

American Bryological and Lichenological Society
2007 Meeting, August 12 - 16, Xalapa, Mexico
CALL FOR PAPERS

You are invited to attend and participate in this year's meeting of the American Bryological and Lichenological Society, which will be held in Xalapa, Veracruz State, Mexico, August 12-16. Our local organizer is Efrain de Luna of the Instituto de Ecología AC (INECOL) in Xalapa, which is hosting the meeting. The on-site registration and check-in will be during the afternoon and early evening of Sunday, August 12th. Two days have been set aside for field trips and two days for contributed papers/posters and other meetings. This meeting should provide an exciting opportunity for all of us, but especially for those with limited experience in the tropics. Please note on the accompanying form that the discount rate for registration applies only up to July 1st.

In addition to taking advantage of the tropical locale to study and collect exotic lichens and bryophytes, we are also planning a full program of oral and poster presentations. Although no symposia are being organized, we do plan to have some invited Mexican speakers who will be able to enlighten us about various aspects of the Mexican biota. I encourage you to attend and to also consider sharing the results of your research by giving either an oral presentation or a poster in the contributed sessions. If you have students, please encourage them to do likewise. Remember, the student travel awards that the society provides are available only to those who actually present a paper or a poster. In lieu of spending on symposia, the executive committee voted this year to dedicate extra money for the student travel awards, in an effort to encourage greater student participation at this somewhat more distant location.

Efrain de Luna has worked hard to arrange all local aspects of the meeting and has also planned some excellent field trip choices for us, as briefly described here (see meeting website for more information).

FT1. Patlanalán Lake. Tuesday, Aug. 14th. Fee: us\$40.00

This full day trip will take us into the mountains between Pico de Orizaba and Cofre de Perote volcanoes; at least three stops will be made, in a variety of habitats.

FT2. Texolo Falls. Thursday, Aug. 16th. Fee: us\$25.00

A somewhat shorter trip (returning in the late afternoon) visits two localities between Xico and Teocelo, one at the falls itself.

FT3. Santuario Bosque de Niebla. Thursday, Aug. 16th. Fee: us\$7.00

A shorter local trip to land owned by the Instituto de Ecología.

Further information regarding the field trips is available through links on the ABLs web site (www.abls.org) and at the meeting web site maintained by Efrain de Luna:

www.filogenetica.org/ABLS07/default.htm

In addition, a wide variety of other information is available on this web site, including methods and routes of travel to Xalapa, various choices for lodging, miscellaneous tourist information, and a tentative schedule of events. Efrain has worked out a special group price deal with one of the mid-range business class hotels, the Fiesta Inn hotel, and in order to simplify transportation and other logistics, we are strongly encouraging all attendees to reserve their lodging there. This hotel will be the site of all of the social functions, such as the ABLs breakfast and the ABLs dinner, and also will be the point of departure and return for the field trips. In addition, round trip daily transportation between this hotel and INECOL will be provided.

Oral and Poster Presentations

Oral presentations for the contributed paper sessions will be no longer than 15 minutes in length, including reserving the last 2-3 minutes for questions. Posters should measure up to 95 cm wide and up to 120 cm vertical to fit onto bulletin boards. An abstract must be submitted for each contributed paper or

poster presentation. These will be gathered into a booklet that will be distributed to all meeting registrants at the beginning of the meeting in Xalapa. The **deadline** for abstract submission is **May 20th**.

Abstracts are to be submitted electronically, preferably by e-mail attachment, or secondarily, on a computer disk (either CD or floppy disk is acceptable). Files should be submitted as editable MS-word files (*.doc) or MS-rtf files (*.rtf), but in either case with a minimum of special formatting codes and no indenting. Use a common serif font like Times New Roman in 12 pt font size. Brief abstracts are encouraged, but the maximum length will be 400 words (ca. 25 lines, single space, in 12 pt font). Abstracts may be subject to re-formatting but only to minimal editing, so please send perfect, error-free copy files. Authors' names should be in all caps, and the presenting author should be clearly indicated with an asterisk in front of their surname. For further format information, an example is given below:

*HOLT, EMILY¹, MCCUNE, BRUCE¹ and NEITLICH, PETER²

¹Oregon State University, Department of Botany & Plant Pathology, 2082 Cordley Hall, Corvallis, Oregon 97331-2902, USA; ²National Park Service, 41 A Wandling Road, Winthrop, Washington 98862, USA.

Grazing impacts on macrolichen communities of the Seward Peninsula, Alaska

Do reindeer and caribou grazing simply reduce lichen biomass, or can lichen community composition be altered as well? Extensive research demonstrates that grazing, including

Send your abstract, with cover letter to: ted.esslinger@ndsu.edu
or: Dr. Theodore L. Esslinger
Dept. of Biological Sciences
North Dakota State University
Fargo, ND, 58105-5517

The cover letter (e-mail letter in most cases) should contain ALL the following information:

- Type of Presentation, oral or poster
- Student or Non-Student
- If a student, do you want your oral presentation considered for the A.J. Sharp award?
- If a student, do you want to apply for a travel award?

Travel Awards

As mentioned above, in order to encourage attendance by students at what should be an exciting and very educational meeting, the society is dedicating more money this year to student travel awards. In recent years, the average amount awarded was about \$300, and this will go up significantly this year. Of course, there is nevertheless a limited amount of money available, and so the actual amount awarded to a particular individual will be partially dependent on the total number of individuals applying. Assuming all things are in order, awards will be made on a **first come, first served** basis, and I therefore encourage students to submit their abstracts as early as possible, since it may be necessary to stop making awards after a certain threshold is reached.

The A. J. Sharp Award

The A. J. Sharp award goes to the student giving the best oral presentation, as judged by a committee of three individuals who are normally appointed at the meeting by the president of the society. The amount of this award is \$500.