

NORTH AMERICAN SECTION

Winter Newsletter 2014

Dear IUSSI-NAS members,
It has been another fabulous year for social insect enthusiasts! Please find the details in our business meeting minutes below.
Best wishes,
Karen

IUSSI-NAS Section Meeting at Entomological Society of America meeting 2014

Tuesday November 18 19:30-20:30
Oregon meeting room, Double Tree hotel
Portland, OR

Officers in attendance: Christina Grozinger (President), Karen Kapheim (Sec-Treas), Amy Toth (Pres-Elect), Colin Brent (former President)

Members in attendance: ~50

Call to order (Christina Grozinger) @ 1930

1. Conferences

- a. Recap of International Congress of IUSSI in Cairns 2014
The NAS-IUSSI had a measurable presence at this year's international congress. Two of our section members (Amy Toth and Jay Evans) were plenary speakers, and fifteen of 36 symposia were organized by our section members. With the help of a USDA grant and funding from IUSSI, we were able to support 20 student and postdoc members to attend the congress. The next congress will be held in 2018 in Brazil.
- b. Upcoming conference: Biology and Genomics of Social Insects
This Cold Spring Harbor Labs conference will be held May 2-5, 2014 and is being co-organized by Amy Toth, Guy Bloch, and Juergen Gadau. The deadline for abstracts is February 15, 2014.
- c. Upcoming conference: 2015 Entomological Society of America
The next ESA meeting will be held November 15-18 in Minneapolis, MN. The theme will be "Synergy in Science: Partnering for Solutions". Symposia submission sites open December 2014.

- d. Upcoming conference: 2016 International Congress of Entomology
The next International Congress of Entomology meeting will be held in conjunction with ESA September 25-30, 2016 in Orlando, FL. Symposia submission deadline is March 2, 2015.
- e. For discussion: 2016 IUSSI-NAS breakout meeting
The timing of the 2016 ICE/ESA meeting coincides with when we have traditionally held breakout section meetings. A poll of our IUSSI-NAS members (Appendix A) indicates that most members that responded to the poll are in favor of having a breakout meeting, but preferences regarding the timing and location are mixed. During discussion of this issue, the point was raised that we are likely to have better attendance of the breakout meeting if it is immediately before or after the ICE/ESA meeting. President Grozinger pointed out that the steering committee for ICE/ESA is promoting breakout meetings for satellite organizations and would likely be able to facilitate a meeting for us. The point was made that if attached to ICE/ESA, the breakout meeting should be only one day so as not to extend the length of an already long meeting beyond what is reasonable during what is, for most of our members, the beginning of the academic year.
Please express your opinion on this matter in the online poll:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1QFX6K0xPH4oQWjXh-1lWTsnlbHqJD4fhX7APfKxS7bI/viewform?usp=send_form

2. Treasurer's Report

Accounts	Balance	Date
Bank of America Business checking	\$ 8,496.05	as of 11/17/14
Paypal	\$ 400.64	as of 11/17/14
Wells Fargo Investments (brokered by Doug Bowcock)		
Nutting Award Fund	\$ 43,680.17	as of 10/31/14
Tschinkel Award Fund	\$ 10,000.00	as of 10/31/14
La Fage Award Fund	\$ 14,621.00	as of 10/31/14
Total Net Worth	\$ 77,197.86	

* We have made \$779.06 from our Wells Fargo investments this year. This will probably increase in future years as we adjust our investments.

Bank of America Balance (as of 11/17/14)	
Starting balance (7/14/14)	\$ 10,739.51
<u>Inflows</u>	
Paypal transfers	\$ 500.00
Transfer from Wells Fargo (\$2,500 pending check clearance)	\$ 2,500.00
Total inflows	\$ 3,000.00
<u>Outflows</u>	
Awards	
Travel Awards (1 @ \$2,000 cleared after Cairns)	\$ (2,000.00)
Nutting Award	\$ (2,500.00)
Reimbursements	\$ (218.48)
AV services for annual business meeting (DoubleTree)	\$ (485.00)
Fees (tax filing service APLOS)	\$ (39.98)
Total outflows	\$ (5,243.46)
Net	\$ (2,243.46)
Balance	\$ 8,496.05

3. Awards

- a. Thank you to the Awards Committee (Sean O'Donnell, Michele Lanan, Terry McGlynn)
- b. We have a new award! The Tschinkel Award was set up by Walter and Victoria Tschinkel to encourage graduate student research on the natural history and biology of ants, areas that are often neglected by the major funding agencies. The first awards will be made in Spring 2015, and proposals will be due April 15, 2015. More information can be found on the IUSSI website.
- c. William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Termit Research Award
 - i. Update on Nutting Award activities from 2013 Awardee Erin Cole (read by President Grozinger in absentia) – "Transgenerational Immunity in the Dampwood Termite Species *Zooteromopsis angusticollis*"
 - ii. Karl Glastad (Georgia Tech University) was the 2014 winner
- d. George C. Eickwort Student Research Award Winner 2014 – Sarah Lawson (Vanderbilt University)

- e. Jeffery La Fage Award for research on social insect pests Winner 2014 – Karl Glastad (Georgia Tech University)
4. Elections
- a. Thank you to the Nominations Committee (Mike Breed, Hollis Woodard, Mike Goodisman, Sarah Kocher). Mike Breed has stepped down this year to become the Editor in Chief of Insect Socieaux. Sarah Kocher was recently elected on to the committee to fill this spot.
 - b. We had an excellent candidate pool and an excellent voter turnout for our yearly elections.
 - c. Stephen Pratt (Arizona State University) was elected to join the Awards Committee
 - d. Sean O'Donnell (Drexel University) was elected to become President-Elect
5. Presidential turnover – Special thanks to Christina Grozinger for serving as an excellent leader for IUSSI-NAS. It was her efforts that provided the USDA grant that enabled so many of our student members to attend the International Congress in Cairns. We welcome Amy Toth to the position of President!

Meeting adjourned @ 2003 (Amy Toth)

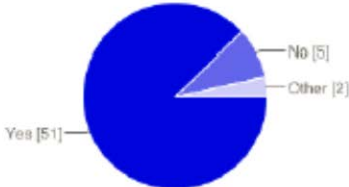
Appendix A – IUSSI-NAS breakout meeting poll results

58 responses

[View all responses](#) [Publish analytics](#)

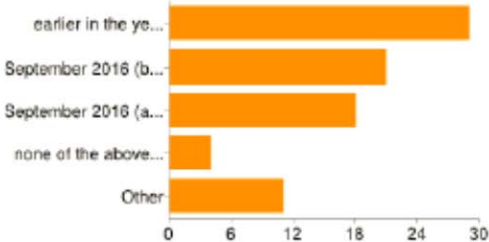
Summary

Do you think there should be a IUSSI/NAS breakout meeting in 2016?



Yes	51	88%
No	5	9%
Other	2	3%

If there were a 2016 breakout meeting, when would you prefer we have it?



earlier in the year (e.g. May 2016)	29	50%
September 2016 (before ICE/ESA meeting, also in Orlando)	21	36%
September 2016 (after ICE/ESA meeting, also in Orlando)	18	31%
none of the above, we should skip the 2016 breakout meeting	4	7%
Other	11	19%