

Minutes from the ESA Plant- Insect Ecosystem Governing Board Meeting

March 20, 2024

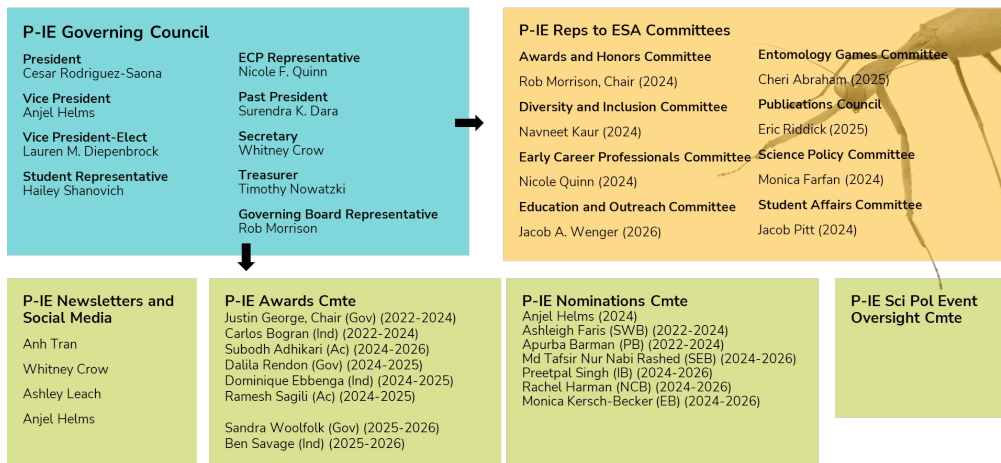
In attendance:

- Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, President; Tim Nowatzki, Treasurer; Anjel M Helms, Vice President; Rob Morrison, ESA P-IE GB representative; Lauren Diepenbrock, Vice President elect; Nicole Quinn, ECP Representative; Rosina Romano, ESA Liaison; Jacob Pitt, P-IE Rep. Student Affairs Committee and Jacob Wenger, P-IE Rep. Education and Outreach Committee.

Business:

- Cesar initiated the meeting by addressing the current status of open positions and expressed gratitude to Anjel for her efforts in filling these vacancies.
- The 'P-IE Newsletters and Social Media' committee was not discussed as it was dissolved last year.
- It was noted that Cheri Abraham's appointment in the 'P-IE Sci Pol Event Oversight Committee' has expired, and the committee has been inactive. According to the Policy Manual, “The P-IE Event Oversight Committee is a two-person committee that guides and assists the organizers of unique P-IE sponsored events, particularly those focused on science policy. This committee facilitates communication with and oversight by ESA staff and the GC and improves efficiency of preparation for annual events (tours or workshops). Each year, one person will be added to the committee for a two-year term. The first year (July to June) will be a chance to learn the process and support the chairperson. Each committee member will become the chairperson in the second year. The committee will work closely with the Treasurer of P-IE and with appropriate ESA staff. Each member of the committee will vote during the annual selection of event proposals in late summer by the GC. **A call for nominations will be made sometime between May and July.** P-IE members who are alumni of the ESA’s Science Policy Fellow program will be encouraged to apply.”
- Current members of committees are:

ESA P-IE Section 2024 Leadership



- A **motion** passed during the P-IE GC meeting to approve all new nominations for the P-IE Awards Committee and P-IE Nominations Committee.
- Rosina mentioned that a call for nominations for ESA positions will be issued on **April 2nd**, with nominations accepted until the end of May. Encouragement was given to start recruiting members whose terms expire in 2024, while current members are welcome to re-apply.
- Cesar invited the P-IE Representatives to ESA Committees to provide updates. Below are their reports.

Updates from P-IE Representatives to ESA Committees

Student Affairs Committee – Jacob Pitt

- The Committee has selected a new chair, vice-chair, and new sub-committees.
- The Committee is preparing for the annual meeting. Planning of debates.

Education and Outreach Committee – Jacob Wenger

- The Committee hasn't met since the annual meeting.
- At their meeting, the Committee questioned their responsibilities now with the FIT Section.
- The Committee discussed the Chrysalis Funds – P-IE provides a donation to these funds.

Awards and Honors Committee – Rob Morrison

- The Committee is discussing revisions of awards – providing recommendations.
- There was strong support by the P-IE GC to **create Travel Awards**. The GC discussed the creation of 2 Travel Awards for Undergraduate Students, 2 Travel Awards for Graduate Students, and 2 Travel Awards for ECP for a total of \$ 2,000 each (\$ 6,000 total). Tim indicated that P-IE has funds to do this. Cesar highlighted that other Sections provide Travel Awards for members.
- Anjel will work on writing Criteria for these Travel Awards (based on other existing ESA Travel Awards).

ECP Committee – Nicole Quinn

- The Committee is setting priorities for ECP through surveys.
- The Committee will use feedback from these surveys to develop future programs.
- The Committee is planning symposia and other events for the annual meeting.

Entomology Games Committee – Cheri Abraham sent his report to Cesar by email. Cesar read the report.

- The main responsibility of the Entomology Games Committee is to plan and run the Entomology Games at the ESA Annual Meeting. The committee includes representatives from the branches, sections, student affairs, gamesmasters from the branches, a Governing Board Rep, and an ESA staff liaison.
- I have the awesome opportunity to chair the group this year and we have had 2 monthly zoom meetings so far.
- Branch Gamesmasters and representatives at this point have been preparing for their respective branch games and seemed to have everything under control. Others have begun helping with writing questions for the games at the annual meeting.
- With the completion of the branch meetings, all members will move into question writing mode as we steadily get to the total number of questions needed.

- We currently have a call out for a new Gamesmaster, who will serve a 4 year term, 2 years as Gamesmaster trainee with the current Gamesmaster, and 2 years as Gamesmaster. This call went out through the eNews on March 6th. Please spread the word and encourage interested individuals to apply or reach out to me with any questions.
- We as a committee are continuing to look for ways to improve participation, inclusivity, and the reach of the games without reducing its fun quotient. Feel free to email me with any feedback for improving the Entomology Games in the short and long term. Also, let me know if you would like anything more specific in terms of the functioning of the Entomology games committee or the games in general.
- The next meeting is scheduled for early April to review submitted P-IE symposia proposals for the annual meeting, with a when2meet poll to be distributed soon for scheduling.