



# Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section

## JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

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## Submit Proposals for 2023-2024 Science Policy Events

It's not too early to think about organizing a science policy field tour, workshop or other activity for 2023 or 2024. These can be collaborative events that promote learning and engagement in timely topics that challenge the plant-insect ecosystem science arena. The deadline for proposals is August 15, 2021. The P-IE Tour Oversight Committee composed of Johanna Elsensohn and Cheri Abraham are excited to assist with event ideas and proposals. Contact Johanna and Cheri with questions and for feedback on event ideas ([johanna.elsensohn@usda.gov](mailto:johanna.elsensohn@usda.gov), [cherimabraham@gmail.com](mailto:cherimabraham@gmail.com)). Science policy activity guidelines, and example budgets and stakeholder invitation letters are posted on the P-IE Tour Resources webpage (<https://www.entsoc.org/pie/tour-resources>). In September 2023, there will be a P-IE sponsored tour focused on invasive species, but a second event occurring in another part of the year can be supported. In 2022, we will sponsor a biocontrol field tour. Start brainstorming now on ideas for novel and engaging science policy educational events for 2023 or 2024. Submit your proposals to **David Onstad**, [dwonstad@gmail.com](mailto:dwonstad@gmail.com).

## Vote in the ESA 2021 Elections

The ESA Summer P-IE elections will be open between Monday, July 19 and Wednesday, August 18.

The positions and following candidates are:

#### **P-IE Section Vice President-Elect**

Cesar Rodriguez-Saona  
Lauren Diepenbrock

#### **P-IE Representative to Publications Council**

Eric W. Riddick  
Monica Farfan  
Anamika Sharma

#### **P-IE Section Governing Board Representative**

Melissa Willrich Siebert

#### **P-IE Section ECP Representative to the Governing Council**

Adrian Marshall  
Ashley Schulz  
Dalton Ludwick  
Kelsey Fisher  
Nicole F. Quinn

# Update on Amplifying the

## Wildly Important Goal to Highlight Pollinator Research in ESA



Interest in pollinators is booming across the U.S. and around the world. From the homeowner wanting to know how to create pollinator habitat in the garden, to farmers concerned about pollination of their crops, to policy makers wanting to know the current status of pollinators and what public policies are needed to support them.

Pollinators are also a strong focus of many ESA members – as demonstrated by the many talks, posters and symposia at our meetings. Our society includes the leading experts in pollinator research, teaching, and extension.

The committee who created the “Amplifying the Buzz” project, Kimberly Stoner (Kimberly.Stoner@ct.gov), Christina Grozinger (cmgrozinger@psu.edu), and Victor Gonzalez Betancourt (victorgonzab@gmail.com) will be sending out an email soon to all of those who participated in discussions during the Annual Meeting about how to bring pollinators to the fore on the ESA website.

### **We will be asking for content to populate a Pollinator Portal on the ESA website:**

- 1. We will be sending a Google Doc of Frequently Asked Questions crowdsourced from those discussions. We will ask you, as an expert on pollinators, to provide answers to those questions – identifying yourself by name and institution, so that the answers are not just generic responses, but can be traced to actual ESA member scientists.*
- 2. We will also send out (in the same email) a Qualtrics survey document asking for cool stories about your pollinator research. You can contribute a photo and a short description (400 words or less) highlighting what pollinator research you think would be most interesting to the pollinator-obsessed public.*
- 3. If we and the film makers at KQED find your research to be extra super cool (visually as well as conceptually) – and if it also fits into limitations of budget and travel – then KQED will make a video, in partnership with ESA, to be used in their science programming, ESA website, and social media to showcase pollinator research.*

The emails asking for this content will be going out soon. If you want to join us in Amplifying the Buzz, but you don't get an email from us, **contact Kimberly Stoner (Kimberly.stoner@ct.gov)**, and we will send the email to you, too! We hope to hear lots of interesting stories of pollinator research soon!

## **P-IE Governing Council Supports Adding ECP Rep to ESA Governing Board**

The P-IE Governing Council voted to support the creation of a permanent position for Early Career Professionals on the ESA Governing Board. The Council encourages P-IE members to vote for this change in the upcoming referendum. A permanent seat on the GB would give ECP equality with students and provide necessary focus on the long-term needs of the Society.

## **2021 Hot Topics Announced, Volunteers Needed**

At the P-IE Section Networking Session in Denver on 1 November, we will hold seven, concurrent, in-person discussions on hot topics related to the old ESA sub-sections: arthropod behavior, biocontrol, insect vectors of plant disease, insect pathology, quantitative ecology, forest entomology, and host plant resistance. We need volunteers to lead each of these round-table discussions. If you would like to help members discuss the future of these sub-disciplines and identify actions that our Section and Society can make to support members in these areas, please **contact David Onstad (dwonstad@gmail.com)**.

## **P-IE Section Invasive Species WIG Team**

The P-IE Section Invasive Species Wildly Important Goals team - currently composed of Diane Alston (Utah State University), Hannah Burrack (NC State University), David Coyle (Clemson University), Johanna Elsensohn (USDA-ARS), Sajjan Grover (University of Nebraska), Ann Mayo (Weatherford College & University of Nebraska-Lincoln), Phil Mulder (Oklahoma State University), and Ashley Schulz (Colorado State University) - is working with the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to develop a four-part webinar series that details invasive species detection, risk assessment, regulation, and information communication. The series will be available to all ESA members, but will be most relevant to P-IE members. The webinar schedule is still developing and will be announced by the beginning of August. If you have any questions about the webinar series or Invasive Species WIG team, please **contact Dr. David Coyle (dcoyle@clemson.edu) and Dr. Ashley Schulz (anschulz7@gmail.com)**.