

**ESA Eastern Branch Executive Committee Meeting**  
**March 18, 2017**  
**Minutes**

Present: Daniel Frank, Paula Shrewsbury, Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Susan Weller, David Gammel, Becky Anthony, George Hamilton, Daniel Gruner, Brenna Traver, Mark Taylor, Don Webber, Tracy Leskey, Susan Weller, Anne Nielsen, Dick Casagrande

**Call to Order: 2:02 pm**

**Committee Reports**

**Program Committee (Dan Gruner):** The program committee worked with Confex to generate the schedule, and for the first time for the Eastern Branch, the program books. The online program will be familiar from ICE and the National meetings. The Confex staff were professional in all phases, and it is recommended that we continue to work with them. There was a learning curve in using Confex, but it is a powerful tool once everything is entered.

Instead of printing programs for all attendees, registrants were given an opt-in choice to request a printed program. One week out, 13 people requested a program. Fifty total copies were printed. Some will be distributed to sponsors and additional copies will be sold at the registration desk at cost. Unfortunately, Confex does not lay out the pages in a manner to make a condensed program possible. In the future, a condensed program would need to be made elsewhere.

Anne will be returning as co-chair for the 2018 meeting.

**Past President (Tracy Lesky):** Last year we had a joint meeting with the Northeastern Weed Science Society, Northeastern Division of American Phytopathological Society, American Society of Horticultural Science-Northeast Region, and the Northeast Branch of the American Society of Agronomy, Crop Science Society of America, and the Soil Science Society of America in Philadelphia, PA. It was an interesting concept to have a joint meeting with joint sessions. Attendance was down by almost half because of the meeting dates (after the new year). Having a rigid agenda/template made planning this meeting difficult for the Eastern Branch ESA. In the future (if we decide to do this again) we need to work with the other societies from the ground up, and not be forced into using someone else's template. Some of our sessions didn't fit in well with the meeting (i.e. medical entomology, evolution, taxonomy). Positives of the meeting included the location and dessert social. The poster session was also nice and interdisciplinary. There was no banquet, but we had our own plenary session. Philadelphia may be a good location for hosting another meeting in the future.

NEIPM wants to organize another joint meeting, possibly for 2019. Steve Young is likely interested in including the IPM Coordinator Meeting into the joint meeting program.

**Secretary (Daniel Frank):** no report

**Treasurer (Mark Taylor):** A copy of the current Eastern Branch finances (as of March 1) has been included as an attachment to the Executive Committee minutes. The Eastern Branch made money in 2016 because we did not have a banquet, and we did not use Confex or student volunteers. This year we currently have a Branch program enhancement fund of \$3,168 as well as approximately \$14,335 in registrations for the meeting; approximately \$17,000 in total revenue thus far. Currently, there are no expenses except Confex listed in the report.

For the 2017 meeting we have 10 student volunteers.

In December, Mark received emails that were part of a phishing scam; basically asking for account information. Paula Shrewsbury and Chris Bergh's emails were on the letters.

Branch reserves can be rolled over into ESA HQ's where there is a higher rate of return. Neil is the point of contact if we would like to go this route.

**Governing Board (Paula Shrewsbury):** no report

**Member-at-large (Brenna Traver):** When ESA sends account and routing numbers in emails they get flagged by PSU. If possible, it would help if ESA did not send this information unless specifically requested or needed.

**ESA HQ (David Gammel):** The ESA Science Policy Committee (Eastern Branch has a representative) is supporting "March for Science" on April 22. ESA is one of first organizations to become involved and to support the march. ESA has secured space in Washington D.C. for a rally point for its members during the march; it will be located on 15<sup>th</sup> and I Street. Emails will be coming from ESA HQ with more information.

ESA is investing in a public relations firm for crisis communication planning (for anything that may happen during the march). They will also be involved in producing a webinar on April 19<sup>th</sup> for media interview training.

Currently ESA is in good financial position with total assets of \$7.4 million. ICE was very successful in its mission as well as financially. There were approximately 6,600 attendees at ICE. ESA anticipates about 3,200 attendees for the national meeting in Denver, CO. New events for the meeting include 3-minute lightning bug talks, "Sunrise Science" sessions, and several hands-on workshops.

As part of ESA's grand challenges another summit will be held during the 2018 National Meeting in Vancouver. The meeting will be held jointly with the Canadian Entomological Society and Entomological Society of British Columbia. The meeting will be held in the Convention Center in downtown Vancouver during the second week of November (11th-14th).

**ESA President (Susan Weller):** ESA is pushing 3 strategic principles: global (grand challenges starting at ICE and emerging medical issues; section leaders are putting together program symposia on these topics for the national meeting), influence (political advocacy, tiered agendas), and social (diversity and inclusion, early career professionals and founders memorial

award, three year priority in science communication and program enhancement funds for Branch meetings). ESA is offering a 2 to 1 match up to \$1,000 for the three year funds (i.e. science communication and program enhancement) for Branch meetings; contact Mike Parrella and Bob Peterson for more information.

ESA HQ sent out a survey for its volunteers. They want quality volunteer experiences for members. Based on survey results a committee will make recommendations at the next governing board meeting. ESA wants to keep its membership happy and to have them volunteer.

**Awards Committee (Tracy Leskey):** There was not an L.O. Howard awardee this year. The Streu award will go to Pete Shultz, the only nominee. The Early Career Award had two nominations; from those Rob Morrison was selected.

There continues to be confusion about the ESA awards. The confusion often stems from whether it is a national, branch, section, or other award.

**IDEP Committee (Lisa Tewksbury):** no report

**Meeting Site Selection Committee (Mark Taylor):** The 2018 meeting will be at the Westin in Annapolis, MD during March 16-20. The International IPM Symposium (held once every 4 years) will be in Baltimore March 19-22. We should try to couple these meetings with joint PR. We should look into ESA HQ hosting a reception (possibly Sat), and have a tour of the Smithsonian (or possibly bring things from the collection).

There are no plans for Bug's World in 2018. Faith says this will be her last year coordinating the event. John Cambridge (Philadelphia Insectarium) may have an interest in coordinating future events.

**Education and Outreach Committee (Faith Kuehn):** Bug's World will be from 10am – 4pm tomorrow. Things are currently being set up for the event

**Screening for ESA Awards Committee (Geoff Attardo):** There was a single candidate for the Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching; Charles Bartlett, University of Delaware. For the Excellence in Integrated Pest Management Award there were two candidates. Both candidates were very strong, but the committee felt that Changlu Wang, Rutgers University, had an edge as he had been a previous nominee.

**Student Affairs Committee (Ashley Kennedy):** Ashley has been staying involved with the national committee helping to prepare for Entomology 2017 in Denver. She is writing a blog entry for Entomology Today to help students prepare for the meeting, co-chairing a symposium on science policy with Science Policy Fellow Jamin Dreyer, preparing a "Know Before You Go" webinar for students, and committed to meeting with undergraduates in Denver at the beginning of the meeting to help them make the most of their time in Denver.

There was one nominee for both the Comstock and Fitch student awards. We need more student nominations to make these awards competitive.

Ashley has agreed to serve as chair of the committee for 2018, but we will need a co-chair.

**Archivist (George Hamilton):** George asks the Eastern Branch to continue to keep him informed and to send him anything that needs to be included in the archive.

**Local Arrangements (Richard Casagrande):** Dick was well involved in preparations for the meeting. He also provided a "Know Before You Go" via email before the meeting.

**Corporate Support Coordinator (Jim Steffel):** We currently have 11 Corporate Sponsors for the meeting. Ongoing mergers and reorganizations have complicated finding correct contact information for at least 2 sponsors, however, Jim hopes to still get them on board. As of today there will only be two sponsors with displays. The meeting size and the amount of travel corporate representatives do at this time of the year hinders willingness to participate in the displays. Income from Sponsors should be \$8,000 or possibly a bit more depending on enlisting those not yet contacted. We can anticipate losing at least two Sponsors for the 2018 meeting to consolidation in the Plant Protection Industry.

**Linnaean Games (Doug Pfeiffer):** We currently have 4 teams ready to participate in the Linnaean Games; Penn State, Virginia Tech, University of Delaware, and URI.

**Student Competition Committee (Yong-Lak Park):** There are 30 total presentations for the student competition; 10 B.S./M.S. oral presentations, 10 PhD oral presentations, and 10 student posters. Note that the last year's competition had 14 posters, 9 Ph.D. oral presentations, and 17 B.S./M.S. oral presentations. Overall, the total number of presentations is reduced from 40 in 2016 to 30 in 2017.

Judges for the student competition are:

- B.S./M.S. Student Contest (Oral): Harold Harlan, Douglas Sponsler, and Bill Lamp
- PhD Student Contest (Oral): Rob Morrison, Gary Torrasi, and Sally Taylor
- Student Contest (Poster): Beth Choate, Dan Gruner, Paula Shrewsbury, and Kevin Rice

Guidelines and judge forms have been distributed to the judges. There is a PC and projector for the student oral competition as well as a backup for each. Winner's emails will be sent to the Treasurer and he will mail the award checks.

### **New Business:**

There are a number of committee vacancies opening up (Nominations Committee; Screening for ESA Awards Committee, Chair and Co-chair; Student Affairs Committee, Co-chair; Local Arrangements Committee; Student Competition Committee, Co-chair) as well as President Elect.

Official dates for the 2018 annual meeting are March 16-20. We should bump up submission dates for planning purposes. Possible events discussed for the meeting include: ESA reception Saturday night, CCB workshop with Floyd, CV Riley Foundation book event. There was some

discussion on whether to condense the meeting because of the International IPM Symposium dates.

Speaker ideas for the 2018 meeting include:

Joe Palka (NPR), Washington Post, Mary Roach (Science writer).

The Southeastern Branch has proposed a joint meeting in Georgia for 2020. A joint meeting would prohibit driving and we should send a survey to the membership to gauge interest. There is interest to implement student travel awards for this and other Eastern Branch meetings. The North Central Branch does something similar (<http://www.entsoc.org/northcentral/NCB-student-travel-awards>).

**Meeting Adjourns: 4:25 pm**

SOCIETY OF AMERICA  
EASTERN BRANCH  
FINANCIAL STATEMENT,  
March 1, 2017

November 30, 2015	\$65,449.93
<u>Fund Location</u>	
Wells Fargo Bank, High Performance Money Market, Annapolis, MD (Savings)	\$12,102.77
Wells Fargo Bank, Annapolis, MD (Checking)	\$10,143.39
The Bank of Delmarva, Salisbury, MD (Reserve)	<u>\$43,203.77</u>
Total	\$65,449.93
 Total Funds Available	 \$65,449.93
 June 1, 2016	 \$74,809.89
<u>Fund Location</u>	
Wells Fargo Bank, High Performance Money Market, Annapolis, MD (Savings)	\$12,105.29
Wells Fargo Bank, Annapolis, MD (Checking)	\$19,229.64
The Bank of Delmarva, Salisbury, MD (Reserve)	<u>\$43,474.96</u>
Total	\$74,809.89
 Total Funds Available	 \$74,809.89
 March 1, 2017	 \$74,809.89
<u>Fund Location</u>	
Wells Fargo Bank, High Performance Money Market, Annapolis, MD (Savings)	\$12,110.33
Wells Fargo Bank, Annapolis, MD (Checking)	\$19,222.64
The Bank of Delmarva, Salisbury, MD (Reserve)	<u>\$43,882.69</u>
Total	\$75,215.66
 Total Funds Available	 \$75,215.66

Mark C. Taylor, ESA-EB Treasurer.