

# Entomological Society of America

## Governing Board Meeting Minutes September 17, 2013 Conference Call

### PARTICIPANTS

Robert Wiedenmann, President  
Frank Zalom, Vice President  
Phil Mulder, Vice President-Elect  
Grayson Brown, Past-President  
Ricardo Bessin, Treasurer  
Stormy Sparks, Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section Representative  
Michelle Smith, Medical, Urban and Veterinary Entomology Section Representative  
John Obrycki, North Central Branch Representative  
Michael Parrella, Pacific Branch Representative  
Nancy Hinkle, Southeastern Branch Representative  
David Ragsdale, Southwestern Branch Representative  
John Oswald, Systematics, Evolution and Biodiversity Section Representative (left at 1:41 pm)  
Livy Williams, International Branch

### ABSENT:

Douglas Pfeiffer, Eastern Branch Representative  
Carol Anelli, Physiology, Biochemistry and Toxicology Section Representative  
Travis Prochaska, Student Representative

### Staff:

C. David Gammel, Executive Director  
Neil Willoughby, Director of Finance  
Debi Sutton, Director of Membership and Marketing  
Rosina Romano, Director of Meetings  
Alan Kahan, Director of Publications and Communication  
Chris Stelzig, Director of Certification and Data Management

### Guests:

Joseph Esposito  
Karen Barch

1. **Call to Order** -- The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by President Rob Wiedenmann, who welcomed participants. The agenda was reviewed and left unchanged.
2. **Journal Program Strategic Review** - Joseph Esposito reviewed current progress on the strategic review of the Society's publishing program. Esposito gave a general overview of the options for improving the reach and financial performance of ESA's publication program. Recommendations will be made as part of a final report to be presented at the

November Governing Board meeting. The Governing Board discussed the work and the current publishing environment of the journals.

3. **July Minutes** – The July 2013 minutes of the Governing Board were unanimously approved with a few minor corrections.
4. **Financial Reserve Policy** – Gammel presented a proposed financial reserve policy. The proposed policy identified a minimum financial reserve below which the Society will not allow the reserves to go. The Governing Board discussed the appropriate level.

**Motion:** To set the minimum financial reserve level at 85% of the current year budget with the remainder being in the strategic reserve.

Motion carries: **Yes - 9; No - 3; Absent-4**

5. **Annual Meeting Update** – Director of Meetings Rosina Romano shared that close to 2000 people have registered for Entomology 2013 as of today. The early bird deadline is set for September 23<sup>rd</sup>. Sponsorships for the annual meeting are at 200% of their target revenue.
6. **Science Policy Updates** – Executive Director David Gammel provided updates on the following science policy activities and issues:
  - a. **August District Visits** – The visits were promoted and organized through the American Institute of Biological Science and over 30 entomologists registered to participate. Vice President Elect Phil Mulder shared his experience meeting with a science advisor for Congressman Bridenstine. Mulder and the advisor had a good discussion for about 45 minutes and were able to cover several of the points provided by ESA.
  - b. **Science Policy Fellowship Program** – A proposal for the program will be officially submitted during the November meeting. The intent is to create a mix of online and in person events for early professionals so they can learn how science policy and funding is developed at the Federal level. Wiedenmann and Vice President Frank Zalom both commented on the value for the Society in developing the potential participants. Both also noted that they will be able to make valuable contributions to overall science policy efforts.
  - c. **Issues on the Hill** – Gammel discussed meetings conducted with legislative staff about tick-borne diseases and invasive species. Wiedenmann and Zalom, who attended the meetings, discussed how much opportunity there is to share critical information to policy makers and that ESA has the potential for substantial impact and influence if we increase our federal outreach.
  - d. **Pending OA Legislation in Congress** – Congressman Sensenbrenner’s office is currently working on drafting legislation. CSSP’s Executive Committee discussed publisher issues with Sensenbrenner’s office.
7. **Adjourn** – There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:08pm.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "C. David Gammel". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "C" and a long, sweeping tail.

C. David Gammel, CAE  
Executive Director