

SICB Newsletter



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Message from the President

- 2005 was the year of the journal for SICB. New publisher Oxford University Press brings a long and distinguished history of scientific publishing to SICB and are in the forefront of modern day academic publishing.
- What is the status of SICB? The society is growing, active intellectually, supportive of its young scientists, moving forward into exciting new arenas, and full of wonderful smart people who help make SICB work. However, there are potential giant potholes on the horizon.

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- New, easy mechanism to donate to Society funds
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- The level of student involvement and support at the annual meeting continues to be very high.
- The process of planning and assembling the program of the annual meeting continues to change over the years. Some of the aspects of scheduling or organization appear to relate directly to the success of the meeting in recent years.

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- DCPB member Barney Rees is a faculty member at the University of New Orleans and describes his experience with Hurricane Kathrina and its aftermath. **[Read more](#)**

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Message from the President

Sarah A. Woodin

As I reported in the fall newsletter, 2005 was the year of the journal for your officers. We celebrated the signing of our partnership with Oxford throughout the meeting, both with additional drink tickets sponsored by Oxford and presentations throughout the meeting by Dr. Cathy Kennedy the senior journal editor at Oxford. We simultaneously introduced our new editor-in-chief Harold Heatwole who is taking over from John Edwards and the University of Washington Consortium who have served us well for over five years. We celebrated all of this plus 30 years with the journal by Claudia deGruy at the opening reception. Claudia had the misfortune to lose her copies of the journal during the floods in New Orleans so we were very pleased to be able to give her a complete set; this seemed only fitting after devoting so much of her time to its success.

As I said in an earlier newsletter, I am very excited to have Oxford onboard as our partner. They bring a long and distinguished history of scientific publishing to us and are in the forefront of modern day academic publishing. As part of our agreement with Oxford, members accrue a number of benefits including online access to all past and current issues of both *American Zoologist* and *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, a significant discount on books published by Oxford, and online publishing of papers in ICB once they have completed copy editing. Additionally as we join Oxford in partnership, all manuscripts will be dealt with electronically so that authors can track their progress, deal with reviewer comments, communicate with the editor in charge etc easily from anywhere. This will greatly increase the transparency of the editorial process. I am in particular looking forward to papers being published online as their editorial process is completed. Thus if you submit a paper from a symposium and it is through the editorial process within a few months, it will be available online at that point. When the rest of the papers for the symposium are ready, the symposium will appear in print but no longer will one paper delay the others. With this change, we will return to having manuscripts due either at the meeting or within several weeks of the meeting to allow their publication within the calendar year of the meeting, making them much more timely as publications. Oxford has a very close relationship with High Wire which in turn has a close relationship with Google Scholar which is making *Integrative and Comparative Biology* much more visible on the web.

I greatly enjoyed the meeting in Orlando, apparently so since I never went outside until after the meeting was over! As had been assured by the superb work of Kate Loudon and the Division Program Officers plus Sue Burk and her staff, the venue was excellent, problems were resolved almost before anyone realized there was a problem and the talks were excellent.

Finally, what is the status of SICB? I find the society to be growing, active intellectually, supportive of its young scientists, moving forward into exciting new arenas, and full of wonderful smart people who help make SICB work. Several potential giant potholes are on the

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horizon as support for symposia becomes more and more problematic—notice the new Symposium Fund Support category' on the dues page but we are starting the process of looking for other funding sources and as usual clever, generous and ingenious folks (Tom Daniel and Bob Full in this case) have come forward to help. At the meeting in Orlando in addition to superb science two very exciting things happened. One I admit is a bit arcane, we changed our financial year. We had used a calendar year and when meeting in December this made sense; however, by changing the meeting time to early January we then were approving the budget for a meeting that was already happening, poor for planning. Our new calendar year will be July 1 to June 30, a more rational choice that your officers will appreciate. The second and much more intellectually exciting event was the approval of a new division, the Division of Comparative Biomechanics. One could argue that SICB has been the home society for this group for a number of years but this formalizes that relationship and makes it easier to celebrate which we will do in Phoenix when Mimi Koehl, in honor of the new division, gives the opening plenary lecture and we celebrate the career of a major contributor to this field, Steve Vogel, with a symposium in his honor. I am looking forward to seeing all of you at the meeting in Phoenix, until then I'll be having a glorious time on sabbatical in Europe but Brett unfortunately knows where to find me.

See you in Phoenix,

Sally

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Message from the Treasurer

Ron Dimock

Fiscal Year Finally to Make Sense!

Ever since the annual meeting was shifted from the post-Christmas pre-New Year time slot, the Society's fiscal year, which has coincided with the calendar year, actually began before a budget for it was approved. Formal approval came at the end of the annual meeting for line items that included most of the expenses associated with that meeting, and in fact a considerable fraction of the annual budget.

All that will change in 2006 when the fiscal year is shifted to July 1–June 30. After an awkward interim, during which budgets for 1.5 fiscal years will have to be approved next January, the Society actually will have a formalized budget 6 months prior to an annual meeting. That will remove any rubber-stamping or post hoc issues regarding budget matters.

Executive Committee declares two endowment funds as 'temporarily restricted'.

At the meeting in Orlando, the Executive Committee voted to identify clearly that portion of the 'unrestricted endowment' attributable to the generous posthumous gift from Past President Charlotte Mangum for student support, and to donations over the years to the Grants in Aid of Research fund. These elements of the general endowment, although not legally restricted in a formal accounting sense, will henceforth be readily identifiable within Society monies. In January, the Mangum fund had a balance of \$291,152 and the GIAR, \$201,738. A total of 4% of the trailing 5 year average balance of each of these funds will be applied toward student support and student research grants, respectively. That money will be supplemented by about \$40–60,000 from the general operating budget to continue funding student support and GIAR at the level of recent years.

New, easy mechanism to donate to Society funds.

The 'dues renewal' web page now has 'check off' items for members to make additional contributions to a number of the Society's specialized funds, including, for example, the Mangum fund for student support and the GIAR. There also is the opportunity to make an unrestricted contribution to the Society. The latter may become increasingly important as extramural support for Society symposia diminishes.

Society financial health continues to be strong.

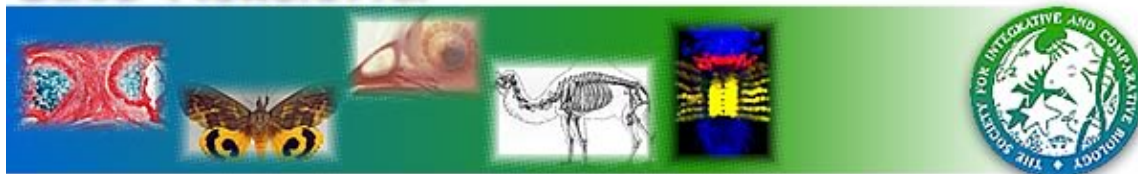
SICB's investment portfolio continues to out-perform the S & P index by a considerable margin. Unrealized

capital gains continue to be a very positive factor in the Society's overall fiscal strength. The investment allocation model is currently under review by the Finance Committee, the Executive Committee and the professional managers. There is little interest in making any radical adjustments to what has been a very successful investment paradigm.

New face of *ICB* can only help.

Publication of the first issue of *Integrative & Comparative Biology* – 46(1): Feb, 2006 – under the auspices of Oxford University Press bodes well for financial stability of the Society's journal. Timeliness of publication, with a totally modernized format, coupled with the continuing high caliber of science between the covers will help restore the journal to the previously recognized stature of *American Zoologist*. When *ICB* is once again listed with PubMed, the appeal of *ICB* as a primary outlet for integrative and comparative biology will be complete.

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Message from the Past Program Officer

Catherine Loudon

The 2006 SICB meeting in January in Orlando was another success, with over 1,000 presentations for the third year in a row. These numbers demonstrate the vitality and importance of this annual meeting for so many scientists who find an intellectual home in this integrative and comparative gathering. Thanks to all of the presenters, symposium organizers, the other members of the Program Committee (the Divisional Program Officers and representatives from other affiliated societies), the SICB webmaster, members of the Executive Committee, and the excellent staff of Burk and Associates for making it such a positive and stimulating experience for so many individuals. Many of the symposium topics cut across divisional boundaries and attracted broad society interest, including symposia on conservation and public health, development and evolution in model and non-model organisms, neural control and biomechanics.

The level of student involvement and support at the annual meeting continues to be very high, with several events of special interest to graduate students and postdocs at this latest meeting, including a "Graduate Student/Postdocs Welcome Orientation," and workshops on "Optimizing your graduate school experience," and "Strategies for landing an academic job/postdoc." There was also an annual Society-wide "Social in Honor of Students and Postdocs."

The process of planning and assembling the program of the annual meeting continues to change over the years. Some of the aspects of scheduling or organization that appear to relate directly to the success of the meeting in recent years include: direct involvement of the full program committee in assembling the program and selection of symposia; selection of symposia over a year in advance to allow organizers an opportunity to obtain funding; poster sessions in the afternoons without competing events; socials and special talks in the evenings; a variety of student/postdoc-oriented activities and talks; opportunities to meet with representatives from funding agencies; assembling the talks into logical sessions using input from speakers (topics chosen during abstract submittal), and encouragement of special workshops or discussion groups that complement sessions. I appreciate the support of the members of the Executive Committee and the SICB webmaster, with whom I have worked extensively to bring the management of the annual meeting and the society bylaws into mutual agreement; that is, to either uphold existing bylaws or work to modify or delete ones that are not enforceable or cause disproportionate expenditures of time or effort by Program Committee members who are already working very hard. Along those lines, I would like to express gratitude to the leadership and members of the DCPB, DEE, and DIZ divisions, who supported the request of the Program Committee to eliminate their divisional affiliation requirements for their Best Student Paper awards. The Program Committee had requested that those three divisions eliminate the requirement because of the difficulties of enforcing such requirements.

My term as Program Officer ended with the 2006 meeting, and the next Program Officer, Linda Walters, has been working hard to develop and coordinate the annual meetings for 2007 and 2008. The next meeting (SICB 2007) promises to be an exciting one that will highlight our new division in comparative biomechanics. It has been enjoyable and challenging working with you all on the annual program over the

last few years.

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Message from the Secretary

Lou Burnett

SICB Web Site To Be Overhauled

During the next few months we will begin a process to overhaul the SICB web site, giving it a new look, making it interesting and useful, and making information retrieval easier. I will be working with the divisional secretaries and members of the SICB Executive Committee to do this. The plan is to survey this group about various attributes of the web site to get a better impression of how members wish to use it. We will be looking at the web sites of other societies and institutions for ideas. We hope this process will be completed sometime during the summer. Anyone who has ideas or suggestions for the new web site or complaints about the current web site (so we can address these concerns!) can contact me at BurnettL@cofc.edu.

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News and Announcements

A Personal Account of Hurricane Katrina

By Barney Rees, DCPB member and faculty member at the University of New Orleans

What follows is a brief narrative of our experience with Hurricane Katrina, our subsequent displacement to Lafayette, Louisiana, and eventual return to New Orleans. The majority of the text was written in October 2005 for the fall newsletter. It was updated and amended at the end of March 2006.

Around 3:30 am on Sunday, August 28, as Hurricane Katrina was bearing down on New Orleans, my family and I were preparing to leave when I wondered out loud whether I should stay in New Orleans and work on a couple of manuscripts while the family went to southwest Louisiana to visit family for a few days. After all, since moving to New Orleans in January of 1996, we had evacuated for Hurricanes Georges and Ivan, and these storms scarcely affected our community. Well, reason prevailed and we all got in the car and were on the interstate by 4:10 am. That night, when Katrina's winds peaked at 185 mph and her course for New Orleans hadn't deviated, the decision to evacuate turned out to be the right choice.

The storm made landfall on Monday, August 29, just to the south and east of New Orleans, devastating lower Plaquemines and St. Bernard parishes and the Mississippi Gulf Coast. New Orleans was once again spared the brunt of the storm, or so it seemed. Later in the day, the winds shifted around to the north and all the water that had been pushed into Lake Pontchartrain over the previous several days was now piled up against the flood protection levees of the city. Although the levees facing the lake, at 17 feet above sea level, held, the levees of three canals that open onto Lake Pontchartrain were over-topped or breached. The result was extensive flooding in New Orleans and the subsequent misery and chaos, images of which have been etched in all of our minds.

My home institution, the University of New Orleans, fared relatively well during the storm and flood. Approximately one third of the campus was flooded by waters which rose no higher than 3 feet. There was also some wind damage and minor looting. The UNO administration quickly established temporary offices at the Louisiana State University main campus in Baton Rouge. Beginning on October 10, a remarkable 7000 students (a little less than one-half of the pre-storm enrollment) were enrolled in a variety of on-line and on site courses, the latter being held at four satellite facilities around the New Orleans metropolitan area. The spring semester began on January 30, 2006 with approximately 11,500 students and projected enrollment for the fall semester is between 14,000 and 15,000 (compared with Pre-Katrina enrollment of near 17,000).

Our home, about a mile away, but several feet lower than the campus, was not as lucky. The neighborhood is bordered on one side by the London Avenue Canal, one of the canals which broke. Our sources of information, news video, satellite images, and various websites, suggested that there was 8 to 10 feet of water into the neighborhood. This was confirmed six weeks after the storm in mid-October, when we were

able to visit our home for the first time after Katrina. Although our single story brick house appeared structurally undamaged, except for a single broken window, the waterline at the eaves was a harbinger of what we were about the experience inside the house. After breaking down the water-logged front door, we looked into our previously bright home to see about one inch of standing water and mud in the dimly lit entry way. As we walked through the muck, we saw toppled furniture, books and artwork strewn about, swollen mattresses, and mold and mildew covering the walls and ceilings. We found that our china cabinet remained upright, although it was about to fall apart at the seams. We worked most of that day to unload it, bringing its contents back to Lafayette to be disinfected and cleaned. During subsequent trips, we were able to salvage about five car- and truckloads of belongings, including three tables, a rocker, an antique secretary's desk, and various items from the attic. The rest of our belongings and the house are total losses.

Seven months after the storm, New Orleans is recovering. Parts of the city and the surrounding area have returned to business as usual and the spirit of the city is unbowed as evidenced by the activities of dedicated individuals and neighborhood groups, a rollicking Mardi Gras, and the music and food enjoyed in clubs and restaurants around town. The recovery, however, has been neither uniform nor quick. The areas of the city that were most devastated remain largely deserted, dotted with the occasional FEMA trailer with residents determined to come back. Many residents who want to return cannot because of lack of adequate housing. And all of us, those who have returned and those who remain displaced, are waiting – waiting to see the new flood elevation maps, waiting for adequate funding to restore the levee system, waiting to find out if city, state or federal government will help compensate our losses.

On a personal level, it is not our losses, but that which we have that has so profoundly struck me. We were fortunate to get out before the storm, with our health, pets, and selected memorabilia. We had warm and welcoming places to stay in and around Lafayette, a school for the kids, and a place to "throw my books down" and plug in my computer at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. We've been the beneficiaries of a tremendous outpouring of hospitality and offers of help. I would especially like to thank all of you who have extended invitations to house students or entertain visiting scientists. For all of this, we are very, very grateful.

Bernard B. Rees
Associate Professor of Biological Sciences
University of New Orleans
October 21, 2005 (amended March 31, 2006)

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Committee Reports

- Editorial Committee of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*
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Editorial Committee of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*

A TIME OF CHANGE An editorial in volume 46, Number 1, of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* described the changes in the journal that have taken place recently—new editorship, new publisher, new online host and a more highly automated system of handling manuscripts that should lead to more prompt appearance of papers. The intent is to publish symposia within the year they are presented at meetings. To make this work, I am hoping that beginning next year the participants of symposia will submit the final version of their contributions at the time of the annual meeting.

Important new features are (1) improved electronic tracking and processing of articles with their appearance in electronic form as citable papers well before their appearance in hard copy, (2) an attractive, colored cover, different for each issue and related to the contents of that issue, (3) increased international scope of the journal, and (4) more frequent and direct involvement of the Editorial Board. Readers are referred to the editorial for a more detailed account of the new procedures.

The intent is that these changes will enhance the scientific excellence of the society and at the same time preserve its cherished traditions and attitudes.

—Harold Heatwole, Editor in Chief

INTRODUCING THE NEW EDITOR AND ASSISTANT EDITOR

For those of you who do not know the new Editor in Chief, Harold Heatwole, or the new Assistant Editor, Nancy Cochran, the following brief biographies will introduce them.

Harold Heatwole grew up in the Shenandoah Valley of Virginia in a Mennonite Community. He attended Goshen College in Indiana for his undergraduate degree in Botany (1955) and then, supported by an NSF pre-doctoral fellowship, went to the University of Michigan for his masters (1958) and Ph.D. (1960) in Zoology, with a dissertation on forest floor amphibians. He stayed on at University of Michigan as an instructor for one year to take the place of his supervisor, Dr. Frederick Test, who was going on sabbatical. His first permanent job was at the University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras campus, where he was an Assistant Professor, then Associate Professor until 1966. He taught courses in Ecology and Comparative Anatomy. During the school year he investigated amphibian water balance and conducted faunal surveys of the Puerto

Rican–Virgin Island archipelago and in the summer carried out research on the ecology of amphibians and reptiles in the Darien region of Panama. In 1966 he emigrated to Australia as a Senior Lecturer in Zoology at the University of New England in New South Wales. He taught Comparative Physiology there and continued his herpetological researches, especially on sea snakes. The sea snake research was facilitated by Alpha Helix expeditions to Indonesia and the Philippines, an Acherod expedition to the Great Barrier Reef and a number of expeditions to the Ryukyu Islands and the southwestern Pacific islands sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Science, Education and Culture. During this time, Heatwole also branched out and studied the ecology of sea birds and the community structure of ants. The latter interest involved him in the Pre–Saharan Biome study in Tunisia for five seasons (1974–1978) and on several research expeditions in Western China with the Chinese Academy of Sciences. He also participated in a number of expeditions to Antarctica under the auspices of the Australian National Research Expeditions to study the ecology and distribution of tardigrades. One of these was a summer spent in the interior in the Prince Charles Mountains. On the basis of his Saharan and Antarctic work he was elected a fellow of the Explorer's Club.

Along with these activities, he found time to carry out a Ph.D. program in Botany at the University of Queensland (1987) with a dissertation on the dynamics of the vegetation of the small islands on the Great Barrier Reef and to earn a D.Sc. (1981) from the University of New England with a thesis on ecological herpetology.

He returned to the United States in 1991 to take up a Professorship at North Carolina State University where he was Head of the Zoology Department for five years. Currently he teaches courses in Animal Diversity, Herpetology, and Desert Ecology and is carrying out research on the coevolution of venomous snakes and their prey. He conducts field courses each year and takes students to biologically interesting places such as the Namib Desert, Trinidad rainforests, Australian reefs, the Antarctic and the Galapagos. These courses serve as an opportunity to prepare videos for use by high school teachers and for university courses.

He is still continuing his education and is currently working on a Ph.D. in Geography at James Cook University in Australia with plans to submit the dissertation next year.

Editing is one of his main interests. He was an editor of the Australian Journal of Ecology for several years, and is currently editing a series of books on "Amphibian Biology", now in its seventh volume. His hobbies are philately, numismatics and travel. For many years he engaged in competitive roller–skate dancing, from which he retired several years ago. He has been married to the artist/potter Audry Yoder Heatwole for more than 50 years.

Nancy Cochran is a North Carolinian with a long association with North Carolina State University. She grew up in Ashville, NC and her liberal arts undergraduate degree is from Blanton's College in that city. She became Program Assistant in the Zoology Department of NCSU in 1972 and later Administrative Assistant for the Undergraduate Program in 1984. In 1992 she took on additional duties as Student Services Manager for the Department of Zoology as well as Manager of the University Preprofessional Health Sciences Program. She retired from these positions on 31 January 2006. Her retirement lasted only overnight as the following morning she took up her position as Assistant Editor of ICB.

She has served other journals in similar capacities. She was editorial assistant to P. C. Bradbury, then editor of the Journal of Protozoology and to G. C. Miller while he was editor of the Journal of Parasitology. Her hobbies are gardening, reading and travel.

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Division of Animal Behavior (DAB): 2006 Spring Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Scott MacDougall–Shackleton

I hope everyone had a great time in Orlando. It is great to see the Society thriving with so many excellent symposia and presentations in a range of disciplines including Animal Behavior.

This will be my last year as chair and I have enjoyed working with the other DAB executive members and becoming more involved in the Society. I plan to continue being active in the division in whatever capacity I can.

I encourage members to think ahead about planning symposia. The deadline will be in late summer and we want your ideas! Organizing a symposium is a great way to meet others in your field, develop ideas and highlight recent progress – and there is the opportunity for publication in Integrative and Comparative Biology, now published through Oxford University Press.

We need to elect a new chair and secretary this year and have a great slate of nominees. Thanks to all for running. Don't forget to vote!

Scott

Message from the Program Officer

Sarah Humfeld

As your newest program officer, I was very pleased to meet many of you in Orlando and hear your comments about the meeting. I received generally positive feedback about the schedule and the session

arrangement. However, in the coming weeks and months, please feel free to contact me with your suggestions and comments for how we can improve future meetings. I welcome your feedback!

I would like to take this opportunity to encourage all of you to submit ideas for future symposia. We will be co-sponsoring a symposium at the 2007 meeting in Phoenix entitled "Ecological dimorphisms in vertebrates: proximate and ultimate causes." Please email your ideas to me regarding new and emerging areas of animal behavior that should be addressed in a symposium format. Your suggestion will not be automatically treated as an offer to organize a symposium, but I would like to get our collective creative juices flowing. I would like to challenge the members of DAB to propose at least two symposium topics for the 2008 meeting in San Antonio, TX! Now is a good time to start brainstorming; the proposal due date is later this summer. Sarah

Message from the Secretary

Tom Hahn

I've been on sabbatical this autumn and winter, doing field work in Wyoming and Oregon, so I missed the Orlando meeting. I heard it was terrific, as usual, however.

I know you've heard a lot about symposia from Scott and Sarah already, but I would like to emphasize that the types of symposia that SICB sponsors are really unique among societies in the extent to which they bridge disciplines. Interdisciplinary research is, after all, a key element of integrative biology. Animal Behavior lies at the interfaces between many of the divisions represented in our society, so the DAB has a pivotal role to play in this important process of planning and sponsoring symposia. Organizing symposia is a great way for you to contribute to the society, to further research in areas that are important to you, and to establish contacts with a network of scientists who share your interests. Take a look at the website calling for symposia for the 2008 meeting in San Antonio: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/index.php3>. The deadline for the San Antonio meeting symposium proposals is 19 August 2006. Contact any of us if you want more information.

As noted by Scott, we are having elections for both Chair and Secretary this year. The bios / information blurbs for the two candidates for each of these positions appear below. Please take a look at them and vote via the SICB website. And while we're on the subject of divisional officers...if you haven't thought about it before, consider running for one of the officer positions in the future. The health of the division depends on active involvement of the membership, and serving as a divisional officer is a great way to serve both the division and the society. You also can help the division in less demanding ways, like by volunteering to help judge student posters and talks at the meetings (postdocs as well as faculty are encouraged to help with that...contact Sarah before the next meeting if you're interested), and by simply attending the division business meeting / social at the annual SICB meeting.

Just a couple of other things: First, it's important to keep your personal information up to date on the SICB website, so if you haven't checked your personal information for accuracy lately, I encourage you to do that. Second, if you have any good photographs of study organisms that you think would look good on the DAB website, please email digital versions of them to me along with identity (in case we don't know what it is) and a brief (a couple of sentences) description of what is interesting about its behavior.

I'm looking forward to the 2007 meeting in Phoenix. January in the Sonoran desert is delightful, so I hope to see you all there.

Tom

DAB Election Candidates

Candidates for Secretary

Scott A. MacDougall–Shackleton

Current Position: Associate Professor, Departments of Psychology and Biology, University of Western Ontario

Education: B.Sc. (Biology), Queen's University, 1990; M.Sc. (Biology), Queen's University, 1991; M.A. (Psychology), Johns Hopkins University, 1994; Ph.D. (Psychology), Johns Hopkins University, 1997.

Professional Experience: 1991–92, Research Technician, Department of Biology, Queen's University; 1997–99, Postdoctoral Research Fellow, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University; 1999–2001, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, University of Toronto; 2002–2005, Assistant Professor, University of Western Ontario, 2005–current, Associate Professor, University of Western Ontario

SICB Activities: Chair of DAB, 2004–2007

Other Memberships: Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Animal Behavior Society

Research Interests: Physiology and behavior; evolution of perceptual, neural and endocrine mechanisms of behaviour; neural and endocrine integration of environmental information; sex differences in brain and behavior; seasonal changes in brain and behavior. My research addresses the interaction between neural, endocrine, and perceptual mechanisms and the evolution of animal behavior. Specifically I am interested in how songbirds integrate environmental information –such as seasonal changes in photoperiod or the courtship song of a mate– and use this information to organize their behaviour in an adaptive way. Thus, I am interested in topics such as i) how birds learn and perceive environmental cues (e.g. birdsong), ii) how these cues are processed by the brain, and how the brain then mediates changes in behavior and/or reproductive physiology, and iii) how these neural and endocrine mechanisms have been shaped by natural and sexual selection to result in adaptive behaviour.

Goals Statement: Over the last 17 years I have participated in a variety of societies and conferences dealing with animal behavior, ranging from behavioral ecology to neuroscience and psychological societies. One of the greatest strengths of animal behavior research is that it touches on all areas of the life sciences. Because behavior is best studied from an integrative perspective, I believe the best home for animal behavior

researchers is in the SICB.

I have enjoyed serving as chair of DAB and will work to ensure a smooth transition for the upcoming chair–elect. I plan to continue participating in the Division and would be pleased to do so as Secretary.

Website for additional information: <http://publish.uwo.ca/~smacdou2>

Allison M. Welch

Current Position: Research Associate and Adjunct Faculty, College of Charleston, SC

Education: B.S., Biology, Truman State University, 1993; Ph.D., Biological Sciences, University of Missouri–Columbia, 2000.

Professional Experience: 1994–2000, Ph.D. student, University of Missouri–Columbia; 2000–2005, Postdoctoral Fellow, Seeding Postdoctoral Innovators in Research and Education, University of North Carolina–Chapel Hill; 2005–current, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Missouri–Columbia; 2005–current, Research Associate and Adjunct Faculty, College of Charleston.

SICB Activities: Meeting Participant, Division of Animal Behavior and Division of Ecology and Evolution

Other Memberships: Animal Behavior Society, Society for the Study of Evolution, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists

Research Interests: Behavioral ecology and evolutionary biology: evolution of mating preferences and sexual displays, genetic benefits of mate choice and context–dependent sexual selection, quantitative and ecological genetics of amphibians

Goals Statement: If elected secretary of DAB, my goals will include strengthening communication and ties with other SICB divisions and with other animal behavior societies. I will work to support integrative animal behavior as a focal area within our society by promoting the participation of members of other divisions in DAB scientific and social activities and by encouraging a wide range of SICB members to consider organizing DAB–sponsored or –cosponsored symposia. I would also like to work with other societies to raise awareness among their membership of the opportunities for animal behavior researchers within SICB, including student opportunities, symposia, and an excellent venue for integrative animal behavior.

Website for additional information: <http://www.cofc.edu/~welcha/>

Candidates for Chair

Thomas P. Hahn

Current Position: Associate Professor, Section of Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior, University of California Davis.

Education: BS (1984) Biological Sciences, Stanford University; MS (1985) Biological Sciences, Stanford

University; PhD (1993) Zoology, University of Washington.

Professional Experience: 1993–94: Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychology, Johns Hopkins University; 1996–2000: Assistant Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Princeton University; 2000–2001: Assistant Professor, Institute of Arctic Biology, University of Alaska, Fairbanks; 2001–present: Assistant and Associate Professor, Section of Neurobiology, Physiology and Behavior, University of California Davis.

SICB Activities: Secretary, Division of Animal Behavior, 2003–2006; regular meeting attendee and presenter since 1987; student paper judge in divisions of Animal Behavior and Comparative Endocrinology.

Other memberships: Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Society for Neuroscience, Animal Behavior Society.

Research Interests: Effects of the environment on animal behavior and physiology. Focus on regulation of avian reproductive behavior and physiology by environmental factors such as day length, food, and social factors, and on behavioral and physiological responses to unpredictable environmental events.

Goals Statement: SICB is the one society I know of that really focuses on what most interests me in biology. The emphasis on interdisciplinary approaches to complex problems, the broad representation of research on different taxonomic groups, the high value placed on student participation, and the interest in broader education of the general public in scientific matters all mesh well with my own priorities. Animal Behavior has fundamental ties to all of the other divisions in the society. If elected chair I would work to maintain the current momentum of increased member involvement in the DAB, redouble our efforts to increase involvement in the division especially by encouraging members of other societies such as ABS to consider attending SICB if they don't regularly do so already, to boost the division's involvement in sponsoring multidisciplinary symposia at the society meetings, and to build our communication to the general public through a non-scientist-friendly website.

Website for further information: <http://www.npb.ucdavis.edu/npbdirectory/hahn.html>

Keith W. Sockman

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of North Carolina – Chapel Hill

Education: B.A. (Biology), Occidental College, Los Angeles, 1990; M.A. (Biology), San Diego State University, 1996; Ph.D. (Zoology), Washington State University, Pullman, 2000

Professional Experience: 1993–1996, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Biology, San Diego State University; 1997–2000, Graduate Research Assistant, Department of Zoology, Washington State University; 2001–2004, NIH Individual–NRSA Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Psychological and Brain Sciences, Johns Hopkins University

SICB Activities: Divisions of Animal Behavior and Comparative Endocrinology; Meeting Participant and Presenter, 9 of past 10 years; Student Presentation Judge

Research Interests: Ecological Neuroethology. I study the ultimate and proximate factors governing flexibility in reproductive decisions, using free-living and laboratory-housed birds. Recently, I have been

applying neurohistochemical techniques to investigate how environmental and social experience affect such reproductive decisions as mate choice and the seasonal timing of breeding. I address findings in terms of their functional and adaptive significance. In this way, I integrate mechanistic with adaptive explanations to investigate trade-offs in reproductive decisions.

Goals Statement: I attended and presented at my first SICB meeting in 1996 as a graduate student and have continued attending and presenting at SICB meetings nearly every year since. Initially, I was drawn to the meeting by the strong student support and the many investigators taking comparative and integrative approaches. To me, one of the best ways to study animal behavior is in an integrative context, where the organism's evolutionary history, its natural environment, and its underlying physiological mechanisms are all considered simultaneously. For example, one of the most exciting areas of research in Animal Behavior is in the neurobiological regulation of natural, ecologically relevant behaviors. SICB's multi-division organization offers a good opportunity for interactions with members who are also highly integrative in their research but who focus on other aspects of organismal biology. As chair, I would try to strengthen those interactions and the role the Division of Animal Behavior plays in the Society by working toward greater membership and prominence of annual symposia.

Website for additional information: <http://www.bio.unc.edu/faculty/sockman/>

SICB Newsletter



Volume Spring 2006

Division of Comparative Biomechanics (DCB): 2006 Spring Newsletter

Message from the Interim Chair

Robert Full

The SICB has created a new division for the study of comparative biomechanics.

Comparative biomechanics needed a home where colleagues from all fields, interested students, granting agencies and corporations can turn to find the latest cutting-edge research, the investigators conducting the studies and the events that disseminate the discoveries. No other society in the world is better positioned to highlight the contributions of comparative biomechanics. The strength of the symposium and contributed paper and poster sessions at the SICB annual meetings are unmatched. Comparative biomechanics complements strong divisions that focus on physiology, ecology, behavior, vertebrate morphology and invertebrate zoology. This cross-fertilization has become more obvious in recent years as the society has encouraged themed sessions. Sessions on hydrodynamics, aerodynamics, terrestrial locomotion, feeding, biomaterials, and muscle function represent a core of the meeting and consistently showcase research that sets the pace for the field of comparative biomechanics.

The creation of The Division of Comparative Biomechanics (DCB) in SICB signals that we are in a new age of integration, but one that builds on past strengths. Integrative and comparative biomechanists and physiologists have been doing Systems Biology since the early 1600's. Recently, Systems Biology has received renewed attention, but the definition has been narrowed. "Systems Biology is a scientific discipline that endeavors to quantify all of the molecular elements of a biological system to assess their interactions and to integrate that information into graphical network models that serve as predictive hypotheses to explain emergent behaviors."

We contend that Systems Biology must integrate across:

1. Levels of organization (molecules to eco-systems)
2. Organisms (plants, invertebrates and vertebrates)
3. Time (evolution)

Comparative biomechanics is uniquely positioned to serve as an exemplar of this integration. The discipline focuses on the physics of how organisms function and interact with their environment from the scale of

molecules to eco–systems. The goal is to discover basic physical principles that can be applied to a diversity of organisms. Studies of fluid and solid mechanics of organisms take advantage of direct experimentation, comparative and phylogenetic approaches and both mathematical and physical modeling. Few other disciplines contribute to and benefit from integration not only within biology, but also with physics, engineering, mathematics, chemistry and computer science.

The new division will hold its organizational meeting at the 2007 SICB Annual Meeting in Phoenix. At this time, we will attempt to adopt a set of bylaws. Since we do not yet have an official membership, we will hold elections in the spring of 2007. New officers will assume office at the 2008 meeting. Until then, we accepted volunteers as interim officers. These include: Robert Full, chair; Miriam Ashley–Ross, secretary; Frank Fish, program officer; and Monica Daley, student/postdoc representative.

DCB will get off to a lively start through events honoring Steve Vogel. Few individuals have had as broad an impact on the direction of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology as Steven Vogel. Having applied the world of fluid mechanics to myriad organismal level functions, he has pioneered an entire discipline. From feeding and swimming, to dispersion and wind forces, from giant creatures to tiny ones, Vogel opened our eyes to how organismal design reflects physical constraints of the world in which they live.

Steve is also a citizen–scientist for organismal biology. Through his popular books, his popular lectures and his passion for all things plant and animal, he has been an ambassador for integrative biology.

Finally, Steve has inspired legions of students — those who were directly his own, those who have occupied F1 and F2 and even F3 generations of academics. His work and passion for teaching have infected institutions all around the country. I can think of few individuals who can match Steve as a role model for members of the Society for Integrative Biology.

Kate Loudon and Tom Daniel are organizing a "socialist" affair in which the contributions of Steve Vogel to research and teaching in comparative biomechanics is honored by individuals submitting their contributed papers or posters to sessions named in his honor. There will be one full day of contributed papers for this celebration. We encourage all of you to submit a paper – especially those of you who have benefited from his wisdom and inspiration.

While there will be no symposium and thus no invited speakers, there will be a social to which all are invited. We are just now finalizing sponsorship for this august event and would welcome contributions to it. Please let Tom Daniel or Kate Loudon know of your interest here.

Don't miss the plenary speaker for the 2007 meeting! Mimi Koehl has accepted SICB's invitation to open the meeting.

In addition, the Digital Library Advising Group for SICB has organized a symposium this year, focusing on the development of the SICB digital library with an initial emphasis on the topic of Biomechanics resources for all members. Trish Morse and Sara Hiebert Burch are coordinating the plans for the symposium and Steve Vogel and Rachel Merz are co–editing the Biomechanics Webpage (<http://www.sicb.org/dl/biomechanics.php3>) and welcome your contributions.

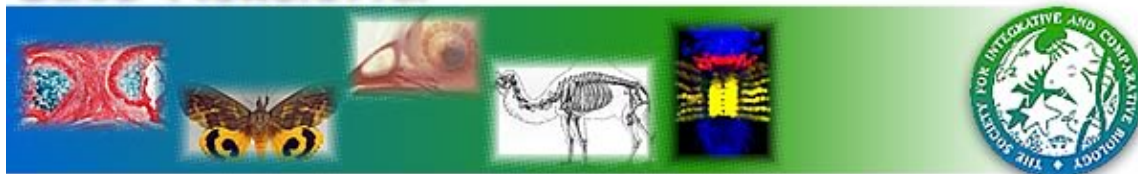
I also would like to encourage you to spread word of our new division to friends, students and postdocs, and suggest that they join SICB. SICB is a perfect place to pace the field with our diverse and integrative membership, and we would like our annual meeting to continue to be the showcase for the best research in the field.

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Please respond to the call for symposia for the 2008 meeting in San Antonio, TX, January 2–6, 2008. Proposals are due by August 19, 2006 (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/index.php3>). If you have any questions regarding submission for a symposium, contact Frank Fish, Program Officer, at ffish@wcupa.edu.

Finally, I'd like to invite suggestions from future members regarding divisional initiatives, the newsletter and ways to increase membership.

SICB Newsletter



Volume Spring 2006

Division of Comparative Endocrinology (DCE): 2006 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
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 - [Message from the DCE Representative to the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee](#)
 - [Candidates for Elections](#)
 - [Call for Symposia Proposals](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Bob Denver (rdenver@umich.edu)

We had a fantastic annual meeting of the SICB in Orlando this year with over 1000 presentations society-wide. The turnout for the DCE was excellent and as usual there were more outstanding presentations than one could possibly attend. Two highlights of the meeting for DCE members were the Past Presidential Lecture presented by outgoing SICB president John Wingfield (titled: "Control of reproduction in diverse habitats: multiple pathways for environmental signals") and the fifth annual Howard Bern Lecture presented by Stacia Sower. Stacia's lecture was titled "Insight into the molecular evolution of gonadotropin and its receptor in the hormonal regulation of reproduction". We are very grateful to Elsevier and the SICB for support of the Howard Bern Lecture series.

Our oral and poster presentations covered a broad range of comparative endocrinology and highlighted some of the finest work in our field. Our outgoing DCE Program Officer Kyle Selcer made a heroic effort to put together a logical and exciting program and we all owe a huge debt of gratitude to him. The DCE cosponsored two symposia at the Orlando meeting ("Ecological Immunology" and "Ecophysiology and Conservation"). However, there were no symposia organized by DCE members. There are also no DCE symposia planned for the meeting in Phoenix next year. ***I strongly encourage DCE members to propose symposia for our future meetings.*** Symposia represent one of the most important activities of our Division and are essential for the continued development and vigor of our field. If you are considering proposing a symposium please contact our new program officer Michael Romero as soon as possible (*see his comments below!*). Michael is chairing a committee to actively solicit symposium proposals for the San Antonio meeting in 2008. The deadline for symposium proposal submission is **August 19, 2006** (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/index.php3>). Note that the SICB sponsors three kinds of symposia: 1) divisional or co-sponsoring society symposia, 2) society-wide symposia, and 3) mini-symposia.

In addition to putting together the program for the meeting Kyle organized the judges for the best student paper awards. In the future we will recruit a chairperson for this committee to take some of the burden off of the program officer. I want to especially thank the judges for their expert help in identifying suitable candidates for the awards. The competition was quite stiff again this year, with 22 students competing in the oral presentation category and 16 competing in the poster category. The quality of the presentations and posters was excellent, making the decision process difficult for the judges. Congratulations to all of the participants, and especially to the following award winners:

The **Aubrey Gorbman Award for Best Student Oral Presentation** was given to **Shingo Kajimura** (Univ. of Michigan) for the talk titled "Understanding hypoxia-induced gene expression in early development: In vitro and in vivo analysis of HIF-1-regulated xebrafish IGFBP-1 gene expression". Honorable mention in this category was shared by **Britt Heidinger** (Indiana Univ.) for the talk titled "Attenuation of the stress response may mediate an increase in reproductive performance with age in the common tern *Sterna hirundo*, and by **Frances Bonier** (Univ. of Washington) for the talk titled "Stress in urban songbirds: adaptation to life in the city?". The **Aubrey Gorbman Award for Best Student Poster Presentation** was shared by **Darren Lerner** (Univ. of Massachusetts) for the poster titled "Effects of 4-nonylphenol and 17-estradiol on osmoregulatory homeostasis and endocrine responses of Mozambique tilapia, *Oreochromis mossambicus*", and by **Stephanie Schubert** (Duquesne Univ.) for the poster titled "Testosterone increases behavioral, but not vomeronasal organ, responses to pheromones in the Plethodontid salamander, *Plethodon shermani*." Honorable mention was awarded to **Noah Ollikainen** (Univ. of California, San Diego) for the presentation titled "Evolution of ecdysone and thyroid hormone receptors".

At the annual DCE business meeting we voted to accept each of the proposed changes to the DCE bylaws that were announced last spring and posted on the SICB bulletin board for comment. A link to the revised bylaws is provided below (see Message from the Secretary). The most significant change is to set the terms for the DCE officers to begin at the end of the second Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is to begin. Each term will then end at the adjournment of the second Executive Committee meeting at the Annual Meeting in the year the term is set to expire. Now, officers that plan the annual meeting events will remain in office until the end of the meeting. I want to thank Sunny Boyd for putting together the changes to the bylaws.

IMPORTANT!

PROPOSED CHANGE TO DCE BYLAWS: There is another proposed change to the DCE bylaws that I mentioned at the DCE business meeting in Orlando but we did not yet request a vote for. This change will allow for the DCE to support regional meetings or international conferences, with which DCE is an official affiliate, by having an annual assessment of \$4/member, for all members of the division including students. Members of the DCE have automatic membership in the International Federation of Comparative Endocrine Societies (IFCES) for which we pay dues of \$2/member/year. The IFCES holds a meeting every four years, the next one scheduled to be in Hong Kong in 2009. The DCE also provides financial support for regional and international meetings. The SICB Finance Committee will no longer endorse divisional requests for funds for affiliate society dues or support for regional or international meetings from the general funds. The cost of such obligations must be born by the members of the division. This assessment will be treated separately from the annual dues such that it can accumulate across budget years allowing for periodic international conferences to be funded by this mechanism. In my informal discussions with DCE members none felt that \$4/member would be a burden either to full or student members. In the next few weeks you will receive an email notice of the ballot from our secretary Kevin Kelley. ***Please vote on this change.***

This year, the Division will select a new Divisional Program Officer. We have two excellent candidates for this position, Steve Schoech and Russell Borski. Their biographical sketches are at the end of this newsletter.

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The election will take place online in late Spring 2006. I want to thank Mark Sheridan for chairing the Nomination Committee and Erica Crespi and John Hatle for serving on it.

Finally, I want to make a plea to all DCE members to respond to requests by NSF program officers to review grant proposals. Several program officers at NSF have voiced their concerns that their requests to review grant proposals either go unanswered or are declined. This makes their job especially difficult and is extremely damaging to the field. The next time that you receive a request from NSF to review a proposal please take a moment to consider the consequences of declining or failing to respond. Failure to participate in this essential function sends a negative message to those at NSF who make decisions about funding for our research. It is our responsibility to maintain the health and vigor of our field by doing our part to accept to review grant proposals and serve on NSF panels when asked.

Message from the Program Officer

L. Michael Romero (Michael.romero@tufts.edu)

I hope everyone agrees that the 2006 meeting in Orlando, Florida was a great success. The Comparative Endocrinology sessions were well attended. Special thanks should be extended to Kyle Selcer, the outgoing DCE Program Officer, for helping to organize the DCE portion of the meeting. I have large shoes to fill. The highlights of the meeting were the two plenary talks given by members of our division. We should thank John Wingfield, who gave the Outgoing President's lecture, and Stacia Sower, who presented a terrific Howard Bern Lecture.

Symposia at the 2007 meeting in Phoenix, Arizona

Information on the symposia planned for the 2007 meeting in Phoenix is now posted on the home page of the SICB web site. Although DCE is not the primary sponsor for any of the symposia, several should be of interest, including "Recent developments in neurobiology" and "Ecology and evolution of disease dynamics."

!!Call for Symposia, 2008 meeting in San Antonio, Texas!!

Information on submitting symposia for the 2008 meeting in San Antonio is now linked to the SICB web site [<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/index.php3>]. Please think about developing exciting and engaging symposia in your field. DCE-organized symposia have been few and far between lately. Symposia are a major draw for our annual meeting and can be extremely rewarding for the organizers as well. Symposium papers are often published together in an issue of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. Deadline for submissions is August 18, 2006. If you have an idea for a symposium, please do not hesitate to contact me (michael.romero@tufts.edu).

Message from the Secretary

Kevin M. Kelley (kmkelley@csulb.edu)

Since there is no lack of information in this issue of the DCE Newsletter, I will try to keep my comments as brief as possible (not easy for any self-respecting academic type!).

From the DCE Business Meeting in Orlando: The main topics brought forth at this year's business meeting related to the proposed changes to the *DCE By-Laws* and several DCE-relevant announcements. Denver and Kelley made some summary comments above about these "common-sense" changes, which were written and proposed by Dr. Sunny Boyd in January 2005, who was the Society-wide Secretary at the time (kudos and thanks to her for doing this for our Division!). They were posted for most of 2005 [<http://www.sicb.org/divisions/DCE/DCEBylawsPostedVersion.pdf>] and, at the business meeting, were approved by unanimous vote.

In addition to the approved by-law changes, there is another proposal that needs your attention. **Please read "PROPOSED CHANGE TO DCE BYLAWS" under the Chair's comments above.** This proposes a small annual assessment of \$4 from the DCE membership, to allow our divisional support of regional meetings or international conferences for which we are official affiliates (e.g., IFCEs). This needs to be done because the Society's Finance Committee will no longer endorse divisional requests for such funds to be taken from the general funds. Each of you will receive an email ballot this spring on the proposal, and we ask for your vote. Please vote!

We also announced the elections of our newest DCE Officers. They are Chair-elect Stacia A. Sower and Secretary-elect Catherine R. Propper. We congratulated and welcomed them, and also thanked all the candidates who graciously "stepped up to the plate" for DCE.

Upcoming DCE Election:

From our DCE 2006 Nomination Committee, chaired by Mark Sheridan, we have two excellent DCE Program Officer candidates, Russell Borski and Steve Schoech. **Their biographical candidate statements are included at the end of this Newsletter.** Please look them over, make your decision, and vote in the upcoming electronic election! The electronic ballots will go out by email in early Summer, after a few months of publication of this Newsletter containing their statements.

Get your program on the web: Remember, you have the opportunity to include your professional and research information in the **DCE Researchers Database** on the SICB Website. This is a fantastic opportunity to provide some visibility for your research program. Send a paragraph describing your program (include a link to your university website) and include any digital files that can be used on the website, from JPEGs, to mp3, to video (qt, mpg, wmv). See the excellent sites already done by the DEE: <http://sicb.org/divisions/DEE/researchers.php3>. Send your files to Ruedi Birenheide, SICB Webmaster (webmaster@sicb.org), and make sure to enclose a short title and concise summary of your research. If you have any further questions, contact Kevin Kelley (kmkelley@csulb.edu).

One Additional Comment from the Secretary: Though redundant with comments from the Chair and Program Officer, I would like to reiterate the importance of some of us planning 2008 (and later) DCE-sponsored symposia. They can be a wonderful experience, and they bring positive light to our Division. "Forefront" or "timely" topics are great, as are "themes" important to comparative endocrinology. The DCE is the North American home for the field of comparative endocrinology—we need to bring our field to the greater scientific and public audiences. See <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/index.php3> and the

end of this Newsletter!

Message from the DCE Representative to the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee

Darren Lerner (dlerner@forwild.umass.edu)

The SICB Annual Meeting in Orlando was a success for our committee (SPDAC) in many respects. Many thanks to Stephanie Cross for heading up the Student Support Program, and to Shea Tuberty for organizing the 1st Timers Orientation and two excellent and well attended SPDAC workshops: "Optimizing Your Graduate School Experience" and "Strategies for Landing a Postdoc/Job". Of course, many thanks to the students and faculty who served on those panels!

This year, 20% of the Grants in Aid of Research (GIAR) went to DCE students. Congratulations to Mukta Chakraborty, Darren T. Lerner, Sunny K. Scobell, Douglas Wacker, and Devin Zysling!! If you haven't received an award previously, don't forget to apply in November!

On to Pheonix 2007. Don't miss the 1st Timers Orientation after the Welcome Social on the first night. This gathering is NOT just for 1st timers. The venue in 2007 will include information on how to get the best out of your time at the meeting, as well as provide information on student work for the **Student Support Program**. Don't forget to sign up when you submit your abstract; students presenting a poster or oral presentation are eligible for discounted housing or free registration for no more than 4 hours of work.

Many students were dismayed at the loss of the traditional student/post doc luncheon on the first full day of the meeting, but pending funding, we are planning a **student/postdoc/mentor lunch** for Pheonix. Join us for lunch and meet the president of SICB, our SPDAC Faculty Chair, Shea R. Tuberty, and all of the SPDAC student/post-doc representatives. This is a great opportunity to give face to face input if you have questions, comments or suggestions for the SPDAC or the society in general. Look for a "check box" and sign up when you register for the meeting. For the last evening of the meeting, before the dessert social, we are planning a great workshop tentatively entitled: "**What editors want: Paving the way to publication**". A panel of editors-in-chief and associate editors will discuss and field questions on various topics ranging from how to choose the appropriate journal and how to write a cover letter to review mechanics and publication ethics. Don't miss out! Graduate students and post-docs are encouraged to attend.

Finally, if you have any comments or suggestions regarding the meeting or any of the student/post-doc activities please feel free to contact me: dlerner@forwild.umass.edu I look forward to seeing you in Pheonix!

DCE Elections

Candidates for Program Officer-elect

Russell J. Borski

Current Position:

Associate Professor of Zoology, North Carolina State University (NCSU); Faculty Member of Genomics, Biotechnology, and Physiology Graduate Programs, NCSU

Education:

B.A. Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, 1986

Ph.D. Zoology, University of Hawaii, 1992

Professional Experience:

Sabbatical Research Fellow, Marine Genomics, Hollings Marine Laboratory/South Carolina Medical Center, Charleston, SC, 2005; Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, NCSU, 2001–present; Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, NCSU, 1995–01; NIH NRSA Postdoctoral Fellow, Endocrinology & Metabolism, University of Michigan, 1992–94; Edwin W. Pauley Summer Program Faculty, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, 1997, 1998, 2004; Visiting Scholar and Faculty, International Programs, University of Tokyo, Waseda University, and Japanese Institute of Basic Biology, Japan, 1997; Oak Ridge Associated Universities Junior Faculty Enhancement Award, 1995. Visiting Scientist at the University of Alberta, Edmonton, School of Medicine, 1990. Member, McGraw–Hill Majors Media and CELL Focus Group, 2005–current; Served as Panel Member for National SeaGrant Marine Biotechnology and UNC Genomics Initiatives.

SICB Activities:

Member since 1989; Twice served as judge for Best Student Paper.

Other Memberships:

American Association for the Advancement of Science, Endocrine Society, Sigma XI

Research Interests:

My laboratory utilizes molecular, cellular, and physiological approaches to define how hormones integrate information from the environment and genome to regulate hydromineral balance, growth, and more recently sex determination. Projects include defining novel, non–genomic mechanisms of actions for glucocorticoids, the functional genomics and proteomics of pituitary growth hormone and prolactin cell activity in relation to their involvement in the regulation of salt and water balance and growth, endocrinology of compensatory growth, and environmental sex determination.

Goals Statement:

DCE is central to promoting integrative and comparative endocrinology to the science community and represents one of the largest and most active divisions within SICB. My goal will be to 1) better promote and attract symposia and programs for the division that incorporate the multidisciplinary nature of biology and its technological advances, 2) provide a user–friendly web–based resource to seek financial support for symposia sponsorship, and 3) work to expand and improve member participation in the DCE.

Stephan J. Schoech

Current Position:

Associate Professor and Graduate Studies Coordinator, Department of Biology, University of Memphis

Education:

B. S. Zoology, Arizona State University, 1988

M. S. Zoology, Arizona State University, 1990

Ph.D. Zoology, University of Washington, 1995

Professional Experience:

1995–98, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dr. Ellen Ketterson, Indiana University; 1995–98, Assistant Professor – Part Time, Department of Biology, Indiana University; 1999–2000 Assistant Scientist, Department of Biology, Indiana University; 2000–2004, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of Memphis; 2004–Present, Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Memphis; 2003–Present, Graduate Studies Coordinator, Department of Biology, University of Memphis; Served as NSF panelist for Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant (joint Ecological and Evolutionary Physiology and Animal Behavior panel) and for Behavioral Systems Cluster (EEP)

SICB Activities:

First annual meeting in Boston in 1989 to present undergraduate research findings. Attended majority of annual meetings in interim, as well as Western Regional DCE meetings as a graduate student. Served as session chair 1995, 1998, 1999, 2004, 2005, and 2006. Served as judge for Best Student Paper for DCPB in 2006.

Other Memberships:

American Association for the Advancement of Science, American Ornithologists' Union, Animal Behavior Society, Association of Field Ornithologists, British Ornithologists' Union, Cooper Ornithological Society, Sigma Xi, Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Tennessee Ornithological Society, Wilson Ornithological Society

Research Interests:

The focus of my lab is on how an animal interacts with its physical and social environment, and the subsequent effects on both physiological and behavioral mechanisms that ultimately effect reproduction. My research is integrative in nature and incorporates a wide range of techniques for investigations at both the proximate and ultimate levels. The social behaviors, multitude of mating systems, and relative ease of observation makes birds an ideal study organism to address these issues. I have conducted research on the cooperatively breeding Florida Scrub–Jay since 1989 investigating the mechanisms that underlie behaviors unique to this social system, as well as exploring the endocrine mechanisms by which environmental information is transduced to time reproduction.

Goals Statement:

My first goal is to continue in the mold set by the previous holders of this office by organizing excellent meeting programs and to serve a society that has served me well over the years. Of the several societies of which I am a member, SICB is by far the most student friendly. One of my goals would be to increase

student participation in our annual meetings. DCE is one of the largest divisions in the society and, as such, should annually sponsor symposia. Encouragement of members to sponsor symposia and involve students and post docs in both the organization of, and participation in symposia is a way to enhance the student-friendly nature of the society and division. Additionally, symposium organizers could be encouraged to solicit potential speakers who, due to time constraints, cannot be included in the symposium to contribute talks for a complimentary contributed session.

First Call

Symposia Applications for the 2008 SICB meeting

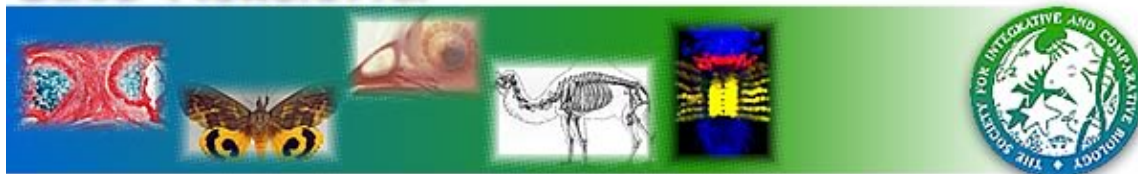
in San Antonio, Texas

On-line application will be available January 25, 2006

Submission Deadline: August 18, 2006

Details? SICB website, your Divisional Program Officers and
SICB Program Officer Linda Walters (ljwalter@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu)

SICB Newsletter



Volume Spring 2006

Division of Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry (DCPB): 2006 Spring Newsletter

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 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the ICCPB executive committee DCPB representative](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary](#)
 - [Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative](#)
 - [The George A. Bartholomew Award Competition](#)
 - [Candidates for Elections](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Patrick J. Walsh

In this, my first newsletter as DCPB Chair, I want to begin by congratulating all of our members attending the Orlando annual meeting for making it a tremendous success! Despite a brief "cold-snap" that did not dampen our spirits, the quality and diversity of the scientific presentations were very high, and served to reinforce my strong feelings about membership in this society and the DCPB in particular. Nowhere was our strength through diversity more evident than in the competition amongst the student oral and poster presentations. Dave Tapley and his team had their work cut out for them, judging over 60 entrants for the Dorothy M. Skinner awards. In the case of the poster competition, there was a single clearcut winner, so join me in congratulating **Nishad Jayasundara** of Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory for his presentation:

Dorothy M. Skinner Best Poster Award

JAYASUNDARA, N.; SPANINGS-PIERROT, C.; TOWLE, D.W.; MDI Bio. Lab., Salsbury Cove, ME; Universite Montpellier, France; MDI Bio. Lab., Salsbury Cove, ME: Salinity-induced changes in isoform-specific Na^+K^+ -ATPase gene expression in the European shore crab *Pachygrapsus marmoratus*.

The oral presentation judging resulted in an exact numerical tie for "Best", so we decided what better way to celebrate our success than to give *two* Dorothy M. Skinner awards for "Outstanding Oral Presentations". Join me in congratulating **Joanna Joyner-Matos** of the University of Florida and **Kenneth Welch** of the University of California, Santa Barbara for their outstanding presentations:

Dorothy M. Skinner Outstanding Oral Presentation Awards

JOYNER–MATOS, J.; CHAPMAN, L. J.; JULIAN, D.; Univ. of Florida, Gainesville; McGill Univ., Montreal; Univ. of Florida, Gainesville: Elevated dissolved oxygen level influences fingernail clam (*Sphaerium* sp.) stress protein expression and population distribution in a Ugandan papyrus swamp.

WELCH, KC; BAKKEN, BH; SUAREZ, RK; Univ. of California, Santa Barbara; Univ. of Wyoming; Univ. of California, Santa Barbara: Use of Dietary Sugar by Hummingbirds as Revealed by Stable Isotope and Respiratory Analysis.

Nishad, Joanna and Kenneth all received checks for \$100, a certificate of award, a one–year membership renewal to SICB, and a copy of a tribute to Dorothy M. Skinner prepared by Don Mykles that was published in our Spring 2005 newsletter. And one perk of having the meeting in Orlando is that our new awardees, like Super Bowl Champs, could turn to the camera and say: "Next, I'm going to Disneyworld!"

I and Past–Chair Donna Wolcott extend a sincere 'thank you' to Dave Tapley and his judges for doing a great job. *As you know, the name of the award changes every year, so please feel free to suggest to me or any DCPB officer names that we can honor with the 2007 award.*

One note from our 2006 business meeting that is related to the above prizes: we voted to approve a bylaw change to allow non–DCPB students to compete for the DCPB Best Paper/Poster Awards.

Bartholomew Award

I also wish to thank the Bartholomew Award Committee for their hard work in selecting Dr. Jamie Gillooly as this year's recipient. Dr. Gillooly gave a great presentation to a packed room, and I was especially pleased to see that the topic drew significant numbers of SICB members from other Divisions. (See Jamie's Biography below.) For committee service, in particular, I want to thank Drs. Ross Ellington and Steve Hand who are rotating off after their three years of service on this committee, and to welcome new members Drs. Lynn Riddiford (U. Washington) and Katie Gilmour (U. Ottawa) to the Award Committee. At the poster sessions and exhibitor booths I also got the opportunity to meet John Lighton and Robin Turner of Sable Systems for the first time. They have enhanced the Bartholomew Award with their generous support, and I ask you all to give them a special 'tip of the cap' next time you see them. *The deadline for applications for the 2007 Bartholomew Award is tentatively set at September 1, 2006.*

Finally, the scientific program featured a number of interesting and well–attended symposia; I was able to sample talks from all of them, and I particularly enjoyed the Crustacean Genomics and Proteomics session. This symposium, and the many contributed papers using these technologies especially made me realize that the world of biomics is truly upon us and starting to have a major impact on the questions we are able to address as DCPB scientists. My sincere thanks to Kim Hammond and all of the symposium organizers for putting together a great overall program of invited and contributed papers and posters.

While the science and camaraderie at the meeting were great, I did hear a few rumblings about the venue itself. Notably, the setup this year was unlike some prior meetings in the downtown core of a large city, where one can easily stroll from the hotel to many restaurants and attractions. Many felt a little 'trapped' and found it hard to venture out. I noted these concerns and will try to voice them when SICB officers are considering future venues.

Division Officers Old and New

In terms of the annual 'changing of the guard' of some of our Division officers, several terms ended at the Orlando meeting including: Nora Terwilliger's term as Past-Chair, Paul Yancey's term as Secretary, and Donna Wolcott's term as Chair (although she does not quite get off the hook that easily in that she now serves two years as Past-Chair). Please join me in thanking them for their steadfast service. I hope to lean on them extensively to try to maintain continuity in the Division. Donna did an excellent job of keeping the records and duties of the chair up to date, making the transition for myself and for future chairs easy. Last but not least, Joanna Joyner-Matos has agreed to stay on for a second two-year stint as the graduate student/postdoc representative. We are looking forward to her cooperative plan with other Division Reps to organize a workshop on publishing (tentatively entitled: "What Do Editors Want?"). I also wish to remind you that, as part of the reorganization of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, Dr. Chuck Booth of Eastern Connecticut State University has been named as the DCPB member of the *ICB* Editorial Board.

Spring Elections

We have some important items on the ballot for the Spring elections. First, through the efforts of the nominating committee, Donna Wolcott, Jim Clegg and Harvey Lillywhite, we have a great slate of candidates for Program Officer and Division Chair-Elect. Please see the candidates' bios and statements below, and please vote (it is so easy to do online).

Important By-law Changes

We also have to vote on an important bylaw change regarding a "self-levy" to allow us to support international meetings (such as the ICCPB in Brazil in 2007) and other activities that tie us to the greater world-wide comparative community. The levy is essentially the cost of one beer per year. (I think it was Lou Burnett who pointed out that actually, it is the cost of a beer at a *normal*, non-Disney, venue; that is, approximately 0.6 "Disneys" noting that it took 1.0 "Disney" to get you a beer at the Orlando meeting.) Bistro-Mathematics aside, my point is that this is such a small amount, and the money will be well spent. I urge you to vote to approve this bylaw change.

I've prattled on long enough. Looking ahead, I hope that you all have a great Spring into Summer/end of school year transition and that your summers are both productive and stress free, enabling you to push the boundaries of your discipline forward, so we can have great interchange again at the 2007 meeting in Phoenix.

Proposed By-law changes:

Proposed: the following addition (underlined text) to the by-laws under article X. Finances

Necessary expenditures of the Division shall be paid from the treasury of the Society within the limits set by the Executive Committee of the Society in the annual budget. Expenditures in support of international societies of which the Division is a member will be paid from an assessment levied annually on Division members, in addition to SICB dues. The amount of the assessment will be determined by the DCPB Executive Committee. Assessment funds will accrue across years, and be managed through the management company, and disbursed with authorization by the Chair, upon the recommendation of the Executive Committee of the Division.

This proposed by-law change is set for a vote during Spring 2006.

Message from the Program Officer

Kimberly Hammond

Orlando:

By all accounts we have a great meeting in Orlando this year. We had more than 1200 total members in attendance, which is more than half of our total membership and a very good showing relative to most scientific societies!

Congratulations to Dr. James Gillooly (University of Florida) for winning the Bartholomew award and for his talk: "**Linking Biological Currencies in Ecology and Evolution**". We also really appreciate Stacia Sower's (University of New Hampshire) contribution for this years Bern Lecture "**Insight into the Molecular Evolution of Gonadotropin and its Receptor in the Hormonal Regulation of Reproduction**".

This year's symposiums were very successful. The two society wide symposia were:

- "Ecological Immunology: Recent Advances and Applications for Conservation and Public Health", by Kelly Lee, Bram Lutton, and Martin Wikelski
- "Metamorphosis: A Multi-Kingdom Approach" by Andreas Heyland, Jason Hodin, Cory Bishop, and Leonid Moroz

The Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry also cosponsored three symposia. These were:

- "Genomic and Proteomic Approaches in Crustacean Biology" by Donald Mykles and David Towle

Sponsoring divisions and societies: The Crustacean Society, DCPB, DIZ, and DNB

- "EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contributions of Energetics", by Robert Stevenson

Sponsoring divisions: DCPB, DCE, and DEE

- "Biomechanics and Neuromuscular Control", by Kiisa Nishikawa and Andrew Biewener

Sponsoring divisions: DCPB, DVM, and DNB

Phoenix: Our next meeting is in Phoenix Arizona. The dates are: January 3–7. We look forward to many great talks and symposia.

It is never too soon to start thinking of ideas for symposia for future meetings. The symposia are a good way to introduce new and provocative ideas, or discuss changing themes in research, or revisit and revitalize other areas. Please email me (khammond@ucr.edu) to get started.

Other Meetings of interest to our division:

Virginia Beach 2006

SICB newsletter Spring 2006

SICB is co-sponsoring the Comparative Physiology 2006: Integrating Diversity Meeting 8–11 October 2006 in Virginia Beach, Virginia. There are many really exciting symposia at these meetings for members of DCPB.

The meeting website is: <http://www.the-aps.org/meetings/aps/vabeach/>

Brazil 2007

DCPB/SICB is co-sponsoring the International Congress for Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry (ICCPB) in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil in August 2007. We have been soliciting ideas for symposia at those meetings, and we are hoping many SICB members will plan to attend.

Kenya 2008

Steve Morris and Natural Events is setting up the 4th International Conference in Africa for Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry

This will be held at the Maasai Mara National Reserve, Kenya, East Africa. July 19–25: 2008

The meeting website is: [<http://www.natural-events.com/mara/>](http://www.natural-events.com/mara/) www.natural-events.com/mara

Finally, I want to congratulate, on behalf of the Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry the following graduate student award winners at our 2006 meeting.

Grants in aid of research

Tara M. Blank University of North Texas Hypoxia-induced plasticity of respiratory development in the blue gourami (*Trichogaster trichopterus*), an air-breathing fish

Dao H. Ho University of North Texas The Effect of Egg-Borne Maternal Cues Specific to Species and Breed on Cardiac Performance in Chicken Embryos

Matthew Van Sant University of California Riverside Water regulation of high altitude deer mice.

Congratulations for jobs well done!

Message from the ICCPB Executive Committee DCPB Representative

Lou Burnett

Brazil 2007 – 7th International Congress of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry

"Integrative Physiology Meets Biodiversity"

August 12–16, 2007 in Salvador, Bahia, Brazil

This ICCPB meeting occurs every four years and is the premier international meeting for comparative physiologists and biochemists throughout the world. Please review the background material for ICCPB below (Roots of the ICCPB). A web site for this meeting is now available at <http://www.ib.usp.br/iccpb-brazil/index.html>. The program will consist of 40 symposia (32 are presently confirmed) and 5 plenary lectures. Chris Wood of McMaster University will present the opening Knut-Schmidt Nielsen lecture. Other plenary speakers include Nora Terwilliger, a past DCPB chair, Francisco Bozinovic of Chile, Steven Chown of South Africa, and Tristram Wyatt of the United Kingdom. The SICB will be well represented with a strong group of symposia including the following.

- Nitrogen Metabolism and Excretion in the Face of Environmental Nitrogen Loading (SICB & CSZ) organized by Pat Walsh and Chris Wood.
- Aromatases, organized by Alan Conley.
- New Models of Ammonium Transport, organized by David Towle.
- Behavioral And Digestive Modulation of Environmental Physiology of Aquatic Animals, organized by Iain McGaw and Steve Morris.
- Genetic and Phenotypic Responses to Hypoxia in the Individual, organized by Karen Burnett, Kim Hammond, Nora Terwilliger and Guido Van den Thillart.

Hypoxia as a Selective Force in Populations, organized by Karen Burnett, Kim Hammond, Nora Terwilliger and Guido Van den Thillart

Many more symposia on exciting comparative topics are listed on the ICCPB web site. There will be opportunities for travel support so stay tuned. Plan now to attend this important meeting in the late summer of 2007!

Roots of the ICCPB

The meetings of the International Congress of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry sprung out of a desire on the part of the leadership of a number of "comparative" groups to hold international meetings.

The formal structure surrounding the group is a Section of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry of the International Union of Biological Sciences. This section is currently a group of 12 societies organized for the promotion of international co-operation in the areas of comparative physiology and biochemistry through symposia, conferences, workshops and any other means. DCPB along with the Canadian Society of Zoologists were the founding members.

The main activity of this section is an international congress held approximately every four years and sponsored by one of the member societies. The first such meeting was held in Liege, Belgium in 1984. Subsequent meetings and planned meetings are listed below.

1988 – Baton Rouge, Louisiana, USA
1991 – Tokyo, Japan
1995 – Birmingham, England
1999 – Calgary, Alberta, Canada
2003 – Mt. Buller, Australia
2007 – Salvador, Bahia, Brazil
2011 – Kyoto, Japan

The current list of society members includes the following in alphabetical order.

- American Physiological Society, Comparative Section
 - Australia & New Zealand Society of CPB
 - Canadian Society of Zoologists
 - European Society of CPB
 - German Zoological Society
 - Japanese Society for CPB
 - Russian Physiological Society, Section of Comparative Biochemistry
 - Society de Physiologists
 - Society for Experimental Biology
 - SICB, DCPB
 - South African Society for Zoology
 - South American Society for CPB
-

Message from the Secretary

Jonathon H. Stillman

Firstly, I am proud to be serving DCPB and SICB in this capacity. I am considering ways improve the newsletter or other aspects of recording and communicating DCPB activities. Both the DCPB and SICB executives have discussed the need to make our online interfaces both more informative and more interactive; and any suggestions are welcomed! Please do not hesitate to contact me: stillmaj@sfsu.edu.

Minutes of the DCPB BUSINESS MEETING, JAN 5, 2006, Orlando.

Donna Wolcott (Chair) presented the minutes from the DCPB Business meeting in San Diego, January 2005. The minutes were approved unanimously. Donna announced the DCPB Officers that are retiring effective Jan 5, 2006: Paul Yancey (Secretary), Nora Terwilliger (Past Chair), and Donna Wolcott (Chair). Donna then announced Officers beginning new terms effective Jan 5, 2006: Donna Wolcott (Past Chair), Pat Walsh (Chair), and Jonathon Stillman (Secretary). In 2006, DCPB will hold elections for a new chair elect and a new program officer. The chair elect will serve 2 years as chair and 2 years as past chair. The nominees for those positions are presented following this newsletter, and elections will be held during Spring 2006.

Donna reported on the Bartholomew Award, which was run by Steve Hand (we thank Steve for the great job he did). Sixteen candidates were considered, and Dr. Jamie Gillooly was selected to receive the 2006 Award. Jamie's bio is at the end of this newsletter. The generous contribution of Sable Systems in support of the Bartholomew Award was acknowledged.

Kimberly Hammond, program officer, invited proposals for symposia at the 2007 SICB meeting. Kimberly stressed that we should consider creative means by which to find funds to support these symposia, since it was unlikely that any funds from NSF would be forthcoming.

Lou Burnett, SICB secretary and representative to the ICCPB gave a status report on the ICCPB conference "Integrative Physiology Meets Diversity" to be held in Brazil, August 12–16, 2007. Details of ICCPB are above in Lou's message, above.

Lou presented that there is a funding problem for the international meetings and proposed the above-mentioned change to the by-laws, under article X. Finances. Lou suggested a \$4 assessment, and noted that this assessment was relatively meager and amounted to only 2/3 of a beer at the Orlando venue. Lynne Riddiford suggested that we assess a \$10 extra charge for SICB annual meeting registration fees, and bank these funds for future meetings. After some discussion regarding whether or not people could voluntarily give extra for such an assessment, Brett Burk, SICB Executive Director, responded that this would not be an issue. This proposed by-law change is set for a vote during Spring 2006.

The SICB Officers stopped by the DCPB Business Meeting at this point and the President, Sally Woodin, introduced the President Elect, John Pearse, as well as the other SICB Officers: Lou Burnett (Secretary), Linda Walters (Program Officer), Ronald Dimock (Treasurer), and the new ICB Editor (Harold Heatwole). Ronald Dimock reported that the 2006 SICB meeting had 1389 registrants. Sally announced a new SICB Division: Comparative Biomechanics.

Next on the agenda were the reports of the two DCPB sponsored journals: Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry (CBP) and Physiological and Biochemical Zoology (PBZ). Pat Walsh, CBP Editor (and DCPB Chair-Elect!) reported for CBP. In 2005, CBP had 1116 manuscripts submitted (up 200 from 2004), of which 53% were accepted. 1647 different people reviewed papers for CBP in 2005, and these people will be appreciated in the January 2006 issue. Average time for review was 4–8 weeks, and the average time from acceptance to online publication was about four weeks. 2004 impact factors were 1.6 for Parts A and C, and 1.4 for Part B (improvements of impact factors from 1999, which were all 0.9 or lower). CBP has added an online submission system at:
<http://www.CBPjournal.net>

CBP will publish 1–2 special issues (e.g., symposia) per year for each Part. Color is free in online (98% of readers access electronically), and price for color figures is negotiable for print.

CBP has added a new reviews editor, Göran Nilsson, as well as a new section: Part D, Genomics and Proteomics, which will launch in 2006. The editors for Part D are Dietmar Kultz, Nancy Denslow, and Göran Nilsson. Dietmar is the DCPB associate editor. A Sample plus a free 1-year personal subscription to CBP:D is available on the CBP website. Finally, Pat reported that Elsevier press (publishers of CBP) is a sponsor of the Young Scientist Award.

Tim Bradley filled in for Jim Hicks to summarize the year at PBZ. Tim reported that everything is going well, and that the online systems are working fine. New for 2006 is that the cover will now have images related to articles in each issue. PBZ is improving their speed to publication, and the current date on the journal now is about equal to the actual calendar date, an improvement of about 6 months lag when Jim Hicks took over as Editor.

New Business presented at the meeting included a proposal by Joanna Joyner-Matos (DCPB Student Representative) for a workshop on "how to publish a paper – what editors want" at the 2007 SICB meeting. Joanna plans to invite journal editors (Pat W. volunteered) to give insight on the publication process aimed for students and postdocs who are new to the publication process. The workshop will be SICB-wide, but Joanna will focus her work on the DCPB aspect. Please feel free to send Joanna feedback to help her develop this workshop.

The best student presentation awards for 2006 have been titled the "Dorothy Skinner" award, following tradition of making the award a memorial of an influential DCPB member. See the *Message from the Chair*, above, for this year's winners. We amended Article XII. Awards A. Best Student Paper Awards by deleting the following sentence: A student who applies must be a member of the Division of Comparative Physiology

and Biochemistry. It was thought that students from across SICB should be able to compete if their work was physiology-related. The amendment was moved by Pat Walsh, seconded by Peter DeFur, there was no discussion, no opposition, and the motion passed.

Announcements (aside from those summarized above):

SICB 2007 will be held in Phoenix, the APS intersociety meeting will be Oct 8–11 2006 in Virginia Beach, and SICB 2008 will be held in San Antonio.

Lastly, David Tapley (Student Award judging coordinator) requested that times not be changed when talks are withdrawn because this causes problems with organizing judges. We thank David for all of his hard work organizing the judging. We also thank outgoing secretary Paul Yancey (who took great notes at this meeting!) and Past Chair Nora Terwilliger for her hard work.

The meeting convened at 5:15 PM and adjourned at 5:57 PM.

Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative

Joanna Joyner Matos

Hello to all DCPB graduate students and postdocs. I hope you enjoyed the meeting in Orlando!

As graduate student representative for DCPB, I am also a member of SICB's Student/ Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC). SPDAC organized a number of activities at the Orlando meeting. I would appreciate any feedback regarding these activities:

- 1st Timers Orientation on the first day of the meeting, during which we discussed "**How to get the most out of your SICB meeting.**"
- Two workshops on the last evening of the meeting,

Workshop #1 "**Optimizing your graduate school experience.**"

Workshop #2 "**Strategies for landing an academic job/postdoc.**"

SPDAC is in the process of planning the workshop at the 2007 meeting in Phoenix. We have tentatively entitled the workshop, "**What editors want.**" We hope to have a panel discussion of editors from various journals followed up by a question-and-answer period. Potential topics of discussion include how to choose the appropriate journal, how to interpret and respond to reviewer comments, and how to write cover letters. If you have any suggestions for discussion topics or journal choices, please contact me!

If you are looking for funding opportunities during this semester, you may want to consider the Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research. The spring grant deadline is March 15th. You can find additional information at www.sigmaxi.org.

If you have questions or ideas regarding SPDAC's plans for the Phoenix meeting, or other questions for me,

please feel free to contact me at jjoyner@zoo.ufl.edu. Good luck with the semester!

The George A. Bartholomew Award Competition

The Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry solicits applications and nominations for the 2007 George A. Bartholomew Award—an annual prize given to a young investigator for distinguished contributions to comparative physiology and biochemistry or to related fields of functional and integrative biology. Past awardees have represented fields as diverse as comparative physiology and biochemistry, functional morphology, comparative endocrinology, physiological ecology, functional genomics, and evolutionary physiology. Eligible candidates are those who have completed their doctorate within the past seven (7) years. Additional information about the award is available on the SICB website (<http://www.sicb.org/grants/bartholomew.php3>). Candidates may apply directly or be nominated: both types of candidates will be evaluated equivalently. Applicants should submit a short description of their work, three (3) reprints, and a curriculum vita and also request three letters of recommendation. Nominators must arrange for these same materials (except that only two additional letters of recommendation are required) to be submitted to the Committee. All materials should be submitted electronically in .pdf format to the Chair of the Selection Committee, Dr. Katie Gilmour, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa (email address: katie.gilmour@science.uottawa.ca). Deadline for receipt of all materials is Friday, August 25, 2006. The winner will present a Plenary Lecture at the 2007 Annual Meeting in Phoenix.

Bartholomew Award Winner: Dr. Jamie Gillooly:



Jamie Gillooly received his B. A. in English Literature from the University of Michigan in 1988. Upon graduation, Jamie moved to California to teach environmental education to elementary school students. Soon after, he began to take courses in ecology, and volunteer in the laboratory of Professor George Barlow at the University of California–Berkeley. After this experience, Jamie was hooked. He went on to pursue graduate school at the University of Wisconsin–Madison where he completed his PhD with Professor Stanley Dodson in 1999 studying the effects of body size and temperature on the ecology of aquatic ectotherms.

The enthusiasm and support of Stanley Dodson encouraged Jamie to continue his research. Over the next 5 years, he did so as a postdoctoral researcher in the laboratory of Professor Jim Brown at the University of New Mexico. Under the guidance of Jim, as well as Drs. Geoffrey West and Eric Charnov, Jamie worked as part of an interdisciplinary group of scientists investigating how the controls on individual metabolic rate constrain processes at the level of communities and ecosystems. Jamie is now continuing this research as a new assistant professor in the Department of Zoology at the University of Florida.

DCPB Elections

Candidates for Chair-Elect

John R. B. Lighton

Born 1952 in South Africa. Obtained a BA at the University of Cape Town in 1975, did freelance writing and photography, and changed the course of his life to study science after researching an article on the Namib desert. After graduating with a B.Sc.(Hons) degree with distinction in zoology, microbiology and biochemistry at UCT, he completed an M.Sc. there under the comparative physiologist Gideon Louw, then left for UCLA where he obtained his Ph.D. in 1987 as George Bartholomew's final student. During his graduate student career he was awarded various prizes and awards, both at UCT and UCLA. John remembers fondly his first SICB (then ASZ) meeting in Denver '84, where he first met Warren Burggren, Martin Feder, Al Bennett, Maggie Ngai, Tim Casey, Jon Harrison, Jenny Fewell, Charlie Ellington and many of the other usual suspects. After completing a Hollaender distinguished postdoctoral fellowship at UCLA, he spent 1990 at the University of Z'rich as a guest professor. He then spent four years building a research program at a university best known for its cold fusion studies. There he published prolifically and was awarded a Packard Fellowship and multiple NSF and NIH grants before moving to UNLV, where as a Visiting Associate Professor he transferred his grants and continued his research. After two years he moved into full-time involvement with Sable Systems International, a company he co-founded in 1987 with George Bartholomew's encouragement, and which first exhibited at the '87 ASZ/SICB annual meeting in New Orleans. Throughout his career he has been inspired and sustained by the rich cross-fertilization of ideas at the ASZ/SICB meetings. He is currently the president of Sable Systems International, which employs ten people in beautiful Las Vegas, NV and was recently given an Export Achievement award by the U.S. Dept. of Commerce. Sable Systems has sponsored the Bartholomew Award at SICB since its inception. An author of over 70 peer-reviewed papers, John maintains an adjunct post at UNLV and an active research program in the comparative respiratory physiology of arthropods, and acts as a thesis advisor nationally and internationally. He is married to Robbin Turner, General Manager of Sable Systems, and has a nine-year old daughter, Alexandra Grace.

Joseph B. Williams

Current Position: Associate Professor, Ohio State University

Education: 1970, B.A. degree David Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tennessee: 1974, M.A. degree in Zoology, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois: 1977, Ph.D. degree in Ecology and Evolution, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois: 1980–1982, Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania.

Professional Experience: 1976, Visiting Instructor in Biology at University of Illinois. 1977–1979 Assistant Professor, Division of Natural Science, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California. 1980–1982, Postdoctoral Fellow University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. 1982–1986, Associate

Professor, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California. 1986, Visiting Research Fellow University of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia. 1986–1989, Research Fellow University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona. 1988–1994, C.S.I.R. Fellow University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa. 1994–1998, Assistant Professor Ohio State University.

SICB Activities: 9 posters, 12 oral presentations, symposium speaker for SICB symposium "Taking Physiology to the Field". 17 papers published in *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*. 1 paper published in *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. Editorial Board, *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*.

Other memberships: Ecological Society of America, American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society.

Research Interests: Members of our group are interested in questions that fall under the rubric of Ecological and Evolutionary Physiology. Adopting an integrated approach in our research program, we investigate how natural selection has fashioned physiological phenotypes to survive and reproduce in a given environment. Our studies span a number of levels of biological organization including genes, organelles such as mitochondria, physiological systems, the whole organism, and life–history evolution. At present we are involved in projects that include an investigation of how birds are adapted to survive some of the harshest deserts in the world, about how differences in the pace of living between tropical and temperate birds are associated with their respective life–history, about how immune function is associated with the pace of living of temperate and tropical birds, and about how Physiological Ecology can be used as a tool in the conservation of endangered ungulates in the deserts of the Middle East.

Goals Statement: The SICB has as one of its goals to facilitate "Integrative Biology" among its members. In the DCPB, we have the opportunity to highlight this goal, and to insure that members of our community have the opportunity to exchange ideas with other members in far different fields of endeavor from their own. To facilitate such exchange, I would like to emphasize symposia that address important evolutionary questions covering a diverse array of study animals and systems. In addition, I would like to see a "hot topic" symposium organized each year around questions that appear controversial containing speakers that do not necessarily, in fact preferably, do not agree with each other. By expressing these differences, I think greater insights into biological problems can be obtained.

Candidates for Program Officer

Martin Grosell

Current position: Assistant Professor, Marine Biology and Fisheries, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Sciences, University of Miami, FL. 2002–present.

Education: 1993 Candidate of Science (M.Sc.), The August Krogh Institute, University of Copenhagen, Denmark; 1997 Ph.D., The August Krogh Institute, University of Copenhagen, Denmark.

Professional Experience: Assistant Professor, Zoophysiological laboratory, August Krogh Institute, University of Copenhagen 2001–2002; Senior Research Associate, Biology Department, McMaster University, Ontario, Canada 2000–2001; Postdoctoral Fellow, Biology Department, McMaster University,

Ontario, Canada 1997–2000; Postdoctoral Fellow, Eco–physiology Department, Odensen University, Denmark, 1998.

SICB activities: Member since 2003; a total of 5 platform presentations and 2 posters at SICB meetings in 2003, 2005 and 2006.

Other Memberships: Sigma Xi, The Scientific Research Society, University of Miami Chapter, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry (SETAC), Canadian Society of Zoologists, Society of Experimental Biology.

Research Interests: Environmental biology of fish (and aquatic invertebrates) with special emphasis on salt, water and acid–base balance. I employ a comparative approach to understanding how fish maintain homeostasis in normal, as well as extreme and fluctuating environments. In addition to natural environmental parameters, I explore integrative environmental physiology to account for large among–species sensitivity variation to anthropogenic environmental perturbations.

Goals statement: A particular goal is to facilitate and co–ordinate the organization of cross–disciplinary sessions while maintaining traditional topical session topics. I would like to see a higher number of students giving platform presentations to ensure as much exposure and feedback as possible for these upcoming scientist. Considering the limitations on time and space already inflicted upon the popular annual SICB meeting I see the goal of more student platform presentations best achieved through interactive poster sessions. During such interactive poster sessions a series of brief platform presentations (5 min each) will be followed by an attended poster session allowing for in depth discussions. Further, I hope to work with session organisers to publish presentations in suited session as special issues in the quality journals in which SICB members traditionally publish. I am looking forward to contributing to the continued success of annual meetings by further improving on an already effective electronic abstract submission system and searchable abstract data base and to contribute to the identification of meeting venues providing the best possible atmosphere for scientific discussions and social interactions

Donald L. Mykles

Current Position: Professor, Department of Biology and Associate Dean for Graduate Education, College of Natural Sciences, Colorado State University, Fort Collins.

Education: B.A., University of California, Santa Barbara (1973); Ph.D., University of California, Berkeley (1979).

Professional Experience: Muscular Dystrophy Association Postdoctoral Fellow (1981–1983); Postdoctoral Fellow, Oak Ridge National Laboratory (1979–1983); Research Associate, ORNL (1983–1985); Assistant (1985–1988), Associate (1988–1993), Full Professor (1993–), Colorado State University. NSF Presidential Young Investigator Award (1989); Fulbright Scholar and Guest Professor, University of Heidelberg (1991); Fulbright Intercountry Visitor to the U.K. (1991); Associate Editor, The Journal of Experimental Zoology (1994–1999); Distinguished Research Fellow at Bodega Marine Laboratory, University of California, Davis (1998); Editorial Board, Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, 2002–.

SICB Activities: Invited speaker in five SICB symposia (co–organizer of two); Judge for DCPB Best Student Paper competitions; DCPB Nominating Committee; and DCE Nominating Committee.

Other Memberships: The Crustacean Society; American Microscopical Society; American Association for the Advancement of Science; and Society for Experimental Biology.

Research Interests: Regulation of molting and limb regeneration in decapod crustaceans using cellular, biochemical and molecular biological methods.

Goals Statement: I have been a member of ASZ/SICB since 1974. The DCPB is a major forum for integrative and comparative biologists nationally and internationally. As Program Officer, I will support and foster symposia and meetings that promote the exchange of ideas and techniques across the broad spectrum of biological diversity and organization. This can be done in conjunction with other divisions in SICB, as well as with comparative biochemistry and physiology societies in other nations. DCPB should continue its involvement with the International Union of Physiological Scientists and the International Union of Biological Scientists in organizing international meetings. Programming should continue to encourage the full participation of students and postdoctoral fellows at the annual meetings.

SICB Newsletter



Volume Spring 2006

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) and Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB): 2006 Spring Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Billy J. Swalla

Greetings from the Chair!

I really enjoyed seeing so many of our members at the meetings in Orlando – thanks for your efforts to make the meeting a resounding success! It is exciting to see how well our field of research is moving forward and beginning to tackle ever bigger research problems. Studies are coming out that are beginning to link Evo–Devo studies and the frequency of natural alleles in populations, one of the last big hurdles that we will need to understand to study Evo–Devo in the evolution of natural systems. The Society–Wide symposium "Metamorphosis: A Multi–Kingdom Approach" showed the new advances that have been made in this complex problem in a variety of systems.

One of the ways that we are trying to promote Evolution and Development is through the SICB web page for DEDB researchers:

<http://sicb.org/divisions/DEDB/researchers.php3>

The DEDB main page is set so that a different researcher comes up each time you access the site. Please send your contributions to Fritson Galis (f.galis@biology.leidenuniv.nl), and she will see that your research is posted on the site.

I would like to see more of you take leadership roles in the DEDB and DDCB divisions in SICB. If anyone is willing to represent our divisions on various SICB committees, and learn how decisions within the Society are made, please contact me. It is fun to meet the people in other divisions, and learn about other topics of research within SICB. At the moment, I need several people to work on the Student Support Committee. It is a minimal time commitment, but is integral to our success in providing students with support for travel to the meetings. Please let me know if you are willing to consider helping out.

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SICB is getting a new publisher, Oxford Press, and I hope that you have all received your first issue, #46 on "Adaptations to Life at High Elevations." You'll notice that they have a colorful cover, and will go to electronic publishing, which will streamline the process of getting together all of the symposia articles at once. We heartily thank John Edwards for his years of service to "American Zoologist", which morphed into "Integrative and Comparative Biology" and look forward to new directions with the incoming editor, Harold Heatwole.

<http://icb.oxfordjournals.org/>

In International news, there is a newly formed European Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology, <http://natur.cuni.cz/evodevo/> organized in part by our capable DEBD secretary, Fritson Galis. They are having their first meeting from August 17–19 in Prague this summer. You can see more details on the WEB site: <http://natur.cuni.cz/evodevo/symposia/>

Our two Divisions are going strong, with several excellent symposia in Orlando, and two new ones coming up in Phoenix. "Movers and Shakers: The Evolution and Development of Mesoderm" was a terrific, integrated look into the various aspects of mesoderm specification and "Zebrafish in Comparative Context" did an amazing job of bringing together people working on zebrafish from a variety of viewpoints and with different research methods. It is not too early to begin thinking about symposia for SICB 2008, so if you have ideas, please contact myself or Ed Rosa–Molinar. We definitely try to put something together for the 25 year anniversary of the 1983 Gans and Northcutt paper.

Thanks again to all of our terrific officers, and, especially to Brian Hall, who has been an excellent leader the past two years that he has chaired the DEBD and DDCB. I am lucky to follow someone as organized and passionate as Brian and hope to continue to build and strengthen our Divisions.

Best wishes for a happy and productive year in 2006.

Billie J. Swalla

Message from the Program Officer

Eduardo Rosa–Molinar

¡Saludos Amigos de Puerto Rico, the Island of Enchantment! The 2006 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) Annual Meeting in Orlando, Florida has come and gone and I am in the last year of my tenure as your DEBD/DDCB Program Officer. Wendy Olson is our new DEBD/DDCB Program Officer–Elect.

At the divisional meeting the Best Students Paper/Poster Program was discussed. As you may remember, the Divisional Program Officers (DPO's) unanimously agreed that the Best Student Paper (BSP) award programs administered by most of the SICB divisions would benefit from standardizing some (but not all) of the procedures and requirements of those programs. Our specific recommendations to the Executive Committee and membership were:

(1) eliminate division affiliation requirements for the BSP programs (currently division affiliation is a

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requirement by DCPB, DEE, and DIZ, but not DAB, DCE, DDCB, DEDB, DSEB, or DVM)

Rationale for Change: This change acknowledges the scientific overlap among the divisions and promotes interaction among them. In addition, the requirement recommended for elimination is fairly minor, as students can change divisional affiliation with a single click on the SICB member information page. This latter point means that enforcement of the current requirement is difficult, at best.

(2) an individual awarded the first place BSP (oral) from any division will be ineligible to compete for the BSP (oral) in that same division or any other division in the future. Similarly, an individual awarded the first place BSP (poster) from any division will be ineligible to compete for the BSP (poster) in that same division or any other division in the future. An individual could compete for a poster award after winning an oral award, and vice versa (currently there are divisional restrictions in the number of awards that any individual can win in DCPB, DDCB, DEE, and DEDB, but not in DAB, DCE, DIZ, DSEB, or DVM).

Rationale for Change: This change would give the society an increased opportunity to acknowledge a larger number of students making outstanding presentations. With elimination of division affiliation requirements (#1), it seemed important to enforce this rule at the society level rather than just at the divisional level.

The DPO's are not recommending standardizing the other differences in divisional programs (such as number of individual awards, amount of awards, criteria used [i.e. standardize the oral and poster evaluation forms.]).

Shortly, the membership will vote whether or not to accept the DPO's recommendation. Please vote!

Also, members are asked to review and agree on the keyword index list as well as the session topics SICB uses for DEDB and DDCB abstract submission. The proposed changes will make programming easier and provide better linkages among symposia and contributed papers and posters submitted by the members of DEDB and DDCB.

Shown below is the breakdown of keywords used by DEDB/DDCB members who submitted abstracts (note: 1051 abstracts submitted and accepted in SICB 2006):

Development (n=24 abstracts): DEDB/DDCB and AMS

Evolution (n=169 abstracts): DEDB/DDCB and DIZ

Morphology (n=187 abstracts): DVM and DAB, DEDB/DDCB, and DNB

Sessions associated with symposia (n=88 abstracts): AMS, DEDB/DDCB

The proposed keyword index and topics list will be posted on the electronic bulletin board for your review and comment. Please go through it and send your suggestions to me (ed@hpcf.upr.edu).

I also would like your comments regarding the elimination of the "Either" category for paper and poster submissions.

In response to the small amount of NSF and NIH funds available for DEDB/DDCB symposia, I have requested and obtained an increase in the DEDB/DDCB divisional budget, from \$5,000 to \$12,000 last year and from \$12,000 to \$12,500 this year.

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The symposia supported this year were:

Movers and Shakers: The Evolution and Development of Mesoderm" organized by Brad Davidson and John Gerhart

Zebrafish in Comparative Context" organized by Jackie Webb and Thomas Schilling

Metamorphosis: A Multi-Kingdom Approach" organized by Andreas Heyland, Jason Hodin, Cory Bishop, and Leonid Moroz

I want to take this opportunity to thank Brad, John, Jackie, Tom, Andreas, Jason, Cory, and Leonid for excellent symposia. I also want to thank Aquatic Habitat Inc for its generous support.

At the 2007 meeting in Phoenix AZ, DEDB/DDCB will sponsor two symposia:

Linking genes and morphology in vertebrates" organized by F. Galis and D. Carrier

Key transitions in animal evolution" organized by B. Schierwater, S. Dellaporta & R. DeSalle

Please begin thinking about ideas for symposia for the 2008 SICB meeting in San Antonio, TX. The deadline for symposia proposals is August 18, 2006.

The journal ***Integrative and Comparative Biology*** has been taken over by Oxford University Press. We also have a new editor, Harold Heatwole, Ph.D. Symposia organizers must be aware that the right of first refusal policy of SICB will be enforced!

Some outstanding issues that I think need to be resolved and are critical to the DEDB/DDCB membership are:

- Abstracting (PubMed, Genbank, etc)
- Time-to-Print
- Color Page Cost

That's all for now. Keep sending your original research papers to ***Evolution and Development*** (Blackwell Publishing), ***Molecular and Developmental Evolution*** (Wiley), ***American Naturalist*** (University of Chicago Press), and ***Biosciences*** (AIBS). These journals support DEDB/DDCB membership. I hope to see you in Arizona.

¡Hasta Pronto Amigos!

Message from the Secretary and Secretary-elect

Frietson Galis and Marcus Davis

Dear members of the DEDB and DCDB,

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The meeting in Orlando was very successful, even if the weather wasn't as warm as we would have liked! We would like to thank Ed Rosa–Molinar and the other program officers for their contributions to an excellent program and the symposium organizers Brad Davidson and Jackie Webb for organizing exciting evo–devo symposia.

Here are the minutes of our well–attended business meeting at the conference:

Business meeting DEDB, Thursday, 6 January 2006

- Opening of the meeting by our Chair, Brian Hall.
- Approval of the minutes of the January 2005 meeting.
- Proposal for a new division of Comparative Biomechanics. Several members of the division of Vertebrate Morphology, amongst others John Bertram and Bob Full have proposed such a division. The proposal is received well by the attendees.
- Sites of future meetings are announced (07 Phoenix; 08 San Antonio).
- A statement by the board of SICB is read on intelligent design. Members in attendance approve of this statement.
- The plan is announced for an increase in dues from \$85 to \$100 for full members and from \$135 to \$140 for full family memberships. This is found to be a reasonable increase.
- A representative of the society journal, Integrative and Comparative Biology, visits to explain promising changes, particularly the journal's new publisher, University of Cambridge Press. See further contribution of the program officer and chair.
- Report of the program officer, Eduardo Rosa–Molinar (see his report in this newsletter).
- Report of the secretary

– Improvements to our research webpages:

Quite a few of our members have provided a paragraph on their own research and an illustration. Ruediger Birenheide has made a very nice display of it for our divisional webpages. We kindly ask members that have yet to contribute to view the examples online for inspiration and provide a paragraph on their research and to illustrate this with an image in jpeg format (f.galis@biology.leidenuniv.nl). You can also provide html links to your personal and departmental research pages. The research pages are now hyper–linked to your SICB member information page. In short, this will help link names with faces and contact information with research interests. There will also be a general researchers database page that is not organized by divisional affiliation. We would like to thank Ruediger Birenheide for making all of this possible.

- Report of the student/post–doc representative, Nathan Bird (see his report in this newsletter).
- Brian Hall says good–bye as chair and hands over his function to Billie Swalla.

This meeting was, thus, the last meeting with Brian Hall as our chair, we would like to thank Brian for being such an excellent and energetic chair of our division. Furthermore, we are delighted to welcome Billie Swalla as our new chair.

Message from the Student/Postdoc Representative

Nathan Bird

Many greetings to my fellow DEDB graduate students and post-docs. I hope everyone had a great time in Orlando, which turned out to be another fantastic meeting. I want to give kudos to the organizers of the two DEDB sponsored symposia, as the zebrafish and mesoderm talks were excellent, and their hard work putting the symposia together is greatly appreciated. Many important issues were discussed at our business meeting, and I hope more of you can attend at the Phoenix meeting. It is the best way to keep informed about the issues faced by our division, as well as gaining additional face-time with the leaders of our field. Another terrific grad/post-doc workshop is in the works dealing with what editors want when submitting papers, so if you missed the workshops last time, keep your schedule open, as it is sure to be very informative for all.

Best to everyone, and I hope your research is fruitful this year!

Nathan Bird

t notice has been given to all members sixty days in advance.

*Current version of Article XVII. *

The passage of regular business at the annual business meeting of the Division shall be by a majority vote of those in attendance. Regular business may also be carried out by a mailed ballot with passage dependent upon a majority vote of those received in return.

Article V. Officers

The Officers of the Division shall be a Chair, a Past Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Program Officer, a Program Officer-Elect and a Secretary. All Officers except the Chair, Past Chair and Program Officer shall be elected by majority vote of all those members responding to a ballot submitted to the entire membership, as required by the bylaws of the Society at least sixty days before the expiration of the current officers terms. The post of Chair will be filled automatically every two years by elevation of the previous year's Chair-Elect. In addition, the office of Past Chair shall be occupied by the individual whose term of office as Chair has most recently ended. The post of Program Officer shall be filled automatically by the elevation of the Program Officer-Elect, who will be elected one year prior to the expiration of the Program Officers term. The post of Program Officer-Elect shall be limited to one year, the year prior to his/her elevation to the office of Program Officer. The terms of all officers shall be filled on the basis of the calendar year, beginning January 1.

Current version of Article V. Officers

The Officers of the Division shall be a Chair, a Past Chair, a Chair-Elect, a Program Officer, a Program Officer-Elect and a Secretary. All Officers except the Chair, Past Chair and Program Officer shall be elected by majority vote of all those members responding to a mail ballot submitted to the entire membership at least sixty days before the expiration of the current officers terms. The post of Chair will be filled automatically every two years by elevation of the previous year's Chair-Elect. In addition, the office of Past Chair shall be occupied by the individual whose term of office as Chair has most recently ended. The post of Program Officer shall be filled automatically by the elevation of the Program Officer-Elect, who will be elected one year prior to the expiration of the Program Officers term. The post of Program Officer-Elect shall be limited to one year, the year prior to his/her elevation to the office of Program Officer. The terms of all officers shall

be filled on the basis of the calendar year, beginning January 1.

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Division of Ecology & Evolution (DEE): 2006 Spring Newsletter

Message from the Chair *Fred Janzen*, Chair Elect *George Bakken*, Secretary *Anthony Steyermark* and Program Officer *Jennifer Elwood*

Greeting from the DEE officers: Orlando was a great meeting and we would like to thank everyone who helped to make it so. DEE co-sponsored three symposia and by all accounts these were very successful.

This year we had thirty students compete for the DEE best paper presentation award and twenty-one students compete for the best poster presentation award. As always the judges had a very hard time selecting the winners of the competitions. The winners are Tae Won Kim (Seoul National University, School of Biological Sciences) for his talk The evolution of courtship structure building in fiddler crabs: Has it evolved for predation avoidance in both sexes? , and James Kreft (Swarthmore College) for his poster Trees pumping iron: Seasonal changes in material properties of branch wood in Sugar Maple (*Acer saccharum*) and Bur Oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) . Tae Won and James will each receive an award of \$100, a certificate, and our best wishes for continued success in their research endeavors.

We especially thank all of the DEE members who graciously volunteered their time at the meeting to serve as judges for the competitions: Ken Angielczyk, Audrey Aronowsky, Pat Baker, Larry Basch, Lisa Belden, Philip Bergmann, Anne Bronikowski, Gary Burness, Nanette Chadwick, Bob Cox, Jenny Elwood, Sandra Gilchrist, Anthony Herrel, Ryan Hill, John Hranitz, Dan Huber, Deborah Kristan, Lance McBrayer, Eric McElroy, Rachel Merz, Michele Nighiguchi, Ken Nussear, Pat O'Connor, Scott Reese, Kim Reich, Adam Reitzel, Anje Schulze, Brent Sinclair, John Steffen, Tony Steyermark, Jonathon Stillman, Mike Temkin, Justin Walguarney, Brian Walker, Bryan Wallace, Martin Wikelski, Jen Wortham, and Pete Zani.

We are looking forward to an exciting meeting in Phoenix next January, where DEE is co-sponsoring two symposia: 1) Integrative Biology of Pelagic Invertebrates

2) Ecological Dimorphisms in Vertebrates: Proximate and Ultimate Causes .

The DEE webpage is still featuring the research of its division members. Please check out the site at <http://www.sicb.org/divisions/dee.php3>. If you would like to contribute material to the site please submit text files as either Word or text documents, images as either tif, jpg, png, or gif, and movies as avi or mpeg to Tony Steyermark (acsteyermark@stthomas.edu).

Division of Ecology and Evolution Business Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order (17 attendees)

The officers were introduced: Fred Janzen (Chair), Tony Steyermark (Secretary), Emily Carrington

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(Program Officer; Absent), George Bakken (Chair–Elect), and Jennifer Elwood (Program Officer–Elect), and Sofia Hussain (Student/PostDoc Representative)

The minutes from last year were approved

The secretary reported a large (the largest?) number of participants (51!) in the student paper/poster competitions.

The Outstanding student presentation awards from January 2005 meeting were announced:

Michael O'Donnell (Hopkins Marine Station, Stanford University) "*Big Breaking Waves Bashing Small Sessile Stuff*"

AND

Robert Cox (Rutgers University) "*Does Female Reproductive Investment Constrain Growth and Promote Male– Larger Sexual Size Dimorphism in Yarrow's Spiny Lizard, Sceloporus jarrovi?*"

Poster: Elizabeth Neeley (Boston University) "*Adaptive Response of Color Patterns in the Labroidei to Environmental Parameters: A Comparative Approach*"

The Program Officer's report: The three DEE sponsored or co-sponsored symposia at Orlando were: "Ecological Immunology: Recent Advances and Applications For Conservation and Public Health"; "Integrating Function over Marine Life Cycles"; and "Ecophysiology and Conservation: The Contributions of Energetics"

The forthcoming symposia for Phoenix are: Integrative Biology of Pelagic Invertebrates ; and Ecological Dimorphisms in Vertebrates: Proximate and Ultimate Causes .

The SICB Executive Committee report:

SICB has an ongoing problem with discerning terms of office and who's chairing or serving on which SICB committees. There is a concerted effort to standardize terms throughout the Society.

Oxford University Press publishes ICB as of 1 January. SICB will soon need to consider the issue of open access, which has myriad ramifications (especially how to fund it). Authors can now submit articles to ICB on-line and papers will be electronically published accordingly as soon as they are accepted after peer review, preventing the historic slowdown in publishing symposium proceedings caused by recalcitrant authors. This is great news, and should speed up publishing times.

Individual subscriptions are up, but institutional subscriptions are down. SICB is in decent financial health at present, but this trend is problematic as the latter provides nearly 50% of SICB income. It is not clear how to increase institutional subscriptions.

Will need to modify our DEE bylaws formally to be consistent with the rest of SICB. We currently require membership in DEE in order for students to participate in our paper/poster competitions: **Change A student who applies must be a member of the Division of Ecology and Evolution, &. to A student who applies must be a member of the Division of Ecology and Evolution SICB, &.** We discussed and agreed to make a change to this requirement at last year's business meeting, but then never formally requested a vote of the membership. We will do so this spring as required elsewhere in our bylaws:

"Bylaws may be amended by two-thirds vote of those responding by e-mail or mail ballot provided that notice has been given to all members at least sixty (60) days in advance. "

SICB intends to create a new division called Comparative Biomechanics so that the Society can serve as a home for this growing field. Discussion concerns whether this new division will conflict with or negatively impact current divisions such as DVM. We also discussed how SICB should handle emerging fields in biology, for example Computational Biology. One thought was that it would be a way of integrating other science fields with biology, such as mathematics. We agreed that the Program Officer could help generate new symposia based on the interface between Ecology and Evolution with emerging fields.

We expressed concern over access to affordable food at this venue for students, but noted the nice job to make available free continental breakfast and relatively inexpensive sack lunches. This concern will not be an issue at Phoenix 2007, which is apparently located adjacent to an affordable food court.

And speaking of future venues, venues after Phoenix 2007 and San Antonio 2008 could include a return to Vancouver and New Orleans as well as new places like Puerto Rico and Mexico.

Joel Kingsolver highlighted the recently NSF-funded NESCent currently located in the Research Triangle area of North Carolina. NESCent funds postdocs, sabbaticals, catalysis meetings, and working groups, and will do so for at least the next 10 years. Members should take advantage of this opportunity just like ecologists have done profitably with NCEAS!

In this vein, the Society is considering drafting a brief statement in support of the recent Dover decision rendered by Judge Jones, although these discussions are in a preliminary stage.

President Woodin has reconstituted the Development Committee to seek nontraditional sources of revenue (e.g. commercial) to support SICB symposia since federal support appears to be drying up.

New Business

We need your input and participation to keep DEE vibrant and in a leadership position within the Society. To that end, Tony and Fred have discussed how DEE can enhance student participation and foster cross-disciplinary interactions to help ensure a healthy long-term future for the Society.

One way to more effectively promote the importance of SICB membership to our non-SICB ecological- and evolutionary-oriented colleagues and students is to incorporate novel activities at SICB meetings. For example, we might choose to implement an Adopt-A-Student program where a voluntarily matched pair of new student and SICB veteran exchange e-mail prior to the meeting, meet at the opening social, share a SICB- and/or DEE-supported meal together on the first day, or whatever seems best.

Alternatively (or in addition), we might consider becoming more involved in targeted recruiting and support of specific individuals for Society membership and career guidance. Should we be pro-active in extending SICB's reach to new members from underrepresented groups and to engage these individuals in integrative and comparative scientific activities? Both student-oriented activities and research/education opportunities that focus on national priorities such as these will promote life-long membership in, and commitment to, SICB. President Woodin let on that the SICB Diversity Committee has lapsed at this meeting, but will be reconstituted imminently. To that end, SICB has a pot of \$\$\$ set aside for promoting these issues that we could tap with a creative proposal. The sites of the two future meetings, Phoenix and San Antonio, may be good areas in which to recruit new members from underrepresented groups.

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Please also continue to develop creative ideas for symposia to be held at future SICB meetings. DEE will support you. Here is one symposium possibility to spur your thinking: we might consider exploring the fast-growing roles of computational biology in our discipline. How much should we rely on computers? Will organismal biologists and natural historians, among others, be sidelined by this change of emphasis? Will/should we lament the loss of relatively noncomputational fields? We look forward to your ideas!

Two ideas suggested for symposia by those in attendance were "Computational Biology" and "Human – Induced Evolution in Wild Populations"

The meeting was adjourned

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Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ): 2006 Spring Newsletter



Two banded tulip snails (*Fasciolaria hunteria*) from Beaufort, North Carolina. The female is depositing her egg capsules.

Photo copyright Janice Voltzow.

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Message from the Chair

Janice Voltzow

Dear inveterate invertebrate zoologists,

I greatly appreciate the support you have shown in electing me as your new Chair. I am very excited to have this opportunity to guide our division through the next few years. I would like to thank our out–going chair, Tom Wolcott, for his leadership over the past three years and, more personally, for all the help he has given

me as we make this transition. The paper and electronic chain of DIZ business is long and robust; I've been impressed with how diligently officers have recorded their efforts. It's a tremendous help!

The annual meeting in sunny Orlando was exceptionally rich with invertebrate fauna. Of the more than 1000 oral presentations and posters, over one-third dealt with invertebrates. We had a wonderful crowd for our joint social with AMS, TCS, and DEE; it was a great chance to catch up with friends and colleagues and wind down from several days of stimulating presentations.

You may recall that our new chair of the committee for Best Student Presentation Awards, Ben Miner, was scheduled to become the father of twins about the time of the Orlando meetings. I'm happy to say he was successful in that endeavor. Cecelia Miles and Dick Turner kindly offered to co-chair this year's judging while Ben increased his fitness. I thank them, Sara Lindsay, and all of the judges who helped them in their efforts.

This year marks the end of the term for our secretary, Bob Thacker. An eager and energetic nominating committee of Erika Iyengar, Beth Davis, and Amy Moran worked expeditiously to find two outstanding candidates for the position, Larry Basch and Renae Brodie. I thank the nominating committee and the candidates for their help. Please be certain to read the candidates' statements and cast your vote this spring.

Also appearing on a ballot this spring is a motion to revise the DIZ bylaws regarding student participation in the Best Student Presentation competition. Because of the difficulty in bookkeeping and the ease with which members can change affiliations, there is a motion to remove the requirement of membership in DIZ for students who wish to compete for our awards. A second section of the revision is to restrict students from winning the Best Oral Presentation or Best Poster award more than once.

A persistent topic at committee meetings in Orlando was the search for sources for additional external funding to support symposia and students. If you have any insights or suggestions, please pass them on to me and I will be certain that they get communicated along the right channels. It's important that SICB's efforts be coordinated.

We have several exciting events coming up, including contributed sessions in honor of Steven Vogel at next year's meeting in San Antonio and the International Congress on Invertebrate Morphology scheduled for Copenhagen in the summer of 2008. I am especially dedicated to nurturing and stimulating the next generation of invertebrate zoologists. I look forward to working with you to bring them more actively into DIZ.

Best wishes for the spring!



Chair Voltzow points the way for DIZ.

Message from the Program Officer

Amy Moran

Congratulations and thanks to all who helped to make the 2006 meeting in Orlando a success! The Division of Invertebrate Zoology was well represented in talks and posters, and DIZ sponsored two symposia: **Genomic and Proteomic Approaches in Crustacean Biology** (co-sponsored with DCPB, The Crustacean Society, and DNB), and **Integrating Function over Marine Life Cycles**, co-sponsored with The American Microscopical Society and DEE. By all accounts, both symposia were well-attended and well-received. For the second year in a row we joined DEE, AMS, and the Crustacean Society for a joint social which was extremely well attended and a good time was had by all. To make things run even more smoothly in the future, I would greatly welcome your suggestions or comments on any aspect of the meeting.

We have a great selection of symposia scheduled for the 2007 meeting in Phoenix, and DIZ is sponsoring Alison Sweeney and Sonke Johnsen's "Integrative Biology of Pelagic Invertebrates" with DEE. There are a number of other symposia which should be of great interest to DIZ members as well, including a mini-symposium honoring Steve Vogel's retirement and Trish Morse's "Frontiers in Learning and Teaching Integrative and Comparative Biology: The SICB Digital Library." I hope to see many DIZ members in Phoenix next year!

It may be hard to believe, but it is already time to start thinking ahead to the 2008 meeting in San Antonio. The web submission page for proposals is already open, thanks to our super-efficient webmaster. Instructions can be found on the SICB web page (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2008/index.php3>). The due date is August 19, and I encourage you to contact me early in the process of developing your symposium ideas. Let's continue DIZ's tradition of sponsoring excellent symposia!

Message from the Secretary

Bob Thacker

It was great to see everyone in Orlando! At the meeting, several DIZ members expressed interest in joining the database of invertebrate zoology researchers on the DIZ website. Ruedi Birenheide has done a great programming job and now has the database up and running: <http://sicb.org/divisions/DIZ/researchers.php3>.

If you would like to participate, please send me a photo (or data on a graph or even a theoretical model) from your research, along with a short title, and a paragraph describing the image. The image should be in jpeg or tiff format, while the text can be MS Word or RTF format. Please e-mail your submission to me: thacker@uab.edu. Please note: if you have already submitted information to another division's database, you can just let me know which division that is, and we can link to your existing submission.

We are in the process of updating the divisional bylaws, and have an election this spring to approve or disapprove of incorporations of electronic balloting and a clearer definition of officers' terms. We also discussed another change at the 2005 and 2006 Business Meetings: removing DIZ membership as a requirement for participation in the best student presentation awards. Finally, we discussed adding a statement that says "a student can not win the same award twice."

We are also holding an election for the position of DIZ Secretary. Biographical sketches for our two candidates, Larry Basch and Renae Brodie, are provided at the end of this newsletter.

Please participate in the election, because your vote counts!

Message from the Graduate Student – Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Scott Nichols

Greetings graduate students and post-docs. I hope that everyone enjoyed the Orlando meeting. The contribution of junior society members was, as always, tremendous. Remember that in addition to attending talks, poster sessions and socials, business meetings are a great way to become involved in the society and I hope that some of you participated. I welcome feedback and suggestions based upon your experiences in Orlando, particularly if this was your first time attending the meeting. This kind of feedback will help us improve 'first-timer' experiences in the future. In the meantime, I hope you all have a year of productive research.

See you in Phoenix next year!

Scott

Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair

Ben Miner

This year Sara Lindesay moved on to bigger and better things, and I have taken over her duties. I would like to thank Sara for all of her hard work over the several years. This year I was not able to attend the meeting in Orlando because of two new additions to my family (twin boys). However, because of the efforts of Richard Turner and Cecelia Miles, who very kindly volunteered to coordinate student judging, DIZ was able to continue to acknowledge the excellent student contributions to SICB. I would like to thank Richard, Cecelia, the judges, and students for participating in the DIZ awards process.

This year there was a tie for best oral presentation between Paola Lopez-Duarte for her talk entitled "Endogenous swimming rhythms of fiddler crab zoeae from different tidal regimes" and Greg Babbitt for his

talk entitled "Are fluctuating asymmetry studies adequately sampled? Implications of a new model for size distribution." Honorable Mention went to Justin McAlister for his talk entitled "Environmental heterogeneity and the evolution of plasticity in Panamanian echinoid larvae." Best poster presentation was awarded to Andrew Rhyne for his poster entitled "A western Atlantic peppermint shrimp complex: redescription of *Lysmata wurdemanni* (Gibbes), description of four new species and remarks on *L. rathbunae* Chace (Crustacea: Decapoda: Hippolytidae)" and honorable mention went to Phillip Gravinese for his poster entitled "behavioral basis of depth regulation in larvae of the florida stone crab *Menippe mercenaria*: Responses to Hydrostatic Pressure." Congratulations!

Minutes of the 2006 Annual Business Meeting

Orlando, Florida, January 5, 2006

Tom Wolcott (DIZ Chair) opened the meeting by requesting motions to approve the minutes of the previous year's meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Chair Wolcott announced the results of the Chair election: Janice Voltzow will be the next DIZ Chair. Congratulations were given to Janice; Jon Norenburg was also thanked for his willingness to run for office.

Bob Thacker (DIZ Secretary) encouraged all DIZ members to participate in updating the DIZ Researchers Database on the SICB website; attendees requested a future e-mail reminder about the database.

Chair Wolcott thanked Richard Turner and Cecelia Miles for agreeing to help Ben Miner run this year's Best Student Paper (BSP) competition. Attendees were reminded that the BSP competition will be an issue on the Spring Ballot. Specifically, should the divisional affiliation be removed from the BSP requirements? Sara Lindsay also pointed out that we should add a statement saying "A student can not win the same award twice" to the requirements; this suggestion was met with general audience approval.

Chair Wolcott and Past-chair Rachel Mertz presented more information on the SICB Digital Library, including the idea of a DIZ sub-library. The goal of the library is to make many resources available for teaching, including slide sets, syllabi, and digital videos. Editor(s) are needed to help set up a peer-review process for the library.

Future meetings were announced, and suggestions were requested for Eastern US venues. Several attendees suggested holding a future meeting in New Orleans, and general discussion followed, with suggestions of Las Vegas, Philadelphia, Boston, Atlanta, and Washington, DC. Several suggestions included moving away from resort-style environments and were in favor of lower food, housing, and transportation costs, especially with regard to student budgets.

The SICB Executive Committee visited the meeting, and invited all to attend the General SICB Business Meeting. A major point of discussion was the proposed Division of Comparative Biomechanics.

Amy Moran (DIZ Program Officer) detailed DIZ sponsorship of SICB Symposia in 2007 and 2008. Amy encouraged all attendees to submit proposals for future symposia.

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Trish Morse announced a society-wide symposium scheduled for 2007 that will feature the SICB Digital Library and sought DIZ co-sponsorship of this symposium.

Chair Wolcott discussed changes in the society's journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. Editorial changes include a new editor, Hal Heatwole, and a new editorial board. Nominations are currently sought to represent DIZ on the editorial board, as well as at-large and international members. Other new developments include publication by Oxford University Press, with all archived articles on-line by March 2006. The on-line version allows color pictures and potentially video. Attendees were reminded that *Integrative and Comparative Biology* has first refusal of publications resulting from SICB symposia.

Patrick Reynolds provided information on the status of *Invertebrate Biology*, which is sponsored by AMS and DIZ. A new co-publishing partnership with Blackwell allows on-line access through Synergy, with already over 4000 downloads; *Invertebrate Biology* has also been invited to join JSTOR's on-line archive, and has received over 3000 downloads since August 2005. Submissions to the journal have doubled in the past year. Patrick thanked his co-editor, Susie Balser, and welcomed a new member of the editorial board, Bruno Pernet.

Vicki Pearse encouraged all attendees to renew their current membership or to join AMS for print and on-line access to *Invertebrate Biology*.

Rick Harrison announced the first International Congress on Invertebrate Morphology, to be held in Copenhagen in 2008.

Chair Wolcott also discussed increased dues, as suggested during the SICB Executive Committee meeting. Due to a loss of revenues from library subscriptions, full member dues may become \$100, with family dues \$140.

The proposed Division of Comparative Biomechanics was further discussed; no problems were brought up by the attendees. Chair Wolcott encouraged all to attend the DIZ Social.

Chair Wolcott requested volunteers to form a nominating committee to identify candidates for DIZ Secretary-Elect. Bob Thacker outlined the duties expected of the Secretary. Chair Wolcott appointed a nominating committee consisting of Amy Moran, Erica Iyengar, and Beth Davis.

Sara Lindsay called for a general round of applause to thank Richard Turner and Cecelia Miles for agreeing to help Ben Miner coordinate this year's Best Student Paper (BSP) competition.

Rachel Collin announced that the 11th International Congress on Invertebrate Reproduction and Development will be held in Panama City, Panama, from 6–9 August, 2007. Anyone interested in organizing a special session and /or thematic symposia as part of the congress, please contact Rachel Collin (email: collinr@si.edu).

Sara Lindsay announced that Kevin Eckelbarger and Jim Blake are organizing the 9th International Polychaete Conference, which will be held in Portland, Maine, USA, August 12–18, 2007. Interested participants please see: <http://server.dmc.maine.edu/worms.html>.

A round of applause thanked Tom Wolcott for his service and DIZ Chair, and welcomed Janice Voltzow as the new DIZ Chair.

Submitted by RW Thacker.

Elections: Candidates for DIZ Secretary

Please review the biographies of our two candidates for the position of DIZ Secretary, Larry Basch and Renae Brodie. We will hold an election for this office later this spring.

Larry V. Basch

Current Position: Associate Graduate Faculty, University of Hawai'i, Manoa (UHM), Zoology, Botany, & Ecology, Evolution & Conservation Biology Programs. Science Advisor, National Park Service, UHM, Hawai'i–Pacific Islands Cooperative Ecosystem Studies Unit.

Education: 1979, B.S. (Biology), Pennsylvania State University. 1985, M.A. (Biology), UCLA. 1993, Ph.D. (Biology), University of California, Santa Cruz.

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Fellow, Scripps Institution of Oceanography (SIO), University of California San Diego (UCSD). Visiting Instructor/Faculty: Invertebrate Zoology, Kelp Forest Ecology, Marine Ecology, University of California Santa Cruz. Marine Ecology, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon. Marine Zoology, Oceanography, Benthic Ecology, SIO, UCSD. Research Associate, B.P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawai'i.

SICB Activities: DIZ and DEE Best Student Paper Judge.

Other Memberships: Ecological Society of America, The George Wright Society, *International Society for Reef Studies*, Western Society of Naturalists.

Research Interests: Larval & early post-larval ecology of marine invertebrates. Ecology & evolution of reproduction & larval feeding. Larval metamorphosis, settlement & recruitment. Marine population & community ecology. Marine conservation biology.

Statement of Goals: As a member of ASZ/SICB with primary affiliation in DIZ since my precompetent larval stages (early 1980's), I've seen that DIZ has by nature become a wonderfully diverse and integrative division reflecting broad interests, and DIZ remains a consistent strength (dare I say backbone?) of SICB. My simple goals as DIZ secretary would be to sustain DIZ's historical continuity established by previous secretaries by serving to: channel the flow of information from and to DIZ members while recording the evolution of DIZ as you make it happen; to bring your interests, questions and concerns to the division, and; to get the big picture of DIZ activities to you as fresh, interesting news. I would support innovations in the division where members and officers see benefit. I would enjoy carrying out secretarial tasks (mainly organizing website and newsletter contributions) to help keep you up on DIZ and our interests in invertebrate zoology. If asked to serve I'll give back to DIZ and SICB with enthusiasm!

Renae J. Brodie

Current position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, University of South Carolina. Beginning Fall 2006: Assistant Professor, Biology Department, Mount Holyoke College, MA.

Education: 1991, B.A. (Aquatic Biology), U C Santa Barbara; 1999, Ph.D. (Zoology), University of Washington, Seattle.

Professional experience: 1999–2000, Lecturer, University of Washington, Bothell, WA; 2000–2001, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Smithsonian Marine Station at Fort Pierce, Florida; 2001–2002, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Panama City, Panama; 2002–present, Assistant Professor, University of South Carolina.

SICB activities: Member and presenter at SICB/ASZ Annual Meetings since 1995. Best Student Paper 1998 (DAB); Judge, Best Student Presentation (DIZ), 2001, 2004.

Other memberships: The Crustacean Society, The Animal Behavior Society

Research interests: Eco–physiology of crustaceans, evolutionary transitions and larval behavior.

Statement of goals:

As a member of SICB, I have appreciated the camaraderie and networking opportunities provided by the yearly conferences, especially during my years as a graduate student and postdoctoral fellow. As secretary, I would strongly support all activities that enhance student participation in SICB. These efforts would include increasing funding for the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship and making graduate students from universities near conference locations aware of SICB to draw in potential first–timers. I would also make a strong effort to increase the participation of minorities in SICB by advertising the conferences more broadly and creating a mentorship program for first–time attendees.

Elections: Changes to DIZ By–Laws

Item 1. Officers' Terms.

There has been some confusion as to when officers' terms start and end. In Article V, the bylaws currently state:

"The officers shall assume their duties at the next annual meeting following their election."

It is proposed that this sentence be changed to:

"The officers shall assume their duties at the conclusion of the annual meeting following their election."

Item 2. Electronic Voting.

The Bylaws do not reflect our current practice of electronic voting. The current wording of Article XI is:

Article XI. Elections

Elections of officers shall be held by mail. The Secretary shall mail ballots to the membership of the Division in May. A brief biographical sketch for each candidate shall accompany the ballots. The Secretary or SICB Executive Director shall count, tabulate, record the votes received by August 1, and notify the candidates for office of the results of the election. In the event that a vote results in a tie, the members of the Executive Committee shall vote by mail to resolve the tie.

It is proposed that this article be changed to:

Article XI. Elections

Elections of officers shall be held by mail or by electronic ballots. The Secretary or SICB Executive Director shall distribute ballots to the membership of the Division in May. A brief biographical sketch for each candidate shall accompany the ballots. The Secretary or SICB Executive Director shall count, tabulate, and record the votes received by August 1, and notify the candidates for office of the results of the election. In the event that a vote results in a tie, the members of the Executive Committee shall vote to resolve the tie.

Item 3. Graduate Student Presentation Awards.

In Article XVI of our current bylaws, students participating in the DIZ graduate student presentation awards competition must be members of DIZ. At the 2005 and 2006 DIZ Business Meetings, we discussed removing this requirement.

To make this change, it is proposed that the following sentence in Article XVI be deleted:

"Additionally, the student must be a member of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology."

Item 4. Graduate Student Presentation Awards.

According to Article XVI of our current bylaws, students participating in the DIZ graduate student presentation awards can win each award multiple times. At the 2006 Business Meeting, we discussed adding a sentence to Article XVI, Section 3, stating:

"A student can not win the same award twice."

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Division of Neurobiology (DNB): 2006 Spring Newsletter

Message from the Chair

Paul A. Moore

Greetings from the DNB. We had a great meeting this year in Orlando and a big thanks has to go to Rich Satterlie who has been our Program Chair for the last three years. Rich has put together some outstanding symposia. We really appreciate his ideas of combining both the mentor and graduate students in the presentations. Rich will be stepping down soon and we need to begin to think about someone to replace him. It is important to note that at our annual business meeting, we talked in detail about extending our collaborations both with other divisions within SICB and with other groups (such as neuroethology and neuroscience). It is important that we retain our identity and yet work with others if we are going to continue to grow. I believe that one of the reasons that our group comes to SICB is that we all are aware of and appreciate the integrative and multidisciplinary aspects of the meeting. This can be seen in our presentations that combine biomechanics, animal behavior, invertebrate morphology, and other fields that are represented in other divisions. So, by reaching out to other societies, we want to contact and grow with those individuals who take a systems or holistic approach to their neuroscience endeavors. Another area that needs support and growth is our graduate and undergraduate students. It is our goal to continue to support their work and presentations in our symposia and include them in our division endeavors. We want to provide them outlets for their scientific work that may be absent from other meetings. The most important point is that we have a small but solid group of individuals working to continue the growth and development of the neuroscience division. I want to thank all those who came and presented at Orlando and encourage all to contact me with your thoughts.

SICB Newsletter



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Division of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology (DSEB): 2006 Spring Newsletter

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- [Message from the Program Officer](#)
- [Message from the Secretary](#)
- [Minutes of the DSEB Annual Business Meeting](#)
- [Upcoming Meetings](#)
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Message from the Chair

Don Swiderski

This year's meeting at Mickey's doorstep was a big success; in this Olympic year we could even say 'the best ever.' A big part of the success of this year's meeting was due to the fine job Jackie Webb and Thomas Schilling did putting on the symposium *Zebrafish in Comparative Context*, sponsored in part by DSEB. And as always our division was well represented by fine student presentations, including the winners of the division's best student presentation awards: Sarah Boyer, (Harvard University) *Vicariance in the harvestman family Pettalidae (Arachnida, Opioliones, Cyphophthalmi) during the breakup of Gondwana*, and L. Nicole Cox (Auburn University) *Phylogeography of Stereochinus neumayeri from South American and Antarctic waters using the 16S mtDNA marker*.

At the conclusion of this year's meeting, Ken Halanych stepped down as chair of DSEB. We owe Ken thanks for his fine service these past two years; especially, for guiding us through a major overhaul of the division bylaws. Pat Reynolds also deserves thanks for doing much of the actual work of putting together the revision, and for volunteering to put in an extra year's service as secretary to ensure the correct stagger of terms. The changes in the bylaws bring us in line with the other divisions and help insure that we have some institutional memory. So, Pat and Ken, thanks for the memory.

Finally, while memories of the last meeting are fresh, it is a good time to consider what might make next year's meeting even better. We particularly need program ideas for future symposia and for the Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop. Please send your ideas to any of the officers; we'll make sure they get the attention they deserve.

Message from the Program Officer

Michele Nishiguchi

This year's SICB meetings in Orlando were quite refreshing for me as the DPO. I really enjoyed seeing so many great student talks and posters, and it was a difficult job for us to choose the winners of this year's best student oral and poster presentations (see Don's message for the winners!). The DSEB division continues to help promote and encourage students to participate in meetings, and this award recognizes those young scholars who have demonstrated excellence in their research.

I am still anxious to receive proposals for symposia (none yet so far!) that may be sponsored or co-sponsored for the 2008 SICB meetings in San Antonio, TX. If you have any ideas, or would like to get feedback, please do not hesitate to contact me. Our next program officers' meeting is already set for September 29th–October 1st, 2006, so there is still time to think about symposia that have some type of systematics/evolutionary biology theme. This includes new ideas for the Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop. DSEB is interested in expanding this workshop to include comparative methods, or even focus on topics such as phylogeography. Again, ideas are welcome to any of the DSEB officers.

Message from the Secretary

Pat Reynolds

Greetings to all. I do not have too much to report except to extend my thanks to several people: to our candidates, Anne Maglia, Kenneth D. Angielczyk, Audrey Aronowsky, and Nerida G. Wilson, for agreeing to run for divisional office, and to the nominating committee, especially Ken Halanych and Don Swiderski, for building our slate.

Congratulations also to Ken Halanych for his work as chair for the last couple of years. While I attended the Orlando meetings, I was unable to be at the DSEB business meeting, and am very grateful to Michele Nishiguchi for taking the minutes in my absence!

We are still hoping to enhance the DSEB webpage on the SICB web site, and all ideas are welcome. One of the easiest ways to do this is to post research-related illustrations, so perhaps if you have some summary figures (characters mapped on trees, for example) you might consider them appropriate and submit them with a short legend to me or to any of the officers.

Minutes of the 2006 DSEB Business Meeting, 7 Jan. 2006, Orlando

Chair Ken Halanych opened the meeting and introduced new incoming Chair, Don Swiderski, Program Officer Michele Nishiguchi, incoming Program Officer–elect Rachel Collin, incoming Secretary–elect, Marta deMaintenon, and Student Representative Rena Bryan.

Ken reported on a proposal submitted for a new division of comparative biomechanics (submitted by Robert Full). The executive committee wanted feedback from all of the divisions, but Ken noted this theme does not really affect DSEB.

Rachel Collin asked if there was a need for the addition of more divisions; Ken noted that the cellular division folded, and there has been interest in the new Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology.

Rachel also raised the issue of the intent of the officers and members of DSEB, i.e., in which direction do the members want the division to move. Some discussion ensued.

Total meeting attendance for the 2006 meeting was 1266. The 2007 meeting will be in Phoenix, AZ, and the 2008 meeting in San Antonio in 2008.

Ken also mentioned the changes in the SICB journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, which is now paired with Oxford for online publications and submissions. Symposium papers should be published more quickly once edited and proofed.

Ken reported that there was also discussion about SICB meeting with the European Experimental Biology meetings (every 3 years).

Ken discussed the DSEB budget; it is normally 3K, but we requested 4K this year to pay for a combined business meeting and social (for the 2007 meetings), which should draw more attendance to the division meetings.

Program Officer Michele Nishiguchi reported that the student awards/judging went well and that the talks/posters were excellent at this meeting. She also made an announcement requesting symposium proposals for 2008.

Ken and Don called for ideas to revamp the web page for the division, particularly with new images. Any material for the web page can be sent to them or to the Secretary, Pat Reynolds.

Student Representative Rena Bryan reported on the idea of holding a student workshop on publishing at the Phoenix meeting. It would contain topics such as what editors expect, what manuscripts need to get published, and to what types of journals to submit. She wanted to know if editors from various journals would be willing to participate in such a panel. Rena also raised the possibility of having a student/postdoc luncheon to get advice on this issue at the meeting, or perhaps combine the workshop with a lunch.

Don discussed the possibility of running the social as a co–social with other divisions to promote systematics.

Don also led discussion on possible improvements for the Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop. Suggestions included having a Phylogenetics and Comparative Methods for Dummies workshop, which

would cover a broader array of topics, such as designing comparative methods for meaningful data.

Ken questioned how broad did we want to make systematics, and whether it would include topics such as phylogeography. He suggested talking to other divisional program officers regarding new ideas, and to try to link the workshop to symposia at the meetings. For example, what areas are needed in this workshop? What are the new/hot topics that may be presented?

Finally, Ken called for anyone interested in helping out the division, such as in running for office or otherwise, to contact himself or any of the officers.

Rachel Collin moved that the meeting be adjourned, Don Swiderski seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.

Upcoming Meetings of Interest to the Division

Evolution 2006, the joint annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution (SSE), the Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB), and the American Society of Naturalists (ASN), June 23–27, 2006, hosted by Department of Ecology and Evolution, Stony Brook University, NY. More info:

<http://life.bio.sunysb.edu/ee/sse2006/>

The Society for Molecular Biology and Evolution Annual Meeting : "Genomes, Evolution, and Bioinformatics," May 24–28, 2006 hosted by Arizona State University, Tempe, AZ. More info:

<http://www.smbe.org/geb/>

Elections: Biographies of Candidates for Divisional Offices

Elections: Candidates for Chair–elect

Anne M. Maglia

Current Position: Assistant Professor, University of Missouri–Rolla (since 2002)

Education: B.S., Zoology, Ohio University, 1992; M.S., Biological Sciences, East Tennessee State

University, 1994; Ph.D., Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Kansas, 2000.

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Associate, 2000–2002, Natural History Museum and Biodiversity Research Center and Division of Biological Sciences, University of Kansas.

SICB Activities: Co–organizer and presenter (with D. Swiderski) of DSEB workshops "Phylogenetics for Dummies: Picking a Tree from the Forest" and "Phylogenetics for Dummies: Optimizing Characters on Existing Hypotheses of Relationships"; Chair for DSEB paper sessions; Judge for DSEB Student Paper Competitions; DSEB Program Officer 2000–2001.

Other Memberships: Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, International Society for Computational Biology, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, The Herpetologists League, Midsouth Computational Biology and Bioinformatics Society, Phi Sigma, Sigma Xi

Research Interests: My research focuses on the evolution of amphibians, with specific interests in phylogenetic relationships within and among groups, the role of development in generating anatomical diversity, and the evolution of life history traits. In addition, much of my research also focuses on the development of computational methods for visualizing and analyzing biological data, including the application of data mining techniques to understanding character non–independence, the development of a web–accessible library of 3D visualizations of anatomy, and the use of distributed databases and genetic algorithms to monitor and model biodiversity.

Goals Statement: My main goal as an officer in DSEB is to continue to enhance the reputation and visibility of our division both within SICB and among the scientific community. Because accurate phylogenies based on sound methodologies are crucial to all facets of integrative and comparative biology, DSEB is unique in that we characterize the foundation for much of the research in other SICB divisions. Our membership may seem small, but DSEB is a secondary affiliation for many SICB members, and we represent a significant part of much of the research in the society. With this role comes the responsibility of demonstrating the importance and utility of systematic methodologies to strengthening comparative research. I would support our divisional efforts to develop symposia and workshops that attract (and partner with) participants, sponsorship, and audiences from other SICB divisions and scientific societies, and I would focus on promoting the success and participation of the student members of our division.

Patrick D. Reynolds

Current Position: Professor, Biology Department, Hamilton College (2005–)

Education: B.Sc. (Hons.), Zoology, University College Galway (1983); Ph.D., Biology, University of Victoria (1992).

Professional Experience: Associate (1998–2005), Assistant (1992–98) Professor, Biology Department, Hamilton College; Research Fellow/ Visiting Post–doctoral Researcher (1990–92), Institute of Marine Sciences, UC Santa Cruz; Lecturer (1990–91): East/West Marine Biology Program, Department of Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley.

SICB Activities: Member (1987–); numerous presentations; DSEB Secretary (2004–2007), DSEB (2006) and DIZ (1998, 1999) Best Student Paper Award Panels; DSEB (2004, 2005) and DIZ (2005) nominating

committees; Editor/Editor-in-Chief (2003–), Co-Editor (1997–2003) of *Invertebrate Biology*, journal of the American Microscopical Society and DIZ.

Other Memberships: AAAS, American Malacological Society, American Microscopical Society, Malacological Society of London, Society for the Study of Evolution, Society of Systematic Biologists, Willi Hennig Society

Research Interests: Functional morphology and evolution of invertebrates, particularly the smaller molluscan classes and especially the Scaphopoda; comparative studies addressing the evolution of organ systems and clades using morphological and molecular systematics.

Goals Statement: DSEB no doubt has special place in SICB, being a division with which many members claim affiliation, but often a secondary one. This is reflected in some of our activities having much support—sponsoring symposia, running the "Phylogenetics for Dummies" workshops, strong student paper competitions—while other activities struggle, such as our business meetings where attendance is small. So, we need to consider how to increase and keep active members to continue our strong contributions to the society. Recently, increasing interest in running for office, revised bylaws to allow student representative elections, plans for a social, and ideas to broaden the Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop are steps in this direction. Encouraging and serving our early-career members should help strengthen our active membership.

Candidates for Student Representative

Kenneth D. Angielczyk

Current Position: Royal Society USA/Canada Research Fellow, Department of Earth Sciences, University of Bristol

Education: Ph.D., Department of Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley, 2003;

B.S., with distinction, Biology/Geology, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 1998

Professional Experience: Royal Society USA/Canada Research Fellow, University of Bristol, 11/2005 to present; NSF Postdoctoral Fellow in Interdisciplinary Informatics, California Academy of Sciences, 9/2003 to 8/2005; Graduate Student Instructor, nine semesters between 1/1999 and 8/2003, University of California, Berkeley; Curatorial Assistant, one year in total between 8/1998 and 7/2001, University of California Museum of Paleontology; Assistant Fossil Preparator, 9/1995 to 6/1998, University of Michigan Museum of Paleontology

SICB Services: Judge, best student presentation, Division of Ecology and Evolution, 2006 Annual Meeting; Judge, best student presentation, Division of Systematics and Evolutionary Biology, 2005 Annual Meeting

Other Memberships: Geological Society of America, International Society for Phylogenetic Nomenclature, Palaeontological Society of Southern Africa, Paleontological Society, Society of Systematic Biologists, Society of Vertebrate Paleontology

Research Interests: Paleobiology of anomodont therapsids; end-Permian mass extinction in the terrestrial realm; evolution of herbivory in terrestrial vertebrates; the role of stratigraphic data in phylogeny reconstruction; geometric morphometrics; morphology of the turtle shell; phylogenetic nomenclature.

Goals Statement: My goals as the student/postdoc representative for the division would be simple. First, I would like to ensure that the division and the society are a valuable resource for student and postdocs. We're all in the process of laying the foundations for our academic and scientific careers, and any help we receive is greatly appreciated. Second, I hope to be an accessible, effective link between student members of the division and the administration of the division and the society.

Audrey Aronowsky

Current Position: Postdoctoral Researcher, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge

Education: Ph.D. in Integrative Biology, University of California, Berkeley, 2003; B.S. in Geology, Bryn Mawr College, 1995

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Researcher, Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Fall 2003–present; Graduate Student Instructor, University of California, Berkeley, Fall 1998–Spring 2003

SICB Services: Judge, best student presentation, Division of Ecology and Evolution, 2005 and 2006 Annual Meetings; Session Chair, Division of Systematics and Evolutionary Biology, 2006 Annual Meeting; Session Chair, Division of Invertebrate Zoology, 2004 Annual Meeting

Other Memberships: Paleontological Society, American Malacological Society, Western Society of Malacologists, Baton Rouge Geological Society

Research Interests: Phylogeny of corbulid bivalves with the goal of understanding the modern and fossil record of ecosystem invasion within the clade; growth and shape change of corbulid bivalves using geometric morphometrics; phylogeny reconstruction of naticid gastropods with the goal of understanding the multiple losses of stereotyped drilling predation within the clade; naticid gastropod reproductive and feeding biology.

Goals Statement: Students and postdocs are the future of any scientific society and they need a representative with practical ideas to help them get the most out of the annual meetings and other services the society offers. As student/postdoc representative for DSEB, I will continue the tradition of society-wide student/postdoc workshops on topics critical to future success such as funding, customizing your CV, cover letters, and networking at meetings. Simple things, such as organizing the job announcement board at the annual meeting (by field and posting date) will help fellow students and postdocs to locate positions of interest. Finally, if I am elected, I will have the satisfaction of beating my husband and fellow candidate, Ken, without having to physically harm him (which is illegal) or engage in a nasty smear campaign (which, while legal, may shorten our marriage).

Nerida G. Wilson

Current Position: Feb 2005–present, Postdoctoral Researcher, Auburn University, AL.

Education: 1998 Bachelor of Science, University of Melbourne, Australia; 1999 BSc (Honors), University of Queensland, Australia; 2004 PhD, Marine Science, University of Queensland, Australia.

Professional Experience: May 04–present, Visiting Research Fellow, University of Adelaide; May–Dec 2004, Research Associate, South Australian Museum, Adelaide, Australia; June–Oct 2002, Marine Invertebrate Scientist, Operation Wallacea, Sulawesi, Indonesia.

SICB Activities: Member since 2005; presentation at 2005 Annual meeting, Orlando.

Other Memberships: Society of Australian Systematic Biologists, Australian Marine Sciences Association, Malacological Society of Australasia.

Research Interests: Molecular phylogeny and phylogeography of marine invertebrates; systematics of opisthobranch mollusks; color evolution and mimicry; invertebrate life history, behavior and symbioses; sperm competition and mating systems

Goals Statement: I believe that great scientific potential lies in many pre–graduate and graduate students. Much of this potential is diverted away from science for various reasons. I hope to encourage students to remain in science by making career pathways more accessible and visible, especially to women, international and minority groups. I believe that SICB does much to support this, and my goal is to help maintain this vision.

SICB Newsletter



Volume Spring 2006

Division of Vertebrate Morphology (DVM): 2006 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

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 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
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 - [Elections: Candidates for DVM Program Officer and Secretary](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Beth Brainerd

The exciting news from SICB '06 in Orlando is that the Executive Committee approved the founding of a new division, the Division of Comparative Biomechanics (DCB). This division will draw together the traditionally strong areas of vertebrate and invertebrate biomechanics at SICB, as well as potentially encouraging participation from biomechanists working on plants, fungi and microbes. It will give the field of Comparative Biomechanics a recognizable home, which may help garner corporate and foundation funding for DCB symposia at SICB.

Most of the DVM business meeting was spent discussing this important issue. Some members were concerned that DCB will probably draw members away from DVM, or at least split their participation between DCB and DVM. There was some concern a few years ago that the creation of the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) would weaken DVM, but the result has been that DEDB has strengthened evolutionary morphology as a field at SICB. There was a suggestion that DVM simply be renamed DCB and expanded to include non-vertebrate subjects. This proposal was criticized on the grounds that morphology is broader than just biomechanics, and that vertebrate morphology in particular has a long history and strong philosophical traditions that should not be lost. On balance the attendees at the business meeting were supportive of the creation of the new DCB.

In related business, Kevin Padian made the excellent suggestion that vertebrate paleontology talks should be spread among the other sessions, rather than grouped into their own sessions. The Program Officer for DVM, Jeff Walker, will implement this recommendation for the 2007 meeting. The creation of DCB frees DVM to focus on research areas that have less overlap with biomechanics, and increasing the participation of vertebrate paleontologists could be an important part of this. Some of the vert paleo talks at SICB have

strong ties to DCB, but the core business of describing fossil vertebrates and the comparative anatomical analysis of extinct and extant vertebrates are areas that could be expanded at SICB and would strengthen DVM as a division.

In further important business, David Carrier, Chair of the DVM Student Prize Committee, brought forward some recommendations from his committee for changes in the Davis Award rules. The Prize Committee recommends: (1) that each student be allowed to compete for the D. Dwight Davis Award only one time; and (2) all of the competing talks be grouped into one session, and this D. Dwight Davis Award Session run unopposed by any other DVM sessions or symposia. The rationale for the latter is that the special award session would showcase the student work and emphasize the prestige of the Davis Award. Students would still be permitted to compete for the DVM Poster Prize as many times as they like, and students would be permitted to petition the DVM Chair for permission to compete for the Davis Award a second time with a substantially different project, such as the first time a Master's project and then later a Ph.D. project. There appeared to be support at the DVM business meeting for the rule that students be allowed to compete only once, with possible dispensation for twice. Concern was expressed, however, about the possibility that the D. Dwight Davis Award Session might be perceived as a "kiddie table" which is less prestigious than the regular sessions.

Limiting each student to competing just once for the Davis Award, with possible dispensation for twice, requires a DVM bylaws change. Creating a Davis Award Session requires only an instruction from the DVM membership to the DVM Program Officer to make it so. Electronic voting on the bylaw change will occur this spring and the membership will be polled at the same time to assess support for a 2-year trial of the Davis Award Session.

DVM officer elections for Secretary Elect and Program Officer Elect will be held by electronic ballot this spring. The DVM Nominating Committee, John Hermanson (Chair), Chris Marshall and Bret Tobalske, nominated the current DVM Secretary, Gary Gillis and the current DVM Program Officer, Jeff Walker, to run unopposed. This is the first election after our bylaw change last year that increased the term limit for Program Officer from one term to two terms – a change that was made to make the most of experience gained by the PO in the first term. Thanks to Gary and Jeff for agreeing to run again and thanks to the members of the DVM Nominating Committee for their service.

Message from the Program Officer

Jeff Walker

I would like to start my comments by congratulating John Bertram, the outgoing DVM Program Officer, for two huge successes at the recent Orlando meeting: first, lobbying for conference rooms large enough to accommodate the ever-popular DVM-related sessions, and second, working with the other program officers to create wonderful and well-attended, poster sessions. As Audrone Biknevičius can attest, sometimes a good poster needs to be consumed with a glass of fine wine. I presented a poster for the first time in many years and was thrilled that I had the time to explain the concepts in detail – the only thing that would have made the experience better (for me) would have been a chalkboard! Actually, this raises an interesting point. With the many new media technologies available, we should all think about how to incorporate these into 21st century poster sessions. I would also encourage poster presenters to move away from the

"journal–article" style of poster presentation. Some good ideas, for example can be found at <http://www.biology.lsa.umich.edu/research/labs/ktosney/file/PostersHome.html>. DVM has a long history of sponsoring great symposia and it's time to begin developing creative symposium proposals for the 2008 San Antonio meetings. Symposia are not simply excellent vehicles for gathering together PIs from disparate fields with common research threads but can be opportunities for fostering new ways of thinking about old problems and setting an agenda for novel research programs. Guidelines for developing a proposal are given on the SICB website. Planning and organization of speakers takes time; you have until 19 August to submit a proposal. We do have exciting symposia for the 2007 Phoenix meetings – Kevin Padian's comments at the DVM business meeting (see Beth Brainerd's news) highlight the desire of SICB members to be a part of fully integrated contributed sessions, in which the presented papers are related by unifying themes. This presents a challenge to the program officers, but this challenge is facilitated by thoughtfully checking the keyword boxes that are used to construct integrated, thematic sessions. Also, consider not checking a keyword box that could land you in a session in which you specifically do not want to be, even if this keyword is relevant to the paper. Finally, while checking boxes, please be sure to check the box to be a session chair! Good luck with your research this year – I'll be excited to hear about it over a glass of wine next January.

Message from the Secretary

Gary Gillis

For those of us coming from regions further north, Orlando provided a nice, albeit all too brief, change of climate. I hope you all had as much fun as I did enjoying wonderful talks, engaging conversations, seeing old friends and meeting new ones (maybe even basking in the sun...). I would like to take this opportunity to personally thank Audrone Biknevičius for her excellent work in past years and for making my transition to DVM secretary as smooth as possible.

DVM Business Meeting Notes (1/6/2006)

Announcements:

1. Melina Hale announced that the Society's Journal, Integrative and Comparative Biology, is now being run by Oxford University Press. Among other new features, we will soon be able to access all issues (including old American Zoologists) online.
2. Peter Aerts reminded us that the next International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology (ICVM) is being held in Paris in July 2007. Ideas for symposia were to be submitted by February 1, 2006.
3. Frank Fish let us know about a new journal, Bioinspiration & Biomimetics, which is likely to be of interest to many of our members. The first issue is likely due in early 2007. Check it out online at: <http://www.iop.org/EJ/journal/1748–3190>

He also noted that SICB's digital library has a biomechanics education website with a bibliography of useful books as well as various sample exercises. You

can see it for yourself or submit your own ideas at: <http://www.sicb.org/dl/biomechanics.php3>

4. Matthias Starck highlighted the exciting new issue of *Zoology* (last issue of 2005) featuring articles based on the symposium in honor of Marvilee Wake's outstanding contributions to our field.
5. Beth Brainerd announced the election of Jeff Walker as our new Program Officer and me, Gary Gillis, as our new Secretary. An enthusiastic round of applause was provided for John Bertram and Audrone Biknevičius in thanks for their efforts in these roles previously (although Jeff thought it was for him).

Beth Brainerd then introduced three issues of importance to our Division.

First, she brought up the proposal by Bob Full for a new Division of Comparative Biomechanics. A variety of potential pros (e.g., invertebrate systems could be included, more student prizes would be available) and cons (DVM might lose some clout if its membership wanes as a result of current members shifting their affiliations—currently members are limited to two divisional affiliations) were mentioned and discussed. A timely visit by the Society's new officers further enlivened this conversation and also provided an opportunity for some discussion about the program officer's difficult role in assembling the annual meeting schedule. Essentially, scheduling conflicts are inevitable given the large number of symposia. In addition, I doubt we'll see "paleo" as an organizing theme for future DVM sessions (in response to Kevin Padian's impassioned plea).

Second, Beth lamented NSF's relatively recent elimination of Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants (DDIGs) in our area and suggested we might try to organize a response to this.

Third, Beth introduced the possibility of making changes to the D. Dwight Davis Award competition. Dave Carrier, representing the Student Awards Committee, proposed that students be allowed to compete only once for this prize, and that all competitors present in the same (early) session at the annual meeting. An online ballot will be conducted this spring addressing these two issues separately.

2006 Student Award Winners

As is always the case, many of our best papers and posters were presented by students in Orlando.

Davis Award (Tie)

Herman Pontzer



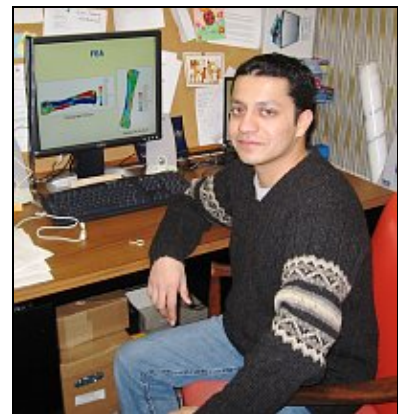
Davis Award (Tie)

Mason Dean



Poster Award

Biren Patel



This year there was a tie for the Davis award and both **Herman Pontzer** of Harvard University, pictured above walking Corby, and **Mason Dean** of the University of California, Irvine, pictured above with coauthor

Manny Azizi (both are wearing thinking caps), were recognized for their outstanding work. Herman's paper was entitled "Linking Locomotor Energetics to Limb Design in Terrestrial Animals". In it he presented a test of his LiMb Model, which predicts locomotor cost from basic anatomical and kinematic variables. He was able to show that it works well across different species and different speeds of locomotion. Herman was particularly intrigued because his results suggest that differences in limb length are the driving factor underlying the scaling of locomotor costs in animals. Mason's talk was entitled "Uniform strain in broad muscles: A new twist on tendons". His work showed that the twisting of the tendon of the main jaw closer in ratfish leads to more homogenous strain patterns across the muscle. In short, a simple morphological alteration can have profound functional effects.

Biren Patel of Stony Brook University, pictured above about to get to work on his computer, won the poster award for his work with Kristian Carlson entitled "Subchondral bone mineral density in the distal radius reflects habitual use of the forelimb in sloths and anteaters (Order Xenarthra)". They showed that apparent bone density patterns differ between quadrupedal anteaters and suspensory sloths. This work follows a previous study of non-human primates that showed similar patterns for quadrupedal (e.g., monkeys and African apes) versus suspensory (e.g., orangutans and gibbons) animals, suggesting that bone density patterns can be used to distinguish taxa that regularly load their forelimbs differently. Biren is excited to extend this approach to studying fossil taxa and inferring information on locomotor habits of extinct animals.

Message from the Student/Postdoc Representative

Russ Main



This year's meeting in Orlando had a lot to offer the graduate students and post-docs in attendance. Two workshops organized by the SPDAC were held on the last evening of the meeting. The first, "Optimizing Your Graduate School Experience", was paneled primarily by graduate students and post-docs, informing newer members of SICB about how to go about securing funding for their graduate careers outside of teaching, once university stipends run out. The second workshop, "Strategies for Landing an Academic Job", covered strategies students and post-docs can use to land both academic and government jobs. This workshop was paneled by faculty members from various colleges, universities, and government research positions and covered a variety of topics, including what to look for in a department, teaching responsibilities, funding expectations, and lots more. Additionally, Bob Full provided the proceedings with a list of "Qualms and Questions for an Academic Job Interview". This and other materials from the workshop

can be found at <http://www.sicb.org/careers/resources.php3>. Thanks to a number of DVM's members who participated in these workshops to help make them a success.

At this year's SPDAC committee meeting, three main topics were discussed. First, we discussed how to make future Grad Student and Post-doc Luncheons fulfill more than just our stomachs. It was suggested that the format of these luncheons be changed to include seating 1–2 faculty member volunteers at a table with 6–8 grad students and post-docs to discuss a range of topics, professional, intellectual, and otherwise. Given the success of our faculty-paneled workshop this year, this new format would be incredibly insightful and rewarding for any in attendance, both faculty and students. If you are interested in being a faculty member volunteer for this luncheon at next year's meeting or have comments or suggestions on this proposed format please send me an e-mail.

The second point of discussion was the topic for next year's SPDAC workshop. It was proposed that next year's workshop inform students about the scientific paper submission and review process. This workshop would cover how to find the right journal for your paper, the requirements for submission, how this process might change as more journals move to electronic submission and publication, and addressing reviewers' comments. We envision having this workshop be paneled by members of the editorial boards of different journals representative of the different SICB divisions. If you hold (or have held) an editorial position for any of the following journals (JEB, J. Morph., J. Anat., etc.) and would be willing to represent DVM at this workshop please let me know.

Finally, there was some concern amongst the SPDAC members that more grad students and post-docs should be attending their divisional meetings for the continued health and growth of SICB. It was suggested that each division possibly incorporate a paper and book reprint exchange either before or after the divisional meeting to try to garner larger numbers. If we, as a division, are concerned about increasing the student and post-doc participation at these meetings, this might be something we could try for a half hour, either before or after the divisional meeting. If you have any opinions or suggestions regarding this please let me know.

SICB–DVM Elections For Divisional Program Officer and Secretary

This year we are holding elections for Program Officer and Secretary. As explained in Beth's message above, both Jeff and I were nominated to run unopposed. If you're a careful reader with an impeccable memory, you might notice that our goals remain unchanged from last spring; this is largely because 1) we really liked our goals, and 2) we haven't been on the job long enough to develop new ones.

Jeffrey A. Walker, PhD



Current Position. Assistant Professor of Biology, University of Southern Maine (since 2000)
<http://www.usm.maine.edu/~walker/>

Education. Ph.D. 1995, Anatomical Sciences, Stony Brook. B.A. 1988, Geology with Honors, University of Pennsylvania;

Professional Experience. 1995–2000, Postdoctoral fellowships, Field Museum of Natural History, Chicago.

Awards and Honors. NSF Postdoctoral Research Fellowship.

SICB Activities. D. Dwight Davis Award judge (2000, 2002–2003); Chair/Co–chair in a locomotion contributed session (every year).

Research Interests. Integrative functional morphology, ecology, and evolution. Science methodology, including statistics and modeling.

Publications. 26 refereed publications

Five most recent publications:

Walker, J. A. 2004. Kinematics and performance of median and paired fins as control surfaces. IEEE Journal of Oceanic Engineering 29, 572–584.

Westneat, M. W., Thorsen, D. H., Walker, J. A. and Hale, M. E. 2004. Structure, function and neural control of pectoral fins in fishes. IEEE Journal of Ocean Engineering 29, 674–683.

Walker, J. A. 2004. Dynamics of pectoral fin rowing in a fish with an extreme rowing stroke: the threespine stickleback (*Gasterosteus aculeatus*). Journal of Experimental Biology, 207: 1925–1939.

Ghalambor, C. K., D. N. Reznick, and J. A. Walker. 2004. Constraints on adaptive evolution: the functional trade–off between reproduction and fast start escape performance in the guppy (*Poecilia reticulata*). American Naturalist, 164:38–50.

Ghalambor, C. K., J. A. Walker, and D. N. Reznick. 2003. Multi–trait selection, adaptation, and constraints on the evolution of burst swimming performance. Integrative and Comparative Biology, 43:431–438.

Goals as Program Officer. I would like to continue the trend of developing highly integrative contributed sessions and symposia that allow scientists from diverse fields but overlapping interests to learn from each other. Similarly, I would also like to continue the recent practice of scheduling poster sessions that do not compete with either afternoon talks or evening social schedules. Finally, I will schedule senior graduate

students and especially postdocs into the better-attended sessions occurring earlier in the week in order to give them and their research increased exposure.

Gary Gillis, PhD



Current Position. Assistant Professor of Biology, Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, MA (since 2002)
http://www.mtholyoke.edu/acad/biol/g_gillis.html

Education. 1997 Ph.D. Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Irvine. 1990 B.S. (Biology), B.A. (History), Magna Cum Laude. Pacific Lutheran University

Professional Experience. Present: Assistant Professor of Biological Sciences, Mount Holyoke College; Member of Neuroscience and Behavior Program, Mount Holyoke College; Member, Graduate Program in Organismic and Evolutionary Biology, University of Massachusetts, Amherst
2001–2002: Postdoctoral Research Associate, Concord Field Station, Harvard University
1998–2001: N.I.H. Postdoctoral Fellow, Concord Field Station, Harvard University
1998: Lecturer, U.C. Irvine School of Biological Sciences (Functional Anatomy)
1990–1991: Biological Technician, Alaska Fisheries Science Center
1989: Vertebrate Zoology Intern, National Museum of Natural History, Washington D.C.

Awards and Honors. 1994: Stoye Award, Best Student Paper in Genetics, Development and Morphology, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists; 1998–2001: NIH National Research Service Award; 2002–Present: Writer, Outside JEB; 2004 NSF DDIG Advisory Panel

SICB Activities. Member 1991–present; D. Dwight Davis Award Committee 1999; DCPB Student Award Committee 2006; co-chair of numerous contributed paper sessions; invited participant in several symposia; published and reviewed papers for American Zoologist and Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Research Interests. 1. Biomechanics, functional morphology, and neuromuscular control of vertebrate locomotion
2. Musculoskeletal design, physiology, and evolution
3. Ecological and evolutionary transitions between aquatic and terrestrial environments, and their effects on organismal structure and function

Publications. 18 refereed publications plus 2 book reviews and 12 popular science contributions

Five most recent publications:

Gillis, G.B., Flynn, J.P. McGuigan, P. and A.A. Biewener. 2005. Patterns of strain and activation in the thigh muscles of goats across gaits during level locomotion. *J. Exp. Biol.* 208:4599–4611

Gillis, G.B. and A.A. Biewener. 2003. The importance of functional plasticity in the design and control of the vertebrate musculoskeletal system. In *Vertebrate Biomechanics and Evolution* (ed. V.L. Bels, J.P. Gasc, and A. Casinos). Bios Scientific Publishers Ltd., Oxford.

Azizi, E., G.B. Gillis and E.L. Brainerd. 2002. Morphology and mechanics of myosepta in swimming salamander (*Siren lacertina*). *Comp. Biochem. Physiol. A.* 133:967–978.

Gillis, G.B. and A.A. Biewener. 2002. Effects of surface grade on proximal hindlimb muscle strain and activation during rat locomotion. *J. Appl. Physiol.* 93:1731–1743.

Ashley-Ross, M.A. and G.B. Gillis. 2002. A brief history of functional morphology. *Integ. and Comp. Biol.* 42: 183–189.

Other Memberships. American Physiological Society (APS), American Society for Biomechanics (ASB), Sigma Xi, The Society for Experimental Biology (SEB)

Goals as Secretary. I have been an active member of SICB since I started graduate school in 1991. Of all the societal meetings I attend, none comes close to fostering the sort of environment for students that SICB does: the science is great, the social scene(s) good fun, and, perhaps most importantly, you have the opportunities to meet and exchange ideas with people ranging from the president of the society to an undergraduate attending her/his first meeting. As someone that has been pleasantly reaping the benefits of these meetings for close to 15 years, I'd like to start playing a more active role in ensuring that the society continues to put these meetings, and the experiences for students (graduate and undergraduate), at the top of its priority list. I would also like to be sure that we keep an appropriate balance between maintaining our identity as a vital division and resource for all things vert. morph., and coordinating activities with other divisions so as to continue the progress we have been making toward integrating the various approaches and conceptual frameworks central to organismal biology more broadly.

Oh, and one more thing – despite the fact that people tell me I'm going deaf and (I know) my handwriting is one step beyond atrocious, I assure you that, as secretary, I will listen, take notes and communicate ideas with abandon.