

Final Business Meeting
Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America, 2022
SEB-APS Joint Meeting 2022 – SEB Final Business Meeting
March 29, 2022

The Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America held its first in-person meeting since 2019 as a joint meeting with the American Phytopathological Society Caribbean Division in San Juan, Puerto Rico from March 26-30, 2022. The Joint Meeting was a hybrid meeting with both in-person and virtual presentations as part of our scientific program. The meeting combined four days of an in-person meeting with onsite sessions being streamed to the virtual audience, allowing all members to participate in the meeting, regardless of travel.

The Final Business Meeting for the Southeastern Branch was held on March 29, 2022 and was moderated by the Secretary/Treasurer, Brett Blaauw in leu of the Branch President, Michelle Samuel-Foo who was unable to attend the meeting. There were 36 participants from the Southeastern Branch of the Entomological Society of America were in attendance of the Final Business Meeting (35 needed for quorum).

Brett Blaauw began the meeting by welcoming everyone and introducing Chris Stelzig, the Executive Director of ESA, and Jessica Ware, the current President of the national ESA.

ESA National Update

Chris Stelzig his update discussing how COVID has impacted everything the ESA as an organization does, but ensured the group that the impacts were not as bad as they could have been. For example, they had expected to lose \$350K, but ended up closer to \$50K in the black. The national office is also looking for smaller office space, which will save the organization \$140K a year. Chris explained that the journals continue to do well. However, once our contract ends with Oxford University Press, we will lose substantial revenue, but the society is working to combat this prior to the change. As such, overall, the society is in a good place as we transition out from the COVID pandemic.

Next up was Jessica Ware. She discussed the ongoing “Branch Evolution Project,” which is designed to determine what the society can do to improve the branches. She reminded the group that there will be a “Town Hall” meeting the next day on March 30 to discuss branch needs with the SEB membership. She also announced that we should expect to receive a survey to help the national ESA with strategic planning. Lastly, she promoted the national ESA meeting that will be held in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The theme of the meeting will be, “Insects as Inspiration.” It should be another great meeting!

Election Results

Next on the agenda, Brett announced the SEB election results. The new President-Elect will be Kevin Chase, Bartlett Tree Research Lab, and the new Member-at-Large will be Kaushalya Amarasekare, Tennessee State University.

Bylaws update from 2021

Brett recapped the group that the SEB By-Laws were revised during the Final Business Meeting during the 2021 virtual meeting, March 31, 2021. The amendments were approved via electronic vote and adopted July 1, 2021. There was a total of 9 changes:

- Amendment #1 - Article II, Section 1
- Amendment #2 - Article III, Section 3
- Amendment #3 - Article V, Section 1
- Amendment #4 - Article VI, Section 1
- Amendment #5 - Article VI, Section 4
- Amendment #6 - Article VII, Section 1
- Amendment #7 - Article VII, Section 2
- Amendment #8 - Article VIII, Section 1-2
- Amendment #9 - Article X, Section 1-5

Resolutions

No resolutions were brought to the floor. The Executive Committee discussed that the Resolutions Committee was unnecessary going forward and would be brought up at a future meeting.

Committee Reports

In order to help keep the Final Business Meeting concise, the committee chairs forwent presenting their individual committee reports. However, each committee chair was recognized and given a chance to speak if they wanted. Karla Adesso was the SEB representative for the ESA Governing Board, Lina Bernaola was the 2022 Joint Meeting Program Committee chair, Jose Carlos Verle Rodrigues was the Local Arrangements Committee chair. All of their reports will be included in the next Governing Board Report.

Meeting & Site Selection 2023

The 2023 Southeastern Branch annual meeting will be held in Little Rock, Arkansas from March 12-15, 2023.

Site Selection 2024

The new President-Elect Kevin Chase announced that the 2024 annual meeting will be held in Georgia. He is considering Savannah, Atlanta, and Augusta. He will work with ESA's meeting managers to determine the city, hotel, and dates.

Member Awards

Member Awards announcement was provided by Ted Cottrell; however, he was unable to attend the 2022 joint meeting.

Award for Excellence in IPM	Lambert Kanga, Florida A&M University
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Distinguished Achievement Award in Extension	Dominic Reisig, North Carolina State University
Distinguished Achievement Award in Horticultural Entomology	Daniel Carillo, University of Florida
Distinguished Achievement Award in Teaching	Andrea Lucky, University of Florida
Distinguished Service to the Certification Program Award	<i>No submissions</i>
Recognition Award in Entomology	<i>No submissions</i>
Recognition Award in Insect Physiology, Biochemistry and Toxicology	Nannan Liu, Auburn University
Recognition Award in Urban Entomology	Joseph DeMark, Corteva Agriscience

Student Awards

Committee Members: Nannan Liu, Auburn University and Sriyanka Lahiri, University of Florida.

John Henry Comstock Award	James Michael Pabicon Villegas
Kirby Hays Memorial Award	Leonardo David Salgado

Entomology Games 2022 Winners

1. Auburn University
2. University of Florida

Financial Report

To continue with the expedited Final Business Meeting, the financial report was presented as a physical printout by Secretary-Treasurer Brett Blaauw to the meeting attendees. The attendees agreed to forego the reading of the report, and the financial report was accepted and approved: 32-Yes, 0-No, 4-Abstain.

Proposed Budget

Similarly, the proposed budget was presented as a physical printout by Secretary-Treasurer Brett Blaauw to the meeting attendees. The attendees agreed to also forego the reading of the budget, and the proposed budget was accepted and approved: 31-Yes, 0-No, 5-Abstain.

Approval of 2021 Final Business Meeting Minutes

The previous meeting minutes were also approved without the verbal reading.

Thanks and recognition.

After the approval of the previous reports, Brett thanked all the organizers of the joint meeting for all their hard work in putting together such a great meeting. More specifically, he then recognized Lina Bernaola, Program Committee Chair, and Jose Carlos Verle Rodrigues, Local Arrangements Committee Chair, for their extraordinary efforts in organizing the meeting with the presentation of plaques for each of the respective chairs.

Introduction of incoming SEB President

Then it came time the time for the passing of the gavel. Since the current President, Michelle Samuel-Foo, was unable to be at the meeting, Brett completed the ceremony, passing the gavel to the SEB President, Amanda Hodges. Amanda thanked everyone for their hard work and for the opportunity to serve the society.

Open Business

In memoriam

We had a moment of silence for the members that we lost during the time since our last in-person meeting: Dr. F. Christian Thompson, Dr. William V. Campbell, Mr. James D. Ringdahl, and Dr. Yousef H. Atallah

Closing remarks

We ended the meeting with closing remarks from Amanda Hodges. She again thanked everyone for organizing such a great meeting.