

From the 2020 President

My fellow Society members,

I recently came across this quote from Albert Einstein that I believe sums up where we are as a professional Society: *“Nothing changes unless something is moved.”*

With our roots dating back to the 1800s, ESA is recognized the world over as a reliable, reputable resource for developing and professional entomologists. Two of our journals date to the early 1900s, and our longest-tenured members have been with the Society for more than 60 years. That’s a lot of history. We want to honor that history and the legacy of those who built the Society, but we also have to adapt and evolve—particularly in such challenging times, with our social and economic fabric strained by the COVID-19 pandemic.

ESA is well-positioned to weather this storm. We have an engaged, growing, and energetic membership. Our annual meeting has grown by about 40 percent in the last 20 years. Our financial reserves are strong, despite the recent downturn in the financial markets, and our leadership is dedicated to building the ESA of the future.

We’re not without our challenges, though—some of which may be exacerbated by the current pandemic. Changes in scientific publishing are putting pressure on what has traditionally been our largest source of revenue, forcing the Society to investigate new ways to fund our strategic priorities. Our Branch meetings, which have long been a proving ground for students, are struggling financially, and our in-person 2020 Branch meetings were all cancelled or postponed due to COVID-19. And approximately 15 percent of our members don’t feel they have a home in one of our four Sections.

Your Society is working to meet these challenges. We have embraced diversity and inclusion as critical elements of our Society and the growth of our profession. Most recently, we launched two new key committees that will help to surface our leaders of the future: the Awards and Honors Canvassing Committee and the Leadership Development Committee. We have also embraced innovation as part of 2019 President Bob Peterson’s legacy and welcomed new programs such as the Antlion Pit. We are in the early stages of developing a program to help students and young professionals pursue careers outside of the academic track. We’re continuing to see successes from our science policy program as legislation that we have supported and, in some cases, helped to draft was passed into law, such as the Kay Hagan Tick Act and the SMASH (Strengthening Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health) Act.

ESA, like all organizations, is likely to see short- to medium-term disruption as the lingering effects of COVID-19 continue to impact the U.S. and global economies. But we will benefit from the fact that we have already been actively seeking new programs and ideas to balance out our expected reduction in publishing revenue. The groundwork already laid will give us a head start compared to other organizations that may have been operating in more of a “business as usual” mode leading into 2020.

No matter what challenges lie before us, we will continue to work to create a society that serves all who work with insects. As our 2020 Annual Meeting theme says, *“Entomology for All.”*

Thank you for giving me the honor of serving as your president.

Alvin M. Simmons, PhD



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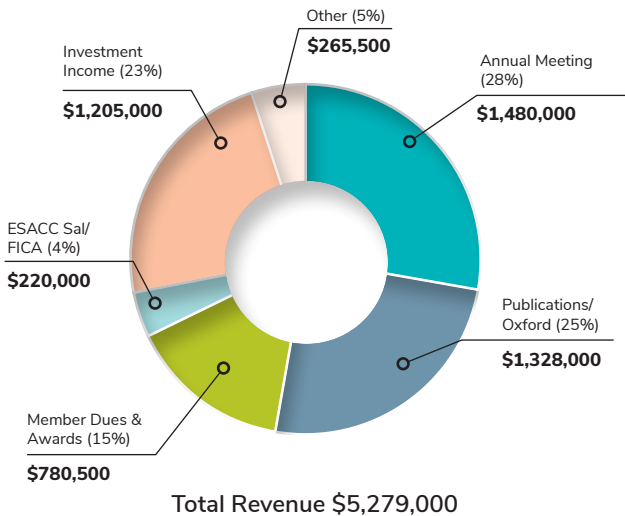
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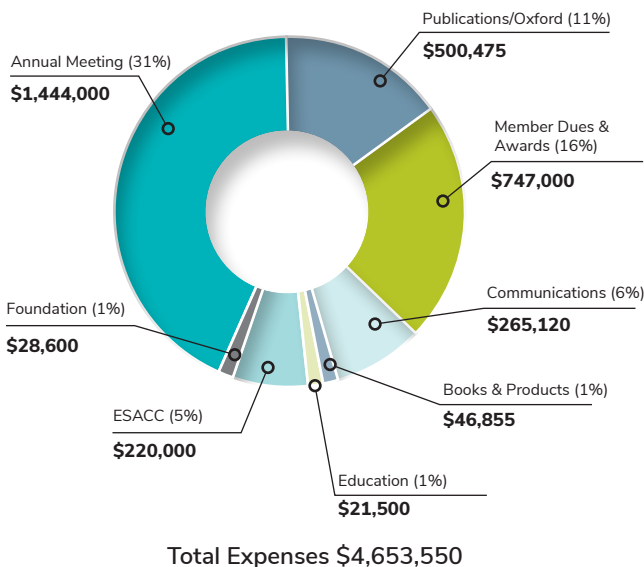
ESA Financial Updates

ESA maintains reserve funds that we designate as “financial” and “strategic” reserves, to ensure that ESA is protected from sudden financial shocks and to fund new programs and opportunities that are not part of routine operations. ESA’s reserves level as of December 31, 2019, remains in excess of one year’s operating budget. The developing situation with regard to COVID-19 will likely have financial impact for fiscal years 2020 and 2021, but our Society remains well positioned to absorb a decrease in assets during this time.

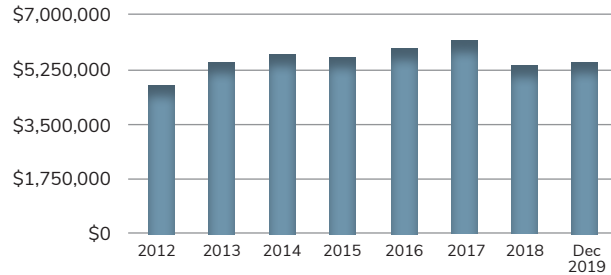
ESA 2019 Total Revenue



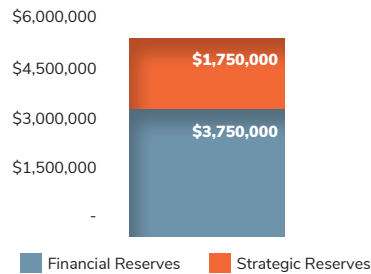
ESA 2019 Total Expenses



ESA Reserves



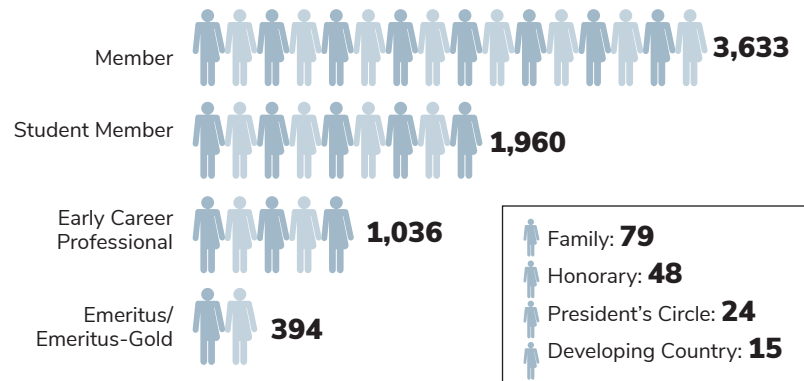
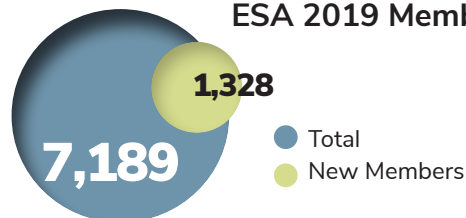
Financial vs. Strategic Reserves (2019)



How Are ESA's Strategic Reserves Used?

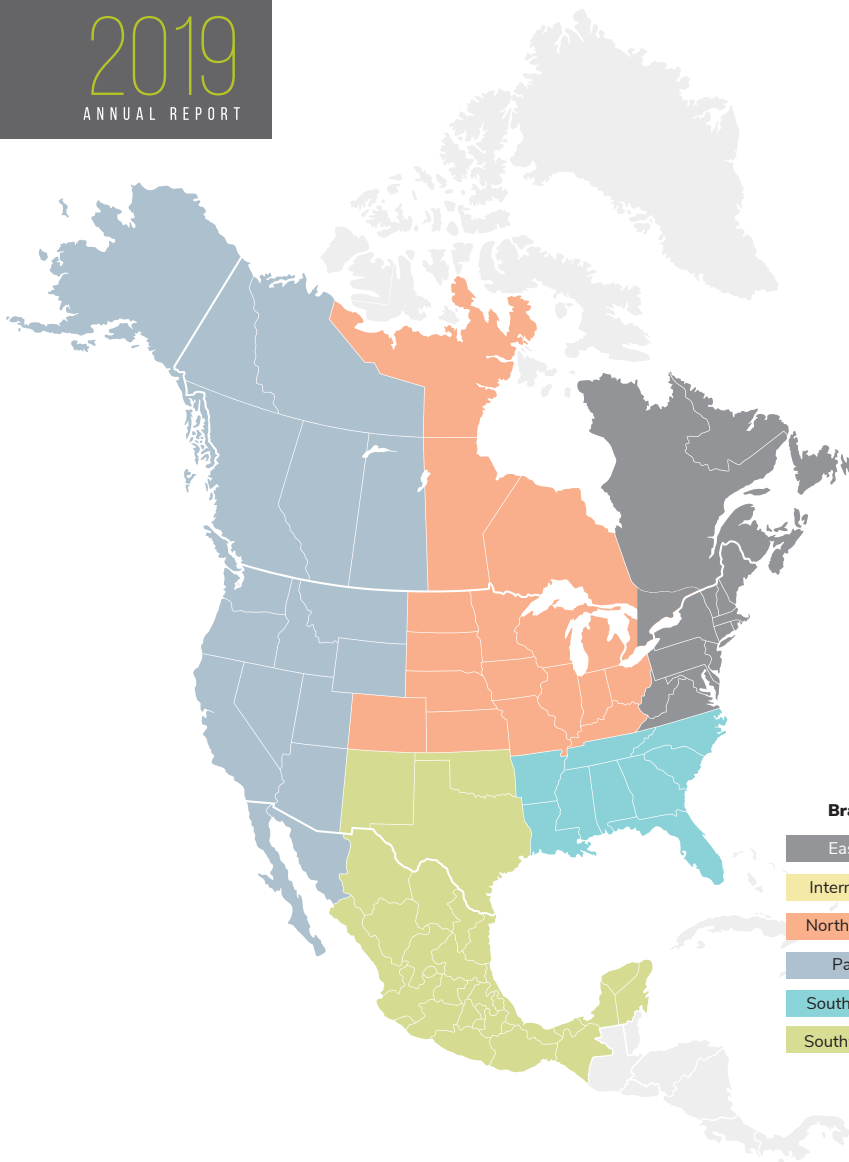
- One-time strategic programs
- Programs that increase value of membership
- Investment to generate or create new revenue streams for ESA

ESA 2019 Membership



Membership by Section





ESA's meetings continued to be strong throughout 2019. We had great engagement in the spring during our branch meetings leading to record-breaking student attendance in St. Louis to Advocate Entomology! in November.



International Branch

2019 Branch Meetings

Branch	Total Branch Meeting Attendance	# Members attending Branch Meeting	# Branch Members	% Branch Members Attending Meeting
Eastern	295	225	1532	14.6%
International	253	unknown	843	unknown
North Central	299	262	1688	15.5%
Pacific	270	201	1286	15.6%
Southeastern	328	295	1501	19.7%
Southwestern	160	139	619	22.5%



2019 Annual Meeting

Total Attendance: **3,653**



Members



Students



Non-Members



Early Professionals

Exhibitors: **190**

Emeritus + Honorary Members: **61**



51 exhibiting companies

6 Corporate Partners



58 countries represented

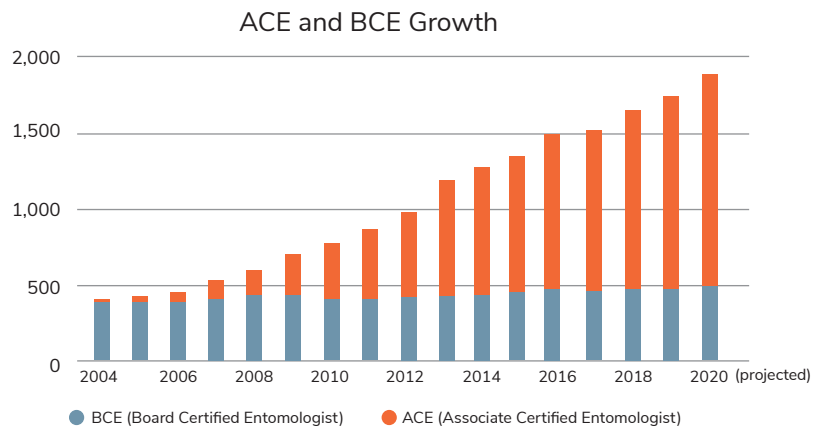


Key Advocacy Wins

- ✓ **Pollinator health:** Included among several priorities for the recent Farm Bill reauthorization, ESA advocated for the inclusion of language codifying the Pollinator Health Task Force. This task force was established by the 2014 Executive Order Creating a Federal Strategy to Promote the Health of Honey Bees and Other Pollinators. The final Farm Bill included ESA's requested language.
- ✓ **Vector-borne diseases:** ESA consulted on two important pieces of legislation regarding vector surveillance and management, the Strengthening Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health (SMASH) Act and the Kay Hagan Tick Act. Both were signed into law in 2019.
- ✓ **Entomological collections:** ESA supported the Museum and Library Services Act of 2018, which was signed into law on the last day of 2018. This legislation reauthorized the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which plays an important role in supporting museum collections as well as training the future workforce.
- ✓ **Science Policy Fellows:** The Class of 2019 is the fifth cohort of the Science Policy Fellows (SPF) program. The SPF program has enabled the growth of a wide range of significant relationships between ESA and Capitol Hill. Congressional offices are reaching out to ESA and the Fellows for input and expertise on legislation—a key goal of the program.

Certification Updates

ESA's certification programs remained strong in 2019, with ACE's continued growth and preparations for the launch of the Public Health Entomology Certificate (PHE) in partnership with the American Mosquito Control Association in early 2020.



Publication Highlights

New ESA Editors-in-Chief Appointed:

Journal of Economic Entomology



Mike Brewer



Nan-Yao Su

Environmental Entomology



Melody Keena



Therese Poland

10 Number of Special Collections Published:
(visit insectscience.org to view all ESA special collections)

Record Number of Submissions Achieved:

- *Journal of Economic Entomology*
- *Journal of Integrated Pest Management*
- *Journal of Medical Entomology*

Added to the Web of Science Emerging Sources Citation Index:

Insect Systematics and Diversity

Received First Impact Factor:

Journal of Integrated Pest Management, 2.333 (14th in Entomology category)

Improved Impact Factor:

- *Annals of the ESA*
- *Journal of Economic Entomology*
- *Journal of Insect Science*



Launched Redesign and Updated Content Lineup:
American Entomologist