

Minutes of the ISCE Business Online Meeting 2021

September 10, 2021

Chair: Andrés González Ritzel, President ISCE

Present 101 participants

Agenda

Reports:

1. **Opening.** Andrés Gonzales welcomed all participants
2. **Results of elections** (announced by Andrés Gonzalez)
Vice-president: Nicole van Dam
Councilors: Björn Bohman, Kye Chung Park, Maria Fernanda Peñaflor, Xi Zhang
The Society currently has 17 councilors – 5 instead of 4 were elected in previous two years because of a tie.
Andrés Gonzales thanked the outgoing councilors for their service to the Society: Anne-Geneviève Bagnères (Past President), Anna Jirošová, Christopher I. Keeling, Anat Levi-Zada, and Zainulabeuddin (Zain) Syed.
3. **ISCE Awards** (announced by Andrés Gonzalez)
ISCE Silverstein-Simeone Award 2022 – Le Kang (Beijing, China). Award sponsored by Springer.
ISCE Silver Medal Award 2022 – Christer Löfstedt (Lund, Sweden). Award sponsored by Delwart Foundation.
ISCE Early Career Award 2021 – Ricardo Machado (Neuchâtel, Switzerland). Award sponsored by Syntech.
ISCE Applied Chemical Ecology Award 2021 – Fatma Kaplan (Davis, USA) and Aijun Zhang (Beltsville, USA). The nominees obtained equal number of votes, therefore both were awarded. Award sponsored by APEX BAIT Technologies, Inc. and Pherobio Technology Co., Ltd.
Student travel awards were not given this year as the meeting was virtual.
ISCE paid the registration fee to all students who applied. This support doesn't count as travel award, thus, students who got this support may apply again in the future.
4. **Certificate of Recognition to Prof. Ahmed Hassanali** (Robin Crewe)
Prof. Hassanali is a pioneer of chemical ecology research in Africa. Robin Crewe introduced his scientific career and achievements. In recognition of his scientific merit, the Society gave him the ISCE Award for his outstanding contributions to the establishment of chemical ecology research in Africa, with immense creativity and innovation, and distinguished scholarly contributions and mentorship.
5. **Report on social media** (@ChemEcol_org, Christelle Robert)
ISCE is currently active at 4 social media, Twitter, Instagram, WeChat, and Facebook. Twitter is the most followed media (450 followers in 2020). In 2021, the number of followers increased by 2-3 times (>1500 followers altogether). The social media inform followers on the Society, related meetings of interest, members' important papers, members' achievements.
6. **Information on the ISCE 2021 Meeting** (organizers Jeremy Allison, Bernard Slippers, Francois Roets, Christian Pirk). The virtual meeting has 305 registered participants from 38 countries (South Africa, Germany and USA are

most represented). Originally, the meeting was planned as a hybrid one (some participants in presence and some online). With the pandemic development, the form had to be changed to fully virtual. Jeremy Allison thanked the local organizers, especially Carla de Jager for their effort and for the successful meeting.

7. **Invitation to the 2022 ISCE Meeting in Malaysia** (Alvin Hee)

The meeting will be a joint one (ISCE + APACE). It is planned for August 6-10, 2022 in Kuala Lumpur. The actual form of the meeting will depend on the covid-19 situation (presence/hybrid/virtual). A conservative minimum of participants is 150.

The meeting website will open in the middle of December, registration in January, abstracts submissions in March 2022. The form of the meeting should be decided ideally in January to give participants time for travel arrangements. The organizing committee will help participants from some countries with obtaining visa.

8. **Future meetings:**

2023 – Bangalore, India, host René Borges

2024 – Prague, Czechia, host Anna Jirošová

2025 - Christchurch, New Zealand, jointly with APACE, host Kye Chung Park

2026 - Tel Aviv, Israel, host Anat Zada

9. **Treasurer report, introduction of the new ISCE Family Fund, Childcare Grant** (Kerry Mauck)

The society's finances are very strong. Many new members joined ISCE and a lot of donation activities happened in last period (core sponsors, new sponsor Fuji Flavors, and members' donation to newly established Daaks Chemicals Fund - memorial lecture). The expenses were the standard ones as every year except for student travel awards that covered the registration fee at the virtual meeting only.

EC and Councilors decided to create a new fund, the ISCE Family Fund meant for members who struggle between early parenting and career development. ISCE will directly assist early career members with caregiver costs. The application and evaluation will be connected to student travel awards. The award is expected to be about USD 500 (three per meeting) and it will start in 2022.

Treasurer's report was reviewed by Coby Schal and Jerry Zhu. The report has been then approved by present participants.

10. **Journal of Chemical Ecology report** (Gary W. Felton)

The Board of Associate Editors changed: Wittko Francke passed away and Nicole van Dam became the ISCE vice-president, therefore she stepped aside. Two new members joined the Board, Carmen Rossini and Baldwyn Torto. There are three new members of the Editorial Board, Jared Ali (Penn State), Esther Ngumbi (University of Illinois), and Christelle Robert (University of Bern).

Four special issues are planned for 2021-2022, Wittko Francke issue, Predator prey interactions, Kenji Mori issue, and Induced plant resistance. Special issues are usually well cited and thus, the impact factor increases.

Goals for editors: get the science right, increase submission, shorten decision time, and raise impact factor.

11. Report from the webmaster (Rob Mitchell)

The website has about 18,000 visits per month. The “Employment” and “Annual Meeting” pages are the most visited. Newly introduced is the Donation form, people can donate to one three ISCE funds (Wittko Francke’s Daaks-Chemicals Fund, ISCE Family Fund, and ISCE Student and Postdoc Travel Awards). Another news on the website are guidelines for proposing and hosting a meeting. Furthermore, Contacts and Feedback tab was created where members can send comments and/or suggestions.

The webmaster has been serving since 2012 and he suggested that there should be a call for a new webmaster next year.

12. Information on fundraising (Ted Turlings)

Fondation Delwart continues to support the ISCE Silver Medal Award (USD 4000). Ted Turlings got promise from other new sponsors such as Tofwerk and ISCA who will contribute to the ISCE Family Fund. Peter Ockenfels (Syntech) didn't contribute this year, but he will keep sponsoring the Golden Probe Award from 2022. Other traditional sponsors are active (SpringerNature, Bedoukian Research, Trécé, Pherobio, Apexbait Technologies, and Fuji Flavor). ISCE should offer them free registration to the annual meetings as well as keep them informed about recipients of awards/grants. This should be added to the guidelines for the meeting organizers.

13. New awards (Andrés Gonzales)

Wittko Francke's Daaks-Chemicals Fund was created to support memorial lecture each year. The lecture will honor deceased prominent members of the Society and show connection between "older and current" science in the field of chemical ecology. A committee was established that will select a speaker from the nominees (committee: May Berenbaum, Jeremy McNeil, Anna-Karin Borg-Karlson and Christer Löfstedt). The first-year awardee has been selected: Stefan Schulz who will honor W. Francke in his memorial lecture at the 2022 ISCE Meeting.

Second new sponsor, Fuji Flavor Co. will support the Kenji Mori's Chirality Award, a student presentation that will highlight the importance of chirality in chemical ecology. This year award goes to *Kyle Arriola* from University of California (Riverside, USA). Title of his contribution: "Identification of Brassicadiene, a Diterpene Hydrocarbon Attractive to the Invasive Stink Bug *Bagrada hilaris*, from Volatiles of Cauliflower Seedlings, *Brassica oleracea* var. *botrytis*".

ISCE thanks Walter Leal who's idea and initiative was behind creation of these two new funds.

14. Student's presentation and poster awards (Andrés Gonzales)

Winners of the presentation awards:

Elisa Pal, University of Pretoria, South Africa: “Characterization of the alarm pheromone of *Bathycoelia distincta* (Pentatomidae), a major pest of macadamia”.

Andreas Fischer, Simon Fraser University, Canada: “Sexual signalling in a widow spider – Unravelling contact and airborne pheromone components and the role of an enzyme in their dissemination”.

Alexia Lourtie, Université de Mons, Belgium: “Anthraquinones produced by crinoids allow host selection for the symbiotic snapping shrimp *Synalpheus stimpsonii*”.

Winners of the poster awards:

Emily Claereboudt, University of Mons, Belgium: “Distinct saponin profile drives an olfactory-mediated aggregation in *Holothuria scabra*”.

Federico Rodrigo, Universidad de la República, Uruguay: “*Trialeurodes vaporariorum* settlement preference and its relationship with the volatiles emitted by the tomato plant”.

Yiftach Golov, University Tel Aviv, Israel: “Integrated effect of biological and physical factors on the chemo-sexual communication in moths”.

Winner of the Syntech’s Electrophysiology Award:

Laura Pickett, Acadia University, Canada: “Electrophysiological responses of *Ixodes scapularis* to host volatiles”.

The winners will get printed certificates by mail.

15. New design of the presidential tie and scarf (Andrés Gonzales)

Bedoukian Research supported the design. The call for a new design was announced 2-3 years ago, but this year finally 5 designs were submitted to the EC and councilors. The winner is Katja Steinauer from the Bern University. The ISCE tie and scarf was made and sent to the next president, Stefano Colazza.

16. New textbook: Introduction to Chemical Ecology (Nicole van Dam)

Astrid Groot and Nicole van Dam intend to write a textbook that is missing in the market. The intention is to make it open access to be available to students and teachers. Nicole van Dam proposed that ISCE could partially contribute to the publishing fee for the open access book.

The EC and councilors will discuss this proposal/request and decide whether to support publishing of the book or not.

Minutes approved

Irena Valterová
Secretary

Stefano Colazza
President

Andrés Gonzales
Past-President