### **Invitation to the International Congress** of Plant Pathology 2018



APS hosts ICPP 2018 in Boston for a unique opportunity to engage

Next summer Boston will become the epicenter of plant pathology science, research and knowledge during what is sure to be a historic convening of International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP). Do not miss the rare opportunity to conduct invaluable face-to-face dialogues with leading experts from around the world. Consume a wealth of science and research from international delegates. Network with the diverse community of plant pathology scientists.

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APS has the honor and privilege of hosting the 11th International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP2018) from July 29 to August 3, 2018 in the great city of Boston! As the host society, APS will not hold its usual APS annual meeting in 2018, but will host ICPP2018 on behalf of the International Society of Plant Pathology (ISPP), its members, and plant health delegates from public and private sectors of countries from around the world.

### "Celebrate the great progress in our profession, and look to what the future holds for assuring plant health that is earth's wealth" -Rick Bennett, President, ICPP2018

The theme of the 2018 International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP2018) is: Plant Health in a Global Economy. The vision, "An engaged world community of plant health scientists advancing knowledge for a safe, affordable, secure supply of food, feed and fiber for a growing population" reflects the broad and unique position plant pathology holds within the international community of scientists.

Although there will be no APS annual meeting in 2018, the ICPP2018 will adhere to the highest level of meeting planning, organization and scientific quality in content and scope for which APS is known throughout the world. In order to provide a comprehensive scientific program reflective of the diversity of interests from an international audience perspective within the limits of a robust week-long meeting, many APS committees, boards and offices will not host meetings during the Congress. Instead, the ICPP2018 Scientific Program Committee is asking that these meetings be held prior to the Congress, through conference calls or other vehicles of communication.

### "Please join us, it is sure to be a great celebration and just maybe, it will also be a turning point in your career!" -Greg Johnson, President, ISPP

Please be assured, that ICPP2018 will offer the latest advances, innovations, and discoveries as we explore new ways to connect with the worldwide community of plant health specialists. Our scientific program will include concurrent sessions, workshops, poster sessions, short talks, and other educational opportunities. There will also be opportunities to learn, share, and network to renew old friendships, establish new relationships and gather in a variety of social events. Our plenary and keynote sessions will offer a dynamic look into the future of plant pathology from leading experts from around the world. The ICPP2018 will bring together delegates from all parts of the world and will reflect the great diversity within the global plant pathology community.

I thank our ICPP2018 Organizing Committee and volunteers who have already selflessly committed their support and enthusiasm throughout the planning process of this Congress. Concurrent Session submissions have already closed, and the Scientific Program Committee, chaired by Scott Adkins with support from Amy Charkowski and the APS Annual Meeting Board (AMB), are currently determining Concurrent Session assignments. Plenary and keynote sessions are being planned by APS President-Elect, Mary Palm and APS Vice President Kira Bowen, ICPP2018 vice presidents, Lodovica Gullino, Serge Savary, You Liang Peng and Barbara Valent are promoting the Congress and supporting the efforts of the International Advisory Committee chaired by Sophien Kamoun. To ensure that the ICPP2018 truly reflects the diversity of plant pathology issues impacting the world, the ICPP Bursary and Finance Committee, chaired by Mike Boehm and Steve Slack, with support from several APS volunteers, are currently raising money for a Bursary Fund to help subsidize costs of attendance of plant health scientists and students from less developed nations who have limited resources from within their home country and institution. If you would like to contribute to this travel fund, please contact APS Foundation which is working closely with the Bursary and Finance Committee.

It is exciting that the ICPP2018, during the 50th anniversary of ISPP, will be held in Boston, a city strongly influenced by the massive immigration of Irish and Europeans fleeing the late blight potato famine and the "Great Famine" of the 19th Century. This famine, although not the first nor the last caused by plant pathogens, marked the beginning of plant pathology as a recognized scientific discipline and the rise to prominence of the U.S. Land Grant University System as a world leader in agricultural research.

On behalf of ISPP President Greg Johnson, Organizing Chair Tom Evans, and the entire ICPP2018 Organizing Committee, I am pleased to invite you to Boston, Massachusetts for the 2018 International Congress of Plant Pathology. Please join us in the beautiful city of Boston, July 29 – August 3, 2018. We look forward to seeing you in 2018!

More information about the program and venue can be found on the ICPP 2018 website: icpp2018.org.

Rick Bennet, ICPP2018 President

### Save the Date

2018 is already going down in history.

will convene in North America! Will YOU be in attendance?

## BOSTON JULY 29 -**AUGUST 3**

The International Congress of Plant Pathology (ICPP) is hosted by The American Phytopathological Society (APS) on behalf of the International Society for Plant Pathology (ISPP)



# For the first time in over 25 years, ICPP **ISPP will celebrate its 50th anniversary!**

Help to make history. Join us in Boston for ICPP2018.

Learn more at icpp2018.org

> Apply for an **ICPP2018 Bursary Assistance Award** todav!

> **Deadline to apply** August 31, 2017