

BULLETIN

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October 2005

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2005 Eastern Regional Meeting
 December 16-17th
 Wilfrid Laurier University
 Waterloo, Ontario



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



We're going to Boston!

As most of our more senior members will know, the *Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists* has for many years met regularly with the *American Society of Plant Biologists* (the ASPB, formerly the *American Society of Plant Physiologists*). The first joint meeting was in

Calgary in 1973, where at the time I was a pimple-faced teenager assisting with trap-and-release small mammal research in the Rockies, and so not around to witness the event. It was, according to all accounts*, definitely a hoot. That success was followed by regular joint meetings with the Americans every four years, alternating between sites in the United States and in Canada (see Table). In 2005 it was necessary to put off the 9th joint meeting by one year to accommodate our new meeting cycle with Plant Canada. Last spring it seemed that this joint meeting, originally planned for Montreal in 2006, might be in jeopardy. What happened? Did international relations break down? Was this some kind of retribution for a less than uniform and enthusiastic endorsement of American foreign policy? Or did they simply forget? Yes, sort of, but we were also remiss in not reminding them.

Joint Meetings of the American and Canadian Societies

Year	Location
1973	Calgary, AB
1977	Madison, WI
1981	Ste.-Foy, QC
1985	Providence, RI
1989	Toronto, ON
1993	Minneapolis, MN
1997	Vancouver, BC
2001	Providence, RI

It's important to first note that the ASPB is obviously a much larger organization than the CSPP, with many international connections stretching in all compass directions; whereas we, the CSPP, face pretty much due south (a regrettable Canadian habit). In addition to having an Executive Committee, as we do, they have many more additional volunteers, as well as a hefty complement of paid staff (23 person!) with the skills and experience to organise large meetings. Indeed, the ASPB is quite willing (for a fee) to help other plant science organisations host their meetings. The CSPP has been volunteers, but no staff. On most occasions our joint meetings, whether in Canada or stateside, have been run almost entirely by the ASPB. This is understandable. The CSPP has its input of course, but we don't put on the show. Now couple this reality with a 5 year gap since the last meeting, the simultaneous resignation in mid-2004 of the ASPB Executive Director and an Associate Director, a realization that staff and Executive Committee members are not always working from the same data set, and the fact that most committee positions are for only two years at a time. The consequence was a lapse in institutional memory and a rescheduling of the 2006 ASPB meeting for Boston... initially without us.

Now I must say that the ASPB has been extremely apologetic about this over-sight, almost to the point of being annoying (isn't that supposed to be one of our character flaws?). The solution to meet jointly in Boston instead of Montreal was an easy one. They have made very significant efforts to accommodate changes that will make Plant Biology 2006 a truly joint meeting. It promises to be a good one. And, for the meantime, our future cooperation seems secure as well. Although both societies have expressed some interest in a more flexible schedule, talks have reached the stage where we are now seriously looking at the possibility of getting together in 2010 and again in 2014, both times in Canada.

Rob Guy
President

*See Chapter 8 of [THE FIRST TWENTY-FIVE YEARS](#) or corner one of the "Wild Calgarians" to get the scoop firsthand (i.e., Dave Reid, Trevor Thorpe, Dick Pharis or Derek Bewley).

2005 PLANT CANADA MEETING

Plant Canada 2005 was held on the University of Alberta campus in Edmonton from June 15-18. This was quite possibly the largest wholly Canadian plant biology meeting ever held. A total of 602 participants representing six scientific societies, six countries, and every province in Canada made this unprecedented event an unqualified success. Kudos to **Mike Deyholos** and his local organizing committee for a job well done!

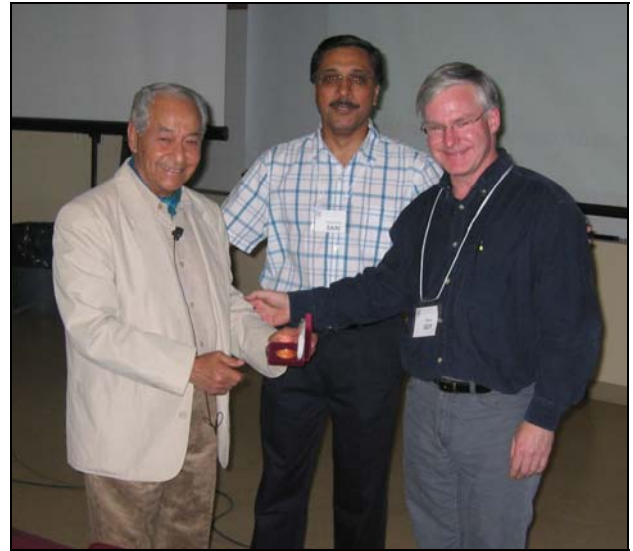
The CSPP-SCPV had the largest attendance of any society taking part, and one third of the participants were graduate students. The scientific program included 309 oral presentations and 114 poster presentations on topics ranging from plant genomics to cropping systems. Nearly half of the participants joined an afternoon excursion to Devonian Botanic Garden, Elk Island Park, West Edmonton Mall, or the Muttart Conservatory, and

just under 500 people participated in the closing banquet at Fort Edmonton Park.

A highlight for the CSPP-SCPV was the Gold Medal address presented by last year's recipient of the award, Ragai Ibrahim. Dr. Ibrahim gave a fascinating account of some of the excellent research he and his associates have conducted on the biochemistry of flavonoids and their functions in plants, using an incredible range of modern as well as classical techniques. The full text of Dr. Ibrahim's review was published in the May 2005 issue of the Canadian Journal of Botany (volume 83, pages 433-450).



Brian Colman, former President of the Society, presents a cheque to Beth Szyszka, winner of the Presidents' Award in the category of best student poster



Ragai Ibrahim receives the gold medal that he had been awarded in 2004



Ragai Ibrahim receives a concoction of flavonoids and other interesting substances



Excursion to Elk Island National Park



Poster session

PRESIDENTS' AWARDS - 2005

The CSPP-SCPV was pleased again this year to run its annual competition for presentations by our student members at the Plant Canada 2005 meeting in Edmonton. There were 61 entries competing for the best poster or best talk, all of which were witnessed or attended by at least two members of the panel of judges (Peta Bonham-Smith, Ewa Cholewa, Frédérique Guinel, Denis Maxwell, Soheil Mahmoud, Aine Plant, Barry Shelp and Rob Guy). The winners in each category received a framed certificate and a cheque for \$500.00. There were, in addition, a number of honorable mentions. Congratulations to one and all! We look forward to hearing more from you at future meetings!

BEST ORAL PRESENTATION

Jessica Brown

Department of Biological Sciences, University of Alberta
 "RNA secondary structure functions as a thermosensor"
 Coauthors: D. Chamot, G.W. Owttrim

The judges had little trouble selecting Jessica Brown as the recipient of the CSPP President's Award for the best oral presentation. Jessica gave a dynamic and well-organized talk of impressive quality from beginning to end. She began with the necessary background to lay a solid foundation for her work and then proceeded in logical, progressive fashion to evaluate her hypotheses and conclude on a model.

An outstanding feature of Jessica's presentation was her use of excellent visuals, including a touch of animation, that helped lead the audience along. Jessica's response to questions was direct and complete, without hesitation. Her answers demonstrated clear familiarity with the relevant literature.

In *Anabaena*, a DEAD-box RNA helicase, CrhC, is well-expressed at temperatures above 25°C, whereas there is little or no expression at lower temperatures. Jessica rejected promoter control of CrhC expression, noting that temperature-dependant expression occurs even when under a constitutive promoter. Rather, Jessica's studies implicate temperature effects on the secondary structure of the untranslated region of the transcript encoding this protein as being responsible for regulation – an exciting revelation!

Honourable Mention

Heather Coleman

Department of Wood Science, University of British Columbia
 "The effects of altered carbohydrate allocation and metabolism on plant growth and cellulose yield"
 Coauthors: D. Ellis, M. Gilbert, S.D. Mansfield

Honourable Mention

Mark Held

Department of Biology, University of Waterloo
 "Characterizing cytokinin oxidase (CKX) throughout the development of R50 (*sym 16*), a pea mutant accumulating cytokinins"
 Coauthor: F.C. Guinel

BEST POSTER PRESENTATION

Beth Szyszka

Department of Biology, University of Western Ontario
 "Excitation energy distribution of the mesophyll and psychrophilic strains of *Chlamydomonas raudeisii*"
 Coauthors: A. Ivanov, N. Huner

The judges unanimously selected the research presented by Beth Szyszka for the CSPP President's Award in the poster category. Beth explained with confidence and enthusiasm her difficult research. Her poster was presented in an elegant, organized and easy to follow manner. Combining this excellent organization with very good delivery made Beth's poster outstanding!

Beth's enthusiasm about the difficult aspects of the science of photosynthesis was contagious; during the poster session she very quickly drew a small crowd of fellow scientists who were eager to learn about her work. In a simple and understandable manner, Beth presented very complicated aspects of the distribution of the excitation energy between photosystems I and II.

Beth mastered challenging and tedious techniques which allowed her to measure chlorophyll fluorescence at low temperatures. Based on the results obtained by employing these unique techniques, Beth demonstrated the differences in the ability to optimize the light energy used towards photosynthesis between mesophyll and psychrophilic strains of *Chlamydomonas*. Thanks to her work we now know that the mesophile can regulate imbalances in energy distribution between PS I and PS II and can modulate the capacity of non-photochemical quenching, while the psychrophile exhibits a limited capacity for temperature acclimation.

Honourable Mention

Jasmine Garrett

Department of Biological Sciences, University of Lethbridge
 "AUTOBAHN: a gene that has a role in auxin influx in *Arabidopsis* leaves"
 Coauthor: E. Schultz

WELCOME TO OUR FIRST CORPORATE MEMBER!

We are pleased to welcome **AgriSera** as the first corporate member of the CSPP-SCPV. Corporate membership entitles AgriSera to display its logo on our web pages with a link to their own corporate site. We anticipate that we shall soon have other plant science related companies anxious to do the same. Corporate membership entitles the company to name two of their employees to receive the equivalent of "full member" status. Full members can attend our annual and regional meetings at member rates, receive and be listed in our membership directory, and receive the Society's electronic Bulletin, issued biannually. The application form for corporate membership can be downloaded from the Society's website (<http://cspp-scpv.ca/>).



TREASURER'S NOTES



Membership renewal notices will be in the mail very soon. You can renew your Society membership without the \$10 late fee until February 1, 2006, but why wait that long and take the chance of forgetting to renew? Why not renew as soon as the renewal letter arrives!

Starting with the 2006 membership year, CSPP/SCPV will offer the option of renewing a membership for one, two or three years. This amazing offer is made in

response to numerous requests from Society members, who have suggested that a three-year renewal would save hassle on the part of both individual Society members and also the Treasurer, who would need to send out fewer renewal notices.

Lastly, don't forget about the 2006 ASPB-CSPP joint meeting in Boston. Membership in either Society will entitle you to the member's price for conference registration fees.

Harold Weger
Treasurer

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Thank You Pierre! Welcome Line!



Our former Secretary, Pierre Bilodeau, is moving and taking up a new position at NSERC. Pierre served as CSPP/SCPV Secretary from July 2002 until very recently. The Society Executive would like to thank Pierre for the wonderful job he did as Secretary, and wishes him well in his new endeavour. Pierre was a pleasure to work with.



As well, the Executive welcomes Line Lapointe (Département de biologie, Université Laval) as the new acting Secretary and Pierre's replacement. Thank you to Line for joining the Executive on short notice!

ANNOUNCING THE CANADIAN JOURNAL OF BOTANY IN FULL-TEXT HTML

NRC Research Press is proud to announce that, in the September 2005 issue of the Canadian Journal of Botany, a full-text HTML version of all articles is available as part of the electronic edition of CJB (in addition to the PDF version). Full-text HTML adds many new features and functions to our electronic journals, including enhanced capability to search the material and reference linking to external documents.

Canadian readers already enjoy free online access to the Canadian Journal of Botany, and, until the end of 2005, readers outside Canada will receive free access to the September issue in full-text HTML. Any interested readers are encouraged to comment on our full-text HTML articles, by e-mailing Research.Press@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca.

To read the Canadian Journal of Botany in full-text HTML, visit pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cjb. Return to the Web site often for news about new journals available in full-text HTML.

ANNONCE DE LA PARUTION DE LA REVUE CANADIENNE DE BOTANIQUE EN TEXTE INTÉGRAL HTML

Les Presses scientifiques du CNRC annoncent que le numéro de septembre 2005 de la Revue canadienne de botanique signale l'arrivée du texte intégral HTML de tous les articles dans la version électronique de la Revue (en plus de la version PDF). Le texte intégral HTML ajoute nombre de caractéristiques et de fonctions à nos revues électroniques, y compris des capacités accrues de recherche et des liens vers des documents de référence externes.

Les lecteurs canadiens bénéficient déjà d'un accès Internet gratuit à la Revue canadienne de botanique, et, jusqu'à la fin 2005, les lecteurs hors pays pourront accéder gratuitement au numéro de septembre 2005 en texte intégral HTML. Toute personne intéressée est invitée à soumettre ses commentaires par courrier électronique à l'adresse suivante : Presses.scientifiques@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca.

Pour consulter la Revue canadienne de botanique en texte intégral HTML, rendez-vous à pubs.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/cjb. Nous vous invitons à visiter le site Web régulièrement pour demeurer au fait des plus récentes nouvelles au sujet de la disponibilité des revues en texte intégral HTML.

FORMATION OF THE CANADIAN SOCIETY FOR ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION

Announcement: 5 October 2005

Canada is a world leader in ecological and evolutionary research, with the highest ranking per grant dollar in terms of number of publications and citations (Peters et al. 1996 *Can J Fish Aquat Sci* 53, 670). This research contributes to the social and economic wellbeing of Canadians in many ways. For example, it has given us better predictions of the consequences of global climate change, revealed the scope of ecosystem change within the Arctic, monitored the spread of invasive species, improved control measures for diseases, and furthered our understanding of the basic mechanisms by which biodiversity evolves and is maintained.

Nevertheless, there is a need for us to come together as a group to communicate our findings to the public and to participate in the development of government policies relevant to our fields. Furthermore, we need a voice to advocate our need for research funding. Ecology and evolution is one of the fastest growing disciplines supported by NSERC (GSC18), yet it received the largest cut in the last reallocations process. A small planning group mandated by the GSC18 panel to review the situation and suggest possible remedies met 7-8 September at NSERC headquarters in Ottawa. With the encouragement of NSERC, we have founded a national society for ecology and evolution, provisionally titled

The Canadian Society for Ecology and Evolution, and have drafted a constitution (www.ecoevo.ca).

The purposes of the society shall be (1) to promote the study of ecology and evolution in Canada, (2) to raise public awareness of the importance of ecology and evolution to Canadian society, (3) to facilitate communication between members of the Society and decision-makers in the public, private and non-governmental sectors, and (4) to act as a liaison with Federal and Provincial funding agencies to support and promote ecological and evolutionary research in Canada.

The inaugural meeting of the society will be held in Montreal in April 2006, when a constitution will be approved and officers elected (information and registration will be available at www.ecoevo.ca). In the meantime, the business of the society will be conducted by a temporary council comprising Graham Bell (McGill, acting President), Douglas Morris (Lakehead, acting Vice-President), Sally Otto (UBC, acting Secretary), Louis Bernatchez (Laval, acting Treasurer) and council members Douglas Haffner (Windsor), Jeff Hutchings (Dalhousie), Kathy Martin (UBC), Denis Réale (UQAM) and Locke Rowe (Toronto).

To achieve our goals, we need your membership. We believe that the society is vital to ensure the future of our discipline in Canada, and we aim for the broadest possible membership. If you support our objectives, we urge you to become a member. The application form can be found on our website (www.ecoevo.ca). Membership dues will be used to cover the costs of establishing the society, running meetings, supporting targeted workshops, and publishing policy statements and other documents to improve the communication of our work. Please join us and improve the voice of ecology and evolution within Canada.

UNE SOCIÉTÉ CANADIENNE D'ÉCOLOGIE ET D'ÉVOLUTION

(Annonce : 5 octobre 2005)

Le Canada se classe parmi les premiers pays au monde dans le domaine de la recherche en écologie et évolution, et au premier rang pour le nombre de citations et de publications par dollar investi (Peters et al. 1996 *Can J Fish Aquat Sci* 53, 670). Cette recherche contribue au bien-être tant social qu'économique des Canadiens et ce de plusieurs façons. Elle nous a permis d'établir de meilleures prédictions concernant les conséquences de changements climatiques globaux et a révélé l'ampleur des changements des écosystèmes dans l'Arctique. Elle a également répertorié l'avancée d'espèces envahissantes, amélioré les mesures de contrôle de nombreuses maladies, et accru notre compréhension des mécanismes de base responsables du maintien et de l'évolution de la biodiversité.

Cependant, il demeure essentiel de rassembler nos efforts pour communiquer nos découvertes au public et pour participer à la mise en place de politiques gouvernementales relevant de notre discipline. De plus, il devient nécessaire de disposer d'une voix qui pourrait revendiquer les besoins de notre communauté scientifique en matière de financement. Notre discipline, qui connaît une des plus fortes croissances parmi les domaines de recherche financés par le CRSNG (par le biais du GSC18), a pourtant vécu la plus importante coupure de budget lors du dernier exercice de réallocation. Un petit groupe de travail mandaté par le GSC18 s'est réuni le 7 et 8 septembre, dans les locaux du CRSNG à Ottawa, pour analyser la situation et suggérer des solutions. Avec les encouragements du CRSNG, nous avons fondé une Société canadienne pour l'étude de l'écologie et de l'évolution, que nous avons provisoirement nommée la Société Canadienne d'Écologie et d'Évolution, et en avons rédigé la charte (www.ecoevo.ca).

Les objectifs de cette Société seraient (1) de promouvoir l'étude de l'écologie et de l'évolution au Canada, (2) d'éveiller la conscience du public à propos de l'importance de l'écologie et de l'évolution pour la société canadienne, (3) de faciliter la communication entre les membres de la Société et les décideurs du domaine public et privé ou des agences non gouvernementales et (4) de servir de liaison avec les agences fédérales et provinciales de financement afin de

supporter et de promouvoir les recherches en écologie et en évolution au Canada.

Le congrès inaugural de la Société aura lieu à Montréal en avril 2006. Lors de ce congrès, nous approuverons la charte et élirons les membres de l'Exécutif (de plus amples informations seront disponibles sur www.ecoevo.ca). En attendant, les affaires de la Société sont gérées par un conseil provisoire composé de Graham Bell (McGill, président), Douglas Morris (Lakehead, vice-président), Sally Otto, (UBC, secrétaire), Louis Bernatchez (Laval, trésorier) et des membres du conseil, Douglas Haffner (Windsor), Jeff Hutchings (Dalhousie), Kathy Martin (UBC), Denis Réale (UQAM) et Locke Rowe (Toronto).

Afin de parvenir à nos fins, nous avons besoin de votre participation. Nous croyons que la Société est cruciale au futur de notre discipline au Canada, et souhaitons obtenir l'adhésion du plus grand nombre d'entre vous. Si vous supportez nos objectifs, nous vous proposons de devenir membre. Un formulaire d'adhésion est disponible sur notre site web (www.ecoevo.ca). Les frais d'adhésion serviront à couvrir les coûts de fondation de la Société, l'organisation de congrès ou d'ateliers ciblés, la publication de déclarations publiques, ou de tout autre document visant à améliorer la communication de notre travail. Merci de vous joindre à nous et de renforcer la voix de l'écologie et de l'évolution au Canada.

POSITIONS

UNIVERSITY OF ALBERTA, AUGUSTANA FACULTY, BIOLOGY

As part of a dynamic, multi-year program of renewal and growth at the University of Alberta's Augustana Campus, the Department of Science invites applications for a tenure-track position in Biology. This position is one of several being advertised in the current year with the expectation that several appointments will be made, at the rank of Assistant Professor, commencing July 1, 2006.

The successful candidate will have a Ph.D. in either Microbiology or Molecular Biology and will be expected to teach courses in both areas. Applicants should be interested in helping to build a high-quality, student-friendly, teaching-oriented Biology program that also recognizes the value of research.

The Augustana Faculty teaches more than 1000 students in baccalaureate degree programs on a picturesque residential campus in the city of Camrose, 90 km southeast of Edmonton. After a long educational history, including two decades as an independent, degree-granting university college, Augustana was incorporated

into the University of Alberta in July 2004. The Faculty is committed to building on its reputation for rigorous, high-quality teaching in the tradition of the liberal arts and sciences, and, in doing so, providing a distinctive undergraduate academic experience for students within one of Canada's leading universities. It seeks to attract promising scholars who will share its enthusiasm for teaching in a small-campus environment, participate actively in a collegial culture of inquiry and public engagement, and flourish as researchers in an undergraduate, interdisciplinary, and rural location.

For all positions, the ability to contribute to areas of interdisciplinary strength and interest for the Faculty will be an asset. Those areas include environmental studies, international development studies, rural and northern studies, and women's studies.

For information about Augustana and particular programs, please consult the Faculty webpage at www.augustana.ca. Inquiries concerning any of the positions in this advertisement should be directed to the Chair of Science, Dr. Neil Haave (neil.haave@ualberta.ca).

All appointments will be made at the rank of Assistant Professor. The current salary scale begins at \$53,580; the benefit package is comprehensive.

Applicants should submit curriculum vitae, including evidence of successful teaching and samples of scholarly work, and arrange to have transcripts and three confidential letters of reference sent to:

Dr. Roger Epp
Dean (Acting)
Augustana Faculty
University of Alberta
4901-46 Avenue
Camrose, AB, T4V 2R3
Email: Roger.Epp@ualberta.ca

Consideration of applications will begin as early as January 4.

All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. If suitable Canadian citizens or permanent residents cannot be found, other individuals will be considered. The University of Alberta hires on the basis of merit. We are committed to the principle of equity in employment. We welcome diversity and encourage applications from all qualified women and men, including persons with disabilities, members of visible minorities, and Aboriginal persons.

UNIVERSITY OF WATERLOO, ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR (2 POSITIONS)

The Department of Biology of the University of Waterloo invites applications for two tenure-track positions at the Assistant or Associate Professor level in Plant Biology. The Department of Biology is strongly committed to excellence in research, and both undergraduate and graduate teaching. Applicants must have a Ph.D., and will likely have post-doctoral experience, and be prepared to establish an active externally funded research program. We are particularly interested in candidates with a strong background in plant biology who use current approaches in their research. Candidates should be committed to enthusiastic and innovative teaching in courses such as Introductory Plant Biology, Plant Physiology, Plant Structure and Anatomy, and the Biology of Food Production. Salary will be commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Applicants should send their curriculum vitae, the names and addresses of three individuals willing to furnish letters of reference, and a 1-2 page outline of their proposed research program to:

The Chair, Department of Biology, University of Waterloo, 200 University Avenue West, Waterloo, Ontario, Canada N2L 3G1.

The closing date for applications is December 31, 2005. Ideally, one successful applicant will start between July and September 2006 while the other will start between January and May 2007. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadians and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Waterloo encourages applications from all qualified individuals, including women, members of visible minorities, native peoples, and persons with disabilities. We also encourage applicants who have had career delays associated with family responsibilities. Additional information about the Department is available at:

<http://www.science.uwaterloo.ca/departments/biology/index.html>

PERFORMANCE PLANTS, INC., PERMANENT RESEARCHER POSITION

A plant molecular biologist/geneticist position (M.Sc or Ph.D. levels) is immediately available in the Gene Discovery Program at the Company's Kingston research facility. Applicants should have a strong background in molecular biology, in particular, plant molecular genetics. The successful candidate should have demonstrated skills in identification of genes and their functions using current genetic approaches. Knowledge of plant hormone signal transduction, biotic and abiotic stresses is also advantageous. The candidate will ideally be detail-orientated, well-organized, enthusiastic and able to appreciate goal-based research and development.

Performance Plants Inc. is a major Canadian plant biotechnology company (www.performanceplants.com), whose mission is to genetically engineer plant metabolism to improve agricultural productivity. The Company's head office is located in the Bioscience Complex of Queen's University, and Kingston is a beautiful city by Lake Ontario. Interested applicants should send a curriculum vitae and the names of three references to:

The Human Resources Department
Performance Plants Inc.
BioSciences Complex
Queen's University
Kingston, Ontario, Canada
K7L 3N6

Email: humanresources@performanceplants.com
Fax: 1-(613)-545-3618.

Only applicants considered for an interview will receive further communication after their initial application. Performance Plants Inc. offers a complete benefits package and is an equal opportunity employer.

**NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
GRADUATE RESEARCH OPPORTUNITY**

Supervision: Dr. B. Prithiviraj, Department of Plant and Animal Sciences

Location: Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Truro, NS

Position: M. Sc. Candidate

Project: Various formulations of the seaweed *Ascophyllum nodosum* is increasingly being used in Agriculture. These products promote plant growth and impart biotic and abiotic stress tolerance in plants. The main research focus of this project will be to test existing bioassay protocols and as well as develop innovative bioassay systems to test abiotic stress resistance in plants upon addition of *A. nodosum* products. In addition to crop plants, model plants; *Arabidopsis thaliana* and *Medicago truncatula* will be used in these studies.

Employing these bioassay techniques, activity of a suite of novel fractions and formulations of *A. nodosum* will be tested in the lab, greenhouse and under field conditions. This is part of a large collaborative effort between NSAC, Acadian Seaplants Ltd., NRC-Institute of Marine biology and AAFC- Kentville.

Requirements: A bachelors degree in Agriculture / Biology with Plant Science major is essential. Ability to work independently and as a team. Knowledge of model plant systems and molecular biology techniques will be an asset.

Stipend: \$ 15,000 for two years

Start Date: Potential start date as early as January 2006

To apply: Submit covering letter, statement of career goals, a recent CV and three references to

Dr. B. Prithiviraj
Department of Plant and Animal Sciences,
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
Box 550, Truro
Nova Scotia B2N 5E3
Canada

e-mail: bprithiviraj@nsac.ca
Phone: (902)89-6643
Fax (902)895-6734

**NOVA SCOTIA AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE,
POST DOCTORAL POSITION**

Position Description: A postdoctoral position is available immediately to study the physiological and molecular basis of plant growth enhancement and induction of biotic and abiotic stress resistance by extracts and products of the seaweed *Ascophyllum nodosum*. He/She will extensively use model plants; *Arabidopsis thaliana* and *Medicago truncatula*. The successful candidate will use forward and reverse genetics to discover genes controlling plant responses to the seaweed products.

Further, the candidate will be actively involved in the development of appropriate whole plant and molecular based bioassay systems to isolate active compound(s) from *A. nodosum*. The successful candidate must have Ph.D. degree in Plant Biology or a related discipline with demonstrated experience in biochemical analyses, standard molecular biology techniques and plant transformation. Working knowledge of microarray technology will be a plus. Superior communication skills are essential. This work is a part of a larger collaboration between Nova Scotia Agricultural College, Acadian Seaplants Ltd, National Research Council - IMB and Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada. The position is initially for one year with a possible extension for another two years based on performance and productivity.

Application: Please send letter of application, statement of career goals, a recent CV along with list of publications and contact information (addresses, e-mail and phone numbers) of at least three references to:

Dr. B.Prithiviraj
Department of Plant and Animal Sciences
58 River Road
Nova Scotia Agricultural College
PO Box 550, Truro, Nova Scotia
Canada B2N 5E3

e-mail: bprithiviraj@nsac.ca
Phone: (902)893-6643
Fax (902)895-6734.

Salary: Commensurate with qualifications and experience.

Application Deadline: November 20, 2005, or until suitable candidate is found.

Start Date: January 3, 2006.

**PLANT BIOTECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE, POST-
DOCTORAL POSITION**

A postdoctoral position is available with the National Research Council of Canada at the Plant Biotechnology Institute in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan to investigate the induction of microspore embryogenesis in *Brassica napus*. This is a continuing area of research at the institute. The suitable candidate should have expertise in molecular biology, genomics, plant physiology and have demonstrated interests in plant embryogenesis or seed biology. Experience in microscopy or microarray analysis is desirable.

This is a two-year position at the standard salary for Visiting Fellowships at government labs (approximately \$42,750 plus travel allowance).

Interested applicants should send a CV and letter of interest to:

Dr. Joan Krochko
 Plant Biotechnology Institute
 National Research Council
 110 Gymnasium Place
 Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
 Canada S7N0W9

email: Joan.Krochko@nrc-cnrc.gc.ca
 TEL: (306) 975-4993
 FAX: (306) 975-4839.

Hiring for this position also requires the applicant to submit a formal NSERC-NRC postdoctoral application: http://careers-carrieres.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/Careers/career_main.nsf/pagee/NSERCProgram.html

FOR ADDITIONAL OR MORE RECENT POSTINGS, PLEASE SEE THE CSPP/SCPV WEBSITE AT <http://cspp-scpv.ca/jobs-e.shtml>

UPCOMING EVENTS

Eastern Regional Meeting

Wilfred Laurier University
 Waterloo, ON
 16-17 December 2005

ERM 2005 SYMPOSIUM:

Organelle Biogenesis and Dynamics

Featuring Federica Brandizzi (Saskatchewan), Rob Mullen (Guelph) and John Froehlich (Michigan State PBL)

PGRSA 2006

33rd Annual Conference of the **Plant Growth Regulation Society of America**

Québec City, Canada
 9-13 July 2006

<http://www.griffin.peachnet.edu/pgrsa/homepage.shtml>

Western Regional CSPP Meeting

Kelowna, BC
 13-17 February 2007 (tentative)

<http://www.aspb.org/meetings/pb-2006/>

Plant Biology 2006

Joint Annual Meeting of the **ASPB** and the **CSPP-SCPV**

Boston, MA
 5-9 August 2006

PLANT BIOLOGY 2006 SYMPOSIA:

Plants Mitigating Global Change

Organized by Stephen P. Long, University of Illinois

Legumes: Genomes to Biology

Organized by Douglas R. Cook, University of California-Davis

Ion Channels and Cellular Signaling

Organized by Julian I. Schroeder, University of California-San Diego

Gibbs Medal Symposium:

Genome Scale Biology

Organized by Joseph R. Ecker, The Salk Institute

ASPB President's Symposium:

Plant Responses to the Environment

Organized by Michael F. Thomashow, Michigan State University

CSPP President's Symposium:

Tree Physiology and Genomics

Organized by Robert D. Guy, University of British Columbia

NOMINATIONS for CSPP AWARDS

The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists invites nominations for its major awards to be presented at the Society's annual meeting in 2006. The details concerning the nature of each award, eligibility and qualifications of the nominees as well as the procedure to be followed by the nominators are given in the appropriate by-laws in the society's Constitution, a pdf version of which can be downloaded from the web site of the society (www.cspp-scpv.ca). These details, as well as lists of past recipients, are also included in the CSPP

Membership Directory. The nominations for each award must be received by the Chair of the respective award committee (see addresses below) by March 31, 2006.

The CSPP Medal (The Gold Medal)

The medal is awarded either for outstanding published contributions or for distinguished service to plant physiology, primarily in Canada. (See By-Law 11). The nominations should be sent to: Dr. John Coleman,

Department of Botany, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, email: coleman@botany.utoronto.ca

The C.D. Nelson Award in Plant Physiology

The Award is given for outstanding research contributions to plant physiology. Special consideration will be given to originality and independence of thought. Nominees shall have been in an independent, full-time research position for no more than 10 years. (See By-Law 12). The nominations should be sent to: Dr. Vipen Sawhney, Department of Biology, University of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, email: sawhney@admin.usask.ca

The David J. Gifford Tree Physiology Award

The Award is given for outstanding research contributions in tree physiology, primarily in Canada. Special consideration will be given to originality and independence of thought. (See By-Law 13). The nominations should be sent to: Dr. Mike Dixon, Department of Environmental Biology, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON, email: mdixon@ces.uguelph.ca

The Gleb Krotkov Award of the CSPP

The Award is given for outstanding service to the Society, both in administration and in scientific contributions to annual meetings. (See By-law 14). The nominations should be sent to: Dr. Normand Brisson, Département de biochimie, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC, email: brisson@bcm.umontreal.ca,

CANDIDATURES pour les PRIX de la SCPV

La Société canadienne de physiologie végétale vous invite à soumettre des candidatures pour les Prix de la Société qui seront remis lors du prochain congrès annuel en 2006. Les conditions d'éligibilité aux différents Prix (qualifications des candidats, procédures à suivre et caractéristiques des prix) sont décrits dans les Arrêtés de la Constitution de la SCPV. Une version pdf de la Constitution est disponible sur le site internet (www.cspp-scpv.ca) de la Société. Ces détails ainsi que la liste des précédents récipiendaires est également disponible dans la 'Liste des Membres' de la SCPV. La

date limite de réception des candidatures auprès des différents présidents des comités responsables de l'évaluation des candidatures (voir les adresses ci-après) est fixée au 31 mars 2006.

La Médaille de la SCPV (La Médaille d'or)

La Médaille est décernée à un membre s'étant distingué soit par des publications exceptionnelles ou par ses services à la physiologie végétale, principalement au Canada (voir Arrêté no. 11). Les candidatures doivent être envoyées à : Dr. John Coleman, Department of Botany, University of Toronto, Toronto, ON, courriel : coleman@botany.utoronto.ca

Le Prix C.D. Nelson en physiologie végétale

Ce Prix est décerné pour des contributions exceptionnelles à la recherche en physiologie végétale. Une attention particulière sera accordée à l'originalité et à la créativité des travaux. Les candidats doivent détenir un poste de chercheur indépendant, à temps plein, depuis moins de 10 ans (voir Arrêté no. 12). Les candidatures doivent être envoyées à : Dr. Vipen Sawhney, Department of Biology, Université of Saskatchewan, Saskatoon, SK, courriel : sawhney@admin.usask.ca

Le Prix David J. Gifford en physiologie des arbres

Ce Prix est décerné pour des contributions exceptionnelles à la recherche en physiologie des arbres, principalement au Canada. Une attention particulière sera accordée à l'originalité et à la créativité des travaux (voir Arrêté no. 13). Les candidatures doivent être envoyées à : Dr. Mike Dixon, Department of Environmental Biology, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON, courriel : mdixon@ces.uguelph.ca

Le Prix Gleb Krotkov de la SCPV

Ce Prix est décerné pour service exceptionnel rendu à la Société, autant dans l'administration de la Société qu'en termes de contributions scientifiques lors des congrès annuels de la Société (voir Arrêté no. 14). Les candidatures doivent être envoyées à : Dr. Normand Brisson, Département de biochimie, Université de Montréal, Montréal, QC, courriel : brisson@bcm.umontreal.ca

CSPP EXECUTIVE AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS FOR 2005-2006

EXECUTIVE

President: Rob Guy (British Columbia) 2007
 Past President: Deep Saini (Montreal) 2007
 Vice-President: Peter Pauls (Guelph) 2005
 Senior Director: Priti Krishna (Western Ontario) 2007
 Secretary: Line Lapointe (Laval) interim
 Treasurer: Harold Weger (Regina) 2006

Western Director: Elizabeth Schultz (Lethbridge) 2007
 Eastern Director : Greg Vanlerberghe (Toronto) 2006
 Science Policy Director: Barbara Moffatt (Waterloo) 2006
 Education Director: Greg Moorehead (Calgary) 2007
 Communications Director: Gordon Gray (Sask) 2007
 Student/PDF Rep Andrew McCartney (Guelph) 2007

COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP
Ann Oaks Scholarship Committee

Harold Weger (Regina) Chair 2006
 Elizabeth Weretilnyk (McMaster) Co-Chair 2006
 Doug Campbell (Mt Allison) 2007
 Frederique Guinel (Laurier) 2008
 Sheila Macfie (Western Ontario) 2009
 George Espie (UT Mississauga) Advisor

Auditors

Ken Wilson (Saskatchewan) 2006
 Peta Bonham-Smith (Saskatchewan) 2006

CD Nelson Award Committee

Vipen Sawhney (Saskatchewan) 2006 Chair
 Daphne Goring (Toronto) 2007
 Peter Facchini (Calgary) 2008

Communications Committee

Gordon Gray (Saskatchewan) 2007 Chair
 Line Lapointe (Laval) interim
 Michael Stasiak (Guelph) webmaster

David J. Gifford Tree Physiology Award Committee

Mike Dixon (Guelph) 2006 Chair
 Jocelyn Ozga (Alberta) 2007
 Rob Mullen (Guelph) 2007

Education Committee

Greg Moorehead (Calgary) 2007
 Barry Micallef (Guelph) 2006
 Doug Ormrod (Victoria) 2006

Gleb Krotkov Award Committee

Normand Brisson (Montreal) 2006 Chair
 Larry Fowke (Saskatchewan) 2007
 Dave Layzell (Queen's) 2008

Meeting Site Committee

Peter Pauls (Guelph) 2005 Chair
 Allen Good (Alberta) 2006
 Aine Plant (SFU) 2006
 Santosh Misra (Victoria) 2008

Nominating Committee

Priti Krishna (Western Ontario) 2007 Chair
 Ljerke Kunst (British Columbia) 2006
 John Greenwood (Guelph) 2007

Society (Gold) Medal Award Committee

John Coleman (Toronto) 2006 Chair
 Ed Yeung (Calgary) 2007
 Rob Ireland (Mt Allison) 2008

CONTRIBUTORS

Eva Cholewa Judge, 2005 Presidents' Awards
 Rob Guy CSPP/SCPV President
 Line Lapointe CSPP/SCPV Secretary
 Deep Saini CSPP/SCPV Past President
 Elizabeth Schultz CSPP/SCPV Western Regional Director
 Harold Weger CSPP/SCPV Treasurer
 Greg Vanlerberghe..... CSPP/SCPV Eastern Regional Director

Note: We welcome your comments and suggestions for future publications of the CSPP/SCPV News Bulletin. Please forward all your written material to Line Lapointe (secretary@cspp-scpv.ca).

Next issue of the CSPP/SCPV Bulletin:
APRIL 2006