

October 25, 2012

Announcing the 2013 International Conference on Pollinator Biology, Health and Policy

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. – The Center for Pollinator Research at Penn State will be hosting the second International Conference on Pollinator Biology, Health and Policy from August 14-17, 2013. The conference will be held at Penn State's campus in University Park, PA.

A major theme of this year's conference will be examining the effects of environmental contaminants on pollinator genomics, development, physiology and behavior. The conference will feature two world-renowned keynote speakers: David Goulson (University of Stirling), an expert in the behavior, ecosystems services, and conservation of bumble bees, and Heather Patisaul (North Carolina State University), who will share insights into the genomic, neurophysiological and behavioral impacts of environmental contaminants that act as endocrine disruptors in mammals. Additional symposia will include invited and contributed talks and posters related to pollinator behavior, physiology, host-parasite interactions, conservation, ecosystems services, and policy.

When this conference was first held in 2010, it attracted over 200 participants from 14 countries, representing universities, government agencies, agrochemical companies, non-profit organizations, and several stakeholder groups. Details about the 2010 conference, including an abstract book and several of the policy-related presentations can be found at: <http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators/pollin-spotlight-items/2010-conference>

The Center for Pollinator Research at Penn State is a dynamic consortium of 27 faculty involved in research, education and extension efforts focused on improving pollinator health, conservation and ecosystems services. For more information on the Center and the conference please visit our website: <http://ento.psu.edu/pollinators>. For more information about the conference, please contact the organizers: Christina Grozinger (cmg25@psu.edu), Chris Mullin (camullin@psu.edu), and Neal Williams (nmwilliams@ucdavis.edu).

The conference will begin in the evening of August 14th, 2013, and be preceded by a one-day Pollinator Conservation Short Course hosted by the Xerces Society for Invertebrate Conservation on August 14. The Short Course will also be held at Penn State and it will feature presentations on creating and protecting pollinator habitat, as well as related research of Penn State scientists. Please see www.xerces.org/events or contact Ashley Minnerath (ashley@xerces.org) for more information.

The conference agenda, online registration, and online abstract submission will be available in early February 2013. To receive an email announcement once registration is open, please send a message to cscs@psu.edu.