

American Phytopathological Society

Northeastern Division

To all Northeastern Division members and Friends of Steve Johnston:

At the recent NED-APS Annual Meeting in New Hampshire, it was decided at the business meeting that the Division should take steps to establish a student travel award in honor of Steve Johnston. Steve, who died in an accident while helping a neighbor cut a tree, was not only a great plant pathologist, a key person in the Division, and an important participant in the national APS, he was a great friend to many of us in APS. The plan is to solicit donations from you and others during the next several months in hopes of garnering a substantial amount toward the following goals. If we secure \$4000, the APS Foundation will administer the fund and select a deserving recipient every other year. If we secure \$8000, a travel award can be given every year. The advantage of having the APS Foundation handle the funds is that they will advertise the award to all members of APS, thus continually reminding everyone of the substantial contributions that Steve made to the discipline. Although the Foundation will not guarantee that the award will always be given to a student in the Northeastern Division, we will request that special consideration be given to Division students among all the deserving students who apply for travel awards.

If we do not reach the \$4000 goal or if we obtain that amount and substantially more towards the \$8000 goal, the NED Executive Committee will propose that some percentage of proceeds from the annual meetings be donated to the award fund each year until we reach these goals. That proposal and the amount of money donated as of that date will be made known to you in the mailings for the next Annual Division Meeting, and a vote will be taken at that meeting on this proposal. However, I am confident that we will be able to obtain \$4000 over the next several months and am very hopeful that the full \$8000 can be secured.

I invite you to contribute to the Steven A. Johnston Travel Award Fund. Make checks payable to the APS Foundation. Please send your donation to:

Marlene Karasik
Department of Plant Biology and Pathology
Foran Hall, Cook College
Rutgers University
59 Dudley Road
New Brunswick, NJ 08901-8520

Thank you very much for your support in this effort to remember a great friend and colleague.

Sincerely,

Gary W. Moorman, President
Northeastern Division – APS