

67th Annual (Virtual) Meeting of the SCES
Executive Committee Meeting, Opening Meeting,
and New Board Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2021

Executive Committee Meeting:

A virtual meeting of the Executive Committee of the South Carolina Entomological Society was commenced at 7:59 AM by President Mike Ferro on October 8th, 2021.

In attendance: Mike Ferro (President/Program Chair), Jess Hartshorn (Past President/Nominations Chair), Paula Mitchell, David Jenkins (Executive Director; Membership Chair), Gerald Carner (Historian), Brian Scholtens (Treasurer), Eric Benson (Honors and Awards Chair), Sharon Andreason (Secretary), and Elizabeth Davidson-Lowe.

Opening Discussion:

President Mike Ferro thanks all who helped work on the new website and discusses the layout. The website can be accessed at www.scentsoc.org.

- The annual timeline of duties (under “About”) is reviewed with mention that any proposed amendments are required to be sent to the membership by end of August.
- An amendment up for discussion, which did not happen in the previous year, is the two-year term as President.
- Under “Awards” on the website – a needed clarification on the paper and poster awards available and which student categories is discussed. In recent previous years, awards have depended on the submissions received. The categories of Undergraduate (although submission here have been rare), Master’s, and Ph.D. awards have been available for poster and paper presentations recently. However, in the past all poster presenters were grouped together with one winner. This discussion leads to a motion described below.
- Mike Ferro wants to have more undergraduate and high school members in the society, mentioning that it is a good place to start exposure to science/entomology.
- Student award competition submissions this year include: three posters (Andrew Kanen – undergraduate; Zilan Li – Masters; and Dawn Sikora – Ph.D.) and two papers (Matthew Brown and Curt Harden – Ph.D.).

Business:

A motion to break the Student Presentation Competition Awards for both papers and posters into four categories, including High School, Undergraduate, Master's, and Ph.D. is made by Eric Benson. Paula Mitchell seconds the motion. All are in favor, and the motion passes.

The Treasurer's Report is given by Brian Scholtens: All accounts are in good shape. Two accounts previously with BB&T are now with Truist; Three other accounts remain with United Community. A summary of the report with account balances is provided as an addendum to these minutes.

- Gerald Carner asked which accounts are earmarked (if any) for the Cochran fund.
 - Brian Scholtens answers that the Community accounts are used for the Cochran award and not for general business purposes.
 - Eric Benson clarifies that an annual Cochran Award with \$1000 is given to an outstanding graduate student and a separate Cochran Award is given to an outstanding professional every 3 years but the latter does not come with any money.
- Jess Hartshorn suggests that we use some of the funds for promotion of the society.
- Mike Ferro suggests paying extra (at \$12/month) to remove the Weebly advertisement at the bottom of the website.

A motion is made by Brian Scholtens to pay the extra \$12 per month to remove the Weebly advertisement from the website, and the motion includes any increase in cost moving forward; Jess Hartshorn seconded. All are in favor, and the motion passes.

Further discussion of funds:

- Mike Ferro suggests printing posters in mass and handing out to teachers with SCES url.
- Mike mentions a potential \$1 – 2K Francis McAllister Award for a graduate student.
- Gerald Carner suggests increasing the Cochran Award (for students) from \$1,000 to \$2,000 or more.

Paula Mitchell makes motion to increase the J.H. Cochran Memorial Scholarship to \$2,000. Gerald Carner and David Jenkins second the motion. Paula then amends the motion to be effective 2022. Jess points out a discrepancy in the bylaws from the old website to what is on the new website, and Paula states that the scholarship increase would be a bylaws change that should be proposed to the society by August. Therefore, the motion is not formally voted on, and discussion ends with switching meeting links to begin the virtual annual meeting.

The executive committee meeting ends at 8:32 AM.

Opening Meeting:

A virtual annual meeting of the South Carolina Entomological Society was called to order at 8:40 AM by President Mike Ferro.

Business:

JC Chong moves to suspend the reading of the minutes and approve the meeting minutes from last year. Alvin Simmons seconds the motion. The motion is voted on and passes.

Mike summarized the Treasurer's report.

JC Chong gives the report on the Journal of Agricultural and Urban Entomology (JAUE). A summary of the report is provided as an addendum to these minutes.

- Journal is open-access and free via BioOne (*for institutions with subscriptions to BioOne).
- Receives funds from BioOne when the journal and its articles are accessed.
- Board is currently reviewing proposed updates to the instructions to authors, including information on plagiarism.
- In 2020, 29 manuscripts were received; 21 were rejected before peer review; 8 were sent for review; 6 were accepted and published in two volumes. In 2021 so far, 19 manuscripts have been received; 4 rejected before peer review; 10 sent to peer review; 5 have been accepted and published.

Mike Ferro calls the election:

- Paula Mitchell was elected President by unanimous response.
- Sharon Andreason was elected Vice President by unanimous response.
- Elizabeth Davidson-Lowe was elected Secretary by unanimous response.

New Business:

Mike Ferro discusses the new SCES website layout and contents.

- JC Chong to provide new instructions to authors for JAUE.
- There is a link to the archived old SCES website at the bottom of the homepage.
- The About Page has a brief description of the society, list of officers, a timeline of annual duties, list of recent annual meeting sites and the award winners.
- Membership Page needs work.

- Annual Meeting Page has the posters available to download, will provide instructions on meeting submissions, and information about the meeting and election.
- Constitution Page has the constitution and bylaws.
- Society History Page has a paper by Mike Hood about the first 50 years of the SCES and some previous years' meeting minutes.
- Awards Page has the available awards for students and the Excellence in Entomology Award information.
- Journal Page has information about the journal and a link to it on BioOne.
- Free Materials Page currently includes materials made available by Mike and can include any materials or information the membership would like to make freely available.
- Educational Mentorship (currently under "More...") provides information to interested individuals on various member information, demonstrations, etc. available.

Other comments made by President Mike Ferro:

The society has an updated logo (printed on the first page of the program), which is available as a vector, jpeg, etc.

On the last page of the program, an educational poster is printed, with the idea that a new poster is printed in mass and passed out each year for free. 500 posters can be printed for \$500 or 1,000 posters for \$550. Resin-mounted insects may accompany the posters. Posters may be used for society advertisement.

Mike reviews the morning Executive Committee Meeting discussion before commencing with the annual meeting presentations.

Virtual Award Ceremony:

A virtual awards ceremony was held at 3:00 PM to honor award recipients. Thank you to the judges.

Winners of the 2021 paper and poster competition

Best graduate student paper presentation:

- Matthew Brown (Ph.D.)

Best student poster presentations:

- Undergraduate: Andrew Kanes
- Masters of Science: Zilan Li
- Ph.D.: Dawn Sikora

J.H. Cochran Memorial Scholarship

The J.H. Cochran Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Peng Zhang.

2021 Awards Judges:

- J.H. Cochran Award: Eric Benson, Gerald Carner, Al Wheeler, and JC Chong
- Paper and Poster Awards: Jeremy Green, JC Chong, and Eric Benson

Final Business:

Mike Ferro thanks all the presenters including the keynote speaker, Meredith Blackwell, and the J.H. Cochran Excellence in Entomology recipient, Paula Mitchell.

Next year's meeting location is discussed – likely sticking with the Baruch Institute for Marine & Coastal Sciences in Georgetown, S.C.

A joint meeting with Georgia Entomological Society (last held in 2018) is held every 7 years. It is our turn (location in SC).

There are no resolutions. There is a motion to adjourn by Alvin Simmons and seconded by Kelsey Young. The meeting is adjourned at 3:12 PM.

New Board Meeting:

A virtual meeting of the new board members of the South Carolina Entomological Society was commenced at 3:13 PM with President Paula Mitchell presiding.

In attendance: Paula Mitchell, Mike Ferro, Sharon Andreason, Gerald Carner, Brian Scholtens, Eric Benson, Elizabeth Davidson-Lowe, Dawn Sikora

President Paula Mitchell leads discussion of the following items.

- Committee Chairs needed: Resolutions and Publicity
- No elections are needed for next year.

- A bylaws change is needed to increase the award amount for the J.H. Cochran Memorial Scholarship.
- Changing the term of office for the presidencies would require a 6 year commitment (2 years as Vice President, 2 years as President, and 2 years as Past President). The proposal will be needed for the website by August so that the membership can review and then vote on it.
- Changing the website can be done by Mike Ferro or he can give the login and password.
- Jess Hartshorn can pay for the new Weebly and be reimbursed by Brian Scholtens. Mike Ferro will ask Jess to update the payment.
- Membership dues are \$40; meeting registration is \$5; Regular members can sponsor student memberships.
- Meetings of the new board are proposed to be held in the Spring and Summer to finalize proposals for August, meeting logistics, etc.

President Paula Mitchell again thanks Past President Mike Ferro for all his work during his presidency.

The meeting is adjourned at 3:29 PM.

2021-2022 Officers:

Below is the listing and contact details for the 2021 SCES elected officers.

President: Paula Levin Mitchell, Department of Biology, Winthrop University, Rock Hill, SC 29733. email: leptoglossus@yahoo.com

VP/President Elect: Sharon Andreason, USDA-ARS U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414; phone: 843-402-5312; email: sharon.andreason@usda.gov

Past President: Mike Ferro, Clemson University, Plant and Environmental Sciences Department, 307 Long Hall, 230 Parkway Dr., Clemson, SC 29634; phone: 864-656-3105; email: mferro@clemson.edu

Secretary: Elizabeth (Liz) Davidson-Lowe, USDA-ARS U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, 2700 Savannah Hwy, Charleston, SC 29414. email: elizabeth.davidson-lowe@usda.gov

Treasurer: Brian Scholtens, College of Charleston, Biology Department, 58 Coming St. Rm. 214, Charleston, SC 29424; phone 843-953-8081; email scholtensb@cofc.edu

Historian: Gerry Carner, Clemson University, 318 Long Hall, Clemson, SC 29634; phone 864-656-5040; email gcarner@clemson.edu

2021-2022 Committee Chairs:

Auditing: Merle Shepard, Coastal REC, Clemson University, 2700 Savannah Hwy, Charleston, SC, 29414; email: mshprd@clemson.edu

Honors and Awards: Eric Benson, Plant and Environmental Sciences, Clemson University, Clemson, SC, 29634; email: ebenson@clemson.edu

Membership: David Jenkins, SC Forestry Commission, 5500 Broad River Road, Columbia, SC, 29212; email: djenkins@scfc.gov

Nominations: Mike Ferro, Clemson University, Plant and Environmental Sciences Department, 307 Long Hall, 230 Parkway Dr., Clemson, SC 29634; phone: 864-656-3105; email: mferro@clemson.edu

Program: Sharon Andreason, USDA-ARS U.S. Vegetable Laboratory, 2700 Savannah Highway, Charleston, SC 29414; phone: 843-402-5312; email: sharon.andreason@usda.gov

Local Arrangements: Ben Powell, Baruch Institute of Coastal Ecology and Forest Science, Pee Dee Research and Education Center, Georgetown, SC, 29440; email: bpowel2@clemson.edu

Resolutions: Vacant

Publicity: Vacant

Respectfully prepared by:

Sharon Andreason, 2021

Addenda:

1. Treasurer's Report
2. A report from Journal of Agricultural and Urban Entomology (JAUE)

Treasurer's Report – 30 Sep 2021

All accounts are in good shape.

Our accounts with BB&T are now with Truist (purchased and renamed this summer), but all access remains the same.

0741 – balance \$44305.73

0347 – balance \$4320.75

United Community

[Cockran fund comes out of here, \$1000]

1756 – \$63733.07

0358 – \$571.91

CD 9760 - \$39221.60

**A report from
Journal of Agricultural and Urban Entomology (JAUE)**

8 October 2021

Editorial Board

JC Chong, Editor

Ron Cherry, University of Florida

Jeremy Greene, Clemson University

Xing Ping Hu, Auburn University

Fangneng Huang, Louisiana State University

Rizana Mahroof, South Carolina State University

Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris, USDA-ARS

Nick Seiter, University of Illinois

JC Chong has revised the Instructions for Authors and Publication Policy, with the addition of a Publishing Ethic and Plagiarism Policy. The revised policy is being reviewed by the Editorial Board, and will be posted on BioOne and SCES website by the end of 2021.

Submission and publication status

Volume 36 (2020), with 9 full-length articles and 4 scientific notes, totaling 125 pages, has been published on BioOne. Volume 37 (2021) currently has 5 articles (32 pages). The current docket include 5 manuscripts in review, and 8 manuscripts have been returned to authors for revision after preliminary review.

Statistics of the submitted manuscripts are as followed:

Manuscripts received in 2020:

	Number of manuscripts	Percentage
Received	29	100%
Not accepted before peer review Reason: 1) Outside of scope of JAUE; N = 1 2) Poor experimental design; N = 9 3) Insufficient data; N = 1 4) Withdrawn, N = 7 5) Plagiarism; N = 0 6) Extremely poor writing, N = 3	21	72% (of received)
Forwarded to peer review	8	28% (of received)
Withdrawn after peer review	0	0% (of received) 0% (of reviewed)
Still in review	1	3% (of received) 13% (of reviewed)
Rejected after peer review Reason: 1) Insufficient or preliminary data; N = 0 2) Poor experimental design, N = 1	1	3% (of received) 13% (of reviewed)
Accepted Published in Volume 36 (2020); N = 5 Published in Volume 37 (2021); N = 1	6	21% (of received) 75% (of reviewed)

Manuscripts received in 2021:

	Number of manuscripts	Percentage
Received (as of 5 October 2020)	19	100%
In preliminary review	1	5% (of received)

Not accepted before peer review Reason: 1) Outside of scope of JAUE; N = 0 2) Poor experimental design; N = 1 3) Plagiarism; N = 1 4) Poor writing; N = 2 5) Insufficient data; N = 0	4	21% (of received)
Waiting for authors to revise after preliminary review	4	21% (of received)
Forwarded to peer review	10	53% (of received)
In active review	3	16% (of received) 30% (of reviewed)
Rejected after peer review Reason: 1) Insufficient or preliminary data; N = 1 2) Poor experimental design, N = 1	2	11% (of received) 20% (of reviewed)
Accepted Published in Volume 37 (2021); N = 5	5	26% (of received) 50% (of reviewed)

Manuscripts received 2009-2021:

Year	Number of manuscripts received	Number of manuscripts published	Rejection rate (%)	Impact factor
2009	16	11	29.4	
2010	24	14	41.7	
2011	17	11	35.3	
2012	26	13	50.0	
2013	17	7	58.8	
2014	28	9	67.9	0.17
2015	16	7	56.3	0.19
2016	22	10	54.5	0.33
2017	27	11	59.3	0.84
2018	23	7	69.6	0.70
2019	25	9	64.0	TBD
2020	26	7	73.1	TBD
2021*	19	5	TBD	TBD

*Not a complete year. Up to the date of this report.

Respectfully submitted,

JC Chong
Editor, JAUE