



NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Steve Lapointe

It is with pride and concern that I take over as president of the FES. The list of past officers of this society is a distinguished one and we are grateful to those who have worked without remuneration over the years to organize meetings, publish the journal and the newsletter, review manuscripts, maintain the web page, judge student papers, select awardees, and coordinate extension activities. FES has an important role as a regional entomological society and journal that serve researchers, academics, students, and professionals in Florida, the subtropics, and the Caribbean.

My concern is that membership is falling and attendance by full members at our annual meetings is declining. We were innovative and progressive by being one of the first scientific journals freely available on the internet. Since receipt of the journal is no longer a motivation to join the society, we must be creative to keep the society from dwindling. During this year, I plan to encourage discussion and solicit ideas on what we can do to re-invigorate the society, reverse or stabilize the trend in membership, and make our annual meetings more attractive and valuable to our members. Please don't hesitate to express your opinions or suggestions.

Thank you and congratulations to all who worked to organize an excellent meeting in Fort Lauderdale. Our meeting was notable for the number of symposia and presentations. There were 137 registrants at the meeting this year and a total of 21 posters and 83 talks for a total of 104 presentations, an increase of 27% over the 2003 meeting (28 posters and 54 talks). Attendance of full members was lower than expected while attendance by students continues to be a significant portion of our attendees. This year we had six symposia and I believe the emphasis on symposia is well-placed. One way to encourage attendance is by inviting high quality

speakers and increasing the value of the meeting to researchers and academics. I hope we can expand on this in the future, so please start thinking about appropriate symposium topics and speakers for next year! The absence of industry displays and involvement is another obvious deficiency. Commercial entomology represents an audience we are not serving and a resource we are not exploiting.

In the next couple of weeks, I will be in touch with many of you about committee assignments. I hope most will continue to serve or suggest able replacements. It's through your unselfish commitment of time and energy that this society survives, and through which it will grow!

PAST-PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Richard Mankin

When the Journal of the Acoustical Society recently posted its August 2004 issue on-line, I rushed to an abstract with the suggestive title: "Time reversal without reciprocity." Surely, here would be the solution to the problem of lack of time that I've had since graduate school.

Last year, for example, I planned several FES activities that came only partly to fruition, including a revitalization of the committee structure, a facelift to flaentsoc.org, and improved communication with other scientific societies like the Florida State Horticultural Society, Florida Mosquito Control Association, Florida Pest Management Association, and the Florida Nurserymen and Growers Association, as well as with regional entomological societies in Colombia, Venezuela, Mexico, and Brazil. What if, armed with these newly discovered time-reversal techniques, I now could go back and squeeze more of such activities back into the schedule. Everyone would live happily ever after.

Sadly, it was not to be. The article on time reversal provided no details on time machines, but instead described signal processing techniques that enable estimation of the position and intensity of sound sources when an array of receivers operates in turbulent water. Not likely to be of help to entomologists unless they are using sonar.

On the other hand, it is helpful to be able to focus in the midst of turbulence, so maybe the time-reversal article has a lesson for us after all. During the last 5 turbulent years of declining membership and resources, FES has focused on facilitating communication among entomologists of different disciplines and on dissemination of entomological research. This focusing of effort has helped FES stay afloat. At the 2004 Annual Meeting in Ft Lauderdale, we had good attendance and a series of outstanding symposia. 2005 is shaping up to be even better. Steve Lapointe, our new President, has a special interest in maintaining a series of timely, informative symposia at the annual meeting, and Jim Nation, our new Florida Entomologist editor, has a strong commitment to maintaining the reputation of this highly rated regional journal. Tom Walker has worked effectively with the Florida Center for Library Automation and BioOne to steadily improve exposure of the Florida Entomologist worldwide. I can leave office knowing we are in good hands.

Peace.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

The last meeting of the Executive Committee was July 25, 2004, held at the Radisson Bahia Mar Beach Resort, Fort Lauderdale, during the Annual Meeting. The agenda matches that of the Annual Business Meeting, July 28th. Those minutes will be published in the Florida Entomologist, March 2005, and should also be available soon on the FES website, www.flaentsoc.org. Minutes prepared by R. Meagher, Secretary.

The next Executive Committee Meeting will tentatively be October 14th at 2 PM at the USDA-CMAVE. All members are welcome and Committee Chairpeople are encouraged to attend all meetings. Contact President Steve Lapointe for subsequent dates.

MEMBERS AND EVENTS

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NEW OFFICERS

Please welcome and support our 2004-2005 Executive Committee Members!!!

- President Stephen Lapointe
- President-Elect Rudy Scheffrahn
- Vice-President Geri Cashion
- Member-at-Large William Howard

HONORS AND AWARDS

This year the Florida Entomological Society recognized the following individuals for achievement, contribution to the discipline of entomology, and/or service to the Society.

2004 Pioneer Lecturer Award:

Dr. Charles O'Brien honoring Dr. Ross Arnett.

Annual Achievement Award for Teaching in Higher Education:

Dr. William H. Kern, Jr., University of Florida Ft. Lauderdale Research and Education Center, for his dedication and innovation in teaching entomology.

Annual Achievement Award for Teaching in K-12 Education:

Cynthia Braswell, Buck Lake Elementary School, Tallahassee, Florida, for her innovative use of insects in teaching.

Annual Achievement Award for Research:

Dr. James Becnel, USDA-ARS-CMAVE, for his innovative research on the biological control of mosquitoes.

Annual Achievement Award for Extension:

Dr. Susan Halbert, FDACS, Division of Plant Industry, for her expertise in taxonomy and biological control of aphids.

Annual Achievement Award for Regulatory Entomology:

Dr. Paul Hornby, USDA-APHIS, Plant Protection and Quarantine, for his leadership in invasive species management.

Annual Achievement Award for Team Research:
Diaprepes Task Force, for its cooperative research, education and regulatory efforts to manage *Diaprepes abbreviatus*.

Entomologist of the Year:
Dr. John Sivinski, USDA-ARS-CMAVE, for his internationally recognized contributions to fruit fly biology and biological control.

Outgoing President Award:
Dr. Richard Mankin, USDA-ARS-CMAVE.

STUDENT AWARD WINNERS

Scholarships of \$500 were awarded to **Matthew Aubuchon, Katie Barbara, and Rui Pereira**, students in the Entomology and Nematology Dept., University of Florida.

Minigrants of \$100 were awarded to **Alejandro Arevalo, Rebecca Baldwin, Katie Barbara, Miriam Hay-Roe, Eugene Head, David Melius, Crystal Kelts, Rui Pereira, and Elena Rhodes**. All students are from the University of Florida.

Travel Grants of \$100 were awarded to **Rebecca Balwin, Katie Barbara, Miriam Hay-Roe, Crystal Kelts, Rui Pereira, Elena Rhodes, Justin Saunders, and Jay Cee Turner**, all from the University of Florida.

Student Paper Competition 2004:
In the student paper competition, papers were divided according to the student degree, either Ph.D. or M.S. degree, to give a better chance to the students to win an award.

This year we have five Ph.D. students and seven M.S. students presenting papers in the competition. All the participants did a great job presenting their papers and all deserve congratulation for such a nice job. Hopefully next year we could increase the number of participants in this competition.

The winners in the M.S. category were **Scott Weihman** with 1st place and \$200.00, **Daniel Frank** with 2nd place and \$150.00, and **Linda NcHerne** with 3rd place and \$125.00.

In the Ph.D. category, the winners were **Rebecca Baldwin** with 1st place and \$200.00, **Katie Barbara** with 2nd place and \$150.00, and **Rui Pereira** with 3rd place and \$125.00.

Again, congratulations to the winners for a job well done and we expect to see you and other fellow students in our future meetings.

USAID's FARMER-TO-FARMER PROGRAM

USAID's Farmer-to-Farmer program sends U.S. specialists as volunteers to assist farmers and agribusinesses all over the globe. Winrock International and Florida International University (FIU) were selected to implement this program in the core countries of Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras and El Salvador. FIU recruits and fields volunteer U.S. specialists on short-term technical assistance assignments. Volunteers share their expertise with farmer organizations, agribusinesses, and other support organizations with an interest in domestic, regional and international trade. Farmer-to-Farmer specialists volunteer their time and expertise, while the program covers all travel, lodging, meals and incidental expenses.

One of FIU's recent recruits, Laura Jarchow, volunteered in Honduras. She traveled to Honduras as a market research specialist. Laura volunteered with CURLA (Centro Universitario Regional del Litoral Atlantico) and dealt with market research on the cassava plant. In Honduras she traveled to villages and markets to see the different ways in which the cassava plant is a daily diet staple and the ways in which it can be marketed. She visited the rural communities Nuevo Gogh, Cayo Venado, and Rosita, where she met with community leaders. Laura presented her techniques on market research to students at CURLA. She developed four seminars: 'Basics of Qualitative Market Research Techniques', 'PowerPoint Skills', 'Internal Communication', and 'Train-the-Trainer skills'.

Another one of FIU's recent volunteers was Dr. Michael Dukes from the University of Florida. He worked with the Universidad Nacional de Agricultura, to evaluate UNA's irrigation system. He also conducted two seminars on micro-irrigation and fertigation. He lent his technical expertise and also provided information about possible forms of financial aid to implement his recommendations.

Volunteer assignments range from pest control to dairy marketing. Volunteers for USAID are able to experience a new and different working environment as well as experience another culture first hand.

Contact person for those interested:
Carmen Algeciras
Email: algecira@fiu.edu
Phone: (305) 348-0399

STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS FOR 2004 ESA ANNUAL MEETING

The Florida Entomological Society invites student members to apply for travel grants to assist them with attending and presenting a paper/poster at the Entomological Society of America annual meeting in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Application packets should include:

1. A cover letter including email address for reply.
2. A copy of the actual transmittal of the request (electronic receipt) to ESA to submit a paper/poster
3. An abstract of the presentation (include day and time if available).
4. A statement of expected expenses and potential funding sources (including faculty, student government, department and other organizational travel funding).
5. A letter of support from two of your committee members supporting the travel to present a paper/poster at the meeting.

Send materials postmarked by **October 15, 2004** to:

Marco A. Toapanta, Chair,
Student Activities Committee
Bayer CropScience
19046 Bruce B. Downs Blvd. PMB 221
Tampa, FL 33647
Email: marco.toapanta@bayercropscience.com

This newsletter is published irregularly between issues of the Journal of the Society, *The Florida Entomologist*. It is intended for the publication of subjects of interest to the members of the Florida Entomological Society. Articles, announcements, awards and other news about FES members are solicited from the membership and should be addressed to the co-editors Ron Cave, Cara Congdon, or Bill Overholt.

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CALL FOR MEMBERS AND EVENTS

In the Newsletter, we would occasionally like to include information about FES members. Please refer to the requested items for each category and let your colleagues know what you have been up to lately. This information should be sent to Lois Wood or Eileen Buss.

1. Invitational talks, keynote speeches etc.: Speaker, organization, meeting, date, location and title of talk.
2. Honors & Awards: Recipient, title of award, given for and given by.
3. International Activities: Person, date, activity and funding source.
4. Grants/Contracts: Principal investigator(s), project title, funding source and project description.
5. Major Publications (Books, Monographs, Chapters): Authors, title and citation.
6. National or Branch Offices: Person, office held, organization and dates.
7. Moving up: Person on the move, old position, new position, location, date of change and responsibilities.
8. Visiting Entomologists: Visitor(s), visiting from, dates, purpose of visit, host and location.
9. On Leave: Person, new location, dates and activity.
10. Community Activities: Person, project description, organization, location and dates.