

Final Business Meeting
Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America, 2021
Virtual Meeting
March 31, 2021

The Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America held a virtual meeting from March 29-31, 2021. This meeting occurred as a temporary replacement for an in-person meeting due to the ongoing occurrence of the COVID-19 pandemic. The meeting theme for 2021 focused on student and early career professional development opportunities. Program Chair Lina Bernaola and the Executive leadership committee also utilized the virtual platform as an opportunity to engage professionals in the region who may not normally attend the conference in program development and offerings. The video of the Final Business Meeting was also posted in the online program during the week following the final business meeting.

The following panelists presented during the final business meeting: Southeastern Branch President John Adamczyk, President-Elect Michelle Samuel-Foo, Secretary Treasurer Amanda Hodges, Student Awards Committee Justin George, ESA Staff Becky Anthony, and Local Arrangements for Puerto Rico 2022 Jose Carlos Verle Rodrigues.

In addition to the panel, 87 participants from the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America were in attendance (see Appendix 1 for the full list of attendees).

Presidential Comments

President John Adamczyk opened the meeting by thanking the 2020-2021 executive committee, including: Past President Yasmin Cardoza, President-Elect Michelle Samuel-Foo, Secretary-Treasurer Amanda Hodges, Secretary-Treasurer Elect Brett Blaauw, Member-at-Large Kevin Chase, Member at-Large JC Chong, Member-at-Large Ryan Kurtz, and Governing Board Representative Karla Adesso.

ESA Headquarters staff Becky Anthony, Rosina Romano, and Cindy Myers were also acknowledged.

It should be noted that the 2020-2021 meeting cycle included extensive planning for an in-person meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico during 2021. However, after meetings between the American Phytopathological Society, Caribbean Division (APS-CD) during 2020, ESA HQ leadership, and conference direct, ESA was able to negotiate to shift the hotel contract to 2022. The online meeting as an interim solution to an in-person meeting for 2021 was planned with a very short turn-around time, and the program co-chairs provided exemplary leadership for this effort.

Program committee chairs were recognized-

Lina Bernaola and Rodrigo Diaz as co-chairs for the program.

Jose Carlos Verle as local arrangements for the 2022 Puerto Rico Meeting.

Tolulope Agunbiade as the membership committee chair.

Greg Wiggins as member awards chair.

Kristin Healy and Justin George as student awards co-chairs.

James Harper as the chair of archives.

Whiney Crow as resolutions chair.

Alejandro Arevalo as the chair of sponsorship.

Ben Thrash as the meeting time and location and chair of local arrangements for 2023.

Eric Riddick as chair of education and outreach.

Rebecca Baldwin as a BCE representative.

Mike Williams and Jerome Grant as co-chairs of the Entomology Games.

Shimat Joseph and Katherine Parys as Nomination Committee co-chairs.

Member Awards

Member Awards announcement was provided by Greg Wiggins; however, he was unable to attend the final business meeting.

Excellence in Integrated Pest Management

- Scott Stewart, University of Tennessee

Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension

- Frank Hale, University of Tennessee

Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology

- Lukasz Stelinski, University of Florida

Excellence in Early Career Award

- Rachel Mallinger, University of Florida

Awards for packets for Scott Stewart and Frank Hale will be submitted by Member Awards committee for their respective corresponding National ESA awards:

- Award for Excellence in Integrated Pest Management
- ESA Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension

For these two awards, only one submission allowed per Branch, so Branch winners are forwarded by Branch Awards committee. There has been some confusion and discussion in terms of which awards can be submitted by the SEB member awards committee compared to direct submission to national awards.

For our other two award winners, the member awards committee encourages:

- Lucasz Stelinski to consider the PIE Section Awards and
- Rachel Mallinger to look at the various National ESA Early Career Professional awards to determine the award most applicable to their packets and submit them

Deadline to submit packets for National ESA Awards is June 1

Henry Fadamiro presented the following IPM Awards during the virtual 2021 meeting.

Pulling Together	Sustainable SWD Management Team (group led by Ash Sial)
IPM Educator	University of Florida, IPM Academy (group led by Hugh Smith)
IPM Implementer	Alton Sparks
Bright Idea	Lambert H. B. Kanga
Doctoral Graduate Student	Kadie Britt
Master's Graduate Student	Oluwatomi Ibiyemi

Student Awards

The following students were recognized during the annual meeting for awards received during the virtual conference (see Appendix 2).

The following report was submitted by the student awards committee co-chairs (Justin George and Kristin Healy) for the 2021 meeting.

Committee Members: Justin George, USDA-ARS (Co-chair); Kristen Healy, LSU Ag Center (Co-chair); Nannan Liu, Auburn University; Sriyanka Lahiri, University of Florida.

John Henry Comstock Award: During the 2020-21 year, the SEB student awards committee received six applications for the Comstock award. Based on the committee evaluations, **Yan Yan (Vanderbilt University)** was selected as the winner of Comstock award for this year. The winner and other applicants were notified of the status of the award selections during the first week of February. Awards committee co-chairs collected the biographical information and photograph from the winner and submitted to the SEB program chair.

Kirby L. Hays memorial award: During the 2020-2021 year, the SEB student awards committee received two applications of the Kirby L. Hays memorial award. Based on the committee evaluations, **Autumn McLaughlin (Auburn University)** was selected as the winner of the award. Awards committee co-chairs collected the biographical information and photograph from the winner and submitted to the SEB program chair.

SEB virtual annual meeting 2021 (March 29-31, 2021): The committee co-chairs attended the SEB annual planning meetings on a regular basis, provided feedback and made changes to the scoring rubric to accommodate the virtual meeting sessions. The SEB student awards committee coordinated the student competitions during the annual meeting. Judges and moderators were contacted ahead of time and supplied with judging rubrics and judging assignments. During the meeting, the committee collected and tabulated the scoring sheets and selected the winner and runner-up for each section and updated the information to the program chairs. We would like to thank all the committee members for volunteering in the student awards committee.

Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes from the 2020 virtual meeting were presented by Secretary-Treasurer Amanda Hodges. 30/32 participants voted to approve the minutes as presented. Two voted to abstain. Approval of the 2020 virtual meeting minutes occurred.

Financial Report

Financial report was presented by Secretary-Treasurer Amanda Hodges. 31-Yes, 1-No, 4-Abstain. Financial report was accepted and approved.

Budget Report and Proposed Budget Approval

Budget was presented by Secretary-Treasurer Amanda Hodges. 28-Yes, 1-No, 5-Abstain. Budget report and proposed budget was accepted and approved.

Amendment and By-Law Changes

Several significant amendment and by-law changes were proposed by the Executive team and presented by Secretary-Treasurer Amanda Hodges. Major changes to the operations of the SEB-ESA included moving the financial components of the SEB to ESA HQ and eliminating the Auditing Committee. This will allow the Secretary-Treasurer to focus on secretarial duties associated with the management of the SEB, and revenue information can be obtained from ESA HQ. ESA HQ already manages the investment account of the SEB. Also, ESA HQ has taken a lead role in online registration for meetings, and recruitment of online sponsorships. This has resulted in the treasury function of the SEB as more of an intermediary or pass-through system. Also, some of the language of the ESA reflects the older language and not newer terminology of ESA (for example, Linnaean Games needed to be changed to Entomology Games). The final business meeting vote was a preliminary vote, which was followed by a full SEB vote during the summer of 2021 (online).

23-Yes, 1-No, 9-Abstain. The amendment and by-law motion passed and moved forward to summer voting. All amendment and by-law changes passed during the summer of 2021.

Meeting Conclusion

Michelle Samuel-Foo provided remarks in regards regarding her enthusiasm to serve as the incoming SEB-ESA President.

Brett Blauuw was announced as the Secretary-Treasurer for 2021-2022.

Amanda Hodges was announced as the President-Elect for 2021-2022.