

The Gesneriad Society – 2022 Annual Report to the Board Student Convention Grant Committee

Annual Report to the Board for the Year 2022

Date: January 15, 2023

Names: Jeanne Katzenstein and Stephen Maciejewski

Position/Committee: Co-Chairs, Student Convention Grant Committee

Jeanne Katzenstein, 4252 Moss Oak Place, Sarasota, FL 34231 USA

Phone: 941-922-1907

Email: <jkatzenste@aol.com>

Stephen Maciejewski, 2030 Fitzwater Street, Philadelphia, PA 19146 USA

Phone: 215-869-9445

Email: <Teciu1949@gmail.com>

Advisors: Laurence E. Skog and Jeremy Keene

How the committee process works:

The Society started the Student Convention Grant Committee in 2011, so 2022 marks the twelfth year that the Society has been awarding Student Convention Grants. With the 2022 recipients, we have awarded a total of 51 Grants.

The committee makes the current year's convention grant details available on the Society website in January. Student applications and references are received by the due date specified; then typically are reviewed and rated by the committee advisors. The applicants are notified of their acceptance or not. A variety of plans and options for attendance and financial support are offered individually to the students to make their attendance at convention as workable as possible. Each grant recipient is required to present a short program for convention at the student's presentation session. All students are encouraged to participate in other convention activities and interact with as many other attendees as possible. The student presentations are recorded, reported in our journal *Gesneriads*, and each student is personally sent photos of his or her participation at convention.

The job description/committee process is up to date: Yes

Activities/accomplishments during the past year (2022):

The 2022 Convention was in-person but due to the pandemic we had both in-person and pre-recorded student presentations. The new hybrid format presented unique and challenging situations. Even with these complications, nine students from around the world received the Student Convention Grant Award. Two in-person programs were delivered, while the seven other recipient pre-recorded their slide-show presentation, which were shown on two occasions at the 2022 Convention:

Mini-Presentations on Friday, July 8 by the 2022 Student Convention Grant recipients (2 presented in person and 2 pre-recorded presentations:

Lindsay Lee (Lawrenceville School, NJ) presented in-person "A preliminary phylogeny of *Gasteranthus*: a genus in need of an updated classification

Jane Atkinson (Lawrenceville School, NJ) presented in-person "Elucidating the history of corolla shapes in *Gasteranthus*": more tales of convergent evolution

Prasanna N.S. from India presented "A View into Tropical Plant Diversity through Herbs in the Understory: A Tale of Indian Gesneriaceae

Roland Putra Pribadi from Sulawesi presented "Diversity and Benefits of Gesneriaceae in Central Sulawesi

Recorded Mini-Presentations on Saturday, July 9, 2022 by 5 Student Convention Grant recipients:

Zulfadli from Sulawesi, Indonesia, presented "Diversity of *Aeschynanthus*"

Yang Zi-Meng from the GCCC presented "A Report on the Distribution of Gesneriaceae Plants in Karst Caves in China

Rui-Feng Li from the GCCC presented "Plant Resources, Applications and Plant Selections of Perennial Ground Flora of the Family Gesneriaceae for Woodland Landscapes in China

Deng Xinxin from the GCCC presented "Specialized Rock Garden Landscape Planning and Design"

Chen Diya from the GCCC presented "Design, Construction and Implementation of Chinese Gesneriaceae Germplasm Resources Database"

Their presentations were live and pre-recorded, later programed, and turned out quite well. Each student received a personal introduction before their talk. We projected their photo on the screen during their introduction so the audience had a chance to see the recipient. After the convention, all students were personally contacted by email and text, and received honorariums, a pdf printable version of their certificate, photos, and a green membership in the Society. All students responded and actually felt very honored to participate and share their research with our Society members at the 2022 Convention. Their programs were reported in *Gesneriads* Vol 72, Number 4, pp 7, 10, 11 and 13.

Last year's committee expenses (2022): \$0 Reimbursed: \$0 Donated: \$0

Proposed budget for next year (2023): \$0 Expenses: \$0 Income: \$ __ (see note below)

Combined Students and Speakers Fund balance as of 12/31/21: \$28,764

Donations received in 2022: \$680 (students+speakers) Student Grants awarded in 2022: \$1,838 (speakers expenses paid from the convention account: part registration fees and part from plant sales income the previous year)

Combined Students and Speakers Fund balance as of 12/31/22: \$28,244

Note: The student grant money available is determined by donations and the amount of money in the fund at the beginning of each year. Grants awarded for college students to attend convention typically are \$550 to \$750 per student, depending on the number of grants approved and each year's actual convention and room costs. Grants for high school students are typically less, averaging about \$450 per student.

Co-chairs expected 2023 Convention attendance:

Jeanne Katzenstein – July 1, 2023

Stephen Maciejewski July 1, 2023