Society for Vector Ecology

SOVE Newsletter

President's Message

Lyric Bartholomay

Dear Colleagues in SOVE,

Spring has sprung in the Upper Midwest, USA, and the bloodsuckers are resuming activity. Well aligned with Lyme Disease Awareness Month in May, nymphal-stage *Ixodes scapularis* are questing across the state of Wisconsin. With this activity, and the close of Spring Semester, I am reflecting on almost 20 years of field seasons spent tracking and controlling mosquitoes and ticks, and the field teams that made that work possible. As some of you may know, I am one of the Directors of the Midwest Center of Excellence for Vector-Borne Disease, along with Susan Paskewitz. Last week, we welcomed a group of 9 summer fellows to our research projects in Wisconsin and Northern Illinois. I'm sure many of you are likewise onboarding seasonal employees to your operations and organizations.

In our opening moments last week, I had two conversation prompts to help make new connections with the group of fellows based in Madison (all of whom are upper level undergraduates, or have recently graduated): 1) what was your major/career goal when you started, and what is your major/career goal now, and 2) talk about a high impact experience you had with an arthropod - something that elicited some feeling. Three PhD entomologists in the room had similar stories; each of us started out thinking we were on track to become medical doctors, but had always been drawn to insects, and found Entomology through a charismatic professor. Several fellows relayed simi- lar stories taking classwork that sparked an interest in public health or entomology and finding their way to this experience.

- ---------- ***President's Message*** cont'd on p. 2.

In this Issue

their arthropod experiences varied from being repulsed by cockroaches, to fascinated by watching ichneumonid oviposition. Based on our experiences in working with groups like this one over many years, I trust that some of these people will 'catch the bug' through this summer field experience and find ways to continue to work in, or in the orbit of, vector ecology.

I have often thought about how we can draw more bright, curious, observant people into Entomology, and I am clearly not the first vector biologist to consider this issue. Many of you saw Alexandra Sifferlin's 2018 article in Time Magazine Fewer Scientists Are Studying Insects. Here's Why That's So Dangerous, wherein Ben Beard asked, "Where have all the entomologists gone?" here's a clear and pressing need for training medical and public health entomologists! Ned Walker (Michigan State University) helped me find a copy of a Workshop Report from 1982 on this very topic. A steering committee consisting of George Craig, John Edman, Robert Gwadz, Edward Michelson and Robert Washino convened a workshop of 45 people to discuss Manpower Needs and Career Opportunities in the Field Aspects of Vector Biology (September 1982). This group noted that "widespread use of DDT and other new pesticides seemed to offer hope for the eradication of malaria. Indeed, the World Health Organization and government manpower policies relating to vector control programs for *Aedes aegypti* in the Americas served to discourage commitment of a whole generation of scientists to careers in vector biology, because there was no need to hire scientists to study insects about to become extinct!" This group of colleagues went on to emphasize the need for experiences where trainees can apply their knowledge to vector populations in the field.

I put forth that field experiences are both formative and foundational to this career path we share. Great field experiences are both a powerful recruitment tool, and a lens into vector ecology. Through that lens, new hypotheses are sparked, as are innovations in intervention strategies. For me, field work experiences were a normal part of the family vacation itinerary. Using turkey basters and milk jugs to collect *Aedes triseriatus* in the forested bluffs along the Mississippi was a good time. There was healthy competition (for the most larvae/tree hole), quality time in the woods, laughter and awe (see photo of a much younger me with my father, Barry Beaty). For those who didn't grow up with a parent in vector ecology (i.e., the vast majority of us!), I bet each of you could point to a formative field experience in the roadmap of your career. I hope that this summer, you have the privilege of sharing your knowledge and practice with someone who will be in the next generation of vector ecologists. Please think of SOVE as you work alongside vector ecology-leaning trainees; we would be very glad to be part of their career paths. And remember to make a little time in your summer schedule for students to meet those deadlines for student competition, travel grants and poster abstracts.

Lyric

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Latin American SOVE

Christine B. McCarthy
Regional Director

Dear SOVE friends and colleagues,

Dengue outbreak 2024 in Argentina: A living nightmare. This year´s dengue epidemic in Argentina is considered the most severe in our history. Two of the culprits are climatic change and human mobility between neighboring countries with an epidemic outbreak. But that is not all. The shortage of medical supplies and diagnostic reagents has caused a crisis in Argentina's health system. Public policies, particularly in relation to the withdrawal of funds for awareness campaigns, the non-inclusion of the vaccine in the mandatory vaccination scheme, the absence of price control leading (among others) to a scarcity of insect repellents sold at outrageous prices. All part of an explosive social, economic and political context that is nurturing this epidemic.

For the dengue situation in Argentina,[1] in cumulative terms, 505,189 dengue cases have been reported in Argentina (July 2023 through May 2024) (95% autochthonous, 3% under study and 2% imported), of which 488.035 (97%) correspond to 2024. For this same period, with the cumulative incidence of 1.073 cases per 100.000 population, a total of 1,155 cases were classified as severe (0.23%) and there have been 343 registered deaths (0.068% fatality). To put things in perspective, the number of cumulative cases represents 3.35 times more than what was registered for the same period the previous season (2022/2023), and 8.12 times more than what was registered for 2019/2020. The highest number of cases occurred between mid-March and the beginning of April, during which an average of 58.647 weekly cases was registered. In comparison to other epidemic years, this season is characterized by persistent viral circulation in the north-eastern region of Argentina and an early seasonal increase in comparison to previous epidemic years coupled with a high number of weekly cases.

Three identified serotypes are circulating in the country, with a predominance of DEN-2, followed by DEN-1 (they both combine to 99.9% of the cases), and a few cases of DEN-3.
The highest cumulative incidence and the greatest number of cases were observed in people between 10 and 39 years. Of age. The lowest incidence was registered in adults >80 and children <10. Fatalities were registered in every age group, with the greatest mortality rate in the >80 –year age group, followed by 70 to 79, 60 to 69 and 50 to 59.

For the dengue situation in the American context,[2] Argentina is not an island, but it is surrounded by other counties. Between January and the beginning of May 2024, a total of 8,364.272 suspected cases of dengue were reported, resulting in a cumulative incidence of 886 per 100.000 population. This represents an increase of 235% compared to the same period in 2023 and 431% compared to the average of the last 5 years. Of the total registered cases, 7717 (0.1%) were classified as severe and 3577 as fata (0.045% fatality).

In the *Southern subregion,* in relation to the dengue serotypes, Paraguay and Bolivia register DEN-1 and DEN-2 circulation. Peru reports DEN-1, DEN-2 and DEN-3 circulation, whereas Brazil presents circulation of all 4 serotypes. With respect to the previous year, there has been an increase in dengue cases in Brazil, Paraguay and Peru. And for *Argentina*, the perfect cocktail for dengue to prosper,[3] the lack of supplies and reagents to diagnose dengue is creating a crisis in Argentina's health system. The high demand, exacerbated by this dengue outbreak of epic dimensions, has caused a shortage in public and private hospitals throughout the country. Suppliers, mostly located in Buenos Aires, face difficulties in the distribution of reagents, which has resulted in delays in delivery and the impossibility to perform effective diagnostic tests. This situation is aggravated by a prohibitive price increase of medical supplies, which makes it even more difficult for health institutions to buy them.

Although the Ministry of Health has historically carried out awareness campaigns using mass media, social networks and its official website, the current government has eliminated funds for official publicity. Consequently, the lack of a massive prevention campaign has made it difficult to alert the population on how to take actions which could mitigate and combat the propagation of this epidemic. Moreover, the absence of price control following the dismantling of official regulatory entities by the Argentine Government has also aggravated the situation. In the midst of this dengue crisis there is not only a notorious and inexplicable shortage of insect repellents, but the few that reach the market are sold at exorbitant prices. This has left most of the population unprotected and vulnerable in the middle of (various) legendary mosquito invasions.

- ---------- ---------***McCarthy** cont'd. on p. 5.*

SOVE–Indian Chapter

Ashwani Kumar

Regional Director

Dear friends and colleagues,

The Society for Vector Ecology (SOVE) established its Indian Chapter during the 47th annual SOVE conference in Anchorage, Alaska, USA. Registered under the Indian Societies Registration Act, 1860, on July 27, 2017, it focuses on vector ecology and vector-borne diseases, particularly in the Indian subcontinent. Objectives include promoting research, skill development, information dissemination, and engaging students and scholars. Indian SOVE fosters scientific collaboration and bridges gaps between academia, industry, and policymakers for effective vector management.

The Executive Committee

In 2017, the Indian SOVE was established with a committee consisting of Founder President/Director Ashwani Kumar, Secretary Ajeet Kumar Mohanty, Treasurer Sandeep Garg, and six members: Hemanth Kumar, R K Das Gupta, Kalpana Baruah, Rakhi Dhawan, Nandini Korgaonkar, and Deeparani Prabhu. For over five years, this dedicated team has worked tirelessly to fulfil the objectives of the Society. I am incredibly fortunate to have had their support. Together, we have successfully conducted two international conferences, workshops, webinars, and SOVE lectures. I would like to express my deepest gratitude to the entire team for their unwavering commitment and also gratefulness to the parent SOVE especially the past Executive Director Major S. Dhillon, Successive Presidents and the current Executive Director, Michelle Brown for their handholding and ever forthcoming support.

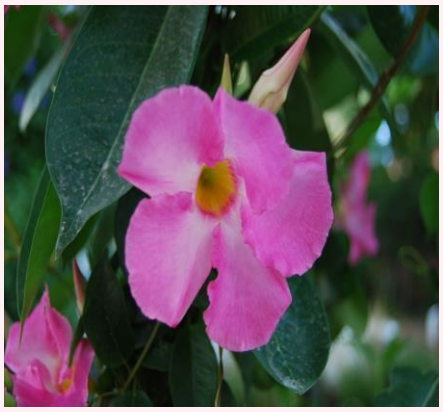
Membership:

The SOVE Indian Chapter has experienced a remarkable surge in membership, reaching 155 members, including 93 regular members, 13 retirees, 48 students, and 1 sustaining member. The society is dedicated to expanding its reach across the nation, aiming for a PAN India presence, and extending its efforts to welcome members from neighboring countries in the region starting in 2025.

Future Vision:

The SOVE Indian Chapter now 7-year old, is undergoing a period of renewal. Key leadership positions will be filled through elections scheduled for July 2024. This influx of new leadership will pave the way for fresh decision-making and the development of a strategic roadmap for the society's future and its outreach.

Ashwani Kumar



52nd Annual SOVE Program Organizing Committee

Dear Colleagues,

We have planned a diverse and fun program which is being finalized for the 52nd Annual SOVE Conference, which will be held in Fort Collins, Colorado, September 15 - 19, 2024!

Angela Pelzel-McCluskey, Stephanie Brault, and Sarah Speth will lead a pre-conference workshop on vector borne diseases outbreaks, with a focus on vesicular stomatitis virus (VSV) and Japanese encephalitis virus (JEV). Outbreaks of VSV in the United States in new areas in 2023 and JEV in Australia in 2022 have demonstrated the importance of these workshops to discuss mitigation tools and responses prior to outbreaks rather than trying to react after the introduction. The workshop is open to everyone attending the conference although it requires registration, so please register at the SOVE website, www.sove.org after completing the conference registration.

We are delighted to share that the keynote speaker is Ben Beard from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention! Ben's talk is entitled "Vector Ecology in an Age of Global Change".
This year's Conference will include both regular talks and turbo talks, and students will continue to have their own symposium.

Poster abstracts are due by July 19th and can be submitted at https://auth.oxfordabstracts.com/?redirect=/stages/26970/submitter

Additional symposia for SOVE 2024 include the coming plagues, climate change and vector ecology, novelties in vector ecology, novel control methods, modeling, wildlife ecology, and genetics, metagenomics and microbiome of vectors. This year, following the success of last year's version, we will have a career panel discussing different career paths and how to successfully get a position. In addition, the field ecology day will allow us to enjoy one of the many gorgeous hikes around Fort Collins!

See you there!

Your organizing committee
Lee Cohnstaedt and Paula Lado
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McCarthy cont'd. from p. 3:

The government has said that the dengue epidemic is not a priority nor is it necessary to reactivate official publicity to raise social awareness. That it is unnecessary to include the vaccine in the mandatory vaccination scheme (different to Brazil that did so in February) claiming that "its effectiveness has not been proven". Nonetheless, at the beginning of May they announced that they will offer the dengue vaccine, but only in endemic areas with a higher prevalence of cases. After the peak has passed.

In conclusion, the epidemiological, economic, political and social cocktail in Argentina has ensured that this epic dengue outbreak go down in history as its most severe… until now, hopefully…

Christine
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Using targeted sterile insect technology (SIT) to control invasive Aedes aegypti in California: What is the hope for small districts?

Solomon K. Birhanie Solomon.Birhanie@wvmvcd.org
West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District, Ontario, California

Aedes aegypti (L.) is on the move! In western United States, California is the most affected by the increasing geographic expansion of *Ae. aegypti*, with over 300 cities within 25 central and southern counties being affected. With this mosquito's capability to transmit arboviruses such as dengue, Zika and chikungunya, public health concern is high. Thus, an innovative tool is required to reinforce the existing integrated pest management (IPM) strategies to control the spread of invasive *Aedes* spp.

Sterile insect technique (SIT) is an innovative tool and among the most environment-friendly insect pest control methods ever developed. SIT would be a good addition to the toolbox of IPM to effectively suppress invasive *Aedes* expansion. Using irradiation, such as X-rays, it is used to sterilize mass-reared insects so that, while they remain sexually competitive, females mating with them cannot produce offsprings. Since SIT using X-ray radiation does not involve transgenic (genetic engineering) processes, these mosquitoes are not self-replicating and cannot become established in the environment. Overall, SIT that utilizes radiation does not introduce non-native species into an ecosystem and is easy to utilize with recently developed user-friendly X-ray machines that do not require highly skilled expertise.

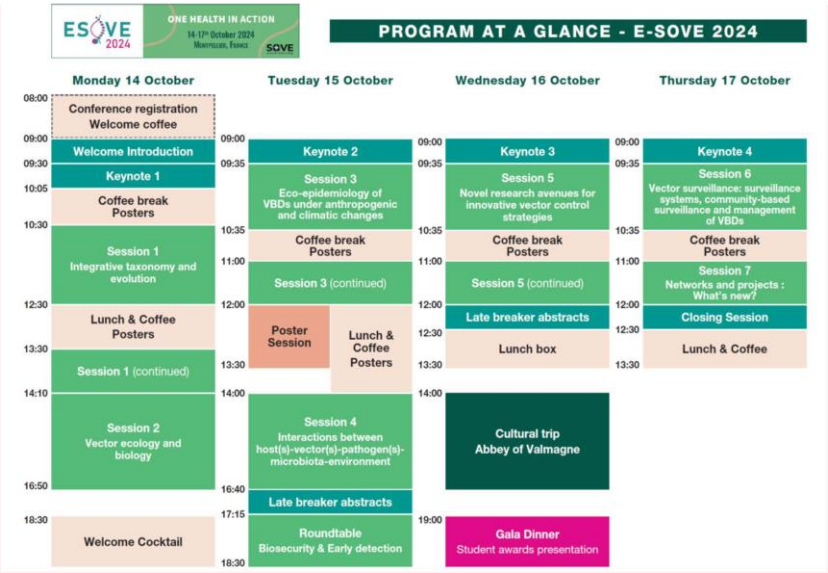
While the profound benefit of SIT is mass-rearing, sterilizing, and releasing "overflooding" number of male mosquitoes for an area-wide application, the question being asked is can it be utilized by smaller districts with limited resources? Here at the West Valley Mosquito and Vector Control District in Ontario, California, we are exploring ways to adopt and optimize the SIT procedures to fit into the needs and resources of smaller districts without affecting its full-scale benefits. The targeted application of SIT at hotspots with a history of high *Aedes* counts has been strategized and is being implemented in our District. We hope this work will help generate lessons for similar smaller districts.

By expanding mosquito surveillance across the district since the introduction of invasive *Aedes* mosquitoes, we were able to identify *Ae. aegypti* hotspots and generate spatiotemporal data to monitor population dynamics throughout most of the year. These data were utilized to selectively target SIT at *Aedes aegypti* hotspots that persistently cause high population during the mosquito season. However, over the years, mosquito control activities have taught us the importance of rolling out interventions before the beginning of the mosquito season to have meaningful impacts later during the peak of the season. Using this approach, we are now applying SIT at *Aedes* hotspots preseason, which is hoped to benefit in suppressing the mosquito population during the peak season.

The other important component of targeted SIT application is that it does not require mass-rearing to generate millions of mosquitoes at a time as the case for area-wide application; instead, moderate number of mosquitoes will be reared, sterilized, and released at specific sites like pesticide application with the mosquito problem. Substantiating this approach, previous studies have shown that released mosquitoes have a short flight range (<290 m), which greatly supports the targeted application strategy. Overall, with reasonable cost and adaptable workflow, incorporating targeted SIT application into routine IPM strategies for vector interventions would be beneficial especially for smaller districts.

FROM THE DESK OF

SOVE Executive Director, Michelle Brown



Introducing the SOVE Early Career Professional Education and Development Committee

Karen Poh, Filiz Gunay, Ayat Abourashed, Lee Cohnstaedt, Alex Chaskoupoulou, Mitchell Kirsch, Paula Lado, Vilma Montenegro, Patil Tawidan, and Michelle Brown

Students and early career professional (ECP) members in the Society for Vector Ecology (SOVE) represent the next generation of s cientists and professionals that will be tasked with answering emerging questions and challenges in the field of vector ecology. In 2023, an interest survey was administered to our student and ECP members to identify knowledge and experience gaps amongst this member demographic (results published in the December 2023 Newsletter). While the survey highlighted common challenges for SOVE student and ECP members in the field of vector ecology and control, it also emphasized the need for a new committee in SOVE to support young SOVE members in their career development and experiences. As a result of the survey, the SOVE Early Career Professional Education and Development Committee (ECPEDC) was formed during the 2023 SOVE Annual Meeting in Charleston, South Carolina.

The ECPEDC's goal is to ensure the success and enhance the experience of student and ECP members in SOVE by: Developing professional development content and activities of interest to members; Connecting early stage and senior researchers to create meaningful relationships globally; and Identifying and training future leaders of SOVE to ensure continuity in leadership roles within the society.

The ECPEDC aims to create activities relevant to student and ECP members. A SOVE student member is defined as an individual in higher education undertaking an undergraduate or postgraduate degree (including PhD). A SOVE ECP member is any member within 8 years of finishing higher education and starting their career in vector ecology. While most activities are for student and ECP members, any member of SOVE is welcome to join the ECPEDC as a member of the committee and/or to participate in activities. However, any funding or professional opportunities from this committee are expected to only be open to members who fit within the criteria of a SOVE student or ECP member.

Currently, the ECPEDC is working to make this committee a permanent, long-last part of SOVE. The structure of the committee includes a director, members of SOVE leadership, at-large members, and international SOVE Branch representatives. Members that currently do not hold a leadership position or phase out of a leadership position within SOVE are considered at-large members or can be moved into an at-large member status, respectively. The committee is working towards adding the committee as an official group and voting member to the SOVE Board of Directors.

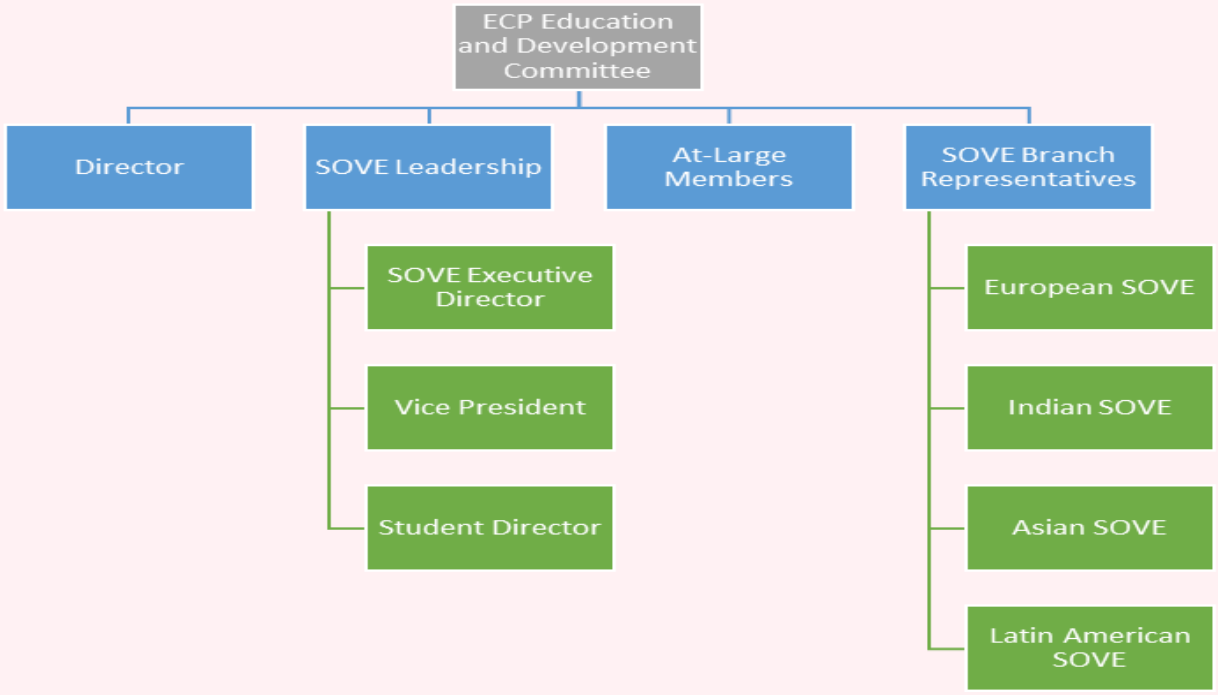
Even though the ECPEDC was formed just last year, the committee is in full swing when it comes to events! This year, ECPEDC Director Karen Poh and at-large member Filiz Gunay hosted a webinar focused on best practices for reviewers of the Journal of Vector Ecology (JVE). Editor-in-chief of JVE, Marc Klowden provided tips, tricks, and experiences for potential reviewers. The committee is compiling a student/ECP reviewer database for the EIC that can be used to identify potential reviewers for future articles. If you are interested in being contacted as a reviewer for JVE, fill out the following form: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf_WtIzeFel61Ac0VyHYIG4enoBU3mmX5NGYXUZBgtyzCu6MQ/viewform

The committee also recorded the webinar in case members were unable to make the webinar at its original meeting time (SOVE login required): https://www.sove.org/webinars

The committee is planning an upcoming webinar that will occur right before the 2024 SOVE annual meeting in Fort Collins, CO. Student Director Ayat Abourashed will be leading a webinar on successful networking tactics, which attendees can then practice and use during any of the upcoming SOVE conferences.

——————— ***ECPEDC*** cont'd. on p. 9

ECPEDC cont'd from p..8



ECPEDC Layout

More information on the webinar, including dates and registration link, will be available soon so be sure to follow the SOVE social media accounts on Facebook (https://www.facebook.com/SocietyForVectorEcology/) and X/Twitter (@_sove_) for the latest updates.

Finally, at-large members Vilma Montenegro and Mitchell Kirsch will be co-hosting a career panel symposium during the annual SOVE conference, "Job Market Surveillance: Opportunities in vector ecology and control," which will introduce student and ECP members to different career paths in vector biology and ecology. This is a second iteration of the career symposium that was hosted last year by Vilma and Hannah Tiffin. While the symposium is aimed towards student and ECP members, any member is welcome to attend the symposium and any other events hosted by the ECPEDC. Looking to the future, the committee will be hosting more events leading into the 2025 SOVE annual meeting and we will be looking for international representatives so that similar events can also be held for members in our international branches.

While the committee is still a new committee within SOVE, we look forward to making positive impacts on student and ECP member experiences in the organization. Have a professional/career development topic you want the committee to pursue? Or are you interested in getting more involved in the committee? Contact any member of the ECPEDC or the ECPEDC Director, Karen Poh for more information (karen.poh@usda.gov). We are open to suggestions on different topics and formats to deliver information and we are always looking for new members to help organize events!

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Here is some NIAID-related information that may be of interest to SOVE members:

NIAID Data Ecosystem Discovery Portal

Users can search the NIAID Data Ecosystem Discovery Portal for infectious and immune-mediated disease (IID) data across the ecosystem of NIAID-supported data and the larger IID community. The Discovery Portal searches within NIAID-funded repositories to promote the discovery of IID resources, enhance open science, and align with findable, accessible, interoperable, and reusable (FAIR) data practices.

The Portal does not contain data but features descriptions about each dataset and information about each dataset (metadata). The Discovery Portal provides external links that allow users to access the data directly from each repository. Several NIAID-sponsored repositories are already available in the initial release including: AccessClinicalData@NIAID, ClinEpiDB, ImmPort, and VEuPathDB. More details about data types and data access are found in the About section on the Discovery Portal website.

Getting Started with the NIAID Data Ecosystem Discovery Portal

To search for IID data within the Discovery Portal, navigate to the Discovery Portal homepage and enter keyword(s) into the search bar. You can also search with custom queries in Advanced Search or pre-built queries for common IID searches. With the Discovery Portal, you can: Rapidly search millions of datasets across both IID and generalist repositories from the Search or Advanced Search. Use filters to identify research data by metadata categories including funding source, repository, conditions of access, and more. Learn more about the Discovery Portal from the About The NIAID Data Ecosystem page and read documentation in the Knowledge Center.

Adriana Costero-Saint Denis, (NIH/NIAID) [E] <acostero@niaid.nih.gov>

See more RESOURCES on p. 11.

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Announcements

Meetings

SOCIETY FOR VECTOR ECOLOGY
Annual Meeting
September 15-19, 2024
Fort Collins, Colorado

EUROPEAN SOCIETY FOR VECTOR ECOLOGY
Meeting
October 14-17, 2024
Montpellier, France

AMERICAN MOSQUITO CONTROL ASSOCIATION
Annual Meeting
March 3-7, 2025
San Juan, Puerto Rico

Jobs

Position Ad—Biology

Boehringer Ingelheim has an entry level biologist position open in the parasitology lab Fulton, MO. Anyone interest- ed in applying can reach out to Dustin Mattern and use this link below. https://boehringer-ingelheim.talentry.com/share/job/446537/793077/1715948372/3 [boehringer-ingelheim.talentry.com]

This information was posted in the NIH Extramural NEXUS newsletter website on April 4, 2024 https://nexus.od.nih.gov/all/2024/04/04/changes-coming-to-applications-and-peer-review-in-january-2025/ [nexus.od.nih.gov]

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) is implementing multiple changes that will impact the preparation and peer review of most grant applications submitted to NIH for due dates on or after January 25, 2025. Although each of these initiatives have specific goals, they are all meant to simplify, clarify, or ensure greater fairness. We just released a guide notice (**NOT-OD-24-084)** [grants.nih.gov], what we are referring to as an "uber" notice, that provides an overview of each change to help the community contextualize them as details are released over the next few months. We developed this **video (25 min)** [youtu.be] to provide an overview of the following changes:

Simplified review criteria for most research project grants. We **announced this initiative this past October** [nexus.od.nih.gov], held an **informational webinar** [grants.nih.gov] in November, and with additional information on funding opportunities on in **a separate blog today** [nexus.od.nih.gov], and in an upcoming April 17 **webinar** [grants.nih.gov].

Revisions to the fellowship application and review process. You may remember the **request for information** [nexus.od.nih.gov] NIH published last year. In the next few weeks, NIH will be releasing details of the resulting fellowship application and review changes that we are implementing. The changes are intended to: (1) better focus reviewer attention on the fellowship candidate's preparedness and potential, the research training plan, and the sponsor/sponsoring institutional commitment to the candidate; (2) ensure a broad range of candidates and research training contexts can be recognized as meritorious; and (3) reduce bias in review by emphasizing the commitment to the candidate without undue consideration of sponsor and institutional reputation. NIH will be hosting a **webinar** [grants.nih.gov] to walk the community through the fellowship changes on September 19, 2024.

Updates to reference letter guidance. NIH is updating the instructions for reference letters to provide more structure for reviewers. Resulting letters will better assist reviewers in outlining the candidate's strengths, weaknesses, and potential to pursue a productive career in biomedical science. The updated instructions will be posted later this fall on the **Reference Letter web page** [grants.nih.gov].

Updates to NRSA training grant applications. Later this spring NIH will publish an NIH Guide notice announcing changes to training grant applications that, at a high level, include:

--Updating the NRSA Data Tables to reduce applicant and reviewer burden;

--Including the Training in the Responsible Conduct of Research and the Recruitment Plan to Enhance Diversity as items that contribute to the overall impact score; and

--Enhancing research training programs by further defining expectations for mentor training and clarifying positive outcomes related to preparing trainees for the breadth of research and related careers relevant to the NIH mission. The NIH will be hosting a **webinar** [grants.nih.gov] to walk the community through the training grant changes on June 5, 2024.

Updated application forms (FORMS-I). NIH will release updated application forms to support many of the changes coming in 2025. The new forms must be used for application due dates on or after January 25, 2025. Applications submitted for due dates prior to January 25 should continue to use FORMS-H. We encourage you to review the FORMS-I Guide Notice (**NOT-OD-24-086** [grants.nih.gov]) to learn more about the timing and availability of the new forms.

Common Forms for biographical sketch and current and pending (other) support. To be adopted in 2025 for all applications and Research Performance Progress Reports (RPPRs) submitted to NIH, the Common Forms represent a collaborative effort between Federal research agencies to ensure standard disclosure requirements as outlined in the **National Security Presidential Memorandum – 33** [whitehouse.gov]. In addition to providing greater standardization across federal agencies, the **Common Forms** [whitehouse.gov] provide clarity regarding disclosure requirements (e.g., who discloses what, relevant limitations and exclusions), disclosure process (e.g., updates, corrections, certification, and provision of supporting documentation), and expected degree of cross-agency uniformity (excerpt from **Guidance for Implementing National Security Presidential Memorandum 33** [whitehouse.gov]). We will be providing details on our implementation and timing in the next few months.

We recognize these are a lot of changes all at once. To help the community, we have developed a centralized **webpage on Changes Coming in January 2025** [grants.nih.gov] that we will continue to update as details of each change and resources are developed and released. We will also be updating the "uber" notice with subsequent notices related to these changes. We encourage you to learn more about these changes, and to take advantage of the many resources we are developing. We will be discussing changes here on Open Mike as details are released.

Tagsapplications [nexus.od.nih.gov] Grants policy [nexus.od.nih.gov] Peer review [nexus.od.nih.gov] Spotlight [nexus.od.nih.gov]

For more info, contact: Adriana Adriana Costero-Saint Denis, (NIH/NIAID) [E] <acostero@niaid.nih.gov>

Society for Vector Ecology

1295 E. Locust St
Ontario, CA 91761
USA

Phone: (909) 635-0307
admin@sove.org

Newsletter Editor
Lal S. Mian, PhD
lmian@csusb.edu

We are on the Web!
www.sove.org

About SOVE . . . . .

The Society for Vector Ecology is a nonprofit professional organization formed in 1968 by a group of individuals involved in vector biology and control programs in California. The membership has since grown to represent an amalgamation of diverse research, operational, and extension personnel from all over the world. The Society is committed to solving many complex problems encountered in the field of vector biology and control. Among these are the suppression of nuisance organisms and disease vectors through the integration of various control options, such as environmental management, biological control, public education, and appropriate chemical or non-chemical control strategy.

The Society publishes the biannual Journal of Vector Ecology that contains research and operational papers covering many phases of vector biology, ecology, and control. The Society also issues a quarterly newsletter and holds an annual conference in September/October.

2024 SOVE Board Members, Editors