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Welcome

New Off-Campus M.S. Students: **Daniel Borowiak**, Omaha, NE; **Christopher Cobbs**, DPO, AA; **Timothy Lampasona**, New Paltz, NY; **Paula Matney**, Elk Grove, CA; **Paul Narguizian**, Sherman Oaks, CA

Congratulations

Dr. Ashley Hall was the recipient of a Junior Faculty Holling Family Award for Teaching Excellence for 2014. The award was accompanied by a \$3,000 stipend.

Dr. Gary Hein has been selected to receive the North American Colleges and Teachers of Agriculture (NACTA) Teaching Award of Merit Certificate. Dr. Hein will be recognized for this distinction at the CASNR Week Recognition Banquet to be held at the Nebraska East Union on April 13, 2014.

Entomology Department faculty and students won awards at the Entomological Society of America (ESA) North Central Branch meeting held in Des Moines, IA, March 9-12, 2014.

Dr. Fred Baxendale received the C. V. Riley Achievement Award, which is given for "outstanding contributions to the science of entomology."

The Linnaean Team won 1st place in the competition at the meeting and qualified to compete at the ESA annual meeting this November in Portland, OR. They also received a \$2500 travel grant for the meeting. Team members were **Alister Bryson**, **Kyle Koch**, **Wayne Ohnesorg**, and **Johan Pretorius**. Coaches were **Drs. Bob Wright** and **Ken Pruess**.

Justin McMechan received 1st Place for his Ph.D. paper presentation, "Establishing risk for alternative over-summering hosts for wheat curl mites and associated viruses" co-authored with **Dr. Gary Hein**.

Carolina Camargo received 3rd Place for her Ph.D. paper presentation, "Toxicity of thiamethoxam seed treatments on key natural enemies of soybean aphid" co-authored with **Drs. Blair Siegfried** and **Tom Hunt**.

Johan Pretorius received 3rd Place for his Ph.D. paper presentation, "The influence of tillage in sugar beets on beneficial, edaphic arthropod communities, and the arthropod-mediated ecosystem services they provide" co-authored with **Drs. Gary Hein** and **Jeff Bradshaw**.

Camila de Oliveira received 3rd Place for her M.S. paper presentation, "Impact of co-infection of wheat streak mosaic virus and Triticum mosaic virus on virus transmission rates and wheat curl mite reproduction in the field" co-authored with **Dr. Gary Hein**, and **Dr. Stephen Wegulo**, UNL Plant Pathology Department.



NCB Award Committee Chair Brian McCornack with C.V. Riley awardee, Dr. Fred Baxendale
Photos courtesy of ESA



Linnaean Team - Coach Dr. Bob Wright, members, Wayne Ohnesorg, Johan Pretorius, Kyle Koch, (Alister Bryson not pictured) and Coach Dr. Ken Pruess

Grants

Douglas Golick/Natalia Bjorklund/Tammy Stuhr

UNL Extension Innovative Programming Grants \$ 7,500

“Bee Corps: Teaching through a systems approach to improve science and food literacy in children and adults”

Nicholas Miller

Monsanto Corn Rootworm Knowledge Research Program \$485,220

“The genetics of emerging resistance to Cry38b1 corn”

Publications

Enders, L., R. Bickel, J. Brisson, T. Heng-Moss, B. Slegfried, A. Zera and N. Miller (2014). Soybean Aphid (Hemiptera: Aphididae) Response to Soybean Plant Defense: Stress Levels, Tradeoffs, and Cross-Virulence. *Environmental Entomology* 43(1): 47–57.

Ratcliffe, B.C. and A.E. Giraldo Mendoza. 2014. *Piscoperus paracanicola*, a new genus and species of Pentodontini from Peru with a revised key to the New World Genera of Pentodontini (Coleoptera: Scarabaeidae: Dynastinae). *The Coleopterists Bulletin* 68(1): 103-110.

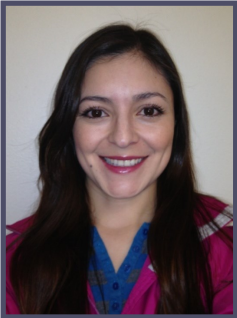
Faculty News

Dr. Nick Miller will be attending the Joint 25th International Working Group on Ostrinia (IWGO) Conference/Diabrotica Genetics meeting/NC205/NCCC46 meeting in Chicago, IL, April 14–17.

Meet an Off-Campus Student

Off campus student—**Maria Gutierrez**

I was born in Guadalajara Mexico, and my parents, like many other families, moved my three siblings and me to California, where they imagined a brighter future for us. We settled in the Coachella Valley where we grew up in a rural area surrounded by vineyards and date palm trees where my parents worked picking different crops as the seasons changed. I had the opportunity to work alongside them during some of my summer vacations, and there I learned the meaning of hard work.



At the beginning of my undergraduate at UC Riverside, I planned to major in biology, but in my junior year everything changed when I took an introduction to entomology course as one of my electives. I fell in love with the field and changed my major to entomology. At this time, I was presented with the opportunity to work for the Citrus Research Board in Riverside, and there I was able to be very close to the research and witness new discoveries related to Huanglongbing (HLB), and the Asian citrus psyllid. The time I spent there, I learned so much about the efforts necessary to combat foreign diseases and the work required to stop the spread of a potentially detrimental disease that could wipe out an entire industry.

After graduating with a B.S. in entomology from UCR, I accepted the position of research assistant at one of Monsanto’s plant health laboratories and moved to central California. I have been here for a little over three years and have found that I am able to apply my knowledge of insects as well as learn more about plant pathology as I perform my daily tasks. I am in charge of greenhouse pest management and pesticide applications on site as well as other investigatory projects related to insect resistance on lettuce. I am currently preparing to test for my Agricultural Pest Control Adviser license and hope to be able to make more sound recommendations for pesticide use and their control on site and possibly later on in my community.

I decided to return to school to acquire my master’s degree in entomology because I need to be better prepared as a professional. The distance education program at UNL offers me the flexibility I need while working full time all while offering exceptional courses and guidance throughout this experience.

Student News

Carolina Camargo Gil, Erin Ingram, and Louise Lynch received travel awards from the Myron H. Swenk Memorial Fund to attend the ESA North Central Branch meetings that were held in Des Moines, IA, March 9-12, 2014. **Camila de Oliveira** and **David Wangila** received student travel awards from North Central Branch to attend the meeting.

Leslie Rault received a travel award from the Myron H. Swenk Memorial Fund to attend the 25th IWGO Conference/Diabrotica Genetics meeting/NC205/NCCC46 meeting in Chicago, IL, April 14-17.

Jennifer Shaughney has received travel funding from the Friends of the University of Nebraska State Museum to support travel to Chicago and the Chicago Field Museum for research activities.

Bruner Club News

The Entomology Department's annual International Dinner was held on March 29 at the Antelope Park Shelter. The Bruner Club hosted the dinner which had dishes from Brazil, France, Kenya, Indonesia, and, of course, the good ole' US of A. There was a raffle just for fun and some of the international students gave a presentation on their home country. The Bruner Club would like to extend a thank you to all those who contributed to the event.



Meeting/Workshop News

The 22nd Annual Nebraska Urban Pest Management Conference was held on February 18-19, 2014. The conference had 142 registrants and 18 exhibitors. There were five hands-on laboratory sessions that included pest specimens, pest damage, and write-ups on the biology of various pests. A total of 27 speakers presented 58 different topics in five categories: 1) general pest management principles, 2) structural plus wood destroying pests, 3) managing pest in stored grains and food processing facilities, 4) pests of public health importance, and 5) wildlife damage control. This multidisciplinary conference was held in cooperation with the Nebraska State Pest Control Association, the Nebraska Department of Agriculture, and the University of Nebraska-Extension Division. **Dr. Shripat Kamble** coordinated the conference, with help from **Dr. Gary Brewer, Sanjay Basnet, Erin Bauer, Jeri Cunningham, Camila de Oliveira, Dennis Ferraro, Scott Hygnstrom, Jim Kalisch, Marissa Kemp, Ralph Narain, Clyde Ogg, Ivy Orellana, Travis Prochaska, Bob Roselle, Zach Rystrom,** and Stephen Vantassel.

Buzzing along

The UNL Entomology Bumble Boosters Project mailed over 190 bumble bee domiciles to citizen scientists in over 30 US states, Canada, United Kingdom, the Netherlands, France, Germany, Finland, and Denmark. Participants will place the domiciles in their local landscapes in order to attract bumble bee queens to nest. The hope is that this domicile design, taking cues from other designs, has a high success rate in attracting bumble bees. Participants will also collaborate and share acceptance data and their stories of personal community impacts through the Bumble Boosters website. **Louise Lynch**, a Ph.D. student working under the supervision of **Dr. Doug Golick**, constructed and shipped nearly all of these boxes and is standing next to the last shipment of bumble bee domicile kits to be mailed out. Hurray!



Calendar of Events

April 8, 2014

Seminar – Melina Florez Cuadros, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Entomology Hall, Room 202

April 15, 2014

Defense Seminar – Allster Bryson, M.S. Candidate, 1:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

April 15, 2014

Seminar - Jelfina Alouw, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m. Entomology Hall, Room 202

April 18, 2014

Defense Seminar - Ken Miwa, Ph.D. Candidate, 9:00 a.m., Nebraska East Union

April 21, 2014

Defense Seminar - Mitch Stamm, Ph.D. Candidate, 1:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

April 22, 2014

Seminar – Leslie Rault, Entomology Graduate Student, 4:00 p.m., Entomology Hall, Room 202

April 28, 2014

Last week of classes

April 29, 2014

Seminar - Dr. Linda Rayor, Department of Entomology, Cornell University, 4:00 p.m., Nebraska East Union

May 5, 2014

Spring Semester Final Exam Week

May 9, 2014

Entomology Department Graduate Reception, 11:00 a.m., Nebraska East Union

May 9, 2014

Spring Semester Graduate Commencement and Doctoral Hooding Ceremony, 3:00 p.m., Pinnacle Bank Arena

May 10, 2014

Spring Semester Undergraduate Commencement, 9:30 a.m., Pinnacle Bank Arena

May 19, 2014

8-week Session Begins

June 9, 2014

1st Five-Week Session Begins