

Reminder – Abstract submission extended to March 7th see below

Dear Colleagues:

You are invited to attend the annual meeting of the Midwestern Section of the ASPB (MWASPB), which will take place Friday March 24 and Saturday 25, 2005. This year's annual meeting will be kindly hosted by the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC), IL and should serve as a convenient central location for many participants from across the Midwest to attend (<http://www.uic.edu/index.html>). This meeting provides an excellent opportunity for undergraduate and graduate students and post-doctoral researchers to present short papers on their research, so we particularly encourage their participation.

Research talks will run during the day in the SES building on Friday, March 24, followed by a banquet and keynote lecture (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/bios/>). Research talks will continue on Saturday, March 25 and will conclude in the afternoon. Poster presentations and session breaks will take place in the Science Learning Center (<http://www.uic.edu/depts/bios/undergrad/slc.html>).

Registration fees for members of the MWASPB are \$30 for students and \$60 for faculty, post-docs, and others. This fee includes lunches on Friday and Saturday, coffee breaks, and the Friday evening banquet which will be held at the well-known Parthenon Restaurant in the local Greektown area. This year our plenary speaker will be Dr. Jean Greenberg, who is well known for her work on plant disease resistance and programmed cell death in plants. Dr. Greenberg will present after the evening banquet. The meeting will conclude after the presentation of awards during the lunchtime on Saturday.

You should indicate your intention to register by March 7th using the online submission form that is available at <http://www.aspb.org/sections/midwestern/registration.cfm>. You should email your abstract to the sectional secretary Chris Wolverton scwolver@owu.edu.

A limited number of rooms with two double beds have been reserved for the Thursday (23rd) and Friday (24th) nights at the nearby Crowne Plaza (<http://www.crowneplaza.com>) which is easy walking distance from campus. The room rate is \$129 per room/night and an additional charge of \$20 per day is charged for a third person. We encourage you to book rooms early as the Chicago Metro area is often busy at this time of year with other conferences. The in-house reservation number is 312 829 5000 (or 1-877-2 CROWNE) and you should mention that you are with the American Society of Plant Biology (ask for Norma Badel).

You may also seek accommodation further away from campus and you may search for locations along the CTA line (<http://www.transitchicago.com/>) which conveniently stops at the UIC campus (Halsted station). For attendees driving to the meeting, parking will be available on campus during the meeting but you may consider taking the CTA (\$1.50 per ride) to avoid traffic congestion.

The Officers of the MWASPB:

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