

ISCE NEWSLETTER, VOLUME 29, ISSUE 2, 2012

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Content:

Secretary / Editor's Message

News on the upcoming meeting in Vilnius

News on the joint APACE-ISCE meeting in Australia 2013

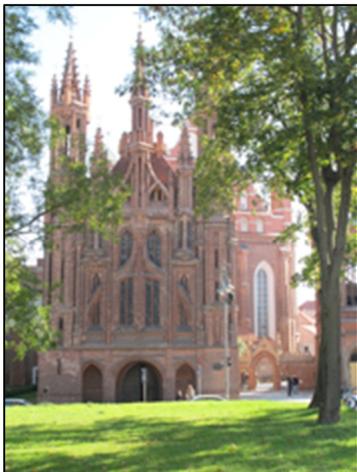
News on the ALAEQ meeting in Argentina 2012

Results of voting for Vice President and Councilors

Member news, International Course

Secretary / Editor's Message

The candidates for open Councilor positions and for Vice President were presented in the first newsletter of 2012 and now the members of our society have voted. Four new Councilors were selected to serve the society for a three-year term. Of the 450 members of our society, 142 or 30% voted. Last year over 40 % of our members voted and so, hopefully, in the future more members will participate in the selection of Councilors and the next Vice President. We welcome Stefan Schulz as our new Vice President, and four new Councilors, Junwei (Jerry) Zhu, Ann Ray, Matthias Erb and Robert Raguso. Our Councilors are essential for decisions on our society's scientific and business issues and social events. We look forward to the input from our new Councilors and members of the Executive Committee!



The upcoming meeting in Vilnius

From Prof. Vincas Būda, host of the ISCE meeting in Vilnius to be held from 22-26 July 2012

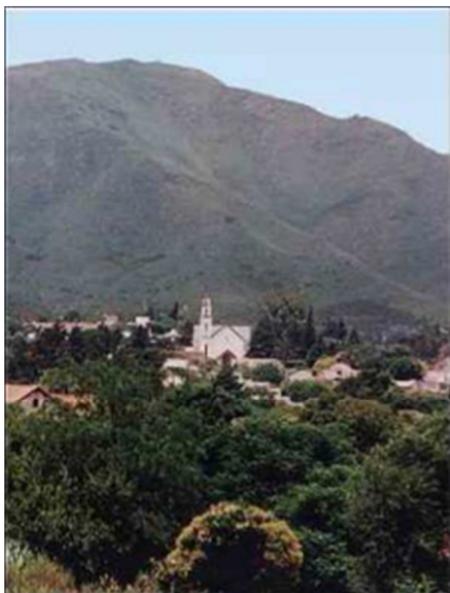
Welcome to Vilnius, the capital of the small Baltic country of Lithuania! Visit a country of rain, forests and green fields and of numerous lakes and medieval castles that will remind you of the period of the Grand Duchy of Lithuania which once covered lands from the Baltic to the Black Sea. Today Lithuania is famous for one of the oldest universities, amber jewellery (some containing fossil insects), sandy beaches and dunes along the Baltic coastline, basketball, its national cuisine, many varieties of beer, and the hospitality of its people.

More than 230 participants from 35 countries (all continents except Antarctica!) will attend ISCE 2012 in Vilnius. The scientific programme will be exciting and free time after the sessions very enjoyable! Visit the link <http://www.isce2012.gf.vu.lt/home/index/home>

See you at ISCE 2012 in Vilnius!

The joint APACE-ISCE meeting in Australia 2013

The 2013 annual meeting of the International Society of Chemical Ecology will be held jointly with the Asian-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists in Melbourne, Australia from August 19-23. Alex Il'ichev is host of this meeting. <http://www.icec2013.com.au/>



The ALAEQ meeting in Argentina 2012

Valle de Punilla (Huerta Grande), Córdoba, Argentina where the 2nd Meeting of ALAEQ will be held.

The Organizing Committee of the 2nd Meeting of the Latin American Association of Chemical Ecology (ALAEQ) has the pleasure to invite you to participate in this event to be held on 2-5 December 2012 in Valle de Punilla (Huerta Grande), Córdoba Province, Argentina. After the success of our 1st meeting in Uruguay in 2010, we were encouraged to organize a 2nd meeting bringing together highly qualified speakers and very enthusiastic Latin-American students and postdocs.

Please visit our website

at <http://www.cicyttp.org.ar/congresoalaeq2012.html>

We look forward to seeing you in Argentina.

Pablo Guerenstein (Chair, 2nd meeting of ALAEQ)

Election results for Vice President and Councilors

We are happy to welcome our new Vice President and our four new Councilors and look forward to your ideas and suggestions for the society over the next three years.

Vice President



Dr. Stefan Schulz has been Full Professor of Organic Chemistry, University of Braunschweig – Institute of Technology, since 1997. He has served as the Head of the Institute of Organic Chemistry of this University since 2006. Stefan studied chemistry in Hamburg and obtained his Ph.D. in the group of Wittko Francke in 1987, working on the chemistry of butterflies. A postdoctoral with Jerrold Meinwald at Cornell University, Ithaca, U.S.A., followed in 1988. After returning to Hamburg he joined a

priority program on Chemical Ecology of the German Science Foundation and obtained his habilitation in 1994, working on arthropod chemical communication. After moving to Braunschweig, his main research interest has been the Chemistry of Chemical Communication, concentrating on the analysis, synthesis and biosynthesis of semiochemicals and related compounds in the broadest sense. He lectures in courses on chemical synthesis and natural products. After an initial interest in butterflies and spiders, he now also studies bacterial communication, reptile and amphibian pheromones, and chemical defense systems. He has published some 140 papers and edited two books concentrating on the chemistry side of Chemical Ecology.

Our new Councilors

The society welcomes the new Councilors and looks forward to fruitful engagement and frequent participation in the annual meetings.



Dr. Junwei (Jerry) Zhu is a Research Chemical Ecologist/Entomologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service, Agroecosystem Management Research Unit in Lincoln, Nebraska, USA. He received his Ph.D. in Chemical Ecology from Lund University, Sweden in 1995 under the supervision of Prof. Christer Löfstedt. He did his postdoctoral training with Prof. Kenneth Haynes at the University of Kentucky (1995-96), before joining Lund University as a Faculty member (1997-1998). During his research career at Iowa State University (1998-2007), Dr. Zhu started his entrepreneurship with a start-up Biotech company (MSTRS Technologies, Inc.) together with this year's ISCE Silver Medal Award honoree Prof. Tom

Baker. MSTRS researches, develops and manufactures semiochemical-based products for controlling insect pests in agricultural and urban settings. The company received the 2007 National Tibbetts Award (top 40 among 4000 small companies selected in the US). In 2008, Dr. Zhu joined USDA-ARS, with his research focusing on medical and veterinary entomology including infochemical interactions among pest insects, hosts and their environment (microbial community). He regularly publishes and reviews manuscripts in many peer-reviewed scientific journals, with over 50 of his publications in Chemical Ecology. Dr. Zhu is currently serving as Secretary of the Asia-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists, a sister society of ISCE.



Dr. Ann M. Ray is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Biology at Xavier University, a position she has held since 2010. She received an undergraduate degree in biology with a minor concentration in chemistry at Bellarmine University, in Louisville, KY. She earned her M.S. and Ph.D. at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, where her research focused on the chemical ecology of longhorned beetles and the evolution of volatile pheromone use within the longhorned beetle subfamily Cerambycinae. Following graduation in 2009, she accepted a postdoctoral position in the research group of former ISCE president, Jocelyn Millar, at the University of California, Riverside. Annie's research continues to focus on identification of volatile pheromones and on the role of volatile pheromones in the evolution of mating systems of longhorned beetles. Annie maintains active research collaborations with Dr. Millar, and with her Ph.D. advisor, Lawrence Hanks. She has conducted research projects in Kentucky, Illinois, California, and Arizona in the US, and in Sonora, Mexico. She recently extended her field work to include sites in Ohio in the US, and in the Atlantic rainforests of Costa Rica. Her current academic appointment includes directing the research of undergraduate students who are completing independent projects on chemical ecology of longhorned beetles. Since 2003, Annie has authored/co-authored 13 publications on pheromones of longhorned beetles, seven of which have appeared in the *Journal of Chemical Ecology*.



Dr. Matthias Erb heads the research group “Root-Herbivore Interactions” at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany. He is interested in understanding the chemical interface between below ground herbivores and their host plants, including root volatiles, exudates and defensive secondary metabolites. His group also works on indirect interactions between above- and below ground feeders, with the aim to unravel the systemic plant signals that connect leaves and roots. As a Ph.D. student, Matthias won several prizes, including the presentation award of the ISCE in 2008. Three years and 25 publications later, he serves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Chemical Ecology* and enjoys supporting the ISCE in any way possible.



Robert A. Raguso. Professor, Department of Neurobiology and Behavior, Cornell University, U.S.A. I became a chemical ecologist to better understand how complex interactions between insects and plants are mediated in ecological and evolutionary time. My doctoral thesis explored evolutionary shifts in floral volatile production by *Clarkia breweri* plants, at the chemical, genetic, physiological and ecological levels of organization. As a postdoc, I shifted my attention to insect electrophysiological and behavioral responses to floral volatiles, working with *Manduca sexta* moths and a guild of night-blooming plants pollinated by them, and using phylogenetic methods to parse signal from noise in complex volatile blends. Since then, my research program has expanded to include several plant lineages and model pollination systems, with the common goal of understanding how natural variation in chemical signals produced by plants is generated and maintained, and how pollinators and other animals integrate such information in their foraging behavior.

Member news, International course

MAX PLANCK INSTITUTE FOR CHEMICAL ECOLOGY JENA, GERMANY



ICE-12: Part of an international course rotating yearly between SLU Alnarp, Pennsylvania State University, and MPI for Chemical Ecology, will be held in Jena, Germany, from the 26th of November to the 7th of December, 2012. Please visit the webpage <http://www.ice.mpg.de/ext/frontiers.html>.

Open Post-doc and PhD Positions within the CRC 973

The newly established Collaborative Research Centre **CRC 973 “Priming and Memory of Organismic Responses to Stress”** offers several vacant positions. These positions can be filled as soon as possible and will be limited to four years. The salary scale is at 65% (PhD Student) / 100 % (Post-doc) level 13 of German state regulated public service salary scale.

The CRC 973 pursues two major research aims by investigating organisms lacking nervous systems: (I) to elucidate the molecular, biochemical and physiological mechanisms involved in priming and memory of responses to stress, and (II) to understand how the stability and predictability of the environmental conditions affect priming and memory abilities. Within the CRC 973, the projects focus on plants, fungi and bacteria and our research intends to elucidate whether these different types of organisms share common mechanisms in being primed for stress and in storing (remembering) information on stressful events. Furthermore the CRC intends to establish a platform integrating

different biological sub-disciplines ranging from molecular life science to ecological science and promoting vivid interactions among them. Information about the CRC 973 and its projects is provided at www.sfb973.de.

The tasks of the employees include the preparation, development, and running of scientific experiments, analysis of data and publication of the results within a project of the CRC 973. For further information on the scientific topics of the projects please visit www.sfb973.de.

<u>Project</u>	<u>Open Position</u>	<u>Principal Investigator(s)</u>	<u>Institution</u>
A1	post-doctoral researcher (100%)	Prof. Dr. Matthias Rillig	FU Berlin

<u>Project</u>	<u>Open Positions</u>	<u>Principal Investigator(s)</u>	<u>Institution</u>
		Dr. Britta Ehlert	FU Berlin
A4	1 PhD position (65%)	Prof. Dr. Tina Romeis	FU Berlin
B1	2 PhD positions (65%)	Prof. Dr. Monika Hilker	FU Berlin
B2	2 PhD positions (65%)	Jun. Prof. Dr. Anke Steppuhn	FU Berlin
B3	2 PhD positions (65%)	Jun. Prof. Dr. Susanne Wurst	FU Berlin
		Prof. Dr. Monika Hilker	FU Berlin
		Dr. Sven Geiselhardt	FU Berlin
B4	1 PhD position (65%)	Prof. Dr. Reinhard Kune	FU Berlin
C2	2 PhD positions (65%)	Prof. Dr. Tina Romeis	FU Berlin
C4	2 PhD positions (65%)	Prof. Dr. Margarete Baier	FU Berlin

Applicants are expected to hold a Diploma / Master degree in biology, chemistry, or biochemistry. Team spirit and excellent knowledge of written and spoken English is necessary. For project A1 a PhD and previous research experience are required.

The participating institutions are equal opportunities employers and place particular emphasis on fostering career opportunities for women. Therefore we strongly encourage women to apply for the available position. Applicants with disabilities and equal qualifications will be favoured. We request that you send us copies of your application documents. Application and interview costs cannot be refunded.

Please send your application with the usual documents by July 19, 2012 directly to the participating principle investigator(s). For **further information** and **contact details** please visit www.sfb973.de.