

Collaborative Agreement between the American Phytopathological Society (APS) and the Chinese Society of Plant Pathology (CSPP)



November 2013

This collaborative agreement between the American Phytopathological Society (APS) and the Chinese Society of Plant Pathology (CSPP) is developed to facilitate mutually beneficial interactions through scientific exchanges and increased sharing of science by joint memberships and publications.

This collaborative agreement is effective from November 2013 to November 2017, after which time key success criteria will be evaluated to benchmark activities and assess the level of collaborative interactions. To maintain a greater level of continuity for the partnership, primary coordination of activities between the respective societies will be through the APS-CSPP Working Group who will support and facilitate continued cooperation by identifying potential endeavors with outlined objectives for mutual benefit. The APS-CSPP Working Group, composed of joint members of APS and CSPP, will operate under the International Society Relations Committee (ISRC) of APS. The ISRC will provide an annual report of activities to APS Council and the executive leadership of CSPP. The primary linkage of communication between the respective societies will be the standing president of APS and the standing president of CSPP as rotations in leadership occurs.

The APS and CSPP agree to the following terms:

Cooperative Membership Option:

APS and CSPP will promote a Cooperative Membership Option to their respective members. Under this option, each society will submit a list of new members with full contact information, preferred membership type and journal preferences on a yearly basis. Membership dues will be paid by electronic transfer according to the fee structure outlined below. Individuals must be a member in good standing with their resident society to receive the reduced rate of cooperative membership. The resident society will confirm membership status before forwarding the names of individuals to the respective society. All standing member benefits will apply under the cooperative membership option but there will be no voting privileges under this collaborative agreement.

Membership Fee Structure:

The following membership rates will be provided reciprocally to APS and CSPP members:

- \$20 APS – CSPP Cooperative Regular
- \$15 APS – CSPP Cooperative Post-doc
- \$10 APS – CSPP Cooperative Student

Joint Publications – Subscriptions

APS will provide online journal subscriptions (*Phytopathology*, *Plant Diseases*, *MPMI*) at a special 50% discount off the current rate to cooperative members. Print journal subscriptions will be available at regular member rates to cooperative members. Plant management Network will be available at a regular reduced subscription fee of \$38.

Cooperative Page Fee Incentive Member Program:

This page fee incentive program replaces the previous manuscript page charge waiver program. This new program is intended as an incentive for cooperative members to publish in APS journals. It will provide greater dissemination of important and outstanding research by Chinese plant pathologists and enhance APS's premier plant pathology journals with the addition of Chinese research.

The CSPP will have the opportunity to publish manuscripts in APS journals under the following terms:

- The agreement will be for a four year period for submission of manuscripts, effective from November 2013.
- APS agrees to waive page charges of up to \$500 per submission for up to 15 manuscripts across all three journals (*Plant Disease*, *Phytopathology*, *MPMI*) for a total value of \$7,500 per year or a total value of \$30,000 for the four year agreement.
- Manuscript authors for this program must be APS-CSPP Cooperative Members.
- All CSPP Cooperative Members in good standing are eligible to participate in the Cooperative Page Fee Program. APS will verify that authors are CSPP Cooperative Members.
- Manuscripts submitted will be forwarded to the Editor-in-Chief who will assign the paper to the appropriate Senior Editor according to established procedures.
- The Editor-in-Chief will reserve the right not to send for review any manuscript that is not appropriate for the journal. The author will be informed through Manuscript Central that the manuscript is not being reviewed. The Editor-in-Chief will not be responsible for informing CSPP of the decision to not review a paper.
- Journal staff will insert a statement into the Acknowledgements section in the galley proofs of accepted papers that states: "This manuscript was selected as a feature article through the APS-CSPP Cooperative Agreement.
- Papers will not be dual published in English in APS and CSPP journals.

This page fee incentive program will be reviewed annually to assess its utilization and success.

Adjustments may be necessary depending on usage in one or more of the APS journals in which demand may be greater. An annual review will provide flexibility with adjustments accordingly if submissions are imbalanced.

Joint Symposia and Annual Meeting Sessions:

APS and the CSPP have a long standing relationship of scientific exchanges which have been mutually beneficial to members of both societies. Under this agreement, APS and CSPP will promote and sponsor joint symposia on topics which are broad in focus and mutually appealing to our members. The existing format of joint symposia, as developed by the APS-CSPP Working Group, should serve as a model for future symposia in which sessions alternate between annual meetings of APS and CSPP in the respective host country following the guidelines and requirements for symposia submission. The goal of joint symposia and/or special sessions is to leverage expertise and scientific exchanges which will result in collaborations and sharing of relevant information between the Chinese and American scientific community.

APS and CSPP agree to conduct an inventory of the current U.S. – China partnership and explore the possibility of forming a U.S. – China Cooperative Science Program by engaging the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Chinese National Science Foundation (CNSF). The concept for a U.S.-China Cooperative Science Program should be based on previous successful joint symposia sponsored by the APS-CSPP Working Group.

APS-CSPP Leadership Team Meetings

Under this agreement, the presidential leadership teams of APS and CSPP will convene meetings biannually to assess progress and consider new initiatives. The APS International Society Relations Committee, with guidance from the APS-CSPP Working Group, will organize a face-to-face meeting at the APS annual meeting in each year under this agreement with a video link to connect the presidential teams at mid-year (January). An agenda will be prepared and reviewed beforehand to facilitate the discussions.

The parties agree to implement this cooperative agreement under the terms and conditions expressed above in good faith and understanding.



George Abawi
APS President

Date: November 18, 2013



Zejian Guo
CSPP President

Date: November 19, 2013