

# NEWSLETTER

Edited by Kelly Weinersmith | Layout by Joanna Cielocha



## The President's Corner By Matt Bolek

Welcome to the Fall 2021 edition of the President's Corner. First of all, I would like to welcome all our new ASP members as well as our new elected officers in the society! Second, I would like to thank our former President, Dr. Vasyl Tkach, our Past President, Dr. Julián Hillyer, our secretary treasurer, Lee Couch, all our current and former elected officers and appointed committee members, and members in our society that continued to care and support our society during these rather difficult times over the last two years of the pandemic.

Clearly the last 18 months have been difficult as the Covid-19 pandemic affected all of our lives, including ASP. However, during these difficult times, ASP members stepped up to these challenges and helped our society function and continue to thrive. For example, our education committee co-chaired by Dr. Sarah Orlofske and Dr. Nicole Chodkowski provided the leadership support for their committee and ASP members to quickly assemble a large set of teaching materials dealing with the biology of parasites and pathogens to be used in online laboratories and lectures by our members. Our Public Relations Committee chaired by Dr. Joanna Cielocha and our society Newsletter editor, Dr. Kelly Weinersmith, continued to keep us connected and informed about exciting news events in parasitology and our members' accomplishments through Twitter and Facebook posts and our biannual society Newsletter. Our new Scientific Program Officers, Dr. Maria Castillo and Dr. Judith Humphries, organized our first and a very successful ASP virtual meeting, which also included the first and equally successful online auction run by Dr. Shelly Michalski! Additionally, our editor-in-chief, Dr. Rich Clopton, his team of associate editors and all the reviewers continue to provide our members with interesting and relevant scientific content through publications in the *Journal of Parasitology*. Finally, our Secretary/Treasurer Lee Couch cannot be thanked enough for her continual service and dedication to the Society and her agreement to be appointed by ASP Council to serve as our Secretary/Treasurer for another year while the society continues to look for members interested in running for the Secretary/Treasurer position. My point is that all of you as members of the American Society of Parasitologists continue to provide your valuable time and service to the wellbeing of our society, and I truly appreciate all your efforts and time you freely dedicate.

Over the last year I had the opportunity to attend the virtual and in person annual meetings of many of our regional societies, including the Southwestern Association of Parasitologists, the Rocky Mountain Conference of Parasitologists (both virtual meetings), and the Annual Midwestern Conference of Parasitologists (in person). As a result, I had the opportunity to interact and discuss with many of our ASP members the science of parasitology and your concerns and hopes for the society. From those discussions, it is clear to me that our members truly care about our society and the discipline of parasitology. I encourage you to reach out to me or other elected ASP officers if



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Be sure to check out the [The Journal of Parasitology](#) website for new papers, and information on how to submit your manuscript. With the continuous publication model, manuscripts go online as soon as formatting is complete.

ASP members do not pay page charges for publishing in the *JP*. Open Access rates are \$750 for members, and \$1000 for non-members.

If you'd like to review for the Journal and have not already signed up to be a reviewer, please consider signing up [here](#)."

## President's Corner cont'd

you feel more comfortable interacting with them, and provide any suggestions and/or concerns you might have about our society.

Over the next year I will continue working on some of the initiatives started by our previous ASP presidents, including Drs. Susan Perkins, John Hawdon, Julián Hillyer, and Vasyly Tkach. For example, I will continue to ask the Committee on Education to work with the Membership and our Public Relations Committees to develop novel educational resources for sharing with our members, and the Business Advisory Committee to continue developing a Sponsorship Program for the society. In addition, I have been in contact with the Priorities and Planning Committee to work on developing initiatives that will help recruit and retain diversity in our society by providing funding sources for students and their advisors to be more engaged in our annual meetings.

I would like to remind you that the Local Organizing Committee chaired by Dr. Charles Criscione is busy planning for our 2022 annual ASP meeting on July 7-13, at Texas A&M University in College Station, Texas and I hope to see you all there! Finally, I hope all of you stay healthy and safe and continue to prosper in all your parasitology adventures.

## Student Rep's Corner

By Kay Chalkowski

Student Representative to ASP Council 2020-2021

I write to introduce myself as the new student representative for ASP for 2021-2022. My name is Kay Chalkowski, and I am a PhD candidate at Auburn University studying how invasive species spread parasites. As a student, it took some time for me to find my academic home -- I had far reaching interests ranging from conservation, disease ecology, invasion biology, to public health. But, after realizing how invested I was in the ecological roles of parasites, and learning about their strange world, I knew parasite ecology would be my home. Soon after this realization, I joined ASP and am thrilled to be a part of this welcoming society.

In addition to parasite ecology, I'm also passionate about scientific writing, writing pedagogy and sci-art, as forms of communicating science to our own community, and to share our work with other communities that we might not otherwise reach. As a sci-artist myself, I see a lot of value in using art (whether illustration, narrative, or otherwise) to connect people with subjects that might otherwise be overlooked. For this reason, I believe that science commu-

nication skills are especially important for parasitologists. After all, the complex life cycles and cryptic lifestyles of parasites often evade the untrained eye, unlike many of their free-living hosts. Yet, parasites play critical roles in ecosystems, and our world simply wouldn't be the same without them.



Thus, my primary focus as student representative this year will be to share resources to help our student members improve their science communication skills. Further, I plan to develop the student symposium with this goal in mind. I encourage all student members to reach out to me with any particular interests and needs in the realm of science communication, and I will also be reaching out to gauge interest in possible science communication subtopics for the symposium.

I'll continue to share any updates about next year's Council meeting with our student members over email, so students can expect to see periodic communications from me throughout the year. Please don't hesitate to email me with any questions. I'm looking forward to the next year as the 2021-2022 ASP student representative!

## Support the ASP

Support ASP by shopping through AmazonSmile. Go to [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), pick "American Society of Parasitologists Inc A New Mexico Nonprofit Corpo" as the group you're supporting, and we'll get 0.5% the cost of your eligible purchases.

### Keep in Touch

[Twitter @amsocparasit](#)

[Facebook](#)

[Instagram](#)

[ASP's blog](#) for more

Field Notes, Member Spotlights, and ASP News

Join our [ASP Listserv](#)

[Journal of Parasitology YouTube](#) page

(with video interviews with prominent members)

# Resolutions from the 2021 Virtual Meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists

By Kaylee Herzog, John Janovy Jr., and Ben Hanelt

Whereas the scientific program officers Maria Castillo and Judith Humphries, in collaboration with Tami Cook and the local organizing committee, tackled the monumental task of holding our annual meeting in a virtual environment with great skill and diligence; and

Whereas we appreciate the hard work and attentiveness of President Vasy! Tkach, and thank him for his service, and we are looking forward to incoming president Matt Bolek's six-and-a-half-hour President's Address next year; and

Whereas Student Representative Maggie Doolin organized a superb Students' Symposium enjoyed by all, and offered our members valuable perspectives on the trajectory of parasitology; and

Whereas our members presented 78 excellent talks and posters spanning all major fields of biological research and the breadth of parasite diversity, proving that even a global pandemic cannot keep a good parasitologist down; and

Whereas nine moderators volunteered to keep our sessions timely and organized, deftly juggling the various chat channels and ensuring the membership's insightful inquiries reached our speakers; and

Whereas the meeting was, hmmm, different this year as ever before with the utterance of phrases we have never heard before at ASP, such as: "You need to unmute", "We cannot see your slides", "Can you see me?", "Can you please stop sharing?", and "Where do I click?"; and

Whereas despite the virtual aspect of the meeting, the time between sessions, after hours and during lunch was still spent at the Lounges; however, it was a surprise to no one that the highest membership was at the Lounge entitled "The Bar"; and

Whereas our members wholeheartedly enjoyed the venue, which included: work and home offices, laboratories, kitchens, living rooms, front porches, and cars, we were disappointed that our beds were not made and rooms were not cleaned upon retiring to them at the end of each day; and

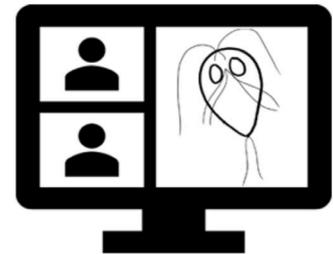
Whereas our members gathered from many time zones, and

swapped applause for emojis and hotel lounges for virtual ones, but nonetheless enjoyed the same spirit of friendship and passion for parasites that ASP always promises; and

Whereas we look forward to getting "back to school" in College Station next year, we anticipate each and every one of us will do a lot of catching up,

Let it be resolved that the 96th annual meeting of the American Society of Parasitologists was a computer screened, information gleaned, carbon footprint greened, beer unweaned, parasitological fiend, not quite quarantined-- success!

virtual  
2021<sup>^</sup> Annual Meeting



## Other ASP News

The American Society of Parasitologists has an ongoing effort to further increase our diversity and become even more inclusive by recruiting colleagues, domestic and foreign, who for various reasons can not join ASP. Some cannot afford even the modest Associate Membership or online student dues. Others have political issues in foreign countries. We have instituted the Sponsor Membership category to help these colleagues become members. Members can also gift a membership to one of their students or a domestic colleague. A member can be a sponsor for any of the membership categories shown on the ASP Membership link which is on the ASP Home page. The most common category for foreign sponsorship is the Associate Membership. All sponsorships are tax deductible.

The current economic situation and restrictions have made it difficult for many members. But we hope you see the value of becoming a sponsor and will consider supporting a colleague if you can. These memberships have proven to be mutually beneficial. The person being sponsored has the full benefits of ASP membership. The sponsor has a new colleague who may have interesting and valuable experiences and expertise to share. These connections can lead to future collaborations. In addition, the sponsor has helped make ASP an even richer resource for parasitology. For this, both ASP and a new colleague will thank you.

If you desire to establish a Sponsored Membership, you may do so by contacting ASP's membership administration office by phone (785-865-9405) or email ([asp@allenpress.com](mailto:asp@allenpress.com)). Thank you for your consideration.

# Member Spotlight



## Dr. Chuck Blend

Original interview questions by Abigail Kimball

Question updates by Kelly Weinersmith

This is an excerpt from the full interview. Check out [ASP's blog here for the full interview.](#)

Dr. Chuck Blend is a Professor & Resident Scholar at the Corpus Christi Museum of Science & History (CCMS&H) in Corpus Christi, Texas. He specializes in parasitology, deep-sea biology, natural history, & exobiology, and has a passion for science communication.



### What advice would you offer to someone starting a career in scientific research?

This is a tough question for me. Not because of content, but because giving advice falls into one of my 'personal rules for life'. And that 'rule' is – never give advice. 😊 It's up there with some other 'personal rules' that I've strongly taken to heart: (1) Do not discuss politics; (2) Do not discuss religion; and (3) Do not discuss the 'numbers.' What are the 'numbers' you may ask? For women: no mention of weight or age. For men: no mention of salary/pay. I'm not sexist, but I've found that, for many, those particular numbers are very important ... perhaps, too important, you may say? Well, you may feel differently and that is just fine with me, but I've learned over the years that it is much safer to play on the sidewalk of life than on the freeway, if you get my drift. But nevertheless – you need to play!

So, I will be brief here. You are that 'someone starting a career in scientific research' - fresh out of the 'career starting gate'. Congratulations! I envy you. Really! You are just at the beginning of the journey and have so much ahead of you. Remember these days! This is the good stu-

ff! It's like the first time you fall in love, you never quite love someone that same way again. Oh, and while you are out there jockeying for a career science position, trying to get to that inside lane that you hope will take you to some 'finish line', don't forget to regularly make a pit stop or two during the race; leave the track for a time to reassess and take stock in where you've been, where you are, and where you want – or think! – you want to go. Ask yourself, "Are you sure you want that particular finish line"? People and the career race(s) can and often change – and that is okay! If you feel you've only got one race to run, your childhood dream, good for you! Stay with it, keep plugging, and when you hit the bumps – and you will hit A LOT of bumps – don't quit and don't ride the brakes either. Perhaps you are not 'dead set' on one career goal, that's okay, too! Let yourself find a new track to run on if you feel like it. We'll still all keep running in circles around the track(s) and waving at each other thru life! 🙌

Lastly, I offer you, young neophyte, 7, concise, lucky, little 'life bites' I've been fortunate enough to gather in my mind's 'cookie box' over the years ... and my 'box', honestly, is pretty darn small folks (i.e., I have never been, nor have I ever expected to be, the smartest person in any room 😊) ... but here it goes:

1. The only person you truly compete against is yourself.
2. You will never run into a greater adversary than your own potential.
3. The Golden Rule of 'loving your neighbor as yourself' works well in any career you'd want to have.
4. Q: What do you call the student who graduates dead last in his/her class in medical school?

A: Doctor. Moral of the Story: Always try your best but remember that being a winner in life is much more than about finishing, or trying to finish, first (i.e., You can win the rat race – but you're still a rat! - see #3 above).

5. Volunteer. Raise your hand. Make an extra effort. Get your passion and your name out there. Get your voice heard. In other words - Take Risks! If you don't, you will never ... ever ... get noticed by anyone.
6. We all have gifts and talents – find out what yours are and use them.
7. We all have responsibilities and priorities – find out what yours are and never betray them.

My thanks to Kelly Weinersmith for inviting me to write this ASP Member Spotlight for our newsletter. All statements are my own, and I accept full responsibility for and plead 'Guilty' to all interpretations, misinterpretations, pedantic droning, and futile attempts at humor herein. Stay safe and good health, everyone. 🙌

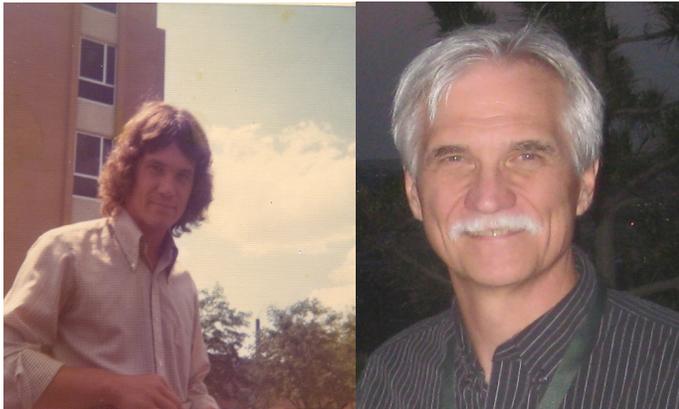
[Editor's note: Thanks to you too, Chuck! I appreciate the laughs, and good advice. Stay safe and good health to you as well!]

# ASP Author's Corner

Thomas Platt interview done by Kelly Weinersmith

Below is an excerpt from the full interview. [Check out ASP's blog for the full interview.](#)

[ASP member Dr. Thomas Platt and his co-authors made a splash in 2016 when a description of a turtle blood fluke he discovered was published in the \*Journal of Parasitology\*.](#) Now, as parasitologists, we can all agree that descriptions of our beloved parasites are Washington Post-worthy discoveries. Unfortunately, most of our work doesn't hit the major news outlets. So what was so special about Tom's parasite?



Well, it turns out Tom is both a fan of former President Barack Obama, and his fifth cousin twice removed. So Tom found it fitting to suggest to his co-authors that they name the parasite *Baracktrema obamai*. All co-authors eventually agreed.

The parasite made the news, including features in [Popular Science](#), [The Associated Press](#), and [The Washington Post](#). While we parasitologists understand that having a parasite named after you to be a huge compliment, Tom had to repeatedly convince reporters that this was indeed a compliment and not an insult. After all, Tom had named an eye-infecting turtle parasite after his father-in-law, and I've been assured he likes his father-in-law as well.

If you're interested in more details on this story, and other tales of Tom's adventures in academia, I recommend you pick up his memoir: "[SMALL SCIENCE: \*Baracktrema obamai\* and Other Stories of a Life in Parasitology & Higher Education](#)". The book was published earlier this year, and I laughed out loud a handful of times while reading it. I recently interviewed Tom about his book-writing experience:

**Did anything surprise you about the book-writing process?**

Since I didn't plan to write a book, I had no set timeframe for the project. It took about 6 months to produce the first draft. I spent the better part of the following year rereading, editing, and shaping the various chapters into a form I thought would appeal to parasitologists and folks who like to read about science.

Finding a publisher was infinitely more challenging. John Janovy helped me immensely in crafting the material writers must submit to agents and publishers. Every agent/publisher has different criteria for submitting a manuscript. It is imperative to carefully read and adhere to those instructions. I read in several different places that if you don't capture the attention of the agent/editor in the first three sentences of your query letter, they will move to the next submission.

I submitted my manuscript to approximately 70 agents and 25 publishers who allow direct submission. I received rejections from about 20% of them, and the rest didn't respond at all. World Scientific Publishing was my last hope before I had to decide between self-publishing or scrapping the whole idea and leaving it on my computer for my grandchildren.

**Did you go through periods of "writer's block"? If so, do you have any tips for how to overcome it?**

I never experienced writer's block. After all, I was writing about my life and experiences, not shaping the storyline for a novel. The most challenging aspect was what to keep and what to eliminate. The first draft was about 125,000 words. The research I did suggested a memoir exceeding 100,000 words would not be considered unless you were Barack or Michelle Obama!

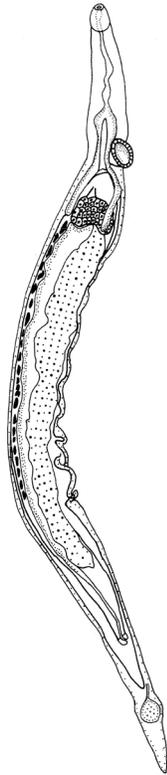
**In your book, you describe how you were denied tenure for reasons that were never made clear to you. I imagine many of us have nightmares about this happening. Yet you lived through it, and went on to get tenure at a different institution. What advice do you have for folks dealing with career or other personal setbacks?**

The best advice I can give is to be proactive in deciding how you want your career to unfold. Approach the job in a manner sustainable for 30 years or more. Understand the ethos of your department/college or university and plan your program accordingly. Focus on the things you do well, but never pass up opportunities to learn new things. Explore opportunities to collaborate when you don't have the skills/facilities/equipment to do them yourself. Never be afraid to ask someone to work with you. The worst that can happen is they say "No."

## Tom Platt, cont'd.

### What is your favorite parasite? Why?

Hands down, *Griphobilharzia amoena*. The opportunity to work on *G. amoena* opened so many doors for me. It got me to Australia and David Blair's lab. Then on to the University of Queensland and collaborations with Tom Cribb and Sylvie Pichelin. *Griphobilharzia amoena* is still controversial: morphologically, it appears to be a schistosome, but molecular data puts it right in the middle of the spirorchids. I really hope someone figures this out before I am shipped off to be dissected by anatomy students at the Indiana University School of Medicine!



## Biology of Vector-borne Disease Workshop

The University of Idaho Center for Health in the Human Ecosystem (CHHE) is hosting its annual Biology of Vector-borne Diseases six-day course, Monday through Saturday, June 13-18, 2022, on the UI campus in Moscow, Idaho. This course provides accessible, condensed training and “knowledge networking” for advanced graduate students, postdoctoral fellows, new faculty and current professionals to ensure competency in basic biology, current knowledge and cutting edge technology for U.S. and global vector-borne diseases of plants, animals and humans. This course seeks to create an enduring community of participants and instructors who understand the biological connections across diverse vector-borne diseases to expand the impact and sustainability of integrated solutions to their control in complex human ecosystems.

Applications will be reviewed starting December 1, 2021, and applicants will be notified of their acceptance for the course in Spring 2022. Registration for the course includes lodging, meals, course materials, and social activities.

A link to our event is: <https://www.uidaho.edu/cals/center-for-health-in-the-human-ecosystem/education/vector-borne-diseases>

## Regional Society News

### Helminthological Society of Washington (HelmSoc)

By Kelly Weinersmith

Keep in touch with HelmSoc and stay up to date on news and Comparative Parasitology articles through our [Twitter](#) page and our [Facebook](#) account. The 726th meeting of the Helminthological Society of Washington will be held on November 20, 2021. This meeting will be held virtually using Zoom and we will have opportunities for both synchronous (live) and asynchronous (pre-recorded) presentations. There will be no registration fee, but the meeting will only be open to members. This is a great opportunity for students, postdocs, staff, and faculty to meet virtually and hear great talks about all kinds of parasites. Encourage your students to present! You can join HelmSoc and get online access to Comparative Parasitology for only \$20. [Join here](#).



### Southern California Society of Parasitologists (SCSP)

By Ralph Appy

SCSP held its Spring (2021) virtual meeting in conjunction with the Southern California Academy of Sciences (SCAS). Five students presented papers/posters. Daniel Metz (Scripps Inst. Oceanography) won both the SCSP and SCAS award for the best paper titled: “Detecting the hidden dynamics of social organization in colonies using projection matrix models.” Fernando Postigo (UCLA) won the best poster titled: “Occurrence of developmental stages of the Asian fish tapeworm (*Schyzocotyle acheilognathi*) in two cypriniform fish hosts from the Santa Clara River System of Southern California.” Bruno Passarelli (UCLA) received honorable mention for his presentation on: “Metazoan parasites of the California grunion *Leuresthes tenuis* in the Southern California Bight.”

SCSP has been in conversations with the Northern California Parasitologists about collaborating on a virtual meeting in the Spring of 2022, which would increase the diversity of topic and collaborations between our neighboring ASP Chapters.

## The Northern California Parasitologists

By Mike Moser

The Northern and Southern California Parasitologists have been trying to hold a joint meeting for several years. But the issue has been that our combined membership is spread over approximately 600 miles. Even meeting midway for a one day meeting has proven to be a problem for many of our members. Recently the NCP and SCP have independently held successful virtual meetings. We are currently investigating the possibility of having a virtual Spring 2022 Joint Meeting. This would result in a greater variety of papers and, hopefully, new colleagues and collaborations. We look forward to this possible joint meeting.

## Southwestern Association of Parasitologists (SWAP)

By Joanna Cielocha

The Southwestern Association of Parasitologists met for their 54th annual meeting virtually on Zoom on Friday, April 23, 2021. The business meeting was held in the morning prior to presentations. During the Business meeting, the membership discussed creating a new website with the capabilities of accepting online payment options for meeting registration and dues. Election results were announced with John Shea as President-Elect, Autumn Smith-Herron as Secretary-Treasurer, and Deb Clopton as SWAP representative to ASP Council.

Twenty-two Oral Presentations were given: 11 by undergraduates, 10 by graduate students, and 1 by a faculty member. Students award winners for their Research Presentations were as follows:

David A. Becker Memorial Award for Best Student Presentation: Awarded to Kaylee Herzog for her presentation entitled "Host specificity and population genomics in marine tapeworms (Eucestoda: Trypanorhyncha)." Kaylee's co-author is Kirsten Jensen. She is a graduate student at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

Mark Dresden Award for Runner-Up Best Student Presentation: Awarded to Isabel Pen for her presentation entitled "The fauna of *Tetragonocephalum* (Cestoda: Lecanicephalidea) in species of the whipray genus *Pateobatis*." Isabel's co-author is Kirsten Jensen. She is a graduate student at the University of Kansas, Lawrence, KS.

Honorable Mention Graduate Student Presentation: Awarded to Allison Bryant for her presentation entitled "Mediterranean parasites in North America: Coccidia from introduced populations of the Mediterranean house gecko, *Hemidactylus turcicus* and other species of *Hemidactylus*." Her co-authors are Matthew Bolek and Gabriel Langford. She is a graduate student from Oklahoma State University, Stillwater, OK.

Honorable Mention Undergraduate Student Presentation: Awarded to Emma Martinez for her presentation entitled "Investigating the immune response elicited by the ray species *Urogymnus asperrimus* 1 (Elasmobranchii: Batoidae) caused by the attachment of a species of *Tetragonocephalum* (Cestoda: Lecanicephalidea)." Emma's co-author is Joanna J. Cielocha. She is an undergraduate from Rockhurst University, Kansas City, MO.

One student was awarded a Research Grant for their research proposal.

Shea Sera (Creighton University, Omaha, NE) was awarded a research grant based on the proposal entitled, "*Tenebrio molitor* as a paratenic host for *Chordodes morgani* and *Paragordius varius*." Shea is mentored by John Shea.

Officers for 2021-2022:

Joanna Cielocha, President

John Shea, President-Elect

Autumn Smith-Herron, Secretary/Treasurer

Heather Stigge, Past President

Deb Clopton, SWAP representative to ASP Council

We hope to convene in 2022 for the 55th annual meeting on the grounds of the University of Oklahoma Biological Station located on Lake Texoma, Oklahoma.

Do you have an story you want to share for a field note or want to suggest a member for us to spotlight? Would you like to send in a summary of your regional society meeting? Then please send an email to: [Weinersmith@Rice.edu](mailto:Weinersmith@Rice.edu).



# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PARASITOLOGISTS 2022 CALL FOR AWARD NOMINATIONS

Each year the ASP gives several awards at the Annual Meeting. It is important that the committees involved receive nominations and supporting materials early in the annual meeting cycle to be able to process the materials in a timely manner. The awards listed below are those for which selection committees have been established for 2022. Nominations and supporting materials should be submitted to the respective chairs of these committees. Information concerning the awards is also available at <http://amsocparasit.org> (under the Awards link).

## 2022 Henry Baldwin Ward Award

Please submit nominations to: Lisa Brown, P.O. Box 8042-1, Statesboro, GA 30460. Email: [ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu). Nominations will close on **January 21, 2022**.

*Eligibility:* The recipient shall be a member of the Society for no less than three years at the time of the nomination, be in mid-career, and who, by self-directed investigations, will have attained a position of leadership in some phase of parasitological research. The field of parasitology is considered to include, in general, those aspects of the science which are represented by reports published in the official organ of the Society, The Journal of Parasitology.

*Award:* The award consists of travel and accommodation expenses up to \$1500, a \$500 honorarium, a certificate, and the bronze Ward Medal presented at the Annual Meeting of the Society. The recipient will be expected to deliver a 45-minute acceptance speech.

*Nominations:* The award is given to an outstanding scientist in mid-career who has attained a position of leadership in some phase of parasitological research.

(1) Members in good standing who nominate candidates for the Henry Baldwin Ward Medal should carefully determine the eligibility of their candidate according to the above eligibility rules.

(2) Nominations for the Henry Baldwin Ward Medal should be supported by adequate documentation to enable the Awards Committee to exercise critical evaluation. At the least, this documentation should consist of: (a) a complete curriculum vitae providing a bibliography in which the authors are listed in the same sequence as in the published papers and (b) three supporting letters, including the

original nominating letter. These letters should include a serious evaluation of the major aspects of the nominee's scientific work.

## 2022 Ashton Cuckler New Investigator Award

Please submit nominations to: Lisa Brown, P.O. Box 8042-1, Statesboro, GA 30460. Email: [ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu). Nominations will close **January 21, 2022**.

*Eligibility:* The award is given to a new investigator who has, within the last two years, been awarded a Master or Doctoral degree in the field of Parasitology. Selection will be based upon the body of research accomplished during the candidate's graduate studies. This "body of research" will be documented through: a) peer-reviewed journal or book publications directly related to research conducted in pursuit of and contained in the accepted graduate student thesis or dissertation, b) other peer-reviewed journal publications unrelated to the primary thesis or dissertation work, but derived from research conducted as a graduate student, c) papers and/or posters presented at scientific meetings as a graduate student, d) any outside recognition of research excellence which may include, but not be restricted to, best student paper awards, dissertation improvement grants, student-initiated research grant support, and the like.

*Award:* The award will consist of travel and accommodation expenses up to \$1500, a \$500 cash award, and a plaque to be presented during the Annual Meeting of the Society.

*Nominations:* Nominations must be made within two years following awarding of the Master or Doctoral degree, and the nominee must be a member of the ASP at the time the award is made. Required documentation for award consideration should include:

(1) A nominating letter by the student's graduate advisor critically evaluating the quality and significance of the student's research. (Note: the advisor must be a member of ASP at the time of nomination.)

(2) Two letters of support from noted authorities outside of the nominee's institution commenting on the significance of the body of research accomplishments. The advisor will submit the name of one evaluator and the second will be chosen by the Awards Committee.

(3) The nominee will provide the following documentation: (a) letter providing a self-evaluation of research accomplishments; (b) thesis/dissertation abstract (two-page limit); (c) curriculum vitae; and (d) reprints or copies of all research publications (published or in press).

# Call for Nominations, cont'd.

## 2022 Clark P. Read Mentor Award

Please submit nominations to: Lisa Brown, P.O. Box 8042-1, Statesboro, GA 30460. Email: [ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu). Nominations will close **January 21, 2022**.

*Eligibility:* The award honors an individual who, during his or her career, has demonstrated extraordinary leadership in the training of young scientists who have successfully pursued the independent study of parasites or aspects of the host-parasite relationship. Further, the individual shall have influenced the research and/or graduate education of a department, college, or institution to significantly increase the number of students completing graduate level training in the various disciplines of parasitology.

The selection criteria for the Clark P. Read Mentor Award include, but are not limited to, two or more of the following:

- (1) evidence of scholarship in research and graduate education;
- (2) evidence of success of his or her graduates or postdoctoral trainees;
- (3) innovative teaching methods;
- (4) innovative or unique aspects of bench training;
- (5) letters of support;
- (6) the award should be for individuals who have made documentable impact on the field of parasitology through their didactic and/or bench-level teaching, or through furthering scientific literacy;
- (7) nominations from ASP members or the selection committee's initiative to put forth a name will be acceptable
- (8) candidates for the award must be a member of ASP, at least by the time the award is given.

*Award:* The award will consist of travel and accommodation expenses up to \$1500, a \$500 cash award, and a plaque to be presented during the Annual Meeting of the Society. The recipient will be expected to deliver a 20-minute oral presentation to the membership of the Society emphasizing his or her views and experiences related to mentoring.

*Nomination:* The nomination package for the Clark P. Read Mentor Award should include the following material: (1) Letter of Nomination; (2) Current Curriculum Vitae; (3) List of current and former students mentored and, if known, their present position/status including: Undergraduate students, Graduate students, Post-doctoral trainees, Students on whose thesis/dissertation committee the nominee served; (4) Letters of Support (minimum of 4) that speak to the nominee's strengths as a mentor. Former/current students: Letters of support from former/current students should focus on firsthand evidence of the "mentorship" abilities of

the nominee. Colleagues: In addition to commenting on evidence of scholarship in research and publication, it is important that the individual writing the letter comment on the nominee's interaction with and influence on students in a mentorship capacity.

## 2022 Eminent Parasitologist Award

Please submit nominations to: Lisa Brown, P.O. Box 8042-1, Statesboro, GA 30460. Email: [ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu](mailto:ldbrown@georgiasouthern.edu). Nominations will close on **January 21, 2022**.

*Eligibility:* Selection criteria for the Eminent Parasitologist award are: 1) eminence and international visibility for a substantial contribution to parasitology over a minimum 10-year period, 2) eligibility is not limited to ASP members, but is preferable, and 3) nominations from ASP members or the selection committee's initiative to put forth a name will be acceptable.

*Award:* The award consists of travel and accommodation expenses up to \$1,500, a \$500 honorarium, and a plaque to be presented at the Annual Meeting. The Eminent Parasitologist will be required to give a 45-minute presentation.

*Nomination:* Members in good standing who nominate candidates for the Eminent Parasitologist Award should carefully determine the eligibility of their candidate according to the above eligibility rules.

Nominations for this award should be supported by adequate documentation to enable the Awards Committee to exercise critical evaluation. Documentation should consist of: (1) a complete Curriculum vitae providing a bibliography in which the authors are listed in the same sequence as in the published papers; (2) three supporting letters, including the original nominating letter; these letters should include a serious evaluation of the major aspects of the nominee's scientific work.

# AMERICAN SOCIETY OF PARASITOLOGISTS 2022 CALL FOR OFFICER NOMINATIONS

The Nominating & Tellers Committee is charged with developing a slate of candidates to stand for election as officers and representatives for the Society. The first task of the Committee is to identify candidates willing to commit to service for the Society for the elected positions. Thus, we are looking to identify 1) two candidates to run for the office of Vice-President and its four required years of service, 2) four candidates from which two Council Members-at-Lar-

# Call for Nominations, cont'd.

ge will be elected for a four-year term, 3) nine candidates from which the next Nominating & Tellers Committee will be elected, and 4) a minimum of two student members to stand for election as the next Student Representative to Council. Brief descriptions of the positions, their requirements, and their terms are outlined below.

We value the collective wisdom of the membership and wish to solicit input into this process. We will gladly entertain nominations of qualified candidates for any of the listed positions.

Please contact the Chair of the Nominating & Tellers Committee, April Blakeslee, at the following email ([blakeslee-ap14@ecu.edu](mailto:blakeslee-ap14@ecu.edu)) with your nominations before **3 December 2021**. Please put “**ASP Nominee**” in the subject line when you send your nomination.

## **Vice-President**

*(2 candidates required)*

The Vice President serves four years. The Vice President, at the completion of his/her term, shall become the President-Elect, then President, then Immediate Past President. The Vice President is strongly encouraged to attend at least two different annual meetings of Affiliated Societies, other than his/her own, and develop a forum or workshop where issues of importance to the American Society of Parasitologists and affiliates can be discussed. The Vice-President shall also serve as a non-voting member of the Priorities Committee.

## **Secretary/Treasurer**

*(2 candidates preferred)*

The Secretary/Treasurer position is initially for 3 years but may be extended for an additional 3-year term. Candidates must reside in the U.S., since part of the S/T position is acting as the representative of the Society to the Internal Revenue Service and having physical access to the U.S. banking system. For more information about this position, please contact the current S/T Lee Couch at [lcouch@unm.edu](mailto:lcouch@unm.edu).

## **Council Members-at-Large**

*(4 candidates required)*

Council Members-at-Large serve four-year terms. Terms are staggered in such a manner that there are two regular vacancies to be filled each year. Council Members-at-Large may not be nominated or elected to sequential terms but may serve more than once.

## **Nominating & Tellers Committee**

*(9 candidates required)*

The Nominating & Tellers Committee nominates candidates for the offices of Vice-President and Council Members-at-Large, the Secretary-Treasurer (as needed), and members for the succeeding Nominating & Tellers Committee. The Committee also tallies the annual election ballots. Election to the Nominating & Tellers Committee is by plurality – the top five are elected and the person with the most votes serves as the Chair. The term is for one year.

## **Student Representative to Council**

*(2 candidates required)*

Members in good standing will select two candidates to stand for election for the position of Student Member-at-Large of Council. The term is for one year. All active members of the Society may vote to elect the Student Member-at-Large.

