



ENTOMOLOGICAL  
SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
MEDICAL, URBAN, AND VETERINARY ENTOMOLOGY

# MUVE NEWSLETTER



October 2022

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## OFFICERS

[Dr. Ed Vargo](#),  
President

[Dr. Rebecca Trout-Fryxell](#),  
Vice President

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

It is with mixed emotions that I write this column. This will be my last as MUVE President. It has certainly been an honor to serve in this role, and I'm proud to be part of such a strong and vibrant society.

In the last year, I have had a close-up view of the workings of ESA and the MUVE Section. I have been amazed by the dedication and tireless effort of everyone at the national and section levels. The MUVE Governing Council and committee chairs are all enthusiastic, devoted, and creative individuals, representing a healthy mix of MUVE disciplines and career levels.

I have had the pleasure of working with Becky Trout Fryxell, the incoming MUVE President. I know she will be an excellent leader. She has a passion for our science, and for mentoring and inclusivity. MUVE is certainly in good hands. And, I can't say enough about the ESA leadership and staff. They are a committed, capable, and energetic group who understand our needs as a diverse and inclusive scientific society. I feel more confident than ever about the health and vitality of ESA.

I am proud of the progress we made on our MUVE Section initiatives. There has been enthusiastic engagement around them. The Networking and Mentoring initiative, which started last year, has been going strong. We are in our second round of mentoring pods and are being skillfully coached by two professionals. Thanks to Bethany McGregor and Becky Trout Fryxell for helping grow this initiative. Our new MUVE-ing Together initiative, linking entomologists with wildlife biologists



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and ecologists, has really taken off. There will be a symposium in Vancouver focusing on this theme. We certainly appreciate Erika Machtinger and Karen Poh spearheading this initiative. Our D&I and MUVE Grand Library initiatives are picking up steam, thanks to Kyle Jordan and Alexis Kriete, respectively. There's no end to what we can accomplish with even more member engagement.

I am also proud of the many members that we have had the privilege of recognizing with awards.

From the Recognition Award in Medical, Urban, & Veterinary Entomology to the Student Travel Awards, it's always rewarding to honor our deserving members. I look forward to being the head of the MUVE awards committee next year. Remember, we can only honor members who are nominated for awards, so keep those nominations coming!

Finally, I have been most impressed with the engagement of our younger members. The eagerness of students, postdocs, and other early career professionals to volunteer their time and service is especially gratifying and shows that our society is on an upward trajectory.

I look forward to seeing many of you at the annual meeting in November. And what a meeting it will be! We are thrilled to join with our friends and neighbors to the north, and there will be plenty of MUVE events and content. I hope all of you can make it to beautiful Vancouver!

## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MUVers



Help us highlight MUVE members and bring their work into the spotlight! Please send any MUVers news to be included in future newsletters and tweets to [Bethany McGregor](#).



**Meredith Spence Beaulieu, Ph.D., BCE**, was named as the university program manager for the new [Global One Health Academy](#) at North Carolina State University. The Global One Health Academy aims to improve the health of plants, animals, humans, and the environment, with key thematic areas that include driving food and water solutions, combating infectious diseases, and addressing climate change-health disparities. This interdisciplinary initiative will engage with all of the colleges across NC State for research, training, and public discourse.



**Sadie Ryan, Ph.D.**, associate professor of medical geography at the University of Florida. Dr. Ryan is a Co-PI on a recently funded [NSF Biological Integration Institute \(BII\) grant](#) entitled, “Predicting the global host-virus network from molecular foundations.” This project will aim to create a multidisciplinary approach to understanding, predicting, and preventing future pandemics. Dr. Ryan’s major focus on this project will involve better understanding how global change is altering host-virus interactions and training young scientists to explore these dynamics computationally.



**Jeffery Tomberlin, Ph.D.**, professor of entomology at Texas A&M University, was elected ESA Fellow. Dr. Tomberlin heads the Forensics Laboratory for Investigative Entomology at Texas A&M University, and he is director of the Research Center for Environmental Sustainability Through Insect Farming. His research focuses on the mechanisms involved in the recycling of organic matter with an emphasis on sustainable agriculture. He is a pioneer in the use of the black soldier fly to recycle waste and produce insects as a protein source for livestock, poultry, and aquaculture. His research in this area has led to the approval of the black soldier fly as a source of feed by governments around the world.

## NEWS BRIEFS



Photo by Matt Bertone

### Blog Post Highlights from *Entomology Today*

- [How a CDC Internship Set One Student’s Sights on Entomology](#)
- [Harpoon Heads, Sweeping Tails: How Predatory Mosquito Larvae Capture Prey](#)
- [Bed Bugs Produce Potentially Dangerous Amounts of Histamine, Study Shows](#)
- [Entomological Medicine: How One Scientist is Working to Bring Maggot Therapy Into Wider Us](#)
- [Successful Science Communication Starts With a Strategy](#)
- [At Two Universities, Students Work to Preserve Entomological History](#)

Remember: For the latest breaking news items related to MUVE, please [follow us on Twitter](#).

## VOLUNTEER & LEADERSHIP



## Communications Committee Looking for New Members

The MUVE Communications Committee is looking for new members interested in helping communicate news and information to the ESA MUVE community. The Communications Committee is responsible for the creation of this newsletter, email blurbs to the membership, contributing to the MUVE “From the Sections” portion of the American Entomologist, and other communications needs of the Section as they arise. This is an open committee which means that there is no set period of commitment. If you’re interested in joining, please email [Bethany McGregor](mailto:Bethany.McGregor@esa.org).

## Branch Officer Nominations Now Open

Several ESA Branches are soliciting nominations for the 2023 Branch elections including the Eastern Branch, North Central Branch, Pacific Branch, Southeastern Branch, and Southwestern Branch. Read more about the [available positions](#) and [submit your nominations](#) by **November 30**.

## MUVE Initiative Seeking Member Involvement

The MUVE Initiative “[MUVE-ing together: Connecting entomologists, wildlife biologists, and ecologists to strengthen One Health approaches focusing on human and animal parasites](#)” is looking for members at any career stage (student, ECP, senior member) to get involved with the initiative. The initiative was born from a desire to create connections among entomologists, wildlife biologists, and ecologists throughout the Entomological Society of America and other Societies to advance the One Health initiative and improve public, animal, and ecosystem health. Members could be involved with various leadership activities and networking opportunities including, but not limited to, organizing symposia or other events at ESA (National and/or Branch levels) and other related conferences, develop webinars or workshops for members, and promoting an inclusive environment for members interested in learning more about the intersection of entomology, wildlife biology, and ecology. [Learn more](#) and contact Dr. Erika Machtinger at [etm10@psu.edu](mailto:etm10@psu.edu).



## Volunteers Needed to Support the Grand MUVE Library WIG

ESA MUVE is looking for volunteers to assist with one of our new section WIGs, the Grand MUVE Library. This WIG is an effort to gather MUVE related information, such as the vector emergency response entomologist list, resources, and protocol libraries into a single MUVE repository for use by the section. If you are interested in assisting with this effort or want to learn more, please contact Alexis Kriete ([akriete@ncsu.edu](mailto:akriete@ncsu.edu)).

*Looking for other ways to get involved with MUVE or ESA generally? Always feel free to contact MUVE President [Ed Vargo](#).*

## POLICY CORNER



### **Policy Corner: "Incorporating MUVE Priorities in Communities"**

*Liz Dykstra, Ph.D., BCE, Public Health Entomologist, Washington State Dept. of Health*

Ensuring that MUVE priorities are included and incorporated into a community or city's environmental and urban plans requires establishing relationships with a variety of agencies and city departments. Depending on your project, you may find yourself working with city councils (whose members are voted in and who need to be responsive to their constituents), building managers, code enforcement offices, or tribal councils as well as community and development planning, zoning, emergency management, and local health departments.

The majority of the people you interact with will have no knowledge about entomology. This provides multiple opportunities to educate communities on steps they can take to play a role and to explain why issues and certain methods, like integrated pest management techniques, are important. Leverage your subject matter expertise to develop trust with communities and local officials. They can help you navigate issues and develop solutions to allow your project to move forward.

Even though you may begin by working with a single local entity, it's important to realize that many bureaucratic layers may need to be navigated and often include local, county, and state levels. These layers need to communicate with each other, and all have to come together in order for a project to progress. Emergency response is a classic example of local communities needing to coordinate with the state to ensure funding and manpower requests are correctly routed to ensure aid expediently received.

When Washington State, one of a handful of states who manage their own National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits, decided to add mosquito adulticides to the permit, state and local entities were heavily involved in the process. The state's Department of Ecology, who oversees the NPDES permit, worked closely with local mosquito control districts and the state's public health entomologist, and gave careful consideration to feedback obtained from public hearings on the draft permit. The final permit language ensured that mosquito control districts were able to provide effective control measures with both larvicides and adulticides over sensitive aquatic habitat while still operating within state environmental laws.

ESA's MUVE section is developing several initiatives that involve working with communities. Members involved with these initiatives can gain experience in vector emergency response, improving IPM strategies in public housing, or help identify and expand funding opportunities for research in urban entomology. [Learn more about these and other initiatives and how to volunteer.](#)

# JEST MANAGEMENT

## ***The Lighter Side of ESA MUVE***

### ***"Bleach & Blood" by***

[Matthew L. Aardema](#), Ph.D., Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Montclair State University

I am a chronic spiller. No matter how good my intentions are and how consciously I attempt to be careful, it's inevitable that, minimally, after every meal there will be food in multiple places on the table when I'm finished. If there aren't any dinner particles on my clothing as well, I consider it a small miracle. I will often wear an apron at home before consuming any pasta with a tomato sauce base. I guess what I am trying to say is, I'm a bit of a klutz (polite?) slash slob (rude!). So, you can imagine what challenges I face in a lab environment where successful mosquito husbandry is one of the primary day-to-day goals.

Two substances in particular present never ending sources of consternation, specifically blood and bleach. In a vector lab, these are critical liquids. The first is needed for successful colony maintenance and persistence in many cases, and the second is to render the first innocuous on surfaces us humans could contact. In my lab all our blood feeding is done with simple parafilm® membranes, but even this hardiest of stretchy plastics has a tendency to develop rips and tears (in my hands at least). I don't want to give you the impression my lab always looks like the set of a Freddy Kruger film, but no matter how hard I try, after every feeding I am inevitably in need of large volumes of paper towels.

Which brings us to the necessary cleanup which requires the application of sodium hypochlorite, aka bleach. Bleach is wonderful for decontaminating and cleaning blood spots on lab counters, floors, cages and other surfaces. It is so effective at obliterating proteins that even a 0.1% bleach solution has been found to kill anthrax spores, perhaps one of the most resilient biological pathogens. But when it comes in contact with an article of clothing, it leaves a permanent record of the event. I used to be a bit self-conscious of the bleach spots on my clothing but increasingly I treat them like a rite of passage. Assuming professional laundry staff are far more careful than me, as well as have dedicated clothing to wear why engaged in their profession, it is perhaps solely the research scientist whose day-to-day wardrobes have these indelibly marks. In my mind the spots found on nearly every pair of pants I own are a badge of honor, marking me as a card-carrying vector biologist. But we all know; they just show the world a slob has been at work again.

Do you have any interesting anecdote, story, or observation from the realm of MUVE you'd like to share? Then please get in touch with us! You don't have to write it (but you may), you just have to tell it. We would love to hear from you, so write to us soon!

# ASK CLARY FLY



**By Victoria Pickens, ESA MUVE Representative to the Student Affairs Committee**

Clary Fly here, sending you warm wishes as colder weather starts to settle in. It's hard to believe that the [Joint Annual Meeting](#) is just around the corner; time sure does seem to fly! We're in for an exciting meeting this fall, as we will once again be joining the Entomological Society of British Columbia and Entomological Society of Canada in Vancouver, Canada.

[View the list of various student activities](#) planned for the Joint Annual Meeting. The ESA Student Affairs Committee (SAC) has organized some other activities as well, such as a symposium (Diverse Voices Influencing Change in Entomology Through Art, Culture and Science) and a workshop (Designing, Producing, and Communicating Effective Scientific Graphical Abstracts). Throughout the meeting you'll be able to browse the exhibit hall to chat with vendors, visit student entomology club tables, and see the Juried Art Show.

There are also tours of Vancouver at various attractions that you can book through ESA if you're looking to do some sightseeing. To find out more, you can watch the ESA SAC Know Before You Go videos available on the [ESA YouTube channel](#). I've also included a guided outline of different activities students may be interested in below. Please note all times are in Pacific Time.

## **Sunday, November 13**

12:00PM-1:30PM	New Member Reception
1:00PM-3:00PM	Entomology Games-Preliminary Rounds
1:30PM-6:00PM	Joint ESA Rising Stars of Entomology and ESC, Graduate Student Showcase
3:30PM-5:30PM	MUVE Mentorship Network Reception
5:30PM-7:30PM	Opening Plenary Session: Perspectives on Diversity
7:30PM-9:30PM	Welcome Reception: Exhibit Hall, Student Club, Tables, and Juried Art Show
	Open

## **Monday, November 14**

6:45AM-7:45AM	Women and Allies in Entomology Breakfast
8:00AM-1:00PM	Student 10-min Presentation Competition
2:30PM-6:30PM	MUVE Business Meeting
5:30PM-6:30PM	Student Poster Competition Q&A
8:00PM-10:00PM	Various University and Regional Mixers
8:00PM-11:00PM	LGBTQIA+ Mixer

## **Tuesday, November 15**

9:00AM-12:00PM	Student Member Symposium: Diverse Voices Influencing Change in Entomology Through Art, Culture, and Science
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1:00PM-3:00PM Student Debates: Entomology Beyond Research and Education  
5:00PM-7:00PM Entomology Games-Final Round  
7:00PM-8:00PM Student Awards Ceremony  
8:00PM-11:00PM Student Reception

### Wednesday, November 16

10:30AM-11:30AM Student Workshop: Designing, Producing, and Communicating  
Effective Scientific Graphical Abstracts  
12:00PM-1:30PM MUVE Final Business Meeting

I left out some other fun activities, like the MUVE Section Symposia, but hopefully this provides you an outline to start with. Be sure to check out the [online program](#) for more details and to find sessions you're interested in attending. Don't worry about missing out if you're attending online, as many of these events will be uploaded for online viewers. Please note that this year there will be no live streamed events for the meeting. All virtual content will be made available November 28, 2022 – October 31, 2023.

For those of you presenting, don't forget about the [archived ESA webinars](#) that you have access to any time as an ESA member. You can find videos from fellow ESA members on effectively communicating your science. Or, check out Entomology Today where you can find posts like "[Making Great Scientific Figures](#)" by Sandra R. Schachat. More nervous about the actual talking bit? See about reserving a room either in your department, at the library, or even a coffee shop and ask some of your peers if they'd be willing to listen to your presentation. Or rent a room to yourself and just get all your jitters out!

On another note, I'm sad to say that this is Victoria's last Clary Fly Corner article. She greatly enjoyed the opportunity to be your MUVE Student Affairs Committee (SAC) Rep and hopes that our student members found it helpful for navigating their professional development endeavors. But we are also excited to meet our new MUVE SAC Representative! Be sure to attend the MUVE Business Meeting in Vancouver to find out who the new MUVE leadership will be or look for the announcement in the next MUVE newsletter.

Well, MUVers, that's all I have for you. If you have any questions leading up to the annual meeting, or any content you would like addressed in the student section of the next MUVE newsletter, feel free to reach out to Victoria at [vlpicken@ksu.edu](mailto:vlpicken@ksu.edu).

Stay curious,

Clary Fly

# OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MUVE Award Honorees Announced

Each year, ESA MUVE recognizes the significant contributions of scientists and students through the presentation of awards. This year, three MUVE awards and six student travel awards have been presented. Congratulations to all!

- Recognition Award in Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology: **Chow-Yang Lee**
- Medical, Urban and Veterinary Entomology Early Career Award (MUVE-ECA): **Caleb Hubbard**
- Shripat Kamble Urban Entomology Graduate Student Award for Innovative Research: **Maria Gonzalvez-Morales**
- Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology (MUVE) Student Travel Awards:
  - **Abdulsalam Adegoke**
  - **Jessica Brown**
  - **Hannah Chu**
  - **Daniel Perez-Ramos**
  - **Victoria Pickens**
  - **Elizabeth Taylor**

## Symposia Submissions Now Open for Several Branch Meetings

Symposia submissions are now being accepted for the following 2023 Branch Meetings: [Southeastern](#), [Eastern](#), [Pacific](#), and [North Central/Southwestern](#). Southeastern and Eastern Branch symposia proposals are due **October 31**. Pacific Branch symposia proposals are due **November 22**. Joint North Central and Southwestern symposia proposals are due **December 12**. [Learn more about the Branch Meetings and submit your proposal](#).

## In Memoriam: Gene White

Gene White, global director of vector management at Rentokil-Initial, passed away September 20 at the age of 64 in Honolulu, HI, where he was attending the Society for Vector Ecology Meeting. Gene was a leader and educator within the pest control industry, and he was a friend and colleague to many within the MUVE section. [Read more about Gene's life and the impact he had on others](#).

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