

Section Report to the ESA Governing Board

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

Submitter: Edward Vargo, MUVE Section President

Date: November 12, 2022

Motion/Request for Action

No motions at this time.

Section Leadership

Edward Vargo, President

Becky Trout Fryxell, Vice-President

Kyle Jordan, Vice-President Elect

Michael Reiskind, Past President

Mustafa Deboun, Governing Board Representative

Sonja Swiger, Treasurer

Chris Geden, Secretary

Current Activities and Recent Accomplishments

This has been an active year for MUVE with the re-invigoration of some WIGs and initiation of new ones. We have continued the excellent work of our communications committee, putting out a bimonthly newsletter and maintained a very active social media presence.

We have continued MUVE Networking Events through Zoom, with a very successful event in April to discuss a number of topics, including outreach, DEI, and the future of the branch meetings. We have also expanded our mentoring program with the formation of a new group of mentoring pods and enlisted the help of two mentoring professionals from the University of Tennessee to help us set expectations and guidelines for a successful mentoring experience for both mentees and mentors. We held a Mentoring Workshop for our new mentoring pods on June 17 and we have another one planned for November 7, as well as a mentoring reception scheduled for the annual meeting on Sunday November 13.

We selected our highlights speakers for the 2022 annual meeting. Highlights in Medical Entomology will be given by Maria Luísa Simões of the London School of Hygiene and tropical Medicine. Sydney Crawley of NC State University will give the Urban Entomology highlights. The highlights in Veterinary Entomology will be given by Caleb Hubbard of UC Riverside.

We have selected six students to receive travel awards of \$500 each to help them attend the annual meeting in Vancouver (Jess Brown, Penn State University; Hannah Chu, UC Riverside; David Perez-Ramos, University of Florida; Elizabeth Taylor, Northern Illinois University; Abdusalam Adegoke, University of Southern Mississippi; and Victoria Pickens, Kansas State University), and we selected winners for the MUVE Recognition Award (Chow-Yang Lee, UC Riverside), the MUVE Early Career Award (Caleb Hubbard, UC Riverside), The Shripat Kamble Award (Maria González-Morales, NC State).

We have successfully filled several officer positions that were open this year, including VP-Elect (Ary Faraji, Salt Lake City Mosquito Abatement District), MUVE Section Rep to the Publications Council (Cynthia Lord, University of Florida), MUVE Section Rep to the Governing Board (Erika Machtinger, Penn State University), and MUVE Secretary (Anna Berry, Pelsis). We also had a very positive response to our call for volunteers and have filled a number of volunteer positions, including MUVE Communications Chair, MUVE Representative to the ESA Science Policy Committee, MUVE Representative to the Awards and Honors Committee, MUVE Representative to the Committee on Entomology Games, and MUVE Nominations Committee Member.

In 2022, we held four MUVE GC meetings on the following dates: January 20, March 2, June 16, and September 28.

Section Governing Council Capability Reporting

Wildly Important Goal #1: Networking and Mentoring Initiative

- (1) We had a one hour-long networking event (March 25, 2022) to discuss a number of topics including DEI issues, outreach, and the ESA Branch Evolution Project. We also formed new mentoring pods and had a meeting of the MUVE Mentoring committee (Ed Vargo, Becky Trout-Fryxell, Bethany McGregor, Karen Poh) with Drs. Chris Lavan and Mitsu Misawa of the University of Tennessee to organize a series of mentoring workshops. Drs. Lavan and Misawa will lead a mentoring workshop scheduled for June 17, 2022. We plan a series of mentoring workshops to help make our mentoring pods positive and successful experiences for everyone involved.
- (2) Events were organized by President Ed Vargo, Vice-President Becky Trout-Fryxell and the Chair of the Communications Committee, Bethany McGregor. Drs. Lavan and Misawa will be paid \$500 each for leading the June 17 workshop. There is another Mentoring Workshop scheduled for November 7, and we will have a reception for all participants in the mentoring program at the annual meeting on November 13.
- (3) This is an on-going initiative that is in full swing now. Networking and mentoring play a key role in continuing education and engagement with the society.
- (4) No support is requested at this time, but perhaps collaborating with ESA networking and mentoring efforts would be mutually beneficial.

Wildly Important Goal #2: Diversity and Inclusion

- (1) This initiative is just starting. It will be led by Kyle Jordan with participation of Nicky Gallagher.
- (2) No Section resources have been dedicated to achieving the goal, but we are waiting for requests from the initiative organizers. We are fully behind this initiative.
- (3) Our D&I initiative is aligned with the ESA goals of fostering a diverse and inclusive membership.
- (4) No support is requested at this time, but perhaps collaborating with the ESA D&I efforts would be mutually beneficial.

Wildly Important Goal #3: MUVE-ing together: Connecting entomologists, wildlife biologists, and ecologists to strengthen One Health approaches focusing on human and animal parasites

- (1) This is a new initiative that will be led by Erika Machtinger, Risa Pesapane, Karen Poh, and Daniel Tufts.
- (2) No Section resources have been dedicated to achieving the goal, but we are waiting for requests from the initiative organizers. We are fully behind this initiative.

- (3) The initiative organizers have put together a detailed plan of activities, including organizing a symposium for this year's annual meeting and journal special issues to build a community of practice and encourage cross-cutting collaborations from multiple fields.
- (4) No support is requested at this time.

Wildly Important Goal #4: MUVE Grand Library

- (1) This is an expansion of our previous protocols and procedures initiative. It is currently being led by Alexis Kriete.
- (2) No Section resources have been dedicated to achieving the goal, but we are willing and ready to provide resources. We are fully behind this initiative.
- (3) Alexis Kriete volunteered to lead this initiative, starting with compiling and depositing laboratory and field protocols relevant to researchers in MUVE.
- (4) No support is requested at this time, but we may want to use the ESA web site to house our resources.

Activities Supporting ESA Strategic Principles

The MUVE Section is dedicated to diversity and inclusion. We have established a D&I initiative and we have designed our mentoring network to provide training on diversity and inclusion.

Current Membership and Financial Status

MUVE Membership: 1,723

Our financial status is good with \$32,280 in our account as of September 28, 2022. Last year we had a total of \$9,822 in expenditures, mostly for awards and annual meeting costs, and we expect about the same for this year.

Other Information/Comments

No other comments at this time.

Motion/Request for Action Information

No motions or requests at this time.