

November 2017 Newsletter

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***Insect Systematics and Diversity: ESA's Newest Journal, Created for You***

ESA's newest journal, *Insect Systematics and Diversity* (ISD), is now accepting submissions. Developed to provide a home for ESA members publishing systematics, evolution, and biodiversity papers with no page charges for ESA members and no color charges, ISD welcomes integrative studies and articles that utilize novel technologies or data types or describe emerging methods of research.

As an online-only journal, ISD can accept articles of diverse lengths, from short communications to monographs and revisions of up to 200 pages. Because color is free, ISD welcomes papers with strong use of color photographs and imagery in support of their findings and discussion. The journal's subject sections are conservation and biodiversity; evolution; forum; methods; molecular phylogenetics, phylogenomics, and phylogeography; morphology and ontology; paleontology; short communications; and taxonomy.

ISD's editors are particularly interested in recruiting papers in the fields of biogeography, image-based research in comparative morphology, integrative taxonomy and species delineation, large-scale DNA sequence data generation for phylogenomics, comparative evo-devo studies, uses of insect phylogenies for studying trait evolution, and biodiversity conservation.

ISD has launched its first issue and will be publishing papers as they are accepted moving forward. To see the first issue of ISD, which will be permanently freely available to the public, visit <https://academic.oup.com/isd/>.

For more information on the journal, contact Co-Editors-in-Chief Sydney Cameron ([scameron@life.illinois.edu](mailto:scameron@life.illinois.edu)) and Jim Whitfield ([jwhitfie@life.illinois.edu](mailto:jwhitfie@life.illinois.edu)) or the ESA editorial office at [pubs@entsoc.org](mailto:pubs@entsoc.org). We welcome feedback and ideas from members of the SysEB Section.

**Graduate Student Endowment: Fund Raising Drive 2017**

Below is a letter from John Heraty regarding the Graduate Student Endowment:

Dear all,

I just wanted to update you on the state of the endowment for 2017. Good news all around. As of September 30, the principal is at **\$56,350**. The principle is managed by the Entomological Society of America in a restricted fund. The interest on the fund was valued at **\$6,076** as of September 30, 2017, and the SysEB executive decided that **\$6,000** will be put into the research

endowment award for 2018! This will be the largest amount available yet!!! Many thanks to all of the donors, it is beginning to make a big difference!

This year, the NSF had to eliminate the DDIG program This was a sad loss. Everyone recognizes the importance of the program, and the benefits of funding independent research. If we can make a *significant* change in the amount being put into the endowment, we can begin to offer more significant awards that will, just maybe, begin to fill the gap left by the loss of the DDIG. Of course, we need a more significant endowment. I have always talked about a \$100,000 goal. How about a \$1,000,000 goal. Far-fetched? Maybe not.

As we come to a close of the 2017 tax year, I hope that you would consider making a donation to the endowment. Please contribute, and contribute often ☺.

Sincerely,

John Heraty  
Endowment Organizer

Donate online:

<http://www.entsoc.org/syseb/syseb-student-research-endowment>  
<http://www.entsoc.org/syseb/donate-syseb-section> (donate here)

or, please mail your tax deductible check donations to:  
Entomological Society of America  
SysEB Section Graduate Student Endowment  
3 Park Place, Suite 307  
Annapolis, MD, 21401-3722, USA

Please add: "SysEB Graduate Student Endowment" to the note field on the check and indicate if you would like a receipt.

### **Michael S. Engel receives 2017 Thomas Say Award**

The Thomas Say Award, given by ESA in acknowledgement of a significant and outstanding work in the fields of insect systematics, morphology, or evolution, has been awarded to Dr. Michael S. Engel, professor in the Department of Ecology & Evolutionary Biology at the University of Kansas, and senior curator in the Natural History Museum's Division of Entomology.

Dr. Engel is an internationally recognized systematic entomologist and invertebrate paleontologist, working broadly on the evolutionary history of arthropods and most widely known for co-authoring *Evolution of the Insects* (2005). His research has contributed to an understanding of the geological history, phylogenetic relationships, past and present diversity, and evolution of many insect and related arthropod lineages, conducting work in 40 countries. He is also known for his studies on the systematics and biology of modern bees and Zoraptera.

Among other awards, Professor Engel was honored previously as a Guggenheim Fellow (2006), Fellow of the Linnean Society of London (2000), Fellow of the Paleontological Society (2008), and recently as an ESA Fellow (2017). Please join us in congratulating Dr. Engel!

**SysEB twitter account now live!**

As part of our outreach efforts, SysEB recently launched a twitter account (@SysEB\_Entsoc) as another platform to promote our section activities and highlight the work of our members. Please follow our new account and tweet at us about insect science!

**Communications and Outreach committee forming**

We are in the process of forming a new committee focused on improving section communication and outreach to the public. This new committee will maintain our section twitter feed, prepare short articles on section member activities for the SysEB website, and look at other ways that SysEB can fulfill its missions. Interested in joining the committee? Contact Chris Beatty at [Christopher.beatty@cornell.edu](mailto:Christopher.beatty@cornell.edu) for more information.