Announcements

MARCH 24, 2010: P-IE SECTION BALLOT CLOSES

All P-IE members are reminded to cast their electronic ballot for four vacant P-IE positions before the March 24 deadline. Voting is now underway for the P-IE Governing Council (GC) Secretary and the P-IE representatives to the Editorial Board of the Thomas Say Publications, Book & Media Reviews, and American Entomologist.

MAY 1, 2010 APPLICATION DEADLINE: UNDERGRADUATE STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD IN ENTOMOLOGY

A May 1, 2010 deadline has been set to receive applications for this award. The 16-member P-IE Task Force, “Exciting Undergraduates in Entomology” (EUGE) led by Kirk Larsen and Brian McCornack, Co-chairs, recently recommended enhancements to this annual award. For the 2010 budget year, as many as six cash awards ($1,000 each) will be given to winning undergraduate students during the P-IE Networking Session at ESA’s Annual Meeting. The P-IE Awards Committee (Shelby Fleischer, Chair; Paul Neese, and Frank Peairs) will consider applications from students who have demonstrated activity and achievement in entomology, and have distinguished themselves in either: 1) an undergraduate research project, 2) creative approach to teaching, or 3) creative achievements in outreach. The winners must attend the P-IE Networking Session at the ESA Annual Meeting in San Diego during December and participate in the program by submitting and presenting a paper or poster. Click on this link or Open the attachment for the Awards Announcement and Application details: Undergraduate Student Achievement in Entomology Award

MAY 31, 2010 APPLICATION DEADLINE: ESA SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT AND LIAISON WITH EPA

Applications are being accepted for a Distinguished Scientist to fill this position. The successful candidate will serve as a liaison between the academic Entomology community and the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), and provide unbiased assessments of science to assist
the Agency in addressing insect control issues and registration of pesticides. The position will be in EPA’s Office of Pesticide Programs headquarters in Arlington, Virginia. This P-IE initiative is being co-funded by two other ESA Sections, MUVE and IPMIS, and by ESA Central. Click on this link or Open the attachment for the Position Announcement and Application instructions. ESA SME for EPA

VOLUNTEERS FOR SAN DIEGO MEETING NEEDED

Volunteers are still being solicited for moderators and paper/poster judges for the P-IE Sections of the 2010 ESA Annual Meeting in San Diego (December 12 – 15, 2010). Please contact Rogers Leonard (rleonard@agcenter.lsu.edu) if you are interested in participating.

NEWS

P-IE TO SPONSOR PLANT MANAGEMENT NETWORK (PMN)

In its March teleconference, the P-IE GC approved a proposal to join PMN as a partner. PMN is a not-for-profit, online publishing effort whose mission is to enhance the health, management, and production of agricultural and horticultural crops. Visit PMN’s website, www.plantmanagementnetwork.org for access to their online journals and other resources.

P-IE SECTION SYMPOSIA PROPOSALS

The P-IE GC extends its thanks and appreciation to the organizers of the 16 Section Symposia proposals for the Annual ESA meeting in San Diego. Unfortunately, program and facility space in San Diego do not allow us to accept all of the proposals. At the time of this writing, the P-IE GC was in the midst of the selection process. We expect about one-half of the proposals will be approved as Section Symposia, with the remainder being recommended for Member Symposia.

P-IE VP-ELECT AND P-IE TREASURER ELECTION IN JULY

At the close of ESA’s Annual Meeting in December, Vice President-Elect, Bonnie Pendleton, will assume the office of Vice President and Treasurer, Lisa Neven, will rotate off the GC, ending her 3-year term. They will be succeeded by the respective winners of an election to be held in conjunction with ESA’s annual July elections. Notice is given that the P-IE Nominations
Committee (Theresa Pitts-Singer, Chair) will soon be establishing and announcing the timeline leading up to this election. All interested and eligible P-IE members are invited to apply as candidates. Two or three nominees will be sought for each position.

**P-IE ENDORSES DR. ROB WIEDENMANN FOR ESA VP-ELECT**

P-IE is pleased to join the Southeastern Branch and the North Central Branch in its formal endorsement of Rob Wiedenmann for this ESA Central leadership position. Among other distinguished service positions, Rob served P-IE as its first President and Past President. He continues to demonstrate his personal vision, leadership and commitment to ESA and entomology in various P-IE activities and initiatives. He represented P-IE at the National Invasive Species Awareness Week, leads the implementation of the “ESA Subject Matter Expert for EPA” initiative, and will be representing ESA in the NIFA Program Workshop. Look for Rob’s qualifications and endorsements in ESA’s July Election Newsletter edition.

**“TELL THE BRANCHES” INITIATIVE**

Each of the ESA Branch Presidents has graciously invited a member of the P-IE GC to describe our Section’s 2010 activities and initiatives in their annual Branch meeting. P-IE is an active Section and depends on volunteerism. The P-IE GC believes that proactive communication in all available venues is important to maintaining its vitality and further enabling its outreach and impact. We encourage P-IE members and prospective members to become more familiar with P-IE and volunteer for a leadership role in a new or continuing activity that piques your interest.

**Appreciation is extended to the 2010 P-IE Governing Council for reviews and edits:**
*Rogers Leonard, Vice President*
*Bonne Pendleton, Vice President-Elect*
*Bill Hutchison, Past President*
*Lisa Neven, Treasurer*
*Bob Peterson, ESA Governing Board Representative*

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**Application for Distinguished Scientist**
**to serve as ESA Subject Matter Expert (SME) and EPA Liaison**

Name

Department or Home Unit
Institution

Contact Information – Address, Phone, Email

Contact Information for Department Head or Unit Administrator

Proposed Dates of Service (minimum 18 months; maximum 24 months)

Required Attachments:
  1) Institutional Approval – letter from department head or unit administrator indicating the time available to serve as SME (minimum of 18 mo, maximum 24 mo; 1 week/mo for first 6 months, 1 week every other month for rest of term), continued salary support from institution during term as SME, and acknowledging that travel expenses will be reimbursed by P-IE.
  2) Relevant Experience – attach an abbreviated CV (2-5 pages) highlighting experience relevant to this position, including demonstration of cross-ESA Section networking capability.
  3) Statement of Interest – 1-2 page statement of interest, experience, expectations, goals.

Return Application Materials by 5/31/2010 to:

Robert N. Wiedenmann
Department of Entomology
319 AGRI
University of Arkansas
Fayetteville, AR 72701
rwieden@uark.edu

Questions or clarifications about the position or application process:
rwieden@uark.edu or 479-575-2451

Undergraduate Student Achievement in Entomology Award
Amended, March 2010

Presented by the Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section
Entomological Society of America

Since 2008, the Plant-Insect Ecosystems (P-IE) Section of the Entomological Society of America (ESA) has annually sponsored an Undergraduate Achievement in Entomology Award. The Award, to be presented at the P-IE Networking session during the ESA Annual Meeting, consists of a cash award ($1,000 each) for up to six undergraduate students, that can be used towards travel expenses for the winning students to participate in the ESA meeting. Award winners must attend the ESA Annual Meeting and participate, by submitting and presenting a paper or poster
as part of the new Undergraduate Competition for the President's Prize.

The P-IE Awards Committee will consider applications from students who have demonstrated achievement in entomology, and have distinguished themselves in either: 1) an undergraduate research project; 2) creative approach to teaching; or 3) creative achievements in outreach. Applicants must be enrolled as an undergraduate student in a relevant area of study (not necessarily in an Entomology Department) at the time of application. Each award winner will be encouraged to become a student member of the ESA. One of several advantages of membership will be a reduced registration fee at the Annual Meeting. Accomplishments in research, teaching or outreach, must reflect one or more areas of emphasis within the Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section. For details about the P-IE Section and its disciplinary areas, visit: http://www.entsoc.org/about_ESA/governance/other/sections/pie.htm

Applications will consist of:
1) Two letters of support from the academic advisor, undergraduate research advisor, department head, or other faculty familiar with the student’s achievements (the student need not be an Entomology major or in an Entomology Department) (2 PAGE MAX. for each letter),
2) An official copy of the student’s transcript, or a transcript copy signed by a faculty member, that includes most recent GPA.
3) A resume or C.V. of the applicant (3 PAGE MAX.),
4) An abstract, or summary of the accomplishment (whether research, teaching or outreach), demonstrating the creative approach or accomplishment (1 PAGE MAX),
5) A statement by the applicant agreeing -- if selected -- to submit and present a paper or poster the year of the award in the P-IE Section of the Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America.

Applications are to be submitted as attached electronic files (pdf or Word), and submitted by the nominating academic advisor, department head, or supervising faculty member. Nomination packages are to be submitted to:

Dr. Shelby Fleischer, Chair of the Plant-Insect Ecosystems Awards Committee for 2010, (sjf4@psu.edu). For consideration, complete applications must be received by May 1, 2010.

Timeline:
May 1  Application packages due
June 1  Selection of award winners
June 1  Notification of winner and all other applicants
July 1  Paper or poster must be submitted by winner to ESA meeting web site

For questions, please contact Dr. Shelby Fleischer, at: sjf4@psu.edu

For more information about the ESA and Annual meeting, please view: http://www.entsoc.org/am/cm/index.htm
Undergraduate Student Achievement in Entomology Award

Presented by the Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section (P-IE)
Entomological Society of America

Evaluation Criteria

Letter of nomination (required) 10 pts
Letter of support form faculty advisor (required) 10 pts
Leadership and involvement in entomology 10 pts
Academic performance (from CV; GPA required) 10 pts

Demonstrated achievement in outreach, research and/or teaching 60 pts

- Originality and creativity (20)
- Scientific engagement, quality, rigor (20)

- Relevance to P-IE (10)
- Potential impact (10)

Total points 100 pts
ANNOUNCEMENT

Distinguished Scientist – ESA Subject Matter Expert and Liaison with EPA

The Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section; Medical, Urban and Veterinary Entomology Section; and Integrative, Physiological and Molecular Insect Systems Section, seek applications for a Distinguished Scientist to serve as an Academic Entomological Subject Matter Expert (SME) and Liaison with the Insecticide Registration Section of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Distinguished Scientist serves in an unpaid role as advisor and liaison.

Duties and Responsibilities:

The SME will serve as a liaison between the academic Entomology community and the EPA, and provide unbiased assessments of science to assist the Agency in addressing insect control issues and registration of pesticides. Assessment will include entomological areas such as row crop, specialty crop, medical, urban and structural, in which EPA’s actions and processes impact the use of insecticides. Expectations of the SME are: 1) to learn the process for registration and re-registration of insecticides at EPA; 2) become familiar with EPA’s scientific committees and their operation; and 3) develop an understanding of how risk assessments are conducted by the EPA’s Office of Pesticide Programs. The SME will provide EPA and ESA with brief quarterly reports of activity and benefits.

The SME will liaise with EPA’s Insecticide Registration Section, and will work in the EPA office in Arlington, VA. The SME will collaborate with a similar SME from the Weed Science Society of America. The SME would represent ESA’s membership to EPA and provide critical input on topics such as the clarity of labels, utility of label mitigations, spray drift, invasive arthropod species, insecticide resistance, and the role of insecticides in integrated pest management. It is expected that the SME will develop and maintain a network of entomological peers to consult on subject areas beyond those of the SME, to help provide a breadth of expertise and experience.

Qualifications:

1) Academic appointment at or above the rank of Associate Professor, including Professor Emeritus;
2) Demonstrated experience with use, testing efficacy, or understanding the roles of pesticides in integrated pest management in crop, urban or other environments or human health;
3) Understanding of or experience with a broad range of pests or entomological issues;
4) Stature within the entomological community to enhance gathering information from a broad network of scientists;
5) Communication skills to participate in information exchange with EPA, and to educate the entomological community about registration processes at EPA;
6) Commitment to devote one week per month (first six months) and one week every other month (after six months) to travel to EPA’s offices in Arlington, VA;
7) Approval from home institution.
**Term of Service:**

Negotiable within a range (minimum 18 months, maximum 24 months; potentially renewable for another term). The SME shall seek approval from his/her home institution, stipulating institutional agreement to provide salary and release time for travel, and that acknowledging that travel costs are not borne by the home institution.

**Starting Date:**
Fall 2010 (negotiable)

**Compensation:**
This is an unpaid position; the SME is expected to have institutional or other salary support. Travel costs will be paid by P-IE, under ESA guidelines and up to a predetermined limit.

**Mechanism:**
The SME will be selected by a committee made up of P-IE, MUVE and IPMIS members, and representatives from EPA.
The SME would answer directly to the Presidents of the Sections (or their designees) and have access to the Sections’ membership to network with scientists with expertise in various insect management issues areas including use of pesticides in row crop, specialty crop, medical, urban and structural situations, across the US.
For the first six months, the SME would spend one week per month in connection with the Registration Division’s Insecticide Branch, Office of Pesticide Programs (OPP), meeting people, learning the registration and re-registration processes and getting familiar with the various OPP committees. The SME would then spend approximately one week every other month at OPP, fitting his/her schedule to key meetings dealing with registration and re-registration. The SME would use the resources of ESA members to provide expert advice to the OPP on insect control practices and problems as well as keeping OPP apprised of invasive insects and emerging issues. The SME would liaise with appropriate federal and state personnel to bring their expertise to bear on labeling and use application.

**Value to ESA:**
- Learn and contribute to the registration and re-registration processes in OPP.
- Become familiar with the OPP scientific committees and how they operate.
- Become familiar with how OPP risk assessments are carried out.
- Allow for direct input of entomological expertise on invasive insects and use of insecticides in crop and non-crop settings to assist registration and re-registration decisions.

**Value to EPA-OPP:**
- Become knowledgeable about ESA and our expertise in insects and their control.
- Access to ESA experts who can provide unbiased information on crop and non-crop insects as well as invasive insects issues, and integrated pest management.