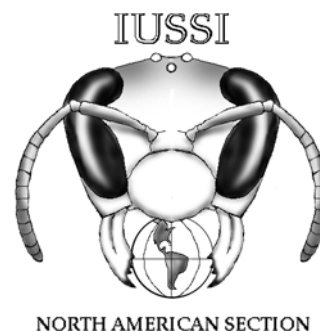




NAS/IUSSI NEWSLETTER

June 4, 2007



NAS/IUSSI

2007 spring newsletter

Officers

President: Bob Vander Meer
President-elect: Marla Spivak
Past President: David Queller

Secretary-Treasurer: Stan Schneider
Archivist: Chris Starr

Nominating
Committee

Diana Wheeler
Gene Robinson
Charles Whitfield *at large*

Eickwort Student
Award Committee: Phil Starks (Chair)
Kenna MacKenzie
Bryan Danforth

Your Comments are Requested for the IUSSI FINANCIAL PLAN

IUSSI Officers, Jacobus Boomsma (IUSSI President), Joan Herbers (IUSSI Secretary-General), and Johan Billen (Editor, *Insectes Sociaux*) are requesting input from all IUSSI Sections regarding the financial plan presented below. As the plan explains, the IUSSI has an urgent problem: there is currently a \$15,000 deficit which needs to be remedied by 2010, the year of the next Congress. To increase revenue, the plan calls for increased capitation fees and initiation of page charges for publishing in *Insectes Sociaux*. NAS member input is very important and will be used to generate a response from the NAS, needed by the IUSSI officers before August 1, 2007. As a consequence, please submit your comments to Bob Vander Meer (bobvm@ufl.edu) and Stan Schneider (sschnedr@uncc.edu) by **July 9, 2007**.

International Union for the Study of Social Insects: Financial Plan

The current state: The Union has revenue only as it is generated by Sections. Sections send funds to the Secretary-General every year to pay for subscriptions they have ordered. Capitation fees are charged to sections as well to help support the Secretary-General's work; those funds buffer fluctuations in exchange rates, pay for bank transfer fees, and other small expenses incurred. These fees are also the principal source of revenue to support Union-wide activities such as the Hamilton Award.

Funds to support the Editor's office are provided by the publisher separately. Funds to support the quadrennial Congress are also handled separately and transferred directly from one host Section to the next.

The problem: The Union is in deficit by roughly \$15,000. This situation has accrued over many years and thus will take several years to correct. The plan below will increase revenues to the Union in order to correct the problem by 2010, the year of the next Congress.

Our plan:

- a) **Require sections to pay capitation fees.** One of the contributing factors to our current deficit is that collection of these fees has not been standard. Some sections do not pay at all. Recovering current fees from such sections would add about \$1000 in revenue yearly. However, the Union has no enforcement mechanism at its disposal. We propose that a revision of the Union's statutes/bylaws (to be adopted in Copenhagen in 2010) will come to include such a mechanism.
- b) **Add late fees to sections that are behind in payments.** This policy is going into effect for 2007 payments. At present, the Union has no enforcement mechanism for this policy either, so we propose to also include this in the revised statutes/bylaws.
- c) **Increase capitation fees.** Effective January 1, 2008, we should raise capitation fees to \$10 per regular member and \$5 per student member. This will generate about \$1000 additional per year.
- d) **Initiate page charges beginning with volume 55 (2008).** This policy, while distasteful, has precedent with many other journals. It also is the most likely policy to generate substantial revenue over the near term, allowing us to erase our deficit by 2010. We will start this policy for manuscripts submitted starting from 1 January 2008, so as not to penalize authors of manuscripts already in the pipeline. Components of this new policy:
 - a. A standard of **\$20 per printed page** will be charged for every publication.
 - b. **Page charges are mandatory for all publications.** The only exceptions are: review articles, reports to the Union and obituaries.
 - c. **Members who subscribe to *Insectes Sociaux* can waive up to 10 printed pages annually.** To claim this benefit, a member must be the corresponding author on a publication and have a subscription verified by the Section Secretary and the Secretary-General of the Union prior to publication.

This policy will generate roughly \$6000 per year.

The above will require additional wording in the Instructions to Authors for our journal as follows (**new wording in bold**):

Charges

Starting with manuscripts submitted after 1 January 2008, each article will incur a uniform charge of \$20 per printed page. The only exceptions are review articles, obituaries and reports to the Union. Corresponding authors who subscribe to the journal *Insectes Sociaux* can have page charges waived for up to 10 printed pages per calendar year.

Authors will be billed at the time galley proofs are prepared, and the article will be cleared for publication when the Secretary-General of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects has received payment.

There are additional charges from the Publisher for

- corrections made in the galley proofs that are not due to editorial errors
- equations exceeding 20 lines per article
- excess tables
- color illustrations

Endorsements

Jacobus J. Boomsma, President

Joan M. Herbers, Secretary-General

Johan Billen, Editor of *Insectes Sociaux*

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: NAS/IUSSI OFFICERS

Due August 1, 2007

We need to generate a list of nominees for two of our offices: (1) the **2008 President-elect**, and (2) the **Secretary-Treasurer** for 2008-2010. If you would like to be considered for an office or if you would like to nominate an NAS member, please submit names to Bob Vander Meer (bobvm@ulf.edu) or Stan Schneider (sschnedr@uncc.edu) by **August 1, 2007**. The lists of nominees will be forwarded to the Nominating Committee, which will select two candidates for each office and determine if they will accept the position if elected. Ballots will be distributed by the Secretary-Treasurer by email and the results will be announced at the 2007 NAS business meeting held during the ESA conference.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Award

Due September 28, 2007

Purpose: To support research by early career scientists in the field of basic termite biology. Nominations are limited to graduate students. The William L. and Ruth D. Nutting Award is named in honor of the late Bill Nutting, an outstanding termite biologist who made major contributions to termite biology, both through his own research and mentoring of students, and in honor of Ruth Nutting for her support of Bill's work.

Nature: The award shall consist of a plaque and a research grant, the amount of which will be determined by the Executive Committee, but which is anticipated to be \$1,000. The recipient of

the award will be announced at the 2007 NAS/IUSSI meeting to be held in association with the ESA annual meeting Dec. 9-12 in San Diego, CA

Eligibility: The award will be given to the NAS/IUSSI student member, who in the opinion of the Nutting Award Committee, shows the most distinguished record of research in the area of basic termite biology. Any student member of NAS/IUSSI may be nominated. The student shall not have received a Ph.D. or terminated studies earlier than 12 months prior to the award. Students continuing beyond the baccalaureate or master's degree will remain eligible. Previous award recipients are not eligible for a second award. In the future, the award may be expanded to include postdocs and recently hired faculty.

Nominations: Nominations may be made by the student or by others familiar with her/his work. Each nomination must include in electronic form: name of the nominee; CV of the nominee; title and brief (not to exceed one page) description of the work; a short biographical sketch; reprints of up to *two* publications, submitted manuscripts or a thesis/dissertation; and at least one letter of recommendation. If possible, a single PDF file containing all information except recommendation letters would be preferred. ALL documents must be **received by** the Chair of the NAS/IUSSI Eickwort Student Award Committee by September 28, 2007: Kenna MacKenzie, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, 32 Main St., Kentville, NS B4N 1J5 Canada; fax: 902-679-2311; e-mail: mackenziek@agr.gc.ca.

Nutting Award Committee: The Nutting Award Committee shall consist of four members, including the Chair and two of the other members of the Eickwort Award Committee, and Ruth Nutting.

Judging: The members of the Nutting Award Committee shall independently review nominations and rank them. Priority will be given to nominees who have demonstrated originality and sound scientific methodology in basic termite biology. The Committee Chair will summarize the results and discuss them with the other judges as needed to reach a consensus.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS: George C. Eickwort.
Student Research Award
Due September 28, 2007

Purpose: To recognize research by students in the field of social insect biology for graduate or undergraduate work accomplished in North America or by a student member of NAS/IUSSI pursuing studies elsewhere.

Nature: The award shall consist of a certificate, an honorarium, and a one-year subscription to *Insectes Sociaux*. The award will be presented at the 2007 NAS/IUSSI meeting to be held in association with the ESA annual meeting Dec. 9-12 in San Diego, CA.

Eligibility: The award will be given to the student who in the opinion of the award committee

shows the most distinguished record of research and scholarly activity in the area of social insect biology. Any student doing work in North America or any student member of NAS/IUSSI may be nominated. The student shall not have received a PhD or terminated studies earlier than 12 months prior to the award. Students continuing beyond a baccalaureate or masters degree will remain eligible. Previous award recipients are not eligible for a second award.

Nominations: Nominations may be made by the student or by others familiar with his/ her work. Each nomination must include in electronic form: name and curriculum vitae of the student nominee; title and brief description (not to exceed one page) of the research; reprints of no more than *five* publications or submitted manuscripts; biographical sketch of the nominee; and two letters of recommendation. If possible, a single PDF file containing all information except recommendation letters would be preferred. ALL documents must be **received by** the Chair of the NAS/IUSSI Eickwort Student Award Committee by September 28, 2007: Kenna MacKenzie, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, 32 Main St., Kentville, NS B4N 1J5 Canada; fax: 902-679-2311; e-mail: mackenziek@agr.gc.ca

Eickwort Award Committee: Kenna MacKenzie (Chair), Phil Starks, Ulrich Mueller, Bryan Danforth, and Andrew Suarez.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: *Bolivarian Section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects*

The Bolivarian Section of the International Union for the Study of Social Insects (IUSSI) is the organizing body for insect sociobiology in the northern neotropics. Its center of gravity is Venezuela and Colombia, and our biennial general meetings have alternated between these two countries.

The next (sixth) meeting of the Bolivarian IUSSI will take place 25-27 September 2007 in Higuerote, Miranda state, Venezuela. We would very much appreciate it if you could send this message and the attachments to your sectional membership as an invitation. The meeting is open to Bolivarian IUSSI members and non-members on an equal basis. The section conducts its business in Spanish, but posters and oral presentations are welcome in English or Portuguese, as well as Spanish.

Attached are the first announcement and a registration form. Please note that there is an error on the cover of the announcement; the dates are 25-27 September. We have not gone to the trouble to produce an English version of the announcement. However, here is my informal translation of key parts of it:

The meeting venue is the Club AguaSal outside of the town of Higuerote on the Caribbean Sea. This is an area of considerable cultural, as well as biotic diversity. It is also of geological interest, with a number of impressive caves. The Club has 46 double rooms, each at a cost of US\$70 per night. For further details on Club AguaSal, see www.clubaguasal.com.

Most international travelers will arrive at the Simon Bolivar International Airport. From there into the city of Caracas is a simple taxi ride that usually takes about 45 minutes. A highway runs from Caracas east to the Higuerote area. In future bulletins we will give more details on how to reach the meeting site without undue difficulty.

The cost of registration up to 1 June 2007 is US\$60 for students, \$180 for academics, and \$230 for others. These fees all rise by \$20 after 1 June.

This and other information can be checked on the Internet at www.iussi.events.usb.ve/ .

Many participants will be interested in collecting specimens. The rules regarding collecting and exporting biological specimens have become somewhat stricter in Venezuela in recent years, although they are still quite reasonable. We will try in the near future to prepare a special bulletin on this subject.

If you have any particular questions, feel free to contact meeting president Jose Vicente Hernandez (jnandez@usb.ve), Bolivarian IUSSI president Klaus Jaffe (kjaffe@usb.ve) or me.

Yours for Eusociality,
Chris

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