

NCB-ESA Opening Session and Preliminary Business Meeting

Marriott Inn Downtown – Des Moines, IA

Monday March 10, 2014

8:00 to 9:15 a.m. – Cedar Rapids Room

I. Opening Session

A. Welcome / call to order – NCB-ESA President Sue Blodgett

1. President Blodgett call the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m., and opened by welcoming the audience.
2. A special welcome was extended to ESA President Frank Zalom and Executive Director David Gammel.

B. Reports to Membership

1. ESA – President Frank Zalom
 - a. ESA 2014 theme: This year’s annual meeting theme is “Grand Challenges Beyond our Horizons”.
 - i. A key goal is to engage our membership (including student members), as well as other societies on major issues that affect society and our planet.
 - ii. This corresponds with ESA agenda from previous years that involved directed efforts to influence society and improve the human condition.
 - b. Global Grand Challenges agenda
 - i. Key objectives are to determine what entomologists can do to address these challenges, and to plan how we can engage other societies and agencies do so in a multidisciplinary manner.
 - ii. A website (www.entomologychallenges.org) has been developed to promote this activity and gather suggestions for global issues to address.
 - iii. A presidential committee on grand challenges has been formed to review suggested agenda items, and to determine how we will address them.
 - iv. There will be special events, such as symposia, regarding the Grand Challenges agenda during the 2014 ESA annual meeting in Portland.
 - v. Grayson Brown will serve as sort of an ambassador to lead efforts in engaging societies from other countries to develop global agenda on this topic. One of his activities will be to assemble leaders of those groups during the ICE meeting in 2016.
 - c. Science Policy
 - i. ESA is now regularly publishing the Science Policy Newsletter, which provides information on ESA’s science policy agenda activities.
 - ii. The Governing Board (GB) has established a Science Policy Capability Committee, which is comprised of members from each ESA section. They are charged with gathering, vetting, and assisting with moving our science policy initiatives forward. That committee will also develop policy statements based

on suggested items, and forward them to the GB for formal approval and adoption.

iii. The EPA liaison program will be continued, and the liaison's role may be expanded to include interactions with other agencies (federal and state).

iv. Science Policy Fellows program

- A presidential committee has been formed to develop expectations for fellows and criteria for selecting them, as well as select the first five participants.

- The goal is to provide early-career scientists with education and experience on how to interact with and convey information about entomology to policymakers.

- Fellows will be provided information via webinars and periodic conference calls, as well as activities planned for the annual ESA meeting.

- Fellows will participate in several sessions to educate policymakers on Capitol Hill about entomology.

- They will also assist with development of briefing papers that will align with our Grand Challenges agenda.

d. 2014 ESA Annual Meeting (Portland, OR)

i. The Program Co-chairs are Sue Blodgett and Melody Keena.

ii. Deadlines: paper/poster submissions are due May 30, and early-bird registration opens in mid-June.

iii. There are a lot of recreational opportunities in the area, as well as several microbreweries. The largest bookstore in the world is located in Portland.

iv. Portland has an excellent light rail system for getting around the city, and it can be taken directly from the airport to the hotel/convention center area.

Entomology 2014 attendees will be provided a complimentary light rail pass with their registration packet.

v. There will likely be a workshop on viticulture.

vi. The program will also include two- and four-hour symposia, and some symposia will include both oral and poster presentations.

vii. The Founders' Memorial Lecture will be presented by Fred Gould, who will honor Robert Rabb.

viii. The "Each One, Reach One" membership campaign will continue in 2014.

ix. Many volunteers are needed to make the meeting a success. Members interested in volunteering for the meeting or other ESA activities can register online in ESA's Volunteer Database.

2. ESA Central – Executive Director David Gammel

a. Financial Status

i. ESA had a great year in 2013. We have strong financial reserves.

ii. Membership is at a 13-year high, and is approaching 7,000. We may surpass that number in the next year or so.

b. Annual Meeting

- i. The 2013 annual meeting was the highest-attended meeting in ESA's history, with nearly 3,500 attendees.
 - ii. The submission rate for the 2014 meeting in Portland (based on symposium submissions) is currently progressing at a higher rate than that observed at this time for the Austin meeting, suggesting the likelihood of having another excellent, well-attended meeting.
- c. Science Policy
- i. We will be developing a briefing that will be delivered on Capitol Hill to educate U.S. policymakers and their staff on invasive species issues relating to arthropods. Mike Roth (University of MD) will speak on the importance of invasive species, Bob Nowierski (USDA-NIFA) will discuss current research at the federal level, and Floyd Shockley (Smithsonian Institution) will bring a few drawers containing examples of important invasive arthropod pests.
 - ii. Science Fellows Program
ESA members are encouraged to think about early-career entomologists that would be good candidates for this program. It will likely be very competitive, but it should be an excellent experience for the successful candidates.
 - iii. ESA recently launched a new blog called "Entomology Today". It focuses on current topics involving arthropods, with the aim being to share news in relation to insects, including research and entomological information of broad interest. Richard Levine is editing and producing it, and he is always open to ideas for topics to cover. Posts from ESA members are also encouraged.
- d. Professional Development
- i. ESA has been hosting a webinar series for students and young professionals on topics such as interviewing skills, how to review a scientific paper, how to develop an effective presentation, etc. Some webinars have been attended by over 500 people.
 - ii. ESA continues to maintain the Career Center webpage where employment opportunities relating to entomology are posted. It is probably the best site on the internet that provides such information, and its value is evidenced by relatively high viewing traffic.
 - iii. We also continue to offer certification opportunities in the Associate Certified Entomologist (ACE) and Board-Certified Entomologist (BCE) categories. The BCE category is for individuals that have a degree in entomology. Employers view these certifications as valuable to the credibility of their companies.
 - The ACE category is being run in cooperation with the National Pest Management Association. Continuing education will now be required to maintain ACE status.
 - The program will also be broadened to beyond the U.S., and there appears to be a lot of interest in this.
 - There have been concerns about ACEs calling themselves "entomologists", despite not having a degree in entomology. The ethics statement has been

revised to reflect that ACEs must refer to themselves as “associate certified entomologists” unless they possess a degree in entomology.

e. Future Annual Meetings

i. The 2015 ESA meeting will be held in Minneapolis and co-located with the Alliance of Crop, Soil, and Environmental Science Societies (ACSESS, the former “Tri-Societies” group).

- One registration will allow attendees to participate in all sessions, irrespective of whether it is affiliated with ESA or ACSESS.

ii. The 2016 meeting will be held within the International Congress of Entomology (ICE) meeting in Orlando.

- All ESA business meetings and special functions will still take place as usual.
- All submitted scientific presentations will be part of the ICE program.

- The ICE website has been launched. Symposium submissions opened in March, and will remain so for one year. This should allow international travelers ample time to work on visas, acquire invitation letters, and make travel and lodging arrangements.

- The ICE meeting is expected to be the largest meeting in the history of entomology, with a high likelihood of having over 6,000 attendees. This is not an unreasonable projection, as we have been regularly surpassing 3,000 attendees at recent ESA annual meetings.

- There will be a plenary speech each morning of the ICE meeting, and the call for suggestions on topics will remain open through September of 2014.

- ICE registration will open September 1, and paper/poster submissions will open on November 3.

iii. The 2017 ESA annual meeting will be held in Denver.

- This may need to be taken into account by NCB leaders, since Colorado has been considered as a host state for a Branch meeting in the near future.

f. Publishing Partner

i. The ESA Governing Board approved the exploration of pursuing the use of a publishing partner that would take over publishing our journals.

- We are in final contract negotiations with the company that offered the best package to meet our needs.

- A formal announcement will be made to ESA’s membership as soon as the contract is executed.

- The Governing Board has been closely involved throughout this process.

ii. The publishing partner will handle online hosting of all ESA journals, help with subscription sales, production activities, the online peer review system, etc.

- We will still own the journals, have editorial control, decide on who editors-in-chief are, etc. Thus, it is a true partnership.

- Open Access opportunities are also being examined with the publishing partner.

- They have projected that we will nearly triple the reach of our journals in the subsequent five to six years.

3. ESA Governing Board – GB Representative John Obrycki
 - a. ESA is in excellent financial standing.
 - b. The potential publishing partnership will provide us with a tremendous opportunity to enhance our Society.
 - c. Philosophical questions regarding this opportunity: How should we view the role of our journals? Do we wish to support our journals, or do we want the journals to support our organization? We will be discussing this during this year's GB meetings. Member opinions and suggestions are welcomed and encouraged.

II. Preliminary NCB Business Meeting:

A. Approval of 2013 Final Business Meeting minutes.

1. President Blodgett noted that Secretary-Treasurer Boetel had posted the 2013 Final Business Meeting minutes on the ESA website for review and had notified the membership of their posting.
2. No additions or corrections were offered. MOTION (Brewer), SECONDED (D. Jorgenson) to accept the minutes as posted. There was no further discussion, and the motion passed by unanimous consent.

B. Recognition of 2014 NCB-ESA leaders:

1. Elections Update – President Blodgett announced that Luis Cañas will be NCB-ESA President-elect for 2014/2015.
2. Other elected officers include the following:
 - a. Gary Brewer (NCB-ESA Governing Board representative (replaces John Obrycki when his term ends at the closing ceremony of the ESA annual meeting in November).
 - b. Jen White (replaces Erin Hodgson as At-large Executive Committee Member).
 - c. Jeff Bradshaw (replaces Mark Boetel as next Secretary-Treasurer, effective at the close of the NCB-ESA Final Business Meeting).
 - d. President Blodgett reported that about 20% of our Branch membership participated in voting. She thanked those that voted and extended special thanks to all candidates for their willingness to run and to serve our Branch.
3. Recognition of NCB Committee Chairs and Co-chairs
 - a. President Blodgett acknowledged the hard work of Erin Hodgson (Local Arrangements Chair) and Matt O'Neal (Program Chair), and their respective committee members for developing what is lining up to be an excellent meeting.
 - b. The following committee chairs were also thanked for their service to the Branch:
 - i. Debbie Finke (Student Awards)
 - ii. Kelley Tilmon (Professional Awards)
 - iii. Kelly Tindal (Honorary Awards)
 - iv. Von Kaster (Audit)
 - v. Kacie Athey (Student Affairs)
 - vi. Ian MacRae (Nominating)
 - vii. Dan Young and Wyatt Hoback (Linnaean Games)
 - viii. Tom Myers and Gary Hein (Photo Salon)

C. 2015 NCB Meeting Update: President-elect Paula Davis

1. The meeting will be held in Manhattan, KS in early June.
2. David Margolies has agreed to serve as Local Arrangements Chair, and Amit Sethi will serve as Program Chair.

D. NCB Reports:

1. Local Arrangements – Erin Hodgson
 - a. Everything appears to be going fine thus far.
 - b. The committee worked hard to plan what is hoped to be a very enjoyable and scientifically enriching meeting.
 - c. If there are any problems or other concerns, members are urged to contact Erin.
2. Treasurer’s report – Mark Boetel
 - a. Mark reminded the group that, based on a consensus recommendation from the NCB Audit Committee, the NCB Executive Committee voted a few years ago to have the Treasurer prepare financial reports and audit reports on a *calendar-year* basis (the former reporting cycle revolved around the Branch meeting).
 - b. The Branch is in excellent financial standing. This is mainly due to last year’s meeting budget, which ended up with a few dollars (\$35.62) in net revenue. Another factor was that the Brokerage account, comprised of 6 mutual funds, remained fairly stable.
 - c. **Visual aid #1** (slide of *Statement of Financial Position*):
 - i. The Brokerage account actually lost \$798.12, which is a very small (< 1%) deviation. However, the account is recovering and performing quite strongly in the first quarter of 2014.
 - ii. Our overall assets have the appearance of having lost an additional \$2,500; however, that involved a check written in 2012 to one of the Linnaean Teams. For various internal reasons in their department, the check was not cashed until early 2013. Thus, that item has to be included in our changes in assets for 2013, despite originally being part of the 2012 budget.
 - d. **Visual aid #2** (Projected Budget for Des Moines Meeting):
 - i. This projection was made on June 7, two days before the meeting began. It is a conservative projection, especially given that onsite registration is now expected to surpass the initial projection.
 - ii. Projected income is \$60,169, and expenses are expected to be \$60,943, which suggests an anticipated meeting deficit of only about \$775.
 - iii. Onsite registration (currently at 345) will likely increase beyond the original projection. Therefore, after all income is received and all bills are paid for this meeting, a surplus budget and an increase in the Branch’s financial reserves is likely.
 - iv. This is a very healthy projected meeting budget, especially considering the spending initiatives (e.g., student travel scholarships, increases in student competition prizes, increased Linnaean Team travel stipends, and increased prizes for the Comstock and Graduate Student Scholarship award prizes) that were developed by the Executive Committee during the past four years.

- v. Mark thanked President Blodgett for her leadership, as well as Erin Hodgson and Matt O'Neal and their respective committees for judiciously using Branch funds to plan the 2014 Branch meeting.

E. New Business: President Blodgett

1. Necrology report (recognition of deceased NCB-ESA members):
 - a. Jack Campbell, Professor, University of Nebraska, Livestock Entomology
 - b. Dean McBride, Professor, North Dakota State University, Extension Entomology
 - c. Henry Hagedorn, Adjunct Professor at the University of Wisconsin, and founder of the Journal of Insect Science
 - d. Que Lan, Professor, University of Wisconsin, molecular biology and toxicology
 - e. Jim Shaddy, Professor Emeritus, Truman State University; also co-founder of the Linnaean Games
 - f. Others? None were given.
2. Special thanks and acknowledgments:
 - a. Corporate sponsors – generous donations from several sponsors have helped to support many of the functions for our meeting. These donations that occur annually are probably a large part of why our Branch is in such good financial standing. They also assist with funding a lot of our student-oriented activities. A complete list of sponsors is presented in the meeting program booklet.
 - b. Dupont/Pioneer – Thanks are extended for their efforts in sponsoring and organizing a tour of their facilities (occurring Tuesday) are greatly appreciated.

F. Adjournment:

President Blodgett asked if there were any additional New Business items. None were introduced. MOTION (Jorgenson), SECONDED (Bradshaw) to adjourn. No further discussion occurred. The motion passed by unanimous consent, and the meeting was adjourned at 8:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Mark Boetel
NCB-ESA Secretary-Treasurer