



The Turn of the Century

Monica G. Turner
University of Wisconsin-Madison
ESA President, 2015-16

 @MonicaGTurner #esa2016

2016 Annual Meeting, Fort Lauderdale, FL



Past, present, future



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<http://www.parkcamper.com/Glacier-National-Park/Glacier-National-Park-Hiking.htm>



Centennial celebration



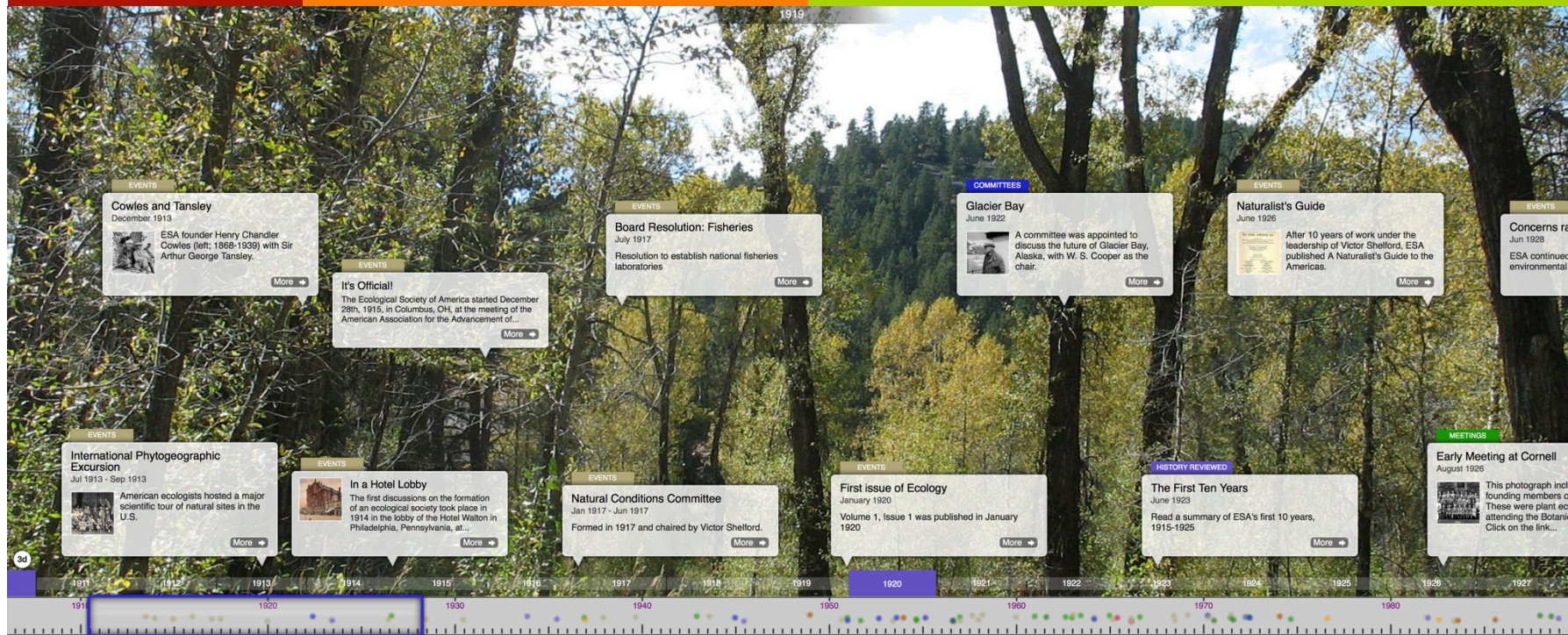
2015 Annual Meeting,
Baltimore, MD



<https://vimeo.com/116630159>



Making history since 1915



Timeline by ESA Historical Records Committee

<http://esa.org/history/esa-through-the-years/>



Making history since 1915

EVENTS

First issue of Ecology

January 1920

Volume 1, Issue 1 was published in January 1920

More →

HISTORY REVIEWED

The First Ten Years

June 1923

Read a summary of ESA's first 10 years, 1915-1925

More →

1920

1921

1922

1923

1924

1925

Timeline by ESA Historical Records Committee

<http://esa.org/history/esa-through-the-years/>



Centennial celebration



2015 Annual Meeting,
Baltimore, MD





Centennial celebration



Back row, L to R: Mary Power, Terry Chapin, Alan Covich, Hal Mooney, Simon Levin, Pam Matson, Diana Wall, Gene Likens, Kay Gross, Norm Christensen, Bob Paine, Jim Brown

Front row, L to R: Dennis Knight, Steward Pickett, Jill Baron, Nancy Grimm, David Inouye, Scott Collins, Monica Turner

2015 Centennial Meeting, Baltimore

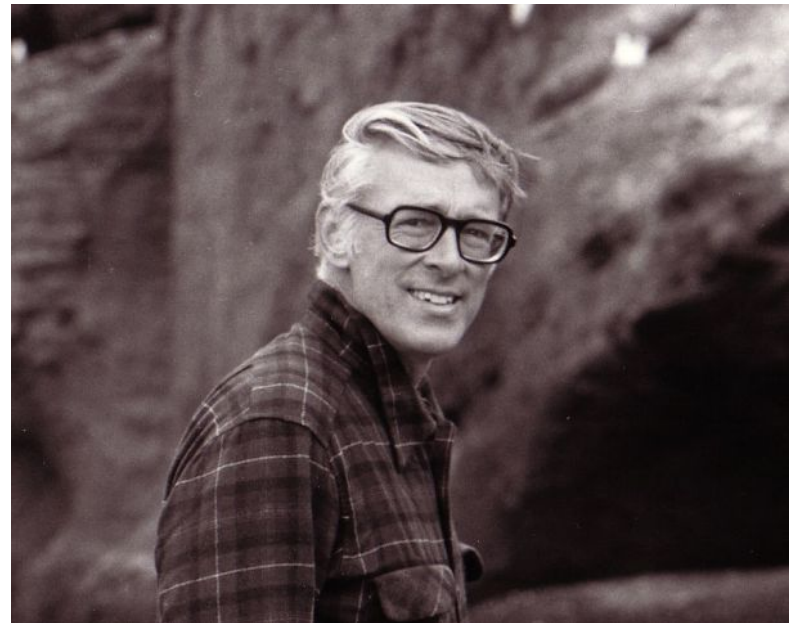


In memoriam

Robert T. Paine (1933-2016)

- ESA President, 1979-80
- Truly a keystone scientist
- Profound influence on ecology
- “Now recognized as one of the greatest ecologists in history”
—Jane Lubchenco (Nature 535:356)

Bob's life and accomplishments will be celebrated next year at ESA





Past, present, future



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<http://www.parkcamper.com/Glacier-National-Park/Glacier-National-Park-Hiking.htm>



Highlights

2016 National Medal of Science to Simon A. Levin

- ESA President, 1990-91
- Highest honor in US science
- Third ecologist
 - G. Evelyn Hutchinson
 - Ruth Patrick
 - Simon Levin



Simon Levin receives the 2016 National Medal of Science from Barack Obama. Photo credit: Carole Levin.



Highlights

Publications transition (a big deal, still in progress)

The screenshot shows the homepage of the Ecological Society of America (ESA) Journals website. The header includes the ESA logo, the word "Journals", and links for "Wiley Online Library", "Become a Member", and "ESA.org". A search bar is present with the placeholder text "Enter search terms, e.g. title, author, keyword". Below the header, there is a large image of several journal covers, including "ECOSPHERE", "Bulletin", "Ecological Applications", "ECOLOGY", and "Ecological Monographs". To the right of the image, a red circle highlights the "ESA Members: Log in for Access" section, which includes a "Log in" button. Below this, there is a link to "Click Here To Visit Ecological Archives" and a yellow box with the text "Register now! Attend the Ecological Society of America's".

Wiley Online Library

esa Journals

Become a Member | ESA.org

All ESA Journals Enter search terms, e.g. title, author, keyword

ESA Members: Log in for Access

Log in for access to all ESA journal content if you are an ESA member.

(Note: you will be redirected to eservices.esa.org for access) Log in

Click Here To Visit Ecological Archives

Register now!
Attend the Ecological Society of America's

Welcome to the publications of the Ecological Society of America. Our mission is to publish and make broadly available the most significant results of ecological research, particularly those that increase the understanding and applications of general ecological concepts.

Thank you the ESA staff (especially Steve Sayre), Wiley staff, Editors-in-Chief, Editorial Boards, Publications Committee, Reviewers, and Authors



Highlights

ESA Members: Log in for Access

Log in for access to all ESA journal content if you are an ESA member.

(Note: you will be redirected to eservices.esa.org for access)

[Log in](#)



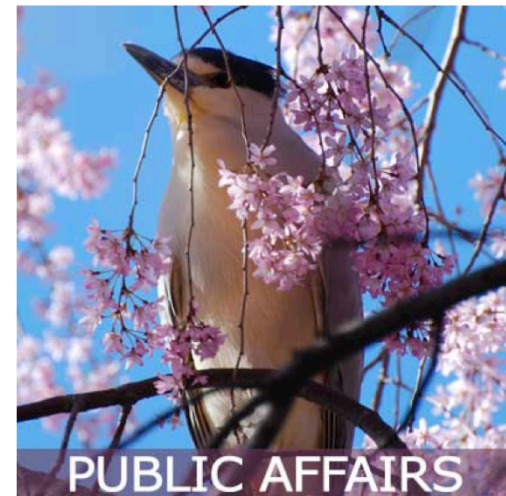
Highlights



Science committee identifies research advances, priorities



New strategic plan sets priorities



Scientific societies speak out on climate change

http://esa.org/ar_14_15/



Highlights

SEEDS 20th anniversary, model in STEM education



11th SEEDS Leadership Meeting, Coweeta, April 2016



Highlights

Awards nominations deadline moved to **October 15**

- **Caucus this week with your colleagues, chapters, sections**
 - Influence? accomplishments? notable paper?
 - Ask your lab groups, graduate classes, other networks
- **Nominate, nominate, nominate!**

ESA Awards

Call for 2017 ESA Awards Nominations Now Open

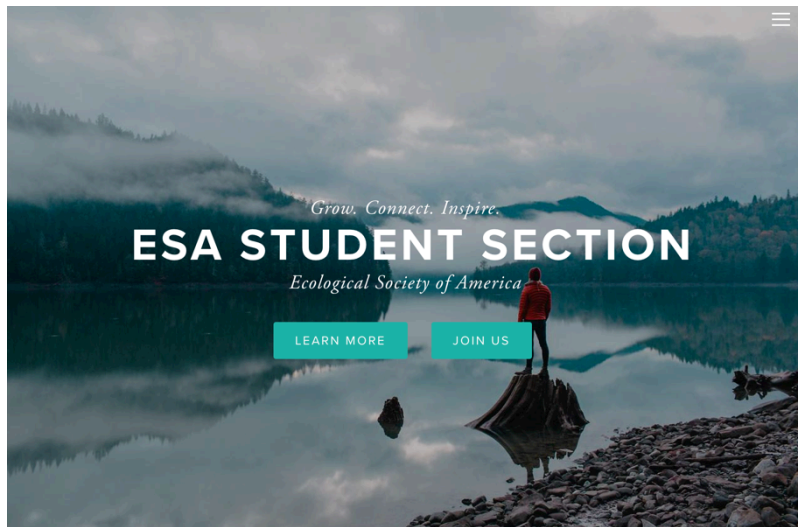
The Awards Committee of the Ecological Society of America solicits and encourages nominations from members of the ESA for each of the awards listed below. ESA especially encourages nominations of candidates from traditionally underrepresented groups, including women and minorities. In preparing a nomination, it would be helpful to consult with the chair of the specific award subcommittee (e-mails below) or the Awards Committee Chair:

Dr. Jonathan Levine (E-mail: jonathan.levine@usys.ethz.ch)

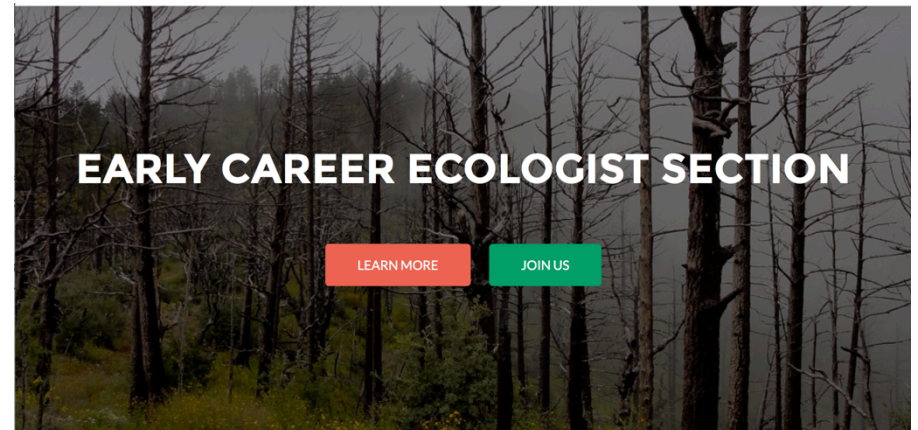
<http://www.esa.org/esa/about/esa-awards/>



Highlights



www.esastudents.org



www.esa.org/earlycareer/

Very active all year, many opportunities at this meeting to get involved!



Past, present, future



©Parkcamper

<http://www.parkcamper.com/Glacier-National-Park/Glacier-National-Park-Hiking.htm>

Celebrating the past, embracing the future

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One hundred years – wow! The Ecological Society of America (ESA) is thriving, and the state of the Society is strong. Our centennial is a cause for celebration, but major milestones also invite reflection on our past and future. Science and culture were vastly different when Victor E Shelford took the reins of the Society in 1915 as its first president. Yet, the fledgling ESA grappled with issues that are surprisingly contemporary, such as articulating the disciplinary scope of ecology, acknowledging human influences on ecosystems, and considering whether to provide unbiased, policy-relevant science or to advocate for environmental issues. President Shelford helped integrate the disparate specialties of botany and zoology, reached out to other disciplines, and promoted the need for rigorous ecological studies at multiple levels of organization; he even anticipated studies of social–ecological systems. In the policy arena, Shelford was concerned about resource scarcity, pollution, and the need to preserve natural communities, although his forceful advocacy triggered a backlash from some ESA members against political activism. These early themes remain with us, but much else has changed. How should ESA navigate the start of its second century?

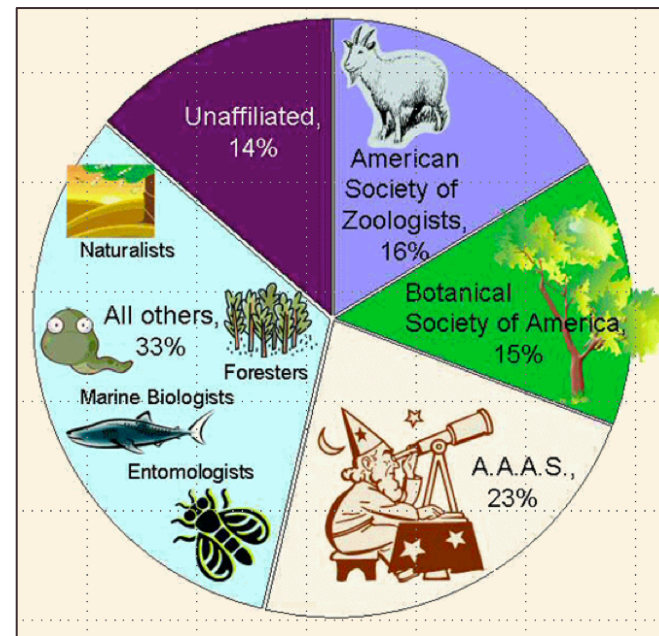
The professional demands on ecologists at all career stages have increased and intensified, even when compared to the recent past. As always, ecologists must be well trained scientifically; able to ask and answer good questions; proficient in analysis and scientific communication; and deeply knowledgeable



Monica G Turner
ESA President,
Department of Zoology,
University of
Wisconsin,
Madison, WI

Specialties of ESA members, back in the day

- Plant ecology (88)
- Animal ecology (86)
- Forestry (43)
- Entomology (39)
- Marine ecology (14)
- Agriculture (12)
- Plant physiology (7)
- Plant pathology (4)
- Climatology (4)
- Geology (4)
- Animal parasitology (3)
- Soil physics (3)



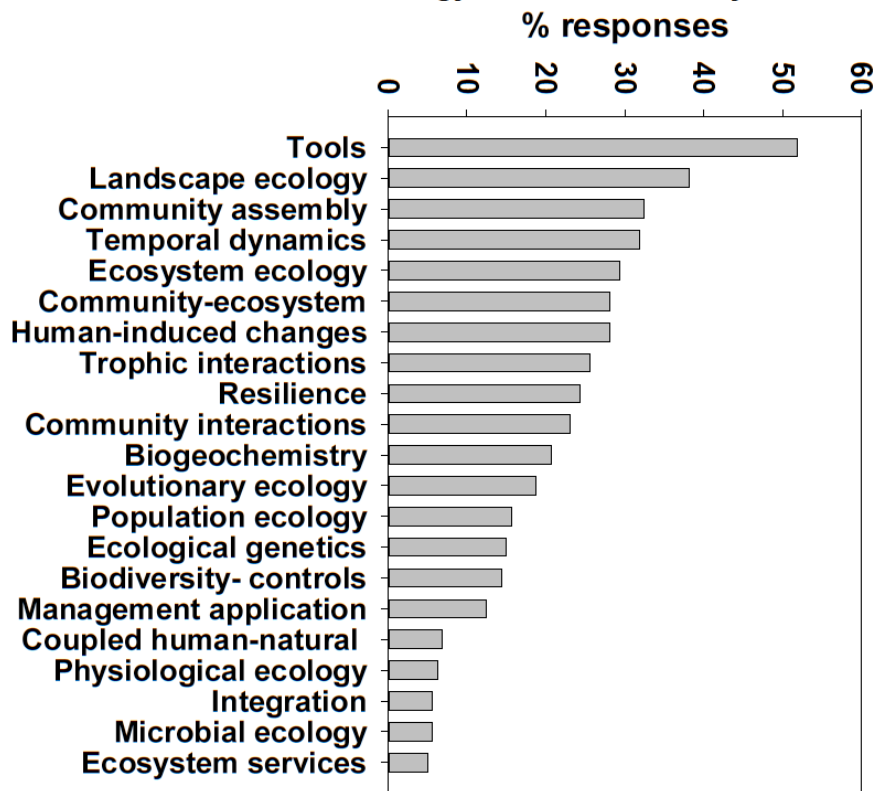
Summarized in 1917 by Victor Shelford, first president of ESA



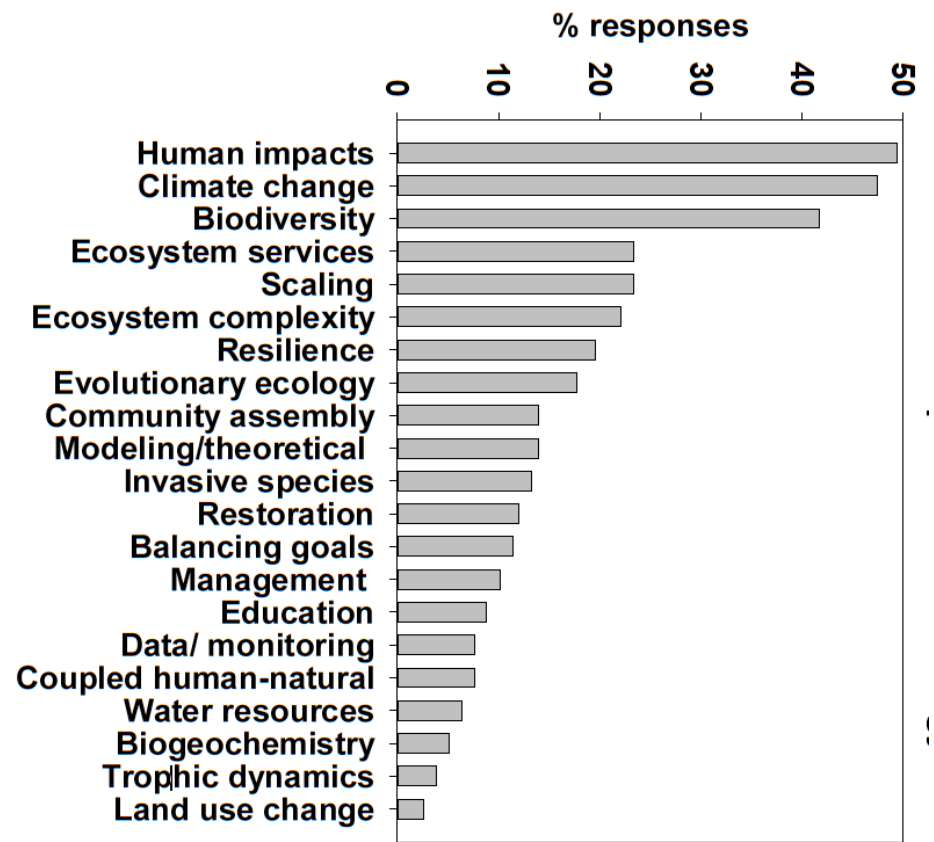
Ecology now

Advances

What are 3-5 of the most important scientific ideas/advances in ecology over the last 100 years?



Unresolved Questions



2015, Val Eviner and ESA Centennial Survey Committee



Ecology then

Contributions of women, back in the day

- Little recognized at the time
- Documented by Jean H. Langenheim
 - ESA President, 1986-87
 - 2nd woman (after E. Lucy Braun, 1950)



EARLY HISTORY AND PROGRESS OF WOMEN ECOLOGISTS: Emphasis Upon Research Contributions

Jean H. Langenheim

Department of Biology, Sinsheimer Laboratories, U
California 95064

*Langenheim 1996, Annu.
Rev. Ecol. Syst. 27:1–53*

address of the past president

DAVIS, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST 1988

THE PATH AND PROGRESS OF AMERICAN WOMEN ECOLOGISTS

For my address to the Society, it seemed timely as we approach our 75th Anniversary to chronicle and give tribute to women ecologists. Although women have recently received recognition and attained some prominence in the Society, it is amazing how little we know about the history of women ecologists and their achievements, especially as

ucation in science. Simultaneously, universities such as Chicago, Nebraska, Minnesota, Cornell, Wisconsin, and Illinois had become centers for the embryonic field of ecology. In our time travel, I first want to demonstrate that women in these early days were obtaining a high percentage of Ph.D. degrees in ecology, and then to trace briefly women's path

Langenheim 1988, ESA Bulletin 69(4):184-197



Ecology now

Dramatic Improvements and Persistent Challenges for Women Ecologists

KRISTA L. McGUIRE, RICHARD B. PRIMACK, AND ELIZABETH C. LOSOS

The underrepresentation of women in science has received significant attention. However, there have been few studies in which longitudinal data were used to assess changes over time. Here, we surveyed the Organization for Tropical Studies graduate database, because this database was also surveyed in 1988, to determine the challenges still faced by women ecologists. Certain aspects of women's situations have shown substantial improvement since 1988, such as an increased number of female colleagues, more-equal sharing of childcare and household chores, and decreased perceptions of gender bias. However, women are still more likely to leave the field of science and have lower salaries, promotion rates, and productivity than do men. Women continue to have greater responsibility for childcare and housework and also experience challenges with childcare and safety while pursuing field-based research. These results indicate that although certain obstacles for women ecologists have substantially lessened, other issues of the family-work balance and of fieldwork still need to be addressed.

McGuire et al. 2012, Bioscience 62:189-196



Dramatic Improvements and Persistent Challenges for Women Ecologists

KRISTA L. McGUIRE, RICHARD B. PRI

The underrepresentation of women in science has been used to assess changes over time. Here, we also surveyed in 1988, to determine the challenges and improvement since 1988, such as an increased number of perceptions of gender bias. However, women are more active than do men. Women continue to have greater safety while pursuing field-based research. These other issues of the family-work balance and of

REVIEWS REVIEWS REVIEWS

Visibility matters: increasing knowledge of women's contributions to ecology

Ellen I Damschen¹, Kristen M Rosenfeld², Mary Wyer³, Deena Murphy-Medley³, Thomas R Wentworth², and Nick M Haddad¹

Recent scholarship about women and science is a good source of material for addressing the under-representation of women in science. This review is the result of an interdisciplinary fusion of science and women's studies to critically assess teaching tools in undergraduate ecology education. We examine: (1) the representation of women and the coverage of social and cultural context in introductory ecology textbooks, and (2) student learning about women's contributions to ecology. Discipline demographics reveal that women are presented in textbooks less often than expected, and that explicit discussions of the social and cultural context of science are rare. When course content is enriched with material about women's contributions, student's awareness of women scientists improves. Such knowledge can play a critical role in proactively challenging students' perceptions of ecology and ecologists, creating a more positive classroom climate for all students, and introducing novel avenues of questioning and discovery.



Ecology has changed

Today's expectations...

- **Excellence in science**
 - Able to ask and answer good questions
 - Deep knowledge of study system
 - Proficient in (rapidly changing) quantitative methods
 - Clear, compelling, impactful writing
- **Be effective individually and in interdisciplinary teams**
- **Assimilate novel data sources and technologies**
- **Curate and share your data**
- **Communicate well and to varied audiences**
 - Multiple forms of media
 - Connect with non-scientists
 - Advocate for science in the policy arena
- **And...maintain work-life balance**



ESA commends Pope Francis for encyclical on the environment

POSTED BY LIZA LESTER ON JUN 29, 2015

Addressed to everyone on this planet, the letter issued on 18 June 2015 is an eloquent plea for responsible Earth stewardship.

[Read More](#)



ESA remains vital

- How ESA supports ecology and ecologists must evolve
- Foundations
 - 2009 Long-range planning (Pres. Sunny Power)
 - Science, Policy, Education, Meetings, Publications, Budget, Governance
 - 2011 Assessments and Surveys (Pres. Steward Pickett)
 - Member Needs Assessment and Survey
 - Student Perceptions and Needs Survey (*Ecology for a New Generation*, updated annually)



Past, present, future

Council
Discussion
Aug 2015

Value of ESA membership

- Community with fellow ecologists
- Continuing education (meetings)
- Networking (meeting, sections, chapters)
- Publications, access to ESA journals
- Collective voice for ecologists



Past, present, future

Council
Discussion
Aug 2015

Opportunities to keep ESA vital

- Engage members all year long
- Enhance communications (web site)
- Reach non-academic ecologists



Past, present, future

Council
Discussion
Aug 2015

Governing
Board
Nov 2015

*How can ESA best serve its
members in the years ahead?*



Past, present, future

Council
Discussion
Aug 2015

Governing
Board
Nov 2015

Staff/Board
Retreat
May 2016

Vision, goals & strategy

- Establish clear priorities
- Formalize process for regular re-assessment



Strategic goals

Enhance ESA member services and communications

- Develop/implement comprehensive communications strategy
- Strengthen programs for non-academic ecologists
- Increase benefits for academic scientists at all career stages

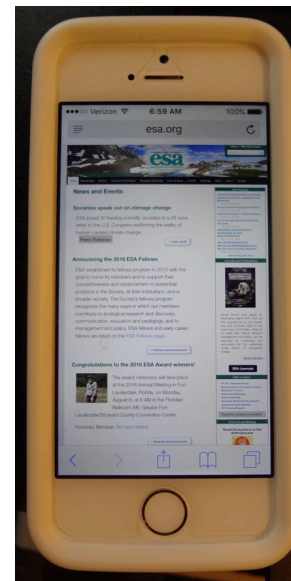
Increase continuity of governance



Strategic goals

Enhance ESA member services and communications

- **Develop/implement comprehensive communications strategy**
 - Redesigned digital presence
 - Multiple diverse channels

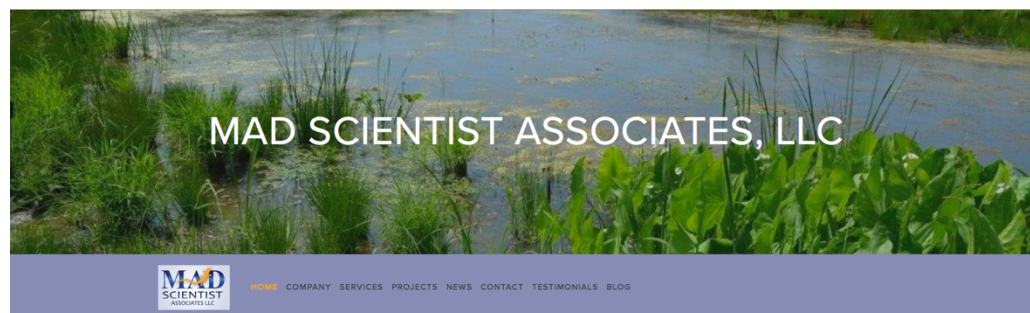




Strategic goals

Enhance ESA member services and communications

- Develop/implement comprehensive communications strategy
- **Strengthen programs for non-academic ecologists**
 - Better serve the needs of these members
 - Develop skills, professional preparation, for non-academic careers



<http://www.madscientistassociates.net/>





Strategic goals

Enhance ESA member services and communications

- Develop/implement comprehensive communications strategy
- Strengthen programs for non-academic ecologists
- **Increase benefits for academic scientists at all career stages**
 - Annual meeting and year round
 - Training (new tech, science communication, policy interface, stats...)





Strategic goals

Position Description

Recruitment in progress

Date: June 2016

Title: Director of Member Services

Description of Duties:

The Director of Member Services will plan, develop, implement and direct membership retention and recruitment programs and services. They will oversee the development of a comprehensive communications strategy that encompasses the range of diverse communication channels, spans the activities of the Society, and includes website redesign.



To thrive, ESA needs you

- Sustain ESA's tradition of excellence
- Make the most out of the meeting
 - Stretch—try something new
 - Reach out
- Commit for the long run
 - ***Get involved***
 - ***Stay involved***
 - ***Make a difference***



*Blending science and art;
Ballroom B at 10:15*



Vibrant, relevant, rewarding

*“ESA has been **a place for me to grow** as an ecologist, in research, education and administrative expertise...to make my work relevant to policy makers...**to make a difference** in the discipline and the multicultural diversity of ecologists.”*

Carmen Cid (30+ yrs)



Vibrant, relevant, rewarding

*“...with ESA providing a framework of emerging ideas, access to new colleagues, and novel environments to experience, I had grown intellectually and **achieved considerable momentum in my career** because of it. ”*

Kathy Ewel (40+ yrs)





Vibrant, relevant, rewarding

*“I was graduating...and my friend gave **me a gift of membership** to ESA. I have a wide interest in ecology and related fields, so I go to the **annual meeting every year**... these meetings are times to get to know other people. ”*

Ed Johnson (40+ yrs)



Vibrant, relevant, rewarding

*“No other professional organization provides **such a big tent** for my scientific interests.”*

John Pastor (30+ yrs)





Vibrant, relevant, rewarding

*“more than anything, **ESA** provides a sense of **BELONGING**. Of belonging to something bigger than **myself**, a community whose mission and values I share, a community I am proud to be a member of...and happy to support. ”*

Rick Lindroth (30+ yrs)





The turn of **our** century

ESA is on a good path

- Thank you to all who have served in so many ways

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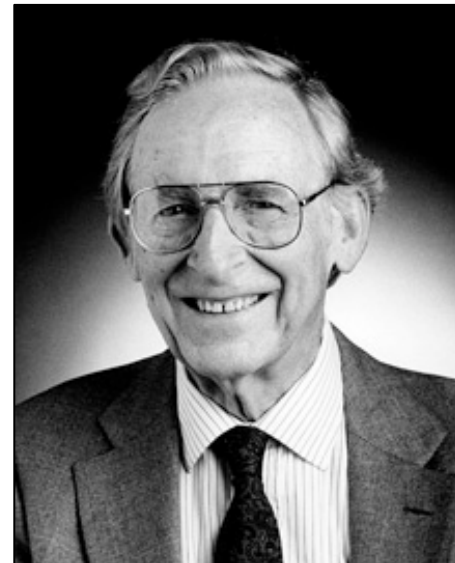
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Thank you



Frank B. Golley,
ESA president 1976-77



Eugene P. Odum,
ESA president 1965



Past, present, future

- Proud of our history
- Preparing for our future
- Depending on you

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