



# Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section

## SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

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## *The Many Opportunities for Engagement with P-IE at the ESA Annual Meeting!*

Your P-IE leadership team has been working hard this year to think creatively in concert with ESA staff about how to create a great virtual meeting experience! In this newsletter, you will find information about how you can contribute content to an ESA Virtual Booth or join in on our Speed Networking and Hot Topics Video Chats!

We continue to plan out the P-IE Networking and Awards Celebration to take place this November. Speaking of awards, please join me in congratulating all of our P-IE award winners listed in this newsletter! Remember that there are ample opportunities to help your Section and ESA by volunteering as [judge](#), [moderator](#),

## *Participate even more creatively in the National Meeting!*

Showcase your work, your group, or your department! All P-IE members who are registered for the National Meeting are invited to submit 1 powerpoint slide (<1 MB) or a <1 minute video to be included in the P-IE ESA Virtual Booth. Content could include:

- Advertising your ESA presentation
- Advertising a job opening, search for a student/postdoc
- Promoting your research, lab, workplace, or department
- Sharing outreach materials
- Showcasing a recent publication
- Sharing your entomologically-themed art
- Congratulating a colleague or student on an award, accomplishment, or promotion

Content that violates ESA's Code of Conduct will not be included. [SUBMIT to this link](#) between September 7<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup>. Include your email address in the "Email address" field and your name in the "File description" field.

## **P-IE Award Winners**

Congratulations to our student award winners for 2020! Come join our livestream of Plant-Insect Ecosystem (P-IE) Section Awards Celebration (Tuesday, November 17, afternoon) to celebrate their accomplishments!!

### **P-IE Student Awards Winners**

#### **Undergraduate Student Achievement in Entomology Award**

*Chloe Albin*, Kansas State University and USDA (Jeff Whitworth & Rob Morrison advisors)

*Earl Agpawa*, University of Nebraska — Lincoln (Joe Louis, advisor)

#### **Master's Student Achievement in Entomology Award**

*John Gruneich*, Texas A&M University (Anjel Helms, advisor)

#### **Kenneth and Barbara Starks Plant Resistance to Insects Graduate Student Award**

*Sajjan Grover*, University of Nebraska — Lincoln (Joe Louis, advisor)

### **P-IE Professional Award Winners**

#### **P-IE Lifetime Achievement Award in Entomology**

*Bruce Tabashnik*, University of Arizona

#### **P-IE Recognition Award in Entomology (Sponsored by Syngenta Crop Protection)**

*Melissa Siebert*, Corteva Agriscience

#### **IPM Team Award (Sponsored by Corteva Agriscience)**

Navel Orangeworm Mating Disruption Adoption Team

*Rebecca Bailey*, Almond Board of California

*Charles Burks*, USDA

*Robert Curtis*, Almond Board of California

*Val Dolcini*, California Department of Pesticide Regulation

*David Haviland*, University of California Cooperative Extension

*Bradley Higbee*, Trece

*Jennie Nicolau*, Almond Board of California

*Jhalendra Rijal*, University of California Statewide IPM Program

*Stephanie Rill*, University of California Cooperative Extension

*Jesse Rosemond*, Almond Board of California

*Emily Symmes*, University of California Cooperative Extension

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Annual P-IE “Speed Networking” Event**

Registration for the Virtual Speed Networking event is still open. If you are a student or Early Career Professional and want to expand your professional network, consider attending this event. We have a wonderful diversity of established ESA members from academia, industry, and government willing to share their advice on your career and research objectives. **If interested please [contact Nicholas Larson](#).** This event will be hosted using this meeting's “Video Chats” online function. The date and time of the event will be announced in the next newsletter and all participants will be directly notified.

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## **Hot Topics and Wildly Important Goals Event**

We will be holding “Hot Topics” discussions again during this year's meeting. However, this year we will be hosting table discussions on topics that our P-IE membership chose through our WIG survey that we conducted this year. The top member-suggested discussion topics were:

- 1. Pollinators**
- 2. IPM**
- 3. Biocontrol**
- 4. Sustainability**
- 5. Diversity and inclusion**
- 6. Public outreach and education**
- 7. Invasive species**

P-IE will be hosting facilitated discussions using this meeting's “Video Chats” online function with separate virtual rooms for each topic. More information including date, time, and procedure is soon to come!

# Submit Proposals for 2022 Science Policy Events

It's not too early to think about organizing a science policy field tour, workshop or other activity for 2022. Our 2020 tour was postponed to 2021 due to Covid-19. However, we would like to provide members the opportunity to start planning now! These can be collaborative events that promote learning and engagement in timely topics that challenge the plant-insect ecosystem science arena. **The deadline for 2022 proposals is December 31.** The P-IE Tour Oversight Committee composed of Johanna Elsensohn and Tom Anderson is excited to assist with event ideas and proposals. Contact Johanna (jeelsens@ncsu.edu) and Tom (tom@entoniche.com) with questions and for feedback on event ideas. Science policy activity guidelines, and example budgets and stakeholder invitation letters are posted on the [P-IE Tour Resources](#) webpage. Start brainstorming now on ideas for novel and engaging science policy educational events for 2022. Submit your proposals to Jeff Bradshaw (jbradshaw2@unl.edu).

## Nominations requested for representatives on ESA committees

The P-IE Section is requesting nominations for members to represent P-IE on the following ESA committees: Awards and Honors Committee, Education and Outreach Committee (3 year term), and the Student Affairs Committee (2 year term). Find information about these committees at <https://www.entsoc.org/about/committees-boards/committees>. If you are interested in volunteering, please send a paragraph describing which committee and your background and interests to David Onstad (dwonstad@gmail.com). The ESA is rolling out a new Conduct Disclosure form for all committee volunteers. Please plan to sign this form: <https://www.entsoc.org/CDF-PIE>. The Governing Council will appoint new members before the National Meeting in November.

## P-IE Early Career Professional Representative Update

During the July P-IE Governing Council meeting, the GC voted to extend the P-IE Early-Career Professional Representative from a 2-year, ECP-elected position to a 3-year, ECP-elected position on the Governing Council. This will allow the ECP rep to remain as a voting member on the P-IE GC while conforming to their 3-year tenure on the ECP Committee.

## Member News

This summer, eight undergraduate and graduate students took part in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Directorate Fellows Program (DFP) Pollinator Cohort Working Group (pictured). Each fellow had their own unique project related to pollinator conservation. Examples of these projects were identifying high quality habitats for rare and declining bumble bees, developing an interactive map that will assist future conservation efforts and creating sampling methods for rare species. Members of the DFP Pollinator Cohort were dispersed throughout the United States, yet they would get together, virtually, once a week to touch base, discuss their work, brainstorm, and support each other. Over the course of the 11 weeks, the DFP Pollinator Cohort developed a set of recommendations on how USFWS could improve their pollinator conservation efforts. Some of those recommendations included expanding pollinator surveys to fill knowledge gaps, improve survey design, define clear pollinator goals nationally across programs, and build

strong public support for pollinators. During week 10, they presented their overall recommendations to the USFWS National Pollinator Advisory panel. Upon successful completion of the DFP program, participants are granted a certificate for direct hire authority for use within two years of degree completion. With an increasing number of insect species in decline, we encourage more entomologists to consider careers with the USFWS and other federal agencies.



Pictured members of the DFP pollinator cohort (left to right): Sally Lent, James Weaver, Michelle Boone, Lea Crisostomo, Claire Yager, Alex Wright, Chloe Hansum, and Shanice Jones