On March 18th, 2005 Dr. Zdenek Bouček was presented with the Society’s Distinguished Research Medal at a small ceremony held in the Natural History Museum, London. The ceremony was attended by Zdenek’s wife (Tania) daughter (Jitka), son-in-law (Mike), and several colleagues and close friends. Some overseas colleagues also attended, including one from Australia, two from the USA and two from France. We were delighted that the cultural attaché (Monika Studena) of the Czech Embassy was able to attend, also providing some Czech wine for the reception afterwards. Before the medal presentation, Zdenek was reminded of his impact on the world of insect taxonomy by entertaining reminiscences provided by John La Salle (CSIRO, Australia), Mike Schauff (USDA, USA), Jim Woolley (Texas A&M University, USA), Jean-Yves Rasplus (INRA, France) and Mike Claridge (University of Wales, Cardiff).

Zdenek was awarded the medal for his immense contribution to the taxonomic study of chalcidoid wasps (Hymenoptera), a notoriously difficult group of insects that have been much neglected in the past. Zdenek was an enthusiastic teacher to most of the younger taxonomists now studying this group around the world, all of whom have benefited from Zdenek's incredible patience and knowledge when starting out studying their respective groups.

Zdenek Rudolf Jan Bouček was born in 1924 in Hradec Králové, now in the Czech Republic. After the end of the Second World War he attended the Natural History Facility of Charles University in Prague where he obtained his RNDr in June 1949 and in December of that year he married Tatiana (Tania) Rydlová, the niece of a local amateur entomologist in Hradec Králové. He later took up employment with the Plant Protection Department of the Research Institute for Crop Production in Praha-Ruzyn where he worked until 1960 when he joined the staff of the Natural History Museum in Prague. He was awarded the degree of Doctor of Biological Sciences (Dr Sc.) in 1969 by the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences on the basis of his dissertation, a taxonomic revision of the European Chalcididae, which had been published earlier.

At that time, contact with other specialists in Europe was very difficult if not impossible and so in 1969, as a result of the deteriorating political situation in Czechoslovakia, Zdenek took the painful decision to emigrate with his family to England. He was helped in this by his good friend Eric Classey.

In January 1970, he was able to obtain a temporary position for about 6 months in the Hope Department at Oxford University and in June of that year he took up full employment as a taxonomist with the Commonwealth Institute of Entomology housed in the Natural History Museum in London, and where he worked until his retirement in 1989. He and Tania visited...
Australia twice, once for four months in 1976-1977 and again for four months in 1982-1983. After retirement Zdenek and Tania spent six months in Ottawa where Zdenek helped organise the Chalcidoidea housed in the Canadian National Collection of insects. The following year (1990) they lived for 12 months in France where Zdenek worked with Jean-Yves Rasplus on an illustrated key to West-Palaearctic genera of Pteromalidae (Bouček & Rasplus, 1991).

With the fall of the Berlin wall in 1989 and the ‘velvet revolution’ in Prague later that year, Zdenek and Tania returned to their homeland once again and, in 1992, bought a cottage in Velky V*eot*v where they now spend most of the year.

Zdenek is an avid collector of Hymenoptera, a task frequently aided by Tania. Together they have been on many trips to Europe, North America and Australia. Over the years he has built up an impressive collection of Chalcidoidea and other Hymenoptera. Much of this collection is deposited in the Natural History Museum, London with the remainder placed in the Natural History Museum, Prague.

Zdenek's publications on Chalcidoidea began with his revision of the European species of the family Chalcididae and culminated in a superb monograph of more than 800 pages on 14 families of Australasian Chalcidoidea. This latter work included such a large number of new taxonomic and nomenclatural changes that it reportedly took one person more than three weeks to extract the relevant information for inclusion in Zoological Record. It has been acknowledged as the fundamental and indispensable work for everyone wishing to work on this group of insects. In all, his extensive activity has resulted in more than 150 publications. For the former Czechoslovakia, he edited and wrote the major part of keys to the genera and partly the species of Hymenoptera. In the sixties these keys were widely used, not only in Europe but also elsewhere, especially the part on the Chalcidoidea (translated into English). In summary, in addition to eight species of Sphecidae and one genus and one species of Braconidae, Zdenek has described 1094 taxa in Chalcidoidea, including 47 family-group names, 281 genus-group names and 766 species group names.

I am sure that all those who know Zdenek will join us in wishing him and Tania all the best for the future.

Selected bibliography


1991. *Illustrated key to West-Palaeartic genera of Pteromalidae (Hymenoptera: Chalcidoidea)* 140pp Institut National de la Recherche Agronomique, Paris (with J.-Y. Rasplus)


### Attendees

- Zdenek Bouˇcek
- Tania Bouˇcek
- Jitka Higginbottom (daughter)
- Mike Higginbottom (son-in-law)
- Monika Studena (representative of Czech Embassy)
- Dick Askew
- Mike Claridge
- Eric Classey
- Steve Compton
- Mike Copland
- Gerard Delvare
- Vic Eastop
- George Else
- Nora Graham (widow of Marcus Graham)
- Stuart Hine

* Jon Martin
* David Norris
* John Noyes
* Andrew Polaszek
* Jean-Yves Rasplus
* Suzanne Ryder
* Mark Shaw
* Quentin Wheeler
* Doug Williams
* Chao-dong Zhu

**ISH Representation**

- Michael Schauff, President Elect
- Gavin Broad, Editor JHR
- John La Salle, past President
- Donald Quicke, past President
- Jim Woolley, past Secretary

* Many thanks to those who contributed information for this report: John Noyes, Mike Schauff, John LaSalle, Jim Woolley.

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6th International Conference of Hymenopterists  
Sun City, South Africa, January 22-27, 2006

First and Final Circular
The International Society of Hymenopterists invites you to participate in the above scientific conference which will be held at Sun City, Northwest Province, South Africa. This will be a forum for the dynamic exchange of information and ideas relevant to those interested in Hymenoptera. Your input is required to make this a success, and suggestions for symposia, special sessions and/or keynote speakers will be particularly welcomed.

Organizing Committee
Chair: Prof Denis Brothers, Pietermaritzburg (brothers@ukzn.ac.za) (general enquiries)
Dr Gerhard Prinsloo, Pretoria (PrinslooGL@arc.agric.za)
Dr Connal Eardley, Pretoria (EardleyC@arc.agric.za)
Mr Greg Davies, Pietermaritzburg (gdavies@nmsa.org.za)

Scientific Committee
Chair: Prof Denis Brothers (SA) (brothers@ukzn.ac.za)
Dr Gerhard Prinsloo (SA) (PrinslooGL@arc.agric.za)
Dr Andrew Polaszek (UK) (A.Polaszek@nhm.ac.uk)
Dr Lynn Kimsey (USA) (lskimsey@ucdavis.edu)
Dr Lars Wilhelmsen (Denmark) (lbvilhelmsen@zmuc.ku.dk)

Venue
The venue is part of a tourist complex renowned for its sporting and other attractions, including the adjacent Pilanesberg National Park (where big game are on view). It is ideal for a family holiday and is in a malaria-free area. Additional information is available at http://www.suninternational.com/Resorts/SunCity/. Accommodation will be at the Cabanas complex in Sun City. Reservations must be made directly with Sun City using the booking form attached.

Transport
The closest international airport to Sun City is Johannesburg, about 200km away. It is very strongly recommended that transport from the airport to Sun City is booked and paid for in advance as part of registration. We will provide the operator (Hamba Kukuhle Transport Solutions) with the information required to compile a custom-made transport timetable for delegates. This will be a very convenient option in terms of limiting the waiting time for the next bus, and will also be very competitive in price. (Alternatives are to use another bus operator, but scheduled departures are few, or to hire a car, but the route to Sun City is not an easy one for the uninitiated!)

Language
The official Congress language is English.

Papers
Oral papers should be no longer than 15 minutes; additional discussion of 5 minutes will be allowed.

Posters
Posters will be grouped in cognate sessions. The size should be no larger than A0 portrait (840 X 1176mm).

Abstracts
Abstracts should be submitted electronically by e-mail directly to brothers@ukzn.ac.za or on disk no later than 15th November 2005. They should not exceed 250 words, in the format: Title;
Audio-Visual Aids
Data, slide and overhead projectors will be available. Please indicate well in advance if you will need any other presentation equipment.

PowerPoint Presentations
The files for PowerPoint presentations should be kept as small as possible and e-mailed by 6th January 2006 to brothers@ukzn.ac.za (files up to 30MB acceptable), or mailed on CD to reach us by that date. Ensure that they are in a format compatible with Windows XP and PowerPoint 2002. They will be preloaded and can be checked on arrival. Use of your own laptops will not be possible.

Registration Fees
The registration fees include teas and lunches each day, a welcoming party, an afternoon game drive, the congress dinner, congress documentation, and other goodies. They do not include accommodation, other evening meals or transport to Sun City. The fees for Companions include the welcoming party, afternoon game drive, and congress dinner.

The registration fees are: Early ZAR2100 (before 1st September 2005), Regular ZAR2600, Full-time Student ZAR1600, Companion ZAR900, One Day ZAR500, Late Penalty ZAR500 (after 31 October 2005) (for approximate US$ equivalents, divide by 6.5). Return transport from Johannesburg International Airport is ZAR415.

Refunds
Refunds of registration fees will only be considered if requests are received by 15th December 2005. An administration fee of R150 will be deducted from any refunds made.

T-shirts
Souvenir t-shirts will be provided. Please indicate your size on the registration form.

Collecting Permits
Collecting in South Africa is becoming increasingly regulated and will, in most cases, require permits, possibly from several authorities. Dr Gerhard Prinsloo (e-mail: PrinslooGL@arc.agric.za) will provide details of requirements and try to facilitate these, provided that requests are received early.

Congress Schedule
22 January (Sunday): arrivals and registration in the afternoon; welcoming party in the evening;
23 January (Monday): registration in early morning; congress sessions from about 9:00 until late afternoon;
24 January (Tuesday): congress sessions from about 8:30 until late afternoon;
25 January (Wednesday): congress sessions from about 8:30 until late afternoon;
26 January (Thursday): congress sessions from about 8:30 until midday; game drive in afternoon, ending in Congress Dinner;
27 January (Friday): congress sessions from about 8:30 if required; ISH Business Meeting.

Enquiries
All inquiries about payments & registration, scientific programme & presentations should be directed to Denis Brothers (brothers@ukzn.ac.za). Inquiries about the venue, accommodation, local travel and general assistance should go to Gerhard Prinsloo (PrinslooGL@arc.agric.za).

Registration, accommodation and payment forms are available from Denis Brothers.

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**Journal of Hymenoptera Research**

**Message from the Editor**

The first issue of Volume 14 of the *Journal of Hymenoptera Research*, containing 12 papers, was mailed on 24 March.

So far this year five manuscripts have been received. Of these, one has been accepted after review with the others still under review. Of the five papers under review at the time of the last report, four were accepted (one after rewriting) and one rejected (but with possible re-submission after major revision). Each paper was read by two reviewers, a subject editor, and the editor; in a few cases a subject editor acted as one of the two reviewers.

From 2002 to 2004 copies of the journal were sent to the Institute for Scientific Information (www.isinet.com) for evaluation and inclusion in their database. Finally, as of February 2005, *Journal of Hymenoptera Research* has been included in their Master List (http://www.isinet.com/cgi-bin/jrlst/jlresults.cgi?PC=MASTER&Word=hymenoptera). Many thanks to Eric Grissell for his persistence that finally got us there. Hopefully this will now encourage more people to submit articles to the journal.

The Editor and Subject Editors are, as ever, grateful to the numerous reviewers who have contributed much time and effort in writing constructive reviews and attempting to help authors communicate more effectively. Without the guidance of these individuals the editorial progress would be much diminished.

I am extremely grateful to our four Subject Editors, Sydney Cameron, Donald Quicke, Wojciech Pulawski, and Mark Shaw. They spend a lot of time reconciling the reviewers’ comments with the paper’s contents and are paramount in suggesting improvements for most of the submitted papers.

**Gavin Broad, Editor**

**16 May 2005**
President’s Report

Since this newsletter is already quite full, my report is brief. Regretably, I have not been able to devote as much time and effort to Society affairs as I would have liked, what with organizing our next Conference, trying to run a large and complex department in three sections spread over a distance of 80 km in a newly merged institution, and other commitments (such as recently having to take over as President of the International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature) unanticipated when I accepted nomination for the Presidency. I must therefore apologise to the members. Nevertheless, I am confident that we will have a successful Conference in January 2006, provided that everyone possible joins us. It will facilitate planning very considerably if people would register as early as possible, even if payment can only be made later.

You will find calls for nominations the Society’s awards elsewhere in this newsletter. Please give them serious consideration and send the necessary information to the Secretary. We will also put into place the procedure for obtaining nominations for President Elect (to take effect at the January Conference, when Mike Schauff takes over as President).

Denis Brothers

Secretary’s Report

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The numbers speak for themselves. Membership is down slightly, due primarily to members who have opted not to renew (retirees, etc.) or to those having yet to renew. As always, we welcome suggestions for new sponsored members, particularly students. I have sent out hard copy and electronic reminders via snail mail and e-mail, respectively, to those members not yet renewed who do not have access to email as well as an initial reminder email to those who do.

Of perpetual concern is the number of members who are late in paying their annual dues. This costs the society money and time. In addition, we currently have 73 members without a current email address. Please contact us if you have recently received one, or if your email address changes.

Recall that the membership database is available at the new ISH website hosted by Allen Press (http://ish.allenmm.com). We are still working out some of the bugs in getting the membership database uploaded smoothly, but the longer it is in use, the easier everything should become. Ultimately, we hope to allow for renewals and new subscriptions to be processed via credit card on the ISH website.

Included below is a reminder as to the increase in dues and page charges (per page).
Mike Gates, Secretary, mgates@sel.barc.usda.gov
June 8, 2005

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Treasurer’s Report

International Society of Hymenopterists revenue and expenditures
Interim Report for 2005 (1 January to 10 May 2005)

**Income**

- Membership dues, subscriptions, back orders, sales of Giralt CD-ROMS and braconid manuals, donations, page charges and reprints sales for JHR: $11330.40
- (Income for page charges and reprints for vol 13(1): $517.00)
- (Income for page charges and reprints for vol 13(2): $767.50)
- (Income for page charges and reprints for vol 14(1): $0.00)
- Refund from IRS for 2003 tax: $3128.06
- Interest from bank: $26.90

**Total Income**: $14485.36

**Expenses**

- Bank fees check printing: $4.99
- Bank fees for credit card servicing: $75.00
- Card processing fees: $124.36
- Returned checks (2): $218.00
- Postage (incl. the $70.00 used to close Ottawa): $162.14
- Allen Press: $0.00

**Total Expenses**: $584.49

**Balance (Income minus expenses)**: $13900.87

+ Carryover from 2004 Ottawa account (now closed): $70.00
+ Carryover from 2004 Texas account (transferred to Tucson): $6500.00

**Grand total**: $20470.87
The current plan is to continue with our usual set-up in terms of a scientific forum and business meeting. Due to overwhelming requests to minimize the length of typical latenight ISH marathons, we, the Executive, have implemented a single-invited-speaker format.

**Scientific Forum and Annual Business Meeting**


7:35 “Hypotheses, Theories, and Phylogenetic Analysis”, John Wenzel, Ohio State University, Kinnear Dr., OH.

8:15 5 Minute Break

8:20 Annual Business Meeting

**Officer/Award Nominations:**

**President-Elect**

**Distinguished Research Medal, Service Award**

We are requesting nominations for candidates for the Distinguished Research Medal and Service Award. The **deadline** for submitting nominations is **September 1, 2005**. If you are interested in nominating someone for an award, please send your application (see guidelines below) to:

Michael W. Gates  
Syst. Entomol. Lab., USDA-ARS-PSI  
c/o Smithsonian Institution  
NMNH, NHB 168  
10TH St. & Constitution Ave.  
Washington, D. C. 20013-7012

The President and members of the Executive shall be appointing a nominating committee in the near future to solicit nominations for an vacancy (President-Elect) (see Art. VI of the ISH Constitution included below). These candidates will then be contacted to determine if they are able and willing to serve. Candidates are then voted upon by ISH membership.

5. The rules that apply to the award of the **International Society of Hymenopterists Distinguished Research Medal** are as follows:  
a) The award will be made no more often than every second year.  
b) The President will invite nominations for the award from Society members at an appropriate time.
c) A candidate must be proposed by no fewer than three Members in Good Standing.

d) There is no restriction on candidates, beyond having made significant and distinguished research contributions to the study of Hymenoptera.

e) Proposers of the candidate shall provide the Secretary of the Society with the name, curriculum vitae (including qualifications, career, distinctions and publications), and a statement of approximately 500 words explaining why the candidate merits the award.

f) A selection committee for the award of the medal will be appointed and convened by the President, and members of that committee shall themselves not be nominated or be signatories of the nomination in that year.

g) Should the committee recommend to the Executive Committee that an award be made, the name of the recipient will be announced at the following annual meeting.

a) The recipient of the award will receive Life Membership in the Society, in addition to the medal.

6. The rules that apply to the award of the International Society of Hymenopterists Service Award are as follows:

a) A candidate may be proposed by one or more Members in Good Standing.

b) Any Member in Good Standing or previous Members of the Society are eligible for the award including current members of the Executive Committee.

c) Proposers of the candidate shall provide the Secretary of the Society with the name and a statement of approximately 300 words explaining why the candidate merits the award.

d) A selection committee for the award will be appointed and convened by the President, and members of the committee shall themselves not be nominated or be signatories of any nomination in that year.

a. Should the committee recommend to the Executive Committee that an award be made, the name of the recipient will be announced at the following annual meeting.

ARTICLE VI

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall appoint a Nominating Committee of at least three members to serve for one year. The Nominating Committee shall solicit nominations for those vacancies on the Executive Committee that will occur in the following year. The Nominating Committee shall nominate at least two persons for each office and ascertain whether the proposed nominees will accept office if elected. The slate of nominees will be made available to the membership by the Secretary, and a mail ballot will be taken. The candidate who receives the majority of votes cast shall be declared elected.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall have the authority to appoint a member of the Society to fill the remainder of the term of any officer of the Society who is unable to continue for whatever reason.

Section 3. Standing committees and ad hoc committees shall be appointed by the Executive Committee.

Proposed Venues for 7th Quadrennial International Society of Hymenopterists Meeting 2010

Preparations are underway to select a venue for the next conference. In the past, either people have proposed something, or they have been pressured (e.g. South Africans in 2006).

Some interest has been expressed by people working at the Systematic Parasitoid Laboratory in Koszeg, Hungary, about hosting the 7th quadrennial ISH conference. This is an apparently beautiful locality and an ideal venue for a conference. Other individuals at other potential venues are welcome to submit proposals to any member of the ISH Executive detailing potential hosts. Please provide as much information as possible as to who would coordinate the local arrangements, information on likely costs for lodging & registration, meals, transportation (international and local) possibilities for collecting, program symposia or invited speakers, etc.