

Division of Animal Behavior

Annual Business Meeting Minutes, Tampa, Jan 4, 2019

- I. Meeting called to order by Divisional Program Officer, Scott, Mcdougall Shakelton Into new Chair Kendra Sewall,**
 1. DAB will be having an election for chair this spring. Call for volunteers.
 2. Broadening Participation – discussion about increasing diversity- every symposium proposal needs to be diverse, institution, gender, status, geography,
- II. SICB Executive Committee Introduction and Report**
 1. 10 Executive members in attendance, including the outgoing president, president, president-elect, secretary, program officer, treasurer, and executive director.
 2. Adam Sommers, the editor of our new journal, Integrative Organismal Biology (IOB), encouraged members to submit papers, and briefly discussed the format of the new journal
 3. Committee informed the group that they are in the process of developing guidelines for broadening participation, including a plea for divisions to nominate candidates for awards from a diverse set of backgrounds.
 4. Elections are coming this spring, and the society has low voter turn out from students and postdocs, so the executive committee encouraged all students and postdocs to vote. They also reminded attendees that all individuals who attended the meeting are eligible to vote.
- III. Report by Divisional Program Officer (Standing in for Jenny Gumm, DAB Chair, as she could not attend SICB this year)**
 1. Reiteration and brief discussion of diversifying speakers and working for a more inclusive DAB and SICB meeting. This led to a discussion of broadening participation and mentorship, and a discussion of how we might provide better access to those who have a hard time reading slides and listening to talks. For example, could we work towards requiring all slides to be prepared in reader-friendly fonts, etc? And could we move towards at least getting the instructions for preparing slides for readers on the SICB website, so they could be used for those interested. This was a thoughtful discussion on how DAB and SICB could be more inclusive, particularly in the context of sensory impediments.
 2. Reminder that there was free childcare this year at the conference venue, and that this will be continued next year.
 3. Brief discussion of Symposia: Please submit proposals! The success rate is high, and there are benefits, including registration being reimbursed after submission of a symposia paper to Integrative and Comparative Biology (ICB). In addition, symposia are a way to increase the profile of a research topic, and to shape one's field. DAB is a co-sponsor of many integrative symposia, however there have been few that focus on behavior in recent years. Now is a great time to propose a symposium that will help identify and shape our field. If you are interested, please feel free to contact Scott

MacDougall Shackleton for more information on the process/if you have any questions. There is an August deadline for symposia for the 2021 meeting in Washington D.C.

4. Started a discussion of whether DAB would like to raise money for the division to use for a particular cause. How much money would we need for seed funding, and what would we want to do that would have a positive effect on our division and the society?
Potentially a postdoc fund?
5. Locations for the next three SICBs are: Austin 2020, DC 2021, Pheonix 2022. The dates are Jan 3-7 for all three of these meetings.
6. Brief discussion about newsletter: Most people in attendance read the newsletter- how can we make it more useful? Dates and locations of other AB meetings? Regional Meetings? Mention the new inclusion of grant opportunities for Postdocs and Graduate students.
7. The new society Open Access Journal, IOB, has a number of features that may be attractive to DAB - social media outreach, multi-language abstracts to increase readership, editors will be redacting reviews, double blind peer review, authorship will be initials only.
8. Discussion of teaching materials sparked by the Teaching workshop Sunday and a new effort by the society to include teaching materials on website. There is already a teaching materials repository on the ABS website- could we cross-link to that? This lead to a larger discussion of the ties between DAB and ABS. ABS was founded from members of SICB and the Ecological Society, and there has long been a connection between the DAB and ABS. What are the specific roles of the two groups in relation to each other? The officers will work to figure out whether there was, and is, technically a designated point person to connect the division and society. In addition, ABS members used to get SICB membership rate without paying SICB membership dues. Does this still happen? The DAB officers will work to figure out these details, and we may continue this discussion about the relationship between DAB and ABS.
9. Mention of workshops on persuasive communication with acting coach, a workshop on inclusive teaching, and a society-wide video contest.
10. Continuation of discussion of a new DAB signature networking event. Student/faculty lunches? Would you like to participate? Lunch? Coffee break? How many students? Subsidized lunch? High interest in either a lunch or planned coffee breaks.

IV. DAB Meet and Greet

Everyone in attendance introduced themselves to two people they didn't know

V. Report by Divisional Secretary, Erica Westerman

1. Thanked judges for generously volunteering their time, 29 posters this year.
2. Received a request to make the on-line score entering form division specific, so the entire process could be done in real time.
3. Solicited suggestions for improvements to the newsletter- request for the inclusion of small conferences as well as regional conferences, and other such potential networking opportunities for students.

VI. Announcement of DAB's Best Student Oral Presentation Award

1. Jenna Pruett is the second Marlene Zuk award winner for her oral presentation "Maternal nest choice and the effects of nest microclimate on egg survival in the brown anole".

VII. Meeting Adjourned