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February 22, 2019

Joanne Tornow, Ph.D.
Assistant Director, National Science Foundation Directorate for Biological Sciences
2415 Eisenhower Avenue
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Dr. Tornow,

On behalf of the Entomological Society of America (ESA), I'd like to congratulate you and welcome you to your new role as Assistant Director of the Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO).

ESA is the largest organization in the world serving the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and individuals in related disciplines. Founded in 1889, ESA has more than 7,000 members affiliated with educational institutions, science agencies, private industry, and government. ESA is an active participant in the biological research advocacy community promoting the benefits of federal investment in NSF, especially BIO.

As you are likely aware, advances in basic entomological sciences provide a foundation of knowledge important for addressing some of the most pressing issues our nation faces with respect to food safety and sustainability, public health, and the environment, including pollinator health, invasive species, and vector-borne diseases. In addition to support for research funding, the NSF BIO-funded research community needs access to secure and organized collections and the data they yield. We strongly encourage you to continue NSF's support of vital programs like Collections in Support of Biological Research (CSBR) that supports collections activities critical to advancing basic research.

I join ESA's members and staff in expressing our enthusiasm for working with you in your new capacity to continue to support our members' exciting and innovative work through NSF sponsored research. Please do not hesitate to contact us if ESA can serve as a resource or be of assistance in any way. For more information about ESA, please visit <http://www.entsoc.org> or contact ESA's Executive Director David Gammel at dgammel@entsoc.org.

Congratulations once again on your appointment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. K. Peterson", written in a cursive style.

Robert K. D. Peterson, Ph.D.
2019 President, Entomological Society of America
Professor of Entomology, Montana State University