

Entomological Society of America

**Minutes of the Governing Board Summer Meeting
Magnolia Hotel
Denver, CO
June 22-23, 2017**

Participants

Susan Weller, President
Michael Parrella, Vice President
Bob Peterson, Vice President-Elect
May Berenbaum, Past President
Michelle Smith, Treasurer
Gary Brewer, North Central Branch Representative
Timothy Schowalter, Southeastern Branch Representative
David Ragsdale, Southwestern Branch Representative
Livy Williams, International Branch Representative
Paula Shrewsbury, Eastern Branch Representative
Douglas Walsh, Pacific Branch Representative
Carol Anelli, Physiology, Biochemistry & Toxicology Section Representative
John Oswald, Systematics, Evolution & Biodiversity Section Representative
Sujaya Rao, Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section Representative
Christopher Geden, Medical, Urban & Veterinary Entomology Section Representative
Lina Bernaola, Student Representative

Staff

C. David Gammel, Executive Director
Rosina Romano, Director of Meetings
Debi Sutton, Director of Membership and Marketing
Neil Willoughby, Director of Finance
Lisa Junker, Director of Publications
Chris Stelzig, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Nikki Olin, Executive Assistant

Guests

Erin Cadwalader, Lewis Burke Associates
Jamie Notter, WorkXO

1. **Welcome and Agenda Review** – President Susan Weller convened the meeting at 7:36am. The agenda was reviewed and left unchanged.
2. **Governing Board March Minutes** –

<p>A MOTION: Approve the March Governing Board meeting minutes. Motion passed.</p>

3. **Ratification of Executive Committee Minutes** –

A MOTION: Ratify Executive Committee Minutes from April and May 2017.
Motion passed.

4. **Ratification of Cybermotions** –

A MOTION: Ratify Cybermotion #1: ESA Position Statement on Endangered Insect Species & Cybermotion #2: Vote on Oxford University Press 2018 Pricing Proposal. **Motion passed.**

5. **Consent Agenda** –

A MOTION: Approve the Consent Agenda with both motions and reports only. **Motion passed.**

6. **Strategy Day Debrief** – ESA Executive Director, David Gammel and WorkXO consultant, Jamie Notter conducted a general overview and discussion regarding the Strategy Day held on Wednesday, June 21st. Gammel started the discussion by asking the Board what they thought of the meeting and there was an overall agreement that the day went impressively well with participants being very engaged. Gammel suggested that the next steps would be for the staff to review all of the information gathered and to do an analysis of the various recommendations, figure out what the necessary level of effort would be and resources it would take to put the highest value ones in place, and identify the challenges of helping these actions become sustainable. A report out will be available by the August Executive Committee meeting.

7. **President's Update** – Weller gave an overview of her travel and meetings thus far:

- a. Attended 5 of 6 branch meetings (the International Branch meeting will be held at the Annual Meeting).
- b. Represented ESA at a forum held at the National Academy of Sciences on GE crops; and at a CDC conference on the Zika virus.
- c. Worked with Chris Stelzig, Lewis-Burke Associates, May Berenbaum and the Science Policy Committee to advance ESA's priorities through supporting the March for Science, signing onto letters, and writing letters.
- d. Annual Meeting Update:
 - i. Accepted Session Statistics:
 1. 4 Program Symposia (64 submitted)
 2. 4 Workshops, 5 Sunrise Sessions, 8 Lunch and Learns
 3. 44 Section Symposia
 - i. 6 SysEB
 - ii. 8 MUVE
 - iii. 12 PBT

iv. 18 P-IE

4. 43 Member Symposia
5. 18 Organized Meetings
6. 21 symposia include posters or contributed talks; 6 symposia require WebEx support

8. **American Entomologist Editor-in-Chief Appointment** – Publications and Communications Director, Lisa Junker, gave an update on the Editor in Chief appointment. In September 2016, *American Entomologist* Editor-in-Chief Gene Kritsky announced that he intended to end his term of service as of Dec. 31, 2017. He wished to give the American Entomologist Editorial Board as much time as possible to conduct a thorough and open search for his successor. The editorial board formally announced its call for applications in January 2017. After extending the original application deadline, the editorial board received four applications for the position. The editorial board recommends Dr. Kevin Steffey as Editor-in-Chief for American Entomologist.

A MOTION: Based on the recommendation of the American Entomologist Editorial Board, the ESA Governing Board approves the appointment of Dr. Kevin Steffey as editor-in-chief of *American Entomologist*, effective as of Jan. 1, 2018. **Motion passed.**

9. **New Governing Board Orientation Proposal** – Gammel reviewed comments and feedback about the new Governing Board member orientation typically held during ESA's Annual Meeting. Gammel proposed developing a new orientation session that will be held at ESA's headquarters office that would allow for more in depth discussion of ESA and the work of the board and avoid the distraction of the Annual Meeting. After general discussion, a motion was made and passed to create such an orientation program.

A MOTION: Move to authorize an in-person orientation at ESA's headquarters for incoming Governing Board members. **Motion passed.**

10. **Fellows Process Review Taskforce** – Weller discussed the need for a review of the selection process for Fellow of ESA. She will appoint a Presidential Committee, chaired by Tim Schowalter, to study the current process and recommend changes to the Governing Board in time to be implemented for the next awards cycle in 2018.
11. **ESA Publications Report & Oxford Update** – Junker & Fiona Williams from Oxford University Press (by phone) gave an update on Oxford and the financial restatement. In May 2017, Oxford provided its first-quarter financial update to ESA. At that time, Oxford notified the Society that they do not expect to meet the revenue targets reflected in their 2017 budget. As such, they do not expect to

make a second royalty payment to ESA for 2017. This reduces the budgeted revenue for the publications area by \$173K. The primary reasons for the shortfall in 2017 are:

- a. Continued slow submissions for the Journal of Insect Science (98 submissions as of May 1, 2017, vs. 146 as of May 1 in 2016 and 153 in 2015).
- b. Slower than expected conversion of BioOne subscribers to direct subscriptions or consortia agreements with Oxford.
- c. Lower digital archive sales revenue than expected due to a large national sale not closing as expected.
- d. Changes in the dollar/pound exchange rate due to Brexit (accounting for approximately \$37K of the shortfall).

Next steps and three main priorities in working with Oxford moving forward are:

- a. Address the issues causing the shortfall to improve 2017 and 2018 performance.
- b. Determine how these trends will impact our financial planning for 2018 and future years.
- c. Determine how Oxford can improve its financial forecasting so that ESA can better rely on the financial projections it provides.

General discussion ensued. A report will be given during the November Governing Board meeting on long-term projections.

12. **Executive Director Report** – Gammel gave an overview on recent and upcoming activities with the Society:

- a. Gammel gave a brief overview of ESA's Strategic Initiatives:
 - i. Grand Challenges: There will be another Summit held in 2018 and it will focus on invasive species. There will also be a symposium this year at the Annual Meeting hosted by the Sections. This will continue to serve as a valuable platform for international collaboration while strengthening our other programs.
 - ii. Volunteer Culture and Governance: After the success of the Strategy Day at the Summer Meeting, there is a focus of making these ideas real and permanent. Implementation of any changes should be at least a two-year process, including any bylaws revisions by the end of 2018.
 - iii. Science communication has a strong emphasis at the Annual Meeting this year as well as at some of the Branch meetings. Financial support for science communication activities will continue over the next two years at least.
- b. Advocacy remains in high gear since the U.S. election. ESA helped rally scientific societies to contribute to the March for Science which was held in April in Washington, DC and at hundreds of satellite locations around the world.

- c. Operations/Budget: Long-term projections have been revised due to the Oxford University Press (OUP) restating revenue projections for the publishing portfolio, reducing anticipated overall revenue. Planning will be focused on revenue growth and expense control in order to close the gap shown by projecting based only on OUP guaranteed minimum revenue for future years until a track record of exceeding them is established. Staff will work with the Finance Committee to develop plans and recommendations to implement a growth strategy for consideration at November Governing Board meeting.

13. **Science Policy and Advocacy** – The following updates and discussions were held related to science policy and advocacy:

- a. **Lewis Burke Associates (LBA) Update** – Dr. Erin Cadwalader gave an overview of recent news and activities in DC from October 2016 through June 2017.

- i. **ESA Advocacy**

- 1. Conducting outreach to Congress and the federal agencies that fund research in the entomological sciences.
- 2. Engaging Society membership on issues to support the development of a scientifically sound policy agenda.
- 3. Elevating the role of ESA within the Washington, DC-based scientific/advocacy community. Using three-tiered science policy agenda to help prioritize engagement

- ii. **Capitol Hill**

- 1. Since October, Lewis-Burke has scheduled and participated in over 40 meetings with Hill offices and committee staff covering 20 states, growing new and existing relationships as part of ESA advocacy strategy as well as responding to new engagement opportunities.
- 2. Assisting with draft tick-borne disease legislation
 - a. Building on relationship established with Senator Angus King's office (I-ME), his staff approached ESA regarding interest in new legislation.
 - b. ESA helped frame the bill's structure and provided technical expertise and recommendations, including public outreach and education, workforce development, professional credentialing, and improved surveillance coordination.
- 3. Providing Zika expertise following last year's engagement
 - a. Private briefings with House Energy and Commerce Committee staff and Senate Health, Education, Labor & Pensions staff by Jennifer Gordon, one of the ESA Science Policy Fellows.
- 4. Protecting *Farm Bill* Priorities
- 5. Proactively discussing *Endangered Species Act*

6. *Strengthening Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health (SMASH) Act* (S.849; HR.1310)
7. Areawide Integrated Pest Management (AIPM) Legislation
8. *Museum and Library Services Act* Reauthorization
9. Advocating for FY 2018 Appropriations priorities for agriculture, health, science, and environment.

iii. Science Policy Fellows

1. Fall Trip: Federal Agencies and Non-Profits – November 14-16, 2016
 - a. 2014 and 2015 cohorts participated in meetings to learn how the White House and non-federal entities turn science into policy.
 - b. Meetings at White House Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP), U.S. Department of State, USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), UN Foundation, PATH.
 - c. Toured entomological collections housed at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History.
2. Spring Trip: Capitol Hill – May 15-17, 2017
 - a. 2015 and 2016 cohorts participated in Hill meetings together.
 - b. Over two dozen Congressional visits.
 - c. Presentation by Ben Beard, Deputy Director of the Division of Vector-Borne Diseases at the CDC.
 - d. Attended House hearing at which Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue testified.
3. The 2017 cohort will be selected in the summer of this year.

iv. Profile Raising Activities

1. Actively participate in science advocacy coalition meetings
 - a. AFRI Coalition
 - b. Supporters of Agricultural Research (SoAR)
 - c. Coalition for National Science Funding (CNSF)
 - d. Climate Science Working Group
2. Agricultural Research Exhibition on Capitol Hill
 - a. First effort between several coalitions from research and higher education communities.
 - b. Graduate students from the lab of Dennis vanEngelsdorp at the University of Maryland presented their work on monitoring and managing pollinator health.
3. CNSF Exhibition on Capitol Hill
 - a. Fourth consecutive year of participation.

- b. ESA Science Policy Fellow Johanna Elsensohn, a graduate student at North Carolina State University, presented her work funded by NSF's Integrated Graduate Education and Research Training (IGERT) program.
4. Contribute to advocacy community sign-on letters for topics of relevance to ESA.

b. Science Policy Mid-Year Report: Past President, May Berenbaum, gave a mid-year report of the ESA Science Policy Committee (SPC). The Committee has been extremely active throughout 2017. Berenbaum has convened near-monthly meetings and the committee has been very engaged on a wide variety of topics. Activities that have occurred since the last committee report are:

i. General science advocacy

1. When the SPC last reported to the Governing Board, expectations were high that many of the Obama era policies—which were very sympathetic to the science community—would continue with a new Administration. The results of the 2016 election were such that many of those policies have now been rolled back or are otherwise under threat. As such, general science advocacy has moved to be a core mission of the Society and the SPC.

ii. Informational documents (position statements, fact sheets)

1. Two documents were requested of the committee by President Weller and progress has been made on each. In addition to the forthcoming Biological Diversity position statement and the IPM fact sheet, the SPC has been active on a number of other documents as well, such as a Screwworm Fact Sheet, a Gene Drive infographic, and a position statement on protecting The Endangered Species Act.

iii. Activities related to specific legislation or Capitol Hill offices

1. As discussed by Lewis-Burke, IPM Legislation, the 2018 Farm Bill, the SMASH Act, and the Museum and Library Services Act of 2016 have been primary topics of engagement for ESA.

iv. Activities for and support of science policy fellowship program

1. The 2016 election and the ICE meeting schedule caused a disruption in the normal schedule of activities for our Science Policy Fellows program. While normally the second trip of the year would occur prior to the annual conference, in 2016 it was deemed prudent to await the outcome of the federal election since policymakers were focusing on little else.

2. The application period for the 2017 class ended on June 1. Now in its fourth year, there was a marked decrease in the number of completed applications compared to 2014-2016. Initial counts of submissions indicate that 21 completed applications were received as compared to 39 in 2016 and 42 in 2015.
3. Possible reasons for the decline could be the known competitive nature of the application, application fatigue from past-participants, or other reasons.
4. The subcommittee has started the review process and the Board will be notified when the new cohort is selected.

v. Relationships with other organizations

1. ESA was invited to participate and liaise with several organizations with complementary missions to ours such as National Invasive Species Council (NISC), National Academies of Science (NAS), and the United Nations Foundation Nothing but Nets advocacy training event.

A MOTION: Move to approve the ESA position statement on Endangered Species in accordance with ESA procedures. **Motion passed.**

14. **Adjourn** – With no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 1:20pm.
15. **Executive Session** – The Governing Board entered executive session at 1:30 p.m. to consider selection of ESA Fellows and discuss an issue related to the ESA national election. Executive session was concluded at 5:15p.m. and the meeting was adjourned for the day.
16. **Fellows of the ESA** – A motion was made to select the 2017 class of Fellows of the Entomological Society of America.

A MOTION: Move to select the following as Fellows of the Entomological Society of America: Dr. Nora J. Besansky, Dr. Lincoln P. Brower, Dr. Yves Carrière, Dr. Mustapha Debboun, Dr. Michael S. Engel, Dr. Bernd Heinrich, Dr. Richard Lindroth, Dr. Sally Rockey, Dr. Guy Smagghe, and Dr. Marla Spivak. **Motion passed.**

17. **Adjourn for Day** – The Governing Board meeting adjourned for the day at 5:15 p.m.
18. **Reconvene** – The Governing Board meeting reconvened at 7:30 a.m. on June 23rd.

19. **2018 Vancouver Annual Meeting Update** – Vice President, Michael Parrella, gave an update on the 2018 Annual Meeting in Vancouver, Canada.
- a. This will be a Tri-Society meeting of the ESA, the Entomological Society of Canada, and the Entomological Society of British Columbia. The meeting will be held from November 11-14 in the Vancouver Convention Centre.
 - b. The 2018 theme is “Crossing Borders: Entomology in a Changing World.”
 - c. Program Co-Chairs are:
 - i. **Cheryle O'Donnell, Ph.D.**
USDA -APHIS-PPQ-NIS
 - ii. **Surendra K. Dara, Ph.D.**
UC Cooperative Extension
 - d. 2018 Society Presidents are:
 - i. **Patrice Bouchard, Entomological Society of Canada**
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Government of Canada
 - ii. **Jenny S. Cory, Entomological Society of British Columbia**
Simon Fraser University
 - e. Plenary Speaker will be scientist turned author and filmmaker, Mr. Randy Olson.
 - f. The 2018 logo is being designed by native Canadian artist Michael Blackstock. Blackstock is a carver, visual artist, poet forester, and mediator. He holds a Master of Art degree in First Nations Studies.

20. **Executive Session** – The meeting entered Executive Session at 7:50 a.m. to discuss an ESA national election issue. The executive session ended at 8:00 a.m.
21. **Honorary Members** – Weller stated there is a motion from the ESA Committee on Honorary Membership to accept Dr. Gene Kritsky, Dr. Robert Wiedenmann, and Dr. Roger Moon nominations for honorary members of the Society.

A MOTION: To accept Honorary Members Committee nominations for the ballot. **Motion passed with 4 abstaining.**

22. **Audit Report** – Vice-President Elect, Robert Peterson, gave a brief overview of the 2016 audit report stating the auditors found that ESA followed proper accounting procedures and documentation and there were no causes for concern.

A MOTION: To accept the independent auditors report for 2016. **Motion passed.**

23. **ESA Finance Report** – ESA Treasurer, Michelle Smith, gave an overview of the ESA financial report as of May 31st, 2017, with ESA Finance Director, Neil

A MOTION: To accept the ESA Finance Report as is. **Motion passed.**

Willoughby, giving a general overview on investments. ESA remains on target to meet the overall budget goals for 2017. 63% of budgeted revenue has been raised and/or received to date, and 33% of total expenses have been incurred. A request was made to Willoughby to have the investment firm give a general report on portfolios and investments to the Governing Board in the near future.

24. **Membership Dues 2018** – Gammel discussed a proposed increase for 2018 membership dues. The increase in dues of \$1-\$2, based on member category, is estimated to net ESA \$10,000 in 2018 & 2019. Our projections do not call for another dues increase until 2020.

A MOTION: To approve a 1.4% increase in dues rates for all ESA members, effective with 2018 renewals. This equates to a \$2 increase in regular member dues and primary family members, and \$1 for all other categories. **Motion passed.**

25. **Awards Task Force Report** – Task Force Chair and PBT Representative, Carol Anelli, led a detailed discussion on the ESA Awards Program. The ESA Awards Task Force has been meeting since late 2016 to conduct a review of all ESA Awards at the National Level including processes and procedures, award requirements, and relevancy of awards. On January 26, 2017, the Task Force deployed a full membership survey to collect information on the ESA Awards process, difficulties in the process, and perceived prestige of each award.

Member Survey Highlights

- 39.6% of respondents feel recognition from ESA and peers is important
- 25.7% of respondents feel it is important to recognize others
- 32.4% of all respondents feel they are not competitive enough to be nominated
- 42% of Students and Early-Career Professionals (ECP) respondents do not feel competitive enough to be nominated
- 78% of respondents favored accepting unofficial transcripts along with a signed letter from an advisor.

The data show that ESA members value our awards program, but one-third of our members, and 42% of Students and ECPs, do not feel competitive enough to be nominated. The Task Force aims to raise the profile of the awards program throughout the Society by exploring ways to engage CEDA and other members; profiling award winners in more ESA publications, through social media, the website and blog; and increasing award recognition during the Annual Meeting.

MOTIONS:

1. Move to eliminate the requirement of official transcripts and allow student award submitters the opportunity to submit unofficial transcripts with a supporting letter from the department or advisor. **Motion passed.**
2. Move to migrate five awards and their funding sources to the ESA Sections indicated to administer as a Section Award. **Motion tabled.**
3. For the Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology, which lacks a sponsor or an endowment, move to create a revised funding model. ESA will fund the award for the next 3 years. **Motion tabled.**
4. Move that ESA Sections have until the November 2017 Annual Meeting to report to the Awards Task Force their intent to take an award proposed to move to their Section, if not the award will be sunset. **Motion passed.**
5. Move to establish an awards task force for the next two years guided by ESA's Strategic Principle that we have a social responsibility to develop all of its members. **Motion passed.**

26. **Diversity & Inclusion Committee Report** – Debi Sutton, Director of Membership and Marketing, gave an update on the Diversity & Inclusion Committee activities. The ESA Committee on Diversity & Inclusion was established in 2015. Last year, the Committee began work on its charges by:

- Developing an action plan which included formalizing a Diversity & Inclusion Statement for ESA
- Conducting a cultural and demographic analysis of ESA membership
- Surveying ESA members on their needs with respect to D&I
- Organizing a D&I symposium and reception during ICE 2016

This year, the Committee has been focused on additional charges, which include:

- Analyzing the results of the member survey
- Researching what other societies are doing with respect to D&I
- Proposing resources, programs and services that will maximize diversity and inclusion support among ESA members, and help increase the cultural competency of ESA
- Drafting a multi-year plan for implementing programs and services to support diversity and inclusion within ESA and within the entomological sciences.
- Proposing metrics to assess the progress of the D&I initiative

To organize its work, the Committee has developed a set of initial goals with supporting action items to further support ESA's D&I Initiative. These goals are not meant as directives; but rather as suggested guidance for making ESA a more diverse and inclusive Society. The Committee plans to work through other ESA Committees and with volunteer leaders to further the initiative and accomplish its goals. The 2017-2018 Goals:

- Increase overall diversity of speakers by 10% in 2018 over 2017
- Increase overall diversity of volunteers by 3% in 2018 over 2017
- Increase completion rate of ESA member profiles by 3-5% for high-completion demographics and 10% for low-completion demographics by year-end 2018
- General increased awareness of the work of the Committee and the ESA initiative in these areas

Discussion took place on the suggested metrics and Debi indicated she would take the questions and comments back to the Committee.

27. **Foundation Update** – Director of Strategic Initiatives, Chris Stelzig gave a brief update on the Entomological Foundation.

a. Scholastic National Partnerships (SNP):

Staff has met several times with SNP on the concept of building an educational campaign in Scholastic publications. The company has a 1:1 relationship with every teacher in the country and can target by grade, region, school type, etc. The proposed collaboration between the CDC, Foundation, and SNP is a pilot project that would assemble a vector management curriculum for classrooms in the southeastern U.S. in the spring of 2018. The campaign would include mosquito biology, morphology, habitat, management techniques, and other topics accessible to children.

b. The Mosquito Project:

The Eastern Branch is hosting their meeting in Annapolis in 2018. The EB meeting always includes an outreach component. Additionally, this year they are interested in working with a local school on an arts/STEM integration project. In brief, the concept is to develop classroom lesson plans around vector management. Student lessons would include potential impact on mosquito populations based on container removal. The BOD has agreed to help fund the project provided additional funds are secured and more details are provided.

c. Insecta Delecta!

Due to complications in finding a new venue for the dinner event, Insecta Delecta! has been canceled for the 2017 meeting. The hope is to possibly offer it for the near future.

28. **Adjourn** – With no further business to consider, the meeting adjourned at 10:05am