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Events of Special Interest to ECPs in Denver

The ECP Committee has been hard at work preparing a series of educational programs for the Denver meeting for the benefit of ECP members. [Review the program book and mark your personal scheduler](#) so you don't miss these:

- A *Sunrise Session* entitled, "Achieving Success as a Mentor Through Implementation of Effective Mentoring Strategies"; **Sunday, November 5, from 6:30-7:45 am in Colorado Convention Center, Room 705/707.**



Get up early for this engaging, informative and interactive session led by Cindy Simpson and Dr. Donna Dean from the [Association for Women in Science \(AWIS\)](#), a global network that promotes leadership in STEM through research, advocacy, and career-focused initiatives. Mrs. Simpson and Dr. Dean have conducted over a hundred workshops and authored books on mentoring strategies for scientists, bringing a wealth of knowledge on this topic to ESA. The workshop will incorporate group discussions teaching ECPs how to enhance their effectiveness as mentors. Come away from the workshop being able to identify the dos and don'ts of being a good mentor and incorporate those skills into your professional development and lab culture.

- A *Lunch-and-Learn* entitled, "Science Policy 101 for the Entomologist"; **Monday, November 6, from 12:15-2:45 pm, Colorado Convention Center, Room 705/707.**

This program is being co-hosted by the ECPs and ESA's [Science Policy Fellows](#), a motivated group of scientists that are working to become effective advocates for entomological research. This workshop will teach you how to practice strategies to engage with elected officials or policy makers for those science policy issues that matter most to you. There will be hands-on training in communicating your science most effectively, combined with networking opportunities with other entomologists that share a passion for science policy. The workshop will be led by an experienced panel who will guide us through becoming more engaged at the federal, state, and local levels, with tips on how to get those conversations started.

- A Program symposium entitled, "Igniting the Spark: Science Communication by the Next Generation of Entomologists"; **Tuesday, November 7, from 1:30-5:30 pm.**

We are thrilled to announce that our keynote speaker for this event is science journalist Flora Lichtman. Flora is currently the host of "[Every Little Thing](#)", a Gimlet Media podcast. Her reporting includes numerous projects spanning radio, video, and writing. You can find her contributions in "Bill Nye Saves the World" (Netflix), *The New York Times*, NPR's *Science Friday*, *The Atlantic*, *Popular Science*, and she is a co-author of the book, "Annoying: The Science of What Bugs Us". Following the speakers, stay for the panel discussion and **ECP reception** where you can mingle with the speakers and each other.

- An interactive Workshop entitled, "Making the Switch: A Beginner's Guide to R for Those Familiar with Other Packages"; **Wednesday, November 8, from 1:30-5:30 pm.**

The workshop will be led by Dr. Drew Tyre of the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, who will provide you with an introduction to key components of R, including importing data, data manipulation, making figures, fitting a model, and making predictions. Be sure to bring your laptop to participate in basic coding procedures and install R Software before the meeting. Advance registration is required and can be done when you register to attend the Annual Meeting.

Save Money by Registering before the Early Bird Deadline Sept 13, and Reserve Your Hotel Room Now to Get the Best Rates

It's time to register for [Entomology 2017](#), where 3,500 entomologists will gather to "Ignite. Inspire. Innovate." in Denver. ECP members can take advantage of the member discount on registration before September 13. [Reserve your hotel room for the meeting](#) as well. [Watch this video to learn more about Entomology 2017](#), and [register for Entomology 2017 today!](#)

Be Sure to Purchase a Ticket for this Year's New Awards Breakfast with Founders' Lecture

Join us for ESA's first-ever awards breakfast. Help recognize your colleagues and peers for their outstanding achievement as award winners. All ESA Professional Awards, ECP Awards, and Certification and Entomological Foundation award winners will be recognized at this breakfast. You'll also learn about the life and work of Ana Botsford Comstock, the first woman professor at Cornell University, during the Founders' Memorial Lecture by Dr. Carol Anelli. An optional ticket is

required; full breakfast buffet is included.

Consider Judging the Student Competition this Year

Share your knowledge and experience by helping to judge either a poster or 10-minute oral presentation this year during the annual Student Competition for the President's Prize. Sign up for judging while [registering for the meeting](#). You may select which type of presentation you wish to judge and the date (Sunday or Monday). Training is provided at the meeting.

Serving on ESA Committees Helps Boost Your Career

Get involved! Serving on the ECP Committee or on other ESA committees provides you with an opportunity to be involved in the direction of the Society by providing an early career perspective to ESA leaders. Serving also allows you to learn about how ESA governance works, to develop leadership skills, to build your CV, and to network with ESA leaders that often times have open positions in their Branch or Sections. Current and former ECP members are now serving on many ESA Committees and in other leadership positions.

New Scope for the Annals of the ESA

The Annals of the ESA is one of ESA's oldest journals, currently in its 110th year of publication. In 2016, the Annals announced a change in direction and a new scope, with a focus on stimulating dialogue across the entomological disciplines and advancing cooperative interaction among diverse groups of entomologists. The new Annals especially welcomes articles covering developing areas of research, controversial issues or debate, and topics of importance to society. The editors are also interested in working with authors on collections of articles on a common topic of broad interest, such as the [recent collection on Filth Fly-Microbe Interactions](#) or the forthcoming special collection on Science Communication. The most important criteria for acceptance are quality of work and breadth of interest to the readership.

If you are interested in learning more about the new Annals of the ESA, or have questions about a particular paper, visit <https://academic.oup.com/aesa> or contact Editor-in-Chief Larry Hurd at hurdl@wlu.edu.

ESA Webinar Archives are now Easier to Search

Learn new techniques, review best practices, and brush up on your skills through ESA webinar archives. The [archives](#) have recently been updated for ease of searching by category. Watch eNews and your inbox for upcoming webinars on interviewing skills.

Want to Get Involved?

If you have any thoughts, suggestions, or questions for the ECP Committee, please contact us by emailing esa.step.committee@gmail.com or by joining our ESA network at <http://esanetworks.org/>.

Meet the 2017 ECP Committee



Ms. Lina Bernaola is a PhD student at the Louisiana State University studying the mechanistic basis of plant resistance against above-ground and below-ground organisms in rice. Primarily, she studies the effects of mycorrhizal fungi, a symbiotic soil borne organism, on rice resistance to insect herbivores. Lina has been actively involved with ESA since 2013. She has presented her research at several national and Southeastern Branch meetings. Through ESA, Lina has gained opportunities to learn and practice leadership skills and to network with fellow entomologists. Previously, Lina served as student representative of the P-IE Governing Council and Student Affairs Committee of the SEB-ESA. Currently, she is the Student Representative to the ESA Governing Board and a member of the SAC.



Mrs. Kyndall Dye-Braumuller is a vector surveillance supervisor at the Harris County Public Health Mosquito and Vector Control Division, in Houston, TX. Her work focuses primarily on creating a surveillance program for hard ticks and kissing bugs in order to identify risk to residents in the county for various arthropod-borne diseases. She received both a BS in Entomology and a BS in Environmental Health Science from the University of Georgia, and she received her MS in Medical Entomology from the University of Kentucky. During her masters program, she became highly involved with the Student Affairs Committee of the ESA, and she is very much looking forward to serving ESA as the MUVE representative to the ECP Committee.



Katelyn Kesheimer is an integrated pest management agent with Texas A&M Agrilife Extension in Lubbock, Texas. She works directly with producers, commodity groups, and other researchers to implement sustainable growing practices for a variety of crops on the High Plains. Her research interests include aphid biology and their interactions with natural enemies. She recently finished a postdoctoral appointment at the University of Kentucky studying bed bug behavior. Katelyn is excited to be a part of ECP and become engaged in such a beneficial society. As part of the ECP committee, she hopes to advocate for all professionals of any career, and provide support for those in this unique phase.



William R Kuhn (Will) is an evolutionary biologist, currently working as a National Science Foundation (NSF) Postdoctoral Research Fellow in Biology at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. He completed his PhD in 2016 at Rutgers University-Newark under the advisement of Dr. Jessica L. Ware, with a dissertation entitled “Three approaches to automating taxonomy, with emphasis on the Odonata (dragonflies and damselflies).” In that work, he applied computer vision and machine learning methods to build an automated species identification system for Odonata based on images of their wings. His current research aims to expand upon his dissertation work in order to allow identification of Odonata (and potentially other insects, as well) from less-constrained, field images of these insects, allowing any user—whether a researcher, citizen scientist, or enthusiast—to rapidly identify dragonflies and damselflies just by snapping a picture of one. In addition, he is a Senior Collaborator for another NSF grant, which aims to create a complete image dataset of all North American Odonata, allowing his wing-based automatic

identification system to be updated for all taxa in this region and giving researchers a new tool for answering broad questions about odonate evolution.



Dr. Erika T. Machtinger is a Post-Doctoral Scientist with the USDA, ARS in Beltsville, MD. She received her BS from the University of Delaware in Wildlife Conservation and her MS and PhD in entomology from the University of Florida. Erika was raised in the natural areas surrounding the coast of Maine, which fostered her love of the environment and wildlife. Erika has worked at the USDA-BIIRL Laboratory in Newark, DE and also as a wildlife biologist and environmental scientist. Because of her involvement with the equine industry, Erika focused her doctoral research on biological control of filth flies. In her current position, Erika is combining her wildlife background and investigating host targeting integrated control of ticks.



Dr. Amy Morey is a post-doctoral researcher with the Minnesota Invasive Terrestrial Plants and Pests Center and the University of Minnesota Department of Entomology. Her research broadly centers on the intersection of species distribution modelling, invasion biology, and risk assessment. The goal of her current work is to improve methods used to characterize and forecast invasive insect distributions. Amy has been active in ESA since 2008, presenting at yearly branch and national meetings, participating in the Linnaean Games, volunteering, and serving on the North Central Branch Student Affairs Committee. She is thrilled to continue being strongly connected with the ESA community and actively contribute to its function as a member of the ECP Committee.



Dr. Rob Morrison is a Research Entomologist with the USDA-ARS Center for Grain and Animal Health Research in Manhattan, Kansas. He is currently researching behaviorally-based management strategies for controlling stored product pests, including attract-and-kill. Rob's long-term research interests include understanding how semiochemicals modify plant product-insect interactions, and how we can exploit this knowledge to improve the sustainability of agriculture. Rob has been active in ESA, serving on committees in the North Central and Eastern Branches of ESA, as well as regularly judging student competitions. He is excited to be serving on the ECP Committee and to be the ECP liaison to the Education and Outreach Committee of ESA, because he believes it is important to increase science literacy among the public.



Dr. Jhalendra Rijal is currently working as an Area Integrated Pest Management Advisor with the University of California Cooperative Extension and UC Statewide IPM Program. The major responsibility includes conducting applied pest management research and educating pest control professionals, growers, and other stakeholders in adopting IPM activities. Jhalendra's research and extension activities cover major insect pests of tree fruits (peach, cherry), tree nuts (almond, walnut) and other commercially important crops in the San Joaquin Valley, California. Jhalendra has been a member of the ESA since 2009. As a Pacific Branch representative of the ECP Committee, Jhalendra aims to help ECP members (student-in-transition, postdocs, and early career professionals) in their career path by recognizing their contributions to the Entomological science.



Ms. Isobel Ronai has joined the ECP committee as the International Branch member and is keen to boost ESA's international reach. She is about to hand in her PhD thesis at the University of Sydney (Sydney, Australia). Isobel's PhD investigated the genetic and mechanistic basis of worker sterility in the honey bee. She is particularly fascinated by genetics and plans to pursue a career in insect genetics, potentially in the US. During her PhD, Isobel was involved in a few committees and even helped organize a conference. Isobel really appreciates ESA's support of ECPs as they provided her with a travel grant attend the ICE 2016 conference.



Dr. Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris joined the ESA in 2010 as a graduate student at Washington State University. She is currently a postdoctoral research associate at Cornell University. Her research interests include landscape ecology, biological control, and the development of innovative IPM practices in specialty crops. She has greatly benefited from being involved in ESA; her leadership roles have included chairing the ESA and 2016 ICE Student Affairs Committees and organizing the Student Debates and symposia. In addition to her membership on the ECP Committee, she is also a member of the P-IE Governing Council. Rebecca would like to help other members become engaged with ESA, please contact her with any questions or suggestions regarding how ESA can better serve its members.



Dr. Ana María Vélez is an Assistant at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln. Her research focuses on understanding how insects respond and adapt to chemical and biotechnology stressors. She is specifically interested in current and emerging technologies used for insect pest management such as transgenic plants that express toxins from *Bacillus thuringiensis* (Bt) and RNA interference (RNAi). For Ana, her ESA membership has been extremely valuable since it has provided her with an opportunity to share her research, to network with fellow entomologists, and to meet friends and colleagues every year. As the ECP Committee Chair, Ana is eager to advocate for the needs of the STEP community, her main goal is to improve support and recognition of early career professionals. In addition, Ana is interested in promoting diversity and inclusion in the STEP community.