

TBoI 2024

Fall Conference
and Workshops

OCTOBER 25-26

GRAND WAYNE CENTER - FT WAYNE

SPEAKERS



Hongmei Li-Byarlay, PhD is an accomplished entomologist with a fascinating journey. She earned her doctoral degree in Entomology from Purdue University. During her time at Purdue, she worked under the mentorship of Drs. Barry Pittendrigh and Larry Murdock, delving into insect genetics, toxicology, and physiology. After completing her PhD, she continued her postdoctoral training at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) and North Carolina State University.

Her work includes studying social behavior in honeybees, exploring innovative hypotheses using various tools, and researching stressors affecting pollinators in different landscapes and farm settings. Through her published papers and secured grants, she has contributed significantly to the field of entomology. Recently, she received the 2023 John Osmun Award for her outstanding contributions.

Brock Harpur, PhD, is an assistant professor of entomology at Purdue University. He applies genomic technologies to help advance bee breeding capabilities around the nation. Dr. Harpur's research using cutting-edge science helps to ensure healthy and productive bee populations, an important contribution to the sustainability of agricultural systems. In 2022, he was one of 10 recipients of the New Innovator in Food & Agriculture Research Award. Dr. Harpur is using the funding to work with his stakeholders and help them to incorporate genomics into their practice. The goal is to make bee breeding more effective while fueling basic science along the way.



Nick Groenhof is a commercial beekeeper in Holland, Michigan. His presentation will review how he prepares his bees in his overwinter shed before he sends them to California to pollinate almonds. Nick has been keeping bees for over 20 years. It all started when he was ten years old and caught a swarm. Since then, his operation has grown to over 2000 hives.