



Institut für Botanik
und Botanischer Garten
der Universität Wien

Wien, den 4 December 1998
Rennweg 14
A-1030 Wien

Prof. Dr. Werner Greuter
Director
Botanischer Garten und Botanisches Museum Berlin-Dahlem
Freie Universität
Königin-Luise-Str. 6-8
D-14191, Berlin
Germany

Dear Werner:

This letter is to express my willingness to stand for election for the Secretary-General position of the IAPT in the next election this coming spring. This would be quite an honor, and it represents a chance to contribute in a major fashion to the development of systematic botany on the international scene.

During my recent visit to Berlin, I believe I now understand realistically the numerous duties required by the main office of the IAPT, including publishing of *TAXON* and *REGNUM VEGETABILE*, helping facilitate botanical nomenclatural activities for the IUBS, dealing with members in Europe and North America, etc. It is considerable work, but it is also important work that needs to be completed on behalf of systematic botanists world-wide.

Because of my present administrative and academic responsibilities, it would not be possible for me to assume the Secretary-General position of IAPT without help here in Vienna. In learning about details of the duties, it seems clear to me that two persons would be needed, and this is, in fact, the model already in place in Berlin. First, a half-time secretary for the organization would be required (presently occupied by Mrs. Siegler). The secretary keeps the financial records of the Association, deals with memberships, fills back orders, etc. This is an essential position, as you well know. Second, a full-time Co-Editor would be required (a Ph.D in systematic botany level, presently filled by Dr. B. Zimmer). Because *TAXON* is managed through camera-ready copy, the amount of editorial time is substantial, and hence a full-time person is needed (or perhaps through two half-time persons). In my judgement, full-time would be essential for at least the first two years, after which time as the system gets smoother, it might be possible to step back to half-time. In the first years it will also be worthwhile to explore possibilities of cheaper publishing in countries neighboring Austria, for example in Bratislava only one hour's drive from Vienna, for additional savings on printing costs. These explorations will also take additional time, plus learning about the page-maker software and all other operations of the two journals. This person should also help with

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fund-raising initiatives of the LAPT to some degree, in collaboration with the Secretary-General.

Professor Hesse, Director of our Institute of Botany, speaks in his letter to the resources available for our possible acceptance of the LAPT main office activities here in Vienna.

Once again, I am pleased and honored to have been considered for the position of Secretary-General of the LAPT, and if placed on the ballot and elected, I would do my best to help maintain and strengthen its already outstanding international reputation.

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Tod', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tod F. Stuessy
Professor and Head
Department of Higher Plant Systematics and Evolution
Director, Botanical Garden