



NAS/IUSSI Summer Newsletter • August 11, 2014

NAS/IUSSI Officers

President: Christina Grozinger
President-elect: Amy Toth
Past President: Colin Brent

Secretary-Treasurer: Karen Kapheim
Web Master: Colin Brent
Archivist: Chris Starr

Dear NAS/IUSSI members,

Our society has had an incredibly productive and successful year, thanks to the enthusiasm, dedication and support of our members. The NAS was well-represented at the 2014 IUSSI Congress in Cairns with our members serving as plenary speakers, symposia organizers, and past- and newly elected officials within IUSSI. Furthermore, we were very fortunate to have obtained funding from IUSSI, USDA, Walter & Victoria Tschinkel to help support the travel of 20 students; the diversity and breadth of their research accomplishments bode well for the future of our society! Through generous donations that created and support the Eickwort and Nutting Awards, we have also been able to recognize the scientific achievements and research plans of two other outstanding students, Clint Penick and Karl Gladstad. We are very much looking forward to seeing you all at the next NAS-IUSSI business meeting which will be held at the Entomological Society of America Meeting in Portland in November, where we will celebrate the new student awardees and the new officers, discuss the upcoming 2015 Social Insect Genomics conference and plan the 2016 NAS IUSSI breakout meeting!

All the best,
Christina Grozinger
President, NAS/IUSSI
cmgrozinger@psu.edu

From the Secretary/Treasurer:

Dear NAS/IUSSI members,

I would like to update you on a few IUSSI-related matters: (1) the minutes of our section business meeting held at the IUSSI 2014 Congress in Cairns, (2) a summary of the IUSSI General Assembly meeting held at the IUSSI 2014 Congress in Cairns, (3) a reminder of the upcoming calls for award nominations and elections, (4) announcement of the upcoming business meeting to be held at ESA in November, (5) consideration of options for the NAS/IUSSI 2016 breakout meeting.

(1) NAS business meeting minutes

NAS/IUSSI Section Meeting at IUSSI Congress 2014

Tuesday August 15 12:30-13:30

Meeting Room 5, Cairns Convention Center

Cairns, Queensland, Australia

Officers in attendance: Karen Kapheim (Sec-Treas), Amy Toth (Pres-Elect), Jay Evans (former Sec-Treas)

Members in attendance: ~90

Call to order (Amy Toth) 12:45pm, after much ado about pizza

I. International Business (Joan Herbers)

There will be an International Committee meeting tonight. The NAS will be represented by 10 delegates appointed by the executive committee and chosen to represent diverse research interests and institutional profiles, and who have previous experience in leadership roles in IUSSI. The NAS delegates are: Amy Toth, Karen Kapheim, Jay Evans, Jennifer Fewell, Terry McGlynn, Mike Breed, Mike Goodisman, Deborah Smith, Miriam Richards, and Olav Rueppell. Delegates will discuss the topics presented below and provide recommendations to be voted upon in the General Assembly meeting Thursday at lunchtime, which everyone is welcome to attend.

A. Union Finances

We earn \$50,000-60,000 per year from Springer as part of our profit sharing agreement. This makes it necessary to be more formal and circumspect about how we handle our finances for tax purposes. Joan registered IUSSI as a 501C3 tax exempt organization with the IRS in Ohio, U.S.A. The IUSSI funds are handled by a financial subcommittee (Mike Breed, Koos Boomsma, Heike Feldhaar), which was appointed at the Copenhagen congress. Most of the money is used to support student travel to meeting, but the committee has received some additional requests for funds related to non IUSSI meetings, workshops, and education/outreach. The subcommittee has turned these down and is seeking feedback about whether to revise the funding priorities.

NOTE: More information about Union finances can be found in the Secretary General's report ([here](#)).

B. Journal Policies and Procedures

The amount of income the Union receives from Springer depends on the number of published articles. The number of submissions has remained steady, but the rejection rate has increased, meaning that we are receiving less income. Johan Billen will be stepping down after 24 years of service. A new editor in chief will be elected at the General Assembly, and part of that role will include strategic planning for ensuring we maintain steady revenue from the journal.

NOTE: More information about the Journal can be found in the Editor in Chief's report ([here](#)).

C. 2018 congress bid (Jennifer Fewell and Stephen Pratt)
 Arizona State University will make a bid for the 2018 congress. If chosen, Jennifer Fewell would be the first female President of NAS/IUSSI. Brazil will also make a bid for the 2018 congress.

D. Nomination and election of Union officers
 The NAS/IUSSI is nominating Colin Brent for Secretary General, Mike Breed for Editor in Chief, Jennifer Fewell for President, and Hongmei Li-Byarlay as Review Editor.

II. Section business (Amy Toth)

A. Treasurer's report and membership update (Karen Kapheim)

Accounts	Balance	As of Date	Comments
Bank of America Business checking	\$ 10,739.51	7/14/14	see below
Paypal	\$ 761.75	7/14/14	I transfer \$500 per month to our BofA account
Wells Fargo Investments (brokered by Doug Bowcock)			
Nutting Award Fund	\$ 45,523.66	6/30/14	earned \$548.32 as of June 30,2014 this year; \$2,500 withdrawl pending
La Fage Award Fund	\$ 14,621.00	6/30/14	
PSU USDA Funds	\$ 10,000.00	7/14/14	will be spent soon to reimburse students for travel upon receipt submission
Wachovia	\$0?		old account, Jay has been transferring money
Total Net Worth	\$ 81,645.92		\$10,000 of this will be spent to reimburse student travel upon return from conference

Bank of America Balance Sheet	
Starting balance	\$ 6,571.00
Inflows	
Paypal transfers	\$ 2,000.00
Membership check deposits	\$ 190.00
IUSI Travel grant	\$ 25,000.00
Transfer from Wells Fargo (\$2,500 pending check clearance)	\$ 5,000.00
Transfer from Wachovia account	\$ 1,000.00
Total inflows	\$ 33,190.00
Outflows	
Awards	
Eickwort Award	\$ 1,000.00
Travel Awards (14 @ \$2,000, 1 @ \$2,000 pending check clearance)	\$ 28,000.00
Nutting Award (pending check clearance)	\$ -
Fees (new checks)	\$ 21.49
Total outflows	\$ 29,021.49
Net	\$ 4,168.51
Balance	\$ 10,739.51

Membership	
Membership dues	
Regular (72 memberships)	\$ 1,280.00
Student (52 memberships)	\$ 465.00
Household (4 memberships)	\$ 100.00
Donations (special thanks to Walter & Victoria Tschinkel)	\$ 616.00
Total Membership Dues	\$ 2,461.00

* 26 new members added to the listserv, 1 request for removal

* Note that not all those that registered for membership paid dues.

B. Recognition of Awardees (Amy Toth)

Eickwort Award – **Clint Penick**

Nutting Award – **Karl Glastad**

IUSI Travel Awards (with thanks for funds from IUSI, USDA, Walter & Victoria Tschinkel)

Daniel Charbonneau, University of Arizona, IUSI, “Why are there ‘lazy’ ants? How worker inactivity can arise.”

Chelsea Cook, University of Colorado, USDA-IUSI, “Stay cool: social cues influence honey bee thermoregulatory behavior.”

Ingrid Fetter Pruneda, Rockefeller University, IUSI, “Causes and consequences of thelytoky in the ant *Cerapachys biroi*.”

Colin Funaro, North Carolina State University, IUSI, “Chemical mediation of queen and king recognition in subterranean termites (*Reticulitermes flavipes*).”

David Galbraith, Pennsylvania State University, USDA-IUSI, “Genomic imprinting mediates social interactions within honey bee (*Apis mellifera*) colonies.”

Francis Kamhi, Boston University, IUSI, “The neuroecology of social organization in the Australian weaver ant.”

Waldan Kwong, University of Texas - Austin, USDA-IUSI, “Genome sequencing reveals host specialization in bee gut symbionts.”

Sarah Lawson, Vanderbilt University, IUSI, “A comparative approach to understand social evolution.”

Natalie Lemanski, Rutgers University, USDA-IUSI, “A decision theory approach to explaining aging in honey bee workers.”

Kevin Loope, Cornell University, IUSI, “Kin structure and cuticular hydrocarbon complexity in social wasps.”

Rong Ma, University of Texas - Austin, USDA-IUSI, “The larval pheromone beta-ocimene regulates foraging in honey bees.”

Kate Mathis, University of California – Berkeley, IUSI, “Defensive strategies of Azteca ants against phorid fly parasitism.”

Katelyn Miller, University North Carolina – Greensboro, USDA-IUSI, “Analysis of a complete high-density recombination map of *Apis mellifera*.”

Nick Naeger, University of Illinois, USDA-IUSI, “The effect of cocaine on the social behavior of bees.”

Claire Narraway, University of California – Berkeley, USDA-IUSI, “Altruistic worker policing in honey bees: a multi-level approach.”

Michael Rivera, University of Arizona, USDA-IUSI, “How do foraging honeybees decide to quit in natural conditions?”

Pedro Rodrigues, University of Arizona, IUSI, “The compartmentalized microbiota of a herbivore ant gut.”

Jess Vickruck, Brock University, IUSI, “Kin selection and reproductive strategies in a facultatively social bee.”

Alex Walton, Iowa State University, USDA-IUSI, “Individual personalities in the insect colony: from molecules to societies.”

Bill Wills, University of Illinois, IUSI, “Nutrition and colony investment in *Solenopsis invicta* workers.”

Special Thanks to the Awards Committee:

Sean O'Donnell

Michele Lanan

Terry McGlynn

C. Announcements (Amy Toth)

Mark your calendars! CSHL Social Insect Genomics Conference— May 3-6, 2015
Suggestions for 2016 breakout meeting? Soliciting feedback for possible alterations to the regularly scheduled breakout meeting, due to potential competition with the large joint ESA/ICE meeting in Florida in fall 2016.

Adjourn 1:30 pm

(2) General Assembly meeting minutes

General Assembly Meeting

Cairns Convention Center, Cairns, QLD, Australia

12:30-1:30pm, Halls A & B

17 July 2014

NOTE: The official agenda can be found [here](#). Links to the Secretary General's report and the Editor in Chief's report can be found [here](#) and [here](#).

Election of new International Officers:

Secretary General: Madeleine Beekman

- * Madeleine played a large role in organizing the 2014 IUSSI Congress, and worked closely with out-going Secretary-General Joan Herbers. This experience was highly valued by the International Committee.

President: Klaus Hartfelder

- * Klaus is the President of the newly reorganized Brazilian section, and will be organizing the 2018 Congress.

Editor in Chief of *Insectes Sociaux*: Mike Breed

- * The International Committee recommended that Mike Breed appoint his own team of associate editors, so nominations were not taken for the position of Review Editor.

International Congress 2018

The next IUSSI Congress will be hosted by the Brazilian section at a beach resort in Guarujá, São Paulo, Brazil in July 2018.

- * The timing of this location (July) was a much better fit to the European academic calendar than the timing necessary for the Phoenix option (May). We are grateful to Jennifer Fewell, Stephen Pratt, and the rest of the ASU team that put together this excellent bid!

Hamilton Award

Mary Jane West-Eberhard is the third recipient of the Hamilton Award, which is the highest honor bestowed by this organization. The award comes with an engraved glass book and a \$1,000 honorarium. Mary Jane donated the honorarium back to the IUSSI.

(3) Awards and elections

Start thinking about who you would like to nominate for two upcoming student awards: the [La Fage award](#) for student research on social insect pests and the [Eickwort Award](#) for student research in social insect biology. The Awards Committee will be asking for your nominations soon (look for announcement in early fall 2014). The nominations committee will also be convening soon to select candidates to run for the positions of president-elect, member of the awards committee, and member of the nominations committee.

(4) NAS business meeting announcement

Our annual business meeting will be held at the upcoming ESA meeting in Portland, OR. We will meet Tuesday, November 18, 2014, from 7:30-8:30 pm at the Doubletree Hotel in Portland. We will announce the winners of the La Fage and Eickwort Awards and our newly elected Officers and Committee members. Everyone is welcome to attend.

(5) NAS/IUSSI 2016 Breakout meeting

We usually hold a section meeting in the interval between the IUSSI International Congress. These are typically more intimate and less formal meetings than other large conferences. The timing of the next breakout meeting (2016) coincides with the concurrent meeting of the International Congress of Entomology (ICE) and the Entomological Society of America (ESA), to be held in Orlando, FL September 23-30, 2016. For this reason, we would like to poll our membership to get your feedback on various options for reducing competition between ICE/ESA and the 2016 breakout meeting. To participate in this anonymous (and super short) poll, please submit your answers [here](#).

As always, please feel free to contact me with questions or concerns about the society or your membership. Also, it is never too late to pay your [membership](#) dues!

Sincerely,
Karen Kapheim
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