



## Division of Developmental and Cell Biology

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### **There'll Be A Kick Coming If You Don't Write Soon**

Litho postcard: with attached coil  
springtail.

**Spring Tail Mule Kicking  
1911  
Schmidt Bros**

### **Message from the Chair**

Dear Colleagues,

About two years ago, I was button-holed by Billie Swalla to take on the job of breathing new life into the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology. Besides the fact that no one can really say "no" to Billie Swalla, I felt at the time that there were solid reasons to keep this division moving forward and separate from the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (which is currently fighting fit). Perhaps the primary reason in my mind at that time was that by retaining two divisions with a developmental focus, we broaden and strengthen developmental biology within SICB. Moreover, I felt that this would enhance the possibilities for our membership to connect and network regarding our complementary interests in this field. More practically and economically, by remaining separate and distinct, we retain resources from SICB (i.e., money) to support symposia and social gatherings (often appropriately co-sponsored between our divisions), in addition to the presentation of awards for members representing areas of science encompassing the fields of Cell and Developmental Biology. Simply put, by staying separate, we bring more resources to the membership of both divisions and our voice at the SICB Executive Committee table is stronger.

Since that time, we've brought together the following team for our division. I am most grateful for their willingness to serve our group.



## SICB Newsletter

Spring 2009 Issue

Karen Crawford, Chair

Scott Gilbert, Program Officer

Jennifer Dearolf, Secretary

Michelangelo von Dassow, Graduate Student/  
Postdoctoral Affairs Committee representative

Richard Elinson, *ICB* Editorial Board Representative

From that beginning, we worked to generate interest in new symposia for the 2010 meeting in Seattle (January 2010). We will co-sponsor two symposia, one on regeneration spearheaded by Alexa Bely and Sara Lindsay that will be Society-wide (great work ladies), and the other on the Spiralia being organized by David Lambert. Moreover, I draw your attention to the wonderful recap of the Boston meeting regarding our student presentation awards and up-dates from Jennifer Dearolf our Division Secretary (super job Jenn!).

Since Boston, we've been beating the bushes to find a nominating committee for our Division who might identify candidates for election to the Chair and Program Officer positions, scheduled for elections this March. Clearly, we didn't "beat" hard enough and have learned important lessons about requests, timing, and proximity to arms when twisting. I know now that I should have broadcast our request for a nominating committee and volunteers to run for Division Chair and Program Officer to the Divisional membership. Perhaps then, we might have been more successful at securing folks to run.

Please keep an eye out to your email in the summer and fall, as your committee members

will be in touch to seek your assistance in support of our division. Recently, we have requested a year grace extension from the SICB Executive Officers to continue to reawaken the membership of our group. Over this reprieve year, we will either need to move towards a more active Division or accept that folks have voted with their feet and there is no home for a Division of Developmental and Cell Biology within SICB. After all, I guess it can be argued that those two areas do have national societies and meetings of their own.

So, the work ahead is clear. We need folks to join up or at least take the time to fill us in on why they don't want to continue this Division. I'm considering a survey of sorts that might help us to better serve the membership. One way or another, we need info and guidance from you.

Please help us to "spring" forward with our division. Contributing through service is a great way for senior faculty to mentor and shape the careers of others and for junior faculty to expand their network.

Please email me directly at [krcrawford@smcm.edu](mailto:krcrawford@smcm.edu) with your thoughts and ideas regarding our divisions' regeneration/resuscitation/relinquishment. I chose to put the postcard at the front of this message because I need to hear from folks, we need to spring into action, and I'm stubborn as a mule about giving up on this Division.

Most sincerely, in your service, best regards,

Karen Crawford



## Message from the Secretary

Jennifer Dearolf

Greetings from the Natural State! As the temperature around here begins to warm up, my mind wanders back to Boston. Although getting to Boston was probably my worst traveling experience (do not fly through Newark International Airport!), I really enjoyed the meeting.



And, I was happily surprised that there were fifteen student presentations in our division!

Before introducing you to our winners, I would like to take a moment to thank our Chair, Karen Crawford, our Program Officer, Scott Gilbert, and especially Vicki Martin of Appalachian State University, for judging the student presentations.



The Dearolf Lab Invasion

With so many of my own students competing for the Best Student Poster Award, I needed some unbiased colleagues to be responsible for judging these presentations. Now, on to the winners.

## 2009 Divisional Award Winners

This year's Best Student Talk Award winner is **Joseph Campanale** from California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo. The judges were impressed with his work on the proteomic response of the sea urchin

*Strongylocentrotus purpuratus* early cleavage embryo to ultraviolet radiation. In addition to a certificate, Joseph will receive a year's subscription to the *Journal of Experimental Zoology, Part B*, and a check for \$150.



Joseph Campanale grew up in Southern California and attended California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, where he completed two Bachelors Degrees. The first was in Biology with an emphasis in Cellular and Molecular Biology and the second in Microbiology with an emphasis in Microbial Ecology. In addition, he obtained a minor in Dairy Science and specialized in Bovine Embryo Biotechnology and Physiology.

After completing a fruitful two-year stint as a Microbiological Research Technician for the parent company of Rembrandt toothpaste, Joseph entered the laboratory of Dr. Nikki Adams to complete his Masters Degree in Developmental Biology at Cal Poly, San Luis Obispo. He has become fascinated by how embryos respond to environmental stressors, especially at the molecular level, and what impact these stressors have on physiological processes including cellular metabolism, protein turnover and mitosis. These questions have resulted in his Masters project, in which he is using proteomic analysis to determine how the developmental physiology of marine invertebrate embryos is affected by ultraviolet radiation. After the completion of his Masters Degree, Joseph will be attending either





Scripps Institute for Oceanography in San Diego or enter the MCDB department at UC Santa Barbara.

Our Best Student Poster Award went to **Kamali Carroll**, a Ph.D. student at The George Washington University. Kamali wowed the judges with her presentation, "A preneuronal serotonergic system drives morphogenesis in sea urchin embryos."



Kamali at the bench.

Like Joseph, Kamali will receive a certificate, a year's subscription to *J Exp Zool, Part B*, and a check for \$150.

Kamali Carroll was born and raised in Kingston, Jamaica, and with a scholarship, she was able to attend Washington College on the eastern shore of Maryland, where she earned a B.S. in Biology. After Kamali graduated, she worked in a prenatal cytogenetics lab at Johns Hopkins University for two years, where her interest and appreciation for developmental biology grew.

Her interests in developmental biology led her to the Ph.D. program at The George Washington University, studying early embryogenesis, specifically, the role of serotonin on early sea urchin embryogenesis. It has been shown that 5-HT is present in invertebrate and vertebrate embryos that have not yet developed a nervous system. It is Kamali's aim to understand the role that preneuronal 5-HT plays throughout embryo development by investigating the effects of serotonin receptor ligands that activate specific signal transduction mechanisms, and by look-

ing at the developmental regulation of the rate limiting enzyme for 5-HT synthesis, tryptophan hydroxylase. These studies will give us insight into the regulation of gastrulation, a process common to all developing embryos.

When Kamali is not in lab, she tries to go dancing as much as possible! She also enjoys hiking and long walks in Rock Creek Park, as well as cooking.

## Update on Chair and Program Officer Elections

Due to inexperience on the part of the divisional officers, the fact that DDCB is in the process of regenerating, and the low turn-out at our Divisional Meeting in Boston (Link to Meeting Minutes), we have not been able to recruit candidates to run for the positions of Chair and Program Officer. Thus, we have asked for and received permission to change the terms of our current Chair, Karen Crawford, and Program Officer, Scott Gilbert. Both of them have graciously volunteered to serve another year in their positions. The elections for these positions will be moved to 2010.



Our Chair



Our Program Officer

To better prepare for elections next spring, I would like you to think about whether or not you might be interested in and willing to either serve on a nominating committee for candidates for these positions or if you might want to run for Chair or Program Officer. We will start recruiting for both the nominating



committee and these positions in the fall. Monitor your inbox, because we will be communicating with the members of DDCB about these issues throughout the upcoming summer and fall. Please contact me, Jenn Dearolf at [dearolf@hendrix.edu](mailto:dearolf@hendrix.edu), if you have interests in serving or ideas about other folks that you think might be good candidates for our leadership positions.

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## Minutes of the DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL AND CELL BIOLOGY BUSINESS MEETING, January 5, 2009, Boston, MA

Opening of meeting by our chair, Karen Crawford

Presentation by James Deshler – Program Director of the Developmental Systems Cluster within Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS) - NSF

Discussion of Life in Transition (LIT) initiative by NSF

Visit from SICB officers

Submitted by Secretary Jennifer L. Dearolf

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## Update on Divisional Bylaws Revisions



Honestly, I am not someone who likes to read or write bylaws of any sort. I start to read them and all I can think of is “waa, waa, waa” (think the voices of the adults in any Charlie Brown

special). However, you will be seeing some revisions to our bylaws, to make them consistent with the SICB-wide bylaws, in the fall newsletter. Again, you will be receiving updates about these revisions over the summer and into the fall semester through e-mails. Please feel free to contact me about any of the proposed changes and keep in mind that we will need to vote in these changes for them to take effect.

### Thinking ahead

It was good to see all of you in Boston, and I hope you are considering making the trip to Seattle in 2010. Our division will be sponsoring a symposium at the meeting, that I am sure you will want to attend – “Animal Regeneration: Integrating Development, Ecology, and Evolution” (organized by Alexa Bely and Sara Lindsay). And I hope to see more students competing for the best presentations in our division. All in all, it should be another great SICB meeting.

Thanks for your continued support of the division and again, please consider becoming part of the leadership of DDCB. We need everyone’s help to keep this division alive and growing!

