

SICB Division of Animal Behavior

Members' Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 5:45-6:45 pm; Lonestar A, Austin JW Marriott

- I. Meeting called to order by DAB Chair, Dr. Avery Russell at 5:47pm
- II. Welcome
- III. **Visit from NSF Program Officers** – Suzy Renn (rotating program officer) and Colette St. Mary (permanent program officer), Behavioral Systems Cluster
 - A. NSF is not just about funding science but also about funding scientists and bringing people in at different levels. See below for updates about NSF programs, including new early career program and mid-career awards for reinvigoration before full professor stage.
 - B. Thank you to the many SICB members who serve as reviewers or panelists for NSF. Community involvement is the core of the NSF review system.
 - C. Please consider serving as a reviewer on panels and doing ad hoc reviews. The best way to learn how to write a grant is reviewing. Education programs (e.g., REU sites) also need reviewers and reviewing is a good way to learn about these programs. Contact NSF to express interest in reviewing.
 - D. Everyone is encouraged to talk to NSF. Talk to program officers before sending in a proposal, as they can help guide you to the right program including core programs as well as career stage programs, and help target proposals and understand the system. Talking to them is the best way to get this information.
 - E. As usual, NSF has an Exhibitor Booth at this meeting, where you will find information about NSF programs and can make individual appointments with NSF Program Directors from DBI, DEB, IOS, and NEON, and speak with other NSF staff.
 - F. Program Director positions: NSF is recruiting program directors. Info about rotator positions is on the NSF website about rotator positions. Permanent positions are advertised in USAJobs. You can fill out a survey about your interests for this and serving as a reviewer or panelist at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VXWZZNF>.
 - G. Several ways to keep up with NSF news:

1. Sign up for NSF notifications:
<https://service.govdelivery.com/accounts/USNSF/subscriber/new>.
 2. Attend Virtual Office Hours, which occur once a month in each BIO Directorate.
 3. Read the BIO and Divisional Blogs (BIO Directorate:
<https://oadblog.nsfbio.com>; Division of Integrative Organismal Biology (IOS): <https://iosblog.nsfbio.com>; Division of Biological Infrastructure (DBI): <https://dbiblog.nsfbio.com>; Division of Environmental Biology (DEB): <https://debblog.nsfbio.com>; Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB): <https://mcbblog.nsfbio.com>)
- H. Symposium funding: NSF can provide funding for SICB Symposia. Should be forward-looking symposia that will advance a field, including new topics that get groups together that don't usually interact. Must include participation of women and URM on the invited speakers' lists. See guidelines for conference proposals (<https://www.nsf.gov/bio/ios/confworkshopguidance.jsp>) and contact the appropriate NSF Program Director(s) to discuss funding possibilities.
- I. Supplements: Most supplement requests (e.g., REU, RET, REHSS, ROA, IOS Mid-Career Investigator Supplements) should be incorporated into new grant proposals at the time of submission. In all cases, contact the relevant Program Director(s) before submitting. (<https://www.nsf.gov/bio/ios/suppopp.jsp>)
- J. Broadening participation: NSF supports the significant efforts of SICB to broaden participation of underrepresented groups in SICB's annual meeting. (<https://www.nsf.gov/od/broadeningparticipation/bp.jsp>)
- K. New and recent programs: Many new and recent programs relevant to SICB/DAB. Additional information on these and other NSF programs at: www.nsf.gov.
1. **[Biodiversity on a Changing Planet \(BoCP\) \(22-508\)](#)** – Addresses the study of functional biodiversity within the context of a changing and dynamic environment.
 2. **[Organismal Response to Climate Change \(ORCC\): Expanding Understanding and Improving Predictions of Life on a Warming Planet \(22-513\)](#)** – Invites mechanistic studies of organismal response to climate change to better understand and predict the integrity, resilience, and adaptation of biological systems to climate change.
 3. **[Using the Rules of Life to Address Societal Challenges \(URoL:ASC\) \(23-512\)](#)** – Seeks to apply lessons learned from

studying rules of life across a broad array of living systems to tackle pressing societal concerns.

4. [Organismal Systems and Infection Biology \(OSIB\) \(22-016\)](#) – IOS is calling for proposals, to be submitted to IOS core programs ([NSF 21-506](#)) or for workshop proposals, to advance mechanistic understanding of infection processes in natural systems.
 5. [Mid-Career Advancement \(MCA\) year 3 of a cross-directorate program, with an updated solicitation \(22-603\)](#) – For mid-career scientists (Associate Professors with at least three years in rank), to substantively advance their research program through synergistic partnerships. **The new solicitation adds a pilot track for Full Professors (or equivalent) at Primarily Undergraduate Institutions (PUIs).**
 6. [Building Research Capacity of New Faculty in Biology \(BRC-BIO\) \(22-500\)](#) – Increasing research capacity and broadening participation of new biology faculty at minority-serving institutions (MSIs), predominantly undergraduate institutions (PUIs), and other universities/colleges that are not among the most research-intensive.
 7. [Research and Mentoring for Postbaccalaureates \(RaMP\) in Biological Sciences \(23-514\)](#) – To establish networks to provide full-time postbaccalaureate research training for recent college graduates with few/no research or training opportunities during college.
 8. [Research Experiences for Teachers Sites in Biological Sciences \(BIORETS\) \(21-584\)](#) – To enable active research by cohorts of middle school teachers, high school teachers and/or community college faculty. Aims to increase participation of underrepresented groups and those from geographically underrepresented areas.
 9. [Leading Culture Change Through Professional Societies of Biology \(BIO-LEAPS\) \(22-542\)](#) – To advance diversity, equity, and inclusion in the biological sciences by leveraging the leadership, broad reach, and unique ability of professional societies to create culture change in the life sciences.
- L. Responses to audience questions
1. Rules of Life has morphed into a new program which addresses how rules of life impact societal change. Lead with broader impacts, societal impacts and follow with the basic science, intellectual merit. <https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/using-rules-life-address-societal-challenges>

2. EDGE is continuing. Enabling genomic tools to track genotype to phenotype mapping of complex traits.
<https://beta.nsf.gov/funding/opportunities/enabling-discovery-through-genomics-edge>
3. DBI (biological infrastructure) is for tools and equipment.

IV. **Updates to DAB Leadership**

- A. Welcome to Dr. Stephanie Campos, as our new DAB Divisional Program Officer! Thank you to Stephanie for stepping in as interim DPO this past year. We are thrilled to have Stephanie continue as part of the DAB leadership team and grateful to her for her work on the program for this year's meeting.

V. **Meeting Minutes**

- A. Past meeting minutes have been posted on the DAB website:
<https://sicb.org/divisions/division-of-animal-behavior/>
- B. Motion to approve the 2022 meeting minutes was made and passed.

VI. **DAB Mentoring Program**

- A. This year's meeting marks the 4th year of the DAB mentoring program, led by Dr. Rindy Anderson.
- B. This year's program has matched 9 teams of mentors and mentees, and is being conducted in person this year.
- C. Thank you to Rindy for leading this program! And thank you to everyone who volunteered as a mentor!
 1. Question was asked about the location of the link. It was in the newsletter and sent out via SICB email blast. We need to do a better job getting the word out and coordinating with the SICB-wide mentoring program.

VII. **Best Student Presentation Competitions** (Allison Welch, DAB Secretary)

- A. Out of 16 entrants for the Marlene Zuk Award for Best Student Oral Presentation, 6 finalists were selected and will present in person during the Zuk Award Session Thursday, Jan. 5 from 1:30-3:30pm in rooms 303-304. Everyone is encouraged to attend this session, which promises to showcase some of the excellent work of DAB students.
- B. In addition, 42 students are competing for the Elizabeth Adkins-Regan Award for Best Student Poster Presentation, with poster presentations occurring across all three poster sessions at the meeting. Three will be presenting exclusively via SICB+.

- C. All student BSP competitors, from both the oral and the poster competitions, are strongly encouraged to upload their presentations to SICB+ and to continue to engage there.
- D. Thank you to DAB's BSP judges! The Zuk Award is judged by a panel of 5 judges, and 38 DAB members have stepped up to serve as judges for the Adkins-Regan poster award.
- E. We would like to explore expanding our BSP poster competition to include an in-person winner and a SICB+ winner, with full presentation via both modalities strongly encouraged.
 - 1. Discussion
 - a) There is support for this idea.
 - b) Question was raised about if you win the in-person competition, you shouldn't be allowed to win the SICB+ too. There is general agreement.
 - c) Question was raised about if someone presenting in-person and SICB+ should be judged twice. Answer is yes.
 - d) Question about if other divisions are doing this too. We don't know.
 - e) Question about a minimum number of SICB+ posters required to warrant judging. This is a good point; it does not seem fair to award a winner out of only a handful of SICB+ posters if the in-person competition is much larger.
 - f) Possibility of doing a SICB-wide SICB+ only poster competition in coordination with other divisions.
- F. Winners will be announced as soon as possible
- G. We welcome feedback from all members about any aspect of the BSP competitions.

VIII. **DPO Report** (Stephanie Campos, DAB Secretary)

- A. At SICB 2023, DAB has 73 oral and 78 poster presentations, 11 concurrent oral sessions plus the BSP Marlene Zuk Award session and 5 DAB-supported symposia.
- B. SICB+ – Everyone who presents in person is encouraged to add their presentation to SICB+. Please upload your virtual presentation by Jan. 13. Starting Jan. 16, please check out the SICB+ offerings and continue to support our DAB colleagues by viewing and interacting with their presentations via SICB+. SICB and the Program Committee don't want this platform to fall by the wayside!

IX. **Call for Symposia** (Stephanie Campos, DAB Secretary)

- A. Please consider submitting a symposium proposal! DAB sponsors multiple symposia each year, and we're always interested in supporting symposia that highlight animal behavior.
 - 1. The Program Committee wants to see symposium proposals that are integrative among divisions and across career stages including tenure track faculty as well as postdocs and even graduate students, and types of institutions. Diversity in all ways is encouraged.
 - 2. Reach out to Stephanie with ideas (even start of an idea) and for info about what goes in a symposium proposal.
 - B. Organizing a symposium can be especially beneficial for early-career folks including postdocs and graduate students.
 - 1. Benefits of organizing a symposium include increasing the profile of a research topic and publication of symposium papers in Integrative and Comparative Biology (ICB).
 - C. If you have ideas for symposium topics that feature animal behavior, including issues of diversity, equity, inclusion, and justice in animal behavior, please talk to our program officer Stephanie Campos about your ideas; Stephanie will be able to help you vet and structure symposia plans and navigate the proposal process.
- X. **Visit from SICB Executive Committee** – Melina Hale; President; Beth Brainerd, Past President; Patricia Hernandez, President-Elect; Michele Johnson, Secretary; Marianne Porter, Secretary-Elect; Thom Sanger, Program Officer; Brett Burk, Executive Director; Molly Jacobs, Communications Editor; Ulrike Muller, ICB Editor; Marguerite Butler, IOB Editorial Board representative
- A. SICB+ – They expect 900 submissions, which is ~50% of meeting and is up from last year. These numbers send the message that SICB+ is here to stay. Everyone is encouraged to submit.
 - B. Communications Editor is a relatively new position, facilitates communication among officer team, division, and members (e.g., websites) - reach out for help with this
 - C. Symposia are the lifeblood of SICB, so please think about symposium ideas. Anyone doing research has what it takes to organize a symposium. Ask yourself, who are the 10-15 people you'd like to bring together to talk about research?
 - D. IOB is the open access journal for SICB. Its first impact factor is 3.2 which shows we can produce high quality science through this journal. Manuscripts and volunteers are needed.
 - 1. Tim Wright, our DAB editor, requests more behavioral manuscripts for IOB.

- E. The SICB Nominating Committee is seeking nominations for Secretary-Elect, Program Officer-Elect, and Member-at-Large. Please get in touch with them to nominate someone or to express interest.
- F. Venue selection for 2028 – Although California is usually prohibitively expensive, we've been offered a great deal for SICB 2028 in Los Angeles, in the LA Live area, which is supposed to be a nice area. SICB has to decide by Saturday; please stop by their desk in the exhibit hall 3-4pm to provide feedback.

XI. **SPDAC Report** (Conner Philson, DAB SPDAC Representative)

- A. SPDAC is omnipresent at SICB! Never hesitate to stop a SPDAC rep from any division if you have a question!
- B. SPDAC has two key events at the conference.
 - 1. The SPDAC interactive poster, titled "SPDAC Presents: questions you didn't know you had - the graduate student and postdoc edition" will be up every day. Come engage with the poster to ask a question and/or answer a question!
 - 2. SPDAC is hosting a science communication roundtable workshop on Friday from 12-1:30pm in Griffin Hall. Come attend for the whole time, or part of the time, to learn from others and contribute your expertise about the plethora of scicomm opportunities, platforms, and styles.
- C. Get engaged with SPDAC! We are looking for Conner's DAB SPDAC Rep successor. It's an awesome gig working with an awesome team and comes with a low time commitment. Conner would love to chat if you have any questions about the role or if you're interested.
- D. Never hesitate to reach out to Conner with ideas or questions:
cphilson@ucla.edu

XII. **DAB Social Media**

- A. DAB's Twitter feed (@SICB_DAB) has been run by three outstanding early-career researchers. Thank you to Brett Hodinka, Sarah Manka-Worthington, and Matt LeFauve for keeping up DAB's social media presence!
- B. Dr. Matt LeFauvre has recently left the team to join the EPA as a toxicologist, and Mena Davidson has agreed to join the team. Thank you, Matt, and welcome, Mena!
- C. We are planning a more structured format this year and expect to be more active on social media to keep everyone informed.
- D. Please share any suggestions with us.
- E. Everyone is encouraged to follow @SICB_DAB on Twitter.

XIII. DAB Nominating Committee

- A. Thank you to Dr. Jordanna Sprayberry, Dr. Isaac Ligocki, and Dr. Eleanor Caves for agreeing to serve as this year's DAB Nominating Committee.
- B. DAB will be holding an election for Secretary this spring, for a three-year term to commence January 2024. Full members and postdoctoral members are eligible to run. The Secretary position is a great opportunity to learn more about how SICB functions and to connect with colleagues in DAB. Please reach out to any member of the nominating committee if you might be interested in this position or if you would like to recommend someone else for the position.
- C. The Nominating Committee can provide more information about the duties if you might be interested. Or reach out to Allison Welch (current DAB Secretary) or Erica Westermen, Michele Johnson, or Jordanna Sprayberry (past DAB Secretaries) who can share their experience in the position.

XIV. Other DAB service opportunities

- A. If you are interested in volunteering to serve on a committee, run for elected office, or otherwise become more deeply involved in SICB/DAB, please complete SICB's volunteer to serve form. The link can be found in the monthly SICB Member Updates.
- B. You may also reach out to members of the DAB Executive Team directly to express your interest in getting involved with DAB!
- C. Please stay tuned for future opportunities including judging student posters and participating in the DAB mentoring program.
- D. If you have ideas to improve DAB, please let us know!

XV. DAB Social

- A. Everyone is invited to DAB's joint social with DCE and DNNSB tomorrow, Thursday, January 5, from 8:30-10:00 pm in the Brazos Room, immediately following the Bern Lecture by Dr. Tyrone Hayes (7:30-8:30pm in Lonestar DE).

XVI. Other Announcements

- A. Upcoming SICB venues
 1. 2024 Seattle, 2025 Atlanta, 2026 Portland, 2027 TBD
 2. Proposal for 2028 in Los Angeles
- B. Membership period will be shifted to fiscal year, which means dues will officially come due in summer rather than spring.

XVII. DAB Budget Discussion

- A. Over the past several years, DAB has accrued a surplus of around \$13K. We need to draw down these funds. In particular, we would like to use

these funds to support DAB priority areas including early career professionals in DAB and broadly speaking taking steps to increase long term diversity and improve inclusion and equity in DAB.

B. Ideas

1. Supplementing Mangum award and/or Broadening Participation award by earmarking \$ to support additional DAB student members (beyond those who would already be supported by these awards), specifically, to facilitate inclusion and participation in DAB.
2. Increasing \$ amount for DAB Social. The current funds don't go far enough, and this is an important networking opportunity.
3. Meal reimbursement or other incentive for DAB Mentoring Program mentor-mentee in-person meetups, to incentivize and facilitate participation in DAB.
4. Partial meeting reimbursement for social media team members and SPDAC member to facilitate inclusion and participation in these positions at DAB.
5. BSP SICB+ poster prize \$, to encourage participation in SICB+ which is important for accessibility and reducing carbon footprint.

C. Questions, comments, suggestions from members:

1. Travel funds for undergraduate students. It can be a struggle to get undergrads here because institutions may have funds for undergraduate research but not undergrad conference travel. This idea was seconded. The Charles Turner award in ABS could serve as a model.
 - a) Avery responds about our desire to supplement Magnum and/or Broadening Participation awards. In particular, supplementing Broadening Participation awards would support equity efforts.
2. What is level of support for symposia? Should we allocate some \$ to recruit diversity within symposia presenters? This idea was seconded.
 - a) DAB allocates \$2K/yr across as many symposia as we want. We allocate these funds to support symposia with behavior.
 - b) NSF also has funds to support symposia.

D. Everyone is invited to provide more feedback on these ideas

XVIII. Meeting adjourned at 6:37pm