



Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
5th Floor, Hunt Library
Carnegie Mellon University
4909 Frew Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15213-3890
Telephone: 412-268-2434
Email: huntinst@andrew.cmu.edu
Web site: www.huntbotanical.org

The Hunt Institute is committed to making its collections accessible for research. We are pleased to offer this digitized item.

Usage guidelines

We have provided this low-resolution, digitized version for research purposes. To inquire about publishing any images from this item, please contact the Institute.

Statement on harmful and offensive content

The Hunt Institute Archives contains hundreds of thousands of pages of historical content, writing and images, created by thousands of individuals connected to the botanical sciences. Due to the wide range of time and social context in which these materials were created, some of the collections contain material that reflect outdated, biased, offensive and possibly violent views, opinions and actions. The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation does not endorse the views expressed in these materials, which are inconsistent with our dedication to creating an inclusive, accessible and anti-discriminatory research environment. Archival records are historical documents, and the Hunt Institute keeps such records unaltered to maintain their integrity and to foster accountability for the actions and views of the collections' creators.

Many of the historical collections in the Hunt Institute Archives contain personal correspondence, notes, recollections and opinions, which may contain language, ideas or stereotypes that are offensive or harmful to others. These collections are maintained as records of the individuals involved and do not reflect the views or values of the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation or those of Carnegie Mellon University.

About the Institute

The Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation, a research division of Carnegie Mellon University, specializes in the history of botany and all aspects of plant science and serves the international scientific community through research and documentation. To this end, the Institute acquires and maintains authoritative collections of books, plant images, manuscripts, portraits and data files, and provides publications and other modes of information service. The Institute meets the reference needs of botanists, biologists, historians, conservationists, librarians, bibliographers and the public at large, especially those concerned with any aspect of the North American flora.

Hunt Institute was dedicated in 1961 as the Rachel McMasters Miller Hunt Botanical Library, an international center for bibliographical research and service in the interests of botany and horticulture, as well as a center for the study of all aspects of the history of the plant sciences. By 1971 the Library's activities had so diversified that the name was changed to Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation. Growth in collections and research projects led to the establishment of four programmatic departments: Archives, Art, Bibliography and the Library.

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

Office of the President

November 17, 1975

Dr. J. G. Torrey
Cabot Foundation
Harvard University
Petersham, MA 01366

Dear John:

This letter comes as confirmation of our telephone conversation concerning your membership on the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership committee. I am delighted that you are willing to take on this task, even though you did it once before. Bill Purves will be the chairman this year, and the other members are John Boyer, Barbara Pickard, and Jan Zeevaart. You should hear directly from Bill Purves sometime in the relatively near future.

Best regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:kk

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

Office of the President

November 17, 1975

Dr. Barbara G. Pickard
Department of Biology
Washington University
St. Louis, MO 63130

Dear Dr. Pickard:

I am writing to confirm our telephone conversation concerning your membership this year on the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership committee for the Society. I am delighted that you are willing to serve. The other members are Dr. W. K. Purves, Dr. John S. Boyer, Dr. J. G. Torrey, and Dr. J. A. D. Zeevaart. Dr. Purves will be chairman, and you should hear from him soon.

Best regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:kk

The
University
of
Connecticut

STORRS, CONNECTICUT 06268

THE COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
The Biological Sciences Group

March 12, 1976

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

To: Dr. Houston Baker
Dr. Winslow Briggs

From: Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Committee
John Boyer
Barbara Pickard
John Torrey
Jan Zeevaart
Bill Purves, Chairperson

Re: The winner

This year's Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Award Committee has completed its deliberations and is pleased to announce the winner: Anton Lang. Less than a week ago, we were advised by President Briggs that Anton had also been selected as this year's Stephen Hales Prize winner. A series of phone calls showed that all five of us want to stand by our guns--Anton was our runaway winner, and we think he deserves both prizes. We note that in 1974 Jack Myers won both the Barnes Life Membership and the Kettering Award, and we consider this to be adequate precedent.

(To Houston only) *
Enclosed are two award letters. The longer one is the official one, for the Society's records and for whatever else is done with these things. The shorter one is for your pleasure. I propose to give Anton a copy after he has received the award. Or perhaps Win or I could read the thing at the banquet.

I assume that the committee has now done its thing and that we are free to go.

Enclosed (in Houston's copy) are some scraps of paper from our deliberations. Our committee has considered the possibility that next year's committee might like to know which people were considered as runners-up. Again, they might prefer to operate in vacuo. Anyhow, the stuff can be in your files just in case. I've mentioned this to Joe Key.

WKP:djb
Enclosures

Bill

March 11, 1976

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

To: Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Committee

John Boyer
Barbara Pickard
John Torrey
Jan Eevaart

From: Bill Purves

Well, this is it. All of you have agreed to stick with our winner, in spite of his other modest success (the Hales Award). Since nobody raised any fuss about the award letters, they have been sent off to Houston Baker and Win Briggs.

There's nothing left to do. We're through! Thank you for your very active work and prompt replies throughout. If only departmental committees worked so well . . .

WEP:djb

cc: Dr. Winslow R. Briggs

*The
University
of
Connecticut*

STORRS, CONNECTICUT 06268

THE COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
The Biological Sciences Group

February 13, 1976

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

To: Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Committee--

John Boyer
Barbara Pickard
John Torrey
Jan Zeevart

From: William K. Purves

Thank you for your blitzschnell responses to my letter of 26 January. I enclose the bulk of Barbara Pickard's lengthy letter, since it offers a number of useful remarks. Abstracts of the other responses follow:

Boyer: "I, like you, incline toward Burris or Lang . . . but you have raised an issue that perhaps we should think about. Should selection be entirely based on scholarly accomplishment or should we include some other aspects of a person's career that distinguish him (or her) in a particular way? Your discussion of Beatrice Sweeney is just such a case. On scholarly merit alone, she would probably lose to Burris or Lang, but there is no doubt that she has made some valued, if less tangible, marks on our profession. If we go with scholarly accomplishment alone, my ranking would be: Burris, Lang, Hamner, Calvin, Addicott, Biale, Sweeney. If not, my ranking might be vastly changed and, I think, some other names added."

Torrey: ". . . in order of preference: Anton Lang, Robert H. Burris, Jacob B. Biale, Beatrice M. Sweeney, Melvin Calvin, Karl Hamner, Frederick Addicott."

Zeevart: "I am impressed by the nominations made by John Torrey and John Boyer. However, since Bob Burris' contributions to the field have already been recognized earlier by the Society in the form of the Stephen Hales Award, I believe the Barnes Life Membership Award should go to somebody else. Accordingly, my ranking is as follows: Lang, Biale, Hamner, Sweeney, Addicott, Calvin, Burris."

For the record, I made my own ordered list, which came out as follows: Sweeney, Lang, Burris, Biale, Hamner, Addicott, Calvin.

In the spirit of the Winter Olympics, now in progress, I took these four lists and assigned "ordinals" as they do in judging figure skating.

The results, as you can see, give the following list:

1. Anton Lang, 6
2. Robert H. Burris, 13
3. Jacob B. Biale, 15
4. Beatrice M. Sweeney, 16
5. Karl Hamner, 17
6. Melvin Calvin, 22
7. Frederick Addicott, 23

I didn't know how to fit in Barbara's opinions, since she had indicated a desire for more input before voting. However, in the interest of pushing forward, I interpreted the following statement literally: "I would tentatively place Addicott, Burris, Lang and Sweeney at the top of my list". That's not what she meant, I'm sure, but the result is still useful. It would give Lang 9 ordinals, Burris 15, and Sweeney 20.

The "subtotal" outcome then becomes very clear. If we are going on "scholarly accomplishment" alone, Anton Lang is the winner; and it is extremely unlikely that that position will be eroded.

At the risk of seeming pushy, I suggest that this leaves us with but two alternatives. (a) Agree that "scholarly accomplishment" is the overriding consideration and declare Anton the winner. (Actually, that's overstated in the sense that Anton and some of the other nominees have performed numerous services to the society and to science--they haven't just cranked out wondrous experiments.) (b) Agree that we want to consider further the possibility of extending the criteria and considering such other cases as those of Beazy Sweeney (the good physiologist coping with an extra X chromosome), Marty Gibbs (the good physiologist coping with slow reviewers and irate authors), etc. NOTE: Marty is not a good example, being a spring chicken of 53. (An amusing fringe benefit to this committee is that we get to find out how old everyone is--but I'd rather get free auto insurance.)

May we, then, approach the final act by quickly voting as follows:

Option (a): We give the award to Anton Lang

Option (b): We delay a vote pending (speedy) submission of nominations and supporting evidence about people falling in the "extended criteria" category.

May I hear from you quickly? If Option (a) wins, there will be nothing left to do except that I must polish up a citation and submit it to you for approval or amendment. If (b) carries the day, I'll undertake to push things along as quickly as possible.

Nothing was provided this committee by our predecessors. I propose to turn our full set of correspondence over to the next chairperson, in order that that committee may reap the spectacular benefits of our deliberations and wisdom--not to mention our list of runners-up (runnerups?)

Thank you for your continued cooperation. Your promptness and thoughtfulness have been great.

Hasta la next communication,

William K. Purves

WKP:djb

cc: Dr. Winslow Briggs

WASHINGTON UNIVERSITY



ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI 63130

DEPARTMENT OF BIOLOGY

January 29, 1976

Dr. William K. Purves
The Biological Sciences Group
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06268

Dear Bill:

Thanks for your spirited letters.

Sorry to be the laggard in our group. In part, my dragging has been because I was intending to prepare a detailed statement of praise for each person I wanted to recommend, and since I had been mulling over several possibilities and since I have been preoccupied this past month with what seemed like a strong possibility that I would be on the street with a tin cup shortly, I simply put off my statements hoping that preliminary word from other committee members would help me to channel my efforts a bit. For today, I shall simply offer some informal comments.

Bill, it was interesting to me that you should consider Beazy Sweeney. Beazy was the first person to come to my mind. I have always had a special personal interest in the kinds of things Beazy has done, and I feel that she has always been on the cutting edge of work in circadian rhythms. I was charmed by her little book on the subject; it was incisive and well written, and very useful both to me and to my classes. Beazy has participated in ASPP activities and on national committees of various sorts, and I agree she is well known. I, like you, have hesitated because Beazy has not performed that single critical experiment that comes to everyone's mind as the pivot on which a new generation of experiments turned. But certainly, some of her work on rhythms may someday - when the mechanism of circadian behavior is understood in a general way - appear to have been very influential. I really want to champion Sweeney, even though I doubt that she will be the ultimate winner. The quality of her contributions has been very high.

I was happy to see that John Torrey had nominated Anton Lang by means of a nice statement, thus saving me from writing a preliminary statement on his behalf. Lang is an obvious choice: his contributions to plant physiology are so visible that I will do little more than to endorse John's letter. I have a personal affection for Lang because of his selfless contributions to all of us in plant physiology; in particular his personal warmth, kindness and concern for the welfare of young and little-known scientists have helped along many careers including my own. But one cannot say that a person who is a member of the National Academy is without recognition!

Another member of our society who has served us endlessly in addition to making significant personal research contributions is Marty Gibbs. Has Marty received any special honors from our society other than acclamations at the annual meeting of editors, etcetera? What do others think?

Some of my "photosynthetic friends" have been very enthusiastic about this possibility.

I am more than pleased that Fred Addicott has been nominated. He was the second person whose name came to my mind as I considered the possibilities. I feel that because of his modest personality and related factors he has received far too little credit for his substantial contribution to the discovery of ABA. Encouraged that Jan also rates him highly, I shall try to prepare a preliminary statement on his qualifications. Awarding the prize to Addicott would rectify what I at present regard as a rather sad lack of applause for his very important career.

I feel that Burris is indeed appropriate, and would rate him very high on my list. Although I am not particularly knowledgeable about nitrogen fixation, absolutely everything that John Boyer has said in behalf of Burris rings true to me. Burris is a genuine father figure in plant physiology. Deserving as he is, I must note that he has received recognition in being appointed some years back to the National Academy, and we may decide to use the award in order to spread honors around a bit.

My impression of Jacob Biale's work is that it has been excellent, but I wonder if he is well enough known? One hesitates to present the award to someone whose work might be so little known that the general membership might not have empathy with the committee's efforts; on the other hand, maybe I am just locked into my local scene and do not realize how visible he has been to the membership at large. In any case, if the committee does feel that his work has been particularly outstanding, perhaps he should receive the prize precisely because he is not well known. I look forward to seeing whether anyone else wishes to put forward a detailed statement on his behalf.

Calvin and Hamner are both distinguished, but I would have thought both have already received considerable recognition. Calvin has already been honored by the ASPP Hales Award.

Katherine Esau is terrific - but I really think of her in the context of the Botanical Society more than the ASPP. Her work has been important to all of us, but I don't think of any unique physiological contribution which has changed our ideas.

In summary, I would tentatively place Addicott, Burris, Lang and Sweeney at the top of my list. I abstain on Biale. I feel that Esau, Calvin, and Hamner are certainly good people, but they do not seem to me as suitable choices for the Barnes award as my top four choices. Do I really have to number from one to eight right now? I would prefer to see if a reasonable short list could be produced without this listing, and have one more round of voting if necessary. It is encouraging to me that there has been so much overlap of opinion at an early stage.

Enough verbiage for now. Several local colleagues and I have been side-tracked for a while by the necessity to maneuver for survival at Washington University, despite the fact that we all have tenure - doubtless

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

Office of the President

November 17, 1975

Dr. John S. Boyer
Department of Botany and Crop Physics
University of Illinois
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Dr. Boyer:

I am writing to confirm our telephone conversation concerning your membership this year on the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership committee for the Society. I am delighted that you are willing to serve. The other members are Dr. W. K. Purves, Dr. J. D. Torrey, Dr. B. G. Pickard, and Dr. J. A. D. Zeevaart. Dr. Purves will be chairman, and you should hear from him soon.

Best regards,

WRB:kk

Winslow R. Briggs
President

August 19, 1976

Dr. Clanton C. Black
Department of Botany
University of Georgia
Athens, GA 30602

Dear Clanton:

Enclosed is the Charles Reid Barnes certificate at long last. This one needs your signature in addition to mine. Could you sign it in black ink, and then forward it on to Anton?

Many thanks.

Sincerely yours,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:KK

Enc.

January 29, 1976

Dr. Ernest G. Jaworski
Chairman, Honors and Awards Committee
American Society of Plant Physiologists
Monsanto Co.
800 N. Lindbergh Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63166

Dear Ernie:

I enclose with John Boyer's permission a copy of his letter to Bill Purves nominating Bob Burris for the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership. You could probably quickly get further information either from him or from Larry Vanderhoff, also at Illinois, and an ex-Burris student. I trust that you have received the letter I wrote you yesterday about Burris. It was a bit general, and Boyer's nice chronology adds some specifics.

Best regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:dcm

Encls:

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

College of Liberal Arts and Sciences
DEPARTMENT OF BOTANY

289 Morrill Hall
Urbana, Illinois 61801
(217) 333-3260

January 20, 1976

Dr. William K. Purves
The Biological Sciences Group
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06268

Dear Bill:

Before the crush of teaching begins, I wanted to write to give you my ideas on the Charles Reid Barnes Life Member that we are to nominate. I have spent some time talking with people and going to the library in order to make a list of names. However, one individual stands out so much that I would like to make a strong case for just this individual.

The person I have in mind is Bob Burris at the University of Wisconsin. He is old enough to qualify for the award and has been so involved with the field of nitrogen fixation that it is difficult to identify just a few major achievements. From the many, I have selected the following:

1. 1941 - development of the use of ^{15}N and mass spectroscopy for measuring nitrogen fixation.
2. 1941 - characterization of H_2 , N_2O and CO as inhibitors of nitrogen fixation.
3. 1942 - first clear-cut evidence that NH_3 might be the key intermediate in biological nitrogen fixation.
4. 1956 - first cell-free preparation capable of fixing nitrogen.
5. 1966 - first demonstration of acetylene reduction by nitrogenase.
6. 1970 - first clear evidence of electron donation for N_2 fixation in facultative organisms and microaerophilic bacilli.

In addition Professor Burris has trained a large number of the investigators in nitrogen fixation. For years, Professor Burris has taught a plant biochemistry course at Wisconsin which is widely recognized as one of the most valuable courses on the campus.

Dr. William K. Purves

2

January 20, 1976

I would be happy to supply you with a more detailed statement of Professor Burris' contributions, but suppose this will suffice for now.

Sincerely yours,



J. S. Boyer
Professor of Plant Physiology

JSB:slh

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU/ERDA PLANT RESEARCH LABORATORY
TELEPHONE (517) 353-2270

EAST LANSING • MICHIGAN • 48824

September 23, 1976

Dr. W. R. Briggs, Director
Carnegie Institution of Washington
Department of Plant Biology
Stanford, CA 94305

Dear Win:

I can now acknowledge, with humble thanks, two certificates of ASPP.
The text of that for the Barnes Life Membership is truly impressive.
If I ever should feel inadequate (no cracks, please) I'll only have
to read that one and I'll feel more adequate than ever.

Warm regards,



Anton Lang

AL:kc

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

Office of the President

November 17, 1975

Professor W. K. Purves, Chairman
Biological Science Group
University of Connecticut
Storrs, CT 06268

Dear Bill:

This letter will confirm my telephone call concerning the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership committee. I am delighted that you are willing to serve as chairman of this group. As you can see from the enclosed description from our constitution, this has to be an entirely new committee each year. The other members are John Torrey, John Boyer, Barbara Pickard, and Jan Zeevaart. You should check soon with Houston Baker, to determine what available funds there will be for an award at the next meeting, and whether this is one year in five that the award must be made to some outstanding plant physiologist in a foreign country. Many thanks for taking on this task.

Best regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:kk

Enc.

*The
University
of
Connecticut*

STORRS, CONNECTICUT 06268

THE COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
The Biological Sciences Group

December 9, 1975

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

To: Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Committee--

John Boyer
Barbara Pickard
John Torrey
Jan Zeevart

From: William K. Purves
Chairperson

I assume Winslow has advised you of the good news of your appointment to this committee. This is just a preliminary note to indicate that things are starting and that I shall let you know when we must get in gear. Some specific questions have been sent off to Houston Baker, since the answers are needed before we can start. They concern (1) the availability of funds to make the award (no problem, I trust), (2) whether this is one of those years in which the award is supposed to go to a foreign plant physiologist, (3) whether the membership is supposed to be polled regarding this award (we were polled about some award or another last year), and (4) whether there is anything else we're supposed to know.

I'll be in touch before the beginning of the year. You might have a look at our constitution for guidance, and perhaps a look at our membership roster (or your reprint collection, or an ouija board, or the Vladivostok telephone directory) to start forming some ideas. Any suggestions on procedures would be welcomed. Once we have the answers from Houston (so we know whether we are dealing with endogenous or exogenous colleagues), it would probably be a decent idea for each of us to send a preliminary list of suggestions to me. These names would be quickly distributed to all of you. The second round could consist of short lists from each of us, complete with some sales pitches. And then off to the later ballots. I would certainly welcome alternative suggestions. In any event, it will be incumbent upon each of us - once we've begun in earnest - to respond quickly to all communications.

Happy holidays!

December 9, 1975

Dr. Houston Baker
American Society of Plant Physiologists
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Dear Hous:

A couple of matters. First, since my term on the Board of Trustees has expired, you should tell the people at Loomis-Sayles to stop sending me all the goodies. I enjoy seeing their blurbs, but I am no longer entitled to receive them.

The second matter has more parts, and it relates to the fact that I am chairman of the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership committee for this year. Some questions:

1. How is the availability of funds to make the award? (Win told me to ask this--I'm not sure of the significance of the question.)
2. I understand that, every fifth year, the award must be made to a foreign plant physiologist. (a) Is this true? (b) Is this one of those fifth years?
3. I seem to recall from last year that the membership of the Society was polled for nominations for one or more of the ASPP's numerous awards. Were they polled with regard to the Charles Reid Barnels Life Membership award?
4. Can you think of anything else I should know before the committee Begins its Deliberations?
5. Are there any questions I can answer for you?

You probably know this already; but, on the off chance you don't, the other members of the committee are John Torrey, John Boyer, Barbara Pickard, and Jan Zeevart.

Sincerely yours,

William K. Purves
Executive Officer

WKP:djb

cc: Dr. Winslow R. Briggs

SOME FACTS ABOUT THE CHARLES REID BARNES LIFE MEMBERSHIP AWARD

By-Laws, Section 10:

g. In considering the qualifications of members for this award, the committee shall consider not only the character and quality of the work, but also the age of the candidates, and whenever suitable candidates are available, shall select men (GOPS! I hope somebody is attending to the necessary amendment of THAT noun) above the age of sixty years. . .

h. With the consent of the Executive Committee, the life membership committee may award a life membership to a non-member, provided it is known that the award would be accepted if made.

I, also offer the following list of previous winners. Since Erwin Bunning won in 1973, I assume that we are looking for Americans. See the Directory of the ASPP for winners prior to 1960.

1960	Harry Borthwick
1961	Frank Cullinan
1962	Alden Crafts
1963	Meirion Thomas
1964	William Hassid
1965	Frits Went
1966	Kenneth Thimann
1967	Paul Kramer
1968	Kurt Mothes
1969	Sterling Hendricks
1970	Folke Skoog
1971	Stacy French
1972	Johannes van Overbeek
1973	Erwin Bunning
1974	Jack Myers
1975	William Arnold
1976	(Picture your message in this space)

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

9650 Rockville Pike,

Bethesda, Maryland 20014

U.S.A.

Tel. 301-530-9474

December 18, 1975

Barnes Award

Dr. William K. Purves
Biological Sciences Group, Liberal Arts & Sciences
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06268

Dear Bill:

I have asked Grace to remove your name from her list. However, if you should seriously miss receiving the Loomis-Sayles' pronouncements, I could make a copy of mine available. (This is in case you supplement the ouija board in your personal investment program.)

Some answers on Charles Reid Barnes Awards:

1. The funds available are adequate. (Or would you rather have an accounting instead of my opinion?)
2. It is true that "Every fifth award shall be made to some outstanding plant physiologist in a foreign country." (By - Laws 10 i) However, your opportunity is to select the third one since the last foreigner, so you may also consider domestic plant physiologists.
3. I am unaware of any poll of membership for one of the awards. Perhaps you recall a prize of a different sort -- namely, a chance to nominate someone for election as an officer or reviewer.

Could you get a full name and citation to me in March. The earlier, the better. I can then arrange for the preparation of a certificate. Regarding the constitutional statement "the committee... shall select 'men!..';" perhaps the intent was for them to select "human", a variant plural of "human". Whatever, I am glad it is your committee's interpretation that controls, not mine. For your information, I enclose a copy of the last Barnes citation.

Sincerely,

Houston

Houston Baker, Ph.D.
Business Executive

Enclosure
HB:par

cc: Briggs, Key, Torrey, Boyer, Pickard, Zeevaart

Charles Reid Barnes

Committee File

Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Award - 1975

Dr. William Archibald Arnold

Dr. William Archibald Arnold was born in Douglas, Wyoming, November 6, 1904. He received his Bachelor of Science degree in Physiology from the California Institute of Technology in 1931. Two classic papers dealing with the photochemical reactions of photosynthesis, co-authored by Robert Emerson and William Arnold, appeared in the Journal of General Physiology in 1932. It is from the second paper (Journal of General Physiology 16, 191-204) that we first understood that several hundred chlorophyll molecules were involved in the reduction of a molecule of carbon dioxide by a single flash of light. Bill Arnold went on to receive his Ph.D. from Harvard in 1935. As a Sheldon fellow in Biological Sciences and a General Education fellow he worked at the Hopkins Marine Station in Stanford, California from 1935-37. He was awarded a Rockefeller Foundation Fellowship in 1938-39 and spent a year at the Institute of Theoretical Physics, Copenhagen, Denmark. He returned to the Marine Station as a Research Associate until 1941. He went to Princeton for a year as a physicist and was a senior physicist at Eastman Kodak Company from 1942-44. He retained his academic affiliation with the Marine Station in Stanford as an assistant professor from 1941-46 and then in 1946 he joined the Oak Ridge National Laboratory as a principal biologist in the Biology Division where he is working today. Bill is a member of the Society of General Physiologists, Physics Society, and the National Academy of Sciences.

In addition to his work with Emerson, Bill Arnold has made numerous other contributions to our understanding of the primary events in photosynthesis. In a paper with Bernie Strehler published in 1951 in the Journal of General Physiology (34, 809-820), Bill, through clever modification of available instrumentation, was able to measure the action spectrum of the luminescence produced by chlorella as well as some higher plant chloroplasts. The basic conclusion from his paper is contained in the following paragraph. "The interpretations of the previously described observation which most simply fits the experimental details is that the light-emitting process is actually a reflection of the reversability of early reactions in photosynthesis including at least one enzymatic reaction."

Another very important contribution was concerned with the "Polarization of Fluorescence in Energy Transfer in Granna" published by William Arnold and Eleanor S. Meek. This paper appeared in the Archives of Biochemistry and Biophysics in 1956 (60, 82-90). The question posed in this paper was that the many chlorophyll molecules associated with photosynthetic units must have some way of transferring this energy to one focal point. By the application of basic physical principles concerning polarized light and its relationship to energy transfer, Bill was able to set-up an experimental situation such that he could observe low polarization of fluorescent light emitted from living plants. A rigorous interpretation of this phenomenon leads to the conclusion that there is energy transfer between chlorophyll molecules in vivo.

Further pursuing the notion of energy transfer William Arnold and Helen K. Sherwood reported in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in 1957 (43, 195-114) on the chloroplast as a semi-conductor. By extracting chlorophyll from several tissues, among them tobacco, spinach, beets and turnips and depositing this material on aluminum or copper disks, mounting the disks on a metal rod and then introducing this into instrumentation adequate to illuminate the disk of deposited chlorophyll, and to cool to 10° K, he was able to monitor the light emitted and any resistance developed upon illumination. Bill was able to show that the glow curves, analogous to those made with inorganic crystals, can be made with chlorella suspensions and dry chloroplasts. Upon heating, the electrical resistance of dry chloroplasts showed changes that can be interpreted as freeing of trapped electrons, indicating (but not proving) that granna act as semi-conductors. The experimental results suggested that the first act in photosynthesis may have at least as much in common with solid state physics as with the chemistry of solution.

Finally, in a paper with Rod Clayton entitled "The First Step in Photosynthesis: Evidence for its electronic nature" published in the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences in 1960 (40, 769-776), Arnold utilized bacterial chlorophylls to reach the conclusion that "photosynthesis appears to be the separation of an electron and a hole in a chlorophyll semi-conductor."

It is to this outstanding physiologist that we owe much of our understanding of the primary events in photosynthesis. His application of the rigorous principles of physics to a biological phenomenon, his intrepid manipulation of biological materials, his ability to grasp a problem, frame it in experimental terms and to follow its resolution full course are things to be admired by all and emulated by each of us. A citation of Bill Arnold's accomplishments would be amiss if one did not take note of his personal humility, his broad scientific curiosity, and his knack for conveying his excitement about biological processes to those around him.

THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

TO: Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Committee--

John Boyer
Barbara Pickard
John Torrey
Jan Zeevart

FROM: William K. Purves

Now that we're all through with our New Year hangovers, I guess we'd better forge ahead with this business. I waded through the membership list, talked with a few people, and came up with a few names that might be considered:

Jacob B. Biale
Robert H. Burris
Melvin Calvin
Karl C. Hammer
Anton Lang

Among these, I inclined towards Burris or Lang. It also occurred to me, however, that it might be well to look hard at the possibility of naming a woman or minority scientist as winner--particularly in view of the sexist pig wording of the By-Laws ("men above the age of sixty years"). Among the members of the Society, Katherine Esau stands out as a distinguished scientist. She is well along in her seventies and is nearing the end of her career. However, it is true that one thinks of her primarily as an anatomist (although she is an ASPP member).

Another to come readily to mind (in part because a friendship extending back to 1955) is Beatrice M. Sweeney. In terms of impact on modern plant physiology, Beazy falls short of most Barnes winners. On the other hand, hers is a fine example of carving out a solid professional reputation in the face of major sex-linked obstacles. She did her Ph.D. work with Kenneth Thimann, producing one of the better accounts of protoplasmic streaming (and introducing a clever new means of making the data quantitative). For many years, she worked at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, where she began and developed her work on circadian rhythms in Gonyaulax. Most of these years were spent in part-time work as she raised her children; in the eyes of the SIO administrators, she was viewed as sort of a temporary appendage of Francis Haxo. She ultimately pulled up stakes and moved to Yale, where for a few years she shared a small laboratory with Mary Helen Goldsmith. Just among us chickens, I think that Art Galston did not go out of his way to make

-2-

Beazy and Mary Helen feel like "real" members of that group--they were given limited space and somewhat limited acceptance. Since Beazy left, Mary Helen has taken over the freed space and is somewhat better off than before. Beazy has, for the last few years, been at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Again off the record, I'd like to comment on her hiring there. We had an opening for a developmental biologist; and, when it became apparent that Beazy was available and interested, we moved to hire her at the rank of Professor. Chancellor Vernon Cheadle dug in his heels after the appointment had been cleared through the lower levels. He conceded that her record warranted the recommended level of appointment, but he still resisted. In the opinion of many of us, he was troubled by Beazy's series of marriages. With her approval, we finally got her appointed at the rank of Associate Professor, although I had to sign an oath in blood that we wouldn't turn around the next year and recommend an accelerated promotion. Anyhow, she's there and was in due (i.e., long) course advanced to the professorship. Because of her immense vitality (which may cause some of you not to realize that she is 61 years old), she got roped into lots of time-consuming activities, notably a deep involvement with UCSB's College of Creative Studies. Also, as the national conscious mess rose, she was inevitably called upon for very heavy duty as the token woman on many committees, boards, and whatnot. Because of her dedication to the women's movement, she did not resist such appointments and actively sought out some of them. In spite of this, she remains a productive plant physiologist.

I would have a hell of a time writing a citation for Beazy without stepping on the toes of various people. I do think that we should give serious thought to giving her the award, however. By the way, I have made, in the foregoing, the assumption that you all know Beazy. She is noisy enough so that the assumption may be correct.

The first of you to send in some nominations was Jan Zeevart. Since his letter is short, I reproduce it here: "Here is my preliminary list of candidates for the Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Award:

Fred Addicott
Bob Burris
Karl Hammer
Anton Lang."

John Torrey has written a detailed letter nominating Anton Lang. His letter is enclosed, as is John Boyer's, nominating Bob Burris. I have not heard from Barbara Pickard but will forward her suggestions to the rest of you.

May I ask for your reactions to the proposals thus far? Perhaps you could take the names that have been mentioned (Addicott, Biale, Burris, Calvin, Hammer, Lang, and Sweeney, plus any afterthoughts) and rank them 1 through 8. Any further verbiage you would care to add about your favorites would be much appreciated, since a fairly lengthy citation will have to be drawn up.

May I hear from you soon? I know nobody has anything else to do.

WKP:djb

cc: Dr. W.R. Briggs

Bill
1/26/76

HARVARD UNIVERSITY
MARIA MOORS CABOT FOUNDATION
FOR BOTANICAL RESEARCH

Mail Address:
HARVARD FOREST
PETERSHAM, MASS. 01366
Tel. (617) 724-3221

January 19, 1976

Dr. William K. Purves
Biological Sciences Group
University of Connecticut
Storrs, Connecticut 06268

Dear Bill:

I should like to recommend that the Charles Reid Barnes Award for 1976 be made to Professor Anton Lang, currently Director of the MSU/AEC Plant Research Laboratory and Professor of Botany at Michigan State University at East Lansing, Michigan.

Professor Lang has a long and distinguished career in plant physiology as an experimentalist, a writer, an editor, an administrator and as a servant of the federal government in important areas of biology relevant to the needs and problems of man.

Professor Lang's early collaboration with Melchers stands as the foundation for much of our understanding of vernalization effects in plants. His studies on gibberellins in relation to vegetative development and flowering are well known. His reviews of gibberellins are land-marks of comprehension.

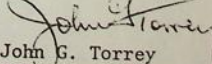
His editorial role in the volumes of the *Handbuch der Pflanzenphysiologie* were heroic as were his earlier reviews on plant hormones in the *Fortschritte der Botanik*. He continues a crucial editorial role in *Planta*.

As Director of the Plant Research Lab at Michigan State, he has sublimated his own research drives into the establishment of a research center which fosters the creativity of a highly selected and qualified research team devoted to the broad field of plant physiology.

Professor Lang has responded to the calls of the American Society of Plant Physiologists, serving as an editor for its journal, *Plant Physiology*, as President-elect in 1969-70 and as President in 1970-71. He has also served important roles in national committees, recently Chairing a Committee of the National Academy of Sciences, On the Effects of Herbicides in Vietnam.

I have great respect for Anton Lang as a scientist, as a botanist and as a person. I believe he is eminently qualified to be presented the Charles Reid Barnes Award for 1976.

Yours sincerely,


John G. Torrey
Professor of Botany

JGT:fob

Bambo

*The
University
of
Connecticut*

STORRS, CONNECTICUT 06268

THE COLLEGE OF
LIBERAL ARTS AND SCIENCES
The Biological Sciences Group

February 26, 1976

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS

CONFIDENTIAL

To: Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Committee

Boyer
Pickard
Torrey
Zeevaaaaaart (okay, Jan? I apologize for earlier errors!)

From: Bill Purves

And now we come to the final step. WE HAVE A WINNER. Anton Lang it is.

Enclosed is a draft of the award notice. Please look it over closely and let me know quickly if there should be additions, deletions, changes-- or if I should go back to square one. In preparing this, I have leaned upon (and borrowed from) John Torrey's fine initial nominating statement. Even more, I am indebted to Jan Zeevaart for providing Anton's c.v. plus a very detailed letter in which Jan nominated him for a local prize at MSU. Some passages are lifted verbatim from that letter.

I assume Houston Baker sent you all copies of last year's award letter for Bill Arnold. I have aimed for a similar length and a somewhat similar tone. The drift, in the course of the statement, from "Dr. Lang" to "Anton" is intentional; and I would like to retain the last paragraph unless you really find it frivolous.

Speaking of frivolity, I beg your permission to send the other, shorter memo to Houston's files and to Win Briggs--and to Anton, after he receives the award. As above, I would welcome suggestions.

If your changes in the "real" letter are minor, I won't recirculate the draft. If need be, however, we can send around a major reworking.

Thank you again for the speed of your responses.

WKP:djb

Bill

cc: Dr. Winslow R. Briggs

Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Award - 1976

Dr. Anton Lang

We are pleased to present the 1976 Charles Reid Barnes Life Membership Award to Professor Anton Lang, of Michigan State University. In so doing, we recognize a long and distinguished career in plant physiology as an experimentalist, a writer, an editor, an administrator, and as a servant of the federal government in important areas of biology relevant to the needs and problems of mankind.

Anton Lang was born in Petersburg (Leningrad), Russia, on 18 January 1913. After receiving his doctorate in 1939 at the University of Berlin, he served for ten years as a Scientific Assistant in plant physiology at the Kaiser-Wilhelm (later Max-Planck) Institutes of Biology in Berlin-Dahlem and Tübingen. These years of collaboration with Dr. Georg Melchers provided a firm physiological basis for the flower hormone concept. Much of our understanding of the phenomena of photoperiodism and vernalization derives from that phase of Dr. Lang's career.

Following brief stays at McGill University and Texas A & M, he moved to southern California, where he spent 15 years at UCLA and Caltech. At UCLA, he made the fundamental discovery that gibberellic acid can substitute for the cold and/or long-day requirements for flower formation and stem growth in many rosetted plants. This finding led to extensive studies on the role of endogenous gibberellins as regulators of developmental processes in plants. An important finding in this area, made by his research group at Caltech, was that a group of synthetic growth regulators, the so-called "retardants", specifically inhibit gibberellin biosynthesis and thus block those developmental processes in plants that require the presence of gibberellins. Another important discovery in Dr. Lang's laboratory was that premature senescence of detached leaves can be delayed by treatment with the hormone cytokinin. This stimulated research in many other laboratories and gave rise to the concept that cytokinins are naturally produced in the roots and transported to the shoots where they prevent senescence.

In 1965, he moved to Michigan State University to establish the now world-renowned Plant Research Laboratory. Through Dr. Lang's initiatives, the PRL has grown into a major center for interdisciplinary research on the regulation of plant development, as well as for the training of graduate students and postdoctoral fellows.

Dr. Lang's influence upon the literature of plant physiology has been enormous. His brilliant reviews of developmental physiology, published in Fortschritte der Botanik over the years from 1941 to 1961, contributed heavily to the assimilation of contemporary research findings. Other important contributions appeared in Annual Review of Plant Physiology and various symposium volumes. He made key contributions, as both author and firm editor, to the Handbuch der Pflanzenphysiologie.

He has served on the editorial boards of Plant Physiology, Annual Review of Plant Physiology, and the American Journal of Botany. Most importantly, he has served as co-editor of the journal Planta for the last ten years. During this period, in part through Anton's efforts, this has become an ever more significant international journal of plant physiology.

Besides his editorial efforts, Anton has served the American Society of Plant Physiologists as Vice President (1963), President-Elect (1970), and President (1971). He has participated in and organized numerous scientific meetings, symposia, and congresses, at both the national and international levels. He has lectured on various aspects of his work in many countries around the world. He was President of the Society for Developmental Biology in 1968 and a Vice-President of the XII International Botanical Congress in Leningrad.

In recognition of his many scientific contributions, Dr. Lang was elected to membership in the National Academy of Sciences in 1967, the same year in which he was elected to the Academy of Arts and Sciences. Two years before, he had been elected to the German Academy of Naturalists (Leopoldina).

He has served the National Science Foundation as a member of the Advisory Panel for Developmental Biology, and the National Academy of Sciences as a member of its Plant Sciences Planning Committee and its Committee on Research in the Life Sciences. He has been a member of the Board of Trustees of the Argonne Universities Association since 1965 and of its Committee on Biology since 1966.

His most recent public service has been his chairmanship of the National Academy of Science Committee on the Effects of Herbicides in Vietnam (1971-). This was a dangerous, time-consuming, and controversial assignment; but Anton and his Committee faced the challenge and provided the best available advice to the government.

Lest this encomium appear to describe a highly talented machine or some other form of Unmensch, let us hasten to remember that Anton is nothing if not a true Mensch. The loyalty he inspires in his colleagues was perhaps best illustrated by the display, at a recent meeting of our Society, of many green tee shirts bearing the legend "Lang's Gang". The effect was only heightened when, after a demure two-day delay, the man himself arrived at the meeting sporting another green tee shirt labeled "Gang's Lang".

Chuck Barnes Freeloader Award - 1976

Anton Lang

Anton Lang was born in Petersburg, Russia, at the age of 5. A precocious child, he invented the Dewey Decimal System. For this courageous act, a forerunner of the Bolshevik Revolution, he was deported to Finland and thence to Germany, where, presumably, he developed the Russian accent we all know and love. His subcontrabass voice first appeared at the 1908 Olympic Games.

Unable to obtain a bachelor's degree for reasons best suppressed, he sublimated his academic drives until he was awarded the degree of Dr. rer. nat. by the University of Berlin. (In 1939, this was not yet known as the Free University of Berlin, which provides a hint as to his reasons for not obtaining an undergraduate degree.) For several years thereafter he was Wissenschaftliche Assistent in plant physiology at the Max-Planck Institute (named after the great Albert Einstein), specializing in games of Skat played with George ("Der Hustler") Melchers and a nubile technician. They also did severe bodily injury to a substantial number of plants, resulting in some publications and another deportation, this time to the Western Hemisphere.

Having bounced around from Canada to (god help us) Texas, he gravitated to the nation's sump, Southern California, where he enjoyed life for some more years, killing plants on the side. However, homesickness struck--the sun and surf are not exactly the Petersburgers' cup of tea. Casting about for a suitable Siberia-substitute, he quickly and understandably settled upon East Lansing, home of the troika and of the howling wolves of winter. To each his own.

He has always cut a colorful figure. In the late fifties, he returned to Tübingen, where he scandalized the public by wandering around in a tee shirt. (Grumbled Lang, "Ve Ame(rrrrr)icans d(rrr)esss as ve Gotterdammerung vell please.") No one who has never ridden in a car driven by this year's Barnes Award winner knows the true meaning of the word "terror".

While we must admit that Anton is a pretty good guy, a scientific busybody, and an all-time killer of plants, when you get right down to it what impressed us most is the way he has lived through winters in Petersburg, Finland, and East Lansing without becoming a countertenor.

Congratulations, baby.

11

Halb

RESEARCH SCHOOL OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

Department of Environmental Biology

Telephone: 49-2999

Box 475, P.O.

Canberra City, A.C.T.

27 January, 1976

Dr. Winslow Briggs,
Director, Carnegie Institution,
STANFORD, CALIF. 94305,
U.S.A.

Dear Win,

Many thanks for your letter of some weeks ago. Actually I started the work on the Stephen Hales matter before I left California when I realized that I was to be away and Stumpf was about to leave.

The interesting outcome was that for one brief period all three members of the committee were in Australia and I talked on the phone to Andy in Sydney the day before I arrived in Canberra and met Paul Stumpf. He and I have discussed the matter occasionally and after the usual interchanges of letters with Andy we have agreed on the winner - our old friend Anton Lang.

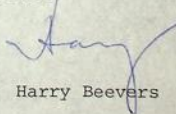
This pleases me especially because we have finally got out of a primarily Californian and primarily biochemical sequence of winners. I am sure that you and the membership will agree on the worthiness of Anton as, indeed, an overdue candidate, and that his work is in the centre of plant physiology.

What remains for me, I believe, is to supply a short statement about Anton which I am now preparing to send for comments to Stumpf and Benson. I hope that by sending this good news now there will be ample time to prepare the document in time for your annual meeting.

I will be in Santa Cruz briefly in March - perhaps I will see you then or at MSU?

Kind regards,

As ever -



Harry Beevers

In naming Dr. Anton Lang as winner of the Stephen Hales Award for 1976 the American Society of Plant Physiologists is honoring a leader who has made outstanding contributions in many branches of plant physiology. First and foremost are his own incisive investigations leading to our present understanding of plant growth and its regulation. His studies of flowering and the physiology of gibberellin action and those of other growth regulators have been continuously in the forefront for many years. He has established very high standards in his own critical writings and in his extensive editorial contributions. In his role as Director of the Michigan State University/ERDA Plant Research Laboratory since its inception he has engendered excellence in science and responsibility in its nurture. His leadership and service both nationally and internationally have been immeasurably valuable to our science.

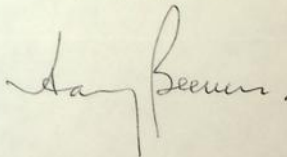
A.A. Benson

P.K. Stumpf

Harry Beevers, Chairman

Stephen Hales Award
Committee

February 10, 1976

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harry Beevers", is written over the typed name. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

Office of the President

November 17, 1975

Professor Harry Beevers
Thimann Labs
University of California
Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Dear Harry:

I am writing to remind you of something you probably forgot, namely that you are the chairman of the Stephen Hales Prize committee of the American Society of Plant Physiologists. Your co-members are Andy Benson, and Paul Stumpf. Since both you and Paul Stumpf are on sabbatical leave, it is none too soon to get to work! 1976 is a Stephen Hales year, and since the annual meeting this year is in late May instead of September, it is even more urgent to get moving. I apologize for intruding on your sabbatical leave this way, and trust that otherwise you are relatively free of such nonsense.

Very best regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:KK

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

April 20, 1976

Office of the President

Dr. Houston Baker
Business Executive
American Society of Plant Physiologists
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, Maryland 20014

Dear Houston:

Enclosed is a xerox of the citation for Anton that Harry Beevers sent me for the Stephen Hales award. Also enclosed is your copy of the report of the Siegelman Committee. I have mailed it off to all of the members of the Committee and asked them for a bit of study beforehand. Since they are all absent minded, I suggest it might be a good thing if you brought along several extra copies to have available at the meeting.

There is somebody at AIBS who asked me to send on the names of any award winners that would be announced at the AIBS meetings. I can't remember the name, but a phone call would probably find out. In any case, could you let them know about the two awards for whom we have an awardee, plus the two corresponding members you mentioned. If you get something from the Kettering Committee, you should send that on to AIBS also. They like to have news releases, and to get these things into Bioscience.

Sincerely yours,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:dcm

cc: Dr. Black
Dr. Key

Encls:

In naming Dr. Anton Lang as winner of the Stephen Hales Award for 1976 the American Society of Plant Physiologists is honoring a leader who has made outstanding contributions in many branches of plant physiology. First and foremost are his own incisive investigations leading to our present understanding of plant growth and its regulation. His studies of flowering and the physiology of gibberellin action and those of other growth regulators have been continuously in the forefront for many years. He has established very high standards in his own critical writings and in his extensive editorial contributions. In his role as Director of the Michigan State University/ERDA Plant Research Laboratory since its inception he has engendered excellence in science and responsibility in its nurture. His leadership and service both nationally and internationally have been immeasurably valuable to our science.

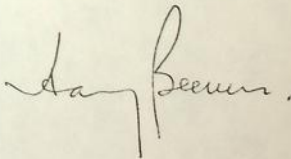
A.A. Benson

P.K. Stumpf

Harry Beevers, Chairman

Stephen Hales Award
Committee

February 10, 1976

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Harry Beevers", with a stylized, flowing script.

March 5, 1976

Professor Anton Lang
MSU/ERDA Plant Research Laboratory
Michigan State University
East Lansing, Michigan 48823

Dear Anton:

As President of The American Society of Plant Physiologists, it is my great pleasure to inform you in confidence, as required by our constitution, that you have been chosen to be the recipient of the Stephen Hales Prize. I am also required to do my best to see that you are present at the annual dinner of the Society in New Orleans on Tuesday, June 1 to receive the award. May I offer you my personal congratulations.

Sincerely yours,

Winalow R. Briggs
President

WRB:aca

cc; Houston Baker
Clanton Black
Joe L. Key

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

Office of the President

November 17, 1975

Professor Govindjee
Department of Botany and Biophysics
University of Illinois,
Urbana, IL 61801

Dear Professor Govindjee:

I am writing to remind you that with the annual meeting late in the spring this year instead of September, it is not too soon to begin consideration of candidates to receive the Kettering Award at the annual meeting. As chairman of the Kettering Award committee, your task is to get an agreement between you, Bessel Kok, and Jack Myers on a suitable nominee. I would very much appreciate being informed of the progress of your deliberations.

We are thoroughly enjoying having Alan Stemler with us. He's already making good progress on his CO₂ binding studies.

With warmest personal regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:kk

Digitized by the Hunt Institute for Botanical Documentation
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOPHYSICS • 524 BURRILL HALL • URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
PHYSIOLOGY: (217) 333-1735 • BIOPHYSICS: (217) 333-1630

November 24, 1975

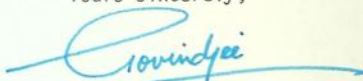
Dr. Winslow R. Briggs, Director
Department of Plant Biology
Carnegie Institution of Washington
Stanford, CA

Dear Winslow:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 17, 1975 regarding the Kettering Award. We will notify you of our selection as soon as we reach a decision. Could you please have the society send me all the information on this award? As I will be leaving on my sabbatical by December 23, 1975, I would like to finalize this soon.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



Govindjee
Professor of Biophysics
and Botany

G: km

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

December 8, 1975

Office of the President

Dr. Houston Baker
Business Executive
American Society of Plant Physiologists
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20014

Dear Houston:

Would you send Govindjee all of the information he needs as chairman of the Kettering Awards Committee? There seems to be nothing about it in the Directory, and I have no information of my own. Could you also send me the information?

I am delighted but not surprized with the way things came out last week. I'll keep you posted as to the status of our report, and shall try to run it through just as fast as possible. At this stage, however, it seems to me to be just pro forma.

Enclosed is the remainder of my expenses for the trip east. I am asking the Society to pay for the little extra amount of travel brought about by the meeting of Society Presidents called by the ALBS.

Best regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:dcn

Encls:

DEPARTMENT OF PHYSIOLOGY AND BIOPHYSICS • 524 BURRILL HALL • URBANA, ILLINOIS 61801
PHYSIOLOGY: (217) 333-1735 • BIOPHYSICS: (217) 333-1630

November 24, 1975

Dr. Winslow R. Briggs, Director
Department of Plant Biology
Carnegie Institution of Washington
Stanford, CA

Dear Winslow:

Thank you very much for your letter of November 17, 1975 regarding the Kettering Award. We will notify you of our selection as soon as we reach a decision. Could you please have the society send me all the information on this award? As I will be leaving on my sabbatical by December 23, 1975, I would like to finalize this soon.

With regards,

Yours sincerely,



Govindjee
Professor of Biophysics
and Botany

G: km

Expenses for W. R. Briggs in connection with attending the Meeting of Society Presidents called by the A. I. B. S., December 2-3, 1975, and visiting the Business Office of the American Society of Plant Physiologists December 4, 1975, for review of the Business Executive.

Travel

Private auto, 2 round trips, Palo Alto - S. F. Airport	
100 miles @ \$.15 per mile	\$ 15.00
Parking, S. F. Airport	1.50
Limosine, Baltimore Airport to Statler Hilton, D. C.	4.00
Taxi, Dec. 3, Statler Hilton to Linden Hill Hotel	9.50

Hotel

Two nights, December 3 and 4	57.35
------------------------------	-------

Meals

Dinner, December 3	18.00
Breakfast, December 4	3.10
Dinner, December 4	6.50
Breakfast, December 5	3.10

Total	\$118.05
-------	----------

Note: Round trip plane fare, San Francisco - Baltimore: \$358.73, bill already submitted to Business Office, ASPP for payment. Ticket remains enclosed to complete record.

Ketterming



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT AUSTIN
AUSTIN, TEXAS 78712

Department of Zoology

May 12, 1976

Dr. Winslow Briggs
President American Society of Plant Physiologists
Carnegie Institution
Stanford, California 94305

Re: Report Kettering Award Committee

Dear Win:

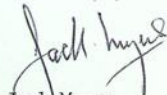
Govindjee, who has been out of the country, has asked me to serve as chairman (protempore) to transmit in behalf of the committee its report which is enclosed.

Although logistics have been difficult, all three members of the committee have been a part of the deliberations and the report is supported unanimously.

We have endeavored to cast the recommendation in the format used in the recent past, although the final format is clearly your decision and prerogative.

Although names of those on the committee are properly a part of the report to you, I question whether they should appear on the final document. After all, the award is made by the Society, really not by the committee. However, this last paragraph represents my own thoughts only and this procedural matter has not been discussed by the Committee.

Sincerely yours,


Jack Myers

mlv
Enclosure

cc: Mr. Houston Baker
ASPP
9650 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD. 20014

Govindjee
524 Burrill Hall
University of Illinois
Urbana, Illinois 61801

B. Kok
Martin Marietta Laboratories
1450 South Rolling Road
Baltimore, MD. 21227

The 1976 Charles F. Kettering Award
of the American Society of Plant Physiologists
is presented to

HORST TOBIAS WITT

. . . for his unique contributions to the development of our present-day understanding of the mechanism of photosynthesis.

Professor Witt's research on photosynthesis extends over the past 20 years. He developed a unique laboratory for the kinetic studies of the electron transport pathways, photophosphorylation and membrane phenomena at the molecular level by the use of the repetitive flashing light technique. In collaboration with his coworkers, he has elucidated the operation of many important components of the electron transport chain such as plastoquinone, plastocyanin and the cytochromes -- and has discovered the absorption changes due to chlorophyll triplets, the reaction center chlorophyll of the oxygen evolving photosystem called P680 (Chl a_P) and the "primary" electron acceptor of this system -- the "X-320" change which is now believed to be a plastosemiquinone anion. His research led to detailed information on the rate constants of the various intermediate reactions in the micro to millisecond range.

The extensive research of Dr. Witt and his coworkers with isolated chloroplasts has provided strong and quantitative evidence for the chemiosmotic concept of photophosphorylation and greatly extended the understanding of its mechanism. A major conceptual contribution was the association of the absorption change at 515 nm with the membrane potential and the quantitation of its relationship to ion exchange and phosphorylation.

Dr. Witt has attracted many young and brilliant scientists to his research group; through the writing of excellent comprehensive reviews, he has contributed extensively to the dispersal of the knowledge of photosynthesis obtained in his laboratory.

August , 1976

(name) , President

Members of the Committee:

Govindjee, Chairman

Jack Myers

Bessel Kok

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY

MSU/ERDA PLANT RESEARCH LABORATORY
TELEPHONE (517) 353-2270

EAST LANSING • MICHIGAN • 48824

June 8, 1976

TO: John Boyer, Barbara Pickard, Bill Purves, John Torrey, Jan Zeevaart,
Harry Beevers, Andy Benson, Paul Stumpf

FROM: Anton Lang

SUBJECT: Charles Reed Barnes Life Membership and Stephen Hales Prize Awards
1976

This is probably the most unimaginative way of expressing my thanks, but if you would rely on my imagination and on individual letters from me you may well remain un-thanked forever.

I must say that your generosity has caused me some moments of considerable confusion and even anguish. Our President, Winslow Briggs, had informed me about the Hales Prize but not the Barnes Award. So when he announced my name for the Barnes award I was pretty sure he had mixed up the awardees and would say, halfway through the presentation, "Oops, sorry, Anton step down again--slight mix-up, not your turn yet." And when nothing like that happened I assumed that earlier information about the Hales Award was an error, but thought, Well, the Barnes Award ain't so bad either, and settled down to enjoy this glory--when Win proceeded to award me the Hales Prize, too, throwing me into total confusion. The Committees should really consider communicating with each other in future. A person adapted to Russian winters, German cuisine, Canadian French, Californian smogs, Southeast-Asian snipers' bullets (well, one sniper bullet) and other major natural disasters can stand such a stress--but can somebody else, e.g. a plain native American?? Besides, even an old friend grumbled afterwards that it's indecent for a body to walk away with all the year's awards.

But be all this as it may, and while especially the Barnes Committee hyperbolized my accomplishments in a pretty outrageous manner, I feel now very, very good, and since this double honor comes from my own immediate professional peers, as well as friends who should know me indeed, I honestly feel it is and will remain the high point of my entire career. If I'd fall back on the customs of my Russian ancestors I'd insist kissing all of you three times (Barbara maybe a couple times more). But so let me just say "Thank you, thank you, thank you all from the bottom of my heart."

June 8, 1976

Page two

P.S. A special thank-you for the Chuck Barnes Freeloader Award. It's an appropriate anticlimax, although you may not realize how close to reality it comes, in some of the points. However, I must enter two demurrers. Firstly, while I cannot deny having caused that bodily injury to many plants I regret that you failed to mention that I've sprinkled even more plants with gibberellic acid, making them bloom prematurely. I'm sure the delights of early sex which they thusly enjoyed make up for any sufferings of their mutilated brothers and sisters.

Secondly, I wouldn't mind being a countertenor, but if you start expecting me to become a coloratura soprano I may draw the line.

kc

cc: Winslow Briggs

✓ Hi - and sorry if I didn't trust
you quite, but it will never
happen again!

Win,

Here is the station
for Anton.

Armen,

hang

August 19, 1976

Dr. Anton Lang
MSU/ERDA Plant Research Lab
Michigan State University
E. Lansing, MI 48824

Dear Anton:

Enclosed at long last is one of the two certificates due you, that for the Stephen Hales award. The engraver has been woefully slow! The other certificate should be on its way to you soon, but requires Clanton Black's signature in addition to mine, and thus will make a detour to Georgia before arriving on your desk.

Warmest regards,

Winslow R. Briggs
President

WRB:kk

Enc.

August 19, 1976

Dr. Horst Tobias Witt
Max Vollmer Institut für Physikalische
Chemie der Technische Universität
1 Berlin 12
West Germany

Dear Dr. Witt:

It gives me great pleasure to forward to you the certificate, written citation, and check for \$1,000, all due to you as winner of the Charles F. Kettering Award for Excellence in Photosynthesis, from the American Society of Plant Physiologists. May I express my personal delight and offer my personal congratulations as well as those of the Society. My only regret is that you could not have been present at our Annual Meeting in New Orleans to receive the award personally

Sincerely yours,

Winslow R. Briggs

WRB:kk

Encs.

cc: Baker, Bäckk, Key

The American Society of



Plant Physiologists

9650 Rockville Pike,

Bethesda, Maryland 20014

U.S.A.

Tel. 301-530-9474

August 17, 1976

Dr. Winslow R. Briggs
Dept. of Plant Biology
Carnegie Institute of Washington
Stanford, California 94305

Dear Winslow:

Enclosed are the certificates that finally arrived from the calligrapher. I notice that you must forward the Barnes Award certificate to Clanton Black for his signature, too. The other two are satisfied with the President's seal alone.

Sign with
BLACK INK

Addresses:

Dr. Anton Lang
MSU/ERDA Plant Research Lab
Michigan State University
E. Lansing, MI 48824

Dr. Horst Tobias Witt
Max Vollmer Institut für Physikalische Chemie
Technische Universität
1 BERLIN 12
W. Germany

The letters you mentioned sending did not arrive in this mornings mail. Perhaps tomorrow.

Sincerely,

Houston

Houston Baker, Ph.D.
Business Executive

HB:par
Encls.