



Table of Contents

[ISCE Meeting 2016 in Brazil - Invitation](#)

[2016-17 ISCE Officer Elections](#)

- [Vice-President](#)
- [Councilors](#)

[Science club](#)

ISCE Meeting 2016 in Brazil – Invitation

Dear friends and colleagues,

We are getting closer to the start date of the 1st Joint Meeting ISCE/ALAEQ that will be held at Foz do Iguassu, Brazil. The organizing committee has been working persistently to make sure that you will all have an excellent event and a great stay at one of the most beautiful Brazilian spots.

The scientific program is almost complete; out of seven conferences, six are already confirmed, and we are only waiting for the announcement of the winner of the ISCE Early Career Award to complete this list. Similarly, ten symposia will be offered, covering most topics focused by chemical ecology. Nevertheless, in case you feel that your work does not match any of these topics, please submit your work to the General Chemical Ecology symposium that has been promoted with the purpose of covering any potential topic gaps.

Our event will be held at Cataratas Convention & Resort, a superb touristic complex that will provide all necessary comfort to host participants, counting with a modern convention center allowing a proper ambiance for all scientific activities. Hotel options can also be found close to the event hotel; nevertheless, I would like to emphatically encourage all participants to make reservations at the Cataratas Resort. In fact, now it is highly favorable to make reservations, considering that these days we have a high exchange rate for Dollars and Euros compared to Brazilian Reais. As our reservation contract has been established in Reais, considering today's price, a single room would cost you around US\$ 102/day.

Besides the excellent scientific activities, the event will also provide time for motivating social activities, so that we have more informal environments for conversations and productive scientific discussions. This will happen fundamentally during our welcome cocktail, the gala dinner and the “happy hours” during poster sessions. Furthermore, together with the Iguassu Falls tour, we will have lunch at one of the best restaurants in town, where a traditional Brazilian “churrasco” (BBQ) will be served.

Do not forget to register at reduced fees before March 15th and remember that students that wish to participate in the Student Travel Award selection process need to send the requested documentation by February 22. All necessary information is available at www.chemecolbrazil2016.com

Greetings! And see you soon at Foz do Iguassu.

Paulo H. G. Zarbin
Chair, 1st Joint Meeting ISCE/ALAEQ

2016-17 ISCE Elections

All members are invited to vote in the 2016-17 ISCE Elections. This year, the membership will vote to select a vice president and four councilors. The **vice-president** serves one year in this position and then serves as president in the following year. **Councilors** serve a three-year term and act in an advisory capacity to the Executive Committee. For additional information, please consult the ISCE bylaws, available online at the society website.

Elections are conducted via the ISCE website and a link to the ballot is available for all members paid through 2016. Please visit your ISCE account to vote:

<https://chemecol.org/login.aspx>

After reviewing the biographies below, please vote for your candidates: **ONE (1)** for Vice President and **FOUR (4)** candidates for Councilors. Please submit this information via the electronic ballot. **Voting will close at midnight (EDT) on April 1, 2016.**

2016-17 ISCE Elections: Candidate for Vice President

Anne-Geneviève Bagnères is a senior research director at the CNRS. She earned a PhD in Neuroscience from the University of Paris 6. She did a post-doc with Ed Morgan at Keele University in the UK and a sabbatical with G.J. Blomquist in the USA. Of the hundred articles and book chapters she has published, more than half are dedicated to the topic of chemical ecology. Her scientific interests are chemical communication and the evolutionary ecology of insects. More specifically, she focuses on social insects. The research team she has led since 2001 is exploring the evolutionary biology of subterranean termites, as well as that of wasps and bees; invasive species are also a subject of study. Chemical ecology is a key component of these social systems. She



has advised and helped supervise around 30 PhD students and has taught courses on chemical communication. She is one of the few scientists in the world that helped identify and define the chemical signatures of insects. These signatures are composed of cuticular compounds (*i.e.* located

on the exoskeleton), such as hydrocarbons and apolar long-chain surface compounds. She is the leader of a group of French researchers (GDR 3658—MediatEC) specialised in chemical ecology research. This group has brought together 52 labs and more than 250 scientists. She has been a member of ISCE since 1988 and served as an elected council member from 2003 to 2006.

2016-17 ISCE Elections: Candidates for Councilors

Jan Edgar Bello is a postdoctoral researcher at the Max Planck Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena, Germany, working under the supervision of Prof. Bill S. Hansson in the Department of Evolutionary Neuroethology. He completed an undergraduate degree in Chemistry at Pepperdine University in Malibu, CA. He then went on to Master's studies in Chemistry at San Jose State University in San Jose, CA, studying the synthesis of carbohydrate based selective anti-cancer compounds. He earned his PhD in Organic Chemistry at the University of California, Riverside under the tutelage of Prof. Jocelyn G. Millar, where his research focused on the isolation, determination of absolute configuration, and asymmetric synthesis of insect methyl-branched hydrocarbons. Jan's current research continues to focus on insect cuticular hydrocarbons and their role in mate selection in *Drosophila*. As a PhD student Jan won several prizes, including the presentation award at the ISCE/ICEC conference in 2013. He enjoys chemical ecology because of its multidisciplinary nature, which allows him to apply his love of chemistry to in-depth biological questions.



N. Kirk Hillier is a professor of Biology at Acadia University in Nova Scotia, Canada. He completed a Ph.D. in biology at Memorial University of Newfoundland (Canada), where he studied the use of semiochemicals for pest monitoring of the lingonberry fruitworm, *Grapholita libertina*. Afterwards, he took a postdoctoral position in Neil Vickers lab at the University of Utah and examined the role of courtship odors and olfactory physiology in Heliothine moths. He joined Acadia in 2007, and also has been a Visiting Scientist at the University of Hawai'i (Honolulu, HI, USA); Theodor Boveri Institut (Würzburg, Germany), the Arizona Research Laboratories Division of Neurobiology (Tucson, AZ, USA), and has been an active collaborator with the Max Planck Institut für Chemische Ökologie (Jena, Germany).



The focus of Kirk's lab's research is to investigate the function of odors in insect neuroethology and the potential for applying this knowledge to insect pest management, olfactory neuroscience and the evolution of odor production and perception. His research program has expanded to include an examination of large scale host-acquisition strategies (field-based), and gene-expression, to include studies of the brain and behaviour from the molecular to ecosystem level. Ultimately this work is being integrated with industrial collaborations for development and commercialization of new pheromone-based control

technologies. Kirk has garnered over \$10M in research support since joining Acadia and is presently PI on a \$7.1M collaborative grant for applied work on the use of pheromones for insect pest management. He has authored or co-authored 36 peer-reviewed publications. He has supervised 73 graduate, honours and summer students, and in 2012 was awarded the C. Gordon Hewitt Medal from the Entomological Society of Canada (a National award for outstanding achievement in Canadian Entomology by a scientist under 40).

Robert R. Junker is Assistant Professor at the Department of Ecology and Evolution at the University of Salzburg, Austria. He received his PhD at the University of Würzburg, Germany and spent two years as Scientific Assistant at the Institute of Sensory Ecology in Düsseldorf, Germany. Robert started his scientific career with the exploration of the defensive functions of floral scents. His research program now expanded to the investigation of the structure and functional composition of diverse plant, animal and bacteria communities within ecosystems and along environmental gradients. He is particularly interested in how plant volatiles and other plant traits affect the behavior, distribution and diversity of insects and bacteria. Additionally, he is tracking the functional responses of plant species and whole communities to global change components such as climate warming and the spread of invasive species. In collaborative and interdisciplinary studies in the lab and in the field



(e.g. in the Austrian Alps and in Hawai'i), he is analyzing and manipulating the phenotype of plant species (e.g. scent emissions, coloration, morphology), examining interaction networks, revealing the composition and diversity of bacterial communities (e.g. next generation sequencing) and observing the behavior of animals as response to plant traits. In order to analyze the complex data gathered in these studies he applies and develops novel statistical tools to quantify the phylogenetic and functional diversity of communities and the niche size of species. Robert's research group published a number of research and review articles on the multifunctionality of floral scents in peer-reviewed international journals such as *New Phytologist*, *The Plant Cell*, and the *Journal of Chemical Ecology*. He chaired the first Gordon Research Seminar on Plant Volatiles in 2014 and is representative of the University of Salzburg for the Climate Change Centre AUSTRIA.

Thomas Schmitt is a Professor for Animal Ecology at the University of Würzburg, Germany since 2013. He obtained his PhD in Biology with Prof. Erhard Strohm at the University of Würzburg for his work on the evolution of sex pheromone communication in the European beewolf. Between 2004 and 2012 he worked as an Assistant Professor and group leader together with Prof. Klaus Peschke at the Department of Evolutionary Biology and Animal Ecology at the University of Freiburg, Germany. From there he moved for one year to the Faculty of Biology of the Technical University of Darmstadt, Germany as an Assistant Professor and group leader working with Prof. Nico Blüthgen. His research focuses on evolutionary aspects of chemical communication in Hymenoptera. He is particularly interested in the diversification of cuticular hydrocarbon profiles in insects and the selection pressures shaping these profiles. Thomas



has published more than 60 papers in peer reviewed journals like Nature, Science, Cell, PNAS, Proceedings Royal Society B, Evolution, Journal of Chemical Ecology etc. He is a member of the ISCE since 2002 and attends the annual ISCE meetings regularly.

Johannes Stökl is Assistant Professor at the Institute for Zoology at the University of Regensburg supported by a prestigious Heisenberg fellowship of the German Research Council. Johannes received his MSc in Vienna in 2002 and his PhD with Prof. Manfred Ayasse at the University of Ulm in 2007. He then spent two years as postdoc with Prof. Bill Hansson at the Max-Planck-Institute for Chemical Ecology in Jena before moving to Regensburg to the lab of Prof. Joachim Ruther. In Regensburg he established his own group to study hymenopteran parasitoids of *Drosophila*, focusing on wasps of the genera *Leptopilina* and *Asobara*, which he uses as model systems to investigate the evolution of chemical communication in insects. Johannes has published numerous papers in international journals (e.g. Current Biology, Nature Communications, Proceedings Royal Society B, and of course the Journal of Chemical Ecology) and has edited a special issue on the “Chemical Ecology of Parasitic Hymenoptera” in BioMed Research International.



Science club

Dr. Thomas C. Baker, 2012 ISCE Silver Medal Award winner and 2003-04 ISCE President, delivered the Entomological Society of America's 2015 Founders' Memorial Award Lecture honoring Professor Harry Shorey. The purpose of this award was two-fold: to honor the historical contributions of Dr. Shorey as well as the recent advances made by Dr. Baker. Baker's lecture entitled "*Love at First Sniff: Harry Shorey and the Dawn of the Age of Pheromones*" documents an important part of the history of chemical ecology. Baker gives a scientifically fascinating and emotional lecture that you will enjoy watching.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1Jo3_YgikA&feature=youtu.be

It is a great opportunity for students and early professionals to learn more about chemical ecology and highlights Tom Baker at one of his fine moments. Those of you, who haven't seen the video, don't miss it.