

# SOVE

Society for Vector Ecology

## SOVE Newsletter

### President's Message



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

Being SOVE president this year has been a true honor for me. Our members are amazing scientists and people, and I hope that in one way or another my time here has made attaining your goals a little easier. As I transition to outgoing president in 2026, I welcome to our Board new members at the Student Director and Vice President positions. Before I get too far into how amazing our new board members are, I want to first thank our departing student director Ayat Abourashed for her service and hope that her time at SOVE is the beginning of many years working together. A big welcome to our new Student Director, Megan Heineman. Next I thank Lyric Bartholomay for her four years on board. Lyric has shown herself to be a notable leader for SOVE and has strengthened our society with her service. Those of you who know Lyric know her passion for vector ecology is blood deep and she

brings that to us in thoughtful and practical ways that are impactful. While I will miss her board presence, I look forward to seeing her soon at SOVE meetings. I also welcome Lee Cohnstaedt into the President position and Rui-De (Rudy) Xue into the incoming President-Elect position. Lee is a master innovator and brilliant mind, and Rudy is a stronghold long-time SOVE member with a welcoming and bubbly personality. They are seriously a great pair, and I feel we have a terrific balance of Board experience and personalities.

To make the Board even stronger, we start our new year with a new Vice President, Sarah Hamer. I'm sure many of you know Sarah and can share my excitement to have her energy, enthusiasm, and amazing research mind representing SOVE. Besides all that, Sarah is a genuinely kind person and a terrific mentor. We are  
 -----**President's message cont'd on p. 2.**

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very fortunate for her service and look forward to what she brings to the group.

Lastly, I'd like to mention the service of our regional directors. It is the focus of these members that brings the issues and accomplishments in your region to the membership attention. Thanks to: Ben Beard, Ed Norris, Steve Presley, Doug Norris, Nichole Achee, Lal Mian, Filiz Gunay, Christina McCarthy, and Hong-Liang Chu. We appreciate you. As do we appreciate our Education and Development Committee who are hosting an exciting webinar on "Beyond the Degree: Thriving in Your Career" on February 2nd. I encourage you to sign up: <https://shorturl.at/6gxlw>

I was unable to attend our 9th International Congress "Connecting Vector Science Globally" October 12th -17th in Chania, Crete but I heard that it was a terrific meeting. I know many others did not attend so I'd like to announce and honor our award recipients here:

Distinguished Service Award: Karen Poh and Alexandra Chaskopoulou

Distinguished Achievement Award: Petr Volf

Lifetime Achievement Award: Ashwani Kumar

Lifetime Service Award: Marc Klowden and Anne Klowden

Dan Strickman Memorial Award/Best Student Presentation: Taylor Pearson and Flavio Piras

Congratulations to our very deserving award recipients! If you were lucky enough to attend and have pictures of the conference, please email them to [sovephotos@gmail.com](mailto:sovephotos@gmail.com). Alex Chaskopoulou did a terrific job planning and has provided us with some photos of the fun (see below). I am already looking forward to our next conference and seeing everyone again. The 2026 venue and dates are currently being finalized and will be announced early next year.

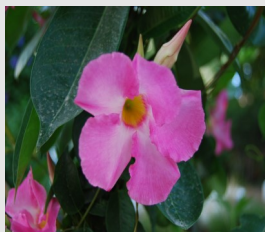
I leave you with a parting gift; some of you will be able to better absorb membership costs next year by rolling the annual meeting registration and membership into one. If you would like to continue to pay your membership separate you will still be able to, but the creation of a non-member (with included membership) category during meeting registration will pull more interested vector ecologists into our network. For our current members, this may help you to remember when to renew your dues.

Again, thanks to everyone who makes SOVE the special organization it is. Notably, we can't do what we do without our Executive Director Michelle Brown. She keeps me and the other Board members in line and the wheels on this bus! Thanks!

In the ongoing theme of these newsletters, I am stepping on a plane again finishing up my message to you. This time it is to spend time in Arizona at my daughter's soccer tournament and then to Florida to see family for Thanksgiving. I hope that all of you, as crazy as life can be, can find some balance and time to relax and recenter over the holidays. Thank you for your attention. I hope to see you all soon and hope everyone has a productive, safe, and wonderful holiday season. If you need gifts or stocking stuffers for your fellow SOVE enthusiasts, don't forget the 174(!!) available items on the SOVE merchandise page. Besides a cool shirt or hoodie, how cute would it be to get a SOVE ornament or a SOVE dog shirt? <https://www.cafepress.com/shop/SocietyforVectorEcology>.

Sincerely,

Denise L. Bonilla  
SOVE 2025 President



**Chania, Crete, Greece**



**Congress attendees photographed indoors/outdoors**  
(Courtesy: Alex Chaskopoulou)



Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Southwestern Region of SOVE consists of 5 states: Arizona, California, Hawaii, Nevada and New Mexico. Based on the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and individual state entities, a brief update on vector-borne disease surveillance is presented here for our region.

**Arizona** ([www.Azdhs.gov](http://www.Azdhs.gov)). As of 12/12/2025, Arizona Department of Health Services reported 3 cases of Chagas disease, 6 hantavirus, 12 Rocky Mountain spotted fever, 17 Lyme disease, 1 plague, 37 dengue, 55 West Nile virus (WNV), 3 chikungunya, and 13 malaria cases. Maricopa county reported 1 human and 1 horse case of WNV plus 182 mosquito pools testing sero-positive for WNV along with 155 pools seropositive for Saint Luis encephalitis virus (SLEV).

**California** ([www.cdph.ca.gov](http://www.cdph.ca.gov)). As of 12/15/2025, California continued to report the distribution of two invasive mosquito species, *Aedes aegypti* (L.) and *Ae. Albopictus* (Skuse). The former species was found in 26 counties: Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Fresno, Glenn, Imperial, Kern, Kings, Madera, Merced, Orange, Placer, Riverside, Sacramento, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Joaquin, Santa Clara, Solano, Stanislaus, Sutter, Tulare, Ventura, Yolo, and Yuba. The latter species maintained its presence in 2 (5 in 2024) counties—Los Angeles and Shasta. Regarding vector-borne diseases in the state, there were 110 human cases (10 deaths) of WNV, 154 dead birds, 2,756 seropositive mosquito pools, 65 sentinel chickens, and 5 horses testing positive for WNV. The WNV activity was reported from 23 counties. The 110 human cases this year compares with 124 cases in 2024, both lower than our 5-year average (187). Since its arrival in California in 2003, WNV has resulted in >8K cases with 4K deaths. Additionally, California reported 145 imported 6 locally acquired cases of dengue and 10 cases of chikungunya. Also, there 105 mosquito pools

## SOUTHWESTERN REGION, USA

Lal S. Mian

### Regional Director

positive for SLE with two human infections in Los Angeles and Riverside counties. Moreover, there were 38 confirmed and 9 probable cases of flea-borne typhus reported in the state.

**Hawaii** ([www.health.hawaii.gov/vcb/mosquitoes](http://www.health.hawaii.gov/vcb/mosquitoes)). As of December 2025, the Hawaiian Mosquito Control reported confirmed 14 cases of dengue, 3 malaria, 1 Zika, 4 Lyme disease, and 400 cases of coccidiomycosis. Of the day-biting mosquito species, *Ae. albopictus* is found in all islands, whereas *Ae. aegypti* is reported in the big island only. Mosquito-borne diseases are not endemic and are not thought to be an immediate threat to health in Hawaii; however, diseases transmitted by *Aedes* spp. include dengue, chikungunya and Zika viruses..

**Nevada** (<https://dhhs.nv.org>). As of August 1, 2025, the Southern Nevada Health District reported 137 cases of coccidiomycosis (Valley fever), and 2 cases each of Lyme disease and malaria. Of the mosquito pools 1,621 (37,316 female mosquitoes) tested by Clark county this year, there were 14 pools positive for WNV and zero for SLE and western equine encephalomyelitis virus [[southernnevadahealthdistrict.org](http://southernnevadahealthdistrict.org)]. The northern Nevada public health (formerly Washoe County.org) did report any vector-borne disease cases this year..

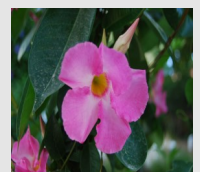
**New Mexico** ([nmhealth.org](http://nmhealth.org)). As of September 3, 2025, New Mexico Health Department reported 1 case of hantavirus, 2 cases of plague, and 1 case of WNV in the state.

Before closing, I would like to congratulate my friend and our Executive Director, Emeritus, Major S. Dhillon, PhD on receiving the “Certificate of Distinction” at the recent LA SOVE Congress in Buenos Aires, Argentina for dedication and service to SOVE both locally and internationally against all odds (see more on p. 8). With this I remind our regional members to please send me your news about your employment, professional recognition, or any significant accomplishment that you would like to see published in the newsletter. Thanks!

*Happy Holiday Season!*

Cordially,

Lal





## SOVE–Indian Chapter Rajpal S. Yadav Regional Director

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

The Executive Board of SOVE-Indian Chapter met virtually on 25 August 25 and again on November 26, 2025. The attendees included Major S. Dhillon, Patron; Rajpal S. Yadav, President; Ashwani Kumar, Principal Advisor; Deeparani Prabhu, Secretary; Nandini Korgaonkar, Treasurer; and board members Jagbir Singh Kirti, Kedar P. Deobhankar, Ajeet K. Mohanty, A. N. Shriram, Stelson Quadros, along with Advisors R. S. Sharma, Rina Tilak and Rajiv Tandon. Rakhi Dhawan was unable to participate in both meetings, while Kirti could not participate in the November 26 meeting.

Following a review of the administrative and regulatory compliance for running the Society, the board discussed the 2026 work plan. The key proposals discussed included:

1. Resuming the SOVE-Lects – the lecture series – by inviting short lectures of topical importance, such as insecticide resistance, impact of climate change on vector-borne diseases, emerging vector-borne diseases, dengue control, need for novel vector control tools, and technical needs for the elimination of malaria in India.

2. Recognizing the importance of capacity strengthening, the following activities were proposed:

a) Organize training workshops on entomological aspects of vector-borne diseases across all re-

gions of India. Nominees to these workshops will be invited from the National Center for Vector-borne Disease Control, Vector-borne disease control program in the States and institutes of the Indian Council of Medical Research.

B) Deobhakar offered the facilities of M/s Ross LifeScience Pvt. Ltd., Pune – a GLP laboratory – for training on national and World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines and procedures for evaluation and registration of vector control products in India. C). Stelson proposed a training on the judicious use of pesticides.

D) Kumar proposed a training on vector surveillance and control at the points of entry and also organizing the next international conference of iSOVE in the 2nd half of 2026.

e) Sharma pointed out that many airport authorities would be interested in training on vector control.

f) Tilak showed interest in coordinating a training on vector-borne diseases for the armed forces in Pune.

g) Quadros proposed a collaboration between SOVE-India and the Indian Pest Control Association (IPCA) to train IPCA members on various aspects of vector-borne disease control

3. Hosting and participation in conferences, with the following constructive suggestions:

a) The Board welcomed Tandon’s suggestion on hosting a technical session by SOVE on climate change and its influence on *Aedes*-borne diseases at the Asian Venture Philanthropic Network– a network of venture philanthropic and developmental partners from all over Asia – in August 2026.

B) Dhillon also advised exploring the possibility of organizing the next international conference in late

-----*Yadave cont'd. on p. 7*



## Latin American SOVE REGION

### Christina McCarthy

#### Regional Director

Dear SOVE friends and colleagues,

It is with great pleasure that I share some of the results of our third edition of the Latin American Society for Vector Ecology (LA SOVE) meeting. The III Congress of the Latin American Society of Vector Ecology and IV Congress of the Latin American Vector Control Network (LA SOVE RELCOV 2025), was held in La Plata (Buenos Aires, Argentina) from October 23 to 28, 2025, at the Post-graduate and Convention Center – Karakachoff Building of the National University of La Plata (UNLP).

Once again, the UNLP opened its doors to welcome us, and freely provided a perfect venue site with all the necessary infrastructure to carry out a hybrid congress for more than 230 people!

For this third edition, LA SOVE and RELCOV) joined efforts to organize this event with a shared vision: to promote a close liaison between the different parties working to achieve the reduction of vector-borne diseases and sustainable vector control management in Latin America (LA) - academia, healthcare professionals, technicians, and policy makers, and to stimulate the generation, analysis, and socialization of scientific evidence to enhance and strengthen public policies and strategies for sustainable vector surveillance and control.

The LA SOVE RELCOV 2025 was a true gathering of researchers, professionals, technicians and students from 15 countries all over Latin America (Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Colombia, Mexico,

Chile, Paraguay, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Panama, Cuba, and Puerto Rico) and also from other parts of the world (USA, Czech Republic, Germany, Spain, and Sweden), of which 60% attended in person. We were particularly honored by the (in person) presence of our former SOVE President, Lyric Bartholomay, a constant and faithful support during the whole congress.

One of our main objectives was to achieve true Latin American (LA) representation, and due to the commitment and effort of the scientific Committee members and speakers (more than 60% from other LA countries), and participants in general (nearly 30% from other LA countries), we are proud to say that this goal was amply achieved! In addition, almost 90% of the conference speakers and more than 95% of our symposium panelists were from Latin A.merica

The LA SOVE RELCOV 2025 scientific program encompassed diverse perspectives and stimulated debate and discussion. The program covered topics of particular relevance for LA, including vector-borne diseases in humans, animals and plants, that especially affect the health of our LA people and the economy of our countries.

We also remained committed to our gender equality agenda by actively: 1) Promoting the participation and visibility of women in the field; : 2) Launching distinction awards named after renowned women scientists, celebrating their legacy and inspiring this and future generations;

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— **McCarthy** cont'd. on p.8

**McCarthy cont'd from p. 6)** 3) Organizing a workshop on gender inequalities in science; 4) Providing a breastfeeding promotion space; and 5) Promoting a resource space for the prevention and support for situations of gender-based workplace violence.

i) Women represented over 60% of our participants, and more than 50% were involved in all congress-related activities.

ii) Our very own dear Major Dhillon received one of these awards, the “Juana Miguela Petrocchi” distinction – who focused on the study of Argentine mosquitoes, and the first professional Argentine woman entomologist, in recognition of his outstanding professional career (see more on page 8.)

iii) The workshop was a total success, with more than 20 attendees who enthusiastically contributed their ideas and thoughts.

Scientific presentations were presented as conferences (9), symposia (13) - by invitation, a total of 69. 43% ;turbo talks (short oral presentations) and e-Posters - both by submission, a total of 99.57% .

Furthermore, LA SOVE members attending the meeting represented 18% of the participants (RELCOV members represented 9%), which not only indicates fresh fields to conquer, but also shows what impact LA SOVE is having in the LA vector-borne disease community, and we are working to materialize this impact as more LA SOVE members join in the near future.

There is much more to share but I don't want to bore you now. Hopefully I will be able to expand on this shortly!

Wishing you a blessed Christmas and New Year, I send you my warmest regards.

Keep well and healthy!

Christina McCarthy  
President, LA-SOVE

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**Yadav cont'd from p. 5:**

2026 or early 2027. He also proposed that SOVE-India organize a pre-conference seminar on important topics.

C) he Board unanimously resolved to bid for organizing the 2033 SOVE International Conference in India. 4. Organizing community outreach activities for risk communication and community engagement for the prevention and control of vector-borne diseases. The following activities were proposed:

a) Making use of social media to increase visibility of SOVE activities, such as creating Instagram and Twitter handles.

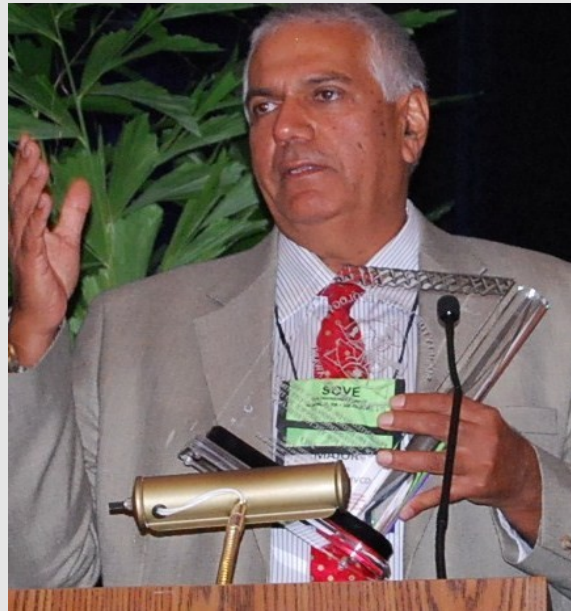
b) Prabhu proposed to organize a 1-day Goa state-level training workshop on vector-borne diseases for about 60 science college coordinators in February 2026.

c) Develop community awareness, outreach and publicity materials such as posters, PPTs, and short videos.

d) Efforts will be made to mobilize resources for these activities. Stelson and Deobhankar already proposed that their resources will be made available for some of the educational and training activities.

Finally, Yadav thanked the Board for their wholehearted support and invaluable suggestions for the 2026 work plan.

Rajpal Yadav



**Major S. Dhillon, PhD**

The Certificate below was received by Paulo Pimenta, PhD, former director of LA SOVE, accompanied by the two presidents of LA SOVE organizations, Christina McCarthy and Ima Braga.



**FROM The DESK OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR  
Michell Brown, Ph.D.**

Hello all,

Thank you for taking the time to response to the SOVE Board meeting agenda survey. Thirteen of our 15 Officers and Board of Directors responded. Here are the results:

1. There was unanimous consent to allow membership to vote to make the Early Career Professional Committee a standing committee.
2. The 2026 SOVE Board budget was approved by unanimous consent.
3. Also by unanimous consent, it was agreed that the cost of membership will be rolled into registration costs (along with a small add-on fee for bookkeeping costs for the process).
4. The Board majority (85%) agreed that College Station or Bryan, Texas would be a reasonable spot for the 2026 conference.
5. The Board majority (77%) agreed that St. Augustine, Florida would be a good site for the 10<sup>th</sup> International Congress for 2029. Other suggestions were San Diego, California and Singapore (however, the next Congress is slated to be in the US).
6. Below are the comments for the additional comments:

Please encourage membership of other chapters to attend 2029 International meeting targeting 5-10 members/officials, even more from these chapters. In the next board meeting, please discuss how can we expand SOVE in other regions like Africa and Asia-pacific.

-I propose: 1) including a Gender Perspective Committee, and 2) giving field and laboratory technicians a specific space in future meetings to share their knowledge and practices (e.g., symposium, talks, presented work).

-First item: We are working towards becoming a chapter, and it takes time. Before that, we'd like to set up a leadership succession plan in EuroSOVE(ESOVE), similar to SOVE and EMCA. We will have a president elect, acting president, and past president, elected for a 2-year term. If we need to vote for this to happen, I'm making a motion :) Second, our potential host of ESOVE is Wageningen University, and they wanted to learn more about a potential financial support upfront from parent SOVE, while we set things up. Any information on this would be appreciated. Finally, my term is ending and it's been delightful to work with you. I'll keep on supporting the next president, SOVE ECPs and ESOVE ECPs as much as I can, with pleasure. Best wishes!

Please let me know if you have any additional questions

Best,  
Michelle

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**Fly in Class and 21<sup>st</sup> Arbovirus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Workshop**

Anastasia Mosquito Control District will host the FMCA Fly in class and organize the 21st Arbovirus Surveillance and Mosquito Control Workshop, St. Augustine, FL on March 2-5, 2026. For more information about the class and workshop, please visit the FMCA at [www.yourfmca.org](http://www.yourfmca.org) and AMCD at [www.amcdsjc.org](http://www.amcdsjc.org). Reporting Rui-De Xue <[rxue@amcdfil.org](mailto:rxue@amcdfil.org)>

## Charlie's Poem

A Story of SOVE Sharing on Crete  
 In the month of October, two thousand two five,  
 A group of eccentrics did meet  
 They came in all faces from near and far places  
 And stayed on the island of Crete  
 In the highlands and low'ans once lived here Minoans  
 In a culture that lasted for ages  
 Through labor and toil, they made lots of oil  
 From olives they grew among sages In Xania we gathered for meetings and greetings  
 Discussing diseases and vectors  
 Displaying the objects of all of our projects  
 Occurring within many sectors  
 There was a great yearning for constantly learning  
 To look beyond things superficial  
 From wing length morphology to microbiology  
 Improved by intelligence artificial  
 Anophelines, phlebotomines, simuliids, ixodids  
 Are prominent dipterans and ticks  
 That through their blood feeding are constantly seeding  
 The pathogens making us sick  
 Research that's ongoing improves all the knowing  
 Required to make better our health  
 We lab-test our catches acquired in batches  
 By equipment employed with great stealth  
 In a world that's far reaching we're constantly teaching  
 So others may learn the right ways  
 Of critical thinking and purposeful linking  
 Successful achievements all days  
 And as we depart for our homes, we can start  
 To savor the good times we had  
 As a group, we are one, and second to none  
 May our goals be steadfastly ironclad

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 Greetings from California!

I occasionally write poems about special adventures and special people. Thusly, I have written one about the wonderful experience I had at the Congress in Crete. I want to share it with our SOVE officers and some friends as well. Feel free to share it if you like it.

Yours truly,

*Charlie*

Charles W. Smith

Trustee / Entomologist

Consolidated Mosquito Abatement District ([cwsmithskeeter@yahoo.com](mailto:cwsmithskeeter@yahoo.com))

Funding Opportunities

According to Nancy Hinkle (nhinkle@uga.edu), Jeff Scott wants to make us aware of this funding . . .

Please let folks know about the following USDA opportunity

A1713 Rapid Response Emerging and Re-emerging Pest and Disease Events Across Food and Agricultural Systems program https://www.nifa.usda.gov/grants/programs/agriculture-food-research-initiative-afri/rapid-response-pests-diseases-A1713

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The announcement (notice) below regarding NIH funding of foreign subawards using a new funding mechanism (PF5) may be of interest to SOVE membership. At this time, the PF5 notice of funding opportunity (NOFO) has not yet been posted and I hear there are some delays because of the shutdown. Any new NIH applications containing foreign subawards will be required to use this new funding mechanism; until the PF5 NOFO is issued, NIH is not accepting any applications with foreign subcomponents.

The notice below contains information relating to this matter: New Application Structure for NIH-Funded International Collaborations; Notice Number: NOT-OD-25-155

https://grants.nih.gov/grants/guide/notice-files/NOT-OD-25-155.html

Also, for Implementing a Unified NIH Funding Strategy to Guide Consistent and Clearer Award Decisions go to: https://grants.nih.gov/news-events/nih-extramural-nexus-news/2025/11/implementing-a-unified-nih-funding-strategy-to-guide-consistent-and-clearer-award-decisions

Adriana Costero-Saint Denis, Email: acostero@niaid.nih.gov; Phone: 240-292-4284 Vector Biology Program, NIH; https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/vector-bio

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EDC Webinar: Beyond the Degree

Entering the vector ecology workforce or kicking off your first lab? Don't miss "Beyond the Degree: Thriving in Your Career" to get practical advice from experts on starting your career with confidence!

Monday, February 2, 2026

2:30 ET/11:30 AM PT

Register: https://shorturl.at/6gxlw

The SOVE Education and Development Committee Presents

# BEYOND THE DEGREE:

## Thriving in Your Career

February 2, 2026  
2:30-4 PM ET / 11:30 AM-1 PM PT  
Zoom: <https://shorturl.at/6gxlw>

New job? New lab? New you! ✨ Join "Beyond the Degree: Thriving in Your Career" to hear from vector ecology pros on how to hit the ground running in your next role.

Hosted by EDC members: Drs. Filiz Gunay, Karen Poh, and Panpim Thongsripong

**REGISTER FOR THE WEBINAR!**

**DR. KERRI COON**  
University of Wisconsin-Madison

**DR. PAULA LADO**  
Valent BioSciences



















**DR. JOEL VEGA-RODRIGUEZ**  
National Institutes of Health

**DR. ISIK UNLU**  
St. Tammany Parish

## From the Desk of Executive Director, Michelle Brown, Ph.D.

The VectorED Network Training and Evaluation Center is pleased to introduce the **Vector Education, Communication, and Training Online Resource (VECTOR) Library**: <https://www.vector-education.org> [vector-education.org]. This free, searchable database catalogs vector-borne disease educational resources from Land Grant Extensions across the U.S. and its territories. Soon, it will also include contributions from state and national public health agencies and academic institutions. Our goal is to provide a centralized hub for science-based information on vectors and vector-borne diseases—to help individuals protect themselves, their families, and their pets. Whether you’re a healthcare provider, educator, outdoor enthusiast, or simply concerned about family and pet safety, the database allows you to search resources tailored to your specific audience or needs. You can filter by state or CDC region, language, cost, vector species or group, focus area, and type of material—such as fact sheets, videos, webinars, infographics, or lesson plans. Have you searched the database and noticed that your materials are missing? We’d love to include them! Visit: <https://www.vector-education.org/how-to-contribute> [vector-education.org] to share your resources or submit questions and feedback. Thank you for helping us build a robust, collaborative resource for the vector-borne disease community.

Adriana Costero-Saint Denis, Email: [acostero@niaid.nih.gov](mailto:acostero@niaid.nih.gov)

PESTS AND VECTORS	MATERIAL FORMATS	CONTRIBUTING INSTITUTIONS
 <b>Mosquitoes</b>  <b>Ticks</b>  <b>Biting midges</b>  <b>Sand Flies</b>  <b>Lice</b>  <b>Fleas</b>  <b>Kissing Bugs</b>  <b>and more!</b>	 <b>Factsheets</b>  <b>Short videos</b>  <b>Slide deck/Presentations</b>  <b>Webinar recordings</b>  <b>Infographics</b>  <b>Webpages</b>  <b>+ more!</b>	<p>All Cooperative Extension in the U.S. and U. S. Territories</p>  <div data-bbox="906 1682 1179 1862">  <p>State and Federal Public Health</p> </div> <div data-bbox="1211 1682 1487 1862">  <p>Other Academic Resources</p> </div>

## BEI Resources for Vector Biology Research

([www.beiresources.org](http://www.beiresources.org))

The NIAID's BEI Resources program provides Vector Biology resources for free to registered, approved researchers in domestic and foreign institutions with appropriate facilities and containment procedures for vector research. Our widely requested holdings include LIVE arthropod vectors of human disease, including anopheline and culicine mosquitoes, reduviids, ticks and sand flies, associated reagents and genomic materials for entomological research, along with insectary protocols. For the cost of nothing, recipients are only required to acknowledge the use of the individual resources in publications and presentations of the research in which the materials are used.

BEI Resources arthropod colonies are made available by the deposit contributions of investigators throughout the world. Deposited materials undergo review by NIAID prior to acceptance. Please notify BEI Resources through the Suggest A Reagent Form if you have a request for inclusion or the Deposit Inquiry Contact Form if you have a unique strain for consideration.

Vector Biology resources available through BEI Resources will remain available throughout the current coronavirus pandemic. Orders and/or shipping of certain live vectors may be delayed or temporarily on hold depending on the current operating status of individual insectaries for mosquitoes, ticks, reduviids and sand flies. BEI Resources is pleased to announce the upcoming availability of black fly life stages through a partnership with the University of Georgia Black Fly Rearing and Bioassay Laboratory, which has operated the only known colony of black flies (Diptera: Simuliidae) for over 20 years. Since its establishment, the *Simulium vittatum* colony has been used for a variety of research projects, including vector transmission studies, environmental monitoring, vector control and larval feeding studies.

I wanted to share some information regarding the NIAID Bioinformatics Resource Centers for Infectious Diseases (BRCs) that were recently renewed. There has been concern in the vector re-

search community regarding the accessibility of bioinformatics data on vectors under the new awards. If the SOVE newsletter editors agree to post this information, below is what is available at this time:

BRCs website: <https://www.niaid.nih.gov/research/bioinformatics-resource-centers> [niaid.nih.gov]

Information on the BRC new awards: NIAID Funds Cutting-Edge Genomics and Bioinformatics Programs | NIAID: National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (nih.gov) [niaid.nih.gov]

The NCBI also has vector data in a comprehensive, easy to navigate format. Here is an example for *Aedes aegypti*: Search: *Aedes aegypti* - NLM (nih.gov) [ncbi.nlm.nih.gov] Information on other vectors can be accessed by placing the name of the vector in the search box.

The contact person for bioinformatics resources at NIAID is Wiriya Rutvisuttinunt (wiriya.rutvisuttinunt@nih.gov) and she can be contacted with any questions.

There have been several recent NIH policy announcements that may be relevant to SOVE membership doing research in foreign countries and/or with viruses.

I have included links below to these announcements. Here is the link to the NIH Implementation of New Initiatives and Policies website: [Implementation of New Initiatives and Policies | Grants & Funding](https://www.grants.nih.gov/implementation) [grants.nih.gov] Since new policies continue to come out and current policies may be updated, I would encourage everyone to view this link every once in a while for updates and changes.

[NOT-OD-25-127: Implementation Update: Terminating or Suspending Dangerous Gain-of-Function Research in Accordance with the Executive Order on Improving the Safety and Security of Biological Research](https://www.grants.nih.gov/implementation) [grants.nih.gov]

[NOT-OD-25-104: Updated NIH Policy on Foreign Subawards](https://www.grants.nih.gov/implementation) [grants.nih.gov]

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**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.

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