## **First Circular**



## Northeast Algal Society 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Symposium

The 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Northeast Algal Society Symposium will convene April 17-19th, 2015 at the Genesee Grande Hotel in Syracuse, NY. Your co-conveners Hilary McManus, Gregory Boyer and Molly Letsch are planning an exciting meeting and look forward to welcoming you to our Syracuse symposium.

As always, the NEAS symposium will include a wide range of oral and poster presentations on many phycological topics. The relaxed atmosphere will provide an informal environment for students and professionals to meet with colleagues, exchange ideas and make new friends. Awards will be presented for undergraduate and graduate posters and oral presentations. NEAS members take great pride in their commitment to student advancement, and extend an especially warm welcome for all students to join us in Syracuse.

This year's theme is **Algae in the Extremes**. Our keynote speakers will present variations on this theme: Lynn Rothschild (NASA-Ames), Louise Lewis (University of Connecticut), Ron Hoham (Colgate University), and Craig Aumack (Columbia University).

We will also have a local focus on the unique ecosystem and restoration of Onondaga Lake, which was once said to be the most polluted lake in the world and is now a model system for restoration efforts. We plan to provide a variety of activities and resources towards these themes.

**Venue Information**: The Genesee Grande Hotel (<a href="www.geneseegrande.com">www.geneseegrande.com</a>) offers a relaxed setting for our meeting, with hotel rooms, conference facilities, and dining in one building. There is free parking on site and a variety of rooms available. Their sister hotel Park View (0.3 miles away) has additional rooms available and student rates. Downtown Syracuse is an easy walk from the Hotel and with additional restaurant areas an easy drive or shuttle ride away. Local museums (<a href="www.most.org">www.most.org</a>), the zoo (<a href="www.rosamondgiffordzoo.org">www.rosamondgiffordzoo.org</a>) and numerous parks (<a href="www.onondagacountyparks.com">www.onondagacountyparks.com</a>) offer ample recreational opportunities for accompanying family members.

**Annual NEAS Auction**: We encourage you to bring items to donate for the Society auctions (live and silent). These may include books, important reprints, phyco-art and other things phycological, as well as non-phycological items of value that will help raise funds for the students in our Society. Now is the time to start thinking about such items.

**Student Book Awards:** Students and post-docs will be able to compete for awards of a professional book pertinent to their program of phycological study. See the attached application form to apply. Application due date March 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Student Travel Awards:** The NEAS Student Development fund will be offering competitive student travel awards of up to \$100 to attend the annual meeting. A maximum of 25 awards will be made to student applicants to off set travel and registration costs for this years meeting. Details on applications will be included in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular.

**Call for nominations:** The following NEAS Officer positions will become vacant in 2015 and need to be filled by election during the NEAS meeting, April 17<sup>th</sup> -19<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

- · Vice President/President-Elect: 2015-2016 (vice president) and 2016-2018 (president)
- Member At Large: 2015-2018

**2<sup>nd</sup> Circular**: The 2<sup>nd</sup> Circular will be sent in early February and will include a call for abstracts, registration forms, and details on the student travel awards. Early questions about meeting details should be addressed to Hilary McManus (<a href="mailto:mcmanuha@lemoyne.edu">mcmanuha@lemoyne.edu</a>).