

## ACME Strategic Plan 2021

**Vision Statement:** Reduce the global burden of vector-borne disease

**Membership:** American Committee of Medical Entomology (ACME) is an international scientific organization of experts that study the biology and control of arthropods that cause disease or transmit disease-causing agents.

**Mission Statement:** The scope of ACME is to promote the study and control of arthropods that directly or indirectly cause diseases or conditions. We promote medical entomology in the American Society of Tropical Medicine and Hygiene (ASTMH) and in other organizations. We organize symposia or workshops annually that emphasize, but are not limited to, the contributions of medical entomology to tropical medicine and recognize outstanding contributions by medical entomologists.

**Objectives.** The objectives of ACME shall be as follows

- To promote medical entomology in the ASTMH and in other organizations whose scopes of activities include the area of human diseases caused and transmitted by arthropods.
  - Generate and share scientific knowledge of arthropod vectors or agents of human and animal diseases.
  - Provide guidelines for the Containment of Arthropods to the global community.
  - Participate in the ASTMH Digital Education initiative.
  - Improve communication with ACME members through emails, social media (Twitter), My Communities, and the ACME website.
  - Maintain and promote collaborations with other ASTMH subgroups including the American Committee on Arthropod-Borne and Zoonotic Viruses (ACAV).
  - Actively seek fund-raising initiatives to provide financial support to achieve ACME objectives.
- To organize symposia or workshops that emphasize, but are not limited to, the contributions of medical entomology to tropical medicine.
  - Inform vector and vector-borne disease public policy.
  - Advocate for investment in the study of medical entomology.
  - To offer more opportunities for ACME members to be engaged in ACME activities and subcommittees.
  - Provide educational material on medical entomology in diverse forums.
- To recognize outstanding contributions by medical entomologists.

- Confer the *Harry Hoogstraal Medal for Outstanding Achievement in Medical Entomology* to recognize the most influential medical entomologists for their contributions to the field.
- Confer the Breakthrough in Medical Entomology Award to recognize outstanding recent contributions (within the past 5 years) to the study and/or practice of medical entomology that will ultimately contribute to reducing the burden of human diseases transmitted and caused by arthropods.
- Confer the Future Leaders Fellowship in International Medical Entomology to individuals that have matched interests to ACME's objectives of promoting medical entomology and reducing the burden of human diseases transmitted by arthropods globally.
- Confer the *Award of Distinction* to individuals that have made important contributions to ASTMH and ACME or the field of medical entomology.
- To recruit young professionals and train the next generation of medical entomologists.
  - Organize trainee activities (lunches with mentors, speed networking) at the ASTMH Annual Meeting.
  - Support trainees through mentoring.
  - Recruit the next generation of medical entomologists by having active social media (website and Twitter ).
  - Encourage trainee attendance of the ASTMH Annual Meeting by awarding travel grants.
- Build an inclusive, open-minded, and environmentally friendly community of medical entomologists that reflects the diverse backgrounds of ASTMH membership.
  - Celebrate diversity in the ACME membership and in the field of medical entomology.
  - Target education and outreach during the transformative period of early childhood and adolescent development (elementary, middle, and high schools) to help improve diversity in the next generation of medical entomologists.
  - Ensure ACME Council members and award recipients represent diverse individuals.
  - Encourage our community of medical entomologists be better stewards of our interconnected planet by reducing our environmental footprint and advancing research in environmental sustainability.