

Entomological Society of America

Minutes of the Governing Board Conference Call September 12, 2019

Participants

Bob Peterson, President
Alvin Simmons, Vice President
Tim Schowalter, Vice President-Elect
Michelle Smith, BCE, Treasurer
Michael Parrella, Past President
Gary Brewer, North Central Branch Representative
Karla Adesso, Southeastern Branch Representative
Jesus Esquivel, Southwestern Branch Representative
Julian Saguez, International Branch Representative
Tracy Leskey, Eastern Branch Representative
Marianne Alleyne, Physiology, Biochemistry & Toxicology Section Representative
Jessica Ware, Systematics, Evolution & Biodiversity Section Representative
Melissa Siebert, Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section Representative
Lina Bernaola, Student Representative

Staff

C. David Gammel, Executive Director
Rosina Romano, Director of Meetings
Chris Stelzig, Director of Strategic Initiatives
Neil Willoughby, Director of Finance
Lisa Junker, Director of Publications, Communications, and Marketing

Absent

Douglas Walsh, Pacific Branch Representative
Christopher Geden, Medical, Urban & Veterinary Entomology Section Representative

1. **Welcome and Agenda Review** – President Bob Peterson convened the meeting at 1:04 p.m. and welcomed attendees. The agenda was reviewed and no changes were made.
2. **Executive Session** – The Governing Board entered executive session to discuss the executive transition plan given the announced November 30, 2019, departure of Executive Director David Gammel. All staff except Gammel were excused from the call. The session began at 1:06 p.m. and concluded at 2:01 p.m.
3. **Consent Agenda** – Peterson reviewed the consent agenda and asked if members would like to pull any items for discussion. No items were pulled for discussion and a motion to approve the consent agenda as proposed carried.

The following consent agenda motions were approved:

Common Names Committee Report September 2019: Approval of common names *elm seed bug* and *soybean gall midge*.

JIS editor reappointment: Based on the recommendation of the Journal of Insect Science Editorial Board, the ESA Governing Board approves the re-appointment of Phyllis Weintraub to a second and final term as editor-in-chief of the Journal of Insect Science lasting through Dec. 31, 2023.

The following consent agenda reports were approved:

June 27-28, 2019, Minutes of the Governing Board
Update on Planned 2020 Grand Challenge Agenda for Entomology Summit

4. **Honors & Awards and Diversity & Inclusion** – Peterson and Gammel reviewed recent member feedback about diversity in the Society’s honorees and awardees, particularly in the Fellows program. Peterson indicated that the board will have significant time allocated to work on this issue in November during the next in-person meeting. General discussion ensued.
5. **Talking Points on Missouri Legislation Issue** – Gammel and Director of Publications, Communications, and Marketing Lisa Junker reviewed talking points and plans related to reproductive health legislation in Missouri.
6. **Finance Update** – Director of Finance Neil Willoughby reviewed the current financial position and status of the Society’s investments. The Society is still performing very close to budget for expenses and revenue so far this fiscal year.
7. **Science Policy Statement** – Director of Strategic Initiatives Chris Stelzig presented a new policy statement from the Science Policy Committee, *Importance of Genetic Research Position Statement*. General discussion ensued. Members identified some minor edits and will forward those to Stelzig. A motion to approve the statement with suggested edits carried.
8. **Innovation Day Summary** – Peterson led a brief discussion on the Innovation Day exercise held in June and indicated that more time for discussion would be allocated during the November Governing Board meeting.
9. **Adjourn** – Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:42 p.m.