

MUVE Section Report to the ESA Governing Board

Title: Medical, Urban, & Veterinary Entomology (MUVE) Section Report

Submitter: Michael H Reiskind, 2021 MUVE President

Date: June 23, 2021

Motion/Request for Action

No motions at this time.

Section Leadership

Michael Reiskind, President

Ed Vargo, Vice-President

Becky Trout-Fryxell, Vice-President Elect

Dana Nayduch, Past President

Mustafa Debboun, Governing Board Representative

Sonja Swiger, Treasurer

Chris Geden, Secretary

Current Activities and Recent Accomplishments

This year has been a transitional year for MUVE with some of the previously Wildly Important Goals (WIGs) sunsetting. We have enjoyed the fruition of Past President Dana Nayduch's creation of a communications committee, with a reinigorated bimonthly newsletter. We have also started MUVE Networking Events through Zoom, with a very successful kick off at the Annual Meetings last year, and one in March that was universally hailed.

On a more prosaic but important front, we are drafting the first ever MUVE Policies and Procedures, to be approved at the 2021 Annual Meetings. This document will provide the blueprint for MUVE operations going forward and will pay dividends in consolidating accomplishments and efficient governance.

We are in the process of deciding on our awards for this year, and we also have a highly competitive election for VP-Elect (4 very good candidates).

Section Governing Council Capability Reporting

Reporting, per Section 5.2 of the ESA Bylaws:

Purpose. The purpose of the Sections is to develop and implement the key capabilities for their membership that result in: outreach related to science and public policy, program development, continuing education, and fostering interest in entomology.

Wildly Important Goal #1: Improve network function of MUVE.

We hosted one hour-long networking event (March 24, 2021) and have one scheduled for June 24, 2021. They have been organized by President Reiskind and the chair of the communications committee, Bethany McGregor. We received very good feedback from the March event. We will be requesting more formal feedback around the time of the annual meeting to assess the networking program over the whole year. Interestingly, we have received some requests from ESA members not in MUVE to attend our events, which suggests there may be wider demand for these kinds of events.

Wildly Important Goal #2: Formalize the policies and procedures of the MUVE Section.

Currently there is no written document about how MUVE is governed. Most approaches are based upon verbal institutional wisdom. This is disconcerting because the governance of MUVE either relies on just a few wise people speaking up or a constant “reinvention of the wheel.” Either is not ideal. President Reiskind and Vice-President Vargo are writing MUVE Policies and Procedures, for approval by the governing council of MUVE and the membership. Although this may seem like a purely internal MUVE issue, and not a WIG, the creation of this document, which will be publicly available, helps define everything about what MUVE stands for and our responsibilities to our membership. We may request some feedback from other section leadership on how they govern their sections.

Other Goals:

Several years ago, a number of WIGs were established, with some varying degrees of success. At this point, some are finished (e.g. protocols in veterinary entomology), some are on hiatus (Urban Entomology in Public Housing), and some have moved on (Board Certification in Medical Entomology). We are hoping to establish a new set of topical WIGs by this year’s Annual Meeting, with a clear-time line and metrics to assess success.

Current Membership and Financial Status

Our financial status is very good right now (ca. \$32,000) because of the minimal costs associated with last year’s meetings. We are a little down in awards applications, possible because of uncertainty, so it seems MUVE will remain solvent for the foreseeable future.

SECTION	May-20	Dec-20	May-21
Medical, Urban, and Veterinary Entomology Members	1426	1628	1359