#### **ISCE NEWSLETTER**

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# Secretary / Editor's Message

Dear members, we look forward to the first joint meeting of APACE and ISCE, forming the International Conference of Chemical Ecology (ICEC 2013), in Melbourne from the 19<sup>th</sup> to the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August. Combining these meetings was proposed by past APACE President Eric Jang. The goal has been a worldwide conference where researchers can meet and present their work on all aspects of chemical ecology, encompassing microorganisms to vertebrates, structural identification to synthesis, sensory perception to molecular biology, and ecology and behavior to their application in protection of the environment. We are most grateful to our host Alex IL'ICHEV and the many colleagues who have worked tirelessly to make this event a great success.

Below follows a message from the ICEC 2013 Chair:

On behalf of the Organizing Committee, it is our great pleasure to extend a warm welcome to all Chemical Ecologists participating in the International Chemical Ecology Conference (ICEC 2013) where the Chemical Ecology world will meet "down under" on 19-23 August 2013 at the Melbourne Convention and Exhibition Centre (MCEC), Victoria, Australia and hosted by the Department of Environment and Primary Industries (DEPI) Victoria, Biosciences Research Division. This first joint meeting of the Asia-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists (7th APACE biannual meeting) and the International Society of Chemical Ecology (29th ISCE annual meeting), extended invitations to all Chemical Ecologists around the globe, and achieved a long-term aspiration of APACE and ISCE Founders and Executives.

The ICEC 2013 program showcases the diversity of Chemical Ecology research, including plants, microorganisms, invertebrates, vertebrates, soil and aquatic organisms, as well as examples of chemical interactions between all trophic levels. More than 460 abstract submissions for oral and poster presentations were received via the on-line ICEC 2013 system. The symposium organizers selected 240 submissions for oral presentations in 2 full-day and 15 half-day symposia, and the remaining submissions were accepted as posters. The final research program has been assembled in the program grid and placed into the ICEC 2013 website. (See <u>www.icec2013.com.au</u> to download and view program grid.)

The end of August is the beginning of spring in Melbourne. The weather should be mild with daily temperatures ranging from 6-15 degrees Celsius, but a warm jacket will be handy. There is no shortage of things to do in Melbourne's city center. You can wander through art galleries, tour historic sites along the "Golden Mile Heritage Trail", experience the living Australian Forest and indigenous display at the Melbourne Museum or maybe take a leisurely cruise along the Yarra River past Southgate, the Docklands and the MCEC.



Melbourne is recognized as the "World's Most Liveable City" and considered the Food and Shopping Capital of Australia. Our conference venue MCEC, the world's first "Six Green Star" environmentally rated center, is integrated with Hilton South Wharf Hotel nestled on the Yarra River close to many hotels, cafes, shops and the Art Centre.

We are expecting about 400 delegates to attend our ICEC 2013 in Melbourne and believe that this first joint APACE and ISCE conference will be a great success and establish a tradition of such joint conferences every 4 years.

Alex IL'ICHEV, Chair of the ICEC 2013 Organizing Committee

### **Election Results: Our New Vice President**

Our members elected Stephen Foster to be ISCE Vice President for 2013-2014.



**Stephen Foster** is a Professor in the Department of Entomology at North Dakota State University in Fargo, where he has worked since 2000. He obtained his Ph.D. in chemistry at the University of Waikato in New Zealand, before being employed by the New Zealand Department of Scientific and Industrial Research, Entomology Division, in Auckland. His first exposure to chemical ecology was working on the sex pheromones of a group of cryptic species of New Zealand tortricid moths with Prof. Wendell Roelofs, while Wendell was on sabbatical in New Zealand. Since then, his work has focused mainly on the chemistry and biochemistry of communication and host finding/acceptance in herbivorous insects. His current research interests center on the use of stable isotope tracer methods for studying the allocation of metabolites to the biosynthesis and regulation of fats and pheromones used in reproduction for

insects. Stephen has been a member of ISCE since 1992, attends ISCE annual meetings regularly, and served as Secretary from 2002-2008. He has been an Associate Editor of the *Journal of Chemical Ecology* since 2007.

# **Election Results: Our New Councilors**

Our members have now voted and four of six nominated candidates were elected. We welcome these councilors to the society and look forward to their contributions!



**Julia Kubanek** is a Professor in the Schools of Biology and Chemistry & Biochemistry at the Georgia Institute of Technology in Atlanta. She received a B.Sc. in Chemistry from Queen's University, Canada in 1991 and a Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry from the University of British Columbia in 1998, followed by postdoctoral research at the Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington. Her areas of interest include marine chemical ecology, natural products, metabolomics, and drug discovery. She has authored 70 research articles on plankton chemical ecology, coral reef chemical ecology, and marine natural product discovery and biosynthesis. Julia currently serves on the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Chemical Ecology*. In 2012 she received the Silverstein-Simeone Award of the ISCE and also was elected a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science.



**Stefan Dötterl** works on the ecology and evolution of floral scent and plant-pollinator-interactions, and also on insect pheromones (e.g. in Strepsiptera). He recently moved from Bayreuth to the University of Salzburg in Austria, where he is Professor of Plant Ecology and is building up a chemical ecology lab. His expertise is in chemical analysis, electroantennography and bioassays. In his Ph.D. thesis (2001-2004) he focused on chemical communication in a nursery pollination system between a nocturnal plant (*Silene latifolia*) and a noctuid moth (*Hadena bicruris*). Stefan also has identified volatile key mediators in several plant-animal-interactions, including mosquito, beetle, and bee pollination systems. He published several of his papers in the *Journal of Chemical Ecology*, for which he regularly acts as reviewer.



**Caroline Nieberding** After her graduation in 2005 with a Ph.D. studying host-parasite interactions (Montpellier University in France and Liège University in Belgium), Caroline Nieberding obtained a Marie Curie Postdoctoral European Fellowship in Paul Brakefield's lab at Leiden University to study the evolution of sex pheromone communication in butterflies. Since September 2008, she has been an associate professor at the University of Louvain (UCL, Belgium) and has started her own research group in Evolutionary Ecology and Genetics. Her primary research interests lie in the evolution of reproductive isolation: she investigates the genetic bases of speciation in natural populations, addressing this question in three biological systems: host-parasite

interactions using rodents and various ecto- and endoparasites, the chemistry of reproductive interactions using butterflies, and the evolution and plasticity of dispersal using the spider mite *Tetranychus urticae*. Caroline has published 2 chapters and 18 articles, including in the journals *Ecology Letters* (2), *Proceedings of the Royal Society of London* (2) and *Trends in Ecology and Evolution* (1). Using the model butterfly genus *Bicyclus*, she is attempting to estimate the importance of sexual selection and plasticity of mate choice in the evolution of reproductive isolation in the genus, using an integrative approach of behavioral ecology, chemical ecology, electrophysiology, molecular biology and bioinformatics.



**Teun Dekker** is an associate professor at the Swedish University of Agricultural Sciences, Alnarp, Sweden. In 2002 he received a Ph.D. in Entomology and Evolutionary Biology from the University of California, Riverside with Prof. Ring Cardé, which was followed by postdoctoral training with Prof. Bill Hansson in Sweden. His works focuses on coding and evolution of olfactory circuits and invasion biology. Prime models include *Drosophila* species, particularly *D. melanogaster*, *D. sechellia* and *D. suzukii* (coding and evolution of host preference and sensory correlates of host shifts), *Ostrinia nubilalis* and its sister taxa (coding and evolution of pheromone and host preference), *Bactrocera* species (sensory correlates of invasion), and mosquitoes (behavior and physiology of host orientation, and oviposition) and includes

methods in molecular biology, neurophysiology, behavior and ecology. In 2011 he co-organized the African Chemical Ecology Meeting, SEMIO-11, in Nairobi, Kenya, attendance of which by several African colleagues was supported by ISCE. Teun has published 32 papers on insect chemical ecology.

#### Advertisements

Visiting the website frequently will give you information on new positions and other events ongoing in our discipline. You can also easily renew your membership via a link and read JCE commentaries which advance new ideas and condense important topics in chemical ecology. The website is a mirror of our members' interests. To share news and events with your colleagues, or announce positions and employment opportunities, please contact the Secretary (Anna-Karin Borg-Karlson) or Webmaster (Rob Mitchell). Contact information is available by following the link below:

http://www.chemecol.org/contact.shtml