

CEDA Annual Meeting Minutes

October 30, 2021

The meeting was begun virtually and in person at 4:30 pm MST.

The chair, Laura Lavine (Washington State University), thanked those in attendance for coming and ESA for arraigning the meeting. She then asked each person in attendance to introduce themselves.

Annual Survey: The chair thanked Tim Kring (Virginia Tech) for creating, circulating, and compiling the annual survey. Tim then led a discussion about releasing the information gathered and whether to conduct the survey in 2022. The group agreed that the data should not be publicly released but could be shared with each University's administration if needed and that the survey should be done again in 2022.

ESA President/Executive Director's Report: President Smith thanks the group for allowing them to attend and then handed the floor of the ESA Executive Director Chris Stelzig. He led a discussion about the CEDA website, the website's inactivity, an offer by the society to help improve its visibility, and more formalizing ESA's relationship with CEDA. He also talked about the society's DEI initiative and their need to get various types of data from CEDA, especially tracking students once they graduate. Following a discussion about these items a motion was made to create a task force of the 2022 CEDA Chair and the ESA Executive Director to develop draft guidelines to formalize a relationship between the two entities. The motion passed. The group also agreed that the CEDA membership would review the draft guidelines before any further actions.

ESA Entomology Games Update: Chair-Elect Hamilton, who is also a member of the entomology games committee, introduced Meredith Spence, this year's co-chair. She updated the group on the committee's activities during the last year. These included conducting in-person and virtual branch and national games, developing questions that are more diverse and inclusive, and the reasons for the game's name change, a article series in American Entomologist highlighting underrepresented groups, an upcoming mini-workshop on decolonizing entomology, and a survey of student, transition and early career member survey about how to improve the games. She then asked for CEDA's help in organizing teams, promoting equitable practices the benefits of participating in the games and way to better support teams. A copy of Meredith's slides was distributed to the CEDA membership.

General Discussion: Items discussed included the future challenges and data collection that CEDA might be interested in working on as a group (cross-cutting curriculum, recruitment, and retention), and how useful the data is that we collect to CEDA members (GRE data, grad stipend data, etc.).

USDA National Program Leader Update: The following NPL's agreed to join us: Vijay Nandula – Crop Protection & Pest Management; AFRI Critical Ag R&E programs, Erica Kistner-Thomas, NPL NIFA Institute of Food Production & Sustainability: Pollinator Health & Pests & Beneficial Species in Ag Production Systems; ECDRE, Tom Bewick – NPL Horticulture, and Amer Fayad – AFRI Tactical Sciences for Ag Biosecurity, Methyl Bromide Transition Program; National Plant Diagnostic Network. Unfortunately, none were able to join the meeting virtually. Chair Levine is reaching out to them to see if they would be willing to schedule an hour to meet with us so we can hear their reports.

The Chair then handed the gavel over to in-coming chair George Hamilton. He then asked for a volunteer to serve as Chair-Elect. Brian McCornack, Kansas State University.