



ENTOMOLOGICAL
SOCIETY OF AMERICA
MEDICAL, URBAN, AND VETERINARY ENTOMOLOGY

MUVE NEWSLETTER

June 2021

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[Dr. Michael Reiskind](#),
President

[Dr. Ed Vargo](#),
Vice President

[Dr. Rebecca Trout-Fryxell](#),
Vice President-Elect

FROM THE PRESIDENT

"The Need for MUVE Policies and Procedures"

I will keep this presidential message brief and to the point. I have been working on the MUVE Policies and Procedures, a document that, like the U.S. Constitution, is the "how-to manual" for governing our Section. What's that? You've never heard of the MUVE Policies and Procedures? Well, that is because it hasn't previously existed. A bit like our old mother country, the United Kingdom, MUVE operated with an unwritten set of policies and procedures. This received wisdom was not necessarily wrong or bad (the UK runs moderately well without a written constitution). However, it did suffer problems of continuity, faulty memories, and a lack of clarity of responsibilities and powers. A written set of policies and procedures will rectify this by codifying how MUVE is run.

Sometime in late summer we will post the draft Policies and Procedures for public comment. This will be your chance to weigh in on how MUVE is governed. At our highlights and business meeting at the [ESA Annual Meeting](#) (October 31-November 3), we will have a first reading of the Policies and Procedures (don't worry, this will take the form of them posted as a poster for your perusal; I won't read them in my normal monotone). Then we will vote for their adoption (or not) at the final business meeting (Wednesday morning, November 3). I am very hopeful you will be active MUVE constituents throughout this process, especially by



[Dr. Christopher J. Geden,](#)
Secretary

[Dr. Sonja Swiger,](#)
Treasurer

[Dana Nayduch,](#)
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[Dr. Mustapha Debboun, BCE,](#)
Governing Board Representative

providing thoughtful feedback during the public comment period. I believe a well thought-out set of Policies and Procedures greatly strengthens MUVE and allows it to function at a high level in perpetuity.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: MUVERs



Help us highlight MUVE members and bring their work into the spotlight! Please send any MUVERs news to be included in future newsletters and tweets to [Michael Reiskind](#) or [Bethany McGregor](#).



Johnalyn Gordon, Ph.D. student in the DeVries Urban Entomology lab at the University of Kentucky. Johnalyn recently received two urban entomology scholarships including the Pi Chi Omega Alain VanRyckeghem Memorial Scholarship and the Pest Management Foundation scholarship.



Edward Vargo, Ph.D., professor and endowed chair in urban entomology at Texas A&M University. Ed was named the 2021 Distinguished Achievement Award winner by the National Conference on Urban Entomology, recognizing his significant contributions to urban entomology. As the award winner, Ed delivered the Mallis Memorial Lecture at the [National Conference of Urban Entomology and Invasive Pest Ant Conference](#).



Robyn Nadolny, Ph.D., biologist and the chief of the Molecular Biology Section at the US Army Public Health Center at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland. Dr. Nadolny's Tick-Borne Disease Laboratory operates the [MitTICK Program](#). She recently published several papers in collaboration with other researchers; one focusing on [novel Rickettsial pathogens in bat ticks](#), and [one differentiating between Ixodes affinis and Ixodes scapularis ticks](#) using stacking image photography.

NEWS BRIEFS



Photo by Matt Bertone

MUVE Networking Event this Thursday

Join us this Thursday, **June 24** at 1 p.m. ET for a MUVE networking event. The general topic is "Different Career Pathways in MUVE." But there are no restrictions on what topics people talk about--the point is to talk to each other! We will start by hearing several short descriptions of different career paths, and then break into small groups. [Save the Zoom link](#). ID: 94681669236, Passcode: 267485

Elections for MUVE Vice President-Elect

We have four excellent candidates for the Vice-President Elect position. To remind you, this position is a four-year commitment, as the elected person will become the Vice-President Elect, then Vice President, then President, and finally Past President. As such, this person will be influential in shaping the future of MUVE. Please [check out their statements](#), and be sure to vote between July 19 and August 18.

MUVE Endorses Addition of Early Career Professional Position to the ESA Governing Board

Consideration for adding an ECP member to the ESA Governing Board was recently approved to move to the voting phase. The society-wide vote, where all members can weigh in on the topic, will be held July 20 - August 19. The MUVE Governing Council has voted to endorse adding an ECP position to the ESA Governing Board. An ECP representative to the Governing Board would serve the society in the following ways:

1. Ensures that a member of the Governing Board provides the perspective of an Early Career Professional member.
2. Bolsters the retention of ECP members in our Society while giving opportunity to future leaders.
3. Provides a direct link between the ECP Committee and the Governing Board.

MUVE section leadership views these attributes as beneficial to ESA and encourages its members to vote *in favor* of adding an ECP position to the Governing Board. Any questions or comments can be directed to the MUVE ECP representative, [Karen Poh](#).

Blog Post Highlights from *Entomology Today*

- [When Mosquitoes Go to Bed for Winter, and How It Can Inform Management](#)
- [Ants in the Nest: A Possible Emerging Pressure on Sea Turtles](#)
- [Need to Feed Mosquitoes? Head for the Freezer Aisle](#)
- [How Florida Mosquito Control Could Trim Disease in Northern States](#)
- [A New Look at the Dynamics of Human-Mosquito Contact](#)
- [Interagency Cooperation Drives Discovery of Lyme Disease Spirochete in Exotic Tick](#)

JEST MANAGEMENT

POLICY CORNER



The Lighter Side of ESA MUVE

This month, the MUVE Communications Committee is challenging you to name this arthropod! This critter mite be cute, but can you identify it to species? Send your best guess (or your best creative common name) to [Bethany McGregor](#). We will highlight folks who get the right ID or come up with the best creative common names in the August MUVE newsletter!



"Representing the Under-Represented in the Capitol Hill"

by Nicole M. Nazario-Maldonado, MS, ESA
Science Policy Fellow

Mosquito-borne diseases (MBD) such as dengue, Zika, and chikungunya are a very well-known public health burden in tropical and subtropical climates. Over 40% of the world population is at risk of dengue infection every year. This disease cost over 9 billion dollars of the world's economy. Dengue transmission has recorded an alarming increase in the United States. In the last decade, over 94% of dengue cases registered in the USA were travel-associated cases, while locally transmitted cases have been recorded in California, Texas, and Florida. During this period, the USA reported 490 locally acquired dengue cases, while the U.S. Territory of Puerto Rico had 29,800 cases. Puerto Rico is the U.S. territory with the highest incidence of dengue transmission in the entire nation. Dengue and its vector *Aedes aegypti* are endemic to this Caribbean island.

"Representing the Under-Represented in the Capitol Hill" (continued)

Millions of U.S. citizens from Puerto Rico are at risk of dengue infection every year due to the lack of effective integrated vector management (IVM). However, a significant challenge for this U.S. territory is that their citizens do not have the right to vote in federal elections. Consequently, they are under-represented on Capitol Hill, without any senators or representatives that can advocate for urgently needed funding and legislation to establish sustainable IVM strategies.

As a native Puerto Rican and first-year Science Policy Fellow, I am trying to encourage government representatives in Congress to prioritize proper legislation that can include the U.S. Territories to allocate the necessary resources to protect their people against MBD. A starting point is to influence members of Congress from Florida, New York, and other states whose constituency includes significant numbers of Puerto Rican populations transplanted from the Island. Puerto Rico is a hot spot for MBD in the Americas, and a key bridge for arbovirus introduction to the USA, due to its tourist industry and prominent interaction with Hispanic populations. In 2017, the Puerto Rico Vector Control Unit (PRVCU) was established through a cooperative agreement between the Puerto Rico Science, Technology, and Research Trust and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The creation of the PRVCU provided the opportunity to enhance the Island's capabilities to fight the arbovirus transmitted by *Aedes aegypti* through a modern and innovative IVM approach recommended by the World Health Organization. As part of the PRVCU, I recognized that it is necessary to implement

sustainable programs that can support government agencies and municipalities to change their mindset from traditional control methods to novel strategies such as larviciding, source reduction programs, sterile insect techniques, and integrating the people as key messengers to spread awareness of mosquito-borne diseases.

IIVM programs are the first line of defense to protect citizens against vector-borne diseases. However, this defense is fragile in U.S. territories. Providing secure and permanent funding for the U.S. territories to implement IVM will advance progressive action to protect their citizens. IVM will allow U.S. territories to understand their needs, establish proper surveillance systems, implement effective control methods, and engage with their communities towards a proactive and prevention vision.

ASK CLARY FLY



News and Advice for MUVE Student Members

Howdy fellow MUVers,

Clary Fly here, ready to share with you all the buzz about student activities in ESA. Since the deadlines for awards and presenting at the ESA Meetings have already passed, I'd like to take the time to talk more about student membership. Many students only consider student membership if they plan to attend an annual or branch meeting, but did you know being a member of ESA and MUVE can be a year-long benefit? Think about it, you'll have to pay the same amount of money for your membership before registering at a meeting but the earlier in the year you sign up the more use you can get out of your membership!

Most importantly, you will continue receiving emails from ESA, the MUVE section, and the Student Affairs Committee. These emails can help you not only keep up with meeting deadlines but also hear about current and new student activities available, and not just through ESA meetings. For example, this year there was a multitude of new student opportunities such as the [Rising Stars of Entomology Award Symposium](#), [Alate Award](#), [MUVE Mentorship Network](#), and [Professional Advancement Career Training \(PACT\) Initiative](#), just to name a few. In some cases, the emails can also make it easier to find the information online.

Plus, as aspiring entomologists, who are constantly reading and searching for arthropod-related articles, I'm sure we've all had the frustrating experience of not having access to a perfect article. But fear not! Your student membership gives you access to a vast library of entomological articles to which many institutions do not have a subscription. In fact, did you know as a student member you could even be published in *American Entomologist*? Student members are encouraged to submit topics which they wish to share with other students and can be selected to write an article in the [American Entomologist Student Life column](#).

Looking to develop your professional skills? ESA members receive access to both the live and archived [webinars](#) which cover a variety of topics like insect photography, statistics, job searching, and much more. Or, apply for the [ESA Science Policy Fellows Program](#) and get the chance to learn about federal policy in Washington, D.C. and engage with lawmakers, legislative staff, and federal agency leaders. Student members can also [upload their resume or CV](#) to ESA for potential employment opportunities.

I hope this helped you understand the additional rewards you can receive from becoming a member besides just attending meetings. ESA and MUVE are continuing to come up with new opportunities for students but you typically must be a member in order to apply. Plus, being a member will help you stay up to date on all the potential activities you could be taking advantage of throughout the year. If you have any questions or comments you would like for me to address in future newsletters, please feel free to send a message to vpicken@ksu.edu.

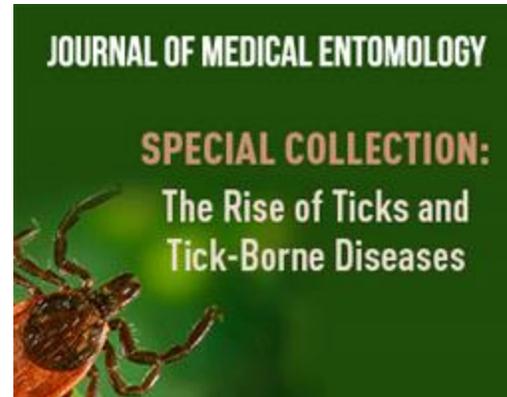
Cheers,

Clary Fly

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS

New Special Collection: The Rise of Ticks and Tick-Borne Diseases

The *Journal of Medical Entomology* published a collection of forum articles that discuss key accomplishments, significant information gaps, insights into trends and drivers, and identification of high priority needs in addressing the problem of tick-borne diseases. [Read the collection.](#)



Entomology Fraternity Awards Student Scholarships

Pi Chi Omega, a national entomology fraternity, has awarded over \$10,000 between five student scholarships to support students engaged in urban and industrial pest management studies. 2021 award recipients include MUVE members **Johnalyn Gordon** and **Christopher Hayes**. [Read more.](#)

Cooper, Pinto, Kraft Author New Bed Bug Handbook

Richard Cooper, Ph.D., technical director for Cooper Pest Solutions and research associate at the Urban Entomology Lab at Rutgers University, and **Larry Pinto** and **Sandy Kraft** of Pinto & Associates, Inc., have authored and released a new edition of their book *Bed Bug Handbook: The Complete Guide to Bed Bugs and Their Control*. [Learn more.](#)

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