Activities of Interest to P-IE Members

2 July  Registration and housing open for ESA annual meeting
12 July-13 August  ESA elections
10 August  Deadline to submit nominations for P-IE Masters Student Award
19-25 August  International Congress of Entomology, Daegu, Korea
11-14 November  ESA Annual Meeting, Knoxville, TN

Nominate Masters Students for P-IE ‘Legends of Entomology’ Award

Nominations are due by 10 August for students pursuing or recently graduated with a Masters Degree who have demonstrated significant achievement in entomology through a graduate research project, creative approaches to teaching, and/or creative achievements in outreach. The new $1,000 Plant-Insect Ecosystems Legends of Entomology Award for Masters student achievement was created to recognize entomologists who have been legends and mentors for students and other P-IE members. The award will recognize a ‘Legend of Entomology’, a Masters student, and the student’s advisor. The student winner is expected to attend and present a poster or paper at the ESA national meeting in Knoxville. More information on the award can be found at http://entsoc.org/PDF/P-IE/P-IEMastersStudentAward.pdf. By 10 August, send the Chair of the P-IE Awards Committee Frank Peairs (Frank.Peairs@ColoState.Edu) the following:

1) Letter of application outlining interests and future plans in entomology research, teaching, and/or outreach
2) Letter of support from student’s advisor
3) Letter of support from another person familiar with applicant’s qualifications
4) Resume, including copies of transcripts
5) One-page description of accomplishments in research, teaching, and/or outreach during past 3 years
Update on Entomology 2012 Annual Meeting

Registration and housing are open for the ESA annual meeting 11-14 November in Knoxville, TN. Register early because hotels will be very limited, especially on Saturday night, with the University of Tennessee football game. In addition to a record number of ESA symposia, 234 submitted poster, 230 submitted 10-minute paper, 83 graduate student poster, 193 graduate 10-minute paper, 16 undergraduate student poster, and 10 undergraduate 10-minute paper presentations have been registered by P-IE Section members.

P-IE Volunteer Alternates for ESA Annual Meeting

Thanks to all who volunteered to assist with P-IE activities during the ESA meeting in Knoxville. If you plan to attend the ESA meeting and are willing to serve as an alternate to judge student presentations or be a moderator, if needed, please contact P-IE Vice President Gary Thompson at gdthompson@dow.com.

P-IE Members in ESA National Election

Don’t forget to vote in the ESA election 12 July – 13 August. Following are biographical sketches for members endorsed by the P-IE Section for ESA offices, committees, and editorial boards.

ESA Vice-President Elect: Paul W. Borth
P-IE Section Representative to ESA Governing Board: Robert K. D. Peterson, Alton N. “Stormy” Sparks, Jr.
P-IE Section Vice President Elect: Leon G. Higley, Sujaya Rao
Editorial Board of Journal of IPM: Scott H. Hutchins, David L. Kerns, Paula Shrewsbury
Editorial Board of Arthropod Management Tests: Jonathan M. Babcock

ESA Vice-President Elect Candidate:

Dr. Paul W. Borth, BCE, a 33-year ESA member, served in P-IE Section’s Presidential line during its formative years and as President in 2010. He championed efforts to establish transparent governance and operating protocol making regular communication to its 2,300+ international members a high priority. He led initiatives to increase ESA’s external leadership agenda, e.g., establishing the “ESA Liaison to EPA” position. He encouraged student engagement through merit awards, Task Force and Governing Council membership.

Since 1979, Borth has led and served on various ESA and BCE national committees, including ESA Student Affairs, ESA Ethics, BCE Symposium. With a mind to familiarize himself with the governance, breadth, and individuality of ESA’s Sections and Branches, he has chosen to join and become a member of each Section and Branch.

Borth has been a member of the The Entomological Foundation’s Board of Directors (2001-2006) and was peer-elected to two consecutive terms as its President. He led the Foundation in reformulating its strategic plan to focus its initiatives on youth.

As a University of Arizona faculty IPM Specialist (1981-1983), Borth conducted research and delivered extension programs in cotton and horticultural entomology. Since 1987, he has progressed through numerous Dow AgroSciences’ roles. He’s directed research in every major agronomic system, including Urban Pest where he had international management responsibility. Currently, Borth is the leader of two Technology Centers in DAS’ Crop Protection R&D unit.
Borth earned graduate degrees in Entomology from the University of Maryland (M.S. 1978) and the University of Arizona (Ph.D. 1987).

Since its 2007 restructuring, ESA has settled into a new infrastructure – enjoying successful operations, financial security, strong journal production, and a history of highly relevant meetings. But, as with science itself, scientific societies must anticipate and actively lead change for its membership as indicators direct. My ESA track record, most recently as President of the large multi-dimensionally diverse P-IE Section, demonstrates a keen instinct and willingness to lead change and take bold new approaches on behalf of membership needs and requests to make entomology more relevant with stakeholders of all types.

ESA is operating in an era of unprecedented international economic uncertainty. There is no greater issue and opportunity at hand than for ESA to serve its members by speaking out and educating policy makers in forums where funding for our programs and professional livelihoods is jeopardized. I propose that the ESA seek partnerships with sister scientific societies to make a difference on behalf of a broader population of scientists as a means to secure adequate attention to, and funding for, our science, research, teaching, and extension.

ESA’s brand and organizational design of autonomous Sections and Branches is inherently powerful. My vision is to unleash the historically elusive synergistic potential that exists among them through joint initiatives such as in the areas of science policy education, continuing education, outreach, meeting enhancement, and communications.

I graciously accept the Plant-Insect Ecosystem Section’s nomination and endorsement as well as the North Central Branch’s independent endorsement as the next VP-E of the ESA.

**P-IE Section Representative to ESA Governing Board Candidates:**

**Education:** Dr. Robert K. D. Peterson received a B.S. in entomology from Iowa State University (1987) and an M.S. (1991) and Ph.D. (1995) in entomology from the University of Nebraska. He also has a Ph.D. minor in plant physiology.

**Employment:** From 1995-2001, he was a field development biologist, risk assessment leader, and regulatory manager with Dow AgroSciences. Since 2002, he has been at Montana State University and is Professor of Entomology.

**Areas of Interest and Accomplishments:** Peterson leads the research, teaching, and outreach program in Agricultural and Biological Risk Assessment. More specifically, the program is centered on comparative risk assessment and includes biotechnology risk, invasive species risk, infectious disease risk, and pesticide risk. Additional areas of research emphasis include plant-stress ecophysiology and integrated pest management. He has authored or co-authored 92 peer-reviewed publications, 24 non-refereed publications, 13 book chapters, and 1 book. He teaches insect ecology and environmental risk assessment. Peterson was the 2009 winner of the Entomological Foundation’s Excellence in IPM Award.

**Leadership Roles:** Peterson has been a member of ESA since 1985. He has participated in and organized several symposia at ESA Annual and Branch Meetings and has judged student paper competitions. He is a contributing co-editor of *American Entomologist*. He has served on numerous ESA committees, including the Program Committee of the Annual Meeting from 2006-2008. He was Program Chair of the Annual Meeting in 2007. He has served as P-IE Section Representative to the Governing Board since 2010.

**Dr. Alton N. Sparks, Jr. (Stormy)** is currently an extension entomologist with The University of Georgia. He is based at the UGA Tifton Campus in Tifton, Georgia, and has state-wide responsibilities for extension entomology programs in commercial vegetables. Stormy has been a member of ESA since 1980 when he completed his undergraduate degree in entomology at The University of Georgia. He continued his education in entomology at Louisiana State University receiving a MS in 1984 and PhD in 1986 under the direction of L.D. Newsom and David Boethel, respectively. Stormy’s first “real job” was with the Texas Agricultural Extension Service where he served as the
extension entomologist for the area of the Lower Rio Grande Valley from 1988 through 2002. In 2002, Stormy returned to Georgia in the position he currently holds. Stormy’s extension program has been recognized most recently with the 2009 ESA Southeastern Branch Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension and the 2010 Donnie H. Morris Award for Excellence in Extension from the Georgia Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association. Stormy’s service to ESA has included assignments on the ESA Awards Committee, which he chaired in 2002 and 2004, the ESA President’s Special Committee on Awards in 2003, and as the Southeastern Branch representative on the Membership Committee in 2007. Within the Southeastern Branch, Stormy has also served on and chaired the Audit Committee, Resolutions Committee, and Local Arrangements.

P-IE Section Vice President Elect Candidates:

Dr. Leon G. Higley received a B.A. in chemistry major at Cornell in 1980, an M. S. (entomology) in 1984 and a Ph.D. (co-majors entomology/crop production and physiology) in 1988 from Iowa State University. I was adjunct faculty (entomology) at ISU 1988-1989; faculty member (entomology) at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln 1989-2009; and am Professor of Applied Ecology (School of Natural Resources) at UNL 2009-present. I have developed and taught 16 (!) different undergraduate or graduate courses and currently teach Ecology and Advanced Conservation Biology. Publications to date include 1 co-authored and 4 co-edited books; 21 book chapters, 17 non-refereed and 103 refereed journal articles; and I served as subject editor for 3 journals. I hold visiting professorships at UNESP-Jaboticabal, Brazil and Lagos State Medical College, Nigeria; and have been forensic expert in 2 civil and 15 criminal cases. My research focus is ecophysiology, with areas of emphasis including plant-insect interactions (photosynthetic response), insect ecology and conservation biology, and decompositional ecology (especially forensic applications). Awards include ESA Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching, ESA Founder’s Memorial Award, and NCB-ESA C.V. Riley Award (my grad students nominated me!). Despite this evidence of professional effort I have not yet achieved any of my personal scientific goals, although I am getting close. My real (non-CV) accomplishments are surviving mental illness, surmounting various personal tragedies and professional disappointments, saving my son’s life, and successfully mentoring some terrific students whose accomplishments I hope will surpass any that I might achieve.

Any perspective on issues and visions for ESA must recognize that the Society is operating in a period of profound, on-going change. While the nature of science and human relations is always dynamic, our current situation is unique in the magnitude of those changes. I believe ESA is most impacted in two areas: the changing nature of science and the changing planetary climate. Regarding the first point, believe scientific innovation after WWII has been dominated by technological innovations. Increasingly new techniques not only impact biology and virtually all areas of science, but also the foundations of what it means to do science. As an organization directed to promoting the study of insects and to disseminating scientific research, ESA must continue to address technological change. In particular, given changing models of scientific publication and data retrieval, I think ESA publication strategies must change. On the second theme of climate change, as scientists working on the fauna that seems likely to be most deleteriously impacted, surely ESA must become leaders in anticipating and studying the impact of this profoundly altered planetary ecology. At the core, I think the underlying notion that applied entomology means agricultural entomology must change, and I think the time is right for ESA and its members to explore how our society can advance both in its science and its application to human issues.

Dr. Sujaya Rao received a doctoral degree in Entomology from the University of Minnesota. Subsequently, she was a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Delaware and at UC Berkeley. She then worked as an Extension Advisor at UC Davis before moving to Oregon State University where she is now a Professor engaged in research, teaching and extension. Over the years, Sujaya's research has focused on the behavioral and chemical ecology of plant-insect interactions in native habitats and in diverse cropping systems; she has led successful research programs on both insect pests and on native bee pollinators. Her 'outside-the-box' educational programs have impacted graduate and undergraduate students, colleagues on campus, K-12 students and teachers, and the public, and earned her the Distinguished Achievement in Teaching Award from ESA and the Hodson Alumnus Award from the
University of Minnesota. She has also received local, regional and national team awards for her collaborative research and educational programs. Sujaya has been active in ESA since her graduate student days. She has organized research and education-related symposia, served on numerous committees and as Chair for ESA’s Education and Youth Committee. She is also an Entomological Foundation counselor. For the Pacific Branch -ESA, Sujaya chaired the Linnaean Games, Student Competition and Program Committees. As President for the Pacific Branch, she ran a very successful branch meeting this year; she encouraged women to take on leadership positions, and her innovative additions included a symposium on social media, and an exciting entomological texting competition for increasing student attendance.

ESA has over 6,000 members engaged in entomological research, teaching and extension activities worldwide at colleges, universities, state and federal agencies and private industries. Critical issues that ESA leaders and members need to address include global food security, species invasions, environmental stewardship, human and animal health, and education of the public.

I envision an ESA that is increasingly global in its membership and the issues that it addresses. It will embrace new technologies and social media opportunities for facilitating networking and collaborations between members nationally and internationally, across branches and sections within ESA, and for interfacing with the public. I envision greater participation of women in ESA activities, and a society in which women are inspired to take on leadership roles. I also envision an ESA that reaches out to other disciplines for enhancing partnerships, and for a holistic approach to future problem-solving efforts.

The Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section has been active since its inception and has achieved many successes thanks to the tireless efforts of past and current section leaders. These have provided a ‘voice’ for section members, and opportunities for input on critical entomological issues of global significance. It will be an honor for me to work with our exceptional P-IE officers, and the large section membership, to continue these efforts and initiate new programs for further extending P-IE influence on critical global issues, facilitating the training of the new generation of entomologists, and increasing public awareness of the role of insects, and of entomological activities, in our society.

**Editorial Board of Journal of IPM Candidates:**

**Dr. Scott H. Hutchins** presently is Global Director for Crop Protection R&D within the R&D Function of Dow AgroSciences. The role includes all aspects of field research and development and in total includes over 350 scientists and associates located throughout all regions of the globe. Hutchins holds a Ph.D. from Iowa State University in entomology and is an Adjunct Professor of Entomology at the University of Nebraska and Fellow of the *Entomological Society of America* (ESA). His research emphasis has been bioeconomics and IPM decision-making, from which he has authored over 100 articles, reviews, or scientific presentations on these and related topics.

Committed to the ESA and IPM, I seek this position as a means to continue to support both simultaneously and also to continue to learn and grow professionally. In brief, I am looking for additional ways to serve the society and this topic and journal is one area for which I am particularly passionate.

**Dr. David L. Kerns** is a Research/Extension Entomologist at the LSU AgCenter – Macon Ridge Station in Winnsboro, LA. He received his BS in entomology from Texas A&M University in 1985, his MS in entomology from Oklahoma State University in 1987 and his PhD in entomology from Auburn University in 1992. Although, David has spent a brief portion of his professional career as a private agricultural consultant and working in the agrichemical industry, the majority of his tenure has been with land grant universities. From 1994-2007, David was employed by the University of Arizona as an IPM Specialist where he worked on developing IPM programs primarily in citrus and vegetables. In 2007, David took a position with the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Lubbock, TX where he served until 2012 as the Cotton Extension Entomologist. Recently, David took a position (90% research, 10% extension) with the LSU AgCenter at the Macon Ridge Research Station where he conducts field and laboratory research concerning insect pest management primarily in cotton, corn, soybeans and grain sorghum, and has statewide responsibilities in cotton. Much of his research includes insecticide efficacy, monitoring insecticide resistance, insect outbreaks, developing action thresholds and the
development of insect resistant transgenic crops. David maintains an 80% affiliation with the LSY AgCenter and a 20% affiliation with the LSU Department of Entomology. David served as the Editor-in-Chief for the Arthropod Management Tests, 2004-2007 and is currently the President of the Southwestern Society of Entomologist.

Dr. Paula Shrewsbury received her B.S. in Plant Science from the University of Rhode Island, a M.S. in Entomology from the University of California, Riverside, and a Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Maryland. Paula is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist in Entomology at the University of Maryland. She has conducted applied research and extension education programs towards furthering the development and adoption of Integrated Pest Management for pests of ornamental plants and turfgrass for over 20 years. Within the context of IPM Paula has focused on the development of ecologically based measures to reduce and prevent pest insect outbreaks, particularly in the area of biological control, to create sustainable managed ecosystems. Paula's current research focus is on methods to restore plant and insect community dynamics as they relate to ecosystem services such as biological control in managed environments, including the role of native and non-native plants, and indigenous and exotic natural enemies towards reducing detrimental impacts of invasive species. Paula’s extensive experience in research, extension, and mentoring of graduate and undergraduate students in the field of IPM will allow her to contribute as an ESA Editorial Board Representative to the Journal of IPM. She is excited to have the opportunity to contribute to the profession via this position in the area of IPM.

Editorial Board of Arthropod Management Tests Candidate:
Jonathan Babcock: After completing a MS in Entomology at Washington State University I worked for the university supporting entomology focused pest management research in tree fruits, alfalfa seed and novel agronomic crops such as lupine. I joined Dow AgroSciences in 1989 and have held roles in Insecticide Discovery, Field Research and Product Development; all with a focus on both traditional sprayable insect pest management as well as transgenic crop product development. Currently I Lead a group of entomologists and plant pathologists who support corporate product development research and development. Administrative and management responsibilities with my new role do not leave time for leading projects myself. As such I am interested in serving on the AMT Editorial Board because I believe it will provide me with a continued industry wide connection to new and existing product development as well as participatory experience within the society.

Update on Gene Reagan
Dr. Timothy D. Schowalter, Professor and Head of the Department of Entomology at Louisiana State University Agricultural Center, reports that Dr. Gene Reagan is still improving [after a stroke he suffered in late May]. He is in Promise Hospital, a rehabilitation facility, and is being weaned off the ventilator. He can breathe on his own but cannot talk because of a tracheotomy. Please keep Gene and his family in your thoughts and prayers.

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