

Winter | 2010



**INTERNATIONAL
BRANCH**

Annual Report 2009–2010

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Executive Summary

December 1, 2010

In 2009, members of the Entomological Society of America (ESA) voted overwhelmingly to create an International Branch. An initial meeting was held in December 2009 when officers were elected and the International Branch (IB) was formally established. The Branch seeks to promote entomology internationally through scientific and professional communications, outreach on science and public policy, program development, continuing education, and fostering interest in entomology; and to promote and further the interests of the Entomological Society of America globally.

In our first year, the International Branch has begun developing its human capital and has already placed members on several committees, including ESA, Entomological Foundation, and Branch award committees. A website has been launched and can be viewed in several languages; it is maintained as an interactive portal with a downloadable calendar, news and blog announcements, an insect photo gallery, and information about the ESA and IB. In the future, the use of a pay-for-service like Google Analytics may help determine whether there are better ways to market the website. The number of members in the IB is also on the rise; as of May, there were 422 members in the IB and as of September 2010 there are 548 members.

In 2010, the Branch offered three competitive awards to Branch members: two for graduate students to recognize excellence in research and to help fund attendance at the ESA Annual Meeting (the J.H. Comstock Award and a Graduate Student Scholarship), and the other (Distinguished Scientist Award) for a member who has made outstanding contributions to entomology during his or her career. In 2010, Dr. Zeyaur Khan, from *icipe* and Maggie Hardy from The University of Queensland's Institute for Molecular Bioscience were awarded the Distinguished Scientist Award and the J.H. Comstock Award, respectively.

The Branch has organized an International Symposium scheduled for the afternoon of Saturday, December 11 (*Looking Beyond Borders: GM crops, Biological control and IPM in the International Arena*) followed by a brief business meeting, awards announcements, and mini-symposium on Sunday, December 12, 2010.

In 2011, Charles Vincent will replace James Harwood in the role of President; Christian Borgemeister was recently elected Vice President and will start in this role after the business meeting. Maggie Hardy (Secretary), Srinivas Parimi (Treasurer) and Myron Zalucki (GB Representative) will continue to serve the Branch in their respective roles.

Our three goals for 2012 are to hold our first Branch meeting outside the ESA Annual Meeting; to fundraise for the Branch to assist with travel scholarships to attend conferences; and, to increase Branch membership by 10% by recruiting new members to ESA.

More information about the International Branch and our activities can be found online at <https://sites.google.com/site/entsocib/>, and you can email us at ib@entsoc.org.

From the President

James Harwood, jharw2@email.uky.edu

Department of Entomology

University of Kentucky

Goals

Since the formation of the International Branch in December 2009, I have been working on establishing a formal structure to the Branch with a series of new Committees, identifying members of the Branch to serve at the national level and setting up three new Branch Awards (J.H. Comstock Award, Graduate Student Scholarship and Distinguished Scientist). I have also been working to put in place the mechanism whereby the Branch can meet as a stand-alone meeting that can effectively serve its membership. I believe this is imperative as we look to grow our membership globally.

Progress

The formal structure of the Branch has been the most challenging aspect of the year. However, we now have a structure in place that can be taken forward in the coming years and form the framework for the Branch. Three Branch Committees have also been established (Awards, Nominating and Program) and all positions responsibilities at the national level have been filled. Of the three new awards that were established in 2010, an excellent and very competitive set of applicants was received for the J.H. Comstock Award and Distinguished Scientist Award. Both winners will be honored at our Annual Meeting in San Diego.

Our first meeting has been put together and will be held on December 11-12 in San Diego. A program book is currently in development. The ultimate goal of the Branch is to move our meeting overseas. Following the election of a new Vice President, plans are underway to hold the 2012 meeting in Kenya. I am also encouraged that our membership continues to grow and we have seen a significant increase since the Branch was established.

Future Plans

As Charles Vincent takes over the role of President in December 2010, I look forward to continuing to working with the Executive Committee to meet our long-term goals. Similarly, I will work with Christian Borgemeister to make sure the Branch meeting in Kenya is a success. I am also chairing a Pacific Branch Invitational Symposium for the International Branch. This symposium will be on *Invasive Species in the International Arena* and, in addition to a series of presentations on international research, I will talk about the role of the Branch in fostering international collaborative research.

From the President-Elect

Charles Vincent, charles.vincent@agr.gc.ca
 Horticulture Research & Development Center
 Agriculture & Agri-Food Canada

Goals

Since the formation of the International Branch of the Entomological Society of America (**IB-ESA**) in December 2009, I have been working as Vice President in collaboration with President James Harwood and IB-Governing Board members (**IB-GB**), notably Maggie Hardy (Secretary), Srivivas Parimi (Treasurer) and Myron Zalucki (Governing Board Representative) to build the Branch. In the first year of its operations, the short-term goal was establish structures by appointing people from different geographical horizons so that the IB is fully functional and by organizing elections.

Progress

So far, progress has been relatively easy to make thanks to the professionalism and the goodwill of the IB-GB members. Of particular importance was to design a web site that would showcase IB activities for the benefit of the members: M. Hardy did an excellent job in that respect. Also of importance was to create Committees that would address issues related to Awards.

In 2010, I have been involved in organizing three Symposia: 1) “The Disciplinary and Geographical Diversity of Classical Biological Control”, Entomological Society of America, San Diego, CA, December 2010. (L. Williams III (USDA-Reno, NEV) & C. Vincent orgs.); 2) "Entomological Research from International Perspectives", Entomological Society of America, San Diego, CA, December 2010. (K. Rochon (Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada-Lethbridge, Alberta), & C. Vincent orgs.), and 3) “Invasive Species in the International Arena”, 95th ESA Pacific Branch meeting, Honolulu, Hawaii, 27-30 March 2011. (J. D. Harwood (University of Kentucky) & C. Vincent, orgs.).

In March 2010, I attended the 81st Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America-Eastern Branch in Annapolis (Maryland) and networked with colleagues of my former Branch. It is important to understand that, true to the intent of ESA in creating the IB, membership to the IB does not preclude activities in another Branch of ESA.

Future Plans

First of all, I fully endorse the three goals layed by James Harwood. The future activities of the IB should be in line with the main intent of ESA when it created the IB, i.e. networking at the International level. In that context, I look forward to work with Christian Borgemeister who is based in Kenya and has a network in Europe. I would like the IB to reach and network with entomologists of all continents. In essence the IB is an open organization. We are open for suggestions from members of ESA and entomologists outside ESA. Win-Win partnerships are welcome and a major challenge is find the financial resources that will allow these partnerships to evolve and be scientifically productive. Of particular interest is a meeting that will occur in Kenya in 2012 under the leadership of C. Borgemeister and J. Harwood, and the International Congress of Entomology in Daegu (Korea) in 2012.

From the Secretary

Maggie Hardy, m.hardy@imb.uq.edu.au
Institute for Molecular Bioscience
The University of Queensland, Australia

Goals

For the past year, I've focused on three main goals: developing a website for the International Branch, developing a proposal to allow ESA members from developing countries to join the IB at a reduced rate, and clarifying the student awards available from both the ESA and the Entomological Foundation.

Progress

The IB website¹ is fully functional, and has a variety of features accessible to both members and the public. A downloadable calendar lists international entomology events as well as ESA and IB events at the ESA Annual Meeting. Award applications, the bylaws, minutes, and ESA membership application can be downloaded as well. An insect photo gallery is presented as a slideshow, and photos for consideration in the insect gallery on the website can be submitted directly to our open Picasa album². All images on the website are available under a Creative Commons license³. The site was created using Google Sites and is hosted by Google, which will allow the login to be easily transferred to the next Secretary or Webmaster.

Not all the Entomological Foundation awards are open to international students; because of funding restrictions, this may not be able to be changed. However, I have suggested this is clarified on the website, and see if it can be changed in 2011.

Additionally, I helped the President draft a petition to the Governing Board for reduced rates for those ESA members from developing countries (as defined by the World Bank), at discounted rates comparable to our peer organizations. For the text of the petition, which will be submitted pending discussion with the Governing Board members, please see Appendix A.

Future Plans

I plan to help represent the IB at the ESA and with other organizations however possible, and have already committed to serving on the 2011 Recognition Award in Entomology Award Committee. My term on the International Affairs Committee (IAC) draws to a close in 2011, and we've been working closely with their board to be sure we are taking full advantage of that collaboration.

I'd be pleased to hear from any IB members with ideas or events for the website, my work with the IAC, or suggestions for how to increase communication and networking within the Branch.

¹ <https://sites.google.com/site/entsocib/>

² <http://picasaweb.google.com/EntSoc.IB/ESAIBSubmittedPhotos#>

³ <http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/3.0/>

From the Treasurer

Srinivas Parimi, Srinivas.Parimi@mahyco.com
Maharashtra Hybrid Seeds Co. Ltd.

Goals

The primary objective of me serving on the governing board was to be part of the larger group under ESA umbrella, which works toward building a bigger and stronger entomological society. As a treasurer my goal would be to monitor the expenses, which I did not get an opportunity yet, as utilization of funds has not begun. However, I look forward to collection of funds to IB account soon and will try to help anyway possible in collection and utilization of the same.

Progress

The only progress I could make was to speak to people within the country (India) about applying for memberships, specifically students. I feel more progress can be made once membership rates are reduced for IB members and IB students.

I was able to serve as a judge on student awards from Entomological Foundation this year. As I am not attending the Annual ESA Meeting, although I offered my services for judging student competitions, it may not be possible.

Future Plans

I look forward to help the ESA-IB in increasing membership and fund collections. I also hope that IB can play a role in the ICE scheduled in 2012 and if we could conduct a symposium, I surely will be interested to work on it.

From the Representative to the Governing Board

Myron (Meron) Zalucki
School of Biological Sciences
The University of Queensland, Australia

Goals

My goals were very simple. This year was spent finding my feet so to speak as a member of the Governing Board. I wanted to see how it worked and to provide an “international”, if somewhat Oz-centric, perspective to the deliberations.

One of my main goals was to continue to encourage the ESA to bid for the next International Congress of Entomology (after the 2012 meeting in Korea, see <http://edunabi.com/~ice2012/>). Such a meeting would be a great fillip for the entomology in general, the ESA and the IB.

Progress

I attended my first full meeting of the GB in Washington in early June and participated in a conference call phone hook in late August (at some ungodly for me locally)!

By the end of my term next year I might get the hang of this!

Future Plans

Hopefully the ICE plans will come to fruition. I believe the ESA will bid. I will certainly advise the GB on how to put their best foot forward.

I will make representations to clarify student awards for students not based overseas. I believe the ESA needs to harmonize award rules so as not to make IB member’s second-class citizens.

Finally I will seek to better integrate IAC and IB. They should be complementary.

Appendix A: Work in Progress

Petition to the Governing Board of the Entomological Society of America for reduced rates for international members from developing countries

Respectfully Submitted

James Harwood, PhD, President, *International Branch*

Charles Vincent, PhD, President-Elect, *International Branch*

Margaret Hardy, MSc, Secretary, *International Branch*

Srinivas.Parimi, PhD, Treasurer, *International Branch*

Meron Zalucki, PhD, Governing Board Representative, *International Branch*

Introduction

The Entomological Society of America (ESA), as a global organization with over 5,000 members, is well placed to offer an incentive to recruit members from developing countries. We petition the ESA Governing Board to offer a reduced rate to current and potential members from recognized economically disadvantaged countries, at a flat rate that would apply to all membership categories (except President's Circle and Sustaining Associates); all communication would be electronic, so no additional postage costs would be incurred.

According to the online ESA Membership Directory, as of 20 May 2010 there were 714 members of the ESA living outside the USA and 422 members of the newly formed International Branch (IB); there were a further 12 members who selected no branch, including 6 with addresses overseas. We suggest that membership could be increased, and recruitment from international members is poised to increase with the creation of the International Branch in 2009.

Membership Costs

To that end, we propose a membership reduction of 20% for members from developing countries who join or renew in the International Branch, and of 10% for members who join or renew in another branch in 2011.

Table 1. Current and proposed membership rates, rounded to the nearest dollar.

	Current 2010 (\$)	10% Reduction (\$)	20% Reduction (\$)
Regular	136	122	98
Company	136	122	98
Early Professional	101	90	72
Student	33	30	24
Family	206	185	148

Defining “Developing”

In order to offer the reduced rate to potential members, the selection criteria must be absolutely clear, and preferably created by an outside organization and used as a standard by other organizations. To that end, we propose the World Bank classification scheme, rather than the OECD, should be used for clarity.

The World Bank ranking scheme is more widely used, and also more clear than the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) scheme, outlined below. All data has been taken from OECD's website:

(http://www.oecd.org/pages/0,3417,en_36734052_36761800_1_1_1_1_1,00.html).

The OECD has 30 member countries:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Korea, Luxembourg, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

These five countries have an "opened discussion for engagement", and in 2007 these same countries began accession talks: Chile, Estonia, Israel, Russia, and Slovenia.

These five countries are "open to engagement" (meaning it may lead to membership in the future): Brazil, China, India, Indonesia, and South Africa. We propose that these countries are included in the rate-reduced category.

Based on these criteria, we would have three options to choose from:

1. offer the reduced-rate to all countries except the 30 member countries;
2. offer the reduced-rate to the 30 member countries and the 5 countries that are in engagement discussions;
3. offer the reduced-rate to all countries except the 30 member countries, 5 countries in engagement discussions, and the 5 countries open to engagement.

The World Bank ranking scheme is clearer, and we could choose either the lowest tier or two lowest tiers to be recipients of the reduced rate (see Appendix A).

Projected Costs [to be updated before submission]

Based on the current membership, approximately __% of the International Branch and __% of the general membership of the ESA would be affected by this membership rate reduction.

Case Studies of Reduced-Rate Membership

None of these groups offer the same categories of as the ESA, and I think the categories are well laid-out, and it would be nice for IB members to choose from any of the options rather than having just one "IB" flat fee, that may not suit their needs (e.g., for students).

Ecological Society of America (http://www.esa.org/member_services/join_renew.php)

Membership dues are based on annual income, whereas the ESA's are not.

Regular Membership (Annual Income/Dues)

Under \$40,000/\$53.00

\$40,000 - \$60,000/\$82.00

Over \$60,000/\$102.00

Student Member: \$26.00

Developing Country Membership

Available to individuals who are citizens of a developing country and currently residing in that country. For a list of developing countries, click here [link to World Bank website].

Dues

Membership plus EC subscription (print or online*) \$46.00

Membership plus EC, EA, EM subscriptions (specify print or online*) \$77.00

Developing Country Student Membership \$15.00

In dollars, the discount between an EcoSA member who makes under \$40,000 (\$53) and an international member with online access (\$46) is US\$7, which may not make a difference in whether or not someone can afford the membership.

Society for Human Ecology (<http://www.societyforhumanecology.org/>)

Membership fees are \$60 for regular members, \$150 for contributing members, \$1,000 for sustaining members, and a reduced rate of \$30 for student members, members from developing countries, and retired members.

American Society of Agronomy/Crop & Soil Science Societies of America

(<https://www.agronomy.org/membership/discounts/>)

Membership for US members: \$90

Membership for International members: \$38

The Developing Countries special membership rate is available to those scientists in countries, defined as low and lower middle income by the World Bank. This enables these scientists, for whom the cost of membership is outside of their means, to access scientific research and colleagues around the world. If a member's financial means are such that membership at the active member rate is affordable, please select the active member rate, to ensure that funds are available for members who would not otherwise be able to afford it. Membership in this special rate is not automatically granted each year, it must be requested on an annual basis during our renewal period.

Open to scientists/students in the lowest two economic tiers of countries, as defined by the World Bank. Both residency and citizenship in an eligible country required. \$38 U.S. - via credit card or as a check in U.S. dollars drawn on a U.S. bank. Includes membership in one Society membership combination of your choice and electronic-only access to one journal of choice.

Society of Women Engineers (<http://societyofwomenengineers.swe.org>)

Offers a 50% discount to members from countries in the World Bank's lowest economic tier, and of 25% for those in the second lowest tier. Annual full membership is \$100; annual student membership is \$20.

Appendix A. World Bank list of the lowest two tiers by economic ranking (April 2010).

Low Income		Lower middle income	
Afghanistan	Zimbabwe	Albania	Solomon Islands
Bangladesh		Angola	Sri Lanka
Benin		Armenia	Sudan
Burkina Faso		Azerbaijan	Swaziland
Burundi		Belize	Syrian Arab Republic
Cambodia		Bhutan	Thailand
Central African Republic		Bolivia	Timor-Leste
Chad		Cameroon	Tonga
Comoros		Cape Verde	Tunisia
Congo, Dem. Rep.		China	Turkmenistan
Eritrea		Congo, Rep.	Ukraine
Ethiopia		Côte d'Ivoire	Vanuatu
Gambia, The		Djibouti	
Ghana		Ecuador	
Guinea		Egypt, Arab Rep.	
Guinea-Bissau		El Salvador	
Haiti		Georgia	
Kenya		Guatemala	
Korea, Dem. Rep.		Guyana	
Kyrgyz Republic		Honduras	
Lao PDR		India	
Liberia		Indonesia	
Madagascar		Iran, Islamic Rep.	
Malawi		Iraq	
Mali		Jordan	
Mauritania		Kiribati	
Mozambique		Kosovo	
Myanmar		Lesotho	
Nepal		Maldives	
Niger		Marshall Islands	
Rwanda		Micronesia, Fed. Sts.	
Senegal		Moldova	
Sierra Leone		Mongolia	
Somalia		Morocco	
Tajikistan		Nicaragua	
Tanzania		Nigeria	
Togo		Pakistan	
Uganda		Papua New Guinea	
Uzbekistan		Paraguay	
Vietnam		Philippines	
Yemen, Rep.		Samoa	
Zambia		São Tomé and Príncipe	