

International Branch Meeting minutes, November 18, 2014 at Entomology 2014 Portland, Oregon

International Branch 2014 President Aziz Ajlan brought the meeting to order at 12:22 p.m.

Livy Williams, IB Representative to the ESA Governing Board delivered the Governing Board report, as well as passed around an attendance and volunteer sheet.

Based on a show of hands from meeting attendees, about half of those present attended the Opening Plenary session. Livy presented a slide show of the Plenary session and ESA highlights. He shared that there is high participation at ESA meetings – approximately half of ESA membership attends the ESA Annual Meeting. He also shared that there has been an increase in the number of ESA student and STEP members, currently representing over 400 universities and colleges. The International Branch membership is climbing – currently at approximately 900 members.



Livy also announced that ESA has negotiated and signed an agreement with Oxford University Press which will make ESA journals more available to scientists all over world, and that ESA now publishes the *Journal of Insect Science* (JIS). He also shared important news that page charges for ESA subscription journals for ESA members will be removed in 2015. He noted that participation by international authors is high in JIS – over 90%.

Livy reminded the group of ESA's three strategic principles:

1. Social
2. Global
3. Influence

And he outlined how ESA is meeting each of these which include the following:

There is a more diverse leadership in the Society today, and this year is the first year for childcare grant. ICE 2016 efforts are well underway and ESA staff and volunteers are busy promoting and exploring international partnerships to support this important event. ESA's Grand Challenge agenda will also allow for partnering with other international entomological societies.

The *Journal of Insect Science*, originally developed by Dr. Henry Hagedorn in the late 1990s, is an open access journal now published by ESA. ESA's Governing Board has just set up a Henry Hagedorn Memorial Fund to provide English editing grants to assist international authors in publishing in JIS. More information to come on this.

Following Livy's report, Aziz presented the 2015 IB Governing Board members. He then discussed the 2014 business meeting held in the UK in conjunction with the Royal Entomological Society's ECE 2014 meeting, and indicated that a presentation was given by Frank and David promoting ICE 2016.



Aziz reviewed the history of IB meetings next. In 2013, the IB business meeting was held in Pucon, Chile with the Biological Control Society. In 2012, the IB business meeting was held Daegu, South Korea during the ICE 2012 event. In 2015, the IB business meeting will be held in South Africa as a joint meeting with the Zoological Society of South Africa and Entomological Society of South Africa (July 12-15, 2015).

In 2016, the IB business meeting will be held during ICE 2016 in Orlando Florida.

Aziz then went on to suggest future venues for the IB business meetings:

2017, in Malaysia at the 5th International Malaysian Entomological meeting.

2018, in Brazil with the 26th Brazilian Congress of Entomology (September 2018)

2019, perhaps holding the IB business meeting in Europe, and

2020, perhaps holding the IB business meeting in Africa.

He suggested that it is a good idea to have the business meeting held with local entomological groups.

An animated discussion took place amongst the business meeting attendees for hosting a meeting in the Middle East. As incoming IB president, Meron Zalucki suggested that 2020 is a long way away and the IB could put up a few proposals, as there are some great places in the Middle East.

ESA 2014 President Frank Zalom shared that other ESA branches tend to work two to three years out.

Aziz then asked Frank to give out awards. Frank presented the IB awards to:

Distinguished Science Award: Dr. Mustapha El Bouhssini, International Center for Agricultural Research in the Dry Areas (ICARDA), Morocco



J. H. Comstock Award: Ms. Rebecca Dew, Flinders University, Australia



Graduate Student Award: Mr. Ishan Samaranayake, University of Manitoba, Canada. Dr. Barbara Sharanowski accepted the award on behalf of Mr. Samaranayake.



Frank also presented an award to Aziz Ajlan as 2014 IB Branch President since his term has ended.



The award for Tong-Xian “T.-X” Liu as 2013 IB Branch President, will be shipped to him since he was not present at the meeting.

After the awards presentation, there was some discussion about the scope of the two symposia proposed by the IB for the South Africa meeting in 2015, and Meron indicated that he will contact the South African organising committee to see if they can be amended at this stage.

Aziz thanked participants and adjourned the meeting at 1:03 p.m.