

Annual CEDA Meeting
Paradise Ballroom C
Atlantis Casino Spa
Reno, Nevada
3:00-6:00 PM
November 15, 2008

1. Welcome and Introductions (Fisher)

Attendees: Ascerno, Berenbaum, Bolton, Brewer, Capinera, Cardé, Culin, Edelson, Feldman, Fisher (Chair), Goodman, Hamilton, Harper, Heinz, Holtzer, D. Johnson, M. Johnson, Kimsey, Meyer, Mulder, Noblet, Obrycki, Phillips, Ramaswamy, Rao, Schowalter (Chair-elect), Scott, Soderlund, Tallamy, Thompson, Weller, Wiedenmann, Yaninek, Zack

2. Treasurer's report (Harper): The report was distributed. CEDA pays \$600 for membership in CAST and \$500 for membership in Co-Farm. Departments are asked to contribute \$50 each toward these memberships. Beginning balance December 2007 was \$2,421.80 and ending balance as of Nov 2008, after CAST and Co-Farm dues paid, will be \$2756.80. A plaque was presented to Harper recognizing his upcoming retirement and expressing appreciation for his service to CEDA. Ascerno announced that he also will be retiring in July.

3. CAST report (Wiedenmann): An information brochure and 2007 report were distributed. Other reports and commentaries are available on-line. The regular Friday reports are available again and will be forwarded to the CEDA membership.

4. Election of Chair-Elect for 2009: Schowalter nominated Berenbaum; Cardé seconded. Berenbaum elected unanimously.

5. CSREES reports (M. Johnson, Meyer, Bolton): Reports of various programs were distributed. IR-4 research contributes \$7 B to the U.S. GNP and accounts for 50% of registrations by EPA. Nevertheless, one lab is being closed. CSREES is being replaced by the Institute for Food and Agriculture (IFA) as a result of the Farm Bill. Programs will remain the same, but will have new titles and logos. NRI will be replaced by the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI) but grants programs will remain the same, with the same proposal deadlines. The RFA will be delayed due to these changes. The proposal kit will be available with the RFA, but proposals should be prepared before the RFA is released. Submission should be planned well ahead of due dates to avoid problems with last-minute on-line submission.

6. CEDA-sponsored ESA symposium for 2009: CEDA represents an integrated perspective of entomology that can be conveyed to the membership through CEDA-sponsored symposia. We have supported this now for several years. This year's CEDA-sponsored symposium is "Metamorphosis of Entomology into a Cornerstone Discipline in Environmental and Social Issues". Think about ideas for CEDA-sponsored

symposium that will fit with next year's ESA meeting theme.

7. Major Issues Facing Departments of Entomology

Declining Graduate Enrollments: relatively little discussion of these topics.

Is training for different career paths adequate?

The postdoc vs. graduate student dilemma –some programs offer incentives to recruit students instead of postdocs.

Pandering for rankings – need to make clear that NRC rankings are based on statistics, not importance, of an area. We need to promote the importance of continued entomological training to meet societal and environmental needs for pest management, food safety, biodiversity conservation, and environmental quality.

Hire graduate students as full time technicians to avoid tuition costs?

Reduced tuition post candidacy? – salary and tuition are driving student decisions to graduate or stay in programs

The Entomology Curriculum

Is it flexible enough? – most discussion addressed need for core courses. Departments vary in their requirements. Continued offering of Morphology is an issue for many. One option is to combine morphological aspects in systematics/taxonomy courses and functional aspects in physiology courses. There may be value in the variation in core requirements. Students can select programs with core requirements if they need introductory courses and select programs without core if they already have the background. Offering core courses but not requiring them provides maximum flexibility. Low enrollment in many courses is an issue. Some universities require that courses be offered regularly to stay in the catalog. One solution is to initiate or participate in high-enrollment courses as a trade to leverage teaching low-enrollment courses. Introductory courses with attractive titles, such as "Alien Empire" could demonstrate departmental commitment to teaching and attract students into major or graduate programs and could leverage TA support. Some departments expect all faculty to teach a term in such classes.

Impact of intrusion of the business model?

Are we doing an adequate job in regulatory science, extension and molecular fields?

Should entomology join with the liberal arts to increase enrollment?

Role of distance education

Preparing faculty and students for a future in interdisciplinary fields

Are insect management costs factored into "hot" fields

What to do about low indirect cost recovery for ag fields?

Impact of CREES competitive funding

How do we fund start-up packages? – this has become an issue as departments compete for the best recruits in areas with expensive equipment or other start-up needs. One solution is to engage new faculty in multi-disciplinary programs that provide funding.

Diversity and spousal hires

About half the departments offer an undergraduate Entomology Major. Some university administrators question why an Entomology Department is necessary. Research and teaching in Entomology could be accomplished without a separate department. Texas A&M requires departments to track majors who graduate. Heinz has been able to show (as a result of CEDA data) that Texas A&M trains 30% of entomology majors. This has helped leverage positions, funding, etc.

Another issue for many is how to fund departmental programming when most departmental funding is committed to salaries and external funds support specific programs. Most departments have difficulty acquiring sufficient discretionary funds to support departmental needs. Some departments tax commodity and industry contracts 5-10% to support departmental needs. This can be complicated when institutions tax colleges or departments for indirect costs, leaving little flexibility to direct funds to departmental needs and, in some cases, costing departments for the amounts required. Fundraising is a major responsibility for some department heads. This requires frequent meetings, luncheons, etc., to establish close relationships with potential donors. Newsletters have limited value in attracting donations.

Most departments are facing mid-year budget cuts as a result of the current financial crisis. Most have instituted hiring freezes.

8. Harper passed out the 2008 CEDA Salary Report. George Kennedy will take over this function after Harper retires. Capinera moved, D. Johnson seconded, a motion to drop the projected graduation data, since these are guesses, at best. Motion passed.

9. Tom Anderson of the Entomology Foundation summarized Entomology Foundation goals and gave a plaque of appreciation to Capinera for promotion of student participation.

10. Natalie Hummel, Vice Chair of the ESA Membership Committee, encouraged recruitment of new members, increased Presidents Circle membership, multi-year memberships, student participation in branch meetings and continued membership after graduating. The Committee is working to put a job board on the ESA web site. A member satisfaction survey is forthcoming. The Committee is considering a Monster.com-like arrangement, but posting of personal information could result in ID theft. Perhaps special membership rates could be given to undergraduates to encourage early membership. The society also should engage in outreach to faculty and students in Biology and Zoology departments with entomological interests.

11. Berenbaum noted that she is President of AIBS this year. The AIBS meeting May 18-19 in Arlington, VA, will be focused on agriculture for the first time. Entomology will be strongly represented.

12. Rao announced an Education and Youth Committee symposium on revitalizing entomology (Sunday afternoon).

13. Meeting with the Governing Board of ESA: President Mike Gray introduced officers, board members, and new Executive Director, Robin Kriegel. Outsourcing of meeting functions is working well. Meeting attendance currently at 2200, below last years San Diego meeting (2800) but more than Indianapolis. Registration is better than expected, given the current financial crisis, travel costs and travel restrictions. This meeting includes 70 symposia, including a new late-breaking results symposium and international symposium. Branches and sections have been challenging members to attend business meetings, all scheduled in a 4-hr block Monday to avoid conflicts. Some are providing incentives to increase attendance. ESA is working to get all journal issues on-line. Also discussing starting a new journal concentrating on molecular entomology. Options include purchasing an established successful journal, in lieu of creating a new journal. ESA is meeting and collaborating with other scientific societies to improve efficiencies of operation, including meetings of 3-4 societies at same venue to negotiate better contracts. ESA's financial situation (down 27%) is better than most, given conservative financial strategies taken years ago. Net assets are \$5.5M, with journal revenues accounting for 42% of assets, meeting revenues 27% and member dues 24%. President Gray requested that department heads be generous with support for student participation at meetings. N.-Y. Su has donated \$250K to endow a new award for innovation and creativity in research, teaching or outreach. Journal editors have requested that department heads encourage faculty to participate as reviewers of submitted papers. Berenbaum requested that ESA track gender participation in ESA; there are currently no data on this. Harper suggested that ESA consider membership in CAST and other organizations that represent entomology. The shift of Smith-Lever funding to competitive programs caught most departments off-guard, although this was predicted two years ago. President Gray responded that the Governing Board has discussed how to join with other societies to increase political influence. Wiedenmann noted that CAST will not lobby, but Co-Farm will. Fisher asked if there are ways CEDA and ESA can collaborate to keep entomology departments robust. Should we encourage more external grants to support research and other activities, teaching larger classes, etc.? "Entomology" may be perceived as an outdated term; should we be "Insect Science" departments? Mulder asked if department heads could increase student participation by paying low-cost student memberships. An ESA brochure to promote recruitment is in the ESA 2009 budget. Also considering You-Tube video of entomological activities.

14. Meeting was adjourned at 6:00. The meeting with the Governing Board was followed by a reception on the Paradise Terrace

Respectfully submitted

Tim Schowalter
Chair-elect