

## **Division of Animal Behavior**

### **Annual Business Meeting Minutes, West Palm Beach, Florida 2015**

#### **I. Meeting called to order by Divisional Chair, D. Hews**

#### **II. SICB Executive Committee introduction and report**

1. The current Executive Committee is really pushing for donations for endowed funds, so please consider a small donation to SICB when you renew your membership each year.
2. L.B. 'Marty' Martin will be the new editor of Integrative and Comparative Biology.

#### **III. NSF Representative's Report**

1. Sophie George came to update us on NSF activities, etc. She noted that NSF's budget is not finalized for the year, but that it is likely it will get more money than it has in past years.
2. NSF is still interested in funding workshops and symposia at SICB, so please contact them about your ideas.
3. For IOS, if you want a supplement, you will need to include supplements with your full proposal in the future. For this year, the deadline for supplements is March 1.
4. IOS has been considering allowing revised proposals to bypass the pre-proposal stage but is hesitant to do so due to fairness issues.

#### **IV. Introduction of DAB officers**

#### **V. Report by Divisional Chair, D. Hews**

1. First, the Chair reported on the recent SICB Executive Committee Meeting. Some highlights of that meeting were:
  - a. The meeting in West Palm Beach had numerous cancellations. Please don't do this! Technically SICB can ban you from presenting at future meetings if you cancel your presentation without a good reason.
  - b. NSF is starting a new 'G2P' initiative—from genomes to phenomes.
  - c. From a treasury standpoint, SICB is in really good shape, so there should be no changes in member dues or conference fees. One interesting statistic is that SICB spends \$98,000 in student support every year.
  - d. The Education Committee would like to see more submissions to their database; at least consider submitting the courses you teach.
  - e. The SPDAC committee has been working to increase resources for students and post-docs and get them online.
  - f. The Broadening Participation Committee wants to make sure that people are aware that the travel awards they give out are not just for students; post-docs and non-tenured professors can apply for them.
  - g. The Public Affairs committee has a science journalism internship program and they need new members for it.

#### **VI. Report by Divisional Secretary, M. Bowlin**

1. The new format for the oral presentations works extremely well from the standpoint of the judges, because judges do not have to run around to different sessions in order to see specific talks. This results in fewer judges accidentally missing talks, etc. DAB plans to continue this format in the future, although we do plan to give students an extra week to submit extended abstracts and see if we can actually put that information on the abstract submission webpage so students know what is required for the new competition.
2. We are planning to make a minor change to the poster presentation format; instead of having posters across three days in different sessions, we will concentrate all of the

posters in a single session for ease of judging. However, we will not require an extended abstract for posters; the competition will remain open to all comers.

#### **VII. Report by Divisional Program Officer, Allison Welch**

1. There were 1508 abstracts submitted for the West Palm Beach meeting, 60% of them from students and post-docs. 46 individuals entered our BSP oral and poster competitions.
2. Allison reiterated that cancelling your talk can really disrupt the program, so please don't do it.
3. DAB co-sponsored five symposia at the West Palm Beach meeting, and is currently looking for symposia proposals for the 2017 meeting.

#### **VIII. Announcement of DAB's Best Student Oral Presentation Award**

1. Gavin Leighton won this year's BSP oral competition with his talk titled, "Genomic relatedness predicts investment in a public good."
2. DAB also awarded the Adrian M. Wenner award for strong inference to Brent Stoffer for his talk titled, "Experience matters: The effects of the social environment on mate choice plasticity in a wolf spider."

#### **IX. Meeting Adjourned**