

Section Report to the ESA Governing Board

Title: **Physiology, Biochemistry, and Toxicology (PBT) Report**

Submitter: Peter Jensen, PBT President

Date: Nov 4, 2016

Motion/Request for Action

None

2017 PBT Section Leadership

President	Dr. Peter Jensen
Vice President	Dr. Blair Siegfried
Vice President elect	Dr. David O'Brochta
Past President	Dr. Nannan Liu
Treasurer	Dr. Richard Mankin
ESA Governing Board Representative	Dr. Carol Anelli

Current Activities and Recent Accomplishments

Coordinating with other sections on Program Symposium for 2017 ESA meeting in Denver

Planning workshop proposal (CRISPR) for 2017 ESA meeting in Denver.

Nomination of 2017-2020 PBT Governing Board representative candidate Dr. Marianne Alleyne.

Nomination of 2018 PBT VP elect candidate Dr. Kun Yan Zhu

Nomination and acceptance of Dr. Josh Benoit to a second term on the awards committee.

Section Business Meeting/Symposia Updates

The PBT section business meeting was held on Sunday September 25th from 11:30 am to 3:30 pm in conjunction with the 2016 ICE meeting in Orlando, Florida.

The keynote speaker was Dr. Angela Douglas from Cornell University, winner of the 2015 Recognition Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry & Toxicology. The title of Dr. Douglas' talk was "The Taming of the Symbiont: Insect Exploitation of Microorganisms from a Physiological Perspective".

The keynote speaker was followed by presentations from two 2016 award winners: Dr. Ronald Nachman from USDA-ARS (2016 ESA Fellow), and Dr. Nicholas Teets from University of Kentucky (2016 STEP Research Award winner).

Presentations were followed by recognition of all of the 2016 PBT Award winners: **Gerhard Gries** (Simon Fraser University) - ESA Professional Award - Recognition Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry, & Toxicology; **Adrian A. Smith** (North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences) - STEP Early Career Professional Awards; **Nicholas Teets** (University of Kentucky) - STEP Research Award; **Ronald Nachman** (Southern Plains Agricultural Research Center, USDA, Texas) – Fellow 2016; **Leslie Pick** (University of Maryland) – Fellow 2016.

Award winners were followed by a review of PBT representatives to ESA standing committees and editorial boards, then a governing board report from Dr. Carol Anelli. Dr. Anelli nominated Dr. Marianne Alleyne as the next PBT governing board representative. Dr. Richard Mankin delivered the Treasurer report (included below)

Dr. Joshua Benoit, PBT Awards Committee, lead a discussion around nomination of PBT Section members for ESA awards. Dr. Benoit reviewed the full list of potential awards, passed out nomination forms, and emphasized the importance of coordinating nominations early in the process.

Dr. Blair Siegfried (VP-elect) led a discussion of the 2017 PBT initiatives:

- 1) Move PBT science in new directions through the education of Members and the adoption of new technologies with a workshop in 2017 (when? where? who?).
- 2) Defend science within entomology (how??) and create a safe environment for dialogue (by when?).

There was a vibrant discussion around PBT section members leading/organizing a CRISPR workshop. Dr. Bryony Bonning and Dr. Subbha Palli lent their support and experience to the effort. Discussion and organization to continue in preparation for ESA workshop submission deadlines. PBT leadership will continue discussion at leadership meetings in 2017 with a goal of appointing workshop leader and committee, and facilitating the workshop submission for the annual ESA meeting in 2017 in Denver.

The discussion around defending science and creating a safe environment for dialogue was dominated by a recount of activities at the 2015 ESA meeting and following. PBT section representative to the governing board, Dr. Carol Anelli, reported at the 2015 final business meeting that ESA would be a signatory on a statement from AAAS supporting open dialogue between scientists working across academia, government, and industry. This statement was to be in response to the increased incidence of and disturbance inflicted by FOIA requests sent to researchers involved in biotechnology research. AAAS did not make a statement in 2016 as intended, and therefore ESA was not a signatory.

Total Section Symposia	Total Regular Oral Presentations	Total Regular Posters	Total Student Competition Oral Presentations	Total Student Competition Posters	Grand Total Presentations
6	331	136	Reported by student competition	Reported by student competition	467

Current Membership and Financial Status

Current membership (Sept 2016): 552

Financial status

Financial status of PBT is good. At the beginning of 2016, PBT had available funds of \$5,597 carried over from 2015. With the \$4,000 allocation for 2016, PBT had a total of \$9,597 for spending in 2016. As of Nov 4, 2016, total anticipated spending will be about \$4,923 (\$2,543 for PBT networking section food and drink at ICE, \$1,200 for the ICE 2016 travel funding for STEP members; \$620 for an invited PBT section symposium international speaker registration fee, \$650 to cover a student travel award, and \$** operating cost for EPA Project [5% expenses-June]). The balance is estimated at \$4,674 at the end of 2016, similar to the level at the end of 2015.

12-31-2015 Available fund	2016 allocation	2016 total fund	ICE PBT business meeting (food & drink order)	PBT final business meeting breakfast	ICE 2016 travel funding for STEP	Registration fee for invited PBT section symposium speaker	Others	Balance by the end of ICE meeting
\$5,597	\$4,000	\$9,597	-\$2,543 Estimate according to 2015	0	-\$1,200	-\$620	-\$650 student travel -\$90 EPA project (5%)	\$4,674

Other Information/Comments

None

Motion/Request for Action Information

None