

AERGC Membership

Who is AERGC?

Formed in 1985, the membership consists primarily of college and university plant growth facility staff. Interested individuals from other types of institutions, e.g. botanical gardens, research and development firms, and industry representatives, are welcome as members. There are members outside of North America which lend a global perspective to the organization. Annual dues are required to gain membership and insure good standing.

AERGC is an all volunteer operated organization. Members are encouraged to actively participate on one of the committees. Modest member dues defray costs associated with the quarterly newsletter and the web site. The Annual Meeting costs are covered by reasonable registration fees and through the generous support of corporate sponsorship.



Why Join AERGC?

Anyone responsible for plant production at an institute realizes the unique circumstances posed by the demands of growing a wide variety of plant materials on a small scale. Even those working in research appreciate the complexities of non-commercial production. The AERGC as an organization brings together institutional greenhouse professionals to share knowledge and resources as well as network. Our communication enables both new and veteran members the opportunity to better serve their institute and to grow professionally within their positions.

Name:

Title:

Department:

Institution:

Address:

City:

State/Prov:

Zip+4:

Country:

Phone:

FAX:

email:

URL:

Membership Options

\$20 US per year within US and Canada

\$29 US per year outside North America

Please make checks payable to:

University of Illinois/AERGC

Mail to:

AERGC

c/o Plant Care Facility
Office of Research
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign
1222 Plant Sciences Laboratory
1201 South Dornier Drive
Urbana, IL 61801
Phone: (217)333-3058
Fax: (217) 244-8299



An Invitation to Join



Promoting the exchange of ideas and information through organized channels, AERGC - The Association of Education and Research Greenhouse Curators is a network of institutional greenhouse and controlled environment facility professionals responsible for growing plant materials for education, research and/or public outreach.

www.life.uiuc.edu/aergc/

Sharing Information



AERGC members from the US and Canada conduct a panel discussion on greenhouse start-up issues.

Sharing Resources



Members exchange plants and seeds during the Plant Swap at the Annual Meeting.

Networking



Following tradition, AERGC members gather for a group photo during the Annual Meeting.

Curators at educational and research institutes need specialized information rarely available from publications or short courses geared towards the commercial plant grower.

The AERGC provides a free email forum open to members and non-members for quick and easy information sharing. The archives contain a wealth of knowledge accumulated over years of open discussion.

Each year the Annual Meeting is hosted by a member institution in the United States or Canada, giving members the opportunity to connect on a more personal level.

A quarterly newsletter delivers detailed articles on a variety of specialized topics geared towards the institutional grower.

"You were all so friendly, that I couldn't believe you were all strangers just three days before, at the banquet. I felt so alone walking into that room, and within minutes you made me feel like I belonged..."

The AERGC web site is an indispensable resource offering access to current and archived newsletters, job postings, and links to institutions and companies related to the greenhouse industry.

Via the forum, members seek and offer seeds and plants for research and collection diversity. Additionally a plant swap is held during the Annual Meeting allowing members to share cultivation techniques and applications for teaching along with a unique variety of specimens.

Relationships cultivated through the forum and Annual Meetings grow into vital connections placing you in the company of institutional greenhouse professionals across North America. Having connections to this wealth of experience and knowledge will prove an invaluable resource.

"As possibly the newest member at the meeting (about a month) I must say the conference was a great way to start...the after-hours conversations about specific problems we all face were invaluable. Your generosity and patience were most welcomed by this newbie..."

Greenhouse curators at institutions are typically working alone so a natural peer group rarely exists, leading to a feeling of isolation. When you join the AERGC, you are never alone. The tone of our email forum is factual, fun and friendly. Our annual meeting is small enough to get to know almost everyone over the three days of seminars and tours.

Partnering with us in the AERGC are industry representatives of horticultural product companies. They join in order to get to know our unique needs better and share their expertise, knowing that sales will flow naturally from these relationships without the need for a strong sales approach.

"The meeting...was excellent in every sense of the word. Excellent talks, tours, hospitality and informal sessions that allowed members to get to know each other better..."