



Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section

MAY 2023 NEWSLETTER

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Message from the President



I hope you all had a good Spring and are prepared for an exciting summer. It is a good time to remember to take photos of your research, outreach, and other activities and engage with the P-IE membership by submitting updates to our newsletter and also tagging @PIE_Entsoc when tweeting.

This year, P-IE received several great symposium proposals and 20 of them were selected as the Section and three were recommended as Member Symposia. Topics included advocating responsible crop protection, integrating indirect defense into plant breeding, pairing pollinator habitat with solar power generation, pollinator nutrition, resistance management, invasive species, and protected culture IPM among others. Several of the proposals also covered the meetings' theme of "Insects and Influence: Advancing Entomology's Impact on People and Policy".

P-IE is happy to provide a \$1000 grant to the Sketchapod Arthropod Illustration Workshop in June 2023. Illustration projects from this workshop might be displayed at the annual meetings in National Harbor in November.

P-IE welcomes Tim Nowatzki who stepped in as the new Treasurer for the remainder of the 2023 term. Thanks to Laura Weiser-Erlandson for her service to P-IE and congratulations on her new role as the Vice President of the Southwestern Branch.

Happy Summer everyone!
Surendra Dara
surendra.dara@oregonstate.edu

Funding Opportunity!

Do you have a great idea for an education, outreach, or policy activity that benefits P-IE and its members? We would love to hear from you! The P-IE Governing Council would like to remind our members that we are able to fund innovative proposals for activities focused on: science and public policy, fostering interest in entomology, building skills that support entomological research and education, or other such efforts within the scope of P-IE. Proposals may be funded up to \$2,000. We cannot fund research requests at this time, but we would be happy to feature your accomplishments in our newsletters. Download the application form here: <https://www.entsoc.org/pie/funding>

ESA VP-Elect Candidate

Melissa Willrich Siebert, current P-IE representative to the ESA Governing Board, will seek election for the position of ESA VP-elect for the upcoming summer election. She has served as a volunteer-leader for over 20 years within ESA, with significant service to the P-IE Section. She has served previously as P-IE Section President and Secretary, while also spearheading the initial P-IE Field Tour in 2017. Other previous ESA volunteer leadership roles include Chair for Publications Council and Leadership Development Committees, member of Ethics & Rules Committee, and subject editor for Journal of Integrated Pest Management. Melissa is committed to ESA's mission of serving the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and related disciplines. Considering Melissa's qualifications and long service to ESA, the P-IE Governing Council, on behalf of the P-IE Section, has agreed to support her nomination.



WIGs

The time has come once again for our members to tell us what's WILDLY important in the area of Plant-Insect Ecosystems. The Entomological Society of America has tasked each section with establishing "Wildly Important Goals" or WIGs to help guide our section initiatives. Some of the recent P-IE WIGs included "Pollinators" and "Invasive Species". Our Pollinator WIG initiated a creative video-making contest and organized important resources about pollinators. Our Invasive Species WIG has been very active, coordinating webinars with infographic resources, organizing a symposium for the annual meeting, and even hosting a field tour this September 12-14 in Florida. If you have suggestions for new (or continued) WIG topics, please let us know! We are especially looking for motivated members to lead activities for our WIGs. Please provide a one-page document that includes the topic, names and affiliations of the organizers, timeline, output(s), outcome(s), and impact(s) and email to Surendra Dara (surendra.dara@oregonstate.edu) by 15 July.

Camp Sketchapod

The P-IE Section is excited to announce their support for Camp Sketchapod June 23-25th in Manhattan, Kansas.

Calling all Campers,

Join us for a 3-day immersive adventure for creative graduate students and ECPs of all artistic levels to develop their scientific illustrative skills and mindset. Throughout the experience, campers will network and engage with members from the entomology community and local artists while enjoying the beauty of the Konza Prairie and eating a s'more (or a dozen).

What's included?

High quality, local, professional instructors
Touring the wonders of Manhattan (including the Konza Prairie)
Sketch supplies will be provided (Micron pens, sketchbook, etc.)
Assorted branded camp swag
Some meals and snacks provided with registration.
Plan accordingly.

How to attend?

Apply! Seats are limited to 24 campers! Submit early for best consideration - Click [here](#) to apply

Register & Pay. First priority registration begins May 23—see timeline below. Campers must pay a

registration fee of \$200 or \$250 (graduate student and ECP, respectively). Registration fee does not include travel to the camp or lodging. Hotel and accommodation information provided at time of registration.

Important Dates

May 8 - Open application begins. Team Sketchapod will review all applicants to ensure diverse branch and section representation.
May 19 - Best consideration for application deadline.
May 23 - 1st priority open registration.
May 31 - Registration open to all applicants.
June 6 - Closed registration, payment due.
June 23-25 - Camp is in session!

Need s'more proof of how awesome it will be? Check out this video: <https://youtu.be/Ray-gAUuwSY>

The bugs are calling, and you must apply! See the bug. Draw the bug.

For any questions, please reach out to the co-organizers, Erin Hodgson (ewh@iastate.edu) or Brian McCornack (mccornac@ksu.edu)! Or visit the camp website at www.sketchapod.com for more Information.

