The Gordon Research Conference on PLANT MOLECULAR BIOLOGY was held at Holderness School, Holderness New Hampshire, July 15 - 20, 2012. The Conference was well-attended with 167 participants (attendees list attached). The attendees represented the spectrum of endeavor in this field coming from academia, industry, and government laboratories, both U.S. and foreign scientists, senior researchers, young investigators, and students. Of the 167 attendees, 81 voluntarily responded to a general inquiry regarding ethnicity which appears on our registration forms. Of the 81 respondents, 30% were Minorities – 1% Hispanic, 25% Asian and 4% African American. Approximately 37% of the participants at the 2012 meeting were women.

In designing the formal speakers program, emphasis was placed on current unpublished research and discussion of the future target areas in this field. There was a conscious effort to stimulate lively discussion about the key issues in the field today. Time for formal presentations was limited in the interest of group discussions. In order that more scientists could communicate their most recent results, poster presentation time was scheduled. Attached is a copy of the formal schedule and speaker program and the poster program. In addition to these formal interactions, "free time" was scheduled to allow informal discussions. Such discussions are fostering new collaborations and joint efforts in the field.

Thank you for your support of this Conference. As you know, in the interest of promoting the presentation of unpublished and frontier-breaking research, Gordon Research Conferences does not permit publication of meeting proceedings. If you wish any further details, please feel free to contact me. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Michael Sussman Conference Chairperson
UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-MADISON
The 2012 Gordon Conference on Plant Molecular Biology will present cutting-edge research on molecular aspects of plant growth and development, with particular emphasis on recent discoveries in molecular mechanisms involved with plant signaling systems. The Conference will feature a wide range of topics in plant molecular biology including hormone receptors and early events in hormone signaling, plant perception of and response to plant pathogen and symbionts, as well as technological and biological aspects of epigenomics particularly as it relates to signaling systems that regulate plant growth and development. Genomic approaches to plant signaling will be emphasized, including genomic profiling technologies for quantifying various biological subsystems, such as the epigenome, transcriptome, phosphorylome, and metabolome. The meeting will include an important session devoted to answering the question, “What are the biological and technological limits of plant breeding/genetics, and how can they be solved”? Invited speakers represent a variety of scientific disciplines, including biochemistry, molecular genetics, structural biology, cell biology and imaging. The Conference will bring together a collection of investigators who are at the forefront of their field, and will provide opportunities for junior scientists and graduate students to present their work in poster format and exchange ideas with leaders in the field. Some poster presenters will be selected for short talks. The collegial atmosphere of this Conference located in the pristine forests and cool springs of the White Mountains of New Hampshire, with programmed discussion sessions as well as opportunities for informal gatherings in the afternoons and evenings, provides an ideal avenue for scientists from different disciplines to brainstorm and develop novel cross-disciplinary collaborations.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Arrival and Check-in (Office Closed 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00 pm</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 pm - 7:45 pm</td>
<td>Welcome / Introductory Comments by GRC Site Staff and Chair Michael Sussman</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:45 pm - 9:30 pm</td>
<td>The Forefront of Plant Genomics</td>
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<td>7:45 pm - 8:25 pm</td>
<td>Joe Ecker (Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, USA)</td>
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<td></td>
<td>&quot;The Arabidopsis interactome&quot;</td>
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<td>8:25 pm - 8:35 pm</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:35 pm - 9:00 pm</td>
<td>Steve Briggs (UC-San Diego, CA, USA)</td>
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<td>&quot;Does proteotype determine phenotype?&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 pm - 9:10 pm</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:10 pm - 9:18 pm</td>
<td>Alexander Jones (Carnegie Institution/Stanford, USA)</td>
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<td>&quot;The Arabidopsis Membrane-Based Interactome Reveals Novel Network Patterns And Signaling Motifs&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:18 pm - 9:20 pm</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:20 pm - 9:28 pm</td>
<td>Sixue Chen (University of Florida, USA)</td>
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<td>&quot;Quantitative proteomics of guard cell hormone signal transduction&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:28 pm - 9:30 pm</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 pm</td>
<td>Reception and Social</td>
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**MONDAY**

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>7:30 am - 8:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Group Photo</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:00 am - 12:30 pm</td>
<td>Epigenomics and the RNA World</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Discussion Leader: Craig Pikaard (Indiana University, Bloomington, IN,</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
9:00 am - 9:25 am  Rob Martienssen (Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory, NY, USA)
"Reprogramming the epigenome with small RNA"

9:25 am - 9:35 am  Discussion

9:35 am - 10:00 am  Craig Pikaard (Indiana University, Bloomington, IN, USA)
"Multisubunit RNA polymerases IV and V and noncoding RNA-mediated silencing"

10:00 am - 10:05 am  Discussion

10:05 am  Coffee Break

10:40 am - 11:05 am  Vincent Colot (IBENS, Paris, France)
"Epigenetic Variation: An Epigenomics and Quantitative Genetics Perspective"

11:05 am - 11:15 am  Discussion

11:15 am - 11:23 am  Barbara Baker (UC-Berkeley)
"miRNA regulation of plant innate immune receptors"

11:23 am - 11:25 am  Discussion

11:25 am - 11:33 am  Chris Rock (Texas Tech Univ.)
"Genetic interactions between rna interference and abscisic acid response pathways"

11:33 am - 11:35 am  Discussion

11:35 am - 11:43 am  Elinor Thompson (University of Greenwich, UK)
"An Arabidopsis rhomboid protease has roles in the chloroplast and in flower development"

11:43 am - 11:45 am  Discussion

11:45 am - 11:53 am  Sally Walford (CSIRO, Australia)
"Using genomics to characterise genes controlling cotton fibre initiation pathways"

11:53 am - 11:55 am  Discussion

11:55 am - 12:03 pm  Martin Calvino (Rutgers University, USA)
"Comparative genomics of microRNA 169 gene copies across the grass family has practical implications for breeding sorghum with enhanced biofuel traits"

12:03 pm - 12:05 pm  Discussion

12:30 pm  Lunch

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm  Free Time

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm  Poster Session

6:00 pm  Dinner

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm  Systems Biology: The Proteome, Metabolome and Ionome of Plants
Discussion Leader: Mary Lou Guerinot (Dartmouth College, Hanover, USA)
7:30 pm - 7:55 pm  Mary Lou Guerinot (Dartmouth College, Hanover, NH, USA)  
"Ins, Outs, Ups and Downs of Ion Homeostasis"

7:55 pm - 8:05 pm  Discussion

8:05 pm - 8:30 pm  Katja Baerenfaller (ETH, Zurich, Switzerland)  
"Molecular profiling of Arabidopsis leaf growth"

8:30 pm - 8:40 pm  Discussion

8:40 pm - 9:05 pm  Lloyd Sumner (Noble Foundation, Ardmore, OK, USA)  
"Integrated Metabolomics and Triterpene Saponin Biosynthesis in Medicago truncatula"

9:05 pm - 9:10 pm  Discussion

9:10 pm - 9:18 pm  Ling Li (Iowa State Univ., USA)  
"Uncovering novel signaling interactions in the regulation of plant metabolic networks"

9:18 pm - 9:20 pm  Discussion

9:20 pm - 9:28 pm  Frank Menke (Utrecht University, Netherlands)  
"A Network Biology Approach of Immune Signaling through Phospho-Proteomics"

9:28 pm - 9:30 pm  Discussion

9:30 pm  Social

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**TUESDAY**

7:30 am - 8:30 am  Breakfast

9:00 am - 12:30 pm  **Hormone Receptors I**  
Discussion Leader: Mark Estelle (UC-San Diego, CA, USA)

9:00 am - 9:25 am  Sheng-Yang He (Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI, USA)  
"Cross-talk between jasmonate and gibberellin signaling"

9:25 am - 9:35 am  Discussion

9:35 am - 10:00 am  Mark Estelle (UC-San Diego, CA, USA)  
"The auxin co-receptor system in Arabidopsis"

10:00 am - 10:10 am  Discussion

10:10 am  Coffee Break

10:40 am - 11:05 am  Alain Goossens (VIB-Ghent University, Belgium)  
"The role of ubiquitin ligases in the control of the jasmonate response"

11:05 am - 11:15 am  Discussion

11:15 am - 11:40 am  Tai Ping Sun (Duke University, Durham, NC, USA)  
"GA-GID1-DELLA: A pivotal regulatory module for plant growth and development"

11:40 am - 11:50 am  Discussion

11:50 am - 11:58 am  William Gray (Univ. of Minnesota, USA)
"SAUR19 family proteins promote cell expansion"

11:58 am - 12:00 pm Discussion

12:00 pm - 12:08 pm **Michael Muszynski** (Iowa State Univ., USA)
"Inappropriate cytokinin signaling alters proximal-distal leaf patterning in maize"

12:08 pm - 12:10 pm Discussion

12:10 pm - 12:18 pm **Hilde Nelissen** (VIB/Univ. of Ghent, Belgium)
"The maize leaf: an ideal tool to study cell division and cell expansion, the processes driving growth"

12:18 pm - 12:20 pm Discussion

12:30 pm Lunch

1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Free Time

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Poster Session

6:00 pm Dinner

7:30 pm - 9:30 pm **Hormone Receptors II**
Discussion Leader: **Sean Cutler** (UC-Riverside, CA, USA)

7:30 pm - 7:55 pm **Zhenbiao Yang** (UC-Riverside, CA, USA)
"A new auxin signaling mechanism based on the old ABP1"

7:55 pm - 8:05 pm Discussion

8:05 pm - 8:30 pm **Shuqun Zhang** (University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, USA)
"Dual-level regulation of stress ethylene induction by MPK3/MPK6 cascade in *Arabidopsis*"

8:30 pm - 8:40 pm Discussion

8:40 pm - 9:05 pm **Sean Cutler** (UC-Riverside, CA, USA)
"Chemical and Genetic Dissection of Abscisic Acid Signaling"

9:05 pm - 9:10 pm Discussion

9:10 pm - 9:18 pm **Eric Nam** (Univ. of Toronto, Canada)
"Functional analyses of ABA signaling genes"

9:18 pm - 9:20 pm Discussion

9:20 pm - 9:28 pm **Alison DeLong** (Brown Univ., USA)
"PP2A regulation of ethylene biosynthesis"

9:28 pm - 9:30 pm Discussion

9:30 pm Social

**WEDNESDAY**

7:30 am - 8:30 am Breakfast

9:00 am - 12:30 pm **Receptor Kinases and the Phosphorylome**
Discussion Leader: **Jo Chory** (Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, USA)

9:00 am - 9:25 am **Jo Chory** (Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, USA)
"Mechanisms of seedling growth"
9:25 am - 9:35 am  Discussion
9:35 am - 10:00 am  **Antje Heese** (University of Missouri, Columbia, MO, USA)
"Role of ligand-induced endocytosis of the flagellin receptor FLS2 in innate immune signaling"
10:00 am - 10:10 am  Discussion
10:10 am  Coffee Break
10:40 am - 11:05 am  **Jen Sheen** (Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA, USA)
"Probing PK Signaling Networks with Chemical Switches"
11:05 am - 11:15 am  Discussion
11:15 am - 11:40 am  **Remko Offringa** (Leiden University, Netherlands)
"Phosphorylation-mediated switch in auxin transport polarity as an integrator of abiotic signals"
11:40 am - 11:50 am  Discussion
11:50 am - 11:58 am  **Jeff Harper** (Univ. of Nevada, USA)
"A cyclic nucleotide-gated channel (CNGC16) is critical for stress tolerance in pollen reproductive development"
11:58 am - 12:00 pm  Discussion
12:00 pm - 12:08 pm  **Alex Levine** (Hebrew Univ. of Jerusalem, Israel)
"Phosphoinositide Signaling Pathways Regulate Abiotic Stress Signaling"
12:08 pm - 12:10 pm  Discussion
12:10 pm - 12:18 pm  **Astrid Kristensen** (Univ. of Copenhagen, Denmark)
"PSY: A family of plant peptides initiating cell growth"
12:18 pm - 12:20 pm  Discussion
12:30 pm  Lunch
1:30 pm - 4:00 pm  Free Time
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm  Poster Session
6:00 pm  Dinner
7:00 pm - 7:30 pm  **Business Meeting**
  *Nominations for the next Vice Chair; Fill out Conference Evaluation Forms; Discuss future Site & Scheduling preferences; Election of the next Vice Chair*
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm  **Pathogen Signaling**
  Discussion Leader: **Steve Briggs** (UC-San Diego, CA, USA)
7:30 pm - 7:55 pm  **Xinnian Dong** (Duke University, Durham, NC, USA)
"Dynamic regulation of plant immune response"
7:55 pm - 8:05 pm  Discussion
8:05 pm - 8:30 pm  **Alisa Huffaker** (USDA-ARS, Gainesville, FL, USA)
"Plant Elicitor Peptides: endogenous signals regulating pathogen defense"
8:30 pm - 8:40 pm  Discussion
8:40 pm - 8:48 pm  Nicole Clay (Yale Univ., USA)
"Identification of glycosyltransferases involved in pathogen recognition in Arabidopsis innate immunity"
8:48 pm - 8:50 pm  Discussion
8:50 pm - 8:58 pm  Joanna Jelenska (Univ. of Chicago, USA)
"Defense signaling and energy metabolism are targets of Pseudomonas syringae virulence effector HopI1"
8:58 pm - 9:00 pm  Discussion
9:00 pm - 9:08 pm  Alberto Macho (Sainsbury Laboratory, UK)
"The novel short LRR-RK SEL is a positive regulator of PAMP-triggered immunity"
9:08 pm - 9:10 pm  Discussion
9:10 pm - 9:18 pm  Ursula Pfitzner (Univ. of Hohenheim, Germany)
"The signaling of the plant hormone salicylic acid through the NIMIN/NPR1 connection"
9:18 pm - 9:20 pm  Discussion
9:20 pm - 9:28 pm  Shaul Yalovsky (Tel Aviv University, Israel)
"A ROP-calcium signaling module associates with microtubules in regulation of auxin distribution"
9:28 pm - 9:30 pm  Discussion
9:30 pm  Social

THURSDAY

7:30 am - 8:30 am  Breakfast
9:00 am - 12:30 pm  Discoveries in New Signaling Systems
Discussion Leader: Joe Ecker (Salk Institute, La Jolla, CA, USA)
9:00 am - 9:25 am  Giles Oldroyd (John Innes Center, Norwich, UK)
"The symbiotic signaling pathway in legumes and non-legumes"
9:25 am - 9:35 am  Discussion
9:35 am - 10:00 am  Jean-Michel Ane (University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI, USA)
"Medicagomics: an Integrated Proteomic, Phosphoproteomic, Transcriptomic, and Genetic Analysis of Symbiotic Signaling"
10:00 am - 10:10 am  Discussion
10:10 am  Coffee Break
10:40 am - 11:05 am  Alan M. Jones (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC, USA)
"Sugar perception and signaling via an unusual RGS protein"
11:05 am - 11:15 am  Discussion
11:15 am - 11:23 am  Tie Liu (Carnegie Institution/Stanford, USA)
"The Transcriptional Network Analysis of Adaxial-abaxial Polarity in Arabidopsis Leaf Development"
11:23 am - 11:25 am Discussion
11:25 am - 11:33 am Pauline Rival (CNRS, France)  
"Roles of the Medicago truncatula DMI3 gene in coordinating epidermal and cortical responses during endosymbiosis with Sinorhizobium meliloti"
11:33 am - 11:35 am Discussion
11:35 am - 11:43 am Titima Tantikanjana (Cornell Univ., USA)  
"Auxin Response Factor 3 (ARF3) functions non-cell-autonomously to regulate self-incompatibility in the Brassicaceae"
11:43 am - 11:45 am Discussion
11:45 am - 11:53 am Hao Yu (National University of Singapore, Singapore)  
"A regulator required for florigen transport"
11:53 am - 11:55 am Discussion
11:55 am - 12:03 pm Dong Wang (Stanford Univ., USA)  
"Legume DNF2 is Required for the Intracellular Symbiosis with Nitrogen-fixing Rhizobia"
12:03 pm - 12:05 pm Discussion
12:30 pm Lunch
1:30 pm - 4:00 pm Free Time
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm Poster Session
6:00 pm Dinner
7:30 pm - 9:30 pm What are the Limits of Plant Genetics/Plant Breeding?  
Discussion Leader: Simon Chan (UC-Davis, CA, USA)
7:30 pm - 7:55 pm Rob Dirks (Rijk Zwaan, Netherlands)  
"Plant Breeding Reversed: The making and use of chromosome substitution lines"
7:55 pm - 8:05 pm Discussion
8:05 pm - 8:30 pm Simon Chan (UC-Davis, CA, USA)  
"Chromosome engineering: power tools for plant genetics"
8:30 pm - 8:40 pm Discussion
8:40 pm - 9:05 pm Dan Voytas (University of Minnesota, Saint Paul, MN, USA)  
"Precise engineering of plant genomes with sequence-specific nucleases"
9:05 pm - 9:10 pm Discussion
9:10 pm - 9:18 pm Magdy Mahfouz (KAUST, Saudi Arabia)  
"Cracking the Code of the DNA Binding Specificity of Ralstonia TAL-like Effectors"
9:18 pm - 9:20 pm Discussion
9:20 pm - 9:28 pm Kamil Witek (Sainsbury, UK)  
"R gene enrichment sequencing (RenSeq) - a quick method to detect polymorphisms co-segregating with functional resistance gene alleles in Solanum species"
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:28 pm - 9:30 pm</td>
<td>Discussion</td>
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<tr>
<td>9:30 pm</td>
<td>Social</td>
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**FRIDAY**

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<td>7:30 am - 8:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
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<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Departure</td>
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<td>Name</td>
<td>Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABE, YUKI</td>
<td>FUKUI PREFECTURAL UNIVERSITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABRAHAM JUAREZ, MARIA JAZMIN</td>
<td>CINVESTAV IRAPUATO</td>
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<td>DARTMOUTH COLLEGE</td>
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<td>Centre for Organismal Studies (COS)</td>
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