PBESA 2025

“Mentoring - Resilience - Opportunities”

Salt Lake City, Utah

March 30 - April 2, 2025

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA
PACIFIC BRANCH

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Cover art by Celeste Huff, University of Wisconsin

Celeste Huff, University of Wisconsin

Sponsors of the 2025 PBESA Meeting

The Officers, Committee Chairs, and Members of the Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America wish to thank our sponsors, without whom our annual meeting would not be possible.

Gold Level

Silver Level

Bronze Level

Special thanks to Driscoll's, Gowan USA, Hubbard Agricultural Science, Noldus Information Technology, OSU Bug Club, Oregon State IPM Center, and Syngenta for sponsoring the PB-ESA Student Activities!

Meeting Information

Location

Hilton Salt Lake City
255 South West Temple
Salt Lake City, UT 84101
(801) 328-2000
https://www.hilton.com/en/hotels/slccchh-hilton-salt-lake-city-center/

Code of Conduct

By attending the 2025 Pacific Branch Meeting, you agree voluntarily to abide by our ethics policy. The full policy may be found online at https://entsoc.org/conduct. If you need to file a complaint, please contact Stacie East, Director of Grants and Equity at +1 (301) 731-4535 x3030 or seast@entsoc.org.

Registration

All participants must register for the meeting. Registration badges are required for admission to all conference functions. The meeting registration desk is located on the Second Floor of the Hilton Salt Lake City during the following times:

Sunday . . . . . 2:00 PM – 6:00 PM
Monday . . . . . .7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Tuesday . . . . . 7:30 AM – 4:00 PM
Wednesday . . . . . .7:30 AM – 9:00 AM

For more information, please visit the PBESA 2025 Conference website.

Schedule

Schedule changes and other information of general interest will be posted at the PBESA registration desk. Refer to the on-line program for the current schedule.

Employment Opportunity Center

Employers are invited to post job announcements and job seekers are encouraged to post their CVs on the designated board in the Grand Ballroom Foyer. Please bring enough copies of your documents for distribution (no photocopy service will be provided).

Recording, Photography, & Social Media Policy

PBESA requests that attendees do not take videos during sessions as they are disruptive to the presenters. If the presenter has granted permission by adding the "Photograph OK" logo, you are welcome to take photos, otherwise, please refrain from taking photos during talks. If you wish to take photographs of a poster, please check for the "Photograph OK" logo on the poster or contact the poster presenter for permission. If the presenter has granted permission to share information about their presentation/poster on social media by adding the "Social Media OK" logo, you are welcome to share the allowed content on social media.

Photography OK	NO Photography
	
Social Media OK	NO Social Media
	

PBESA reserves the right to use photographs and videos taken during the meeting for informational and promotional purposes. Thank you for your cooperation.

Lost & Found

Lost and found items may be turned in and retrieved at the ESA Registration Desk located on the Second Floor.

Presenter & Moderator Instructions

Guidelines for Speakers & Moderators

Speakers and moderators will follow standard procedures and practices for ESA meetings. Moderators are responsible for maintaining the schedule, by not starting any presentation prior to its scheduled time, and by not allowing a speaker to exceed the allotted time. If a presentation is canceled, the moderator must wait to begin the next presentation until its scheduled time. If there are problems with the computer/projector, or other equipment, please report to the ESA Registration Desk located on the Second Floor.

Poster Presentations

Poster Size: Posters must be contained within the 48 x 48 inch space provided. The poster must NOT exceed the size limit. Posters should be hung in their assigned space according to the poster number assigned. Bring your own Velcro strips or tacks to secure your display to the poster boards. All posters will be displayed in the Grand Ballroom Foyer at the assigned days and times.

Setup and Removal:

Student Posters

Setup: Monday, 8:00 AM - 9:00 AM
Removal: Monday, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Author Presence: All student competition presenters should be present at their posters between the following times: 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (odd numbers) and 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (even numbers).

General Posters

Setup: Tuesday, 7:00 AM – 8:00 AM
Removal: Tuesday, 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM
Author Presence: Contributed poster presenters should be present at their posters between the following times: 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (odd numbers) and 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (even numbers).

PowerPoint Presentations

Speakers who present submitted papers (Student Competition or General Session) must bring their PowerPoint files on a USB drive to the Operations Desk located next to the ESA Registration Desk preferably the day before their scheduled session. Student Competition and General TMP speakers must have their talks uploaded by 8:00 AM on the day of their talk. Mac users, please make sure your presentation file will be compatible with PC computers. Student volunteers will upload the file, and you will have a chance to look over the presentation to ensure that it has been transferred correctly.

Speakers who are presenting in symposium sessions should provide their presentations directly to their symposium organizer in advance of the session.

Questions about audiovisual needs can be directed to Andrea Joyce (ajoyce2@ucmerced.edu) or Luis Espino (laespino@ucanr.edu) prior to the conference, or by visiting the operations desk during the conference. Speakers with presentations that link to audio or video files are requested to provide advance notice to the session organizers/moderators.

Session Moderators & Student Competition Judges

Symposia session organizers, volunteer moderators, and judges for the student poster and paper competitions should review moderator guidelines and judging instructions. All judges should submit their rankings online by 6:00 PM on Monday, March 31 to finalize the student competition evaluations. Contact Heather Andrews at heather.andrews@oregonstate.edu with any questions.

Special Meetings & Events

Welcome & Plenary Session

The combination welcome session/plenary will be held from 6:00 PM – 7:00 PM on Sunday, March 31 in Alpine East.

We are pleased to present a Plenary Session by David R. Haviland presenting: "Entomological influences on the social structure and survival of early settlers in the intermountain west."

PBESA Executive Committee Meeting

The Executive Committee will meet
Sunday, March 30, 4:00 PM – 5:00 PM in the Aspen meeting room.

Entomology Games

Preliminary Round:
Sunday March 30, 4:30 PM – 5:30 PM in Alpine East. We will hold a pub-trivia style preliminary round (3 rounds with 7 questions each) where both student competitors and anyone interested in participating can partake in the fun. Students who are not currently on a team are encouraged to form ad hoc teams on site.

Traditional Buzzer-Style Finale:
Monday March 31, 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM in Grand Ballroom B.

Meet the Poster Presenters

Connect with poster presenters during our Poster Networking—a dedicated time to ask questions, exchange ideas, and dive deeper into groundbreaking research!

Monday – Student Posters (March 31st) 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (odd numbers) and 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (even numbers).

Tuesday (April 1st) 10:00 AM - 10:30 AM (odd numbers) and 3:00 PM - 3:30 PM (even numbers). Posters will be displayed in the Grand Ballroom Foyer.

Photo Salon

Be sure to stop by and check out the insect photo salon! Images will be on display on Monday and Tuesday in the Grand Ballroom Foyer. Thanks to Josh Milnes for organizing this year's photo salon and congratulations to all the winners.

PBESA Mixer

PBESA 2024-2025 President Silvia Rondon will host a reception for all registered PBESA 2025 attendees on Monday, March 31 6:00 PM – 8:00 PM in the Trofi Restaurant + Patio.

Student Mixer

Tuesday, April 1st 7:30 PM – 9:30 PM
Location: Poplar Street Pub
242 S 200 W, Salt Lake City, UT

Calling all students! Join us for an informal social event that provides a fun opportunity for student networking and decompressing. Take some polaroids and enjoy some refreshments!

LGBTQ+ Mixer
Monday, March 31st 8:00 PM – 11:00 PM
Location: Eleven
609 S State St, Salt Lake City, UT
It is encouraged to walk in groups to the event. The first group will meet up at 7:45 PM in the hotel lobby and meet every 30 minutes to walk together.

Join us for an informal social event celebrating the LGBTQ+ community in Entomology. This is a great opportunity to network and relax. We'll have fun activities to keep the vibes high, with some surprises along the way!

Please contact Michelle Au for questions (aumi@hawaii.edu)

Awards Luncheon

The PBESA 2025 Awards Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, April 1st 12:15 PM – 1:45 PM in Grand Ballroom A/C. Your full conference registration includes admission to the luncheon.

Entomolympics

Tuesday, April 1st 3:00 PM – 5:00 PM in Grand Ballroom B. Don't miss out on the 5th annual Entomolympics! Test your entomological skills against other teams (teams of 4) for a chance to win some awesome prizes! Games include:

- Build and display your amazing insect
- Who can assemble a bug dorm the fastest?
- How many insects are on the sticky card?
- Suck 'em up! - Aspirate all the insects
- Remember 3-legged races? How about 6-legged races?

Please contact Michelle Au for questions (aumi@hawaii.edu)

Student & Early Career Exploration Workshop

The Pacific Branch will host a Student and Early Career Exploration Workshop on Tuesday, April 1st 5:30 PM – 7:00 PM in Grand Ballroom B. The Pacific Branch Student Affairs Committee is hosting a Career Exploration Workshop for students to engage professionals in different fields of Entomology. You will hear from industry, government, academia and early career professionals. Bring your resume/CV for lightning round review and feedback!

Please contact Alexander Butcher for questions (butcheal@oregonstate.edu)

Special thanks to...

Driscoll's, Gowan USA, Hubbard Agricultural Science, Noldus Information Technology, OSU Bug Club, Oregon State IPM Center, and Syngenta for sponsoring the PB-ESA Student Activities!

Continuing Education Credits

Continuing Education Credits (CEC) have been applied for in CA, OR, HI and WA.

Stop by the registration desk for updates of which sections will count towards continuing education credits or contact Allison Walston for more information (Allison.Walston@valent.com).

Hotel and Local Information

Refreshments

Coffee and tea will be available during the breaks Monday through Wednesday. Light snacks will be offered at the PBESA Mixer. The Awards Luncheon on Tuesday is included with registration for all participants.

Hotel Amenities

Trofi Restaurant

Trofi offers a buffet breakfast, a la carte items, and patio seating.

Monday – Friday
6:30 am – 10:30 am

Saturday – Sunday
6:30 am – 11 am

Spencer's For Steaks & Chops

Spencer's for Steaks & Chops serves hand-cut steaks, fresh seafood, and an award-winning wine list.

Coffee in the Main Lobby

Proudly serving Starbucks Coffee
Monday – Sunday
6:30 am – 1 pm

Internet:

WiFi access has been set up exclusively for the PBESA meeting area. Please be courteous when using the internet during your stay. Refrain from streaming large files, such as video, so that everyone will have access to the internet.
Network: Hilton Honors Meeting
Password: slcevent

Parking:

ESA Attendees will receive half off of the current below parking rates at the Hilton Salt Lake City Hotel.

Self-parking - $35.00 per day
Valet parking - $45.00 per night

Local Area

The Hilton Salt Lake City is a two-minute walk from Salt Palace Convention Center. City Creek Center mall and Temple Square are both within a half-mile of our door. Cottonwood Canyon is 40 minutes away, offering summer hiking, biking, and climbing, as well as winter skiing. Enjoy on-site car rental, Starbucks® coffee, on-site dining, and an indoor pool.

Whats Nearby:

- Gateway Shopping Center - 0.50 miles
- The Depot - 0.80 miles
- The Leonardo Science Museum - 0.80 miles
- Children's Museum of Utah - 1 mile
- State Capitol - 1 mile
- The Cathedral of the Madeleine - 1 mile

2025 PBESA Meeting Organizers

Silvia Rondon
President

Erik Wenninger & Armando Falcon-Brindis
Program Co-Chairs

Marc Fisher
Secretary/Treasurer

Luis A Espino & Andrea Joyce
Operations

Jonathan Koch & Fabiane Mundim
Local arrangements

Cindy Myers
ESA Staff
Associate Director, Partnerships, Programs & Events

Becky Anthony
ESA Staff
Associate Director of Programs & Meetings

PBESA Leadership and Committee Information

Executive Committee Members

President: Silvia Rondon

Vice-President: Laura Lavine

Vice-President Elect: Angelita Acebes-Doria

Past President: David Haviland

Secretary/Treasurer: Marc Fisher

Members At Large:

2022-2025: Colin Brent, Stephen Onayemi

2023-2026: Luis Espino, Dong-Hwan Choe

2024-2027: Dowen Jocson, Adrian T. Marshall

PBESA Representatives

Governing Board: Mark Wright

ECP: Gabi Carmona

Awards & Honors: Gina Marie Angelella

Science Policy: Ricky Lara

Diversity & Inclusion: Erika M. Bueno

Education & Outreach: Grace Tiwari

Entomology Games: Genevieve Tauxe

Student Affairs:
Michelle Garwei Au, Alexander Butcher, Edwin Harris

Planning Committees

Program Chairs:
Erik Wenninger, Armando Falcon-Brindis

Operations:
Luis A Espino, Andrea Joyce

Local Arrangements:
Jonathan Koch, Fabiane Mundim

Site Selection:
Mark Wright, David Haviland, Silvia Rondon

Nominations and Awards Canvassing:
Tobin Northfield

Awards Selection: Jhalendra Rijal, Sean Prager

Continuing Education Credits:
Allison Walston

Entomology Games Chair: Dowen Jocson

Entomology Games Master: Robert Orpet

Photo Salon: Josh Milnes

Student-Organized Activities: Michelle Au

Student Competition: Heather Andrews

Student Travel Awards: Karol Krey

Career Fair: Alexander Butcher

Pacific Branch Recognition Awards in Entomology

The Pacific Branch of the Entomological Society of America is pleased to announce the winners of its 2025 awards! The Branch received 31 nomination packets for 13 different awards. Winners were selected by a diverse group of anonymous judges from the Branch. The awards will be presented at the Awards Luncheon.

Student Awards

Award	*Winner*	*Institution*
Pacific Branch John Henry Comstock Award	Hannah Chu	University of California, Riverside
Pacific Branch Student Leadership Award	Mia Lippey	University of California, Davis
Pacific Branch Dr. Stephen Garczynski Undergraduate Research Scholarship	Kaitai Liu	University of California, Davis

Professional Awards

Award	*Winner*	*Institution*
Pacific Branch C. W. Woodworth Award	Douglas Walsh	Washington State University
Pacific Branch Award for Excellence in Integrated Pest Management	Ary Faraji	Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement
Pacific Branch Distinction in Student Mentoring Award	Lauren Weidner	Arizona State University
Pacific Branch Distinguished Achievement in Teaching Award	Javier Gutierrez Illan	Washington State University
Pacific Branch Plant-Insect Ecosystems Award	Patrick Moran	USDA/ARS, Albany, CA
Pacific Branch Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology Award	Amy Murillo	University of California, Riverside
Pacific Branch Excellence in Early Career Award	Christopher Bibbs	Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement
Award for Excellence in Extension	Houston Wilson	University of California, Riverside
Pacific Branch Systematics, Evolution, and Biodiversity Award	Jason Bond	University of California, Davis
Entomology Teamwork Award	Ant IPM Alliance Team (lead by Dong-Hwan Choe)	University of California

2025 Pacific Branch Awards

C.W. Woodworth Award

Douglas B. Walsh
Washington State University

Dr. Douglas B. Walsh is a Professor and Extension Specialist in Entomology at Washington State University. Walsh is known internationally for his research on the modes of action and resistance mechanisms of acaricides and regionally in the Pacific Northwest for his research, Extension and outreach efforts on specialty crops.

Walsh received his BS in Biology from UC Santa Cruz in 1985 and PhD in Entomology from UC Davis in 1998. Walsh accepted the position of Assistant Professor at WSU in 1998 and progressed through to Professor in 2007.

Walsh has served as the research director of the Environmental and Agricultural Entomology Laboratory at the WSU Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center. Walsh is the Extension IPM Coordinator for Washington State and the Washington State Liaison Representative to the USDA IR-4 Program. Walsh leads a pest and pollinator management research and Extension program for Pacific Northwest commodities including hops, alfalfa, grapes, and mint. Walsh also directs environmental impact studies on alfalfa leafcutting and alkali bees, the key pollinators of alfalfa produced for seed. Walsh's efforts in IPM have resulted in the documented reduction of over 100,000 pounds of insecticide use in the Pacific Northwest annually. Walsh has authored over 200 publications and annually makes over 35 Extension presentations. Walsh has mentored 13 PhD and 11 MS graduate students at WSU.

Walsh has served the Entomological Society of America in numerous capacities, most notably as Pacific Branch President in 2010 and as the representative from the Pacific Branch on the ESA Governing board from 2013 through 2019. Walsh was Knighted into of the Order of the Hop (Chevalier) by the International Hop Growers Bureau in 2017. Within national ESA Walsh was elected as a Fellow in 2023.

Walsh has shared his life with his wife of 36 years, Catherine (aka Kikie). Kikie recently retired from her career as a Senior Software Engineer. Together they raised their children Claire, Russ and Jeff, all 3 of whom graduated from WSU. Claire resides in Everett, WA with her husband Cody and son Lowell. Claire is Lifecycle Marketing Manager with Niantic Labs. Russ resides in Prosser, WA and is a schoolteacher. Jeff resides in Renton, WA with his wife Chi where he serves as a Site Reliability Engineer for Meta.

John Henry Comstock Graduate Student Award

Hannah Chu
University of California, Riverside

Hannah is currently a Ph.D. candidate in the Murillo Lab at the University of California, Riverside. She earned her B.S. in Forensic Science from John Jay College of Criminal Justice, City University of New York where her honors thesis explored the effects of fentanyl and its metabolites on blow fly development. Her doctoral research focuses on the ecological dynamics of necrophagous insects, with an emphasis on blow fly community assembly

and population genetics. She hopes her research contributes to bridging fundamental ecological theory and applied fields like forensic entomology.

Beyond research, Hannah is a dedicated science communicator, engaging diverse audiences through outreach, educational materials, and community collaborations. She has contributed to science communication initiatives with the California Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation, working to make science accessible and actionable.

Hannah has received recognition for her research, education, and outreach efforts, including the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and an Exceptional Remote Teaching Award. She is an active member of the Entomological Society of America, contributing to student competitions and professional development initiatives.

Outside of her professional life, Hannah enjoys practicing and facilitating yoga, reading literary fiction, creating art, spending time in nature, and volunteering and spending time with her community.

Student Leadership Award

Mia Lippey
University of California, Davis

Mia is a 5th-year PhD candidate in the entomology graduate group at the University of California, Davis. She is co-advised by professors Jay Rosenheim and Emily Meineke in the fields of agroecology and urban entomology. Her research primarily focuses on the use of ecoinformatics "big data" to examine the impacts of various global change drivers on agricultural insect populations. Mia's ultimate goal with her dissertation work is to develop a trait-based framework to predict how both pest and beneficial insects will respond to changing landscapes and weather patterns in the coming years. Beyond entomological research, Mia's excitement is sparked by activities oriented around community-building, education, and outreach - all of which have informed her inclusive approach to science and mentorship. From Mia's childhood (spent catching rhinoceros beetles in the outskirts of southern Japan) to her current life in Davis, California, she has continually developed her relationship with nature through outdoor activities, which now include insect photography, running, and backpacking in the beautiful mountains of the Sierra Nevada.

Dr. Stephen Garczynski Undergraduate Research Scholarship

Kaitai Liu
University of California, Davis

My name is Kaitai Liu. I am currently a senior entomology student at UC Davis. Born and raised in Beijing, China, my grandfather sparked my interest in the world of insects in my childhood by catching me bugs like cicadas and grasshoppers to play with. After exploring and collecting insects in my hometown for thirteen years, I found myself especially fascinated with the highly diverse beetles among all insects. I decided to pursue a degree in entomology for my college career and study the taxonomy and systematics of beetles. In the summer of my freshman year, I joined Professor Jason Bond's Lab through the Research Scholar Program in Insect Biology at UC Davis. In the past three years, I have been involved in multiple projects. I assisted graduate students with generating morphometric data of the California turret spiders, *Atypoides riversi* and constructing 3D models of millipedes'

gonopods to investigate their skeletal musculature structure and homology. I am also involved in the California Insect Biodiversity and Barcode Project, where I select specimens from the Bohart Museum of Entomology and prepare them for DNA extraction and sequencing.

These experiences inspired me to form my research idea. While looking through the specimens at the Bohart Museum, I noticed that the rain beetles, family Pleocomidae, have a similar distribution pattern to the California turret spiders: significant geographic boundaries dividing the species into multiple spatially isolated populations, which may cause the formation of cryptic species group. I am interested in how geographic boundaries contribute to speciation by affecting gene flows and whether morphological characters accurately reflect the genetic diversity between geographically isolated groups. I also want to resolve the phylogeny of the rain beetles.

In addition to conducting research, I am an active member of the UC Davis Entomology Club and volunteer at the Bohart Museum of Entomology. I really enjoy sharing my knowledge and stories about insects with the public at outreach events, and I believe this is an important part of contributing to the development of entomology.

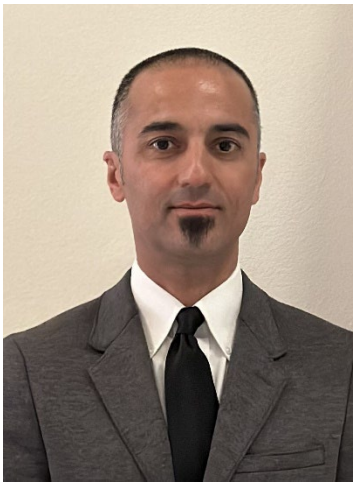
Excellence in Early Career Award

Christopher Bibbs
Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District

Christopher Bibbs is a public health entomologist dealing with zoonotic infectious diseases in local prevention programs. Previously, he has served on the American Mosquito Control Association's joint CDC training intervention as a master trainer during the U.S. Zika virus outbreaks. After a number of years, he moved to industry for the design and registration of adulticides and larvicides for public health vector management. Now at the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District, Chris directs applied research, vector surveillance, and internship programs ranging from high school to graduate students. His subject specialties emphasize insect physiology and behavior, particularly under environmental or insecticidal stress. Notable engagement areas in his early career include strategic use of spatial repellents, formulations for attractive targeted sugar baits, and tool development for vector control.

Excellence in Integrated Pest Management Award

Ary Faraji
Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District



Ary Faraji has been passionate about entomology since a very young age and has collected insects from all over the globe during the past 35 years. His professional career in entomology started when he first applied for a position as a Seasonal Vector Ecologist at a Southern California mosquito and vector control district in 1998. This position exposed him to not only entomology, but wildlife biology, parasitology, arbrovirology, molecular techniques, and most importantly, learning about Integrated Pest Management by working directly with mosquito surveillance and control techniques. He has pursued these interests in his academic and professional careers and has tried to combine applied research into real-world scenarios to better understand the biology and ecology of disease vectors, and to determine improved techniques for surveillance and control of mosquitoes and mosquito-borne diseases. He has published over 100 peer-reviewed manuscripts, in addition to best management practices and book chapters; delivered over 350 presentations at professional meetings and extension events; mentored dozens of

students; and garnered over $15 mil USD in external grant funding throughout his career. He has been the past president of many local associations in addition to the American Mosquito Control Association, and is the current president of the Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology section of the Entomological Society of America. His current employment with the Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District provides him the flexibility to pursue applied and academic research, in addition to mentoring students, and remaining active on a domestic and international level. He is most proud of utilizing the latest technologies in mosquito/vector control and providing reduced-cost alternatives to help enhance and improve the field of mosquito surveillance and control globally.

Distinction in Student Mentoring Award

Lauren Weidner
Arizona State University, West Valley

Dr. Lauren Weidner is an Assistant Professor of Forensic Entomology and the lab director of the Forensic Entomology & Wildlife Laboratory (FEWL) in the School of Interdisciplinary Forensics (SIF) at Arizona State University on the West Valley Campus. She is the past president of the North American Forensic Entomology Association (NAFEA) and a Diplomate of the American Board of Forensic Entomology (ABFE) being one of twenty-three certified in North America. The mission of her lab is to increase knowledge of insects as bioindicators in forensic contexts through scientific research and broad educational outreach including young learners, university students and forensic professionals. Her research explores the ecology and behavior of primary insect carrion colonizers, the impacts of different variables on the community assemblage of blow flies, the application of forensic entomology to archaeological investigations (i.e., gravesites, refuse pits), and insect wildlife biodiversity in ecologically sensitive regions including Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, Petrified Forensic National Park, and the Abisko Scientific Polar Research Station in Sweden. Since joining ASU six years ago, she has mentored 43 undergraduate students resulting in 28 presentations across local, regional, national and international conferences, 14 student competition awards and five publications with undergraduate student co-authors.

Distinguished Achievement in Teaching Award

Javier Gutierrez Illan
Washington State University

I am a biology instructor and conservation ecologist interested in the effects of environmental changes on biodiversity. My major research deals with the whys and wherefores of biodiversity from a biogeographical perspective. As a quantitative ecologist, my research pursues documenting biogeographical patterns of species distribution, behavior and phenology, with particular interest in insect population dynamics near their geographic range margins, as well as identifying the current and historical anthropic factors that underlie them. My desire to teach biological sciences at the highest level originated during my undergraduate education at University Complutense of Madrid (Spain), where enthusiastic professors were what motivated me to pursue exciting and committed teaching. Then, as a teaching fellow, I learnt how to give concepts that help students to retain a genuine interest in the subject in lectures and labs and to come up with their own unique take on future issues. I have taught and led numerous courses at undergraduate and graduate level in six Universities of four different countries in Europe and North & South America, most of them created from scratch. Now, I base my teaching on the belief that the only way to learn any

subject is to experience excitement with that given subject. If I can't get excited about my subject, why should my students? Recently, at Washington State University, I have expanded my research portfolio and teaching program by studying complex interactions between invasive insects and plants in heavily managed ecosystems, and improved my skills as scientific communicator skills due to my responsibilities with students, stake holders and policy decision makers. The general objective of my research in the department of Entomology at WSU is to address the question of how certain insect pests are evolving in the US Pacific Northwest and the development of tools to predict their effects. I am also part of the DAS (Decision Aid System) group led by Dave Crowder (https://decisionaid.systems/)

Distinguished Achievement in Extension Award

Houston Wilson
University of California, Riverside

Houston Wilson is an Associate Cooperative Extension Specialist in the Department of Entomology at UC Riverside. His research focuses on the development, evaluation and adoption of integrated pest management practices for deciduous tree and vine crops. In addition to his entomology work, he is also the Founding Director of the UC Organic Agriculture Institute, a new statewide program that was established to provide research, extension and education support for organic growers in California. While his home campus is UC Riverside, Dr. Wilson's lab is actually based off-campus near Fresno at the UC Kearney Agricultural Research and Extension Center (Parlier, CA). More details can be found at his lab website: https://treecrops.ucr.edu/

Plant-Insect Ecosystems Award

Patrick Moran
USDA-ARS, Albany, CA

Dr. Patrick Moran is a Lead Scientist and Research Entomologist with the USDA-ARS Invasive Species and Pollinator Health Research Unit in Albany, California. He has 24 years of experience with the USDA-ARS, focused on biological and integrated control of invasive weeds, with a special focus on weeds that threaten water resources in forest, rangeland, riparian and aquatic habitats. Dr. Moran studies the biology, host range and potential impact of insects as candidate biological control agents in their native range and in quarantine, and also evaluates establishment, dispersal and impact of permitted agents after release. Other research interests include plant physiological ecology, the molecular basis of plant responses to insect feeding and plant-insect ecology. He characterized the biology of two insects released as the world's first biological control agents targeting an invasive grass (arundo or giant reed) and documented their establishment and impact. Other current and past targets include Cape-ivy, stinkwort, crystalline ice plants, medusahead grass, common crupina, French broom, Russian thistle, yellow starthistle, water hyacinth and tamarisk. He contributed to studies on microbial biocontrol of the Asian citrus psyllid. Dr. Moran served from 2014 to 2019 as Lead Director of the USDA-ARS Delta Region Areawide Aquatic Weed Project focused on integrated aquatic weed control with $4.45M funding, leveraging $50M in non-Federal funding for water resource management partner agencies, and he has attracted about $1M in extramural funding for other projects. Dr. Moran has mentored numerous undergraduate students and five postdoctoral researchers. He has published 99 peer-reviewed journal papers and other publications and has made 100 scientific presentations, 34 invited while with ARS, as well as many outreach presentations to weed control practitioners. He has provided advice and consultation to scientists, stakeholder groups and policymakers on 150 occasions, leading to new opportunities for the use of biological

control for integrated management of invasive weeds on public lands. He has served ESA as Treasurer and as Awards Committee Chair of the national P-IE Section, and in the Pacific Branch as a symposium organizer and Student Competition judge.

On his personal time, Dr. Moran enjoys spending time with family, hiking, and attending live theater and goth and heavy metal music events.

Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology Award

Amy Murillo
University of California, Riverside

Dr. Amy Murillo is an Assistant Professor at the University of California Riverside specializing in veterinary entomology. She earned entomology degrees from Purdue University (BS), North Carolina State University (MS), and UC Riverside (PhD). Dr. Murillo's work focuses on understanding the biology and ecology of mites, lice, and flies that impact animal health, welfare, and behavior. Her research has significantly contributed to the development of integrated pest management strategies to control pest populations, as well as understanding behavioral resistance in house flies. Through her studies, she has advanced knowledge in managing ectoparasites in cage-free and organic poultry systems, benefiting both animal well-being and agricultural productivity. This work contributes to the broader understanding of sustainable agricultural practices.

Physiology, Biochemistry, and Toxicology Award

[no nominees]

Systematics, Evolution, and Biodiversity Award

Jason Bond
University of California, Davis

Dr. Jason Bond is a professor and Schlinger Endowed Chair in Insect Systematics in the Department of Entomology and Nematology at the University of California, Davis. He also serves as the Associate Dean for Agricultural Programs for the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences and is the newly appointed director of the Bohart Museum of Entomology. Jason obtained his B.S. degree in Biological Sciences at Western Carolina University before completing his PhD in Evolutionary Systematics and Genetics at Virginia Tech in 1999. Prior to joining the UC Davis faculty in 2018, Bond served as the Director of the Auburn University Museum of Natural History and Chair of the Department of Biological Sciences (Auburn University). Jason's research explores the systematics, taxonomy, and evolution of terrestrial arthropods with an emphasis on arachnids (trapdoor spiders

and tarantulas), myriapods, and tenebrionid beetles, and employs integrative approaches to study questions related to evolutionary diversification at multiple hierarchical levels across the arthropod tree of life. His research has been generously supported by the National Science Foundation, National Geographic Society, US Fish and Wildlife, and the US Forest Service, with his published works documenting the discovery of many remarkable new spider, millipede, and insect taxa; many of these discovers aimed toward identifying threatened or endangered populations and taxa, particularly across California. Jason is also a co-Editor-in-Chief for the ESA journal *Insect Systematics and Diversity*.

Entomology Teamwork Award

Lead: Dong-Hwan Choe
University of California

The team worked on a project entitled “Adoption, Alliance Formation, and Implementation of Low-Impact Integrated Pest Management for Urban Pest Ants” (hereafter, referred to as “Ant IPM Alliance Team”). The project focused on Argentine ant, one of the most common nuisance pest ant species in urban California. The Ant IPM Alliance team collaboratively developed “low-impact” ant management program by incorporating two biorational pest control approaches (e.g., pheromone adjuvant for initial spray, and use of baiting for maintenance visits). The “low-impact” ant management program was not only scientifically sound but also economically feasible. The “low-impact” ant management program was effective in reducing our reliance on repeated use of neurotoxic insecticide sprays. The research finding, data from the field demonstration and implementation, and other relevant information was successfully disseminated to the relevant clientele groups via various educational routes including in-person or online events, videos, and publication. The extent and quality of the impact of the team project are clearly evidenced by highly positive feedback from stakeholder and clientele groups regarding those extension efforts. Some of the project findings were disseminated to the stakeholder groups in other western states beyond California, and even to the interested parties at the international level. The Ant IPM Alliance Team consists of University of California academics (Drs. Dong-Hwan Choe, Chow-Yang Lee, Michael Rust, and Karey Windbiel-Rojas), pest management professionals (Blair Smith from Clark Pest Control, Luis Agurto Jr. from Pestec), an environmental scientist from a state agency (Dr. Robert Budd from CA Department of Pesticide Regulation), and several manufacturer collaborators.

Bios

President, Silvia I. Rondon (2024-2025)

Dr. Silvia Rondon is the Oregon State University Integrated Pest Management Center director, and a professor and extension entomology specialist. She received her BA and MS in entomology at the Agraria University in Perú, and a Ph.D. in Crop Sciences from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. In 2002, she was a Postdoctoral Associate at the University of Florida joining OSU in 2005. Her position at OSU includes Research, Extension, and Administration while managing her program relying on external funding managing over $12 million in private, state, and federal grants. Her area of expertise is IPM with an emphasis on insect ecology, distribution, population dynamic, plant interactions, and pest control. She has over 123 peer-reviewed scientific publications.

Vice President, Dr. Laura Lavine (2025-2026)

Dr. Laura Lavine is Professor and Chair of the Washington State University Department of Entomology. Dr. Lavine received her Ph.D. in Entomology at the University of Kentucky and was a USDA NIFA Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Dr. Lavine has held many leadership roles while at WSU. Dr. Lavine's research program on the evolution of adaptation understanding the mechanisms underlying an organism's ability to rapidly adjust to its environment. Her research has been funded by the NSF and the USDA as well as commodity commissions and she has published her work in diverse journals such as *Nature*, *Science*, and the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Science.*

Vice President-Elect, Dr. Angelita Acebes-Doria (2026-2027)

Dr. Acebes-Doria is a research entomologist at the USDA-ARS PBARC in Hilo, Hawaii. Her research is on insect ecology and integrated pest management (IPM) of pests in tropical tree nut and fruit (e.g., macadamia and avocado). She established the Hawaii MyIPM App providing a resource for growers and stakeholders in Hawaii. Prior to working with USDA, she was a University of Georgia assistant professor focused on IPM strategies for pecan pests. She was also involved in several IPM-centered projects involving the invasive brown marmorated stink bug in the eastern U.S. and ambrosia beetles in the southeastern U.S. She completed her B.S. at the University of the Philippines with a major in entomology and earned an M.S. from the University of Hawaii and Ph.D. from Virginia Tech. She served in the U.S. Army Reserve from 2015 to 2021.

Plenary Speaker – David R. Haviland

"Entomological influences on the social structure and survival of early settlers in the intermountain west"

David R Haviland is the Entomology and Pest Management Advisor for UC Cooperative Extension in Kern County, California. He currently serves as Past President of the Pacific Branch and is a past recipient of Branch awards for Excellence in Extension and Excellence in Integrated Pest Management. He earned a M.S. in Plant Protection and Pest Management from UC Davis in 2002 and a B.S. in Zoology from Brigham Young University in Provo, Utah. For the past 23 years, David has helped to develop and disseminate integrated pest management programs for pests across the Southern San Joaquin Valley. His research has contributed to wide-scale increases in the use of conservation biocontrol, treatment thresholds, mating disruption, phenology models, and IPM-based spray programs for a wide range of pests of almonds, pistachios, grapes, citrus, blueberries and cherries. He has authored 33 peer-reviewed journal articles, 62 peer-reviewed University publications, 18 book chapters or sections, and more than 425 technical, newsletter, magazine, or popular press articles. During his career, he has given more than 850 presentations on integrated pest management, including his participation in many ESA and PBESA symposia, and has been a featured scientist or keynote speaker at conferences in seven countries. He has received awards for Integrated Pest Management or Extension from the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, Western Extension Directors Association, the University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, International IPM Symposium, Association of IPM Ecologists, and the National Association of County Agricultural Agents.

David's plenary talk will welcome conference attendees to the 'Beehive State' by discussing the influence of insects on the social structure and survival of early settlers in the intermountain west. After crossing the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains, early pioneers settled in the Salt Lake Valley, where they broke ground, founded a great city, and established their own civic, religious, and social structures. These early settlers took inspiration from the industriousness of honeybees and the organizational structures found with a beehive. They referred to their provincial government and territory as the "State of Deseret", after a scriptural word meaning beehive. To this day, emblems representing bees and beehives are routinely found in local statues, architecture, state flags, the State Seal, road signs, Highway Patrol and National Guard patches, and even as "Bumble", the beloved mascot of the Salt Lake Bees AAA baseball team. David's perspectives on Utah history and society come as the great, great grandson of Swiss immigrants that helped establish the local mountain community of Midway in the early 1880s, while his wife Jill is a Utah native, and descendent of early pioneers that walked 1,300 miles with handcarts to enter the Salt Lake Valley in the early 1850s.

General Program Schedule

SUNDAY, MARCH 30		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
10:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Behind the Scenes at the Natural History Museum of Utah Tour	Meet at NHMU main entrance (301 Wakara Way) at 10:00 AM (registration required)
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Registration and Presentation Uploads	Registration Office (2nd Floor), Hilton Salt Lake City
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Executive Committee Meeting	Aspen, Hilton Salt Lake City
4:30 PM - 5:30 PM	Entomology Games, Preliminary Round	Alpine East, Hilton Salt Lake City
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Opening Plenary	Alpine East, Hilton Salt Lake City
MONDAY, MARCH 31		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration and Presentation Uploads	Registration Office (2nd Floor), Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 9:00 AM	Student Poster Setup	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 10:00 AM	Opening Session & Business Meeting	Grand Ballroom A and C, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Masters Posters	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	PhD Posters	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 6:00 PM	Undergraduate Posters	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Q&A with Student Poster Presenters	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
10:30 AM - 11:30 AM	Governance Upgrade Town Hall with ESA President, Lina Bernaola	Grand Ballroom A and C, Hilton Salt Lake City
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Undergraduate 10-Minute Presentations	Seminar Theater, Hilton Salt Lake City
1:00 PM - 4:30 PM	Bees in a Changing World	Alpine East, Hilton Salt Lake City
1:00 PM - 5:00 PM	PhD 10-Minute Presentations	Grand Ballroom A and C, Hilton Salt Lake City
1:30 PM - 4:15 PM	Masters 10-Minute Presentations	Grand Ballroom B, Hilton Salt Lake City
1:30 PM - 4:20 PM	Integrated Pest Management Strategic Planning in Agriculture: How to Plan for a Comeback	Alpine West, Hilton Salt Lake City
3:00 PM - 3:20 PM	Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
4:40 PM - 6:00 PM	What's New in Industry	Alpine West, Hilton Salt Lake City
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	Student Poster Removal	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM	PBESA Mixer	Trofi Restaurant + Patio, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 PM - 10:00 PM	Entomology Games, Final Round	Grand Ballroom A and C, Hilton Salt Lake City

TUESDAY, APRIL 1		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
7:00 AM - 8:00 AM	General Poster Setup	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
7:30 AM - 4:00 PM	Registration and Presentation Uploads	Registration Office (2nd Floor), Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Innovative Approaches to Entomology Education: A New Tool Kit for Engagement and Learning	Alpine East, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 6:00 PM	General Poster Session	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:20 AM - 10:00 AM	Advancing Species Identification Through Innovative Technologies	Canyons B, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	General Sessions 3	Alpine West, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	General Sessions 4	Seminar Theater, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM – 11:30 AM	Collaborations With Our Unsung Heroes: Recognizing The Key Role of Lab Members in Implementing Successful IPM Programs	Grand Ballroom B, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 11:30 AM	**CANCELLED** When Insects Catch A Bug: Current Research On The Use Of Entomopathogens In IPM	
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
10:00 AM - 10:30 AM	Q&A with General Poster Presenters	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
10:30 AM - 12:00 PM	Understanding Pesticides: Adapting to the Endangered Species Act	Canyons B, Hilton Salt Lake City
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	Awards Luncheon	Grand Ballroom A and C, Hilton Salt Lake City
2:00 PM - 3:30 PM	Integrated Pest Management Tactics for Ornamental Pests	Canyons B, Hilton Salt Lake City
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Insect Vectors of Plant Diseases	Seminar Theater, Hilton Salt Lake City
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM	SocioEntomology: Towards Community-Engaged Science, Art, and Play	Alpine East, Hilton Salt Lake City
2:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Tackling Emerging Pest Issues in the Pacific: Latest Insights and Management Strategies	Alpine West, Hilton Salt Lake City
3:00 PM - 3:20 PM	Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
3:00 PM - 5:00 PM	Entomolympics	Grand Ballroom B, Hilton Salt Lake City
3:45 PM - 6:00 PM	General Sessions 2	Canyons B, Hilton Salt Lake City
5:30 PM - 7:00 PM	Student and Early Career Exploration	Grand Ballroom B, Hilton Salt Lake City
6:00 PM - 7:00 PM	General Poster Removal	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City
7:30 PM - 10:00 PM	Student Soiree	Poplar Street Pub 242 S 200 W, Salt Lake City, UT

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2		
Time	**Session/Function**	**Location**
7:30 AM - 9:00 AM	Registration and Presentation Uploads	Registration Office (2nd Floor), Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 11:30 AM	General Sessions 1	Seminar Theater, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Leadership Training for Scientists: Examples from the NSF ADVANCE Partnership project Values-based academic leadership training for women in STEM and their allies	Alpine East, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:00 AM - 12:00 PM	The Insect Genomics Toolbox: Integrating Insights across Disciplines	Alpine West, Hilton Salt Lake City
8:20 AM - 10:00 AM	**CANCELLED** Monitoring and Modeling of the Behavior, Welfare, and Phenology of Insect using Machine Learning and AI Techniques	Grand Ballroom B, Hilton Salt Lake City
9:00 AM - 12:00 PM	Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District Tour	Meet in front of the Hilton Salt Lake City at 9:00 AM (registration required)
10:00 AM - 10:20 AM	Break	Grand Ballroom Foyer, Hilton Salt Lake City

Hotel Map


FLOOR PLAN
FOR CONFERENCE & EVENT ROOMS
TROUT NORTH PRIVATE DINING
TROUT RESTAURANT
TROUT PATIO
GRANITE BOARDROOM
GRANITE CONFERENCE CENTER
STAIRWAYS
SALON I
SALON II
SALON III
EXECUTIVE BOARDROOM
PRIVATE DINING
SPENCER'S FOR STEAKS AND CHOPS
BAR
AVIS
FRONT DESK
BELL DESK
GIFT SHOP
1ST FLOOR
KEY
Meeting/Conference Rooms
Food & Beverage
Fitness Facilities
Amenities
Restroom
Elevator
C
GRAND BALLROOM
A
B
CARDIO TRAINING CENTER
MENS LOCKERS
WOMEN'S LOCKERS
HOT TUB
SUN DECK
POOL
ASPEN
STRENGTH TRAINING CENTER
EAST
ALPINE BALLROOM
WEST
REGISTRATION
TOPAZ ROOM
SEMINAR THEATER
CANYON ROOM
A
B
C
2ND FLOOR

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Bridging Generations with Innovation, Legacy, and Passion
November 9-12
Portland, OR

ESA's 2025 Annual Meeting heads to the vibrant city of Portland, Oregon, nestled in the heart of the pacific northwest. There we will explore "Bridging Generations with Innovation, Legacy, and Passion." How can we honor the legacy of past entomological discoveries while driving new innovations? How can we ensure that our research leaves a lasting impact? And so much more! Don't miss your chance for networking, mentoring, and connecting with fellow entomologists as we build a brighter future, together.

Scan for more info!

BRANCH MEETINGS

Southeastern Branch
March 9-12
Baton Rouge, Louisiana

Eastern Branch
March 15-18
Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

Southwestern Branch
March 23-26
Round Rock, Texas

Pacific Branch
March 30-April 2
Salt Lake City, Utah

North Central Branch
April 12-16
Lincoln, Nebraska

International Branch Virtual Symposium
April 7-9
Virtual

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