



# Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section

## MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

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- Take the WIGs survey and **WIN A \$100 GIFT CARD!**  
This month's winner is **Hailey Shanovich**  
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## We need to hear from you!

As explained over the last couple newsletters, we are ending the "P-IE Pollinator Committee" to be reformed into a new committee which will be charged with outlining integrative tools and communications strategies that aid in meeting our new Wildly Important Goal. However, we need to [hear from you!](#) We have created a very short anonymous feedback form that you can use to provide us with your thoughts [here](#). As has been repeatedly demonstrated by our science policy tours and activities, P-IE members have the creativity and capability to engage society in meaningful, lasting ways. The P-IE Governing Council is keen to hear your "wild" idea and we are here to help facilitate your idea through financial assistance, through our experienced Science Policy Event Oversight Committee (see call for nominations below), and possibly through other member-based action committees as determined through our WIGs survey. Let us know what you would like to see P-IE achieve and what you would be willing to help contribute toward that achievement!! **Starting this month we randomly will draw a name from our survey on the 29th of the month to win one \$100 gift card\* in support of our WIGs survey.**

\* The winner will be given a select number of gift-card options. You must enter your name and a valid email into the survey, and must be a P-IE member in good standing to be eligible to win. Governing Council members are not eligible to win.

- J. Bradshaw, president

## Update from Melissa Siebert, P-IE Representative to the ESA Governing Board

On May 13<sup>th</sup>, I had the great opportunity to help organize and take part in a first-ever, ESA "Happy Hour" on the topic of Leadership, "Why and How to Get on the Ballot". The session provided for an informative and relaxed discussion platform to help ESA members become aware of the different leadership positions available, what the positions are about, why one should consider leadership positions, and finally how the nomination process works. The interactive event allowed for participants to hear about the experiences and ask questions of fellow ESA members from all career levels that have served in a range of positions, from student Governing Board representative to President.

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# Update from the ESA Governing Board [continued]

The panelists were Lina Bernaola, Chris Geden, Jennifer Gordon, Floyd Shockley, and Susan Weller. The objective of the event was to boost overall nominations and particularly those from women and minority groups, against the June 1 nominating deadline. Organizers of the event were Hongmei Li-Byarlay, Rayda Krell, Patti Prasifka (P-IE members!) and ESA staff, Rosina Romano and Becky Anthony. **For those not able to join, you can watch the event and catch up on the great discussion:** <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0nM-K98jTtl>. I was personally moved to hear some of the great stories of leadership, challenges individuals have overcome, and individuals that have inspired our current leaders.

The June 1 election deadline will have passed by this newsletter release, but there will be more opportunities - within the P-IE Section or your branch – lead-

ership and volunteer opportunities large and small, and of course the summer election of 2021. I would challenge those of you even considering volunteer and leadership assignments to explore all the range of opportunities, start with a small committee assignment, and do not hesitate to send questions to any of us on the P-IE Governing Council. In addition, I would challenge those that are currently leading and volunteering, to consider nominating and motivating others. I recently had an experience whereby my nudge to an individual was the “difference maker” for that individual to go forth with a nomination. Your reach-out is significant in creating the future leaders for our Society. Thanks to all who are actively serving ESA and P-IE Section!

**Melissa’s contact details:** [melissa.siebert@corteva.com](mailto:melissa.siebert@corteva.com), [Melissa.Siebert77@gmail.com](mailto:Melissa.Siebert77@gmail.com), 662-537-4783

## Summer Elections Announced

The following positions are available within the P-IE section:

- **P-IE Governing Council, VP Elect** (4-year term), starting November 2020
- **P-IE Governing Council, Treasurer** (3-year term), starting September 2020

**June 1, 2020** is the deadline to submit nominations, or nominate yourself. Please visit the [online nomination submission form](#) or contact David Onstad with your interest in running for one of these P-IE positions.

## Call for nominations\* for Student Representative to P-IE (2-year term)!

### Responsibilities include:

- Recruit and organize student volunteers for P-IE events at annual meeting
- Participate in monthly teleconferences
- Review symposium proposals in March
- Review Special Event (tour) proposals in August
- Review requests for funding submitted by P-IE members at any time
- **Time commitment for each year:** 25 hours plus attendance at annual meeting

\*Candidates must be current student members at the time of election.

## Second Annual P-IE “Speed Networking” Event

Last year P-IE hosted a networking event as an additional activity within our P-IE Networking Session. During the event, 12 registered students and Early Career Professionals had the chance to meet 1-on-1 with several veteran ESA members who are employed by three employment categories in attendance: government, industry, and academia.

Due to the overwhelming positive feedback we received from the attendees, we are pleased to announce that the event will be held again at the national ESA meeting being held in conjunction with the national ESA meeting this year. This is a great opportunity for new ESA student/ECP members to expand their network and explore traditional and nontraditional career paths.

However, due to Covid-19 this event will be held as a virtual networking session. This will likely increase the number of available spots for attendees, however, so you are encouraged to RSVP for this ASAP.

**Students and ECPs interested in participating in this event should email Nick Larson ([nicholas.larson@usda.gov](mailto:nicholas.larson@usda.gov)) to register.**

## Nominations Requested for P-IE Science Policy Event Oversight Committee (2-year term)

To facilitate communication with and oversight by ESA staff and the P-IE Governing Council and to improve efficiency of preparation for annual events (tours or workshops), the P-IE Science-Policy Event Committee was formed in 2019. This two-person committee assists the organizers of new events. The P-IE GC requests brief applications from P-IE members with experience running public events and knowledge of science policy. P-IE members who are alumni of the ESA's Science Policy Fellow program are encouraged to apply. The two-year term starts at the end of the summer. The selected entomologist will become the chairperson in the second year. The chairperson is the primary person providing the oversight and assistance to the organizers. The committee works closely with the Treasurer of P-IE and with appropriate ESA staff. Each member of the committee will vote during the annual selection of event proposals in late summer by the GC.

Those interested in serving on this committee should submit a paragraph describing why you would like to serve and your experiences that would contribute to your effective oversight of events to David Onstad ([dwonstad@gmail.com](mailto:dwonstad@gmail.com)) by **July 1**.

## P-IE Awards Deadlines for Nominations

Please consider cheering on your students and colleagues with a deserving award! Visit the ESA Awards webpage for more information: <https://www.entsoc.org/about/awards-honors>. Upcoming P-IE awards nomination deadlines:

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- July 1**
- Lifetime Achievement Award in Entomology
  - Recognition Award in Entomology
  - Integrated Pest Management Team Award
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### Member News



Chasing Bugs is a short documentary film that highlights the importance of insects and other arthropods in both human and natural systems. Enjoy interviews with leading entomologists - including Alex Wild, Doug Tallamy, John Abbott, and Piotr Naskrecki - who provide tangible advice for how to conserve

these beautiful animals in your home landscape. Filmmaker and photographer, Danae Wolfe, is an ESA member and serves on the ESA World of Insects calendar committee. Danae spent two years on this solo film project with the intent of introducing the public to the plight of insects. Her hope with the film is to showcase the importance of insects and spiders in ways that will motivate homeowners to forgo the classic American lawn and instead manage their landscape for pollinators and other beneficial bugs. (<https://vimeo.com/chasingbugs/chasingbugs>).

