



Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section

MARCH 2020 NEWSLETTER

In this issue...

- Reviewing our WIGS (We need to hear from YOU)
- Update from the ESA Governing Board
- Seeking a P-IE representative to the Linnaean Games committee
- Speed Networking
- Member News

P-IE Governing Council

Jeff Bradshaw

President,
jbradshaw2@unl.edu

David Onstad

Vice President,
dwonstad@gmail.com

Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris

Vice President-Elect,
rebecca.schmidt@usda.gov

Anjel Helms

Secretary,
anjel.helms@gmail.com

Lily Calderwood

Treasurer,
lily.calderwood@maine.edu

Diane Alston

Past President,
diane.alston@usu.edu

Melissa Willrich Siebert

ESA Governing Board Representative,
melissa.siebert@corteva.com

Anh Tran

Student Representative,
aktran@umn.edu

Nicholas Larson

Early-Career Professional Representative,
nicholas.larson@ars.usda.gov

Follow us
[@PIE_Entsoc](https://twitter.com/PIE_Entsoc)



Reviewing our WIGs

This is the second part of our continued discussion about WIGs. The P-IE GC is considering that we conclude WIG #1 and rephrase WIG #2 and elevate it to WIG #1 -- perhaps as, "By 2030, P-IE will be recognized as the lead national expert on pollinators; invasive, plant-insect interactions; and agroecosystem insect management." This goal would then be supported through the P-IE Science Policy Activities. The P-IE Science Policy Activity would then serve as a key objective for our membership to meet this goal and would be supported through online tools and with support through the P-IE Tour Oversight Committee. Additionally, with the conclusion of our exclusively, pollinator-focused goals, we would be 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 would like to [hear from you!](#) We have created a *very short anonymous feedback form that you can use to provide us with your thoughts [here](#).*

Please consider leaving your name and email contact at the end of the form if you would like for us to reach out to you about your solutions and suggestions. We look forward to receiving comments and insights from our membership!

- J. Bradshaw, president

Update from the ESA Governing Board

I have officially served my first year as our Section's representative to the ESA Governing Board and wanted to take the opportunity to provide you an update on my experiences and optimism about our Society. *What is the Governing Board? The Board discusses ESA strategic initiatives, oversees the work of the ESA staff and volunteers, and advances new ideas to benefit the Society, meeting four times per year. The work of the Governing Board is transparent to all membership, with summaries published after each meeting to inform members of activities and decisions. Those updates are found at the following link and I would encourage you to re-view: <https://www.entsoc.org/about/bylaws-governance/governing-board/governing-board-news-and-updates>.*

One of the most significant **discussions continues to be related to how ESA prepares** for the potential of a significant revenue shortfall when the contract with Oxford ends in December 2024. Partly in response to these changes in journal revenue predictions, the Governing Board appointed a Publications Task Force in late 2017 and charged them with developing a set of recommendations to address these expected losses.

[continued on page 2]

Update from the ESA Governing Board (continued)

In June 2018, one of the final recommendations of the task force was to encourage the board to consider reinstating page charges within the next 1-2 years. Given the reductions in our projected revenue with Oxford and the shortfall this could create beginning in 2025, and the increasing importance of transformative agreements, the Governing Board has voted to reinstate page charges for ESA members publishing in ESA's subscription journals. (details from the Governing Board meeting: <https://www.entsoc.org/report-november-2019-esa-governing-board-meeting>). ESA staff and the Governing Board are also considering other mechanisms for generating revenue for the Society. *This circumstance that ESA is challenged with serves as an excellent example for how our Society addresses a problem – proactively, developing solutions through engagement with a focused group of members to provide recommendations, oversight and approval by the Governing Board, and execution by ESA staff.*

The Governing Board is also focused on members and meeting their current and future needs. Discussions include ESA's meeting strategy, efforts to support entomologists with nonacademic career tracks,

and continued role in Science Policy. Actions taken by the Governing Board and with members in mind include, extension of the Diversity & Inclusion Committee and approving a new Committee on Leadership and Development and Canvassing for Awards and Honors, charged with ensuring diversity in the pool of individuals pursuing leadership roles in the Society and Society awards. I am proud to serve as Chair of this committee and developing future programming recommendations.

As your Section voice to the Governing Board, I would appreciate feedback from you on any topics currently being discussed or new topics that should be discussed. *Is the Society meeting professional and scientific needs of members? What ideas do you have for improving the member experiences and growing the Society? Thank you for the opportunity to serve you!*

Melissa's contact: melissa.siebert@corteva.com, Melissa.Siebert77@gmail.com, 662-537-4783 (office)

- M. Siebert, P-IE Representative to the ESA Governing Board Representative

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 Orlando this year. This is a great opportunity for new ESA student/ECP members to expand their network and explore traditional and nontraditional career paths. **Students and ECPs keep an eye out for the next newsletter for more information on the event and for further instructions for sign up.**

Member News: We want to hear from you!!

Your P-IE Governing Council feels our newsletter is an important form to share plaudits, praise, and accomplishments among our members as well as honoring our members who have passed. It probably goes without saying that all of our daily lives have taken on new priorities and habits as of late. Now would be an especially helpful time to share positive news from our members. **Please contact Diane Alston (diane.alston@usu.edu) or Anh Tran (aktran@umn.edu).**



Volunteer to Serve on a P-IE Committee

The P-IE Governing Council is seeking nominations for the **P-IE Section representative to the ESA Committee on Linnaean Games**. The Governing Council will select someone to start as soon as possible for a 3 year term ending in early 2023.

Send nominations to David Onstad, dwonstad@gmail.com.