



North Carolina Entomological Society Annual Meeting Minutes – 2019

The North Carolina Entomological Society (NCES) met on October 24, 2019 at the JC Raulston Arboretum in Raleigh, NC. A total of 46 people attended (43 members and 3 guests of the society).

The meeting commenced at 6:00 PM with a poster session and mixer, sponsored by BASF. There was one excellent poster in the student competition which presented research on fire and harvester ants, specifically how landscape features such as patch shape and connectivity affect distribution, abundance, and size of fire and harvester ant nests. The beer, wine, and snacks served by NC State PhD student Gabe Zilnik helped to provide a fun ambiance. President Katie Lelito welcomed guests and thanked our event sponsors, BASF and AgBiome. Dinner was a buffet catered by Rocky Top, served at 6:45 PM. Over dinner attendees voted on Insect Photo Salon entries.

At 7:15 PM, President Katie Lelito presented opening remarks and introduced Dr. Hannah Burrack as the Keynote Speaker.

- **Dr. Hannah Burrack**, North Carolina State University, Professor and Extension Specialist for Berry, Tobacco and Specialty Crops
- **Keynote Talk: Specialty Crop IPM - A Case Study in Industrial Hemp**

The Keynote talk was followed by a presentation by Hannah Levenson, the winner of the Outstanding PhD student award.

- **Hannah Levenson**, North Carolina State University, PhD Candidate
- **Presentation: “Native bee communities across North Carolina: from individuals to the agroecosystem”**

The business meeting began at 8:00 PM and was presided over by President Katie Lelito.

- Dr. Hannah Burrack received the Outstanding Contribution to Entomology award, presented by President Katie Lelito.
- Hannah Levenson received the Outstanding PhD Student Award, presented by Vice President Jon Lelito.
- Lauren Rusert of NC State University received the Outstanding Master’s Student Award, presented by Treasurer Cheryl Leichter.
- Lauren Rusert also received the NCES Fall Student Travel Award to present her research at the 2019 Entomological Society of America Conference in St. Louis, Missouri, presented by Treasurer Cheryl Leichter. Kristi Backe of North Carolina State University received the Spring Travel Award, presented by Graduate Student Representative Christina Mitchell.

- Michelle Kirchner of NC State University won the \$50 prize for best student poster, titled "Pogos on Fire: effects of edges, connectivity, and patch shape on fire ant and harvester ant distributions," presented by Secretary Meredith Favre.
- Dr. Kenneth Sorensen was awarded as the inaugural Emeritus Member by Membership Coordinator Meredith Spence Beaulieu.
- Insect Photography Contest awards were presented by Student Representative Christina Mitchell.
- The 2018 minutes were presented by Past Secretary Elsa Youngsteadt and were approved with a unanimous voice vote.
- Treasurer Cheryl Leichter presented the following report:

Cheryl A. Leichter
24 October 2019

North Carolina Entomological Society
2019 Treasurers Report

Report period: The 2019 treasurer's report will include all NCES expenses from the day after the 2018 Annual Meeting/Banquet (October 25, 2018) through October 24, 2019 including awards at the banquet. However, the specific 2018 banquet expenses will be included as a proxy for 2019 banquet expenses (venue cost, catering, other food, wine, beer, soda, plaques, etc.: this excludes banquet awards (via check) which are itemized separately. The 2019 banquet expenses will be included in the 2020 NCES Treasurer's Report.

NCES account balance (as of 24 October 2019)

Wells Fargo, Interest Checking - \$12,768.59
Wells Fargo, Market Rate Savings - \$1573.86
 Pending transfer to Wells Fargo Checking - \$0
 Cash in hand for Banquet: **\$120.00**

Annual Balance Comparison

Year	Balance
2019	\$14,462.45
2018	\$10770.87
2017	\$13,615.39
2016	\$10,512.66
2015	\$8783.5

2019 Revenue

2019 NCES membership dues	\$1989.25
Meeting/Banquet registration	\$984.06
Donations	\$1358.80
Total	\$4332.11

2019 Expenses

2018 Annual Meeting and Banquet	\$2178.46
Spring Travel Award	\$500
Fall Travel Award	\$500
2019 Outstanding M.S. Student	\$100
2019 Outstanding Ph.D. Student	\$100
2019 Poster Competition Award	\$50
Total	\$3428.46

- Outreach Coordinator Shawn Janairo presented an overview of the NCES' public engagement, including events such as BioBlitz, Moth Night with the NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Fall Collecting Hike with an Entomologist, Darwin Day, Arbor Day, and BugFest. Member events such as light trapping and Beers and Careers (sponsored by AgBiome) were also highlighted. Lastly, outreach volunteers were recognized and thanked for their efforts.
- Membership Officer Meredith Spence Beaulieu presented new business:
 - Announced the creation of additional membership positions, retired and emeritus membership classes. Emeritus membership status is available to members who have been a part of NCES for 20 years or more. Let officers know if you fit this requirement to be awarded Emeritus status.
 - Proposed growing membership beyond North Carolina State University and across the state, including other nearby universities (UNCG, UNC-Chapel Hill, Duke, etc.).
- 2019-2020 officers were re-appointed:
 - President: Jon Lelito
 - Vice-President: Call for new VP.
 - Secretary: Meredith Favre
 - Treasurer: Cheryl Leichter
 - Social Media Coordinator: Caleb Wilson
 - Past-President: Katie Lelito
 - Webmaster: Aurora Toennisson
 - Outreach Coordinator: Shawn Janairo
 - Student Representative: Christina Mitchell
- NCES sponsors were acknowledged. AgBiome and BASF each contributed to support NCES activities, including the annual meeting. AgBiome contributed \$500, and BASF contributed \$900.
- The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 pm by President Jon Lelito.