator**
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**AFFILIATES AND ASSIGNMENTS, REPRESENTATIVES**

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International Mycological Association
Cathie Aime (2020-2023)
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**SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS & APPOINTMENTS**

**Awards Coordinator**
Allison Walker (2021-2024)
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József Geml (2022-2025)
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