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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**NC State Professor Rebecca Boston
Chairs American Society of Plant Biologists Board of Trustees**

ROCKVILLE, MD -- Rebecca Boston, William Neal Reynolds Distinguished Professor, North Carolina State University, became chair of the American Society of Plant Biologists (ASPB) October 1, 2005.

Boston will lead the Board of Trustees in oversight of investments, preparation of budgets and in maintaining financial stability for ASPB. The Board of Trustees shares responsibilities with the Society's Treasurer and reports to the Executive Committee. ASPB's investments and overall financial position strengthened during Boston's recent tenure as member of the Board of Trustees. Her appointment as chair recognizes her contributions as Board of Trustees member since first being appointed in 2003.

"I look forward to serving ASPB and its role in advancing the plant sciences through my tenure as chair of the Board of Trustees," Boston said.

Boston joined the faculty at NC State University in August 1987 as Assistant Professor, Departments of Botany and Genetics. Boston became Associate Professor, NC State University Departments of Botany and Genetics in July 1993. In May 1998, Boston became Professor, Departments of Botany and Genetics, NC State University. She earned her B.A. in 1976 from Vanderbilt University, Nashville, and Ph.D. in 1983 from the University of Wisconsin, Madison. She was an NIH Postdoctoral Fellow and later Research Associate at the Purdue University Department of Botany and Plant Pathology from 1983 to 1987.

Boston has served on several ASPB committees in recent years. She also served on the editorial board of the ASPB journal, *Plant Physiology*. She has served on a number of grant panels for the National Science Foundation and U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Her successful research program has led to publication in a number of peer reviewed journals and books and the awarding of several patents. Among the courses Boston has taught at NC State University are Plant Molecular Biology and Cell Biology.

Founded in 1924, the American Society of Plant Biologists is a non-profit society of nearly 6,000 scientists from the United States and nearly 60 other nations. ASPB publishes two of the three most widely cited plant science journals, *The Plant Cell* and *Plant Physiology*.

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