

Message From the 2025 ESA President



Greetings ESA members,

I want to start by thanking you for staying engaged with the Entomological Society of America despite ongoing challenges in science. The world has changed countless times since ESA was founded in 1889. We have stood the test of time as a scientific society by constantly building on our past and evolving toward our future. ESA staff and volunteer leaders over the decades have continually monitored major policies and events to best situate the Society scientifically, socially, and financially in a rapidly changing world.

The ethos of ESA will continue to carry forward: The Society has always focused on championing the science of entomology, bringing together a broad community of insect scientists, and fostering knowledge sharing and collaboration. How we accomplish this may look different now than it did decades ago or even last year, but our core goals remain the same.

2024 was a strong year for ESA in many respects, though it came with financial challenges. In-person attendance increased at both Annual and Branch Meetings, as did professional development webinar attendance. Membership in ESA, as well as submissions and articles published in ESA journals, also increased. However, we're still battling the effects of the pandemic. While registrations and membership were up, they are still below 2019 levels. ESA also invested in improving infrastructure last year, including outsourcing a few key staff functions to attain best-in-class service in HR and accounting. Such transitions are expensive, but the clarity and insight provided are essential. Today's ESA is clear-eyed about developing sources of additional revenue while continuing to support member needs.

In 2025, many members face uncertainty, and ESA aims to be a bastion of support that entomologists can trust. We created a Support Fund to assist with ESA membership dues for entomologists who have lost their jobs, and we are expanding professional development programs to provide improved career guidance and growth opportunities. Meanwhile, ESA's Science Policy program is redoubling its efforts to defend entomology and related sciences against political polarization and reduced funding opportunities.

ESA is also working on several long-term projects in 2025 that will make our Society stronger for years to come, including a new publishing agreement with Oxford University Press, a proposed restructuring of our Governing Board, a new strategic plan, and new technological investments in our education, finance, marketing, and member-service operations.

The 2025 Annual Meeting theme is "Bridging Generations with Innovation, Legacy, and Passion," a reflection of how we honor the service of our past members and how they passed on their knowledge. As the Society continues its critical work, I hope you are inspired to join us, engage with ESA's programs, and be a part of this passionate community. Thanks to program co-chairs James Villegas and Kadie Britt, ESA staff, and other volunteers for collaborating on excellent programming to be held in Portland, Oregon.

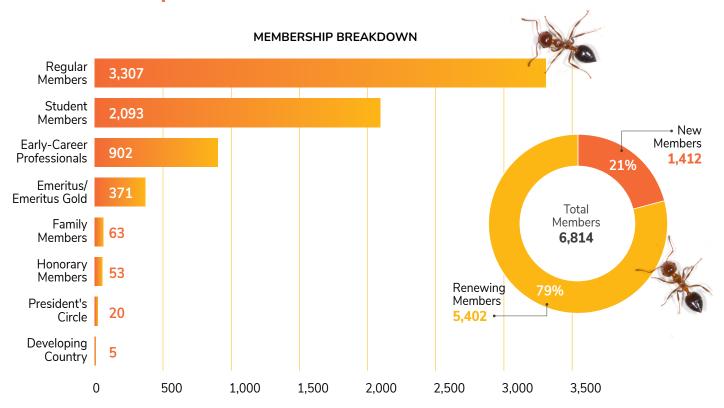
Once again, thank you for committing to the Society and standing by and supporting your fellow members in need. I am proud and grateful to serve such an honorable community that has remained resilient and continues to uphold the values that define our professional society.

Sincerely,

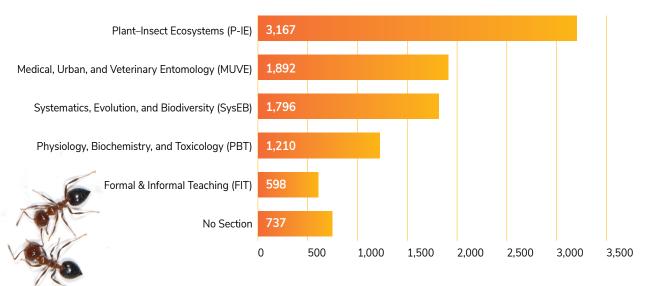
Lina Bernaola, Ph.D. 2025 ESA President



Membership



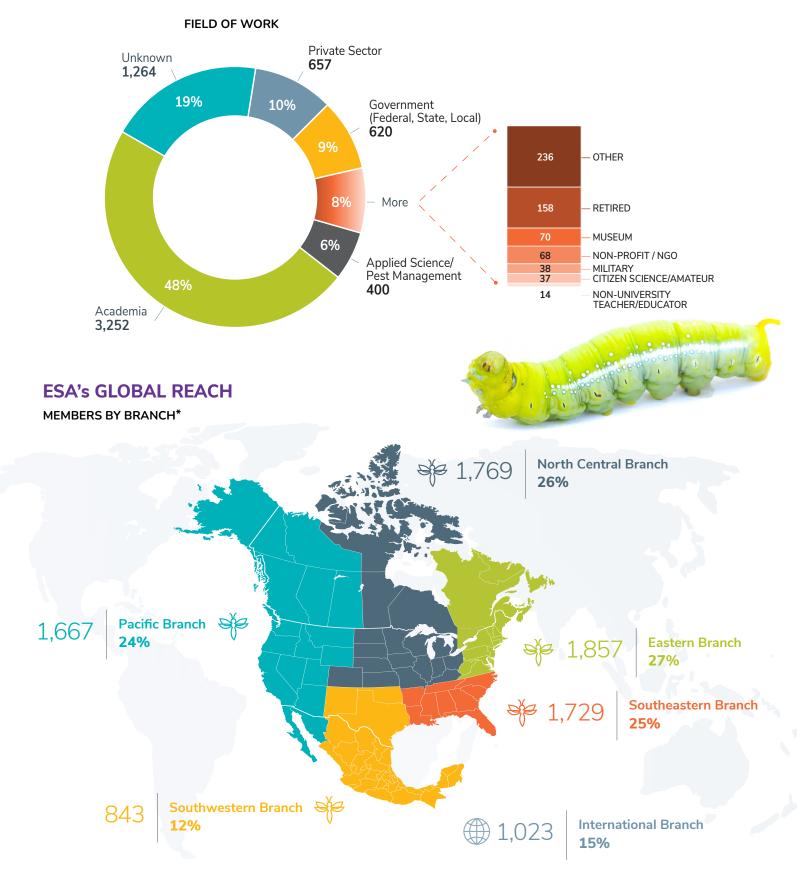
MEMBERS BY SECTION



^{*}Members may join more than one section at no additional cost.

Note: Formal & Informal Teaching (FIT) is a pilot Section launched in 2023. To join FIT or add any other Section to your membership, email esa@entsoc.org.

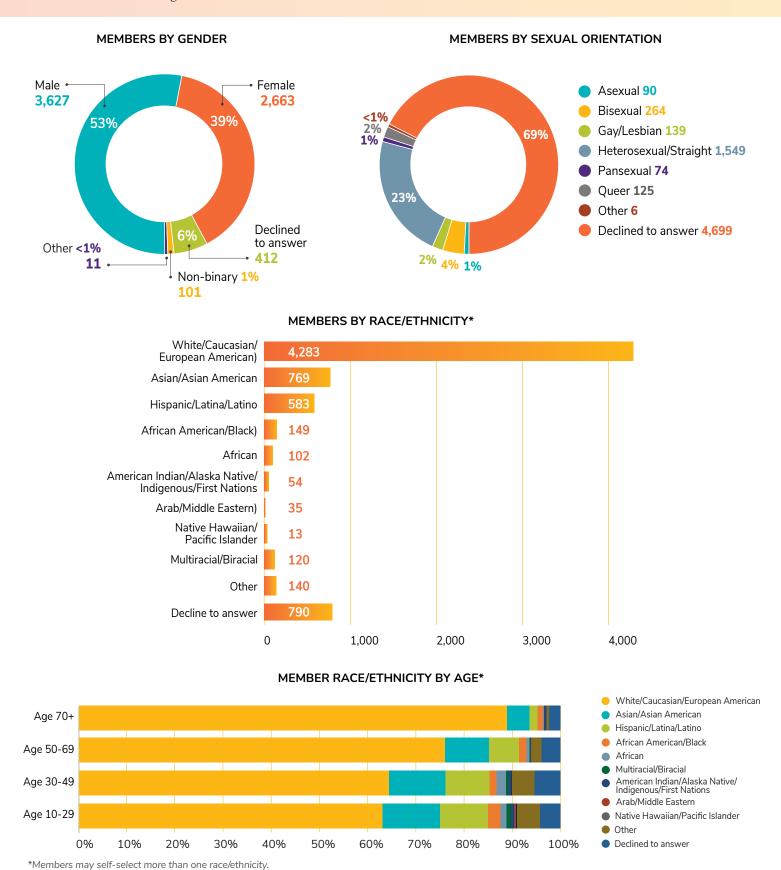




^{*}Members may join more than one Branch at no additional cost. Percentages reflect the portion of ESA's 6,814 total members in 2024 who joined each Branch.

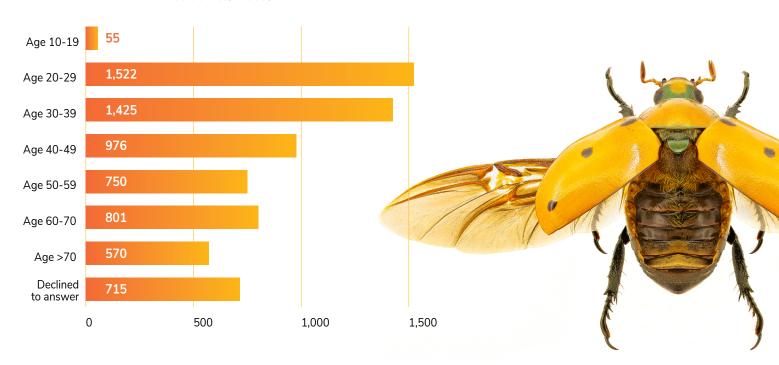


Note: ESA collects demographic information about members to better understand key aspects of diversity in the insect scientist community and provides this snapshot of our members in the Annual Report. A member's decision to provide this information is optional, and some information has been collected only beginning in the past few years, leading to limited information in some categories.



^{5 •} ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF AMERICA 2024 ANNUAL REPORT

MEMBERS BY AGE



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Credentialing

The year 2024 showed declines in three of ESA's four credentials, despite strong application numbers across all programs. Renewal rates for the Associate Certified Entomologist (ACE) and Board Certified Entomologist (BCE) programs declined due to retirements from the industry, while a record number of BCE applications and strong ACE applications in 2024 could not make up the difference. The Public Health Entomology Certificate (PHE) program, which has no renewal requirements, continued to grow. Last, while the Certified IPM Technician (CIT) saw a significant drop-off in the overall number of credentialed individuals in 2024 (driven by non-renewals of early participants at a few organizations), the program did see growth in new applications throughout the year, showing a strong path forward.

Despite a challenging year, ESA credentials are highly valued by holders and recognized as a symbol of excellence by industry colleagues. ESA staff visited and spoke at several major industry conferences across the U.S. and Canada to promote our certification programs. Looking ahead, in 2025 we will continue to revise and update exam content, finalize the launch of a new online learning platform to help credential seekers prepare for their exams, and focus on growing and retaining holders of our credentials.

Total Certified Individuals at Year End



450



1,441



84



68



Annual Meeting

ENTOMOLOGY 2024: Empowering Tomorrow with Insect Science

Entomology 2024 in Phoenix, Arizona, was ESA's first time back to the city in over 60 years. Our ever popular and consistently growing student competition required our most volunteers yet: 480 judges and moderators on the morning of November 11. New features at the meeting included "The Hive" networking area and a new demonstration station located in the Exhibit Hall.

Registration and General Stats



3,503 REGISTRANTS REPRESENTING 47 COUNTRIES



920 FIRST-TIME ATTENDEES, INCLUDING **569** STUDENTS FOR THE FIFTH YEAR IN A ROW, STUDENTS (1,240) WERE THE LARGEST CATEGORY OF ATTENDEES.



2,472 INDIVIDUAL PRESENTERS



55 EXHIBITORS, INCLUDING **3** ARTISANS



1,221 POUNDS OF EXCESS FOOD DONATED TO LOCAL PHOENIX FOOD BANKS, SHELTERS, AND A COMPOST CENTER, ELIMINATING ALL FOOD WASTE.



1,783 WATER BOTTLES REUSED VIA FILL IT FORWARD, WITH AN ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT OF APPROXIMATELY **1,730** POUNDS OF EMISSIONS AND **1,009** KILOWATT HOURS OF POWER SAVED.



\$540 DONATED TO PHOENIX CHARITIES VIA SOCIAL OFFSET





6 PROGRAM SYMPOSIA

54 SECTION SYMPOSIA



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PBT......8

P-IE 19

SYSEB 6

48 MEMBER SYMPOSIA

6 ORGANIZED MEETINGS (INCLUDING SECTION BUSINESS MEETINGS)

11 WORKSHOPS

18 MINI WORKSHOPS

55 EXHIBITORS

26 ART SHOW SUBMISSIONS



Annual Meeting Presentations and Posters

1.157 10-MINUTE PRESENTATIONS

• 589 IN THE STUDENT COMPETITION

474 POSTER DISPLAYS

• 215 IN THE STUDENT COMPETITION



STUDENT COMPETITION

- 96 COMPETITION SESSIONS
- 192 STUDENT WINNERS (1st & 2nd PLACE FOR EVERY SESSION)
- 480 JUDGE AND MODERATOR VOLUNTEERS

HIGHEST-ATTENDED SYMPOSIA

(in alphabetical order):

- BEE-LIEVING IN TOMORROW: THE FUTURE OF NATIVE **BEE SCIENCE**
- EMPOWERING INSECT SCIENCE, MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION THROUGH EMERGING TECHNOLOGIES
- OLD PEST, NEW PROBLEM: BT RESISTANCE IN EUROPEAN CORN BORER IN NORTH AMERICA
- POLLINATOR WORK ON FEDERAL LANDS
- QUEER ENTOMOLOGY: A RETELLING OF ENTOMOLOGY THROUGH A QUEER LENS
- RNAI-BASED BIOINSECTICIDES: REALIZING THE COMMERCIAL POTENTIAL FOR SUSTAINABLE PEST MANAGEMENT



ESA's Chrysalis Fund encourages entomology education by awarding grants to K-12 teachers and other educators who use insects in the classroom to get kids excited about science.

IN 2024, ESA AWARDED 12 GRANTS

GRANT AWARDS TOTALED \$13,526

INDIVIDUAL GRANTS RANGED \$165 TO \$1,925

AT THE CLOSE OF 2024, THE CHRYSALIS FUND BALANCE WAS **\$189,019**

2024 Branch Meetings

BRANCH MEETING REGISTRATION







AMVAC LABServices

BASF

Bayer Crop Science Percival

Certis Biologicals

Corteva (Sponsored all Branches)

Cotton, Inc.

FMC

Gowan

ISK Biosciences

Nichino

Society of

Southwestern

Entomologists

Syngenta

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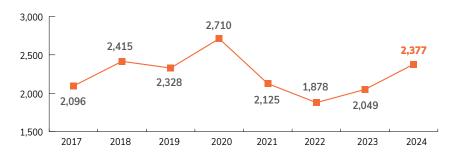
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Publications

SUBMISSIONS TO ESA JOURNALS INCREASED BY 16% IN 2024.



- Six ESA journals are now in the top quartile in entomology impact factors.
- The average time from submission to first decision improved from 29 to 28 days for all papers and stayed even at 52 days for papers undergoing full peer review.
- The journals continue to publish high-quality and timely special collections, including collections on Chagas disease and kissing bugs, insects as food and feed, trends in entomology, arachnid biology, and more.
- Locating willing peer reviewers continues to be challenging. On average, it takes 6.2 invitations to find two people willing to complete reviews. We send a big "thank you" to everyone who reviewed for ESA journals in 2024!
- More than \$100,000 in page-charge waivers were granted to ESA members who lacked funding for publication.
- The ESA publications portfolio welcomed four new editors-in-chief in 2024: Don Cook (Arthropod Management Tests), Louis Hesler (Journal of Insect Science), Silvia Rondon (books), and Hugh Smith (Journal of Integrated Pest Management).

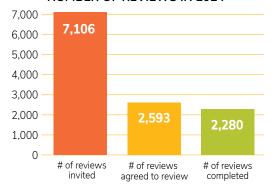
ESA JOURNAL RESEARCH IN THE NEWS

ESA articles were featured in over **400 NEWS SOURCES** from around the globe, from small community newspapers to major outlets such as *The Washington Post, Popular Science, Gizmodo, CBC,* and *Science Friday.*



American Entomologist won a platinum 2024 Hermes Creative Award and a Communicator Award of Excellence for its Fall 2023 issue.

NUMBER OF REVIEWS IN 2024



Thank You to ESA's Corporate Partners

for their generous support throughout the year.













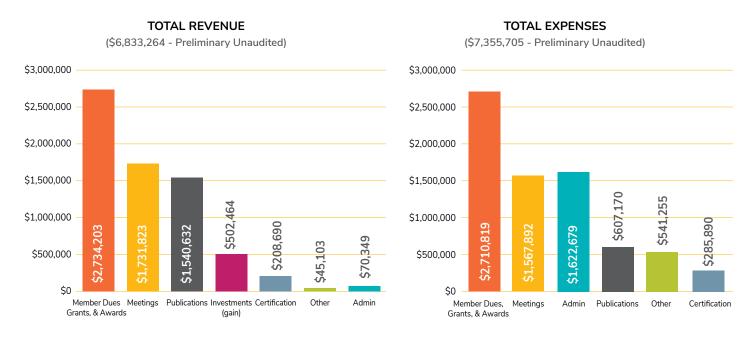




Finance

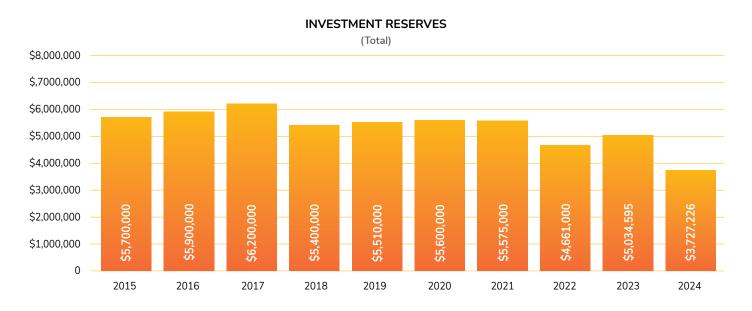
FINANCES

In 2024, ESA expenses exceeded expectations, resulting from a combination of rising costs due to inflation, several significant new and planned infrastructure investments, and a reclassification of grant-related expenditures based on new accounting standards. ESA management and a Financial Task Force created by the Governing Board are actively exploring avenues to improve revenue and reduce expenses in 2025.



INVESTMENTS

While ESA's investment portfolio saw approximately \$500,000 in positive interest in 2024, the overall balance was reduced for strategic investments in improved technology platforms for education, membership, and finance as well as to cover a shortfall in the operational budget.





Science Policy

ESA ADVOCACY CONTINUES TO GROW INFLUENCE AND IMPACT IN 2024





Throughout 2024, ESA staff, Science Policy Fellows, and others met in person and virtually with Congressional staff and members of Congress (including Senator Jon Ossoff and Senator Gary Peters, pictured above) to advocate for entomology! ESA advocacy wins in 2024 include:

- ESA Science Policy Fellows Classes of 2022 and 2023 came to Washington, DC, for more than two dozen meetings with Congress in May. In October they participated in nearly a dozen meetings with federal agency program leaders and scientists as well as legislative affairs officials.
- The Science Policy Committee selected five individuals to join the ESA Science Policy Fellows Class of 2024.
 The Committee also worked with the Presidential Task Force on Insect Biodiversity to organize the Annual Meeting program symposium "Insect Decline & Scientific Societies: Ways All Entomologists Can Help Address This Grand Challenge."
- While continuing to press for our Farm Bill priorities, ESA endorsed and advocated for several pieces of bipartisan legislation, including:
 - » S.834/H.R.2385: Advancing Cutting Edge (ACE) Agriculture Act
 - » S.2580: Strengthening Mosquito Abatement for Safety and Health (SMASH) 2.0 Act
 - » S.1149: Recovering America's Wildlife Act of 2023 (RAWA)
 - » S.1837/H.R.3867: Spotted Lanternfly Research and Development Act
- The entomology community has sent more than 1,500 letters to Capitol Hill since ESA launched its grassroots Action Alerts platform, with representation from 47 states.

- ESA awarded the second "Champion of Entomology Award" to Senator Angus King (I-ME) for his outstanding support for vector-borne disease funding and environmental research, as well as joining ESA for a webinar in 2022 on why scientists need to engage with Congress.
- The ESA-led Vector-Borne Diseases Network grew support for vector-borne disease research, surveillance, and management. ESA also created an ad hoc coalition to advocate to restore funding for NIFA's Crop Protection and Pest Management program.
- ESA assisted the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine to secure support needed to launch the consensus study on the "Status of Insects in North America," which will help build on 2007's landmark study on the "Status of Pollinators in North America."
- ESA worked with a coalition to protect publication of the USGS Pesticide National Synthesis Project.
- ESA met with and provided input to the Congressional National Security Commission on Emerging Biotechnology.





SIGN UP and be the first to know when ESA asks entomologists to contact their legislators about critical science policy needs. No matter your career level, any entomologist can complete an **ESA Action Alert**—and it only takes a minute or two!

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Grants

ESA is developing the public health entomology workforce of the future through Public Health Entomology for All, a collaborative agreement with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). In 2024, ESA deployed three two-year fellows, seven one-year fellows, and eight summer interns to contribute to the CDC Dengue, Arboviral, and Rickettsial Zoonoses Branches as well as the Division of Parasitic Diseases and Malaria. One additional fellow worked with the Georgia Department of Public Health. (Fellows and interns pictured below.) This collaborative effort also facilitated the participation of faculty and students from Florida A&M University, San Francisco State University, and Tennessee State University in the ESA Annual Meeting.

In another collaborative endeavor, ESA and the American Indian Science and Engineering Society (AISES) cohosted the second Indigenous Entomologists Gathering during the ESA Annual Meeting. This event was part of Indigenous Voices, a joint project with AISES and two other scientific societies that was supported by the National Science Foundation's BIO-LEAPS program and aimed to create cultural change in the biological sciences.

ESA's commitment to fostering pay equity and transparency took a step forward in 2024 with the growth of Insect Science Career Data. This salary-benchmarking platform, launched in late 2022, enables entomologists to compare their compensation with others in the industry, contributing to a more equitable professional landscape.



Ethics in Entomology

ESA's ethics policy calls for the publication of an annual accounting of any ethics cases received by and reviewed by the Society, a practice intended to provide transparency to the policy and its enforcement and support positive ethical conduct. ESA continues to hold leadership positions in the Societies Consortium on Sexual Harassment in STEMM and is a recognized leader in promoting ethical conduct in science. In 2024, ESA received five reports of potential ethical misconduct. This is down slightly from the prior year. In 2024, the following cases were considered. The outcomes are noted below:

- One individual was sanctioned for repeated inappropriate behavior, and law enforcement was notified.
- One vendor for ESA was sanctioned based on staff observations and interactions.
- One allegation was received and documented but not investigated due to a lack of evidence and specificity.
- One allegation was received and documented, but no action was taken because the alleged conduct was outside ESA's purview and jurisdiction.
- One member self-identified an allegation to ESA through the disclosures form, though no investigation or action was warranted as of this writing.



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Webinars







Most popular 2024 webinars:

- VALUING ENTOMOLOGY: ENHANCING PAY TRANSPARENCY AND EQUITY | 135 REGISTRATIONS
- PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE: NURTURING THE NEXT GENERATION OF BLACK ENTOMOLOGISTS | 117
- JAPAN AND ENTOMOLOGY: WHAT TO KNOW ABOUT JAPAN BEFORE THE ICE MEETING | 91
- JOINING THE WORKFORCE AFTER SCHOOL: JOB APPLICATIONS, INTERVIEW TIPS, AND CV AND RESUME BUILDING | 55
- 5 TIME MANAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR ENTOMOLOGISTS | **51**

Most popular on-demand webinars:

- 1 LEARN ABOUT PUBLIC HEALTH ENTOMOLOGY INTERNSHIPS, FELLOWSHIPS, AND RESEARCH POSITIONS | 2022 / 498 VIEWS
- TAKE BETTER INSECT PHOTOS: TIPS FROM THE EXPERTS | 2021 / 329 VIEWS
- THERE IS NO R IN ENTOMOLOGY, BUT THERE IS ONE IN REPRODUCIBLE | 2015 / 270 VIEWS
- HOW TO SUBMIT A SUCCESSFUL SYMPOSIUM | 2022 / 187 VIEWS
- CONSIDERING NON-TRADITIONAL CAREERS IN ENTOMOLOGY | 2016 / 102 VIEWS

Awards

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE RECIPIENTS OF ESA'S 2024 AWARDS & HONORS.



> PREMIER AWARDS

Fellows

Elizabeth H. (Betsy) Beers Henry Y. Fadamiro Chow-Yang Lee, BCE Tracy C. Leskey

Founders' Memorial Award Lars Chittka

Honorary Members Gary J. Brewer Mustapha Debboun, BCE-Emeritus Michelle S. Smith, BCE-Emeritus

PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Award for Excellence in Integrated Pest Management Deborah G. McCullough

Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension **Elaine Evans**

Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching Rupesh Kariyat

Distinguished Achievement Award in the Promotion of Diversity and Inclusion in the Field of Entomology Hongmei Li-Byarlay

> Nan-Yao Su Award for Innovation and Creativity in Entomology Jawwad Qureshi

Science Communication Award (First Place) Edible Insects MOOC, Matan Shelomi, National Taiwan University

Science Communication Award (Runner-Up) Expedition Entomology, Jace Porter, **Global Entomology Coalition**

ESA CERTIFICATION CORPORATION AWARDS

ACE Professional Award Kurt Treftz, ACE



EARLY CAREER PROFESSIONAL AWARDS

Henry and Sylvia Richardson Research Grant **Emilie Demard**

> Early Career Innovation Award **Rob Morrison**

ECP Extension, Outreach, and Engagement Award Michelle Boone

> **ECP Research Award** Karen Poh

ECP Teaching and Mentoring Award Sarah Elzay



STUDENT AWARDS

Alate Award **Jonathan Hernandez Emily Medelez** Elizabeth Taylor **Grant Wass** Sakshi Watts

Larry Larson Graduate Student Award for Leadership in Applied Entomology Stéphanie Gagnon

Lillian and Alex Feir Graduate Student Travel Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry, or Molecular Biology Gagandeep Brar

> Student Activity Award Victoria Pickens

John Henry Comstock Award Alice Assmar (International Branch) Ethan Doherty (Southeastern Branch) Dane Elmquist (Pacific Branch) Lidia Komondy (Eastern Branch) Hailey Shanovich (North Central Branch) Jordan Twombly Ellis (Southwestern Branch)

2024 Donors

Thank you to the following individuals and organizations who generously gave financial contributions in 2024. Their support allows ESA to continue to serve the professional and scientific needs of entomologists and individuals in related disciplines throughout the world.

Robert Adams Joshua Foster Charlotte Alberts Steven Franklin Lorenzo Allred David Furth Carol Anelli Jianjia Gettinger Christine Anthony Frederic Goldberg Elaine Backus Doug Golick Rebecca Barone Delbert Green Juan Barrera Glenn Green Eric Benson William Groene Amy Berkov Phyllis Haggerty Richard Blauvelt Frank Hanson Michelle Boone Harold Harlan Marek Borowiec Anjel Helms Terry Bowen Jennifer Henke Michelle Herbelin Gary J. Brewer Shaun Cassidy Michael Honeycutt Leroy Chapoy Idwal Hughes Yolanda Chen Andrew Insch Jacob Claus Mary Liz Jameson Joel Coats Sherry Jilinski **Anthony Cognato** James Johnson Michelle Colacicco-Richard L. Jones Mayhugh Ann Journey Colwell Cook Steven Juliano Charles Coslor Gail Kampmeier Charles Cowher Susan King Diana Cox-Foster Ellen Klinger Whitney Cranshaw Allen Knutson Regina Cruzado Gutierrez Marcos Kogan Gary Curl Amy Korman Bryan Danforth William Lamp Brenna Decker Elise Larsen Bonny Dodson Jonathan Larson Juan Duran-Ahumada Dave Lemke Cambra Edmondson **Donald Lewis** Sanford Eigenbrode B. Staffan Lindgren Richard Endris Robert Lohman Entopreneurs S.L.

Dominique Magistrado Adele Malone Marcie Mathis Jessica McEwan Jo Ann McNaughton-Kade Jason Metzner Stuart E. Mitchell Russell Mizell Gary Mullen Timothy Nowatzki Patricia O'Leary Yuka Oshima Robert Ostrop Evelyn Ostrowski Victor Palermo Margaret Parks Michael P. Parrella Anandrao Patil Salvatore W. Porcellini **ESA Plant-Insect Ecosystems Section** Sonny Ramaswamy Sujaya Rao Kathy, Kristine, and Stacey Reiley Stuewe Stephen M. Rich John Roberts Desiree Robertson-Thompson Nova Roman Andrea Rosin Tara Roth Brandon Runyon Michael Rust Adam Scherr Timothy Schowalter Louise Seiler David Serrano

Floyd W. Shockley Shannon Shockley Derek Sikes Thomas Skelton Andrew Skinner Chelsea Smith Michelle Smith Richard Smythe Jonathan Snow Maria Alma Solis **Daniel Sonenshine** Southwest Society of Entomologists Thomas Sparks William Stodder Kelsey Stone Hannah Stout James P. Strange Michael Sean Strother Nan-Yao Su Richard Tashjian Michelle Taylor Margaret Thayer **Candace Thomas** Karen Vail Jeffrey Mark Van Diepen Carol Von Dohlen David Wagner Whit Waldron Jessica Ware Libe Washburn Donald C. Weber Wade Wilson Pawel Witosinski Mark Wright Clayton Ziemke

Tina MacIntyre



Meet Your HQ Staff

The ESA headquarters team is here to help you get the most out of your ESA membership.

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