



# NEWSLETTER

## International Society of Chemical Ecology

Volume 35 | Issue 2 | 15 July 2018

### In This Issue

- ◇ [Update on 2018 ISCE Meeting](#)
- ◇ [Results of 2018-19 ISCE Officer Elections](#)
  - [Vice President](#)
  - [Councilors](#)
- ◇ [Society News](#)
  - [In Memoriam of Prof. Jerrold Meinwald](#)

### Important Dates

- ◇ **12-18 August:** 2018 ISCE Meeting in Budapest, Hungary  
<https://isce2018.premium.shp.hu/>

### Election Results

<b>Vice-President</b>	Jerry (Junwei) Zhu
<b>Councilors</b>	Anna Jirošová Christopher I. Keeling Anat Levi-Zada Zainulabeuddin (Zain) Syed



### Update on the 2018 ISCE Meeting (Budapest, Hungary)

Dear ISCE Member Colleagues,

The organization of the ISCE 2018 conference (August 12-18, Budapest, Hungary) is nearing its final phase. At present we are preparing the final timetable of the program of oral lectures and beginning to edit the Abstract Book. A tentative program is available on the homepage, which will be regularly updated (see <https://isce2018.premium.shp.hu/>).

Currently, over 360 participants from 40+ countries have registered. Specific symposia form the backbone of the conference (for details, please refer to the homepage), and organizers of all planned symposia did a superb job in assembling 5–10 highly interesting oral presentations within their respective topics. The program will also include several highlights among “independent” lectures (not belonging to any specific symposia).

The organizing team is working hard to make this conference and your visit to Hungary as memorable as possible, and we are looking forward to welcoming you in Budapest!

*Miklós Tóth  
Zoltán Imrei*  
Organizers

### Results of 2018-19 ISCE Officer Elections

#### Vice-President

**Dr. Jerry (Junwei) Zhu** is a Research Chemical Ecologist and Entomologist at the USDA-ARS (US Department of Agriculture, Agricultural Research Service). He has also been an Adjunct Professor of Entomology at the University of Nebraska since 2010. He received his PhD in Chemical Ecology with Prof. Christer Löfstedt at Lund University, Sweden. Since 1995, he has worked in various industry and research institutes and universities in US and Europe. His research focuses on semiochemical-based pest management (particularly in discovering and developing practical uses for novel natural repellent/attractant compounds). He has published over 100 scientific papers and holds 6 US



## Results of 2018-19 ISCE Officer Elections

### Vice-President, continued

patents, some of which have been developed into commercial products from his inventions. He served as a guest editor of *Journal of Chemical Ecology* for the special issue titled, "Semiochemicals in Pest Management: Development, Regulation Applications" with John Romeo, Tom Baker and Jocelyn Millar. He is also a subject editor of the ESA (Entomological Society of America) journal "*Journal of Insect Science*" and serves on editorial boards of several international journals. He has been a member of ISCE since 1990 and has organized several ISCE conferences (including two joint conferences of ISCE and APACE in Japan, 2017 and Australia, 2013) and attends ISCE meetings regularly. Currently, he is a Past-President of Asia-Pacific Association of Chemical Ecologists and the Overseas Chinese Entomologists of America.

### New Councilors

**Anna Jirošová** is a junior group leader at the Czech University of Life Sciences in Prague, Czech Republic. She is involved in the project Extemit-K lead by Fredrik Schlyter (Sweden). Anna completed her PhD in chemistry of natural product at the Institute of Chemical Technology in Prague under the supervision of Aleš Svatoš and Irena Valterová. She studied biosynthesis of marking pheromones of the bumblebee males and the biosynthesis of the tobacco hornworm sex pheromone. During her PhD studies, Anna spent one year in the laboratory of Anna-Karin Borg-Karlson at the Royal Institute of Technology in Stockholm, where she performed chiral analyses of the bumblebee pheromone components. In 2004 she got a two-year NATO-funded postdoctoral position in the laboratory of Steven Seybold at UC Davis, California, USA. There she worked on identification and biosynthesis of the bark beetle pheromones. Between 2007 and 2016, Anna worked as the chemical ecologist at the Institute of Organic Chemistry and Biochemistry in the group of Irena Valterová and later in the group of Robert Hanus where she focused on chemical ecology of termites. She has been an active collaborator with the Max Planck Institute of Chemical Ecology (Jena, Germany).

Anna's research interest is predominantly isolation and identification of the insect communication compounds by the analytical techniques, their biosynthesis and biological function. In the Extemit-K project she investigates semiochemical system of the host tree - bark beetle interaction, particularly the level of tree attraction for bark beetles in relation to the tree physiology and genetics, forest diversity, and landscape characteristics.

**Christopher I. Keeling** is a Research Scientist in Forest Genomics at the Laurentian Forestry Centre, Canadian Forest Service, Natural Resources Canada, in Quebec, Canada. He received his MSc

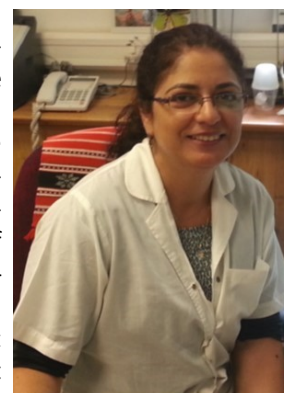


and PhD in Chemistry at Simon Fraser University, Canada, under the supervision of Prof. Keith. N. Slessor. His PhD thesis was the identification of new components of the queen honey bee retinue pheromone. With a Canadian NSERC postdoctoral fellowship, he went to the University of Nevada, Reno, where he explored the genomics of pheromone biosynthesis in bark beetles with Prof. Claus Tittiger and Prof. Gary Blomquist.



After returning to Canada, he became a research associate at the University of British Columbia, Canada, with Prof. Joerg Bohlmann. There, he explored both conifer and bark beetle functional genomics, particularly in terpenoid host defences and bark beetle pheromone biosynthesis. Christopher also participated in genome sequencing projects for the white spruce tree and the mountain pine beetle. Before starting his present position in Sept. 2017, he was a University Research Associate for two years at Simon Fraser University with Prof. Allison Kermode, investigating the morphology and chemical ecology of the resin vesicles on conifer seeds. He has published more than 50 peer-reviewed publications in a variety of journals including *PNAS*, *Genome Biol.*, *BMC Genomics*, *Plant J.*, *BMC Plant Biology*, *J. Biol. Chem.*, *Ins. Biochem. Mol. Biol.*, *J. Chem. Ecol.* and *Naturwissenschaften*. His current research uses a multi-pronged approach encompassing chemistry, biochemistry, molecular biology, and genomics to understand plant-insect interactions at the molecular level in forest systems. Christopher became an ISCE member in 1996 and has attended and co-organized symposiums at several ISCE meetings since then. His experiences have included many of the diverse disciplines that the field of chemical ecology now encompasses and he welcomes the opportunity to serve this community as a councillor.

**Anat Levi-Zada** is a Senior Research Scientist in the Department of Entomology, Chemistry Section, of the Volcani Institute of the Agricultural Research Organization, Israel. She received her BSc., MSc. and Ph.D. degrees in Organic and Polymer Chemistry from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. After a postdoc at Loughborough University, U.K., she began working in 2000 with entomologists at Volcani on a wide range of insect pest problems in agriculture that included identification of insect pheromones and their application. She has collaborated in identifying aggregation pheromones of a bark beetle infesting fruit trees, sex pheromones of several mealybugs infesting grapes and citrus trees, sex pheromones of several moth species infesting fruit and date palms, a sex pheromone of a scarab infesting wheat, and sex pheromones of two polyphagous plant bugs. She developed a new method of



## Results of 2018-19 ISCE Officer Elections

### Councilors, continued

sequential SPME analysis with GCMS that has allowed her to focus on specific insect components exhibiting a circadian rhythm of release. This method has aided in the identification of moth, mealybug, fruit fly and other pest pheromones that have long remained unidentified because of the inherent difficulties. She has pioneered sol-gel dispenser technology and is currently working on a project to develop new time-released dispenser technologies. On the applied side, she is involved in mass-trapping and monitoring research for several pests of orchards and plantations. In 2015, Anat received the Israeli Growers Plant Council Award for Excellence in Research. She has published over 50 papers in scientific journals. Anat most enjoys when her research on a pest pheromone is adopted by growers.

**Zainulabeuddin (Zain) Syed** is Assistant Professor in Biological Sciences at the University of Notre Dame, Indiana, USA. He has been working in insect chemosensation for over 21 years, with a broad objective to understand the evolutionary and functional

biology of olfaction, and how such understanding can be exploited for the management of arthropod pest/vector populations. During his PhD and since, he has gained specific training and expertise in developing and/or integrating the chemical-analytical and neuroethological methods to study insect chemosensation from both the signaling and reception perspectives. A solid publication record over the years, esp. since establishing his own research laboratory in 2011 at the University of Notre Dame demonstrates his continued fascination to the field of insect olfaction. His research group uses the insect olfactory system and its cellular and molecular components as biological detectors to isolate and identify volatile organic compound (VOCs) that mediate insects' critical life traits, such as finding suitable hosts and mates, and avoiding predators. These integrated approaches to understand and exploit the remarkable chemical communication in insects offers him novel tools in the fight against world's deadliest crop pests and insect that vector diseases.



### Society News: In Memoriam of Professor Jerrold Meinwald (1927-2018)

The ISCE mourns the passing of Prof. Jerrold Meinwald, one of the founding fathers of chemical ecology, who died peacefully of cancer April 23, 2018 at the age of 91. Dr. Meinwald was internationally recognized for his research, contributing hundreds of articles to the field of chemical ecology and advocating for the science at home and abroad.

At the ISCE meeting in Kyoto, Japan (2017), a half-day symposium celebrated the 90th birthday of Prof. Meinwald (picture below). His two greatest interests were chemistry and music. After the special symposium, Prof. Meinwald and his wife performed chamber music as they did also earlier at the ISCE meetings in Urbana 2014 and in Stockholm 2015. May he rest in peace.



At the 33th Annual Meeting of  
ISCE, Kyoto 2017



#### International Society of Chemical Ecology

President	Anne-Geneviève Bagnères	president (at) chemecol.org
Vice-President	Coby Schal	vice.president (at) chemecol.org
Secretary	Irena Valterová	secretary (at) chemecol.org
Treasurer	Jeremy Allison	treasurer (at) chemecol.org