



Issue 1 – October 29, 2014

Greetings from the Student Transition & Early Professionals (STEP) Committee!

The STEP committee looks at specific needs that are not being met through other measures to support student transition and early professional members of ESA. This committee is a tool for recognizing the perspectives of and experiences from the STEP population, and helps develop the next generation of ESA leaders. With STEPs as active and engaged members, the society is renewed and evolves. We welcome you to read through our inaugural newsletter and invite STEPs to register for our leadership symposium at the annual meeting.

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1. STEP SYMPOSIUM – “Challenges and Opportunities for Future Leaders: A Training Workshop for Student Transition and Early Professional Members of ESA”

Sunday, November 16, 2014 from 1:15– 5:15p.m., at the Oregon Convention Center, Ballroom 256.

***Free lunch included! **Limited to 50 participants so sign up soon!**

This workshop is open only to Student Transition and Early Professional members and will involve discussions on:

- Becoming effective leaders and working in teams
- Managing the early years of the next career step
- Emerging career opportunities in entomology

*details can be found [here](#)



Discussion will be led by **Tobias Spanier** from the University of Minnesota. As a leadership specialist (and non-entomologist), Tobias works on leadership and civic engagement in communities, specializing in team building and leadership for multicultural audiences. Toby has been with Extension for more than 12 years and has spent the last 25 years working to make improvements in communities through educational experiences. In Extension, Toby has contributed to the Community Youth Development Program Area and the Center for Community Vitality by providing research, education and strategic advice to individuals, organizations and communities.

Sign-ups for the workshop will be managed through the Student Volunteer site.

1. Go to <https://secure.rotundasoftware.com/l/enrollment/ESA>
2. Fill out the contact information in the top portion of the screen
 - 2a. Under t-shirt size, please select "not applicable"
3. From the available "jobs", please select STEP Workshop
4. A calendar will appear below with the available workshop spots. Click on STEP Workshop and submit the form.
 - 4a. If there are no available spots left in the main workshop sign-up, you can add the job "STEP Workshop Waitlist" and select one of those spots instead.

You will receive an email confirmation once your registration has been received and processed. If you have any questions at all about using the sign-up form, please contact [Katherine Matthews](#).

2. MEET THE STEP COMMITTEE



Dr. Jeff Bradshaw is an Associate Professor and Extension Specialist of Entomology at the University of Nebraska – Lincoln, where he studies applied ecology and host plant resistance in wheat, dry beans, sunflower, sugar beet, and rangeland and coordinates IPM-based Extension programming for western Nebraska. Dr. Bradshaw currently serves on the ESA STEP and Calendar Committees and is the Secretary-Treasurer of the North Central Branch. He finds the STEP committee to be an opportunity to help learn more about the needs of this very important demographic of ESA and to help shape its future to better serve our diverse and growing science. The STEP committee has also been a great way to connect; with peers and great ideas. The workshop *Becoming effective leaders and working in teams* and similar events at previous ESA meetings offer additional value that is customized for the ESA STEP demographic.



Dr. Hannah Burrack is an Associate Professor of Entomology and Extension Specialist at North Carolina State University. She works on applied insect ecology and management in field and horticultural crops, specifically focusing on understanding the ecology of insect pests in

tobacco and small fruits and utilizing this information to enhance pest management. Hannah is particularly interested in landscape scale management issues, host preference behavior, and invasive species biology. She is also developing projects in specialty crop systems, including hops.



Theresa Cira is working on her PhD at the University of Minnesota. She received her B.S. in Entomology from the University of Wisconsin Madison. Her dissertation research is focused on *Halyomorpha halys* (Stål), the brown marmorated stink bug (BMSB), an invasive agricultural insect pest. She is investigating basic biological questions about diapause, overwintering, and cold-temperature limits as well as management options for this species. Additionally, through a minor in

Science, Technology, and Environmental Policy, Theresa is studying how science intersects with policy, practicing translating between the two fields to broaden the potential impact of her entomological research.



Ian Grettenberger is a PhD student at Penn State University studying sustainable pest management via increased crop diversity in the form of variety mixtures.

Through ESA, Ian enjoys connecting with other entomologists and making use of the many opportunities for professional development. Ian will be participating in the upcoming STEP symposium on leadership at the annual meeting in Portland.



Dr. Wendy A. Johnson is currently an Extension Associate in the Field Crop Entomology Lab at Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS. Johnson's interests include applied research in field crop biocontrol services and plant-insect interactions, as well as integrated pest management programs that incorporate wireless information delivery and increased use of social media platforms to enhance interactions with stakeholders. Johnson's leadership roles while a member of ESA include Student Representative to the Governing Board, Student and Young Professionals Committee member, Undergraduate Scholars Committee member, NCB-SAC Member, and President's Student Representative to the Governing Board.



Dr. Julie Peterson grew up in Louisville, Kentucky and joined the ESA in 2007 as a brand new graduate student. Since then she has completed a PhD at the University of Kentucky and a post-doc at the University of Minnesota. In March of this year, Julie began as an Assistant Professor and Extension Specialist at the University of Nebraska's West Central Research & Extension Center in North Platte. She currently focuses on integrated pest management and resistance management for field crops, with interests in biological control, arthropod food webs, and agroecology. She has found incredible value in her ESA membership from both a professional and social point of view; by

doing things like playing Linnaean Games, serving on North Central Branch committees, and applying for ESA awards, she felt she not only had an advantage on the job market, but also made friends and had a lot of fun.



Travis Prochaska is working on his PhD under the supervision of Drs. Tiffany-Heng-Moss and Gautam Sarath at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln on the biochemical, physiological, and anatomical insights of insect-bioenergy grass interactions to help better understand the potential insect resistance mechanism among defined switchgrass populations. As the Student Representative to the ESA Governing Board for the past two years, Travis has been able to learn about the topics of interest that STEP and other members find valuable to build webinars and ESA workshops to give back to the

society. This has allowed him to make new contacts that STEP can potentially utilize in future projects to add value to the STEP membership.



Dr. Jennifer Tsuruda works for Clemson University as the extension specialist in apiculture for South Carolina. She is developing an extension program to educate beekeepers, kids, and the public about the importance of honey bees and pollinators and works to breed bees that are resistance to hive pests. Jennifer is proud to serve on the STEP committee and aims to support the members of ESA who want to take strides in attaining their

career and personal goals. STEP membership has benefited Jennifer in providing opportunities to work with fellow STEPs, as well as governing board members of ESA, to help drive the future of ESA and its members.

3. 2016 XXV INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY

What opportunities can ICE 2016 offer you?



A unique event will happen September 25-30, 2016 in Orlando, Florida: the ESA is hosting the 25th International Congress of Entomology. With an estimated 6,000 people in attendance, this should be the largest gathering of scientists, students, and other experts in the history of our discipline!

As STEP members we often need to budget our time and our money, so travel to conferences may be difficult. However, ICE 2016 will offer many events and opportunities of particular value for those of us who have recently graduated, are seeking job opportunities, and/or are building our careers and professional networks in challenging new jobs:

- The career center will provide a unified location where prospective employers and graduate advisors can post open positions during the ICE, as well as allow students and early professionals to post CV's in order to connect with potential employers. Interested in working outside the US? This center will include international jobs, postdocs, and graduate positions too!
- Join the "Student/Recent Graduate Showcase" to promote yourself and your work-providing an international platform from which to give a "job talk" to prospective employers, collaborators, and colleagues. (More info on how to participate will be provided later.)
- Make contacts, find a mentor, build networks, and start collaborations at one of the additional events, including International Linnaean Games, Student Debates, Student Reception social event, and Women in Entomology breakfast.

ICE 2016 will be a truly global conference- and the opportunity to present to a worldwide audience can provide valuable presentation experience and international exposure for your research. We have the chance to share what we do with the world, as well as gain new perspectives and ideas from a diverse and global audience. I hope to see you there!

- For important dates and deadlines, visit www.ice2016orlando.org/about/calendar
- To subscribe to ICE 2016 updates, visit www.ice2016orlando.org/subscribe
- [Register for the webinar](#): Networking Internationally at ICE 2016
- Attend the Lunch and Learn at Entomology 2014 ([more details here](#))

4. THE VALUE OF PUBLISHING IN ESA JOURNALS

The ESA publications program is designed to meet the professional needs of the ESA membership, reflect emerging areas of interest and research in entomology, and promote entomology in all its sub-disciplines for the advancement of science and the benefit of society. The Society's new publishing partnership with Oxford University Press made it possible to dramatically enhance the value of Society membership by eliminating page charges for ESA subscription journals. Check out our [at-a-glance view of each journal and its features](#). Oxford's global infrastructure and dedicated marketing team should triple the reach of ESA journal content. Besides publishing new journal issues, OUP will also host the full archive of ESA journal articles going back to 1908. In addition, all authors who publish with ESA will receive free PDFs of their final published articles, which they can deposit in their institutional and/or centrally-organized repositories immediately upon publication.