

Report of the AIS Scientific Committee  
Submitted by: Bob Hollingworth, Chair

The committee consists of:

Bob Hollingworth, Chair  
Kelly Norris  
Bob Pries  
James Waddick  
Carol Wilson

During the last year we have reviewed several grant applications on behalf of the AIS Foundation including proposals to help fund an initial expedition to Northeast India in search of a new crested iris species reported there, and a follow up visit to collect further material with plans for more efficient shipment back to the US. A brief report of the initial expedition appeared in the Winter 2015 AIS Bulletin and a more extensive review of this enterprise is scheduled to be published in a future issue. We are currently reviewing a proposal from Carol Wilson (UC Berkeley) to further develop the taxonomy of the subgenera *Xiphium* and *Hermodactyloides* using advanced sequencing methods. Since she is a Scientific Committee member, she has recused herself from the review. A proposal from the American Hosta Society to co-fund a study on the control of leaf nematodes was not supported since this is not a problem for irises. Overall the Committee is operating effectively and providing useful input on scientific issues.