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# **INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR BEHAVIORAL ECOLOGY**

# **ISBE NEWSLETTER**

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**Nov/Dec 1999**  
**Volume 11 (2)**

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## **From the president**

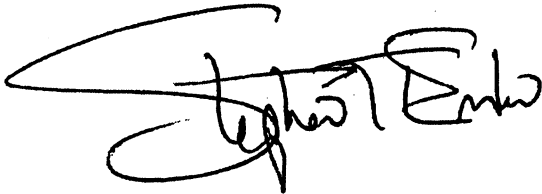
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I wish to encourage you all to attend our upcoming VIIIth Biennial Behavioral Ecology Congress which will be held in Zurich, Switzerland from 8 – 12 August, 2000. Zurich is a beautiful city, nestled on the banks of the River Limmat within easy striking range of the Alps. Our sessions will be held on the Irchel campus of the University of Zurich. Art, theater, music, the Zoological Museum and the Zoo are all located nearby. More information will be available shortly on ISBE's web link to the Oxford University Press homepage (<http://www.oup.co.uk/beheco>) and also on a link from the Zurich Zoological Museum (<http://www.unizh.ch/zoolmus/>). If you can't wait, you may contact Paul Ward, the meeting's chief organizer ([pward@xoolmus.unizh.ch](mailto:pward@xoolmus.unizh.ch)). A flier with more information on the Congress as well as instructions for abstract submission will be sent out soon (these will also be available on the website).

I offer my thanks in advance to Paul Ward and to the local committee of Wolf Blanckenhorn, Barbara Konig and Paul Schmid-Hempel. Having just participated as a local host at the annual meeting of the American Ornithologists' Union here at Cornell University (900 registrants), I know how much we will all be indebted to both Pauls, Wolf, Barbara, and their helpers next summer in Zurich. May the "force" be with them in the months between now and next August.

Looking further into the future, the Executive Council has voted to accept the invitation of McGill and Concordia Universities to host our second meeting of the new Millennium, the IXth ISBE Congress, in the city of Montreal, Quebec sometime in July or August of 2002. Luc-Alain Giraldeau and Donald Kramer are

the local organizers. We will hold our sessions on the lower campus of McGill University, in the heart of downtown Montreal. Details are still being worked out, and we will keep you all updated as plans are finalized.



Stephen T. Emlen

## Editorial

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This issue is a bit thinner than usual. No book reviews or opinion articles this time, but a lot of information about the Society and about upcoming events and jobs. Please note that you can elect new ISBE Officers (see next page). You can use the voting slip on the last page of this Newsletter.

The next issue of the Newsletter will come out with the May/June 2000 issue of *Behavioral Ecology*, so copy that reaches me **before 15 April** can be included.

To all who contributed to this issue: thanks for sending in your text so timely.

*Bart Kempnaers*  
Newsletter Editor

## The Current Executive

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## Society News

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### Election of ISBE Officers

Every two years, the ISBE elects new officers, whose term begins at the next society meeting. We provide below brief biographical summaries for all candidates. The ballot and voting instructions are on the last page of this newsletter. Everyone receiving this newsletter is eligible to vote.

*(1) Candidates for PRESIDENT-ELECT (to become PRESIDENT at the 2002 meeting, and to serve for two years).*

#### Malte Andersson

BSc 1969, PhD 1976. Professor of Animal Ecology, Göteborg University since 1994. Lured from birdwatching into behaviour and ecology of skuas after reading Tinbergen's books on gulls and other animals at a sensitive age. Later work on population biology of lemmings and other rodents, animal communication, life history, foraging behaviour, colonial breeding and other aspects of social behaviour, sexual selection, evolution of behaviour, also fond of modelling. Founding council member of ISBE (Albany 1986).

#### Joan E. Strassmann

B.S., University of Michigan, 1974; Ph.D. University of Texas, 1979; Professor of ecology and evolutionary biology at Rice University since 1980. I am broadly interested in social evolution and particularly in the resolution of conflicting genetic interests within groups. I have worked with social wasps, stingless bees, and social amoebae and have published over 75 papers. My approach combines molecular techniques, particularly using

DNA microsatellites, with collaborative field work in Italy, Brazil and Venezuela. I have developed a website for teaching that uses social wasps as model systems for analyzing behavior, reproduction and DNA microsatellites and have served on several National Science Foundation (USA) panels.

*(2) Candidates for TREASURER (to serve a 4 year term from 2000).*

**Walt Koenig**

Ph.D. 1978, Univ. California, Berkeley, currently Research Zoologist in the Museum of Vertebrate Zoology and Adjunct Professor at UC Berkeley. I'm interested in a variety of behavioral phenomena including mating systems, reproductive strategies, dispersal, and sex ratio, which I've studied in birds, dragonflies, humans, and forest trees. I served as Secretary for the ISBE in 1992-1994 and its unofficial historian until a real one was recruited. I've attended 5 of the 7 ISBE meetings to date, including the inaugural 1986 meeting in Albany and the 1998 meeting at Asilomar, which I organized in conjunction with Janis Dickinson. This latter meeting yielded a substantial monetary windfall for the ISBE, which I presume is partly why I've been nominated for, and indeed would be happy to serve as Treasurer.

**Scott Sakaluk**

Currently, Professor in the Department of Biological Sciences at Illinois State University. I obtained the M.Sc. degree at Brock University (Canada) and the Ph.D. degree from the University of Toronto in 1986. Research in my lab centers on the behavioral ecology of insect mating systems, particularly those in which males provide nuptial

food gifts to females. I am also interested in the evolution of cryptic female choice, processes that permit females to select the sires of their offspring even after copulation has occurred. Although much of my work concerns sexual competition and mating preferences in crickets, I also do collaborative work with my wife Anne Eggert on the evolution of parental care in burying beetles, a group that she assures me is much more interesting.

*(3) Candidates for COUNCILLOR (2 positions vacant, to serve 4 year terms from 2000).*

**Ben Hatchwell**

I received my PhD from University of Sheffield in 1988, and after post-docs at the Universities of Cambridge and Oxford, I returned to the Department of Animal & Plant Sciences, University of Sheffield as a lecturer in 1993. Research interests include reproductive strategies, social evolution and population studies of birds. My current work focuses on the cooperative breeding system of long-tailed tits.

**Marty Leonard**

I received a PhD in 1987 from the University of Ottawa where I studied the evolution of polygyny in marsh wrens. I then did post-doctoral work at the University of Cambridge and Queens University on parent-offspring aggression in birds. After a short stint as a chicken biologist, I joined the Department of Biology at Dalhousie University, where I am currently an Associate Professor. My main research interest is in the area of parent-offspring communication, particularly the function and design of begging signals and the role of error in signal design.

**Leigh Simmons**

BSc (1983) PhD (1987) Nottingham University; Post doctoral fellow University of Liverpool (1986-1995); Senior Research Fellow and Associate Professor, University of Western Australia, since 1995. Research interests include behavioural, quantitative genetic and phylogenetic aspects of sperm competition, parental investment and mating system evolution. Works predominantly with insect models but interests transcend taxonomic boundaries. Awarded Zoological Society of London Scientific Medal 1997.

**Linda A. Whittingham**

Currently, an Assistant Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. I received my B.S. and M.S. from the Univ. of Michigan and Ph.D. from Queen's Univ. in 1992. I studied as a post-doctoral fellow at the Univ. of Oslo, Norway (1992-93), the Australian National Univ. (1993-94) and Louisiana State Univ. Museum of Natural Science (1994-96). I joined the faculty at the Univ. Wisconsin-Milwaukee in 1996. My research interests focus on the behavioral ecology and systematics of birds. In particular, I use theoretical models, field studies and modern genetic techniques to understand how ecology and phylogeny influence parental investment patterns and reproductive success.

**Donated Subscription Programme**

Please help colleagues in need. Every donation will help increase scientific contacts across the world. In a time when nationalism is again raising its ugly head, this is more important than ever. For details, see the newest issues of our journal *Behavioral Ecology*.

**Spousal Membership**

For \$5 per year spouses of full members can become members of ISBE. Spousal members receive the annual newsletter and information concerning biannual meetings, but do not receive a subscription to the journal. Please see information in any issue of *Behavioral Ecology*.

**Conferences**

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**WORKSHOP****Conflict and cooperation in parental care: integrating theoretical and empirical approaches**

The Research Center for Ornithology of the Max Planck Society will host a workshop in Seewiesen, Germany between 4-6 August 2000. The workshop will precede the 8th International Behavioral Ecology Congress. The aims of the workshop are to provide an overview of the most exciting developments in studies of parental care, to stimulate discussions among theoreticians and empiricists and to suggest future directions for parental care research. The programme will include both theoretical and empirical contributions relating to a wide variety of taxa.

The ESF has generously provided the support for a number of participants. If you are interested in attending, please send your CV and an abstract of a proposed contribution (max. 200 words) to: Dr. Bart Kempenaers, Research Center for Ornithology, Postfach 1564, D-82305 Seewiesen, Germany.

Please note, that only researchers currently working at European institutes are eligible for the ESF support. The closing date for applications is 31 January 2000.

Additional information can be requested from the workshop organisers: Sigal Balshine-Earn (University of Cambridge, sbell@cus.cam.ac.uk), Bart Kempenaers (Max Planck Society, B.Kempenaers@erl.ornithol.mpg.de) and Tamas Szekely (University of Bristol, t.szekely@bristol.ac.uk).

## Grants and Jobs

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### BEHAVIORAL or EVOLUTIONARY ECOLOGIST

The Department of Organismic Biology, Ecology and Evolution at UCLA invites applications for an **OPEN RANK, TENURE-TRACK, FACULTY POSITION** in Behavioral or Evolutionary Ecology, broadly defined. The Department of OBEE has 23 faculty, with strengths ranging from cellular to evolutionary biology, including strong research programs in animal behavior and ecology. UCLA has outstanding academic support for faculty, including access to the UC Natural Reserve System, participation in the campus-wide Institute of the Environment, and attractive startup packages. Successful candidates are expected to develop a vigorous research program and to contribute to undergraduate and graduate teaching. Senior-level candidates also would be expected to actively participate in enhancing inter-departmental programs focusing on behavior. Junior-level candidates should have postdoctoral

experience and a strong research record. No research area or taxonomic specialization is excluded, but a field-oriented research program combining theory and experimentation is desirable. Send CV, statements of research and teaching interests, and the names and addresses of three references to **Dr. Peter Nonacs, Chair, Behavioral Ecology Search, Department of Organismic Biology, Ecology and Evolution, University of California, Los Angeles, CA 90095-1606, E-mail: pnonacs@biology.ucla.edu**. Consideration of applications will begin on November 15, 1999. The University of California is an Equal Opportunity Employer committed to excellence through diversity.

### GRADUATE AND POST-GRADUATE RESEARCH GRANTS

The Biological Research Station of the Edmund Niles Huyck Preserve offers grants (max. = \$2,500) to support biological research which utilizes the resources of the Preserve. Among the research areas supported are basic and applied ecology, animal behavior, systematics, evolution, and conservation. The 2000-acre Preserve is located on the Helderberg Plateau, 30 miles southwest of Albany. Habitats include northeast hardwood-hemlock forests, conifer plantations, old fields, permanent and intermittent streams, 10 and 100 acre lakes and several waterfalls. Facilities include a wet and dry lab, library, and houses/cabins for researchers. Deadline is February 1, 2000. Application material may be obtained from Dr. Richard L. Wyman, Executive Director, EN Huyck Preserve and Biological Research Station, PO Box 189, Rensselaerville, NY 12147, USA.

## ELECTION OF ISBE OFFICERS

Please mark a cross opposite your chosen candidates.

(1) PRESIDENT ELECT

Malte Andersson

Joan Strassmann

(2) TREASURER

Walt Koenig

Scott Sakaluk

(3) COUNCILLOR (vote for two candidates)

Ben Hatchwell

Marty Leonard

Leigh Simmons

Linda Whittingham

*Return ballot slips to: N.B. Davies, Department of Zoology, Downing Street, Cambridge, CB2 3EJ, England. (Closing date: One month after the arrival of this newsletter).*

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