A. **Message from President Megha Parajulee**

It is an incredible honor to serve as the President of the i-Branch. As an ESA member for 27 years who has served with the ESA International Affairs Committee leadership during the formation of the International Branch, I have witnessed the birth and steady growth of this Branch and its role in serving the global entomological community. We, as i-Branch members, must take great pride in contributing toward making ESA a truly global entomological society. In just eight years since its formation, i-Branch has grown to become 13% of the total ESA membership, and the membership has expanded to 78 countries. International networking and professional development, enhanced research collaboration, and international symposia on contemporary entomological issues will continue to be our focus as we serve the global audience. Part of the new agenda this year will be to transition our annual symposium from a physical meeting to a virtual symposium to better serve our diverse, worldwide membership. Our leadership team is working closely with ESA Central to develop ways to facilitate this transition. As a founding member of i-Branch, I am always reminded that “the purpose of the Branch is to promote entomology for the advancement of science and the benefit of society through: scientific and professional communications, outreach on science and public policy, program development, continuing education, and fostering interest in entomology; and to promote and further the interests of the Entomological Society of America.” The key difference with our Branch is that our membership is diverse, our audience is large, and our territory is without boundary. I am excited for the continued opportunity to work with our global entomological audience.

The state of the Branch is strong with a positive balance of funds and sustained membership. On behalf of the i-Branch membership, I thank the 2016 i-Branch Governing Board and President Dr. Maggie Hardy for her exceptional leadership and expect the continued guidance to the Branch. I also welcome President-Elect Dr. Maya Evenden (Canada), Secretary Dr. Rory McDonnell (Ireland), Treasurer Dr. Ayyasamy Regupathy (India), and ESA Governing Board representative Dr. Livy Williams (USA) to the 2017 i-Branch Governing Board and look forward to working with this great Team to serve this exceptionally vibrant Branch.

B. **Entomology 2017: Ignite. Inspire. Innovate.**

Entomology 2017 will be held November 5-8, 2017 at the Denver Convention Center in Denver, Colorado. The theme “Ignite. Inspire. Innovate.” highlights a vision to increase science communication within the research community. More information on the annual meeting can be found at this link [http://www.entsoc.org/events/annual-meeting](http://www.entsoc.org/events/annual-meeting)

C. **2016 Governing Report now online!**

D. Member news

If you have news that you think is interesting to the i-B membership, please contact the i-B Secretary, Rory Mc Donnell (rory.mcdonnell@oregonstate.edu), to have it posted on the website or included in the next newsletter.

We sincerely thank the following for their involvement with International Branch services

2016 i-B Governing Board

President Megha Parajulee (USA) m-parajulee@tamu.edu
President-Elect President-Elect (2018) Maya Evenden (Canada) mevenden@ualberta.ca
Past-President Margaret C. Hardy (Australia) m.hardy@imb.uq.edu.au
Secretary Rory McDonnell (Ireland) rory.mcdonnell@oregonstate.edu
Treasurer: Ayyasamy Regupathy (India) ayyasamy.regu@gmail.com
Governing Board Representative Livy Williams (USA) livy.williams@ars.usda.gov

Awards Committee
Robin Gunning (Chair, Australia) robin.gunning@industry.nsw.gov.au
Arash Zibaee (Iran) arash.zibaee@gmx.com
Yulin Gao (China) ylgao@ippcaas.cn
Shahbaz Ahmad (Pakistan) shahbaz.iags@pu.edu.pk
Wen-Po Chuang (Taiwan) wenpo@ntu.edu.tw
Qiao Wang (New Zealand) Q.Wang@massey.ac.nz

Committee on Education and Outreach
TBA

Committee on Finance
Ernest Delfosse (USA) delfosse@msu.edu

Committee on Student Affairs
Brogan Amos (Australia), brogan.amos@uqconnect.edu.au

Committee on Membership
Gert Venter (South Africa) venterg@arc.agric.za

i-B member on ESA Certification Board
Juan Rodriguez (Saudi Arabia) juan.mrodriquez@yahoo.com

i-B Representative on PIE Nominations Committee
Mao Chen (USA) mao.chen@monsanto.com

i-B Nominations Chair
Vitor Antonio Pavinato (USA) vitor.pavi@gmail.com

i-B Representative on the Early Career Professional Committee
Isobel Ronai (Australia) isobel.ronai@sydney.edu.au

ESA STEP Committee Award Judging Panel
Maya Evenden (Canada) mevenden@ualberta.ca

ESA Special Committee on Science Policy
Esther Ngumbi (USA) enn0002@auburn.edu