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CYANONEWS

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CYANONEWS is intended to provide cyanobacteriologists with a forum for rapid, informal communication, unavailable through journals. It relies entirely on news provided by its readers. Please send news, requests, publications, reports, etc. to the address listed on the last page. DEADLINE for the next issue is MARCH 1, 1987.

The name of the CORRESPONDENT for each item in this newsletter is capitalized, so you know who to write to for reprints or whatever. The CORRESPONDENT'S ADDRESS appears at the END OF THE NEWSLETTER. Copies of the 1986 Directory of Cyanobacteriologists are still available for those in need.

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There will be a WORKSHOP titled "OXYGENIC AND UNOXYGENIC ELECTRON TRANSPORT SYSTEMS IN CYANOBACTERIA (BLUE-GREEN ALGAE)", sponsored by EMBO. The most likely time for the workshop is Sept. 20-25, 1987 and the most likely place Chios, Greece. The workshop is being organized by P. Böger (Konstanz), F. Joset (Marseille), L. Packer (Berkeley), and G. PAPAGEORGIOU (Athens).

A symposium entitled "MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF PHOTOSYNTHETIC PROCARYOTES" has been set for June 8-10, 1987 at the University of Wisconsin, Madison. The program has not been finalized, but the organizing committee is split 69%:31% purples:blue-greens (Mary Lynn Collins, Stephanie Curtis, Timothy Donohue, Robert Haselkorn, Paul Ludden, Barry Marrs, Ed Stevens, and Judy Wall). There will be presentations by a limited number of invited speakers as well as several open poster sessions. Costs will be approximately $50-$75 housing + about $60 registration fee. If interested in receiving further information, contact: Photosynthetic Procaryote Symposium, Department of Biochemistry, University of Wisconsin at Madison, 420 Henry Mall, Madison, WI 53706 U.S.A. Indicate also if you are interested in making an oral or poster presentation, and its title.

Commendations are due to LOU SHERMAN and Himadri Pakrasi who have put together a WORKSHOP ON THE MOLECULAR BIOLOGY OF CYANOBACTERIA to be held in St. Louis, July 17-19, 1987. This is the second annual workshop and hopes to recapture the spirit of the first annual workshop (in Chicago, 1984) by providing an opportunity for graduate students and post-docs, as well as laboratory heads, to speak on their work. Housing can be coordinated, if desired, with the meeting of the American Society of Plant Physiologists (see below). Housing costs will range from $20 per night (triple occupancy) to $55 per night, plus a registration fee of about $20. It is not clear if there will be any money available for travel. There will probably be some money for foreign travel at least. If you wish to attend and have not yet indicated your interest, contact LOU SHERMAN. Suggestions for the meeting are welcome.

The AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PLANT PHYSIOLOGISTS will hold its annual meeting in St. Louis immediately after the Molecular Biology Workshop, July 19-23. As part of the ASPP meeting, Peter Wolk has organized a symposium entitled, "Genetic and Molecular Genetic Studies on Cyanobacteria". Speakers are: Don Bryant (cyanobacterial photosynthetic apparatus), John Williams (site-directed mutants in the D2 polypeptide of PSII), Stephanie Curtis (ATP synthase genes), Jim Golden (rearrangement of nif genes), and Peter Wolk (genetic studies of N-fixers). Other symposia at the meeting include: Signals and Mechanisms in Plant-Microbe interactions, Climate and Vegetation Responses to Rising Atmospheric CO_2, and The Shikimate Pathway in Plants: Compartmentation, Regulation, and Genetic Manipulation. Costs haven't been fixed yet, but will probably be close to $90 registration fee for members (anyone can join for $35 or

$15 for students). Deadline for abstracts: February 2, 1987. Contact: ASPP, 15501-A Monona Drive, Rockville, MD 20855, U.S.A.

BORIS GROMOV announces the publication of a book edited by himself entitled "Functional Ultrastructure of Cyanobacteria". The book is in Russian and is intended mainly for teaching.

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SEQUENCE OF CYTOCHROME c550 FROM MICROCYSTIS

DAVID KROGMANN and coworkers have completed the amino acid sequence of the low potential cytochrome c550 from M. aeruginosa and it is unlike any of the hundreds of "c" type cytochromes described to date. The accumulation of sequences of cytochrome c553 from different genera of cyanobacteria indicates a radical evolutionary change in the isoelectric point of this protein. A bloom of M. aeruginosa on the Potomac River provided a huge quantity of pure cells for protein isolation and prompted a look at the history of bloom occurrences in this river. Blooms have occurred in years of drought during July and August. In 1986, there was a severe drought in the Spring through July and the water was rich with M. aeruginosa but the first signs of a surface scum accumulation in early August were dispersed by rain and occasional rains thereafter may have suppressed bloom formation.

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