

ISCE NEWSLETTER

Vol. 6, No. 1, February, 1989

International Society of Chemical Ecology

Student Travel Awards Sweden, 1989

The amount of money available for travel awards to students (including postdoctoral research associates) for the Gothenburg meeting in August has been doubled from last year's \$1,000 figure to \$2,000. These funds are available to encourage student participation at the annual meetings of the ISCE by helping to defray a portion of total travel costs. The number of grants awarded each year is determined by the total monies available to the committee and the value of each grant awarded. Award values are determined by the committee after considering the total travel costs of the individual student recipient. To be eligible for an ISCE travel award you must:

- ◆ Be a paid-up student member of the ISCE and still be enrolled as a full-time graduate student OR be a paid-up member of the ISCE and be a full-time postdoctoral research associate,
- ◆ Be presenting a paper or poster,
- ◆ Not have previously received an ISCE travel grant.

To apply, students or postdocs must complete the enclosed form and send **three** copies, postmarked no later than March 31, 1988, to: *Dr. Jeremy N. McNeil*,

Chair, Student Travel Awards Committee, Département de Biologie, Université Laval, Ste-Foy, Québec, Canada G1K 7P4.

Jeremy McNeil

Call for Papers: 6th Annual ISCE Meeting Gothenburg, Sweden

The sixth annual meeting of the **International Society of Chemical Ecology** will convene August 7-11, 1989, at the University of Gothenburg, Gothenburg, Sweden. A major theme of the meeting will be *Evolutionary Aspects of Chemical Ecology*. Detailed below are lists of the invited speakers and minisymposia that will be offered at the Gothenburg meeting. There will be no concurrent invited sessions during the meeting and there will be a strong effort to avoid concurrent contributed sessions, although in order to accommodate all of the oral contributed papers it may be necessary to have two contributed paper sessions running simultaneously at some time during the meeting. Contributed oral presentations will be 20 minutes long (15 minute talk, 5 minute discussion). Poster presentations are especially encouraged. Posters will be up for the whole meeting. They will be in six centrally located rooms.

Ample time will be allocated in the program for looking at them and two exclusive poster sessions are planned. Oral and poster presentations will be organized under the following topics:

1. Chemical ecology of microorganisms
2. Chemical ecology of plants
3. Chemical ecology of aquatic organisms
4. Chemical ecology of invertebrates
5. Chemical ecology of vertebrates
6. Biological methods/techniques in chemical ecology
7. Chemical methods/techniques in chemical ecology

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From the Editor

Many thanks to the members who responded to the straw poll on the ISCE Statement of Purpose. Preliminary results are given in this issue of the newsletter with more to follow in May. This issue also includes the call for papers for the sixth annual ISCE meeting to be held this summer in Sweden. Host Gunnar Bergström gives some exciting information on the program and venue for the meeting. There are three inserts in this newsletter. All of them concern aspects of the meeting. Finally, please note that we are updating our membership list. If you are not current with your annual dues this will be your last newsletter issue. The article on page 2 gives more information about how to check the label of this issue to determine if your dues are current in our records.

Nancy M. Targett

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Invited speakers for the Gothenburg meeting will include:

May Berenbaum, University of Illinois, "Chemical ecology of Papilionidae: A swallowtail tale."

Jürgen Boeckh, Regensburg University, "Receptor and neuronal mechanisms of encoding and identification of natural odors."

Lena Brattsten, Rutgers University, "Metabolism of plant allelochemicals in insects."

John Coll, James Cook University of North Queensland, "Chemically mediated interactions between marine organisms."

Thomas Eisner, Cornell University, "The insect as druggist—the utilization of plant secondary metabolites by insects."

Douglas Futuyma, State University of New York, Stony Brook, "Ecological chemistry in evolutionary focus: What are the questions?"

Jeffrey Harborne, Reading University, "Interactions of insects with plant flavonoids."

Joe Lewis, USDA, Tifton, Georgia, "Roles and functional mechanisms of semiochemicals in the tritrophic interaction of plants, phytophages and parasitoids."

Koji Nakanishi, Columbia University, "Studies on phthalothoxins: A non-competitive antagonist of the glutamate receptor."

Nancy Targett, University of Delaware, "Allelochemical cues in the marine environment."

Six minisymposia will also be offered. Their titles and organizers are:

- ◆ Evolution of mate recognition systems, *Wendell Roelofs.*
- ◆ Behavior mechanisms in chemical communication, *Thomas Baker, Charles Linn.*
- ◆ Evolution of chemical communication systems in forest insects, *Witko Francke.*
- ◆ Multifunctionality of chemical signals, *Manfred Kaib.*
- ◆ Identification and synthesis of new semiochemicals, *Kenji Mori.*
- ◆ Olfactory receptor morphology, *Erik Hallberg.*

The meeting will take place in the Nordic School of Public Health, located in the western part of Gothenburg. Apart from lecture rooms etc., there are 90 well equipped (toilet and kitchenette) single rooms in the building. In a limited number of them an extra bed can be fitted. Check-in time is from noon Monday (August 7). A get-together is arranged for Monday night and there will be a boat excursion to the archipelago outside Gothenburg on Tuesday night. The meeting banquet on Thursday night will be preceded by a cocktail gathering and a musical performance including as performers our society president, Jerrold Meinwald, introductory speaker, Thomas Eisner, and biochemistry professor, Bo Malmström. The total cost of participation, which is a package price, will be 4,000 SEK = Swedish crowns (ca \$666 U.S.) for regular members and 3,000 SEK (ca \$500 U.S.) for student members. For non-members there is an additional fee of 300 SEK (ca \$50 U.S.). For student non-members the additional fee will be 120 SEK (ca \$20 U.S.). These sums include full board (room, food, refreshments) from Monday afternoon through Friday lunch; the reception, boat excursion, banquet, and registration fee. It is possible to stay over Friday night after the meeting at the school (no food will be provided). This will cost 200 SEK for one person, 300 SEK if there is an extra bed in the room.

An alternative is the nearby (15 min. walk) Novotel Hotel which is offering a reduced rate for meeting participants. A single room will cost ca 450 SEK (200 SEK more per night than at the school) and a double room will cost ca 550 SEK (300 SEK more per night than at the school). If the 90 rooms at the school fill up we will be booking overflow in the hotel, so, please register as soon as possible. Costs for staying at the hotel should be paid directly to the hotel.

Anyone who must cancel their registration after payment of fees will be refunded the paid amount minus the registration fee (600 SEK or ca \$100 U.S.).

Gothenburg can be reached directly by air, or by air, train, ferry and car travel combinations. More detailed information regarding travel options will appear in the May newsletter.

Our meeting follows the IUPAC Congress (August 3–6) in Stockholm which has a section on *Chemical Communication and Chemical Interaction Between Organisms*. For those who at-

tend the IUPAC Congress there will be transportation available by train (ca 4 h) or plane (ca 1 h) on Monday morning, August 7. More detailed information about the ISCE scientific program will appear in the May newsletter. Correspondence about the meeting should be addressed to: *Dr. Gunnar Bergström, Department of Chemical Ecology, Box 33031, S-40033 Gothenburg, Sweden.*

Abstracts for those wishing to present a paper (oral or poster) should be submitted on the enclosed abstract form and should be received in Gothenburg no later than June 1st (Air Mail is recommended).

Registration should be made on the enclosed registration and accommodation form and should be received in Gothenburg no later than June 1st. Please note that the complete fee should be paid at the time of registration.

I look forward to welcoming you to Sweden!

Gunnar Bergström

Membership List to be Updated for Directory

The ISCE is currently in the process of updating its membership lists for the new ISCE Directory which will be published for distribution during the summer of 1989. To be included in the directory you must be a member of the society. Recently we mailed a second and final dues notice to members who had not yet paid their 1988–1989 dues. If you can't remember whether you paid your 88–89 society dues, look at the mailing label for this issue of the newsletter. A yellow dot on the label means that you are a member in good standing. The absence of a yellow dot means that your dues are not current and that your name will be deleted from our mailing lists and not included in the membership directory. If there is a discrepancy please contact *Dr. Jim Nation, University of Florida, Department of Entomology, Gainesville, Florida 32611 U.S.A.*

ISCE Considering Change of Fiscal Year

Currently the ISCE fiscal year begins on 1 September and ends on 31 August. Our treasurer has suggested that we seriously consider changing the society's fiscal year to begin on 1 January and end on 31 December. There were several reasons for his request. Primary among them was

the fact that we have to file tax forms yearly with the U.S. Internal Revenue Service. Those forms consider transactions that take place within a calendar year. By changing our fiscal year to conform to a calendar year we can greatly simplify society record keeping. In addition, many members are geared to paying dues on a calendar year basis. Because our fiscal year is designated in the society bylaws it is not possible to change the time frame without a vote of the membership. In the next newsletter the treasurer will formally propose the change from a September–August fiscal year to a January–December one. If you support or oppose such a change and would like to voice your opinion on this issue in the next newsletter, please send your comments to the newsletter editor.

Statement of Purpose: Review of Straw Poll Results

As you know from information in the last two newsletters, the ISCE is considering revision of its Statement of Purpose. The suggestion for change was first introduced in the February 1988 issue of the *Journal of Chemical Ecology* by Clive Jones. His discussion on the matter was reprinted in the May 1988 *ISCE Newsletter* along with a proposed amendment to the society's Statement of Purpose. At the annual business meeting in June there was considerable discussion on the matter but no consensus. That discussion was summed up by Clive Jones and Jeremy McNeil in the September 1988 newsletter. In an effort to obtain a sense of the membership regarding the society's Statement of Purpose three options were presented in the form of a non-binding poll. They were:

1. The ISCE promotes understanding of interactions between organisms and their environment that are mediated by naturally occurring chemicals.
2. The ISCE promotes interdisciplinary (or multidisciplinary) collaborative research on ecological interactions mediated by naturally occurring chemicals. (F from Table 1)
3. Neither of the above (write in)

The poll also asked for opinions on a draft statement on areas of research which read:

Research areas include the study of structure, function, and biosynthesis of natural products, their importance at all levels of ecological organization, their evolutionary origin, and their application to social needs.

To date, 81 members have responded to the poll. Fifty three (66%) approved of Statement of Purpose #1; 14 (17%) approved of Statement #2; and 14 (17%) suggested an alternative. Many members selected either #1 or #2 but then also had suggestions to improve the wording of the statement. Regarding the sentence on areas of research, 69 of 81 members responding (85%) approved of it 11 (14%) disapproved of it and 1 (1%) had no comment. The forms have been forwarded to Clive Jones and Jeremy McNeil for a more detailed summary and analysis. This will appear in the next newsletter.

ISCE News Notes

A number of society members have requested that the names and addresses of the executive committee be listed at least once a year in the newsletter. Traditionally, we have listed the names of those members serving as society officers, councilors and committee members in the September issue. Next September, we will also include the addresses of the executive committee members who have taken office at the annual meeting. In the meantime, for your information we have listed their names and addresses below.

President: Jerrold Meinwald, Cornell University, Department of Chemistry, Ithaca, NY 14853-1301 U.S.A.

Vice President/President-Elect: Wittko Francke, Universität Hamburg, Institut für Organische Chemie, Martin-Luther-King Platz 6, D-2000 Hamburg 13, Federal Republic of Germany

Secretary: Nancy M. Targett, University of Delaware, College of Marine Studies, Lewes, DE 19958 U.S.A.

Treasurer: James L. Nation, University of Florida, Department of Entomology, Gainesville, FL 32611 U.S.A.

Past-President: David A. Jones, University of Hull, Department of Plant Biology and Genetics, Hull, HU6 7RX England

Election of Officers: A Clarification of Procedure

According to ISCE bylaws the president, vice president/president-elect, secretary and treasurer are elected by the membership. There has been considerable discussion within the executive and council regarding the form ISCE elections should take. According to the bylaws the executive committee acts as a nominating committee and names may be submitted by any member to them. A wide variety of candidates are considered, taking into account the candidate's area of expertise, geographical locale, etc. to insure that the executive committee represents the diversity of membership common in our society. By current consensus of the executive and council, only one of the nominees is then placed on the ballot. Space is also available on the ballot for write-in candidates. This is viewed by the majority of the executive and council as a conservation of our people resources in the society. The procedure is reviewed periodically and as our young society grows, there may be a move to list more than one nominee for a given office on the ballot. If you feel strongly about this, we'd like to hear from you. We will gladly print your views in the newsletter as a stimulus for discussion. The 1989 society ballot will appear in the May newsletter.



August 2-7, 1989. **32nd IUPAC Congress**, Stockholm, Sweden. Featuring a section of Chemical Communication and Interaction between Organisms. Contact for circular: IUPAC, c/o Stockholm Convention Bureau, Box 6911, S-102 39 Stockholm, SWEDEN.

August 23-30, 1990. **International Congress of Ecology**, Yokohama City, Kanagawa Prefecture, Japan. Theme: Ecological Perspectives in the 21st Century. Contact for circular: Prof. Akira Miyawaki, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Yokohama National University, 156 Pokiwadai, Hodo-gaya-Ku, Yokohama 240, JAPAN.

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