

## **FES Vice-President-Elect Nominee**

**Dr. Oscar Liburd** is an Associate Professor in the Entomology and Nematology Department at the University of Florida. He has been a member of the Florida Entomological Society since 1991 and has served in several different roles including chairing the Public Relations Committee, serving as a Member-at-large and Student Representative for Florida A.M. University. He is also an Associate Editor for the Florida Entomologist and Small Fruit Review.

Dr. Liburd received his Ph.D. in Entomology from the University of Rhode Island in 1997. His prior degrees include a BS (1991) and MS (1993) in Entomology from Florida A.M. University. Dr. Liburd's expertise is in integrated pest management of small fruits and vegetables. His publication record includes, 36 refereed journal papers, 52 extension bulletins and 4 book chapters. He has also received over 2 million dollars in grants and contracts to support his IPM program in small fruits and vegetables.

Dr. Liburd has trained several MS, Doctor of Plant Medicine and Ph.D. students and is recognized nationally and internationally as a leader in small fruit pest management. Prior to his arrival at the University of Florida, he was an Assistant Professor in Fruit Pest Management at Michigan State University. His Research goals are to study the behavior, ecology, and management of key fruit and vegetable pests common to north-central Florida and develop IPM programs for small farmers in the area. Specific research projects involve investigating intraguild predation and environmental factors that influence the efficiency of predators in small fruit systems; developing economic thresholds and investigating the movement of thrips and gall midges into blueberries fields, as well as integrating reduced-risk tactics involving the use of pheromones and attract-and kill devices for control of small fruit pests.

Dr. Liburd has received several distinguished awards including, the USDA Federal Laboratory Consortium Technology Transfer Award and Distinguished Young Alumnus Award for contributions to life sciences from Florida A&M University.