



Issue 8 – December 2016

In This Issue:

- Plan Early for Entomology 2017 in Denver, November 5-8, 2017
- Renew Your ESA Membership before December 31
- Take Time to Build New Skills and Learn New Techniques through ESA Webinar Archives
- Early Career Professionals Symposium a Big Success at ICE 2016
- Mark Your Calendar for ESA's Webinar on How to Be a Great Mentor
- Plan Early for ECP Awards – New Submission Deadline June 1
- ESA Early Career Professionals SPOTLIGHTS
- New ESA Website Provides Helpful Information at Your Fingertips

Plan Early for Entomology 2017 in Denver, CO, November 5-8

Ignite your entomological passion, inspire new research collaboration, and innovate through science communication and new connections! The submission site for Program Symposia and Workshops is now open, and early career professionals are encouraged to organize both. The Early Career Professionals Committee is already working on developing a workshop; and others are encouraged to organize symposia and workshops as well. **The deadline to submit will be here before you know it - Tuesday, January 31, 2017.**

For program symposia, submissions should highlight the 2017 theme, cut across multiple ESA Sections, and feature an innovative way to interact with the audience (make it fun and engaging). Submissions featuring students and early-career professionals will be given extra consideration in the most competitive submission categories! Workshops focused on science communication and professional development are strongly encouraged and should get attendees out of their seats, using their hands to experience an interactive educational experience. Learn more and submit here - <http://www.entsoc.org/entomology-2017-submissions>

Plus, next year's meeting is unlike any other – featuring new and exciting opportunities to enhance the conversation on entomology. New and exciting events include: 3-minute Lightning Bug Talks, Sunrise Science Sessions, revised Workshops and Lunch & Learns, and more. Learn more here. <http://www.entsoc.org/events/annual-meeting>

Renew Your ESA Membership before December 31st so You Don't Lose Benefits

Remember that only current ESA Early Career Professional members receive this ECP newsletter along with notification of applicable awards and other valuable and important news from ESA. So please renew your membership before December 31 to be sure you aren't dropped from communications and miss out. Renew today.

http://www.entsoc.org/membership/join_renew/renew_form

Over the Holidays, Take Time to Build New Skills and Learn New Techniques – with ESA's Archived Webinars

As an ESA member, you have exclusive access to a valuable library of ESA webinars on a variety of topics to help you grow professionally. Take time over the holidays to visit the archive found here -

<http://www.entsoc.org/members-only/resources/esa-webinar-archives>

Mark Your Calendar for ESA's Webinar on How to Mentor – February 8

Drop the date of February 8 into your calendar so you don't miss the, "Mentoring Tips and Tricks for Early Career Professionals" scheduled at 2:00 p.m. U.S. ET. Dr. Tracy Leskey will lead the program, and she shares the following overview: "You are responsible for managing people, but how do you juggle getting the job done, inspiring your mentees, and empowering your grad students to be the best they can be? Let me help teach you how to be a good leader, traits to look for in mentees, how to tailor your mentoring to each individual, and more." Watch ESA's eNews for more information on webinars coming soon!

<http://www.entsoc.org/resources/esa-upcoming-webinars>

Early Career Professionals Symposium a Big Success at ICE 2016

Nearly 70 early career professionals enjoyed the ECP Committee-sponsored symposium, "Global Entomological Collaborations", presented in September during ICE 2016. Speakers shared their experiences and wisdom on the unique benefits and challenges of undertaking entomology in an international arena, and provided their recommendations to the audience on how to build global networks and jump-start and maintain collaborations, and how to use these to enhance careers and research. Following the presentations, ICE Travel Award winners were honored during a reception.

Plan Early for ECP Awards – New Submission Deadline June 1.

Earlier this year ESA launched four new awards specifically for early career professionals (ECPs). It's not too early to begin thinking about nominees for these awards. Consider nominating yourself or a deserving ECP individual for one of these awards honoring individuals who have greatly contributed to the science of entomology. Note that the awards deadline for 2017 is June 1.

- The [ECP Outreach and Public Engagement Award](http://entsoc.org/awards/step-outreach-and-public-engagement-award) will honor a student transition or early professional member working within the field of entomology that has demonstrated excellence, leadership, and creativity in outreach and public engagement. <http://entsoc.org/awards/step-outreach-and-public-engagement-award>
- The [ECP Research Award](http://entsoc.org/awards/step-research-award) will recognize a student transition or early professional member who has made outstanding research contributions to the field of entomology. <http://entsoc.org/awards/step-research-award>
- The [ECP Teaching Award](http://entsoc.org/awards/step-teaching-award) will recognize a student transition or early professional member who excels in entomological education. <http://entsoc.org/awards/step-teaching-award>
- The [ECP Extension Award](http://entsoc.org/awards/step-extension-award) will be given to a student transition or early professional member who excels in entomological extension. <http://entsoc.org/awards/step-extension-award>

ESA Early Career Professionals SPOTLIGHTS

How did you become interested in entomology? What is your current research focus? What are your career goals? We want to hear from YOU about why you are doing what you do. This is your chance to [take the spotlight](#) and tell the world about the work you are doing and what is so great about entomology.

Learn about other early career professional members and how they are involved in research, teaching, outreach or extension and are enjoying their work in insect science. Or, [submit your own information](#) and a photo to be spotlighted on ESA's website. Answer one question or all of them. Additional topics include: Describe how ESA has broadened your horizons. Describe a favorite experience while attending an ESA meeting.

<http://www.entsoc.org/resources/early-career-professionals/early-career-news-and-spotlights>

<http://www.entsoc.org/ecp-spotlight-submit>

New [ESA Website](#) Provides Helpful Information at Your Fingertips

With the redesign of ESA's website, you'll find all the information you need with a click or two. Under "Resources" > [Early Career Professionals](#)" you can find links to your account, the Career Center, ESA journals, webinars, ESA meeting activities, ECP newsletters and SPOTLIGHTs, Branch and Section information – and more! If you have comments on the website, please let [ESA HQ know](#).

<http://www.entsoc.org/>

<http://www.entsoc.org/suggestion-box>

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 post-doctoral researcher with the USDA-ARS at the Appalachian Fruit Research Center in West Virginia. He is currently researching attract-and-kill technology to manage the brown marmorated stink bug in apples, and is also investigating its native predator community. Rob's long-term research interests include understanding how semiochemicals modify plant-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 STEP Committee and to be the STEP 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.