Dear SIP Members and Colleagues,

It is our pleasure to invite you to attend SIP2015 - the International Congress on Invertebrate Pathology and Microbial Control and the 48th Annual Meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology to be held 9-13 August, 2015 at the University of British Columbia Campus in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada.

We look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

The Local Organizing Committee

http://www.sipmeeting-2015.org
SIP2015enquiries@gmail.com

Important Deadlines:

Student Travel Award Applications
April 1

Abstract Submission
April 17

Registration
Early - April 30
Regular - June 30
Late/On-site - July 1 - August 13

Accommodations
July 10: Blocked rooms for accommodation are released. No guarantee that rooms will be available after this date. Please book your accommodation as early as possible.
From the President

Dear SIP Colleagues,

Since my last missive, the holiday season and New Year’s Eve have come and gone (and Chinese New Year is just around the corner). This gives me the opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable and productive year ahead. May all your experiments work the first time.

It is never too late to look forward, or too late to look back. I am referring to the SIP Golden Jubilee in 2017 and the founding of SIP in 1968. As outlined by Albert K Sparks, also a founding member, on our Web site (About SIP, History) on “History of SIP from Conception to Birth” Albert, representing oyster pathologists and Ed Steinhaus, an insect pathologist, conceived of the idea to establish an international society for invertebrate pathology, as originally proposed by Steinhaus at the 8th International Congress of Comparative Pathology in Beirut in 1966. Their subsequent survey of colleagues showed that invertebrate pathologists were favourably inclined to the establishment of such a Society and that the Journal of Invertebrate Pathology would be its organ of communication. Ed Steinhaus, Albert Sparks and colleagues wasted no time and in May 9, 1967 formed an organizing committee electing Ed Steinhaus as the first SIP President, Albert Sparks as Vice President and Arthur M Heimpel as Secretary-Treasurer along with Thomas A Angus, Mauro Martignoni (the name sake of our eminent Mauro Martignoni student award), Carl J Sindermann and Victor Sprague as additional members of the original Organizing Committee. The inaugural General Meeting of the “Society for Invertebrate Pathology” was held at Ohio State University in affiliation with the American Institute of Biological Sciences in September 1968. As this was the first meeting of the newly founded SIP, our meeting in 2017 would be our 50th and hence a year during which to celebrate our Golden Jubilee. Dates and Venue for this meeting have not yet been decided, but stay tuned. If you have suggestions on how best to celebrate the Golden Jubilee (e.g. special events, contests, News releases etc) throughout the 2016/2017 Golden Jubilee year, please let me or anyone on Council know.

Speaking of never being too late, thank you to those who have already renewed your SIP membership. For those who have put it off, please consider renewing your membership, now, while you are thinking about it. You will have received an email with instructions for renewal. It can be done on line (at http://www.sipweb.org/membership_current.html) and it is really easy. I encourage you at the same time to try to recruit someone else to join, a colleague, a visiting scientist, a PDF, a student and, as I suggested in my first letter, perhaps even offer to pay for their first year’s membership. The cost is only about one or two week’s worth of coffee and even less for a student membership.
Things are well underway for our upcoming SIP meeting in Vancouver Canada (home of the 2010 Winter Olympics) under the capable stewardship of co-chairs Mark Goettel et Todd Kabaluk et leur équipe capable (a reminder that Canada est bilingue). They are trying out a new meeting format, so stay tuned and come to the meeting. Save the dates (Aug 09 to 13, 2015) and plan to stay a bit longer, e.g. further explore Vancouver and environs, take a trip to Vancouver Island (accessible by a one and a half hour ferry ride), take the Banff-Jasper highway in the Rockies, see the glaciers (before they melt away) or go on an Alaska Cruise. More information and suggestions are available in this Newsletter and will soon to be posted to our Web Site.

In my next letter, Why I should say yes when requested to review manuscripts, research proposals, applications for award nominations and institutional promotions and invitations to participate in society governance.

SIP 2015 Meetings in Vancouver, Canada

International Congress on Invertebrate Pathology and Microbial Control and 48th Annual Meeting of the Society for Invertebrate Pathology

August 9-13, 2015 at the University of British Columbia Campus, Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Vancouver, a vibrant coastal seaport city on Canada’s west coast and the eighth largest Canadian municipality, is one of the most ethnically and linguistically diverse cities in Canada; 52% of its residents have a first language other than English. It was named the Top Destination in Canada in TripAdvisor’s 2014 Travellers’ Choice awards, and was chosen as the world’s "Most Liveable City" in 2010 by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), a title that has been awarded eight times since 2002. Vancouver offers travelers both outstanding opportunities for outdoor adventure and the sophisticated amenities of a world-class city. Take advantage of the city’s oceanside location, with plenty of green space and many recreation opportunities in the mountains 20 minutes north of downtown. This port city is known for its temperate climate. The surrounding mountains are perfect for hiking and breathtaking views.

The University of British Columbia is a global centre for research and teaching, consistently ranked among the 40 best universities in the world. The campus offers some of Vancouver’s most beautiful ocean, forest and campus views. The University provides a choice of accommodation ranging from contemporary, deluxe apartment hotel suites to dormitory-style rooms with shared amenities at economical prices. Premium suites are limited so delegates are urged to book early.

Beautiful Vancouver as you fly in to attend the meetings!

Photos of Vancouver in this Newsletter are courtesy of Tourism Vancouver
As always, the meetings will offer an exciting scientific program exploring the latest in invertebrate pathology, including microbial control, diseases of beneficial invertebrates, and advances in fundamental research on host-pathogen interactions. A satellite symposium ‘Microsporidia in the Animal to Human Food Chain: An International Symposium to Address Chronic Epizootic Disease’ sponsored by the OECD Co-operative Research Programme on Biological Research Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems and SIP will be held on Sunday, August 9. Take note that the SIP meetings will begin Sunday afternoon with a special half-day workshop organized by the Bacterial Division entitled “Regulatory Considerations for the Commercialization of New Insecticidal Proteins” followed by the evening welcoming mixer. New to SIP, delegates and companions are welcome to start the day with morning yoga sessions.

On Tuesday afternoon we will provide 3 choices for excursions: 1) the Britannia Mine Museum, then travel up the “Sea to Sky Gondola” for sweeping views of Howe Sound, the luscious coastal forest, and surrounding mountains from the Summit Lodge; 2) directly up the Sea to Sky Gondola and a three hour hike on undulating trails in the beauty of the high alpine; or 3) a First Nations cultural and nature experience at the Cheakamus Centre where “nature is always in session”, with all groups culminating at the Centre for the 5K run and evening barbecue.

During spare time, delegates and companions can experience numerous activities on the beautiful UBC Campus: the Museum of Anthropology (highly recommended), Beaty Biodiversity Museum, Pacific Museum of Earth, Morris & Belkin Art Gallery, Irving K. Barber Learning Centre, and the Botanical and Nitobe Memorial Gardens. A companion program will offer day tours and activities if sufficient interest is expressed. Options include visits to Grouse Mountain, the mountain resort of Whistler, Capilano Suspension Bridge, the Vancouver Aquarium, Van Dusen Botanical Garden, Vancouver Art Gallery, Dr. Sun Yet-Sen Classical Chinese Garden or even to Victoria on Vancouver Island!

There are many options to explore in Vancouver: beaches near the UBC Campus are within walking distance, Stanley Park (walking or cycling the sea wall), Granville Island Market, Queen Elizabeth Park Gardens, and others. You’ll want to come early or stay later to explore the wonders of “Super Natural” British Columbia and its ten mountain ranges west of the The Rockies, thousand year old trees, and glacier-fed streams that pour through steep valleys to join swollen rivers…or surfing in Tofino on the west coast of Vancouver Island!

Attendees may apply for a variety of Travel Awards to help defray the costs of attending the annual meeting. Applications for the Mauro Martignoni, Chris J. Lomer and Divisions’ student travel awards will be due April 1, 2015. Visit the SIP awards website http://www.sipweb.org/about/award.html for more information. Awards for the best student oral presentations and poster will be presented during the banquet. Students are automatically entered into the competition so make sure you indicate if you are a student when submitting your abstract.

Please visit the website, www.sipmeeting-2015.org for more information about the conference program, venue, registration, accommodation booking, abstract submission procedures, travel, visa requirements, and more.

For any questions, please contact us at SIP2015enquiries@gmail.com

We look forward to seeing you in Vancouver!

The SIP2015 Local Organizing Committee

About the SIP 2015 Meetings Logo. The logo was created by Laura Ulrich, a lover of both art and science and a Simon Fraser University student. Having almost completed her B.Sc. in Biological Sciences, she is planning on attending the University of Toronto in Mississauga to study in the Biomedical Communications graduate program. Her blog, Monsters and Molecules, is a crossroads between art and science as she shares her journey to become a professional scientific illustrator. The logo was inspired by the Canadian west coast's geographical splendor and First Nations cultural heritage. The totem pole is based on one of the nine found in Vancouver’s Stanley Park, telling a story through the characters they depict.
Scientific Program for the 2015 Annual Meeting of SIP in Vancouver, Canada

FOUNDERS’ LECTURE
Phyllis T. Johnson — pioneer of marine invertebrate pathology
Presented by Grant Stentiford

PLENARY SYMPOSIUM
Insect pathogens in nature: ecology and consequence
Organized by Jenny Cory and Alida Janmaat

SATELLITE SYMPOSIUM
Microsporidia in the animal to human food chain: an international symposium to address chronic epizootic disease sponsored by the OECD Co-operative Research Programme on Biological Research Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems and SIP.
Organized by James Becnel, Leellen Solter, Grant Stentiford and Louis Weiss
The Satellite Symposium is scheduled for Sunday, 9 August

DIVISIONAL SYMPOSIA
Bacteria Division
Mechanisms of field resistance to Bt pesticides and Bt crops
Organized by Juan Luis Jurat–Fuentes

Diseases of Beneficial Invertebrates Division
Bee health
Organized by Elke Genersch

Fungus Division
Endophytic entomopathogenic fungi: “pro-biotic” microbial associates of plants?
Organized by Don Roberts and Ray St. Leger

Microbial Control Division
Synergies encouraging the registration and adoption of biological pest controls – the role of governments, academic programmes, and industry
Organized by Tobias Laengle

Nematode Division
Recent advances in entomopathogenic nematode infection behavior: inside and outside
Organized by David Shapiro-Ilan and Ed Lewis

Virus Division
 Advances in host and insect virus genomics
Organized by David Theilmann and Martin Erlandson

CROSS DIVISIONAL SYMPOSIA
Microsporidia Division and Diseases of Beneficial Invertebrates Division
Microsporidia as emerging pathogens
Organized by Kelly Bateman and Susan Bjornson

Fungus Division and Microbial Control Division
What is meaningful microbial agent efficacy, and how do we realistically measure it?
Organized by Roma Gwynn and Stefan Jaronski

Nematode Division and Bacteria Division
Intracellular responses to bacteria and bacterial toxins
Organized by Raffi Aroian and Patricia Stock

WORKSHOPS
Bacteria Division
Regulatory considerations for the commercialization of new insecticidal proteins
Organized by William Moar and Ken Narva
The Bacteria Division Workshop is scheduled for Sunday, 9 August

Diseases of Beneficial Invertebrates Division
Environmental DNA
Organized by Grant Stentiford

Microsporidia Division
War and peace: the comparative impact of morphology- and sequence-based phylogenies on practical taxonomy and evolutionary history of microsporidia
Organized by Yuliya Sokolova

Nematode Division
Case studies: moving from lab to application - adapting your lab data to the field and vice versa
Organized by Selcuk Hazir & David Shapiro-Ilan

Virus Division
Definition of virus species concept
Organized by Holly Popham and Robert Harrison
“Microsporidia in the Animal to Human Food Chain: An International Symposium to Address Chronic Epizootic Disease”
a symposium sponsored by the OECD’s Co-operative Research Programme on Biological Resource Management for Sustainable Agricultural Systems and the Society for Invertebrate Pathology will be held on Sunday, August 9, 2015, 9 am to 6 pm on the campus of the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, Canada.

The global food chain is under stress from a variety of factors related to agricultural practices and climatic changes while human population pressure continues to increase. Intensification of food production leads to numerous environmental issues and problems including the increase of disease prevalence in food plants and animals, the introduction of exotic pathogen species, and the potential for the expansion of zoonoses among host species including spread to humans. This symposium will specifically consider the interaction of the Microsporidia with food and feed-related host systems. It will address the significant potential for epizootics in managed systems, and zoonoses with potential of transmission to humans and other animals within global food chains. Speakers will address microsporidian pathogens in diverse research areas and systems including biology, marine and terrestrial ecology (host-pathogen interactions), mass production and culture of food animals (mammals, edible insects and aquatic organisms), human and veterinary medicine, biological control agents, and managed and native pollinators to identify unifying characteristics of the interactions of these pathogens with their hosts in causing disease in high density stressed systems.

Organizers: James Becnel, (james.Becnel@ARS.USDA.GOV), Leellen Solter (lsolter@illinois.edu), Grant Stentiford, (grant.stentiford@cefas.co.uk), and Louis Weiss, (louis.weiss@einstein.yu.edu)
Announcements

Submit a Symposium Proposal for ICE 2016 (March 2 deadline)

The XXV International Congress of Entomology with the theme of “Entomology without Borders” will be held September 25-30, 2016 in Orlando, Florida, USA. www.ice2016orlando.org/ To ensure that invertebrate pathology is well represented at this meeting, members of SIP are strongly encouraged to submit symposium proposals in the areas of biological control and pathology. The deadline for symposium proposals is March 2, 2015. Each attendee of this meeting will be allowed only one presentation of any type (invited paper, contributed paper, or poster) as between six- and nine-thousand delegates are expected.

SIP Photographs and Newsletters Are Now Publicly Available

The SIP photographs and Newsletters are now publicly accessible through the Digital Collections website.

http://contentdm.ad.umbc.edu/cdm/landingpage/collection/p16629coll5

http://aok.lib.umbc.edu/specoll/SIP/boxlist.php

The Digital Collections website allows comments, low-resolution download of the files, and stable "reference URL" which will remain the same and is helpful for research use.

SIP Newsletter Editor Needed

Eric Haas-Stapleton is stepping down in August 2015 as the Editor of the SIP Newsletter and a replacement volunteer is needed!

If you would like to contribute in growing the Society and make a substantial contribution to the field, please contact us to learn more of this excellent opportunity!

Benefits of serving include closer interactions with the leaders of our Society and gaining an appreciation of how the Society is maintained over the years and decades. It also can look great as service to your scientific society when applying for tenure or promotion.

Eric Haas-Stapleton (Eric.Haas-Stapleton@csulb.edu) or Peter Krell (pkrell@uoguelph.ca)

Travel Awards to Attend the Annual Meeting

Attendees may apply for a variety of Travel Awards to help defray the costs of attending the annual meeting. Applications for the Mauro Martignoni, Chris J. Lomer and Divisions’ student travel awards will be due April 1, 2015. Visit the SIP awards website for more information (http://www.sipmeeting-2015.org/travel-awards/). Awards for the best student oral presentations and poster will be presented during the banquet. Students are automatically entered into the competition so make sure you indicate if you are a student when submitting your abstract.
Memories of SIP in Mainz, Germany

SIP thanks all of the volunteers that worked so hard and made the meeting such a success—three cheers to them all!

Michael Brownbridge enticing us all at the annual auction that supports student travel to the meeting

Andreas Larem making a clear case in support of microbials for controlling insect pests in Germany

Basil Arif and Lee Solter, good friends and colleagues are what make SIP

Said El Salamomouny describing a new NPV isolate from Egypt

Photos on this page except lower left are copyright of Thomas Guthmann
And the 5K race begins! Everyone is going strong because the first across the finish gets the first bier at the BBQ

Madoka Nakai takes a break from texting while running to race up the hill, with David Theilmann in hot pursuit

Trevor Jackson gliding down the hill with a lovely view to encourage!

Trix and Peter Tijssen: the final finishers met at the line with cheers all around
The future of SIP are all smiles at the reception

Johannes Jehle and Basil Arif with Wein Princess Joelle Ohler

The new flag for SIP is unfurled for a close up look at the banquet

Now that a spectacular horn section playing Mack the Knife by Louis Armstrong!

Johannes Jehle opening the reception

The SIPers showing their wine acumen with the Wein Princess

Photos on this page are copyright of Thomas Guthmann