

International Affairs Committee (IAC)

Entomological Society of America (ESA)

Minutes, 2009 Annual Business Meeting, Indianapolis, IN

The 2009 annual business meeting of the International Affairs Committee was held Tuesday, 15 December in the Lincoln Room, Marriott Hotel, Indianapolis, Indiana. In attendance were: James Harwood (Chair), Mustapha Debboun (Incoming Chair), Megha Parajulee (Past Chair), Tim Lysyk (Governing Board Liaison), Steve Clement (Secretary, filling in for Charles Burks), Robert Hollingsworth, Richard Levine (ESA-Central), Gary Bernon, Jack Petersen, Leonard Munstermann, Kenneth Sorensen, Charles Vincent, Lambert Kanga, Heather L. Lindon. Call-in telephone participants were Livy Williams and Charles Burks. Apologies from Maggie Gentz.

Meeting was called to order by Chair James Harwood at 2:00 pm. Steve Clement was the recording secretary in the place of Charles Burks.

Old Business

The minutes from the 2008 meeting in Reno, NV were read. Jack Petersen motioned for approval of the minutes and Ken Sorensen seconded the approval, with the motion passing unanimously.

New Business Items, as outlined in Dr. Harwood's Agenda

Chair Harwood opened the meeting by asking attendees to introduce themselves.

ESA Governing Board (GB) report. Tim Lysyk, IAC GB Liaison, provided the following highlights and updates from the ESA GB: there is no desire to disband the IAC with the formation of the International Branch (IB); the GB recognizes the excellent work and track record of the IAC; the IB will serve the needs of members while the IAC has other responsibilities, i.e. travel grants, symposia organization, and other ESA 'organizational' work. Tim will likely continue as GB Liaison to the IAC unless the ESA President changes GB assignments.

Committee Membership and Positions. Chair Harwood indicated that Peter Price will rotate off the committee and Charles Burks is not willing to serve as Secretary. Jack Peterson nominated Lambert Kanga for Secretary and Steve Clement nominated Livy Williams for Vice-President, both of whom were unanimously approved by committee vote to fill the vacate positions. Mustapha Debboun and Charles Vincent stated they had likely fulfilled their present terms, but wish to stay on the committee. Because of concerns about present terms of service of some members, Richard Levine volunteered to look into this so terms could be clarified for the committee and updated on the ESA website.

International Branch Business Meeting. Richard Levine updated the committee on the new branch, as follows: there are 467 members in the IB; members can petition the ESA to join, but there is presently no mechanism for members to belong to two Branches. Chair Harwood expressed a need to identify a mechanism for members to join two Branches. Richard Levine gave the results of IB voting for officers: President – James Harwood (U.K.); Vice President – Charles Vincent (Canada); Secretary – Margaret Gentz (Australia); Treasurer – Srinivas Parimi (India); Governing Board Representative – Myron Zalucki (Australia).

Remote Posters and Student Awards. Megha Parajulee and Chair Harwood led a short discussion about the status of virtual posters with the committee concluding that a larger number of posters will be required to pursue this option for student competition in future ESA meetings.

President's Circle Membership. Chair Harwood led the discussion, with comments from Richard Levine. The main points presented were: this provides free membership to a small number of identified entomologists outside the U.S.; this program is not publicized by the ESA; IAC members nominate people for free memberships. Chair Harwood asked the members to make nominations.

Nominations of Overseas Institutions for Free ESA Journal Subscriptions. Chair Harwood and Richard Levine briefly discussed this program, with no formal nominations coming from members in attendance.

Final Report to NSF 2008 Travel Grant and Group Travel Grant for 2012 International Congress of Entomology. Jack Petersen's final report emphasized the success of the 2008 travel grant that provided much needed financial support to help graduate student and post-doc ESA members attend the ICE in South Africa. Jack also emphasized the need to form a committee to start the process for the 2012 ICE in Korea, and suggested a writing committee of Jack Peterson, James Harwood, Susan Weller, and C.J. Geraci. Dr. Geraci received a grant to attend the ICE in South Africa. The IAC unanimously approved these individuals for the writing committee.

Future of IAC. Chair Harwood opened the discussion with several members (Charles Vincent, Gary Bernon et al.) commenting. Points raised: need to continue with organizing symposia for the annual meeting; proceeding with virtual posters and student competitions; the IAC will serve ESA and IB will serve the needs of overseas members.

After the committee addressed all agenda items, Chair Harwood called for any new business, with the following items introduced by committee members:

Ken Sorensen reviewed the participation of 'older/retired/senior entomologists' in the overall program of ESA meetings, and encouraged 'qualified IAC members' to participate.

Leonard Munstermann reported that archives of the IAC were in his possession, followed by a brief discussion on how these historical records might best be preserved by the ESA.

With no further business, Chair James Harwood transferred the IAC leadership to Mustapha Debboun who conducted the remainder of the Business Meeting and adjournment. Chair Debboun, on behalf of the entire committee, thanked Outgoing Chair Harwood for his outstanding leadership and ongoing service to the IAC and indicated that the IAC will go forward with clear objectives to serve the ESA. A final discussion centered around possible IAC-sponsored symposia for the 2010 ESA meeting in San Diego, with Livy Williams volunteering to lead an effort to organize a 'biocontrol' symposium.

The IAC Meeting was adjourned on Tuesday, 15 December 2009 at 3:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted by Steve Clement, Recording Secretary, December 21, 2009.