Dr. Edward Schneider - President, Executive Director
Botanical Research Institute of Texas (BRIT)

Ph.D. Botany, University of California, Santa Barbara, CA
M.S. Plant Ecology, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA
B.S. Biology, Central Washington University, Ellensburg, WA

Dr. Schneider brings more than 30 years of botanical executive administration experience to BRIT and will lead the organization into the next phase of its mission of conservation and education. His long-term goals for his work include expanding the high quality, plant-focused educational outreach to the surrounding communities, building stronger, rigorous, science-based research programs, and establishing new and effective partnerships within the educational, research, and business communities.

A recipient of both distinguished teaching and research awards, Dr. Schneider has published five books, one an introductory botany textbook at the collegiate level and four related to CEO & trustee governance. He is also the author of over 120 scientific, peer-reviewed papers. He has been a member of several organizations, including President of the Botanical Society of America (BSA) and President of The Texas Academy of Sciences, and on the board for the Center for Plant Conservation (CPC), American Public Garden Association (APGA), American Association of Museums (AAM), and the International Water Lily Society (IWLS).

His honors include Fellow of the Texas Academy of Science; Hall of Fame in the International Waterlily Society; Distinguished Alumnus, Central Washington University; Botanical Society of America Award of Merit, and Centennial Award; the Centennial Medallion for excellence and distinction from Texas State University; American Association of Museums Excellence in Service Award; and Outstanding Faculty Member, University of California, Santa Barbara. He was recently honored by the Botanical Society of American with a colloquium, a tribute to his three-decades-plus of scientific research in water lily (Nymphaeales) structure and function.