

The Entomological Society of Manitoba *Newsletter*



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About the ESM Newsletter

The Entomological Society of Manitoba Newsletter is published three times per year. It is a forum whereby information can be disseminated to Society members. As such, all members are encouraged to contribute often. The Newsletter is interested in opinions, short articles, news of research projects, meeting announcements, workshops, courses and other events, requests for materials or information, news of personnel or visiting scientists, literature reviews or announcements and anything that may be of interest to ESM members.

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Editors' Comments



This issue has been slow in coming and as result we have decided to put it out as a combined issue, Volume 36 Numbers 2 & 3. This will put us back on track to produce the first issue of Volume 37 on time in the spring of 2010. In this issue we start and finish with contributions from **Marj Smith**. Her first item is her first **column as your President**, and her last item is another of her increasingly challenging **crossword puzzles**. In between there is a **request from Marj and Richard** for volunteers and feedback on an important issue. There is also a report on the very successful **Joint Annual Meeting of ESM and ESC**, and a note from **Bob Wrigley**, frequent contributor to this Newsletter, and recipient of the 2009 Criddle Award. Then, sadly, in the Member News section, obituaries for two of our members: **Andy Kolach** and **Rob Roughley**. Both have been important to the Society and a great loss. We finish with the usual lists of **upcoming meetings** and of the **Executive and Committee Chairs**. Enjoy the rest of your winter. "Talk" to you in the spring

Pat MacKay & Mahmood Iranpour

And now, a message from your President...

When I was a child, insects were mysterious and sometimes beautiful – at a distance. When I got to University, I took a course in Entomology, thinking that if I got to know something about these small creatures, I might be less entomophobic. Well, it worked! Now I find myself lecturing our two young cats when they eat the predators in our basement arthropod ecosystem. And I'm a professional entomologist, and President of the ESM. Who'd have thought, eh?

Now Richard Westwood, after serving the Society so well as President, gets to step down and put his feet up. In the past year, the ESM hosted a very successful Joint Annual Meeting with the ESC. The efforts of the Local Arrangements Committee are to be commended, especially those of Brent Elliott and Neil Holliday. I heard many positive comments about the meeting, the program and the venue. Thanks are due to all those who volunteered – you all helped to make the meeting run smoothly.



Actually, Richard doesn't plan to sit around with his feet up - he is Past-President, and in addition plans to set up an Ad Hoc committee to review the ESM's Rules and Regulations and By-Laws. Over the years, useful new technologies have changed many operations, and some of the Society's timelines have evolved slowly, so now would be a good time to re-evaluate and update our regulations. If you are interested in getting involved with the committee, please let us know.

There are changes to some of the committees. Thank you to Brent Elliott and Sheila Wolfe, who have stepped down after at least three years of service on the Social Committee. We will look forward to a new Social Committee organizing luncheons and other events. Let me know if you'd like to become involved. Kathy Cano is taking over as Chair of the Finance Committee and Chair of the Endowment Fund Board. Also, Jonathan Vielleux is the new Chair of the Youth Encouragement and Public Education Committee.

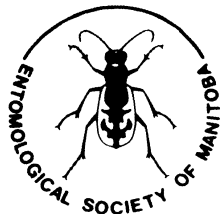
The recent passing of Rob Roughley leaves a large hole in the ESM and in the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba. In the ESM, Rob served the Society as President in 1993-94 and for many years as Chair of the Common Names Committee and as Archivist for the ESM's store of historical materials. We will all miss Rob with his 'who needs a microphone?!' voice, and the many interesting stories he had when returning from insect collecting trips.

All the Best for the New Year!

Marjorie Smith

A CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS AND FEEDBACK

ENTOMOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF MANITOBA INC.



Date: 11 February 2010

From: Marjorie Smith, ESM President

To: All members of the ESM

Proposal to review and revise the By-Laws and Committee Guidelines of the ESM

The By-Laws of the ESM, which state how the affairs of our Society are to be conducted, were adopted in 1979. There have been some changes and additions since then, added in as a following section entitled “Rules and Regulations”, but the By-Laws have not been reviewed for a long time, and the Committee Guidelines have not been updated in at least 10 years. Many of the Society’s operating procedures and activities of committees have evolved over the years, so that some of our common practices differ from what our By-Laws or Rules and Regulations state.

At the first meeting of the 2009-2010 ESM Executive on 4 February, an Ad Hoc Committee was created. The mandate of this committee is to review the Society’s By-Laws and Committee Guidelines, and make recommendations which will then be brought to the membership at our Annual Business Meeting in November. Richard Westwood has been appointed Chair of the committee, and I will sit as ex officio member. We are looking for two or three Society members to sit on the committee so please let me know if you are interested.

We are looking for ideas and suggestions from all Society members on what needs to be updated, added or deleted. Please take a bit of time to read through the By-Laws and Rules and Regulations of your Society at

<http://home.cc.umanitoba.ca/~fieldspg/commit.html>

Please think about this and provide us with feedback.

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The Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of Manitoba and Canada Winnipeg, October 17-21 2009

Reported by Pat MacKay

After much planning and hard work by many people, the 2009 ESM-ESC JAM came off without a single hitch, at least from the perspective of this writer. It appeared at the time, and this was confirmed in quite a few subsequent emails and phone calls, that everyone had a great time, with lots of good science and lots of good socializing. Exactly what a meeting is supposed to be.



Neil Holliday receives the Gold Medal of the Entomological Society of Canada from incoming Society President Maya Evenden.

The official start to the meeting was Sunday, October 18, but by the morning of 17th, the Board of Governors of the ESC was closeted for the day in the Fort Garry Hotel, to deliberate on the business of the Society. As a reward, in the evening they were all invited to join Bob Lamb and myself, along with the rest of the ESM, at our house in Wildwood Park, for a Meet-the-Board Mixer. Pretty well all of the Board, a few other visitors in early for the meeting, and a substantial number of ESM members had a most enjoyable evening. Most of the Board members left by cab to return to the hotel sometime close to midnight, after waiting for a considerable period (long enough to consume an extra beer!) for a Winnipeg cab to actually find its way into Wildwood Park. The last ESM members left at around 1:00am. The next morning, Bob and I did minimal cleaning, and headed down to the Fort Garry, where we stayed for the rest of the meeting.

On Sunday the proceedings began at 1:30pm, and were particularly satisfying for Manitobans, as we watched the Gold Medal of the Entomological Society of Canada be presented to one of our own. Neil Holliday received the medal, and then gave the Gold Medal Address, a stimulating personal look at entomological evolution. The address as usual will be published on the Bulletin of the ESC. Sunday finished off with a plenary symposium entitled Climate Change: from Geology to Ecology which included three excellent speakers, and the Welcome Reception in the evening.

Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday were packed with the scientific sessions: four Presidents' Prize oral sessions with a total of 54 papers; 29 posters, of which 10 were part

of the Presidents' Prize competition; three contributed paper sessions with a total of 33 papers; nine symposia with a total of 56 speakers; the Heritage Lecture, and probably a number of other items that I've missed. By my count, there were 27 contributions of various sorts by Manitobans.

The more social side of the meeting culminated in the banquet on Tuesday evening, with a delicious meal, the presentation of awards, and plenty of time for conversation. Photographs of the Manitoba award winners are included thanks to Rick West, the ESC Webmaster and unofficial photographer, and the ESC website.

By any measure, the meeting was a great success. There were 220 registrants. The meeting made an overall profit, the size of which is not yet clear, as there are still a few bills to be paid. The graduate students' silent auction made about \$1800, and the raffle of the Encyclopaedia of Entomology made almost \$700, both of which go into the ESC Scholarship fund. Congratulations to all who were involved in the meeting!



Bob Wrigley receives the Norman Criddle Award for Amateur Entomology from the incoming President of the Entomological Society of Canada, Maya Evenden.



Sarah Semmler, undergraduate student in the Department of Biology, University of Winnipeg receives the Student Achievement Award from ESCM President Richard Westwood.



Tharshinidevy Nagalingham, Ph.D. student in the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba, receives the ESM Graduate Scholarship from ESM President Richard Westwood.



Alicia Leroux, undergraduate student in the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba, receives the OrkinSwat Student Award from ESM President Richard Westwood.



Marina Beaudry, undergraduate student at the University of Manitoba, receives the Student Achievement Award from Neil Holliday, Head of the Department of Entomology, University of Manitoba. Marina was unable to attend the banquet of the Joint Meeting of ESM and ESC to receive her award at the formal proceedings.

An Email to the Newsletter from Bob Wrigley, The 2009 ESC Criddle Award Recipient

Hi Pat. First, I wish to thank the members of the ESM that nominated me for the Canadian Entomological Society's Norman Criddle Award. It is a great honour, and I really appreciate receiving the plaque and the Criddle book signed by Alma Criddle. I had the pleasure of working on "A History of the Manitoba Naturalists Society" with Alma and Ardythe Mc Master, for Manitoba Nature Magazine (which I was editing at the time). She was a great lady from a famous Manitoba family, pioneering in natural-history studies. I have often thought of walking in the footsteps of Norman and Stuart Criddle during my annual trips to the Spruce Woods sandhills area, studying small mammals and arthropods over the last 40 years. The award ("for amateur contributions to entomology") encourages me to continue my collecting and publishing activities with arthropods. I wasn't entirely sure that my efforts were really worthwhile, but this award indicates they are significant, which is very rewarding for amateurs like me.

Attached is a cute spider adventure story with an important message that is being published in the Canadian Zoo and Aquarium Association Newsletter. It might be worthy of including in the ESM newsletter. I will send along a photo. [Look for Bob's spider story in the next issue of the Newsletter: Ed.]

About a decade ago, I prepared a detailed proposal at the Assiniboine Park Zoo for a major diorama of arthropods in the Cave area of the Kinsmen Discovery Center. The view would be for visitors to look out from the Cave into a brightly lit glade in a tropical forest (behind glass on three sides of course). Several hundred arthropod specimens (colorful beetles, leps, bugs, spiders, stick insects, preying mantids, etc.) would be mounted in life-like positions on the artificial vegetation, on the ground, and in the air. Displays of live arthropods would be situated nearby. Since I was in the museum business for 18 years, I had the opportunity to see a number of beautiful insect dioramas at other institutions, but this would be on a grander scale. I still hope to bring this project to completion someday, since I know the public, and especially kids, would be mesmerized by such an exuberant display of life, almost unknown to them.

In the meantime, I prepared this year a modest insect exhibit for the Conservatory, with the help of Kaaren Pearce. I acquired 20 large specimens of insects that were so well camouflaged on vegetation, bark and rocks that the public was challenged to find them all. This display case has now been transferred to the Zoo's Education Center, where it still attracts keen interest from youth. I am currently preparing another arthropod exhibit for a wall-mounted display case at the Kinsmen Discovery Center. I hope to show about 80 specimens from many families. Perhaps these two modest exhibits will generate sufficient interest to direct funding to the Cave Arthropod Project. And speaking of funding, members may have heard the news, announced by Premier Greg Selinger, of a 31-million-dollar grant to the new Assiniboine Park Conservancy Board to start the planning and construction of a Polar Bear Conservation Center, Display (for up to six adult bears), and a Rescue Center (for up to eight cubs). The Master Plan (125 million) has now begun, and I am strongly promoting a Mini-beast Center to host major

displays of arthropods from Manitoba and around the world. In my home collection, I have over 9000 species of Coleoptera, and representatives of many other groups, so there will be no shortage of wonderful specimens on which to base biodiversity and conservation messages. All very exciting.

Lastly, a comment about our departed colleague Rob Roughley. He and Terry Galloway inspired me to study arthropods in Manitoba, which has led to my experiencing such intense pleasure in the field, my home lab where I process specimens, and at the J.B. Wallis Museum of Entomology. Each winter, when I brought in my donation of about 1500 specimens, Rob would make such a fuss over some unusual insects, and it was exciting for me to witness "the little boy" come out in Rob - an experienced entomologist. I hope we can all maintain his high level of enthusiasm for our field.

Best regards,

Bob Wrigley

MEMBER NEWS

Andy Kolak (1939-2009)

Dave Smith writes:

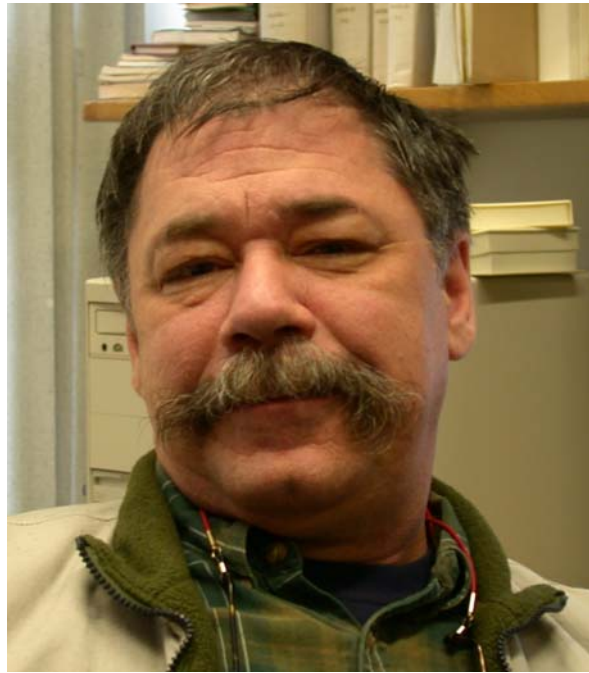
Andy Kolach, a long time member of The Entomological Society of Manitoba, passed away in July, 2009. I had the pleasure of working with Andy for almost twenty-five years in the Apiculture and Entomology Section of The Manitoba Department of Agriculture. Andy joined the Department to oversee the new Pesticides and Fertilizers Act of Manitoba, one of the first Provincial Acts in Canada to regulate the sale and use of Agricultural pesticides. Andy was responsible for licensing dealers in the Province and also for setting up and running educational courses for dealers. The courses were held for a number of years and eventually, well over one thousand dealers had passed through them to qualify for licensing. I spent many days and evenings traveling with Andy, to and from meetings, and always enjoyed the wide variety of discussions we had while on those trips.

As well as his duties overseeing the Pesticides and Fertilizers Act, Andy was also very much involved with Extension Entomology, working with both Agricultural Representatives and other Department field staff throughout the Province, and as such, was a valued member of the Entomology Section.

Andy will be remembered by his colleagues in the Department of Agriculture for his friendly and cooperative nature and the contribution he made to extension entomology in Manitoba.

Robert E. Roughley (1950-2009)

The entomological community has lost one of its classic figures. Rob Roughley passed away suddenly at his home on 9 November, 2009 at the age of 59. Rob was an authority on water beetles, especially the Dytiscidae. He completed his B.Sc. (Agr.) in Entomology in the Department of Environmental Biology at the University of Guelph in 1974. He was part of the cadre of young entomologists, inspired by Dave Pengelly, who emerged from Guelph at about that time. While an undergraduate student, Rob spent two summers at the Agriculture Canada Research Station in Harrow, Ontario, where he worked on insect pathology with Bob Jaques, and with Bill Elliott on aphids on vegetable crops. It was perhaps during the time he spent with



Robert E. Roughley, 1950-2009

Bill Elliott, and the following summer on Dave Pengelly's field crew to replenish the ravaged Natural History of Insects collection, that Rob became fascinated by taxonomy and systematics. Rob stayed on at Guelph to revise the genus *Hydaticus* (Dytiscidae) for his M.Sc. (1976), which involved spending some of his time working at the Canadian National Collection in Ottawa. Rob went to the University of Alberta for his Ph.D. under the supervision of George Ball; his thesis research was a revision of the genus *Dytiscus*, using characters from adults and immature stages. In 1982, even before he defended his Ph.D. thesis, he accepted a faculty position in the Department of Entomology at the University of Manitoba. For the next year, he worked day and night to complete his Ph.D. thesis, which he defended in 1983.

Water beetles, especially Dytiscidae, formed the focus for Rob's research. He was a world authority in dytiscids and related groups, and his expertise was much in demand. His taxonomic advice was sought by curators, amateurs and consultants needing specimen identification, and he often visited museums and provided curatorial assistance in the areas he knew best. He worked particularly on the dytiscids of North America and the water beetle fauna of Middle America, and had a great deal of involvement with the Instituto Nacional de Biodiversidad (INBio), in Costa Rica. At INBio, he taught water beetle collecting techniques to parataxonomists, and was team leader for the aquatic Coleoptera group. Rob's combined efforts with David S. White on the chapter on aquatic Coleoptera in the fourth edition of *An Introduction to the Aquatic Insects of North America* (2008) is a lasting contribution to his discipline. Rob was involved with the scientific community in many areas of endeavour particular those dealing with conservation; he was an active participant in the Biological Survey of

Canada, the Nature Conservancy of Canada, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, CANPOLIN, and the International Union for the Conservation of Nature.

Rob was never shy about tackling less familiar areas of research, and he assumed supervision of graduate students in many areas beyond his own field of systematics. He supervised students who examined the integrated control of purple loosestrife, and others who worked on the biodiversity of spiders, carabids, bees, and flies, especially those associated with prairie grassland and subarctic habitats in Manitoba. He encouraged his students to work hard and gain a sense of pride in their own accomplishments as they saw their own expertise grow. His encouragement extended to undergraduate students as well. Rob had an unorthodox lecture style. He was always very relaxed, but you never knew what approach he might take. He sometimes delivered lectures in a classic sense, but he also explored an open-ended

style, where students were expected to contribute substantially to the learning process. Rob enjoyed a high level of interaction in his lectures, and he delivered his lecture material from many different angles. In recognition of the success of this approach, he received a Students' Teacher Recognition Award at the University of Manitoba in 1995. For many years, he and Peter Kevan taught a course in boreal and arctic entomology, in Churchill, Manitoba, as part of the offerings of the University of the Arctic.

One of Rob's great loves was collecting insects, and he travelled the world in the pursuit of water beetles. His extended field trips with students or colleagues were legendary: they would start out from Winnipeg heading west, hit the coast, travel south, turn east, keep going until they hit the sea, and then wend their way back. Several visiting postdocs received their initiation to North America on just such trips. Rob travelled extensively in Europe, Asia, Australia, and Costa Rica, gaining taxonomic insights from the beetles he collected and the habitats he visited. It was perhaps these insights that were so valuable to his colleagues and for which his advice was so often sought.

Rob also carried a large portion of the load for extension calls in the Department of Entomology. These calls came on the telephone, through the mail, via e-mail or where an unannounced visitor would appear at the door with concerns or curiosity about some entomological dilemma. He met thousands of people this way, sharing his experience and enthusiasm with each and every one. At one time he was a popular voice on local radio for ask-the-bug-doctor programmes. It was always a treat to tune in because you never knew what people would call in to ask, and you could never guess how Rob was going to respond. He served the agricultural extension service through his contacts with Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives to provide identification of known and



Rob doing what he loved to do: collecting near the Yellowquill Prairie, while Bob Lamb watches.

new pest problems. In 2007, his record of dealing with over 12,000 extension calls during his career was recognized by his receipt of a University of Manitoba Annual Outreach Award

Rob was an untiring supporter of collections and collection management in Canada, and when he assumed the curatorship of the entomological museum upon arrival in Winnipeg, the collection immediately began to expand. In 1983, the museum was given the official title, the J.B. Wallis Museum of Entomology, to commemorate the contributions and early development of the collection by J.B. Wallis. Rob presided over the small naming ceremony, and was clearly in his glory in dedicating the museum to the memory of a former water beetle specialist. From that time, the collection has grown from a modest 50,000–60,000 specimens to where it stands today, at an estimated 2,000,000 specimens. Over the years, as the collection grew and several collections in Winnipeg were orphaned and donated to the JBWM, space available to work efficiently shrank. In 2000, Rob was integral in obtaining Canadian Foundation for Innovation funding to expand the museum facilities and to implement one of the first bar-coded databases for entomological museums in Canada. The museum now has enough space to accommodate many years' contributions of specimens, and in the near future we expect to announce the new official name of our museum, the J.B. Wallis/R.E. Roughley Museum of Entomology, a fitting tribute to two water beetle specialists.

Rob had a big voice, a big personality and a big heart. There are few entomologists more generous with their time and expertise. He was endlessly supportive of students, and always provided the encouragement and enthusiasm for all things entomological that seemed to inspire so many of them. If you needed assistance, a reference, some specimens, an opinion, or an update on scores in the NHL games the night before, Rob was always there. He reveled in seeing some strange and unusual insect; he was always excited by whatever you had to share with him, even if it wasn't a beetle.

Rob has been an important component of the entomological community in Canada and he will be sorely missed. Rob is survived by his wife, Pearl, children Amy (Mike), grandsons Nicholas and Maxwell, Kate (Blake), Keegan, and stepsons Ryan and Chad.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS*

Joint Annual Meeting of the Entomological Societies of Canada and B.C.

Vancouver, B.C., 31 October-03 November 2010

58th Annual Meeting of the Entomological Society of America

San Diego, California, 13-16 December 2010

<http://www.entsoc.org/am/fm/index.htm>

Joint Annual Meeting of the Canadian and Acadian Entomological Societies

Halifax, N.S., 2011

*If you have a meeting you would like listed in the next ESM Newsletter, contact the editors with the details by April 2010

Dissecting Insects

There are some insect parts and products scattered throughout this puzzle. If you see a question mark after a clue, you may need to think creatively. Enjoy!

Marj Smith

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ACROSS:

1. Paragon of slowness
6. A *Glossina* ovary contains this
10. Chemical symbol for part of table salt
12. Where to find spermatogonia
14. Mycetophilid
15. Keep your _____ up; stay cheerful
17. We sweat through these
18. Boot up the Adriatic?
19. Many latin 53 Across
20. Chemical symbol for element no. 52
21. _____ membrane; orthopteran sound producer
25. Drink from a tap
26. Insect toes?
28. Definite article

31. Ecdysone, for example
32. Poem of praise
33. What *Zygogramma exclamationis* does with *Helianthus annuus*
34. Having the ability to perceive by ears, eyes, etc.
35. Chair of no return?
37. Primary target site of 8 Down
38. We love to complain about it
39. Flow in a sudden stream
40. Panhandler
41. Give a false impression of; contradict
43. Canyon's answer
46. Minor excretory product of insects, and component of some insect pigments
49. Eye part

50. Appendage of *Myzus* but not *Lygus*
51. Nervous or endocrine, for example
53. Ovariole contents
54. Revive
55. Expect and desire
56. Outer layer of an avian egg
57. Part of one h

DOWN:

1. Mammalian equivalent of frass
2. Ganglion component
3. Confused, on the ocean?
4. "Baby, ____ cold outside"
5. Just over a half century, to Caesar
6. Chitinase, for example
7. Post grad. deg. for a historian
8. Natural insecticide (abbrev.)
9. Eight-legged suffix
10. No soccer score
11. No matter which
13. Female insects' storage for product of 12 Across
16. Dipteran gyroscope
18. Nursery for leps and dips?
20. Insect 'foot'
21. Vocal quality

22. Tell ____ more!
23. You have to be a larval lepidopteran or sawfly to have this
24. Part of male insect's genitalia important to taxonomists
26. Human hypopharynx? (pl.)
27. Inebriated one
29. It is very useful to a dipteran taxonomist
30. List ender
31. Securing oneself against loss
34. Universal measurement system (abbrev.)
35. Lamb's mom
36. Get kernels out of spikes
37. Italian honey?
40. Insect thorax + abdomen
42. One of 6 or 8 on a tick
44. Release pheromone
45. Outer grain covering
47. Smallest particle that can be an element
48. Portent of future event
52. Outer prefix
54. Blood factor named after a monkey (abbrev.)

Academic Vacancy - 10948 : Assistant/Associate Professor in Insect Systematics and Taxonomy

The Department of Entomology, Faculty of Agricultural and Food Sciences, University of Manitoba invites applications for a tenure track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor, commencing July 1, 2010, or as soon as possible thereafter, to teach and conduct research in Insect Systematics and Taxonomy. The position will be weighted at approximately 45% teaching, 40% research and 15% service/outreach. Qualified applicants must possess: a Ph.D. in taxonomy and systematics of insects or closely related arthropods; a record of independent research as demonstrated by scholarly publications; the potential for developing a strong externally funded research program in one or more areas of insect systematics or taxonomy; demonstrated ability or potential for excellence in undergraduate and graduate teaching; and excellent oral and written communication skills. For more information on this opportunity, please visit:

http://umanitoba.ca/cgi-bin/human_resources/jobs/view.pl?posting_id=83819

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