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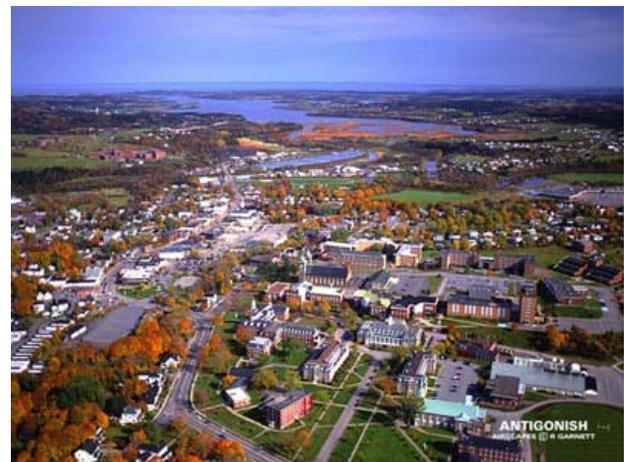
AVRIL 2003

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**PLANT BIOLOGY CANADA 2003**  
**25-29 JUNE 2003**  
**ST-FRANCIS XAVIER UNIVERSITY**  
**ANTIGONISH, NOVA SCOTIA**

**ABSTRACT DUE: April 15 2003**

**WEBSITE:**  
**[http://phykos.stfx.ca/plant\\_canada/](http://phykos.stfx.ca/plant_canada/)**

## “PLANT CANADA 2003”

### MESSAGE FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIR



**PLANT CANADA 2003** is in the final stages of preparing for the welcome of hundreds of Canadian and international plant biologists to the campus of St. Francis Xavier University (StFX), June 25-29. This conference is being joined by the special symposium, Plant Speciation, sponsored by the New Phytologist Trust and held in honour of Verne Grant.

Highlights of the scientific program include the opening symposium, Forests of Land and Sea. This symposium will feature four plant biologists and bring together physiological and ecological aspects of real and model forests in marine and terrestrial communities. The speakers are Melvyn Tyree (US Forest Service, Vermont), Michael Gretz (Michigan Technical University), Ron Deckert (University of Arizona, Flagstaff) and Mark Hay (University of Georgia). The topics presented deal with water transport and plant stress, the roles of polysaccharides, fungal symbioses and the chemistry of plant-herbivore interactions. Two other symposia will deal with photosynthesis and the biology of invasive organisms.

One special event is a convocation in which three plant biologists will be awarded honorary degrees by StFX. This convocation is part of the 150th anniversary celebrations of the university. Honorary degrees will be awarded to Melvyn Tyree for his contributions to plant physiology, Jeremy Pickett-Heaps for his contributions to cell biology and John Smol for his contributions to environmental science. These scientists will be participating in symposia or plenary talks. So, be formal and bring your academic robes, or simply come as you wish to help celebrate plant science.

On the opening day of the meeting an afternoon session, Plant Day, will be open to the general public. Industry, community groups, and government agencies dealing with plants will have educational and promotional displays to highlight the importance of plants in society.

Field trips provide an opportunity to visit the numerous marine and terrestrial communities in the region. Local specialists and naturalists will help you explore boreal forests and estuaries, and highlight everything from an eagle's nest to lichen diversity to an old-growth Acadian forest. For those wishing a more sedate afternoon, the Antigonish Garden Club is hosting an open house to show off their horticultural achievements.

Social events include a BBQ at Crystal Cliffs, StFX's seaside estate. Walk on the beach (swimming only for polar bears!), enjoy the estuary and talk your science in a relaxed atmosphere. In addition to the food and drink there will be an auction of things botanical. If you have books or botanical memorabilia that you can donate to the CSPP please contact Christian Lacroix for details.



For all of the above and details on registration and accommodation please consult the conference website: [www.plantcanada.stfx.ca](http://www.plantcanada.stfx.ca)

David Garbary  
Conference Chair

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**Plant Canada 2003 - Preliminary Program of Events**


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**Wednesday June 25**

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 1:00 p.m. - Registration Begins  
 1:30 - 4:30 - Plant Day - (Bloomfield Centre)  
 5:00 - 7:30 - Opening Reception  
 2:00 - 5:00 - Meetings of Society Executives  
 5:00 - 6:30 - Plant Canada - Executive meeting  
 7:00 - 9:30 - Art Gallery opening - Botanical Art  
 8:00 - 12:00 - Cash bar - The Inn and Jacks  
 8:00 - 10:00 - Canadian Journal of Botany - Editorial  
 Dinner

**Thursday June 26**

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 7:30 - 8:30 - Breakfast (Morrison)  
 8:30 - Welcome Ceremony  
 9:00 - 12:00 - Opening Symposium - Forests of Land and Sea  
 - Health Break - 20 minutes -mid morning  
 12:00 - 1:15 - Lunch (Morrison Hall) - Section Meetings  
 1:30 - 5:00 - Afternoon paper sessions and Symposium 1  
 - Health Break  
 5:15 - 6:00 - Plenary Presentation #1  
 6:00 - 7:00 - Dinner (Morrison Hall)  
 7:00 - 9:30 - Poster Sessions (Bloomfield Centre)  
 8:00 - 9:30 - Weresub Lecture (JBB - Nicholson Hall,  
 Rm B33 )  
 9:00 - 12:00 - Cash bar (Inn)

**Friday June 27**

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 7:30 - 8:30 Breakfast (Morrison)  
 8:30 - 9:15 - Plenary Speaker #2  
 -Health Break

9:30 - 11:15 - Morning Oral Sessions and Symposium 2  
 11:30 - 1:00 - Special Convocation (Honourary Degrees)  
 1:00 - 2:00 - Post Convocation Luncheon  
 2:15 - 5:15 - Field Trips  
 -Drinks and snacks needed for participants  
 6:00 - Buses leave for Crystal Cliffs for Barbecue  
 9:30 - Busses return from Crystal Cliffs  
 10:00 - 12:00 - The Inn

**Saturday June 28**

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 7:30 - 8:30 - Breakfast (Morrison)  
 8:30 - 9:15 - Plenary Speaker #3  
 9:30 - 12:00 - Morning Oral Sessions  
 -Health Break  
 12:00 - 1:30 - Lunch (Morrison Hall) - Section Meetings  
 1:30 - 4:30 - Afternoon Oral Sessions  
 -Health Break  
 4:30 - 6:00 - AGM for Societies  
 7:00 - 7:30 - Reception prior to Banquet (cash bar)  
 7:30 - 9:30 - Banquet and Awards Ceremony (Morrison Hall)  
 9:30 - 12:00 - Music and Dancing (The Inn)

**Sunday June 29**

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 8:00 - 9:30 - Breakfast at Morrison  
 9:00 - 12:00 - Sessions if needed  
 -Health Break  
 9:00 - 12:00 - Executive Meeting for Societies  
 CBA, CSPP, Plant Canada  
 12:00 - 1:30 - Lunch (Morrison Hall)

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**MOT DU RÉDACTEUR**


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Bonjour à tous

Déjà quatre mois se sont écoulés depuis le dernier numéro du bulletin de la CSPP/SCPV. Tel que promis, il me fait plaisir de vous faire parvenir ce deuxième numéro. L'emphase de ce bulletin est mis sur le congrès **PLANT BIOLOGY CANADA 2003**,

qui aura lieu du 25 au 29 juin 2003 à Antigonish, Nouvelle-Écosse. Malheureusement, ce congrès coïncide avec plusieurs autres congrès cet été dont le congrès international sur Arabidopsis (Madison, Wisconsin), et le congrès de l'ISPMB (Barcelone, Espagne). Malgré cette

situation, nous espérons que la plupart d'entre vous pourrez vous joindre à nous à Antigonish, ou sinon que vous pourrez faire acte de présence par l'entremise d'un autre membre de votre laboratoire. Pour plus d'information sur le programme, les activités, le logement, etc, consultez le site web [www.plantcanada.stfx.ca](http://www.plantcanada.stfx.ca). Ce site contient également beaucoup d'information touristique sur la Nouvelle-Écosse et sur les attractions aux alentours d'Antigonish. La tenue de cet événement d'intérêt pour les biologistes végétaux canadiens et étrangers dans un endroit aussi agréable offre une opportunité unique de marier travail et loisir. Pourquoi ne pas planifier vos vacances familiales par la même occasion!!!

Trêve de publicité, passons aux autres dossiers d'intérêt. Les conférences régionales de la CSPP/SCPV ont toutes deux eu lieu au cours des derniers mois. Tout d'abord, la conférence de l'est s'est tenue le 7 décembre à l'Université Brock, à Ste-Catharine, Ontario. Pour de plus amples informations sur cette rencontre, votre directrice régionale, Priti Krishna, nous propose un bref résumé dans la rubrique qui suit. Comme le comité exécutif de la Société tient normalement une rencontre de l'exécutif lors de cette conférence régionale de l'est, j'ai eu le plaisir de prendre part à cette conférence. Le vice-président, Deep Saini, et moi avons bravé les premiers froids de l'hiver lors d'une randonnée de quelques 10 heures de route pour nous rendre de Montréal (Québec dans mon cas) à Ste-Catharines. Nous avons alors pu apprécier les paysages hivernaux qui se dessinaient tranquillement. J'ai été particulièrement impressionné par la région entre Hamilton et Ste-Catharines. Je ne pouvais m'empêcher d'imaginer cette région en plein cœur de l'été et durant le temps des vendanges. C'est un beau coin de pays que je n'avait pas encore visité et que j'espère pouvoir revoir plus tard. Cependant, je ne vous cacherais pas que le retour fut un peu moins impressionnant considérant que nous avons roulé une partie de la nuit et que 20 heures de route en 2 jours, c'est assez fatigant. En terminant, un des points culminants de cette conférence pour moi fut mon rôle en tant que juge pour la session des affiches. Ce n'est pas autant ma contribution qui fut culminante mais plutôt de voir la qualité remarquable des présentations par affiches. Les auteurs de ces affiches, pour la plupart étudiants gradués et parfois même sous-gradués (à ma grande surprise), avaient mis le paquet, pardonnez l'expression. En voyant l'étendue des connaissances acquises, la profondeur des recherches entreprises, et l'acharnement des jeunes chercheurs, on ne pouvait qu'être fier de la relève scientifique canadienne. Je voyais également une raison de plus pour que les plus âgés d'entre nous, moi y compris, prenions à cœur de mettre en place les stratégies

et les outils nécessaires pour assurer le soutien solide et continu de la recherche en biologie végétale au Canada.

Plus près de chez moi et surtout plus près de mes intérêts actuels, j'ai également eu la chance de passer quelques temps à la conférence internationale des « Plant-Made Pharmaceuticals » qui s'est déroulé du 16-19 mars à Québec. Plus de 400 participants étaient inscrits à cette rencontre qui se rapprochait plus des congrès du style ABIC (AgBiotech International Conference) que d'une conférence scientifique proprement dite. Les présentations variaient grandement de la science, à la perception du public, en passant par la réglementation, les besoins de l'industrie pharmaceutique, le financement des biotechs, la propriété intellectuelle, etc. Dans bien des cas, il s'agissait davantage d'une conférence de corridor ou collaborateurs et partenaires potentiels discutent d'alliance stratégique et de partenariat technologique. L'industrie canadienne y était très bien représentée avec les moléculculteurs (entrepreneurs en molecular farming) tels que SemBioSys (Calgary), Plantigen (London), et Medicago (Sainte-Foy) ainsi que d'autres intervenants des secteurs publics et privés.

En terminant, je vous souhaite à tous et à toutes un beau printemps et j'espère vous rencontrer à Antigonish en juin prochain. Si vous avez l'occasion de participer à d'autres congrès/conférences au cours des prochains mois et que vous aimeriez faire part de vos commentaires concernant ces événements à vos collègues biologistes végétaux, je vous invite à me faire parvenir vos textes que je publierai dans les prochains numéros du bulletin. Merci de votre participation.

Pierre Bilodeau  
Secrétaire/Rédacteur

## 2002 EASTERN REGIONAL MEETING



The 2002 CSPP Eastern Regional Meeting was held on December 7th at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario. The conference was well attended, with the 116 participants showing a strong level of interest. As always, the day was packed

with sessions, including the plenary session, the concurrent oral sessions, poster session and a special topic discussion session. The theme of the plenary session was 'signal transduction' and the two speakers, Daphne Goring (University of Toronto) and Charles Despres (Brock University), covered the PERK family of receptor kinases and a novel mechanism underlying disease resistance, respectively. Punctuated by short coffee breaks and lunch,

there were three rounds of concurrent sessions with two sessions taking place at the same time. Each session comprised of 5-7 talks, each 15 minutes long including questions and discussion. Talks were grouped under the following session types: stress responses, photosynthesis and signal transduction, whole plant processes, and biochemistry. If this didn't catch anyone's interest, there were a total of 31 posters to choose from.

During lunch, the special topic discussion was led by Daphne Goring on 'Women in Science'. A few women faculty, including Daphne Goring, Elizabeth Weretilnyk, Carol Peterson, Barb Moffatt and Annette Nassuth talked about their experiences from early PhD days to present, outlining events, persons and other things their shaped their careers. This was followed by questions from students and postdoctoral fellows, for whose benefit the

session was primarily held, and a general discussion. The session was very well received as judged by the attendance and participation by all who were present during that period. Given the success of this session, it is hoped that a special topic discussion will be included in future meetings as well.

One mandate of the CSPP Regional meetings is to encourage students to present their research results and participate in discussions. Both oral and poster presentations of students are judged for excellence, and the best presentations are awarded the Regional Director's award. In 2002, the winner of the best oral presentation award was Gregory Perry, University of Waterloo (supervisor, Barb Moffatt). The winner of the best poster presentation award was Andrew McCartney, University of Guelph (supervisor, Robert Mullen). Honorable mention for oral presentation went to Stefani Dobney, Queen's University (supervisor, Wayne Snedden) and for poster

presentations went to Yeen Ting Hwang, University of Guelph (supervisor, Robert Mullen) and to Meghan Haytar, University of Waterloo (supervisor, Carol Peterson).

Thanks to the members of the organizing committee [Alan W. Bown (Chair), Vince DeLuca, Doug Bruce and Lucy Nigro Stefanchuk] for putting together an intensive and comprehensive program. The judges that rushed from session to session, and did the difficult task of selecting the best presentations, are also warmly thanked for their contribution to making this a successful meeting.

We plan to meet again in December 2003 for the Eastern Regional Meeting that will be held at Concordia University in Montreal.

Priti Krishna  
Eastern Regional Director

## 2003 WESTERN REGIONAL MEETING



Unfortunately, the Western Regional Meeting scheduled for March 7, 2003 at the University of North British Columbia (UNBC) Prince George had to be cancelled due to a low level of registration. Chris Hawkins, UNBC and his colleagues

have agreed to host the meeting in the Fall of 2003. We hope that this will allow more time for publicity and program arrangement. The tentative dates for the 2003 CSPP Western Regional Meeting in Prince George are: October 17/18 or October 24/25 2003.

Carl Douglas  
Western Regional Director

## TREASURER NEWS



and the Regional Meetings for Society members.

Membership Renewals: For those folks who haven't yet renewed their CSPP/SCPV memberships, you need to renew soon if you wish to be included in the 2003 Membership Directory! As well, please keep in mind that there are reduced conference fees for the Annual Meeting

CSPP/SCPV membership is currently just over 300, including 35 new members. The two fundraising activities of the Society, the George Duff Student Travel

Awards and the Ann Oaks Scholarship Fund, are both benefiting from the generosity of the membership. Almost \$1000 has been donated to the Travel Awards in the last few months, while \$750 has been donated to the Oaks Fund. The Travel Awards will help to defray the cost of graduate student travel to the Annual Meeting in Antigonish (the Society will also provide some additional funds, from general revenue, to augment the Travel Awards). Money is being accumulated in the Oaks Fund account in order to eventually establish an NSERC PGS-B level PhD scholarship in plant biology.

Harold Weger  
Treasurer

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## WEB SITE NEWS - WWW.CSPP-SCPV.CA

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### CSPP/SCPV BULLETIN DISTRIBUTION

Following the release of the CSPP/SCPV bulletin in December 2002, the Executive was wondering what was the best way to distribute this document to reach our members. We decided to use our web site as an interactive way to see what was your opinions concerning this issue. In early February, we posted a CSPP/SCPV Bulletin Question asking you the following question: **Would you prefer to have the Bulletin sent to you by: electronic means only, postal means only, or both electronic and postal?**

For those of you who did not have the opportunity to see the results of the survey online (yes they are available live!!!), here they are as of Wednesday, 2 April 2003, 17h00 EST. Please note that the total number of answer was 61.

Preferred mean	Total number	Percentage
Electronic	54	88.5
Postal	6	9.8
Both	1	1.6

To me this is saying that most of our members have access to a computer and prefer to receive the bulletin by electronic version. This is the way that we envisaged the distribution and will remain our preferred option. However, it also point out that some members either do not have access to computers or prefer to have a printed copy sent to them. Let me reassure those people that I

### VACANT POSITIONS

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#### **Tenure-track position QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY**

QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY - The Department of Biology invites applications for a tenure-track position in fundamental plant science. The successful applicant will be selected primarily on the basis of overall excellence, but should complement existing strengths in plant science research at Queen's by using modern molecular, physiological and/or biochemical approaches to investigate topical areas such as primary or secondary metabolism, response to environmental stress, development, genomics. The Department of Biology has a superb plant growth facility in the new Biosciences Complex ([biology.queensu.ca/~phyttron](http://biology.queensu.ca/~phyttron)), a 3000 hectare QUBS field station ([biology.queensu.ca/~qubs](http://biology.queensu.ca/~qubs)) and access to a state-of-the-art Protein Function Discovery proteomics facility ([www.queens-pfd.ca](http://www.queens-pfd.ca)). Qualifications include a PhD, postdoctoral experience and published evidence of excellent research ability. The successful candidate will be expected to be an excellent teacher and to develop a vigorous, externally funded research

will try to take the appropriate actions to determine who these people are and how to reach them otherwise. So to help me in this process, I encourage any member who wish to receive a printed copy (black and white) of the CSPP Bulletin to contact me by phone (418-658 9393 ext 111) or by mail (1020, Route de l'église, bureau 600, Sainte-Foy, Qc Canada G1V 3V9).

### CSPP EXECUTIVE PHOTOS

How often have you wonder who was the President or the Secretary of the CSPP? More importantly, how often have you wonder what did these people look like? Don't wonder any more as we have added a picture of every member of the CSPP Executive on the web site under the Heading "CSPP Executive/L'Exécutif SCPV". These pictures were taken principally from institutional web sites where these people are working. This is not a Miss/Mister Plant Biology contest so don't be to hard on the quality of the pictures. We just wanted you to be able to put a face to a name. We also added each Executive member institutional web site beside each picture so that you can see what each of them is working on.

If you think that additional information could be provided on our web site, please feel free to contact any of us to let us know your suggestions/comments. The Society web site is under the direction of the Communication Director so if you have specific topics you want to discuss, he should be the right person to contact.

program. Applicants must be eligible for nomination to a Canada Research Chair (CRC), Tier 2 that has been allocated to this position ([www.chairs.gc.ca](http://www.chairs.gc.ca)) and brings with it substantial infrastructure funding from CFI/OIT. Tier 2 CRCs are normally within 10 years of PhD at the time of application and will be appointed at the level of Assistant or Associate Professor depending on qualifications. Queen's is filling a total of 57 CRC positions, most of which will be outstanding external appointees, and is particularly interested in attracting increased numbers of women into its CRC program. Expected date of appointment is July 1, 2004, subject to negotiation. Review of applications will begin May 15, 2003 and continue until the position is filled. Applications including curriculum vitae, statement of current and prospective research interests, statement of teaching interests, and at least three letters of reference should be sent to: Dr. Peter T. Boag, Head, Department of Biology, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada K7L 3N6 (Web: [biology.queensu.ca](http://biology.queensu.ca), E-mail: [biohead@biology.queensu.ca](mailto:biohead@biology.queensu.ca), Fax: (613) 533-6617). This

position is open to citizens of all countries, but Canadians and permanent residents will be considered first. Queen's University has an employment equity program and encourages applications from all qualified women and men, including visible minorities, aboriginal people, persons with disabilities, gay men and lesbians.

#### **Postdoctoral Position**

##### **Plant Biotechnology Institute, Saskatoon**

Applications are invited for a Post-Doc position with the National Research Council Canada at the Plant Biotechnology Institute in Saskatoon to investigate plant lipid metabolism. The primary focus of the position will be to study enzymes and regulatory factors involved in storage lipid deposition in seeds. Independent research concerning other aspects of carbon metabolism is also encouraged. The project includes biochemical as well as molecular biological approaches such as protein expression, enzyme characterization, Arabidopsis mutant screening, and metabolite analysis. A suitable candidate should have strong interests in plant metabolism and skilled in standard molecular biology techniques and/or metabolic analysis. Experience in functional genomics is desired. Interested applicants should send a CV and letter of interest to Dr. Jitao Zou at the Plant Biotechnology Institute, National Research Council Canada, 110 Gymnasium Place, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7N 0W9, email: [jitao.zou@nrc.ca](mailto:jitao.zou@nrc.ca) Tel: (306) 975-5583, Fax: (306)-975-4839.

#### **Postdoctoral Positions**

##### **Cornell campus in Ithaca New York**

Postdoctoral positions (1-2) available from September 2003 to join a research group studying molecular mechanisms of plant disease resistance at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research (<http://bti.cornell.edu>), located on the Cornell campus in Ithaca New York. Plants have evolved sophisticated mechanisms for avoiding pathogen infection including the expansion of large families of intra-cellular receptor-like proteins. The genes for many of these NB-LRR proteins have been cloned as being the genetic determinants of race-specific disease resistance, and the current challenge is to elucidate their biochemical functions. Projects will include structure-function analysis of NB-LRR proteins (see EMBO 21: 4511-19), biochemical characterisation of resistance protein complexes and identification of signalling components. Requirements: Candidates must have Ph.D. and demonstrated expertise in biochemistry, molecular biology or genetics. Candidates must be highly motivated and have excellent inter-personal and communication skills. Experience in plants is not essential. Experience in protein purification and analysis is desirable. For further details, and to apply, send cv, contact details of three references and a statement of research interests to [Peter.Moffett@Sainsbury.Laboratory.ac.uk](mailto:Peter.Moffett@Sainsbury.Laboratory.ac.uk). Reference Job # 2003-02. BTI is an equal opportunity employer

#### **Postdoctoral Position**

##### **Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon, Canada**

A postdoctoral position is available with Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada at the Saskatoon Research Centre to study the molecular biology of plant secondary metabolism. A suitable candidate should be a recent Ph.D. graduate, and should have experience in standard molecular biology techniques, and preferably have knowledge in plant secondary metabolism and general plant biochemistry. The project will involve construction and screening of cDNA libraries, vector construction, plant transformation and metabolic analysis. This is part of a multidisciplinary project aimed at improving the nutritional value of the canola meal. The position will have some assistance/training in specialized techniques through a team of technical staff. The position is available for an initial period of two years renewable for a third. Starting salary is ~\$40,800/year. Interested applicants should send a CV and letter of interest to:

Dr. Abdelali Hannoufa, Molecular Genetics Section, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Saskatoon Research Centre, 107 Science Place, Saskatoon, SK, S7N 0X2, Canada, Email: [hannoufaa@agr.gc.ca](mailto:hannoufaa@agr.gc.ca), Fax: 306 956 7247

#### **Plant Molecular Systematics**

##### **Department of Biology**

##### **University of Toronto at Mississauga**

The Department of Biology at the University of Toronto at Mississauga (UTM), invites applications for a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level in Plant Molecular Systematics, starting July 1, 2003. We are seeking an individual who is using molecular approaches to investigate the systematics and phylogeny of plants and who has interests in broader questions in evolutionary biology and a strong grounding in plant biodiversity. The successful candidate will have a Ph.D, preferably with post-doctoral experience and an outstanding record and commitment to research. The appointee will be expected to build an externally funded, internationally recognized research program and to contribute to teaching in the department at both the graduate and undergraduate levels. UTM ([www.utm.utoronto.ca](http://www.utm.utoronto.ca)), one of the three campuses of the University of Toronto, is undergoing an unprecedented period of expansion and offers a dynamic and growing faculty in molecular and evolutionary biology. The close proximity and strong ties across the campuses facilitate interactions with faculty and graduate students from cognate disciplines. The newly completed Centre for Applied Biosciences and Biotechnology at UTM provides state of the art facilities for molecular analysis. Significant herbarium resources are also available at an onsite herbarium and at the Royal Ontario Museum. The University of Toronto is committed to academic excellence. All qualified candidates are encouraged to apply; however, Canadian and permanent residents will be given priority. The University of Toronto

is strongly committed to diversity within its community. The University especially welcomes applications from visible minority group members, women, Aboriginal persons, persons with disabilities, members of sexual minority groups, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of research and teaching interest, and arrange for three letters of reference to be sent to Professor G.S. Espie, Department of Biology, University of Toronto at Mississauga, 3359 Mississauga Road, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L5L 1C6 (espie@utm.utoronto.ca). Applications will be accepted until February 28, 2003 although the search will remain open until the position is filled.

**ASSISTANT PROFESSOR  
PLANT MOLECULAR BIOLOGY/GENOMICS  
McMASTER UNIVERSITY**

McMaster University, a research-intensive institution and a leading centre for molecular biological research invites applications for a tenure-track position at the Assistant Professor level in the Department of Biology, effective July 1st, 2003. In exceptional cases, appointment may be made at the Associate Professor level or at an alternate date. Candidates must hold a Ph.D., possess at least one year of postdoctoral experience, and have a productive research record in an area of plant molecular biology or plant genomics. The selected applicant will join an exciting and dynamic department that has recruited seven new faculty in the past two years with four other tenure track positions currently being filled. We seek applications from a broad range of individuals applying molecular biological or genomic approaches to the study of plants, their responses to abiotic stress or plant-microbe interactions. We encourage applicants to utilize the resources of our new Centre for Environmental Genomics. Research interests include but are not limited to plant development, metabolism, biochemistry, or physiology. The successful applicant will be expected to establish and maintain an independent and externally funded research program, contribute to the education of undergraduate and graduate students. Applicants should submit a curriculum vitae, a statement of their research goals, a statement of their teaching interests and experience, and three of their most significant publications. Applicants should arrange for three letters of recommendation to be sent to – Dr. Elizabeth Weretilnyk, Plant Biology Search Committee, Department of Biology, McMaster University, 1280 Main Street West, Hamilton, Ontario L8S 4K1, Canada, weretil@mcmaster.ca. The closing date for applications is March 14th, 2003. (see <http://www.science.mcmaster.ca/Biology/Dept.html>)

**PLANT PHYSIOLOGIST/FIELD BIOLOGIST  
Performance Plants, Inc.**

A position for a M.Sc or Ph.D. plant level of physiologist/field biologist is immediately available at the Company's Saskatoon research facility. Applicants should

have a strong background in the areas of plant physiology and agronomy. The successful candidate should be able to design and carry out experiments that are aimed to evaluate agronomic traits in both greenhouse and field settings. Knowledge in abiotic stresses is asset. 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, whose mission is to genetically engineer plant metabolism to improve agricultural productivity. The company headquarter is located in the Bioscience Complex of Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario. Interested applicants should include a curriculum vitae and the names of three references, and should be sent to: Louise Thornton, Director of Human Resources, Performance Plants Inc. BioSciences Complex, Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, Canada, K7L 3N6  
Email: [thorntonl@performanceplants.com](mailto:thorntonl@performanceplants.com).  
Fax: 1-(613)-545-3618.

**Positions at University of Guelph**

The following positions are available immediately through a Team NSERC-funded Strategic Grant project that will investigate the effects of genetically modified plants on the soil ecosystem. In particular, the research group will examine whether recombinant DNA from glyphosate-resistance genes enters the soil environment and persists after the crop is harvested. The group will also determine the degree to which recombinant DNA enters the soil food web and its functional significance.

**Positions available:**

Post-Doctoral Fellow with experience with modern molecular techniques in soil microbiology or soil ecology. The successful candidate will be expected to design and implement experiments in the field and laboratory, and will be capable of collaborating with a number of faculty members and graduate students. Funding is available for 2 years.

PhD Studentship 1: to conduct research on PCR-based detection of recombinant DNA and to investigate persistence of DNA in the soil environment.

PhD Studentship 2: to research if recombinant DNA in soil can transform competent soil bacteria

PhD studentship 3: to study fungal and bacteria food-webs in soil.

Salaries will follow NSERC guidelines.

Interested individuals should submit curriculum vitae and names, e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of three references to:

Fran Thomas, Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON, Canada, N1G 2W1, E-mail: [FThomas@uoguelph.ca](mailto:FThomas@uoguelph.ca), Tel: 519-824-4120 ext. 2783.

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**
**2003****Molecular Breeding of Forage and Turf**

Dallas, Texas, USA

www.register-for.com/mbft/Index.Asp

May 18-22, 2003

**Plants and Microbe Adaptations to Cold**

Quebec City, Québec

www.pmac2003.org

May 25-29, 2003

**Symposium on Transposition, Recombination and Application to Plants**

Ames, Iowa

www.bb.iastate.edu/~gfst/phomepg.html

June 5-8, 2003

**Bio-Logical Futures Conference**

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada

www.bio-products.sk.ca

June 14-16, 2003

**14<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Arabidopsis Research**

Madison, WI, USA

www.union.wisc.edu/conferenceservices/arabidopsis/

June 20-24, 2003

**7<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Plant Molecular Biology**

Barcelona, Spain

www.ispmb2003.com/

June 23-28, 2003

**CSPP/SCPV Annual Meeting**

Antigonish, Nova Scotia

25-29 June, 2003

**19th International Congress of Biochemistry and Molecular and Cellular Biology,**

Toronto, Canada, US

www.nrc.ca/confserv/iubmb2003

July 20-24, 2003

**ASPB Annual Meeting,**

Honolulu, Hawaii, USA

www.aspb.org/meetings/pb-2003/

July 26-30, 2003

**4th International Symbiosis Congress**

Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada

http://people.bu.edu/dzook/

August 17-23, 2003

**12th World Forestry Congress**

Québec City, Québec, Canada

www.wfc2003.org/

September 21-28, 2003

**14<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Nitrogen Fixation**

Beijing, China

www.n2fix.com

November 1-6, 2003

**The 4<sup>th</sup> International Rothamsted BioMarket**

BioProducts from Plants and Microbes

Rothamsted, UK

www.biomarket.rothamsted.ac.uk

November 5-6, 2003

**FUTURE CSPP/SCPV MEETINGS**

2004 Guelph, Ontario

2005 with Plant Canada, Edmonton, Alberta

2006 with ASPB, Montréal, Québec

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**COLLABORATORS**

Pierre Bilodeau .....News Bulletin Editor and CSPP/SCPV Secretary

Carl Douglas.....CSPP/SCPV Western Regional Director

David Garbary .....Plant Canada 2003 Conference Chair

Priti Krishna .....CSPP/SCPV Eastern Regional Director

Harold Weger .....CSPP/SCPV Treasurer

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

**Next issue of the CSPP/SCPV Bulletin:**  
**AUGUST 2003**

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## NOTICE OF MOTION

### Notice of Motions for The 2003 Annual General Meeting of the Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists / La Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale (CSPP/SCPV).

Please be advised that the Executive of the CSPP/SCPV intends to introduce the following motion of change to the constitution of the Society at the 2003 Annual General Meeting, to be held June 25 to 29, 2003 in Antigonish, Nova Scotia, Canada. The motion will be voted on by the members at this Annual General Meeting.

#### Motion 1:

The Canadian Society of Plant Physiologists / La Société Canadienne de Physiologie Végétale (CSPP/SCPV) has received a request by the Ann Oaks Fund Board of Trustees to provide a clearer definition of the number of members and the duration of their term on the Board. The Board of Trustees have indicated that they would like a Chairperson to be appointed. *it is moved that By-Law #16c of the constitution be amended as indicated below.*

#### **Amendment to By-Law #16c**

##### c) **Board of Trustees** (as it exists in the CSPP/SCPV constitution)

The Board of Trustees shall consist of a minimum of three full members of CSPP/SCPV with a history of four or more years of membership in CSPP/SCPV. In addition, the current treasurer of the Society is a member ex-officio. The immediate past treasurer will serve as an advisor and resource to the Board for two years past the expiry of the term as treasurer. Members of the Board of Trustees will be nominated by the CSPP/SCPV Nomination Committee and serve four year, renewable and staggered terms. Nominees shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of CSPP/SCPV shall have the power to remove members from the Board of Trustees for incompetence.

The role of the Board of Trustees is to: devise and maintain appropriate policies and procedures to guide the operation of the Ann Oaks Scholarship and Fund; to advise the treasurer on the financial management of the Ann Oaks Scholarship Fund; to promote additional charitable donations to the Fund; to advertise the availability of the scholarship and to solicit applications periodically from qualified candidates; to select the recipient(s) of the Ann Oaks Scholarship; to inform the CSPP/SCPV membership of the activities of the Board through an annual report.

##### c) **Board of Trustees:** (proposed amended version; new text is in bold face)

The Board of Trustees shall consist of ~~a minimum of three~~ **four** full members of CSPP/SCPV with a history of four or more years of membership in ~~CSPP/SCPV~~ **the Society**. In addition, the current ~~Treasurer~~ **is shall be** a member ex-officio. The immediate past ~~Treasurer~~ will serve as an advisor and resource to the Board for two years past the expiry of the term as ~~Treasurer~~. Members of the Board of Trustees will be nominated by the CSPP/SCPV Nomination Committee and serve four-year ~~terms~~, renewable and overlapping ~~staggered terms~~. Nominees shall be confirmed by the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee of CSPP/SCPV, **in consultation with the Ann Oaks Fund Board of Trustees, shall name a Chair of the Board, and also a Co-Chair. The Chair and Co-Chair will be selected from existing Board members. The Chair of the Board will serve as the contact person with Dr. Oaks. The role of the Co-Chair is to facilitate financial management of the Fund in accordance with relevant provincial regulations.** The Executive Committee of CSPP/SCPV **shall** have the power to remove members from the Board of Trustees ~~for incompetence~~.

The role of the Board of Trustees is to: devise and maintain appropriate policies and procedures to guide the operation of the Ann Oaks Scholarship and Fund; to advise the ~~Treasurer~~ on the financial management of the Ann Oaks Scholarship Fund; to promote additional charitable donations to the Fund; to advertise the availability of the scholarship and to solicit applications periodically from qualified candidates; to select the recipient(s) of the Ann Oaks Scholarship; to inform the CSPP/SCPV membership of the activities of the Board through an annual report.

Pierre Bilodeau  
CSPP/SCPV Secretary