

Division of Animal Behavior

Minutes of the Business Meeting, Charleston, South Carolina 2012

- I. Meeting called to order by Divisional Chair, M. Ramenofsky
- II. SICB officers were present and made some announcements
 - a. Lou Burnett noted that one can now enter their teaching responsibilities/interests into the SICB personal database, and encouraged everyone to submit information to those databases
 - b. Next year's meeting in San Francisco may be our biggest meeting yet; 32 applications for symposia were submitted, which is much higher than in recent years. The 2013 meeting will be held in Austin, TX.
 - c. The 2015 meeting will be in West Palm Beach, FL.
- III. Introduction of DAB officers
 - a. The Chair noted that we are in need of a graduate student/post-doc liaison to sit on the DAB executive committee, and encouraged those present and available to apply. She also introduced the Secretary-Elect, Melissa Bowlin, who took over secretarial duties at the end of the meeting from Jordanna Sprayberry.
- IV. 2011 DAB awards announcements
 - a. Best student presentation award was split between Erica Westerman ('Mating behavior and mate choice in the butterfly *Bicyclus anyana*) and Nathan Putman ('Long distance migration and orientation of marine turtles'). The poster presentation award winner was Stefan Greif ('The sensory ecology of echolocating bats').
- V. Business
 - a. There will be an election for DAB chair in the spring. The five year term of Diana Hews, the DAB representative on the ICB Editorial Board, will end in January 2013 and the DAB Executive Committee will suggest a replacement in the fall.
 - b. DAB funds symposia at each meeting; it is also expected that symposium organizers apply to NSF for additional funding.
 - c. An additional student presentation award is available to the DAB. The Adrian M. Wenner Strong Inference Award will be presented for the first time at the 2012 meeting to a graduate student or recently completed PhD in the Divisions of Animal Behavior, Ecology and Evolution and Invertebrate Zoology for work presented at the annual meeting demonstrating a strong inference approach in experimental design and execution. The Divisional Executive Committee will serve as judges. The Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship, which provides first- and second-year graduate students studying invertebrate zoology at biological or marine stations with funds, is also available to DAB students.
 - d. The Chair of the Educational Council, Robert Podolsky, is considering initiating an award for a poster or paper with a large educational component.
 - e. The Divisional Chair announced several of the workshops at the Charleston meeting and encouraged DAB members to attend them.
 - f. Charleston is the largest SICB meeting so far!
 - g. Be aware that the deadline for symposia for the Austin meeting (2014) will be in August. We encourage you to submit proposals, and we would be happy to help you prepare one. Do discuss any proposals with the Divisional chairs and program officers ahead of time, so that they are aware that you are planning to submit one.

- h. SICB Secretary Lou Burnett has upgraded the SICB website, which now includes lots of important information such as election schedules and bylaws.
 - i. SICB Treasurer reports that the society is doing very well.
- VI. DAB Program Officer's report
- a. DAB is doing very well at the meetings; there was a behavior-oriented session in every time slot at this meeting. 56 students applied for the best student presentation/poster awards.
 - b. DAB co-sponsored 4 symposia, including two society-wide symposia
 - c. 8 of 9 symposia this year were partially funded by NSF or NIH (or their international equivalents), a record. NSF is looking for proposals with an integrative approach and a broad speaker list; evidence that the symposium is broadening participation is a must. The instructions for submitting symposia are on the website, and the deadline for submission will be in August. DAB is looking for symposia that are timely, novel, and of high scientific quality, as well as those that show evidence of broadening participation in the sciences.
 - d. Journal subscriptions help to subsidize meetings, so talk to your library about ordering *ICB*.
 - e. In order to ensure that your talk ends up in a relevant session it must be examined by the DAB Program Officer and not the Program Officer of another Division. To accomplish this, you need to select Animal Behavior from the pull-down menu when you submit your abstract. Program Officers do not arrange sessions by keywords, but rather by the first selection you make. Choose wisely, if you want to end up in the 'correct' session!
 - f. There will be an online survey to provide feedback about the meeting—please use it!
 - g. Some of the other Divisions have instituted 'Lightning Talks,' which are 5 minutes long. There was some discussion of whether or not DAB should adopt these, but the general consensus was that the idea was not very attractive and that we should thus wait and see how it goes in other divisions first.
 - h. The society as well as the DAB assigns all who request an oral presentation to oral contributed paper sessions, as well as those asking for poster format to poster sessions. Those that choose 'either' are used to fill in the oral program and then are asked to present posters.
- VII. DAB Secretary's report
- a. Remember—the student presentation competition cannot occur without judges! That said, student members of the society are NOT eligible to be judges for the student presentation awards (but we would love to see you judging at future meetings). There were some minor snafus with assigning judges this year. If you are a judge, you need to submit your scores no later than a week after the meeting's end. DAB is using online scoring this year.
- VIII. NSF program officer's report
- a. The NSF Program Officer for Behavioral Systems, Michelle Elekonich, briefly went over the information that had been provided at an NSF workshop earlier in the meeting: due to low funding rates of full proposals and an increased workload, IOS and Behavioral Systems have switched to a pre-proposal system for most grant applications. Pre-proposals are due once per year in January. Note that symposium and workshop proposals are NOT bound by the new pre-proposal system and can be submitted at any time (March is recommended). It is thought that this new system will increase the funding rate of full proposals, which is currently 17% in IOS and 9.8% in Behavior.
- IX. The meeting was called to a close and followed by the annual DAB-DNB social, which was well attended.