

# STUDENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS OF ENTOMOLOGY

## Student Debate 2016: Schedule, Instructions, and Rules

### **Debate Preparation and Background:**

ICE 2016 is continuing the tradition of the annual student debates. This event is typically organized by the Entomological Society of America Student Affairs Committee. For ICE 2016, the ICE SAC has formed a subcommittee that will use the ESA Debates as a template, while making changes to fit the spirit of ICE. Like the ESA Debates, one of the main goals of this competition is to produce a high quality manuscript of general interest to all entomologists, which will be published in the American Entomologist. Teams must be committed to the completion of this manuscript, beyond the meeting in Orlando. Feel free to contact us with any questions that you may have and thank you in advance for participating in the 2016 student debates.

The student debates subcommittee (SDS) of the Student Affairs Committee will randomly assign the debate issues to the six teams selected to participate. To sign up a team, send a list of 4-5 team members, including a designated team leader (or spokesperson) and a faculty advisor (include contact info). Teams may be composed of members from a single university (ex: Auburn University) OR country (ex: Brazil) OR region (ex: Europe, Central America, etc). Please indicate which university/country each team member is from, as well as which university/country/region your team would like to represent. All communications between debate organizers and the teams will go through the designated team leaders and must be sent to the debate email ([ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com](mailto:ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com)). Teams will be assigned an issue and are to develop a list of three possible answers to that issue. These teams must remember that they will be defending one of these answers, so they should be sure that any of the three answers you select is a defensible position given currently published science. The SDS will pick one option from each team's list that will result in the most interesting debate, so choose your list wisely, as any of the three could be chosen.

After topics and stances are selected for each of the 6 teams, a list of no more than 40 references will need to be selected to support your assigned position and sent to the SDS. Each team will document major points with references that pertain to their team's argument. References must be supplied to the SDS at [ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com](mailto:ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com) by the due date and cited using ESA format ([http://www.entsoc.org/pubs/publish/style/#References\\_Cited](http://www.entsoc.org/pubs/publish/style/#References_Cited)). If there are any questions about references listed by the opposing team, you must send an email to SDS AND the opposing team's lead contact via email.

Restrictions on references are as follows: While referencing a book, a specific chapter must be referenced and not the entire book. However, multiple chapters in a book can be included in a citation. Each team will be limited to 10 Web-based citations and only the information on the page referenced will be usable (i.e., no downloadable files or accessed hyperlinks will be allowed).

Inappropriate: [www.usda.gov](http://www.usda.gov) (too general)

Appropriate: [www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN\\_NO=404969](http://www.ars.usda.gov/research/projects/projects.htm?ACCN_NO=404969)

Several weeks prior to the national meeting, each team will submit a topic/position summary, not to exceed 250 words. This summary is meant to give a general impression of the argument the team will be making, but not to give away all of the details or arguments. Summaries will be exchanged between sides for comments.

Before the debates, each team will submit a summary (600 words maximum) of their position to SDS (which will not be circulated). Please be sure that these summaries are publication worthy (formatted for *American Entomologist*), as they serve as the first draft of the debate manuscript. After the debates, each team will have the opportunity to edit their position summary which will be compiled by SDS for submission to *American Entomologist*.

## **Debates Program Instructions**

### **Unbiased Intro: 5 minutes (with PowerPoint)**

For each of the three topics, there will be a five-minute unbiased “introductory” presentation made by another team/individual. Follow the same presentation guidelines given to the debating team introductions (see below). However, unbiased introductions do not need to provide in-text citations or a reference list (but you may if you choose to do so). The introductory team/individual will also write an introduction summary similar in length to the debate teams.

### **Pro team: 7 minute statement (with PowerPoint)**

Each debating team will prepare a seven-minute PowerPoint presentation. Each presentation should have no more than two colors (including background and text) and is **without images or animations**. However, tables may be used as they are simply for organizing text. These restrictions are designed to keep the focus of the debate on the topics, not on any emotional impact. Each team is limited to **their** reference lists for their presentations. However, during the counter arguments, they may rely on the opposing team’s references. References must be cited in-text during the presentation with ESA-style formatting (eg. Smith et al. 2010). Please include a references cited slide at the end of the presentation (although you do not need to spend time on this slide) to be left up during the cross examination by the other team.

These formal presentations are the only part of the debates where the speaker is required to stand at the podium. For the rest of the time, participants may stand or sit at their tables with their teams when speaking.

**IMPORTANT:** Each team is responsible for uploading their presentation into the Confex system by the deadline!

### **Cross examination by Con team: 3 minutes (clarification questions, not debating!)**

During cross examination, more than one person can answer (or ask) questions. However, remember that it will reflect poorly on your team if you interrupt each other.

### **Con team: 7 minute statement (with PowerPoint)**

**Cross-examination by Pro team: 3 minutes (clarification questions, not debating!)**

**Con team rebuttal: 3 minutes**

**Pro team rebuttal: 3 minutes**

**Con team rebuttal: 3 minutes**

**Pro team rebuttal: 3 minutes**

Use rebuttals to respond to arguments and clarify your points. Rebuttals can (and should) be presented by more than one person from the same team. During rebuttals, you may ask the other team questions, but they will be unable to respond until their rebuttal. Similarly, if your team is asked a question during rebuttals, do not answer until your rebuttal period.

### **Timing of presentations**

The moderators will time each section and you will be stopped shortly after you run out of time – budget it wisely. Teams may keep track of time with cell phones or other devices as long as they are silent. ESA will provide a large digital timer with a countdown for rebuttals and cross examinations. PowerPoint presentations will be timed by a moderator that will give indications of the remaining time (like a typical symposium talk). Please do not go over time as the judges may choose to penalize teams that go over time.

### **Questions: 10 minutes**

A microphone will be provided near the front of the room. Judges will ask any questions they have first, and then the general audience will be invited to ask questions. Questions may be directed at either team or both teams. Anyone from a team may answer. To prevent a single audience member from taking up the entire time, each person in line may ask one question and then sit down. If you are asked a question, please respond to the question only. Do not use the question and answer session to continue debating the other team.

### **Electronic Devices Policy**

Electronic devices (phones, tablets, laptops, etc) are allowed to be used during the debates. However, please silence all devices and use them in a professional, non-distracting manner.

### **Evaluation of the Debates**

A panel of judges will evaluate each team's arguments in the actual debates and choose a "winner". There will be a winner of each pair of debates and an overall best debate team. The winning teams will be recognized at the Student Awards Session with a plaque for the team and certificates for all team members. The best overall debate team wins a \$500 cash prize and a trophy for their team. In addition to evaluation by the judges, all teams will be evaluated by the debate organizers based on how well they followed the debate rules and guidelines provided by the organizers in this document. The following table includes areas of assessment, but additional categories may be included. Be sure to submit work in a timely and professional manner.

<b>Subject</b>	<b>Assessment Criteria</b>
Reference Lists	Submission by deadline
Total number and sources (peer reviewed or other)	Guidelines followed
Format (ESA Style)	Guidelines followed
250 Word Summary	Submission by deadline
Word limit	Guidelines followed
PowerPoint Presentation	Submission by deadline Format (colors/graphics)
Manuscript	Complete, timely, professional

The rubric used by the judges is provided at the end of this document.

## **Recording of the Debates**

The debates will be recorded. A permission release form, found at the end of this document, must be filled out and signed by each member of the team (one form per person) and returned to the Student Debate Subcommittee. Forms must be submitted electronically to [ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com](mailto:ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com) before the team will be considered an official debate team.

## **Important Dates:**

12/1/2016 Deadline to submit a team

12/8/2016 Teams will be informed if they have been accepted into the debate competition

1/8/2016 Submit top 3 positions on topic email to SDS (for teams assigned the “tool” format)

1/15/2016 Teams will receive final stances from SDS

1/29/2016 Question/Comments about debate topics must be submitted to SDS via email

3/7/2016 Reference lists due to SDS via email (Debating teams only)

3/21/2016 Questions pertaining to opposing team’s reference list must be voiced to SDS and opposing team contact person via email (Debating teams only)

4/15/2016 250 word summary (Reviewed by the faculty advisor!) of topic and position due to SDS (Debating teams only)

4/29/2016 Clarifications by opposing teams on 250 word summaries must be voiced (Debating teams only)

7/1/2016 250 word, unbiased introduction due to SDS (Reviewed by the faculty advisor!) (Unbiased introduction teams only)

7/22/2016 7 minute PowerPoint presentation due to SDS (Debating teams); 5 minute PowerPoint presentation due to SDS (Unbiased introduction teams)

<TBD – based on ICE upload deadline> PowerPoint presentation online upload due through the ESA Annual Meeting website (All teams)

8/5/2016 Preliminary 600 word debate summaries (Reviewed by the faculty advisor!) due to SDS (Before the debate begins!) (All teams)

8/25/2016-8/30/2016 ICE 2016, Orlando, FL

11/18/2016 Final 600 word debate summaries (Reviewed by the faculty advisor!) due to SDS for edits and submission to American Entomologist. (Restricted to 600 words and 15 references) (All teams)

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## ICE Student Debates 2016

### “Student Debates: Solving problems without borders”

1. What would be the single best policy for improving health of *Apis mellifera* if adopted worldwide?
2. What is the single best strategy for decreasing dengue fever virus (breakbone fever) incidence worldwide?
3. Scenario: You are presenting a grant to an international agency to support control measures for an invasive insect species. Pick a species and explain to this agency why this is the most important issue they should be focusing on. The other debate team is competing for the same funding, but for a different invasive species.

Thank you for your interest in ICE student debates and good luck!!

The ICE Student Debate Subcommittee:

Rebecca Schmidt-Jeffris, ICE SAC co-chair

Tamra Reall-Lincoln

Richard Halfpenny

Haydee Peralta

[ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com](mailto:ICE2016studentdebates@gmail.com)

## Judging Rubric

The winners will be chosen based on total number of points. The winner of each debate will be the team with the highest number of points, and the overall winner will be the single team (of the six teams) that has the highest number of points. The final criteria is based on meeting submission deadlines and will be completed by the debate organizers.

Criteria	Goals
Introduction (20 points)	The team adequately introduced their position, as well as provided some basic information about the shortcomings of their opponent's position. The introduction was clear, easy to understand, and well organized.
Cross examination (10 points)	The team asked insightful questions that either clarified important information or laid groundwork for arguments they made in rebuttals. They did not use cross examination to argue with other team (they asked questions).
Rebuttals (20 points)	Teams responded to arguments made by the other team instead of restating previous points. They showed a clear understanding of the other team's arguments and provided thoughtful responses. Individuals in the team worked well together.
Use of time (5 points)	During the whole debate, the team made a good use of their allotted time. They adhered to time limits and were not repetitive or disorganized.
Support of literature (10 points)	The team used the literature to support points during their introduction and rebuttals. The team demonstrated familiarity with their own references and those of their opponents.
Abstract (5 points)	The abstract provided by the team reflected their stance in the debate. It was well organized and easy to understand.
Meeting deadlines	This will be completed by debate organizers. Failure to submit items by the deadline will result in a deduction of up to 2 points per late item.
Total	

**International Congress of Entomology 2016  
Student Debates**

**Recording and Materials Release Form**

I authorize the International Congress of Entomology (ICE) and the Entomological Society of America (ESA) to record, copy, distribute or otherwise use photographs and video recordings of the student debates.

I understand and agree that:

- I will not receive payment or any other compensation in connection with this recording;
- ICE and the ESA may publish and distribute copies of the images or videos in any format, including but not limited to: print publications and video streaming websites;
- I have had a chance to discuss this form with the ICE Student Affairs Committee and have received complete answers to all my questions; and,
- I release ICE and ESA from any and all liability that may or could arise from the taking or use of these recordings and/or photographs.

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Email:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Country:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State/Province/Region:** \_\_\_\_\_

**ZIP/Postal Code:** \_\_\_\_\_