

Entomological Society of America

Governing Board Conference Call Notes September 15, 2015

Participants

Phil Mulder, President
May Berenbaum, Vice President
Susan Weller, Vice President-Elect
Frank Zalom, Past President
Mark Boetel, Treasurer
Gary Brewer, North Central Branch Representative
Timothy Schowalter, Southeastern Branch Representative
Livy Williams, International Branch Representative
John Oswald, Systematics, Evolution & Biodiversity Representative
Douglas Walsh, Pacific Branch Representative
David Ragsdale, Southwestern Branch Representative
Douglas Pfeiffer, Eastern Branch Representative
Carol Anelli, Physiology, Biochemistry & Toxicology Representative
Alton Sparks, Plant-Insect Ecosystems Representative
Tamra Reall Lincoln, Student Representative to the Governing Board

Absent

Christopher Geden, Medical, Urban & Veterinary Entomology Representative

Staff

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

1. **Welcome and Agenda Review** – President Phil Mulder convened the meeting at 2:03 p.m. The agenda was reviewed and left unchanged.
2. **July Minutes** – The July 2015 minutes were approved with minor revisions.
3. **2015 Annual Meeting Update** – Mulder and Rosina Romano, Director of Meetings, provided an update on planning and activities related to the 2015 Annual Meeting.
 - a. The meeting program is looking very good and the hotel pickup is at 83%.

- b. We are trending a bit behind our five-year average at this point although the early bird deadline is not until next week.
 - c. Sponsorship and exhibit sales have exceeded targeted amounts. Cindy Myers has done great work on this and was thanked by Mulder.
 - d. The program book is getting close to its final version and preparing for print.
 - e. We may be under 3,000 registrations for this meeting when all is said and done but more details to come.
4. **Review of 2016 Schedule and Deadline Changes** – C. David Gammel, ESA Executive Director, reviewed changes with general discussion following.
5. **2016 Budget Preparations** –Gammel reviewed above/below line budgeting methodology and likely strategic investments for the 2016 budget.
6. **Book Program Update** – Lisa Junker, Director of Publications and Gammel talked about the status of several current book projects. 99 copies of the ACE have been sold within a week. The book “Memoirs of Black Entomologists” consist of 20 memoirs of black entomologists from all around the world and entomological specialties. The goal is to encourage students of color to enter into the field of entomology as a profession.
7. **Grand Challenge Agenda for Entomology Update** – Former President Frank Zalom provided an update on activities.
- a. Brazilian Society of Entomology has joined the initiative.
 - i. Working on a summit in Brazil on mosquitos.
 - b. Royal Entomology Society is on board in concept and is considering an MOU.
 - c. Preparing to meet with Japanese, Chinese, and South Korean Society leaders.
 - d. Holding the ICE summit every four years is good as a check point for the global community.
 - e. Beginning to reach out to potential funders and building those connections.
8. **Science Policy** –
- a. **Statements:** Zalom discussed statements that are under development right now.
 - i. Indicated that the Tick statement has had a lot of pick up in policy and media circles.
 - ii. The Collections statement is under revision after some committee feedback.
 - iii. There are three new statements under way: Invasive Species; Resistance Management for GM Crops; Insecticide Resistance

Management. Member comments have closed, and writing committees have been appointed and started working. Hoping to have 2 of the three ready for Governing Board consideration in November. Insecticide Resistance likely to come out next year.

- iv. FOIA requests used as political attacks on research highlighted as a potential topic. Association for Concerned Scientists issued a statement on it. CSSP may also be speaking on this. See if there is a letter we could review and perhaps sign.
- v. A point was made that ESA needs a statement on veterinary health and insect vectors.
 - 1. Big diseases are breaking out or are becoming threats.
 - 2. Should perhaps talk about review procedures for statements to do critical revisions and doing so on a regular basis.

b. **Tick-borne Diseases Workshop and Hill Briefing for 2016:**

Gammel reviewed potential activities around tick-borne diseases. Someone from ESA leadership should be involved in the program.

- c. **Science Policy Fellows update:** Zalom thinks the Governing Board should be very proud of starting and supporting this program. Overall, we had 42 applicants apply but only had 5 spots available. It is a very high quality pool of applicants. We need to figure out how to better support the committee with the work being that it is a very heavy load.

9. **Summer Strategy Day Discussion** – Mulder and Gammel indicated staff will go through this in detail for the November meeting. Discussions will indicate what can be done by whom, broader strategic issues, etc.

10. **HQ Staffing Update** – Gammel reported hiring Oneka ‘Nikki’ Olin, who is coming from the government agency Federal Occupational Health Services in Bethesda, MD. She will be the new Executive Assistant and will start on Monday, October 5th.

11. **Foundation Update** – Chris Stelzig, Director of Strategic Initiatives, provided an update on recent activities of the Foundation.

- a. Governance restructure is complete with addition of Rob Wiedenmann.
- b. Board of Counselors is working on a charge to develop proposal for future projects.
- c. The Development Committee is currently being established.
- d. Since this has been a quiet year for the Foundation, they are getting repositioned and will begin building for the future.
- e. STEMBug workshop going strong with many registrants signed up.

- f. 2016 Expo team has been active and are planning for about 30 booths.
12. **Emeritus Requests** – Gammel and Debi Sutton, Director of Membership and Marketing, reviewed two request for emeritus membership, which were approved.
13. **Diversity and Inclusion Committee Update** – Sutton will serve as staff liaison. Mulder, Michelle Smith, and Rob Wiedenmann met to plan the committee charges and will then reach out to Branch and Section leaders for their appointments to the committee. Mulder will appoint two at large members.
14. **STEP Committee Update** –Sutton said they are building on discussions held at the summer meeting about engaging STEP-type members.
- a. STEP is sharing their newsletter with ESA leadership.
 - b. They are reaching out to Branch and Section leaders to be well represented on the committees.
 - c. Hoping to present to CEDA soon.
 - d. 193 entries for ICE STEP fund for non-us members. Brought in 130 new members to apply for this.
 - e. Adding 10 STEP volunteer spots for Annual Meeting this year.
 - f. STEP has asked for domestic travel support for ICE.
 - g. General discussion of getting some funds from Sections and Branches to work with ESA to develop money to support U.S. domestic STEPs.
 - i. Commit to sending at least 10 EPs with funding. Ask Sections to support at least another 10. Staff to explore. David R. said to include universities to ask them to support their people.
15. **Early Professional Award Development** – Mulder discussed working on plans to develop an EP award for research/teaching/outreach and service for launch in 2016. Brief discussion about importance of this. Will bring to November meeting.
16. **Adjournment** – There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:53 p.m.