PHYCOLOGICAL NEWSLETTER

A PUBLICATION OF THE PHYCOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA







Portraits of Marine Algae: an historical perspective by Michael J. Wynne (see notice p. 9)

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WINTER SPRING 2007

Editors:

Juan Lopez-Bautista **Dept. Biological Sciences** Univ. of Alabama Tuscaloosa, AL 35487 jlopez@ua.edu

Alison Sherwood Dept. of Botany Univ. of Hawaii Honolulu, HI 96822 asherwoo@hawaii.edu

Dear PSA members.

We are very pleased to present the first electronic issue of the PSA newsletter! No longer will you be receiving paper copies of the newsletter in your mailboxes, but the new digital version should allow for faster delivery to your email inbox, use of color images, and hyperlinks to related material (all for a much lower cost to the Society). In this PDF version you will find emails addresses and website links. Just click on an e-mail address and your e-mail software will start a new message. When you click on a website link, your browser will load and take you to the website. An update for Adobe Reader is free from adobe.com.

The Spring 2007 issue also marks a change in editorship of newsletter. Juan Lopez-Bautista (University of Alabama) is taking over as primary editor of the newsletter, while Alison Sherwood will act as co-editor for the remainder of 2007. Happy 2007, and we will see you all in Rhode Island!

Juan Lopez-Bautista

Alison Sherwood

7th International Chrysophyte Symposium
Connecticut College
New London, Connecticut, U.S.A.

Seventh International Chrysophyte Symposium will be held during the week of June 23, 2008 at Connecticut College, New London, Connecticut, U.S.A. The three to four day symposium is expected to bring together experts from around the world representing a broad spectrum of disciplines. Although the overriding theme of the symposium will focus on "chrysophytes" in a broad sense, we anticipate significant contributions representing allied heterokont groups and an infusion of ideas from other fields.

In addition to regular paper sessions, we are planning four mini-symposia: paleo-limnology/paleobiology, taste and odor problems in drinking water, heterokont phylogeny and use of geometric-morphometric concepts in the study of algae. The symposium will include several keynote speakers who work in areas peripheral to chrysophyte biology, allowing for a cross fertilization of ideas. Our goal is to provide a forum to advance the study of chrysophytes. There will be a Proceedings volume published by Cramer under the Nova Hedwigia Beiheft series.

As has been the case in the previous six symposia, we will strive to have non-concurrent sessions and foster an environment that allows significant opportunities for people to interact in small groups. We also plan to take advantage of our local setting, including collecting opportunities in both freshwater and marine habitats, a traditional New England clambake and trips to Mystic Seaport (www.mysticseaport.org), Mystic Aquarium (www.mysticaquarium.org) and possibly a

behind the scenes tour of the Peabody Museum at Yale University (www.yale.edu/peabody). In addition, tours of Pfizer's Global research facility (www.pfizer. com) may be possible.

The organizing committee consists of:

Peter Siver

Dept. of Botany, Connecticut College, U.S.A.

Anne Lizarralde

Dept. of Botany, Connecticut College, U.S.A.

Jim Wee

Dept. of Biological Sciences, Loyola University, U.S.A.

Robert Andersen

Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences, U.S.A.

Sue Watson

National Water Research Institute, Burlington, Canada

Christian Kamenik

Institute of Plant Science, Univ. of Bern, Switzerland

Hwan Su Yoon

University of Iowa, U.S.A.

Since we are still in the planning stages of the symposium we welcome any and all ideas and suggestions. Please direct any comments, suggestions and special needs to Peter Siver via peter.siver@ conncoll.edu with a copy to Anne Lizarralde via anne.lizarralde@conncoll.edu. All symposium information, including registration and abstract forms, will be posted on this website. If you would like to be included on the symposium mailing list in order to receive announcements please contact Anne Lizarralde at anne.lizarralde@conncoll.edu.

We look forward to seeing all of you in 2008!

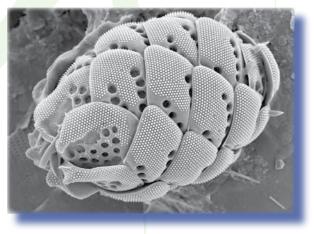


Photo courtesy of Dr. Anne Lizarralde

Darbaker Prize Nominations in Phycology

he Botanical Society of America is accepting nominations for the 2007 Darbaker Prize in Phycology. This award is presented for meritorious work in the study of microscopic algae, based on papers published by the nominee during the last two full calendar years (2005-2006). The award is limited to residents of North America, and only papers published in the English language are considered. Nominations for the 2007 award should include a list of all of the nominee's work to be considered for the 2005-2006 period, and a statement of the nominee's merits addressed to the committee.

Nominations for the 2007 Darbaker Award should be sent by April 30, 2007 to the chair of the Darbaker Award Committee: Dr. Martha Cook, Department of Biological Sciences, Campus Box 4120, Illinois State University, Normal IL, 61790-4120

email mecook1@ilstu.edu **E-mail nominations preferred**

Marine Botany Course

Summer course: Marine Botany

Where: Friday Harbor Laboratories, University of

Washington

When: July 16-August 18, 2007

Instructors: Dr. Charles O'Kelly: cokelly@bigelow.org

Dr. Paul Gabrielson: drseaweed@hotmail.com

For Whom: Graduate students and advanced under-

graduate students (juniors, seniors).

Course Summary: The theme of the course is principles, methods, and applications of marine algal biodiversity studies, in particular benthic macroalgae (seaweeds) and microalgae (primarily diatoms). We emphasize hands-on field and laboratory work, using both classical and molecular methods, to investigate questions of, for example, algal phylogeny, ecology, biogeography, species diversity and species introductions. Emphasis will be placed on the value of combined approaches, for example the characterization of populations, species and evolutionary lineages of algae with morphological and molecular data. Field work will be extensive, as the diverse and

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species-rich aquatic habitats on and around San Juan Island provide ideal sites for benthic macroalgae and microalgae. Laboratory work will focus on techniques essential for the collection, identification, cultivation and molecular analyses of algae from their diverse natural habitats. Lecture topics will include: evolutionary survey of major groups of algae, algal survival adaptations (reproduction, life histories, functional morphology, interactions with competitors and predators), and the ecological role of algae in coastal and oceanic ecosystems.

Course structure: Lectures offered Mon. through Sat., 2 lectures/day except Saturday and on days with field work. Extensive lab time emphasizing tools and techniques to identify, culture and curate algae collected from natural field populations, including DNA extaction, amplification, sequencing and phylogenetic analysis. Numerous field trips to various marine and brackish water habitats around San Juan I. and to the exposed, outer coast. Books for the course are: Algae by Graham & Wilcox (2000) and Keys to the Seaweeds and Seagrasses of British Columbia, Southeast Alaska, Washington and Oregon by Gabrielson, Widdowson & Lindstrom (2006). Enrollment limited to 12.

Financial Aid: Available from the Friday Harbor Labs (see WEB address below). For graduate students who are members of the Phycological Society of America, travel funds are available to attend a course at a bilological station: http://www.psaalgae.org/soc/croasdale.shtm

For more information about the course, financial aid, and the Friday Harbor Laboratories, visit the FHL home page: http://depts.washington.edu/fhl/

PHYCOLOGICAL TRAILBLAZER

No. 26: Alire Raffeneau Delile

lire Raffeneau Delile (1778-1850) (Fig. 1) was born at Versailles a decade prior to the French revolution. His father was equerry to the king, and his mother was in service to the queen (Duval, 1982). As typical of his time, Delile was both a practicing physician and a botanist. By his high marks on a competitive exam, he was admitted to the École de Santé in Paris. Although he was apprenticed to Dr. Brunyer, a physician in the hospices of Versailles, he spent his free time wandering the gardens and conservatories of the Trianon. Conversations with the eminent botanist Lemonnier shifted his focus to plants. Delile also met René-Louiche Desfontaines, who was influential in Delile's decision to participate as a botanist in Napoleon Bonaparte's exploratory expedition to Egypt, even though Delile was only twenty years old. In fact, Delile was a replacement on the expedition for Desfontaines (Rioux, 2003). This conquest of Egypt by the army of Napoleon in the period from 1798 to 1801 was not only a military operation but also a scientific and cultural phenomenon (Silva & Lipkin, 2003). A senior director of the scientific project was the zoologist Geoffroy Saint-Hilaire. The keen interest in all things Egyptian extended even to the algae, and a total of 35 species were collected: 23 species from the Mediterrean (in the vicinity of Alexandria) and 12 species from the Red Sea (Aleem, 1993). The large-formatted 62 plates were executed by the artist Henry-Joseph Redouté, brother of the renown

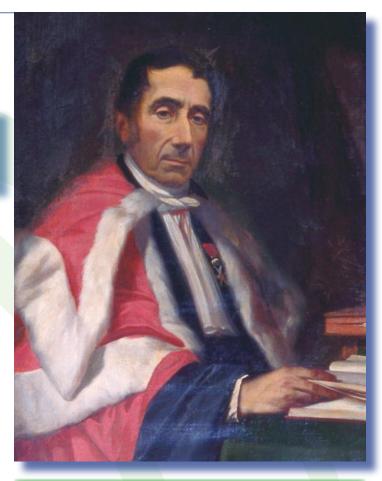


Fig. 1. Alire Raffeneau Delile (from Rioux, 1994, Le Jardin des plantes des Montpellier...).

Pierre-Joseph Redouté. Among the new species described by Delile (1813b, 1826) was *Ulva fasciata* (Fig. 2), a species now known to have a wide tropical and subtropical distribution. He also described *Fucus taxiformis* [= Asparagopsis taxiformis (Delile) Trevisan], *Fucus nayadiformis* [= Acanthophora nayadiformis (Delile) Papenfuss], *Fucus cyanospermus* [= Chondrophycus papillosus (C. Agardh) Garbary & J.T. Harper], *Fucus antennulatus* [= Cystoseira myrica (S.G. Gmel.) C. Agardh], and *Fucus tetragonus* nom. illeg. [= Sargassum dentifolium (Turner) C. Agardh].

While Delile was in Egypt, the French fleet was destroyed by the British Navy under the command of Rear Admiral Horatio Nelson in the Battle of the Nile, or Battle of Aboukir Bay, on 1 August 1798. This defeat brought French designs in the Middle East to an end. The return of Delile and his compatriots to France was initially blocked. But Delile and the others were content

to carry on their scientific work. Delile was able to continue to collect plants, such as papyrus, and to cultivate many of them on the grounds of a villa in Cairo, which he fashioned into a botanical garden (Duval, 1982). Delile also was captivated by the sacred lotus (*Nymphaea lotus*), growing along the banks of the Nile. He recorded careful observations on its biology.

Eventually, the British troops entered Cairo, and Delile and his fellow scientists participated in the struggle. As the British took the city, Delile and his fellow Frenchmen made every effort to evacuate with their scientific collections, which for Delile included not only his herbarium but also his living plants. After much travail, including a small caravan conducted at night with the help of a Muslim friend, Delile managed to load most of his collections onto the brig L'Oiseau. The ship was intercepted by the British on the high seas, and at first Delile's collections were confiscated on the basis (of "Article XVI of the Alexandria capitulation") that the Egyptian flora was classified as "art objects". Delile protested to the English admiral, saying that he would not leave his plants behind and would go to London with them, if need be (Duval, 1982). The British admiral was impressed by the arguments made by this twenty-two-year old, relented, and let the plant collections leave with the L'Oiseau. Thus, in November 1801, Delile returned to France along with his valuable collections. Back working at the "King's Garden", Delile succeeded in publishing on the Nile lotus and on the Liliaceae of Egypt, while he contemplated a more major work on the Egyptian flora. But this time of great governmental upheaval (Napoleon Bonaparte had declared himself First Consul for life) was also a time when Delile suffered from melancholy and great inner turmoil (Duval, 1982). He had only partially worked up his Egyptian collections when he felt the need for a complete change of view. Napoleon himself offered Delile the new post of subcommissioner for commerce in North Carolina, apparently as a way to interrupt Delile's botanical career at least for a time and to pull him out of his neurotic state (Duval, 1982). Thus, Delile accepted this foreign assignment as a representative for the French

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government, and he sailed for North America, arriving in Wilmington. There, representing France, he worked to facilitate French-American commercial relations (Gillispie, 1970). He left that assignment in 1806 and moved to Philadelphia where he worked with the physician, Dr. Benjamin S. Barton at the Pennsylvania Hospital (Stafleu & Cowan, 1976). This led to his resuming his medical studies there, and he continued his studies at Columbia College in New York City. In May 1807, he successfully defended his M.D. thesis on tuberculosis (Delile, 1807). This thesis

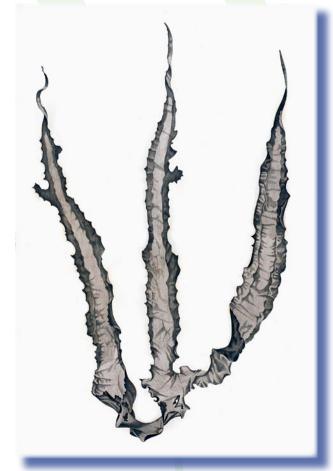


Fig. 2. *Ulva fasciata* Delile [from Delile, 1826, pl. 58, fig. 5.]

was dedicated to the late doctors Desgenettes and Larrey, Chief Physician and Chief Surgeon, respectively, of the Army of Egypt. Shortly thereafter, he was recalled by France to resume the job of editing the flora of Egypt, a work that he completed in 1809 (Delile, 1813a, b, 1826). A second edition of the text appeared in 1824.

With these accomplishments, Delile became a candidate for the professorship of botany at the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Montpellier, but A. P. de Candolle was awarded that position (de Candolle, 2004; Bungener, 2004). This forced Delile to return to his medical practice. Upon the collapse of the French empire in 1819, de Candolle left France for Switzerland, and Delile was appointed to that position, a professorship in Medical Natural History at the University of Montpellier, a position that he held until his death in 1850 (Rioux, 1994). Delile had many and diverse publications, only a small fraction having to do with his experience in Egypt (Gillispie, 1970). His research interests included not only the algae but fungi, bryophytes, ferns, and seed plants. He had a paper on the phenomenon of bioluminescence in the mushroom Agaricus olearius DC (Delile, 1837). His reputation as having participated in Napoleon's expeditionary forces into Egypt gave him the sobriquet "Delile l'Égyptien" to his colleagues in Montpellier (Rioux, 2004). The genera *Delilia* Sprengel (1823) of the Asteraceae, Lilaea Bonpland in von Humboldt & Bonpland (1808) of the Juncaginaceae, and Raffenaldia Godron (1859) of the Brassicaceae were named in his honor.

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_____. 1813b, 1826. Flore d'Égypte. Explication des planches. In: France (Commission d'Égypte), Description de l'Égypte, ou recueil des observaions et des recherches qui on été faites en Égypte pendant l'expédtion de l'armée française, publié par les ordres de sa majesté Napoleon le Grand. Historie naturelle. Paris: Imprimerie Impériale. Vol. 2. Fascicle 2. 145-462. Atlas: 62 pls. (1826).

______1824. Description de l'Egypte: recueil des observations et des recherches qui ont été faites en Egypte pendant l'expédition de l'armée française. Second edition. C. L. F. Panckoucke, Paris. 62 pls.

_____. 1837. Nouvel examen de la phosphorescence de l'Agaric de l'Olivier. Bull. Société d'Agriculture du département de l'Herault. 16 pp., 1 pl.

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_____. 2004. Le Jardin des plantes de Montpellier. "les leçons de l'histoire". Préface de Hubert Bonnet. Sauramps médical, Montpellier. [iv] + 114 + [ii] pp.

Silva, P. C. and Y. Lipkin. 2003. Marine algae published by Savigny in the zoological portion of "Description de l'Égypte". Cryptogamie, Algologie 24: 371-386.

Stafleu, F. A. and R. S. Cowan. 1976. Taxonomic literature. 2nd ed. Vol. I: A-G. Bohn, Scheltema & Holkema, Utrecht. xl + 1,136 pp.

I wish to thank Professor Jean-Antoine Rioux of the Faculty of Medicine of Montpellier, France, for permission to reproduce the image of Delile from his 1994 book, cited in the References.

> MICHAEL J. WYNNE University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

BOOKS New books, e-books, reviews, etc.

Book Review: New Keys to the Marine Flora of Oregon and California

Patrick T. Martone
Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University
Judith Connor
Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute

Gabrielson, Paul W., Widdowson, Thomas B., and Sandra C. Lindstrom. 2004. Keys to the Seaweeds and Seagrasses of Oregon and California, North of Point Conception. Phycological Contribution #6, Dept. of Botany, University of British Columbia: Vancouver. 181 pp. US\$ 25.00. ISBN: 0-9763817-0-2.

nyone who has collected seaweeds along the Oregon and California coasts has likely been overwhelmed by the incredibly diverse flora found there. Not since Dr. Isabella Abbott and Dr. George Hollenberg published the well-known Marine Algae of California (MAC) thirty years ago has anyone attempted to produce comprehensive keys to these seaweeds. Given that phycological nomenclature is somewhat of a moving target, updated keys are long overdue. For instance, since MAC was published *Iridaea* has become *Mazzaella*, *Mastocarpus* and *Chondracanthus* have emerged out of *Gigartina*, and *Enteromorpha* has been sunk into *Ulva*. Thus even the most common seaweeds have undergone major taxonomic shifts.

With little alternative, countless phycologists (including ourselves) have resorted to collecting unknown weeds from the field, bringing them back to the lab and randomly flipping through MAC to find a suitable match – then they phone their peers to check that the seaweed's name has not changed and that the species still exists.

Finally, marine botanists' prayers have been answered. In this book, Keys to the Seaweeds and Seagrasses of Oregon and California, North of Point Conception, Drs. Paul Gabrielson, Thomas Widdowson and Sandra Lindstrom have written concise and up-to-date keys to the local red, brown, and green

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algae, respectively. The keys cover 569 taxa in 258 genera, including several new and introduced species that have been reported since MAC. Not least important, the book provides updated names for all Oregon and California seaweeds that are included and, as such, is a handy reference even without the keys.

Each phylum or class of marine plants is separated into two sections: a key to the genera and a key to the species. Keys are dichotomous in nature, and each couplet prompts the user to make a choice regarding an alga's morphology, habitat, and geographic distribution. There is a thorough glossary in the back of the book with definitions for all phycological terms, and several line drawings are included to better illustrate certain morphological features, such as branching patterns and cellular constructions. This isn't to say that the keys are always simple to use, after all, the onus is on the user to recognize the key characters specified in the book. Luckily, the couplets are numbered for easy (and frequent) back-tracking.

After making a genus determination, the user is guided to a second key to determine the species. Like the keys to the genera, the keys to the species are dichotomous. Current names and authorities are listed for all species, along with references to specific figures, photographs and drawings in other books, including MAC. These image references serve two important purposes: they help confirm one's species-level determination and often indicate old genus and species names. For instance, *Mazzaella splendens* is illustrated in MAC on page 530, figure 475 as *Iridaea cordata* var. *splendens*.

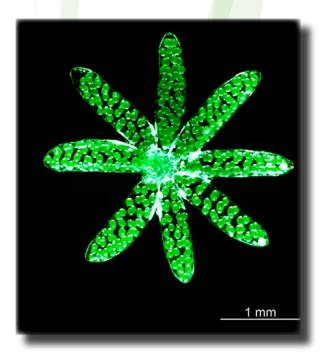
This book is recommended for all determined students of phycology and is absolutely essential for professional phycologists and graduate students working on Oregon and California flora. Its slim paperback design

is easily toted into the field, and the back cover has a ruler illustration for measurements. in a pinch – although we wonder about the compatibility of the paper cover and unsewn binding with marine field work. The book includes all the seagrasses and seaweeds from Oregon and most of the marine flora from California, including 88% of green algae, 76% of brown algae, and 67% of red algae - undeniably a huge accomplishment. Yet, there is a distinct possibility that users will be unable to identify certain uncommon algae (and even common algae south of Pt. Conception) with these keys. We hope that Gabrielson and colleagues will continue to fill in the other algae, including those from southern California, in the near future.

Gabrielson *et al.* have dedicated this book to Dr. Isabella Abbott on the occasion of her 85th birthday. We have no doubt that she must be proud of her continued legacy.

To order the Keys, please email:

Dr. Paul Gabrielson drseaweed@hotmail.com



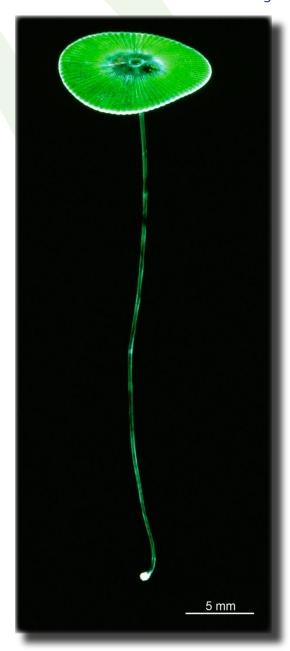
E-book: PHOTO ATLAS OF LIVING DASYCLADALES

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To vist her website and access all these extraordinary beauties please visit:

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NEW BOOKS IN THE SERIES Cellular Origin, Life in Extreme Habitats and Astrobiology (COLE)

"This Book Series contains volumes written by international competent scientists who are experts in their fields of research. These volumes deal with the Origin and Evolution of Life, the nature and general features of the first cells and several aspects of microbial life. A special emphasis is given to the microbial diversity and Extremophiles (microorganisms living in severe environmental habitats) all over the globe. The extremophiles covered in this series are the hot loving microbes, cold living cells, acid and alkalophiles, hypersaline halophiles, barophiles, desiccation, etc.

The microorganisms featured in our books are prokaryotic Archaea and Bacteria and unicellular eukaryotic Protista (protozoa and lower algae). The various sections of Symbioses cover enigmatic organisms which are associated or even live one inside the other body or intracellularly. These books cover many fields of biological, biochemical, biophysical and molecular research. We also cover new views of chemical evolution, Astrobiology and the possibilities of life in extraterrestrial Celestial Bodies. The current chapters are updated to the latest research level and are the first (English) volumes that cover most aspect of the COLE studies in new and updated lights." (Springer)

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NEW BOOK - Portraits of Marine Algae: an historical perspective

By Michael J. Wynne (2006)

The author pays homage to students of marine algae from the 1760's to the early 1900's. For each author of a work on seaweeds a biographical sketch, sample illustrations (most in color), and references are provided.

180 pages (59 color plates, 25 blackand-white plates), hard cover, dust jacket. ISBN 0-9620733-7-7

Price: US-orders: \$50.00; non-US-orders: \$54.00. Order form (click here).

Obituary Notice



ack E. Myers, President of the Phycological Society of America in 1960-61, passed away in Austin, Texas, on Dec. 28, 2006, at the age of 93. Using algae, Jack made many significant contributions to our understanding of photosynthesis and algal physiology. His awards and honors were numerous, including election to the prestigious National Academy of Sciences in 1975, the Kettering Award by the American Society of Plant Physiologists, the Founders Award from the American Society of Gravitation and Space Biology, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Starting at the University of Texas in Austin as an assistant professor in the Zoology Dept. in 1941, Myers went on to serve a total of 58 years as a faculty member. Although he took emeritus status in 1980, he continued to carry out research and conduct experiments up through 1999. He published more than 100 papers in various scientific journals. He still had time to serve as the Science Editor for "Highlights for Children", a periodical founded by Jack's parents and continued by the later generations of the family. He not only wrote numerous articles but every year answered up to 400 letters with questions on science submitted by children who read the magazine.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

PSA ANNUAL MEETING 2007

The 2007 Annual Meeting will be held 5–10 August in Providence, Rhode Island (at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, Providence-Warwick), and is being hosted by Dr. Glen Thursby (U.S. EPA). This will be a joint meeting with the International Society of Protistologists (ISOP). The meeting will kickoff with an opening mixer on the evening of Sunday, 5 August, and the scientific program will begin on Monday and continue through Thursday, 6-9 August. The alwayspopular PSA Auction and Mixer will be on Monday evening, and the Poster Session and Mixer will be on Wednesday evening. The PSA/ISOP banquet will be Thursday evening, and there will be an optional intertidal field trip on Friday morning.

In addition to the standard PSA sessions, several symposia have been organized with both plenary and mini-symposium speakers. The topics include Phylogenetics, Systematics, and Biogeography of Macroalgae; Physiological and Structural Advantages of Chloroplast Evolution; Energetic and Elemental Stoichiometries in Phytoplankton: Ecology and Evolution; and a joint PSA-ISOP symposium on symbiosis.



SEPC 2007 29th Annual Southeastern Phycological Colloquy

Dates: 26-28 October 2007

Location: Dauphin Island Sea Lab, Dauphin Island,

Alabama

The SEPC is a small, informal meeting which emphasizes student participation and student-faculty interaction. Contributed paper and poster sessions are planned for a full day of Saturday, October 27. Presentations on all aspects of the biology of algae, seagrasses, and other aquatic plants are welcome.

Please visit this website for more information http://www.uab.edu/uabbio/sepc/

Organizers

Juan Lopez-Bautista University of Alabama jlopez@ua.edu

Chuck Amsler University of Alabama at Birmingham amsler@uab.edu

Deadline for contributions for the next PSA Newsletter:

September 15th, 2007

Please contact Juan Lopez-Bautista

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