

Executive Committee Meetings, Feb. 2012

Secretary-Treasurer Report, 2011-12

Submitted by Jesus F. Esquivel

1. On 26 April 2011, via electronic mail, President Knutson indicated all members of the EC approved the following two proposals regarding the Joint Meeting with the Southeastern Branch:
 - a. Accept the registration fee schedule proposed by the Southeastern Branch. Student volunteers from the Southwestern Branch will be refunded \$25.00 of their registration fee for their service (This has been the general policy of the SW Branch in the past, although sometimes suspended if economics required). The SW Branch discontinued the one-day registration fee, but will make an exception for the joint meeting if the SE Branch wishes to provide this option.
 - b. Student Awards Ceremony be held following the final Linnaean Games competition. Each Branch will host its own Student Awards Ceremony to present awards for Student Paper and Poster Contests and Linnaean Games. The purpose is to recognize students for their accomplishments in front of their peers. This also shortens the joint Branch Awards Luncheon ceremony. Other Branch-specific awards will be presented at the joint Branch Awards Luncheon. Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel contacted Bonnie Pendleton, Chair of Student Paper and Poster Competition, and Phil Mulder, Linnaean Games host, and both support this proposal.
2. On 29 April 2011, via electronic mail, President Knutson informed ESA Central that the Executive Committee of the SW Branch has approved the transition of the SW Branch web site to ESA Central.
3. On 05 August 2011, via electronic mail, President Knutson informed the SW Branch Executive Committee that that Branch members overwhelmingly favored a change in the By-Laws to allow a change in voting procedures for nominating a Branch Secretary-Treasurer-Elect. Of the 483 SW Branch members, 104 (22%) cast ballots and, of these, 95% were in favor of the change. The Nominating Committee will now nominate two candidates for Secretary-Treasurer-Elect. Prior to this change, Nominating Committee only nominated one candidate for the office.
4. Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel participated in the Awards and Honors Committee Meeting held on 15 November 2011 during the course of the ESA's Annual Meeting. Committee Chair Jim Cilek moderated and reviewed activities related to two (2) charges to the Committee by President Delfosse, including changes to Committee Roster:

- a. Charge #1 was to examine the ESA Awards Program to determine whether changes were needed to increase the nomination base of ESA and Entomological Foundation Awards. Committee suggested prominently posting award availability on ESA website via weekly issues of eNews, and ESA Staff responded positively. Committee Members contacted leaders from institutions within their Section and Branches but did not see a subsequent increase in nominations. Finally, ESA Staff implemented a new marketing plan that included providing more exposure of Award availability to ESA members in subsequent years.
 - b. Charge #2 was to “develop a new award, entitled the ESA Diversity Award, to be given annually in recognition of an individual or group that has contributed to the diversity of future entomologists through teaching, research, extension/outreach, or mentoring.” Award protocol and description was submitted to Governing Board; Board voted not to support the Award.
 - c. Dr. Scott Armstrong, the current Chair of the Southwestern Branch’s Awards and Honors Committee, replaced Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel on the national Awards Committee. Dr. Armstrong’s term began at conclusion of the 2012 Annual Meeting and terminates at the end of the 2015 Annual Meeting.
 - d. Under New Business, a request was submitted by Diane Alston for clarification on single pass-through nominations from each Branch for two (2) Distinguish Achievement Awards (Extension and Teaching) and one (1) Entomological Foundation Award (Excellence in IPM). For each of these Awards, each Branch can only nominate one individual to represent the Branch at the National competition level. Thus, *the identified individual is the Branch representative, not the Branch winner* of respective Award.
5. Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel participated in the Branch Treasurer’s Meeting held on 15 November 2011 during the course of the ESA’s Annual Meeting. Moderator and ESA Staff Member Neil Willoughby reviewed timeline for activities leading to Joint Branch Meeting, and reminded Treasurers to submit bank statements by 15 January 2012.
 6. Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel participated in the Branch Leaders Meeting held on 15 November 2011 during the course of the ESA’s Annual Meeting. President Del Delfosse moderated and identified Pam Reid as the ESA Branch and Section Liaison for communicating online election needs and services. Ms. Reid specified 16 May as a deadline to receive slate of nominees for elections (e.g., Secretary-Treasurer-Elect). The issue of Branches “endorsing” a candidate for ESA’s national offices was broached and was ultimately determined that each Branch should make own decision whether to “endorse” a candidate. Incoming ESA President Grayson Brown shared goals for his term, which included: 1) increase member diversity; 2) implement technological advancements to aid in conduct of Annual Meeting; and, 3) increasing international expansion of the Society through recruitment of international members. President Knutson indicated the issue of “endorsing” a candidate would be added as an agenda item under New Business of the 2012 Business Meeting of the Southwestern Branch.

7. On 19 January 2012, President Knutson and Executive Committee met via teleconference to address issues related to Joint Branch Meeting, Branch site being hosted by ESA Central, election of Secretary-Treasurer-Elect, identification of meeting site for 2013 Branch meeting, Youth Science Committee, and Awards and Honors Committee. **Outcomes of this teleconference have been provided ahead of the 2012 Joint Meeting of the Southeastern and Southwestern Branches and will be included with minutes of said meeting.**
8. On 30 January 2012, via electronic mail, President Knutson and Secretary-Treasurer Esquivel received a request from Erin Jones, Southwestern Branch Student Affairs Committee Chair, that Executive Committee consider providing financial support for an informal student mixer at a public location during the course of the Joint Meeting of the Southeastern and Southwestern Branches of the ESA. Executive Committee voted to not support the informal student mixer.
9. On 30 January 2012, via electronic mail, Executive Committee received a request from Dr. Phil Mulder, Member of Linnaean Games Committee and Moderator of Branch Linnaean Games competition, that the Committee consider approval for Branch to purchase light and buzzer system for the conduct of Linnaean Games. The system was estimated at approximately \$500. President Knutson indicated the system would be added as an agenda item under New Business of the 2012 Business Meeting of the Southwestern Branch.
10. On 8 February 2012, Dr. Tom Royer submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee requesting a vote on modification of the Constitution By-Laws and Standard Operating Procedures of the Public Information Committee. Executive Committee voted in favor of proposal to reduce number of Public Information Committee members from 6 to “at least 3” but changes to Constitution require vote from the Membership.
11. On 8 February 2012, President Allen Knutson and Dr. M.O. Way, Chair of Youth Sciences Committee, submitted a proposal to the Executive Committee requesting a vote on modification of the Standard Operating Procedures of the Youth Sciences Committee. If approved, proposal is brought before the General Membership for a vote during the Final Business Meeting of the Branch.
12. On 23 February 2012, Pamela Reid, ESA Manager for Marketing and Member Relations, notified SWB Executive Committee via electronic mail of outcome for voting upon 2012 Secretary-Treasurer-Elect. Of the 69 ballots cast, Dr. Jerry Michels received 70% of votes; Dr. Carlos Bográn received remaining 30%.