



NEWSLETTER OF THE FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Rob Meagher

It is with great pleasure that I address the membership of the Florida Entomological Society (FES) as President. The four-year cycle of ascendancy (Vice President, President-Elect, President, and Past President) allows a person to interact with all facets of the Society. It has definitely been a great learning experience (do we really need another tray of southwestern egg rolls for the mixer?) and I'm sure I will be learning a lot more before it is over.

I want to thank everyone who enjoyed the 90th Annual Meeting this past July in Sarasota. We had a very good turnout and all the sessions were very well attended. The strong attendance is a tribute to the speakers, symposium organizers, and poster presenters who formed the backbone of the meeting. Geri Cashion provided great leadership, both in site selection and meeting organization. Oscar Liburd made sure all presentations, including electronic and poster boards, were clearly visible. Teresa DuChene and her family provided meeting management, including registration and interacting with the hotel.

Now, let me focus on this year's items. One of my goals is to make sure all committees have their full complement of members. The Society is composed of three broad committees: the Executive Committee, Standing Committees, and Ad Hoc Committees. Executive Committee members include the Past President (Geri Cashion), President (speaking), President-elect (Oscar Liburd), Vice President

(Scott Ferguson), Secretary (Jeff Shapiro), Treasurer/Business Manager (Teresa DuChene), Editor of the *Florida Entomologist* (Jim Nation), two Members-at-Large (Ron Cave and Dan Hahn), and a Student Member (Cara Vazquez). Many of these members have been involved with the Society in different jobs for several years. The Standing Committees include Fiscal, Honors and Awards, Local Arrangements, Long-Range Planning, Membership, Nominating, Program, Public Relations, Publications, Resolutions, and Student Activities. Several of these committees contain members by default, such as Local Arrangements (Vice President), Nominating (Past President), and Program (President-Elect). However, all committees should consist of 2–5 members. The Ad Hoc Committees include the Caribbean Conference, Computer Resources, Education, Historian/Necrologist, Industry, Invasive Species, Newsletter, Operating Guidelines and By-Laws, and Pioneer Lecturer Award Series. Again, each committee should have at least 2–5 members.

The FES fathers (the Buggists) designed the committees to have a rotation structure, where people would be on the committee for a set time before having their final year as Chair. These members would then rotate off the committee as eager new members would soon join. Well, this hasn't exactly happened, as some committees seem to have life members (yes Rita, you will be the Resolutions Committee until you retire). It is up to the President of the Society to fill the membership of the committees. Therefore, I'm asking for your help. Through the course of the year I will be approaching members to join committees

and I hope that you will agree. If any of these committees sound interesting to you, please contact me. The strength of a society is in its membership, and we need to keep FES strong.

Finally, Teresa and I will approach the Executive Committee soon about a suggested location for next year's Annual Meeting. It will be on the east coast, most likely either Jupiter Beach or Delray Beach. The site visits are extremely taxing, but as your President, I'm doing what I can for the good of the Society!

I'm looking forward to a great year as President of FES. It is a great honor and I appreciate the challenge. Oh, and yes, we do need another tray of southwestern egg rolls!

PAST PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Geri Cashion

The July meeting of the Florida Entomological Society brought to a close my tenure as President of the Society, but certainly not my interest or participation in it. This has been a gratifying year working with the many dedicated volunteers that make FES an effective and evolving entity. It's my sincere hope that there will be many new hands raised as our new President, Rob Meagher, seeks to recruit people to fill the vacant positions within FES.

The undeniable success of our meeting at the Ritz-Carlton in Sarasota is emphasized by the increased numbers of participants, papers and posters presented. I would like to thank all of the folks who made the meeting a smooth-running, interesting, and worthwhile interlude in our busy schedules. The number and diverse content of our symposia provided pertinent information for many areas of entomological interests.

If there is any particular area to which I would like to see us devote more of our attention, it would be the industry sector. Being closely involved in that sector, I have found that these research col-

leagues can contribute important basic and applied findings to our research database as well as a perspective that will be increasingly significant to FES as we move forward. The long-standing partnership between university and industry researchers has borne fruitful technological development in many sectors of entomology. We need to continue to seek out and address the needs of all of our colleagues in the USDA, academia and industry so that FES can continue to be a significant and up-to-date resource in the field of entomology. If you have suggestions for approaches that will help FES become increasingly relevant to your concerns and interests, please let us know. With your assistance, we are looking forward to a meaningful and active year for FES.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Edited minutes of the Annual Business Meeting held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel on July 16, 2007 in Sarasota, FL, are as follows:

Attending: Geri Cashion, Ron Cave, Nancy Epsky, Scott Ferguson, Steve Lapointe, Oscar Liburd, Richard Mankin, Rob Meagher, Jim Nation, Bill Overholt, Mike Rogers, Rudi Scheffrahn, Jeff Shapiro, and Marco Toapanta.

Program Chair/Treasurer's Report (Rob Meagher): This year's meeting included five symposia, 82 talks, 24 posters, and one award recipient talk. Two student cancellations and a time change were reported.

Five hundred postcards were sent to remind members of the meeting, and the response was successful. How aggressive should we be in advertising room availability next year? Why did we do so well this year; was it due to the postcards, the hotel and location, or other?

Public Relations (Jennifer Gillett): While Jennifer was not present, Geri Cashion lauded her for an excellent job in publicizing the meeting; attendance was enhanced by the effort.

MEMBERS AND EVENTS

**CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR
NEW OFFICERS**

Please welcome and support our 2007-2008
Executive Committee Members!!!

President Robert Meagher
President-Elect Oscar Liburd
Vice-President Scott Ferguson
Members-at-Large Dan Hahn

**FES PARTICIPATION IN THE COLOMBIAN
ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY (SOCOLEN)
2007 ANNUAL MEETING**

Steve Lapointe

The Colombian Entomological Society hosted a delegation of 10 FES members at their annual meeting in Cartagena July 25-27, 2007. The FES Executive Committee and the University of Florida's Entomology and Nematology Department provided travel grants to student members who presented a talk at the meeting.

The meeting was well attended and vibrant. As I've attended many of these meetings over the years since my first in 1986, it was a welcome opportunity to meet old friends and colleagues. For many of the FES delegation however, this was a new experience, and it was a new endeavor by FES to encourage international interaction and collaboration between our entomological societies. I thank FES for supporting the exchange and I look forward to discussing ways to promote similar events in the future. I also thank the FES members who made the effort to attend, participate, and overcome the language barrier. Several long-time SOCOLEN members expressed to me their appreciation. Be sure to look for a link at the FES home page for a slide show of photos taken in Cartagena!

Following are thoughts provided by FES attendees about the experience:

Brian Bahder, UF Ft. Lauderdale grad student:

I had a great time in Colombia. Between the resources available, wonderful atmosphere and all of the salsa dancing, I would definitely like to return next year. Thanks for making this happen.

Valerie Clark, Cornell University grad student:

Thanks again for providing such a special opportunity for me to network with so many excellent entomologists in Colombia! I hope to have many returns.

Elena Rhodes, UF Gainesville grad student:

The meeting had a very relaxed atmosphere. I met some great people there. One young woman was nice enough to help Valerie and I shop for souvenirs.

Daniel Carrillo, UF Homestead grad student:

The SOCOLEN meeting was a friendly scenario for presenting my work and to share ideas with Colombian entomologists with coinciding interests. I made connections and learned from the entomological studies that are currently being done in Colombia. In my opinion, attending the meeting benefited entomologists from both societies. It was a good opportunity for understanding how other entomological societies work, and to open doors for future cooperative work.

Richard Mankin, Research Entomologist, USDA-ARS, Gainesville:

The SOCOLEN meeting in Cartagena was a great opportunity to meet researchers I had never contacted before, and to exchange information about hidden infestations of tree and horticultural crop pests. In addition, it provided exposure to some of the excellent research being conducted now in Colombia on integrated management of crop pests and on characterization and conservation of biological diversity in different Neotropical habitats. Although my Spanish is rusty, I could follow many of the lively discussions, and could appreciate the wide range of view points represented from professional entomologists, students, government officials, industry representatives, and farmers. Many thanks to the FES for supporting these inter-society activities, and I hope ways will be found to support additional exchanges between FES and other Caribbean and South American entomological societies in future years.

Phil Lounibus, Professor, UF Medical Entomology Lab, Vero Beach: Easily the best feature of the SOCOLEN reunión was meeting Colombianos y Colombianas, particularly students. These personal exchanges are the foundation of future collaborations.

Howard Frank, Professor, UF Gainesville: It was an eye-opening experience to participate in the vibrant annual meeting of SOCOLEN, among the many entomologists, most of whom had traveled from distant parts of their country. It was of course almost total immersion in Spanish, but suitably strong coffee was readily available to help me with my Spanish speaking skills. The message I heard constantly is that ecological projects are hindered by lack of adequate taxonomy (thank goodness for the Florida State Collection of Arthropods and the Center for Systematic Entomology in Florida, otherwise we would not be much better off). It was also a fantastic opportunity to see the old city of Cartagena. Almost two months later I spent two days in St. Augustine, Florida - sorry, St. Augustine, but you come nowhere close to comparing.

HONORS AND AWARDS

This year the Entomological Society recognized 20 individuals for achievement, contribution to the discipline of entomology, and/or service to the Society.

1) Entomologist of the year: **Dr. David Hall**, University of Florida, for his tremendous efforts and support of the Society while serving on numerous committees for over 15 years, as well as his research relating to pests of sugar and citrus.

2) Annual Achievement Award for Teaching in Higher Education: **Dr. Marc A. Branham** for his excellence in teaching undergraduate and graduate courses at the University of Florida's Entomology and Nematology Department in Gainesville.

3) Annual Achievement Award for Teaching in K-12: **Mike Bentley**, University of Florida, for his student teaching and volunteer work with students in grades K through 12 in the Gainesville area.

4) Annual Achievement Award for Research: **Dr. Oscar Liburd**, University of Florida, for his innovative and creative research in small fruit crops in Florida.

5) Annual Achievement Award for Extension: **Dr. Michael E. Rogers**, CREC, University of Florida, for his statewide leadership in citrus pests.

6) Annual Achievement Award for Industry: **Dr. Marco Toapanta**, Bayer CropScience, for his collaborative work with researchers from Florida.

7) Annual Achievement Award for Research Teams: **Drs. J. E. Pena, C. W. McCoy, D. Hall, B. Ulmer, J. A. Jacas, R. Duncan, S. Lapointe, R. Nguyen, G. Evans** for their invaluable work with management of the *Diaprepes* weevil.

8) Annual Achievement Award for Regulatory Entomology: **Ed Burns** has provided over 28 years of service to the people of Florida during his career with the Division of Plant Industry.

9) Certificates of Appreciation for Special Service to the Society: **Dr. Lance Osbourne**, MREC, University of Florida, for his assistance to the 2006 FES President, Geri Cashion.

10) 2006 Pioneer Honoree and Lecturer award: Florida Entomological Society Pioneer Lecturers **Drs. Thomas Emmel, Jaret Daniels, and Jacqueline Miller** honoring **Dr. William** and **Nadine McGuire** for their generous donations to the McGuire Center for Lepidoptera and Biodiversity.

11) Outgoing President Award: **Geri Cashion**, EcoSolutions, Inc.

2007 STUDENT AWARD WINNERS

Scholarships

Scholarships of \$500 were awarded to **Seth Bybee, Murugesan Rangasamy, and Amit Sethi**, students in the Entomology and Nematology Dept. at the University of Florida.

Minigrants

Minigrants of \$100 were awarded to **Kaushalya Amarasekare, Goyal Gaurav, Harsimran Kaur Gill, Teresia Nyoike, Murugesan Rangasamy, Elena Rhodes, Hardev Sandhu, Corraine Scott, and Amit Sethi**.

Travel Grants

Travel grants of \$100 were awarded to **Kaushalya Amarasekare, Maria Ferreira, Goyal Gaurav, Harsimran Kaur Gill, Teresia Nyoike, Murugesan Rangasamy, Elena Rhodes, Craig Roubos, Hardev Sandhu, and Corraine Scott**.

Student Paper Competition

The winners in the M.S. category were **Daniel Carrillo** with 1st place and \$200.00, **Maria Ferreira** with 2nd place and \$150.00, and **Margaret Pfiester** with 3rd place and \$125.00.

The winners in the Ph.D. student competition were **Amit Sethi** with 1st place and \$200.00, **Gaurav Goyal** with 2nd place and \$150.00, and **John Herbert** with 3rd place and \$125.00. All students are from the University of Florida.

Please take a moment to personally congratulate these students for their outstanding efforts and activities within the FES!

**STUDENT TRAVEL GRANTS FOR THE
2007 ESA ANNUAL MEETING**

The Florida Entomological Society invites current student members to apply for travel grants to assist them with attending and presenting a paper/poster at the 2007 Entomological Society of America annual meeting in San Diego, CA.

Application packets should include:

1. A cover letter stating the reasons to obtain this Travel Grant (include 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 detailed statement of expected expenses and potential funding sources (including faculty, student government, department and other organizational travel funding).
5. A letter of support from a committee member supporting the travel to present a paper/poster at the meeting.

All materials should be sent via email or fax by **November 9, 2007** 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
Fax: 813-634-0001

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 Cara Vazquez or Bill Overholt.

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CALL FOR MEMBERS AND EVENTS

We would like to include information about FES members in the newsletter. 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 Cara Vazquez or Bill Overholt.

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.
