

Minutes from ESA Plant-Insect Ecosystems Governing Board Meeting  
Conference Call  
September 25, 2020

Present:

Diane Alston, Past President  
Jeff Bradshaw, President  
David Onstad, Vice President  
Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris, Vice-President Elect  
Anjel Helms, Secretary  
Anh Tran, Student Representative  
Nicholas Larson, Early-Career Professional Representative  
Erin Cadwalader-, ESA Representative  
Melissa Siebert, ESA Governing Board Representative  
Lina Bernaola, Treasurer

1. New P-IE treasurer – Jeff
  - a. Lina Bernaola has joined the P-IE GC as the newly elected treasurer
2. USDA/EPA Pollinator State of the Science Workshop – Jeff
  - a. Jeff attended the meeting Sept 8-10, 2020
  - b. He will prepare a short summary for the next newsletter
  - c. Main goal of meeting was to discuss pollinator research areas and key challenges
    - i. It was a positive experience and attendees (including P-IE members) were engaged in discussions
    - ii. Particular role of P-IE was not clear, but effort was made to discuss opportunities for participants related to P-IE
      1. Idea was proposed to contact USDA/EPA to further clarify P-IE role
      2. Idea was proposed to reach out to P-IE attendees to connect and discuss the possible roles of P-IE in facilitating goals
3. Deadline for WIG proposals – David
  - a. David addressed the need to finalize our new WIG by the end of the year
  - b. He will put together a timeline of the events and expectations for the WIG proposals and share it with GC members
  - c. Proposal was made to create a template for WIG proposal requests to ensure members have this information
  - d. Goal is to receive WIG proposals by the end of the year so GC can evaluate them
4. AM ENT – David
  - a. David prepared a story for American Entomologist on behalf of P-IE
  - b. He worked with the Diversity and Inclusion Committee to prepare this
  - c. GC members approved and support the positions and submission of the piece

- d. The idea was raised that we could repost this story in our newsletter and include a call for generating action items from members
    - i. Proposal was made to also include a reminder that we have a D&I Hot Topic group that will meet at November meeting
5. Awards – Jeff
  - a. Award winners have been sent their award money (including the \$50 “pie party” award)
  - b. Rebecca is putting together slides with names and photos of the winners for the meeting
6. Virtual Booth – David
  - a. GC members are still collecting content from members
  - b. September 28, 2020 is the current deadline for submissions
  - c. Twitter request was made for additional content with the link and info from the last newsletter
  - d. Anjel is collecting section symposium information and putting together a PowerPoint file for the booth and Anh’s Twitter deck.
7. Intro videos at meeting – Rebecca
  - a. Rebecca is putting together the opening videos for the meeting
  - b. She is planning to use these videos as announcements for upcoming events and to direct members to different P-IE/meeting content
8. Student member functions/discussion – Anh
  - a. This has been combined with the Hot Topics Groups
9. Hot Topics – David
  - a. The topics selected are:
    - i. Invasive species
    - ii. Pollinators
    - iii. Sustainable pest management
    - iv. Public education and outreach
    - v. Diversity and inclusion
    - vi. Biocontrol
  - b. David sent an email to the GC with information that he sent to each Hot Topic discussion group
  - c. Discussions for each topic have been scheduled for Nov 12 and 13 (different times)
  - d. Proposal was made to announce Hot Topics in the newsletter and invite participation
  - e. David clarified that we are linking WIGs and Hot Topics this year (from survey results), but we are also inviting other P-IE members to join the discussions and to submit independent WIG proposals
  - f. Anjel made a suggestion to advertise the Hot Topics events with a slide at the virtual booth to encourage participation

- g. Erin is checking with ESA to see if we can have access to the video call platforms for testing/practice prior to the events
10. Speed networking – Nick/Jeff
- a. The event has been scheduled for Friday Nov. 13 from 5-6 pm eastern
  - b. 42 total participants have committed
    - i. 24 student and ECPs
    - ii. 18 Established members -need to confirm their availability and recruit a few additional members
11. Newsletter – Jeff
- a. Jeff suggested thanking Speed Networking participants and Hot Topics discussion leaders
  - b. We will announce the election results and will follow up in a later newsletter with more detailed introductions to GC members
12. Leadership Lunch-How to serve on an ESA committee – Jeff/Melissa
- a. ESA hosted an event on Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> as a webinar and Melissa was involved in planning
  - b. ~80 participants, including P-IE members
  - c. Event seemed successful because we received additional committee nominations after the meeting
13. P-IE Awards committee – David
- a. Current awards committee has 3 members (1 each: academia, govt, industry)
    - i. Discovered this is too few to buffer issues in the future
    - ii. Unanimous support from GC for proposal to double number of members to 6 and make it 2-year term instead of 3-year term
      - 1. Plan would be to annually nominate a new person from each category
      - 2. Proposal was also made to limit the committee membership to 2 in each category who are not at the same institution
      - 3. Discussion was presented that an even number could cause issues with a tie, but more members could also help settle evaluations