



Entomology

KANSAS STATE UNIVERSITY

Alumni Newsletter

Spring 2012



Welcome.

Thank you for the great response to the first Alumni Newsletter. We would love to hear about what you've

been doing. To make this easy, we put a section on page 3 that you can clip and send in. Or just e-mail us at entomology@ksu.edu.

This semester will be very exciting for the department. We welcome 9 new graduate students, the largest cohort in recent history, which brings our student number up to 29. This growth is the product of successful faculty efforts with extramural grants and a renewed emphasis on recruitment. We hope to continue this growth, building on continued grant success and our partnership with the USDA Center for Grain Science and Animal Health Research.

We will also welcome a permanent Dean and Director of the College, and a permanent Department Head, sometime soon. National searches are underway for both positions; we'll keep you posted.

We think this will be a great year for the department, and hope the new year brings the best to you, too!

David

David C. Margolies
Professor and Interim Head

Applause!



Three of our graduate students won **Presidential Prizes at the 2011 Entomological Society of America Annual Meeting**: Amy Willmott (left) - 1st Place, Oral Presentation (advisors: Dr. Cloyd and Dr. Zhu); Ximena Cibils (center) - 2nd Place, Poster Presentation (advisor: Dr. McCornack); Hong Geun Kim (right) - 2nd Place, Poster Presentation (advisors: Dr. Park and Dr. Margolies). Each winner received a free one-year membership to ESA, a cash prize, and a certificate.



Raymond Cloyd, Professor of Entomology, Kansas State University, was the 2011 recipient of the Alex Laurie Award for Research and Education presented by The Society of American Florists. Raymond is considered one of the most productive researchers in his field. He has published more than 60 refereed journal articles, 35 extension publications, and nearly 400 articles in trade journals and newsletters. He also has authored or co-authored several books, technical reports, and manuals. Raymond is in high demand on the lecture circuit educating people at the commercial, consumer and university level. He also leaves a legacy of students trained in ornamental horticulture; he has been the major advisor or co-advisor for nine graduate students, and currently has three graduate students he is advising.



Alysha Soper (left), a recent M.S. graduate in Entomology, was awarded the 2011 Larry Larson Graduate Student Award for Leadership in Applied Entomology by the Entomological Society of America. This prestigious national award, sponsored by Dow AgroScience, recognizes Dr. Larry Larson's role as a leader and pioneer in insect management and carries that legacy to the next generation of leaders in applied entomology. As the recipient, Alysha was recognized at the 2011 ESA National Meeting in Reno, NV, where she received a cash award from Sharon Quisenberry (at right in photo), President of the Entomological Foundation. Alysha completed her M.S. in the department under the guidance of Dr. Brian McCornack, and is starting a Ph.D. program with Dr. Jeff Whitworth.



Where are they now



Dr. Sue Blodgett (center) named the 2011 Department of Entomology Distinguished Alumna. College of Agriculture Interim Dean Gary Pierzynski (left) and Interim Entomology Head David Margolies (right)

presented her with the award. Sue earned both M.S. (1987) and Ph.D. (1989) in entomology from Kansas State University under the guidance of the late Dr. Randy Higgins. She held a faculty position in field crop entomology at Montana State University and then served as the head and professor in the Plant Science Department at South Dakota State University until late last year. Sue and her husband Andy moved to Iowa State University in October 2011, where she is Chair for the Departments of Entomology and Natural Resource Ecology and Management. Sue and Andy's daughter is an industrial engineer with Boeing Corporation in the Seattle area. For relaxation Sue will pick up her knitting needles or sit down at her loom and work on a fiber project.

Dr. Alberto B. Broce obtained an Agronomist degree from the Panamerican Agriculture School (1962) in Honduras, and BS (1965), MS (1967), and PhD (1971) from the University of Florida. He taught at the National School of Agriculture in Mexico and



then worked for Lockheed Electronics managing NASA's research on remote sensing for screwworm eradication. In 1976 he joined the USDA-ARS Screwworm Research Lab in Mission, TX, where he earned a USDA Distinguished Service Award. In 1979, Alberto came to K-State and spent the next 30 years conducting research on control of insects of medical and veterinary importance; notable was his invention of insect traps for screwworm flies, fleas, and stable flies. In 2005 he received the Schering-Plough Award for Lifetime Achievements in Veterinary Entomology. Alberto authored more than 100 scientific papers, including one in Playboy (perhaps a first for an entomologist)! He and his wife, Bobbie, live in Hawthorne, FL, but they are always visiting relatives and friends in Miami, Tucson, Manhattan, Chicago, and Panama.

Dr. Douglas Burkett obtained a dual B.S. in Entomology and in Pest Management from Iowa State University in 1987, and an M.S. in Entomology at Kansas State in 1990 working on face fly feeding behavior with Alberto Broce. After graduation, he joined the United States Air Force where he was commissioned a 1st Lieutenant in the Biomedical Sciences Corps. He is now a Lieutenant Colonel working as a medical entomologist in Washington D.C. at the Armed Forces Pest Management Board. Along the way, he earned a Ph.D. in Medical Entomology at the University of Florida. Doug worked in Japan, Ivory Coast, Iraq, and with CDC in Atlanta, before going to Washington. He currently serves as the Research Liaison Officer and runs the Deployed Warfighter Protection Program that provides grants for developing new public health pesticides and tools for integrated vector control affecting ground forces. Doug and his wife Laura were married while Doug was still a student at Kansas State. Doug and Laura have two daughters, Alexis and Sara.



Beth Stone-Smith (right) is USDA-APHIS-PPQ's Program Director for the Glassy-winged Sharpshooter Program and California Field Program Manager for the European Grapevine Moth Program. Beth is from Minnesota. She graduated with a BA in Biology from Concordia College, Moorhead, MN and earned her M.S. in Entomology from Kansas State. She remained at KSU, working in the department and at the USDA Grain Marketing lab, while her husband, Paul Smith, completed his Ph.D. in Entomology. In July 2001, Beth began her federal career as a biological science technician with PPQ's GWSS emergency program. In 2004, Beth assumed the position of GWSS Program Director. In 2010, the EGVM Program was added to her duties. In her spare time, Beth enjoys running, roller skating and gardening. She resides in Bakersfield, CA, with her husband, Paul, and their 7 year old son, Adam (both pictured with her). She still considers Manhattan, KS to be her "happy place."



Meet someone new



Dr. Marcelo Ramalho-Ortigao grew joined the Department in 2008 and has rapidly established a highly successful disease vector program. Marcelo was born in Rio de Janeiro. He received a B.S. at the State University of Rio de Janeiro and a Doctor of Science at the Oswaldo Cruz Institute. Subsequently, he was a Fogarty Fellow at the National Institutes of Health and then Research Assistant Professor at the University of Notre Dame. Marcelo's research focuses on functional genomics of disease vectors and vector-based strategies against pathogen transmission, most prominently with sand flies. Outside of work, Marcelo is an avid roadie and mountain biker. He also enjoys hiking, jogging and time with his family.

Entomology Minor Program

K-State's undergraduate minor in Entomology was developed in response to student interest in insect biology and pest management, and a desire to offer formal credentials in this field. The entomology minor provides relevant complementary knowledge for students who are pursuing bachelor's degrees in agriculture, biology and, occasionally, other disciplines. Students currently enrolled in our minor program are majoring in fields as diverse as archeology and architectural engineering.

The entomology minor requires successful completion of 13-15 credit hours of Entomology courses. Upon completion of the minor, students are prepared to better manage pest and beneficial insects as well as to understand and appreciate insects as the most abundant and diverse life form on earth. The minor has also stimulated some students to go on to graduate degree work in entomology. Dr. Jim Nechols (jnechols@ksu.edu) has been coordinating the entomology minor program for the past decade. Under his guidance, the program has grown from 5-7 students per year to 15 presently enrolled.



Ximena Cibilis Stewart started as a graduate student in April 2011, just in time for the canola crop. Ximena comes from Uruguay, and recently completed a B.S. in Biology and Entomology at Iowa State University. She is working on an M.S. degree with Brian McCornack on a recently funded USDA AFRI Biofuels project that aims to evaluate how source/sink relationships can be beneficial or deleterious to the feedstock crop or to the surrounding agricultural habitats. Her work will focus on a first-generation biofuel crop (canola), which includes the identification of pest arthropods in canola and evaluating the importance of natural enemies for pest control in canola.



Tell us about yourself!

Fill out this form and return it to:

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Or e-mail entomology@k-state.edu

Name _____

Graduation Date _____ Degree _____

Advisor _____

e-mail address _____

Employer _____

Job Title _____

Feel free to attach more information to share about your hobbies, your family, stories from your time at KSU, or whatever you like.