

AIS_Foundation_Report_Fall_2006

The Foundation has been going through a slow period with donations not only down but almost nonexistent since our last report.

We did receive a proposal for funding from Dr. Noland Martin. He is currently a postdoctoral researcher in Mike Arnold's laboratory (of Louisiana Iris "fame"), and has recently gotten a faculty position at Texas State University. He has set up research plots studying hybridization and speciation in Louisiana Iris, with almost 2,000 individual plants placed out into bayou habitats. This proposal is currently being reviewed, but it would be a good use of funds to help a young researcher working on irises get his program started.

The only other item, but an important one, is the recent bequest to the Foundation from the Sid DuBose Trust for an endowment for the support of the AIS Library. Presently, there may be another claim to part of the estate. The amount finally available will depend on the outcome of this claim and the value of the land included in the estate, but it is likely to be quite substantial. and it will provide a major boost to library funding. Bob Plank has agreed to act as our liaison in this matter and he can update the AIS Board as to the progress in settling the estate. Hopefully, this will not drag on interminably as the Helen McCaughey trust did several years ago. When all is settled, the Foundation will work closely with the AIS to set up a program to support the library and try to eliminate duplication of efforts by the AIS and Foundation.

Respectfully submitted,

Roger P. Mazur
Sec. / Treas. AIS Foundation