**FLORIDA ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY STUDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TRAVEL GRANTS**

This year, because of the cost of airfare to our 100th annual meeting of the Florida Entomological Society, **July 16-20, 2017** at the Verdanza Hotel, Isla Verde (near San Juan), Puerto Rico, we will offer travel grants only – no mini-grants or scholarships. We expect to be able to award 8-10 grants in the range of $300 to $350. This will cover most of the airfare costs if you book your flight quickly! Students presenting posters and talks will have priority to receive these funds.

Applications should include:

1. A letter stating their purpose for attending the meeting (include name and contact information).

2. A budget including all potential sources of travel funds.

All applications should be sent as a single PDF document via e-mail attachment no later than **June 23, 2017** and should be addressed to:

**Dr. Heather McAuslane**, Student Activities Committee Chair, **E-mail:** [hjmca@ufl.edu](mailto:hjmca@ufl.edu)

**STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION**

A competition for the best M.S and Ph.D. student paper will be held at the upcoming annual meeting. Awards will be made to the first, second and third place papers in each category, respectively. Students wishing to present a paper in the student paper competition must be current members of the Florida Entomological Society. Students should use the standard presentation submission form found at <http://flaentsoc.org/annual.shtml>, but indicate that their paper is for the student competition. Deadline of **May 15, 2017** is fast approaching! Papers should be **10 minutes long** with 2 minutes allowed for questions. The judging criteria are as follows:

***Relevance of Research*** (15 points) – importance of subject matter to the field of entomology, proper justification of hypothesis, important questions addressed. Why should anyone care about this work? Use the first part of the talk to make us sit up and take notice of what you are doing.

***Subject matter*** (30 points) – establishment of hypothesis and objectives, appropriate methods to accomplish objectives, appropriate conclusions on results and future directions.

***Organization*** (20 points) – sequence of topics logical and effective; introduction, body of talk (material and methods, results), and conclusions coherent; time well used.

***Delivery*** (15 points) – poise, audibility, expression, eye contact, use of pointer.

***Visual aids*** (10 points) – appropriate for subject matter, legible, eye-appealing.

***Handling questions*** (10 points) – questions made clear to audience by repeating the question so every- one can hear it; concise answers to questions, logical and appropriate. We are looking for knowledge beyond what was given in the slide presentation and your confidence in your knowledge.

***Conforming to time constraints*** – maximum of 8 penalty points; 1 point for each 15 seconds overtime or 30 seconds under time.