

**Minutes from ESA Plant-Insect Ecosystems Governing Board Meeting
Conference Call
January 9, 2017**

Present:

Melissa Willrich Siebert, President
Mark Wright, Vice President
Diane Alston, Vice President Elect
Fred Musser, Past President
Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris, Secretary
Patrick Moran, Treasurer
Sujaya Rao, Governing Board Representative
Carlos Esquivel, Student Representative
Chris Stelzig, ESA

1. Update on Pollinator Initiative (Sujaya)

- Video contest is up, no submissions or questions so far (not unexpected)
- Please include video contest in P-IE updates at branch meeting updates in spring
- Phase II: Sujaya will let new chair take lead
- Judy Wu Smart is existing member of the committee, sent statement of interest to become new committee chair. Melissa proposed promotion of Judy to chair position. GC agreed. Melissa will contact Judy to let her know she will become chair, Sujaya will update committee.
- Graduate student position open until Jan 31st. One application/statement of interest and one additional inquiry have been received so far.

2. Governing Board Update (Sujaya)

- No meeting since open business meetings during ICE.
- David Gammel to go on short sabbatical. Other staff to fulfill duties during absence. Chris and Debi primary contacts during David's absence.
- P-IE annual report was received by GB.

3. Branch meetings (Melissa)

- 5-7 minutes for P-IE updates on opening agenda request by Melissa
- Will include video contest promotion, plus other items
- Person to run each presentation for branches:
PB=Diane
NC=Carlos
E=Rebecca
SE=Fred
SW=Bonnie Pendleton (since no current members of P-IE GC in this branch)

4. Budget update (Patrick)

- Same amount as last meeting (\$23,811), allocation has not been received yet
- Chris: this is normal, still processing last year's information

5. Committee Vacancies (Melissa and Chris)

- Positions are being steadily filled:
Nominations Committee, SEB Rep – David Buntin
ECP Research Award – Chris Werle
Hort Judging Panel – Anne Nielson
- Melissa noted that having the announcement in the newsletter seemed to be very helpful to get positions filled quickly
- There are a few additional spots that need filling that we were unaware of at the first call, these are currently being filled. Silvia Rondon is soliciting volunteers.
Insect Physiology, Biochemistry, and Toxicology award judge
ECP Teaching Award Judging Panel
Fellows Judging Panel
- All remaining vacancies will be advertised in next newsletter
- Mark Wright to be chair of nominations committee for GC positions (as VP)
Need: new VP-elect, treasurer
- Editorial journal openings coming up, will need to formulate a list for the summer ballot
- Education and Outreach committee needs a P-IE rep (this is new, since David Held was elected committee chair, his vacancy needs filled)

6. Grand Challenges Symposium (Melissa)

- MUVE and P-IE agreed that business meeting time could not be lost
- No additional updates

7. Session Theme and Speakers for 2017 (Melissa)

- No action yet, but be thinking about this

8. 2017 awards deadlines (Melissa)

- Proposed deadlines:
P-IE Undergraduate Student Achievement in Entomology Award, 1 May
P-IE Masters Student Achievement in Entomology Award, 1 Aug
Starks Plant Resistance to Insects Graduate Student Research Award, 1 Aug
IPM Team Award, 1 Jul
Lifetime Achievement Award, 1 Jul
- Taken from 2015 deadlines (as 2016 was not a typical year)
- Fine tuning guidelines, need to confirm award nominees are P-IE members (all GC members should check the guidelines online)
- Chris: Cindy is making all ESA award deadlines on the same date (June 1st? Not sure) for standardization – does P-IE want to do this as well?
- Staggering makes things easier for awards committee and letter writers
- Melissa will check with Cindy to see what plans are for deadline creation
- Undergraduate award only had one applicant – need more advertising
- Awards will be advertised in Branch meeting update
But then may need to move undergraduate award deadline later, since this would not give enough time for some branches with later meetings

- All student awards should be advertised to CEDA

9. Field tour activity (Melissa)

- Discussion regarding Field Tour Activity and some final hurdles that are impeding the officially launch to membership
 - Hurdles include how to properly seek external resources that can be used to either get the individual registration fee lower or to enable scholarships for ESA PIE or external stakeholders.
 - Another hurdle is to have clarity among P-IE Section members as to whether this is perceived as an exciting event that they would be interested in attending. The assumption thus far of the Governing Council and brainstorming team is that, “yes” they would see this event as providing value.
 - Action – send update to P-IE Section membership describing the proposed activity and gain quick feedback to gauge whether to “officially launch”.
- Letters have been drafted that would be used to invite ESA stakeholders and stakeholders external to ESA. Governing Council has reviewed with comments.
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- Brainstorming team has proposed a more specific agenda that is specified in the letter
- Invited stakeholder list proposed – feedback sought by Pollinator Committee (Sujaya)
- Wufoo will be used to execute payments