

The IOPB held its first meeting of the millennium at Botany 2001 in Albuquerque, New Mexico USA. This was the first convention held jointly with American botanical societies including the Botanical Society of America, American Bryological Society, and American Society of Plant Taxonomists. Tim Lowrey was the local representative for the IOPB and organized all the events for the Organization. The IOPB events included the IOPB Symposium, the IOPB reception, IOPB Business Meeting, and the IOPB Banquet, which was held jointly with the American Society of Plant Taxonomists. The theme of the IOPB Symposium was: The Origin and Biology of Desert Flora. Five speakers participated in the symposium including Bonnie Crozier, University of Texas, Austin - Historical relationships in the American desert plant family Cactaceae; Louise Lewis, University of Connecticut, Storrs - Green algae of desert microbiotic crusts: Survey of North American taxa; Vic Landrum, Washburn University - Four families and 40 million years of evolution and adaptation to xeric environments; Esteban Muldavin, University of New Mexico - Some floristic characteristics of the northern Chihuahuan Desert: a search for its northern boundary; and G. Anthony Verboom, University of Cape Town - Phylogenetics of the Cape grass genus *Ehrharta* (Ehrharteae): evidence for diversification in a summer-arid system. The proceedings of the Symposium were published in TAXON 51: 441-473.