Minutes from ESA Plant-Insect Ecosystems Governing Board Meeting
Conference Call
July 27, 2015, 12 PM (Pacific); 2 PM (Central); 3 PM (Eastern).

Attendees:
Sujaya Rao, President
Melissa Willrich Siebert, Vice President Elect
Alton “Stormy” Sparks, ESA Governing Board Representative
Patrick Moran, Treasurer
Andy Michel, Secretary

Absent:
John Adamczyk, Past President
Fred Musser, Vice President
Lina Bernaola, Student Representative

The attached PowerPoint shows what we covered during the session earlier this week.

A combined meeting of all GC members across all 4 sections is proposed for Saturday Nov 14th before the ESA meeting. You will receive information about this from ESA. Please plan accordingly.

Conference Call Agenda:
1. Updates
   a. ESA 2015 - Summer planning meeting including moderators/judges, etc. – Sujaya and Fred
      -Organized talks into sessions: 14 session, ~19 talks per session, ~260 talks
      -Sujaya asked Confex if they can include keywords for section and talks to help with matching up the sessions. They will look into it
      -A lot of student talks this year, such that the networking session will start at 2 PM on Monday afternoon
      -A combined meeting of all GC members across all 4 sections is proposed for Saturday Nov 14th before the ESA meeting.
   b. ESA Awards – deadline July 31/August 1 - Sujaya
      -Discussed questions that submitters have been having (such as are letters of recommendation needed or if nominees need to be members of P-IE)
      -Decided to extend deadline based on few submissions

2. Treasurer Report – Patrick
   a. Balance is the same as last month, no new transactions
   b. Discussion on how to spend more money. Thoughts on how to attract or provide better service to post-docs, early-career and “transition” members. Post-Doc awards?
   - Discussion on the process, necessity and value of ESA Policy Statements
   - Purpose is to provide ESA policy statements for outside agencies, i.e. US federal government (EPA, legislatures, USDA), and media organizations
   - Possible statement on invasive species (*H. armiger* a possible focus),
   - Other sections have developed policy statements (MUVE, SysEb) how does P-IE get more involved? How do we work across sections to be more involved
   - Official ESA policy statements can be found at [http://www.entsoc.org/esa-science-policy-documents](http://www.entsoc.org/esa-science-policy-documents)
   - P-IE representation on the policy statement writing committee (need more information)

4. July newsletter items
   a. Upcoming deadline- IPM Professional and Graduate Awards—extended until Aug 17th
   b. ESA Elections – encouraging member participating in voting
   c. Seeking Volunteers for judging

5. ESA Renewal – road map for implementing core capabilities
   a. Discussion on how do we get members more involved? Develop and maintain novel and meaningful activities?
   b. Are we meeting the needs of our membership?

6. Other items of business
   a. New design for ESA publications to be consistent and easy to read online
   b. new 3 minute presentation format to be piloted at ESA 2015—have 40 total talks.