



Division of Ecology & Evolution

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DEE Officers & Representatives

Michael Sears
Chair 2015-2017

Robert Cox
Chair-Elect 2015-2017

Michael Dillon
Secretary 2015-2017

Christopher Tracy
Program Officer 2016-2018

Eric Riddell
*Student/Postdoc Representative
2014-2017*

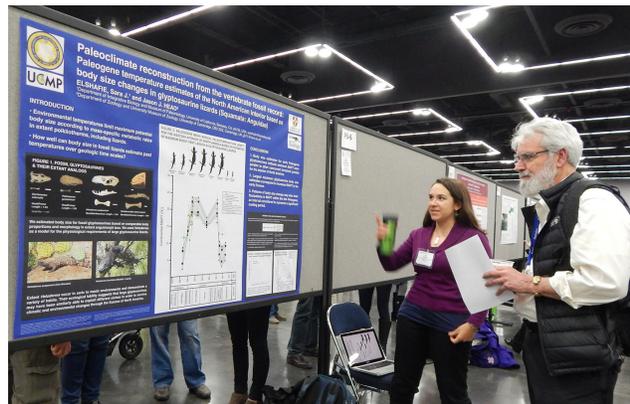
Message from the Chair

Michael Sears, Chair.dee@sicb.org

Hi all, I would like to extend a thanks to everyone for another exciting meeting in Portland. DEE highlights included several well attended symposia, the Huey Award sessions, and our popular Beer and Brains event. That said, we now need to begin looking forward to future meetings.

With regard to symposia, planning for our New Orleans meeting is already underway. We are co-sponsoring five symposia for this upcoming meeting (<http://sicb.org/meetings/2017/symposia/index.php>) covering a broad range of topics. If you are interested in developing a symposium for our 2018 meeting in San Francisco, the deadline for applications is August 25, 2016. The application can be found at <http://sicb.org/meetings/2018/callsymp.php>. If you have an idea for a symposium, it is best to contact the DEE executive committee, sooner than later, to provide feedback that will help ensure a successful application.

Our 4th installation of the Huey Award again highlighted the exciting research of our up and coming future investigators. The quality of the presentations made choosing this year's winner very tough, but that is a good problem to have! In the end, the winner of the oral competition was Natalie Wright (University of Montana), and co-winners for the poster session were Maybellene Gamboa (Colorado State University) and Sara ElShafie (UC Berkeley). I would like to extend a special thanks to our judges—Don Miles, Matt McElroy, Martha Muñoz, Steve Adolph, and Michael Dillon.



Sara ElShafie presenting her award-winning poster to none other than Ray Huey.

The Beer and Brains event continued into its third year, which I guess means that it is now a tradition. Nearly 70 students and faculty attended the event at the Portland Brewing Company, where students and faculty discussed issues pertinent to succeeding in an academic career in science. Again, I would like to thank Don



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Miles for his work in helping to plan this event. To help with the planning of the New Orleans Beer and Brains event, I would like to put together an *ad hoc* committee by August. If you are interested in helping, please contact myself or Chris Tracy. And, as a reminder to students, if your presentation/poster is chosen as a finalist for the Huey Award, you are guaranteed a spot at the event.

One new point that I would like to consider from our business meeting is the idea to charge nominal dues (\$5-\$10) for DEE faculty level members. The money would be used to increase the participation of younger members in society functions, such as Beer and Brains, as well as to provide support for workshops that could be offered to student and postdoctoral members and to provide support for the meeting registration to our Huey Award members the following year. We will send out an online survey to gauge support for this idea as well as to get additional ideas about the best use of these funds. Note, other divisions use such funds to support sponsored talks and socials (think the Bart talk and Social). I believe that the additional funding could really help energize our division.

Message from the Program Officer

Christopher Tracy, DPO.dee@sicb.org

A few months have passed since the SICB meeting in Portland, which resembled an ice skating rink at the beginning of the week, but quickly turned into a pleasant Pacific Northwest winter meeting. The 2016 meeting was the largest ever, with approximately 2000 attendees, 1688 abstracts, and 12 symposia. Once again, the Huey Competition for both oral and poster presentations drew a large audience, and generated a lot of interest throughout the Society.

One of the exciting contributions the Division of Ecology and Evolution brings to the annual meeting is its support of symposia, and it is time to start thinking about potential symposium topics for upcoming meetings. The call for symposium proposals for the 2018 Annual Meeting in San Francisco is now open (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2018/callsymp.php>). SICB attracts symposium topics that have broad interest among Society members, and of DEE members in particular. We would like to continue to have symposia sponsored primarily by DEE, in addition to those we sponsor jointly with other Divisions.

If you are interested in submitting a proposal, I ask that you submit them early. The deadline for proposals reaching the society is 25 August 2016. I invite anyone who has an idea or topic for a potential symposium to contact me by e-mail for feedback and suggestions (DPO.dee@sicb.org). A guide to preparing a symposium proposal is available on the SICB Resources page (http://www.sicb.org/resources/SICB_Symposium_Policies_and_Guidelines_Final.pdf). In the meantime, for those of you who already have initial ideas for a symposium and would like feedback about preparing a proposal, feel free to email me for advice. Please attempt to submit preliminary proposals to me by mid July, so I may offer suggestions to enhance support for the proposals. Proposals that emphasize emerging conceptual and integrative topics of broad interest to the members of SICB as well as our Division are especially encouraged. Junior members of the division should also consider submitting proposals for a symposium or contact other members to organize a topic. DEE has been successful in sponsoring symposia that broaden participation by underrepresented groups. For a perspective on symposia from past meetings (since 2000) check out this link <http://www.sicb.org/archive/symposia.php>.

The 2017 Annual meeting will be in New Orleans (4-8 January), so be sure to mark your calendars! DEE will be sponsoring three symposia, including: (1) Indirect Effects of Global Change, (2) Microbial Partners, and (3) Integrative Life History Consequences of Organismal Performance. For a list of all 11 symposia for 2017, go to <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2017/symposia/index.php>. I hope this year is a productive one for all of our DEE members, and look forward to hearing all about your research in New Orleans!

Message from the Secretary

Michael E. Dillon, Secretary.dee@sicb.org

Our biggest challenge right now is elections. Finding DEE members willing to run for office is difficult. The division cannot function without people willing to step up and help out. The time commitment is minimal and being an officer provides a behind-the-scenes look at DEE and SICB, and gives you the opportunity to meet a whole slew of new people. Contact me (secretary.dee@sicb.org) if you or someone you know is ready to run for office.

We continue to try to update the DEE Researcher Database, a nice way to promote our division and the work of our members. If you've not checked out the



database, go here to get a feel for the strength and breadth of our members and their work. To add your research profile to the DEE page, or to update an existing file, send text files (.doc, .docx or .txt), images (.tif, .jpg, .png, or .gif), or movies (.avi or .mpeg) to secretary.dee@sicb.org.

If you have any ideas for ways to improve DEE, please don't hesitate to contact me (secretary.dee@sicb.org) so I can bring ideas before the officers and our members. Change comes from the support and motivation of our members.

Raymond B. Huey Best Student Presentation Awards

It's our pleasure to announce the winners of the fourth annual Raymond B. Huey Best Student Presentation Award:

BEST ORAL PRESENTATION:

Natalie Wright, University of Montana. *A new island rule for birds: evolution toward flightlessness*

BEST POSTER PRESENTATION (2 winners):

Sara ElShafie, University of California, Berkeley. *Paleogene temperature estimates from body size in glyptosaurine lizards (Squamata: Anguinae) for the interior of North America*

I am an evolutionary biologist and paleontologist interested in large-scale changes in terrestrial vertebrates. I use fossil and extant data to understand faunal responses to global change, particularly in reptiles, on both short and deep timescales. I examine these questions using ecological, physiological, and evolutionary contexts. My most recent project estimated Paleogene temperatures for the Western Interior of North America based on body size change in fossil lizards. My dissertation research will test for consistent responses to climatic and environmental change across all major reptile groups in order to determine which groups may best serve as proxies of abiotic change. I will integrate paleontological and neontological methods to examine morphological or physiological responses among reptiles in selected fossil assemblages with known histories of climatic and environmental change. Comparing these results to recent records of analogous assemblages will determine whether extant reptiles are responding to abiotic change at an accelerated rate relative to responses observed over deep time intervals.



Sara ElShafie (University of California, Berkeley) studies responses of reptiles to global change over short and deep timescales.

Maybellene Gamboa, Colorado State University. *Hot islands, big bills: The effect of gene flow and climate on morphology*

My research focuses on the interaction between gene flow and selection in driving patterns of adaptive phenotypic variation across environmental gradients and how this may be applied to conservation management. To quantify adaptive variation in natural populations, I identify patterns of morphological, physiological, and genomic differentiation in song sparrows distributed along a distinct east-to-west climate gradient on the California Channel Islands. Coupling observed patterns of population differentiation with environmental variation experienced by the organism allows me to infer to what degree the environment, specifically climate, may be contributing to phenotypic differences. Furthermore, by mapping out the phenotypic and environmental space occupied by Channel Island song sparrows, I can identify the ideal candidate populations to use in a National Park Service-sponsored effort to reintroduce song sparrows to an island where they have been extirpated. Ultimately, this project will contribute to our understanding of the interaction of gene flow and selection in natural populations and demonstrate how we may include the evolutionary history of populations to make informed conservation management decisions.



Maybellene Gamboa (Colorado State University) studies adaptive phenotypic variation across environmental gradients.

Congratulations to these outstanding students and to all of the finalists! It is not too early to consider applying for this prestigious award for the 2017 meeting in New Orleans. You can find the application guidelines <http://sicb.org/students/awards.php3#deebpsp>.

Minutes from the Division of Ecology and Evolution Business Meeting, 4 January 2015 are now available (click [here](#)).

Candidates for Elections

It's election time! The DEE is currently holding elections for Chair-elect and Program Officer-elect. PLEASE VOTE!

Candidates for Chair-Elect **Cameron Ghalambor**



Current Position: Professor, Department of Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO.

Education: B.A. Geography and Ecosystems, UCLA (1991); Ph.D., Organismal Biology and Ecology, University of Montana (1998).

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Research, UC Riverside (1999-2003).

SICB Activities: Member since 2002; Associate Editor, Integrative and Comparative Biology (2016-present); Invited Speaker at SICB Symposia: Selection and the Evolution of Performance in Nature (2003), Adaptations for Life at High Elevations (2005), Coping with uncertainty: Integrating physiology, behavior, and evolutionary ecology in changing world (2013), Adaptation or developmental constraint? Uniting evolutionary theory and empirical studies of phenotypic plasticity (2014).

Other Memberships: Society for the Study of Evolution; American Society of Naturalists; American Ornithologist's Union; Cooper Ornithological Society.

Research Interests: My lab studies the processes that facilitate and constrain adaptive divergence in natural populations. Our research interests are largely focused on how variation in environmental factors such as temperature, predation, and salinity lead to adaptive differences in suites of integrated traits. We use a combination of field and lab studies to examine both the genetic and environmental basis of differences in behavior, morphology, life history, and physiology traits, and how these traits are integrated at the whole organism level. A common theme in our work is to examine the dual nature of the environment as both an agent of natural selection and a source of phenotypic plasticity. Our study organisms include fish, birds, and insects; our field sites encompass freshwater streams, forests, chaparral and oak woodland habitats.

Statement of Goals: I believe strongly in the mission of SICB to foster thinking at the interface of organismal, functional, ecological, and evolutionary biology. I view the Society, and particularly DEE, to be in a growing position of relevance in bringing together researchers interested in the mechanisms underlying ecological and evolutionary patterns. Ecological and evolutionary research is becoming more integrative, and SICB is best positioned to lead this charge. As chair, I would take an active role in fostering a sense of community and home for DEE members. I would use social media to better connect graduate students, post-docs, and faculty and increase the personal and research connections of our members, and continue the tradition of bringing our members together for social events (e.g., the Beers and Brains get-together). I would also like to increase the dia-



logue within DEE and between other divisions within SICB, to ensure the symposia we sponsor are at the cutting edge of new approaches and have the broadest appeal. Outside of SICB, I would reach out to other ecological and evolutionary societies (e.g., Ecological Society of America, Society for the Study Evolution), to promote our symposia, the ICB journal, and generally elevate the functional approaches used in DEE to a broader audience.

Daniel Warner



Current Position: Assistant Research Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University, Auburn, AL.

Education: B.A., Animal Ecology, Iowa State University (1998); M.S., Biology, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University (2001); Ph.D., Biology, University of Sydney (2007).

Professional Experience: Assistant Professor, University of Alabama at Birmingham (2012-2015); Postdoc, Iowa State University (2007-2012); Fisheries Biologist, Florida Marine Research Institute (2001-2003).

SICB Activities: Member since 2011 (DEE, DAB); Bartholomew Award Recipient (2014); Reviewer for Integrative and Comparative Biology.

Other Memberships: ASN; Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles; Herpetologists' League.

Research Interests: My research broadly focuses on understanding the factors that generate phenotypic variation within and among populations. By using integrative approaches in the lab and field, we aim to 1) quantify the contributions of developmental and maternal environments to variation in offspring phenotypes and fitness, 2) identify underlying physi-

ological and functional mechanisms of developmental plasticity, and 3) measure the strength and form of natural selection operating on existing phenotypic variation within populations.

Statement of Goals: As a leading society for integrative organismal research, SICB stands out from other societies due to its strong emphasis in ecology and evolution. The breadth of research in SICB makes this Society unique and exciting, and the support that SICB provides junior members (undergraduate and graduate students, and postdocs) is unmatched. DEE is in an excellent position to advance integrative research and strengthen interactions among scientists at different career stages. As chair, I would continue DEE's efforts for promoting interactions among students, postdocs and senior investigators, and work to enhance the "SICB experience" for undergraduates who attend the annual meeting. I would also emphasize the importance of increasing the international reputation of DEE. These goals will be achieved by continuing several current programs that facilitate interactions among members (e.g., Beer and Brains) and that recognize the excellent research of student members (e.g., Huey Award). DEE's international profile will also be raised by recruiting new members and increasing member participation. Specifically, members will be encouraged to submit ideas for workshops, as well as proposals for symposia (possibly co-sponsored with other divisions) that cover timely and integrative topics that span the disciplines of the other divisions of SICB. In addition, the idea of hosting a biennial regional meeting or symposium might be worth considering as another avenue for advancing our field and for attracting new members to the society who typically do not attend SICB.





Candidates for Program Officer-Elect

Christine Miller



Current position: Assistant Professor, Entomology and Nematology Department, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL

Education: B.A., Biology, Wesleyan University, Middletown, CT (1998); Ph.D., Organismal Biology and Ecology, University of Montana with Douglas Emlen (2007).

Professional Experience: Assistant Research Scientist, University of Florida (2007-2011).

SICB Activities: Presented at four SICB conferences, and Member of DEE and DAB.

Other Memberships: Society for the Study of Evolution; European Society for Evolutionary Biology; Animal Behavior Society; American Society of Naturalists; Entomological Society of America; Sigma Xi.

Research Interests: My lab and I strive to understand the evolutionary interplay between morphology and evolution. We primarily focus on sexual selection, tackling such topics as the influence of fighting behavior on the evolutionary diversification in animal weaponry and the effect of resource quality on mate choice and male-male competition. My research is becoming increasingly interdisciplinary, including perspectives and techniques from the fields of functional morphology, genetics, phylogenetics, behavioral, and experimental selection analysis.

Statement of Goals: I am excited by the possibility of contributing to this great Division through the role of Program Officer. I would like to see DEE reach its full potential, by providing many opportunities and inspiration to its members. I support initiatives that will encourage young scientists, modernize our ap-

proaches, create new incentives for interdisciplinary activities, and unleash innovation. I support the existing efforts that spark excellence and collaboration, such as the Raymond B. Huey Award and Beer and Brains. I would like to see expanded opportunities for undergraduates, graduate students, and postdocs to participate in DEE-sponsored events. Excellence in science communication to the public is necessary to counter the fact-phobic mobs, and I would like to see fun workshops on communication and outreach provided for researchers at all levels, including undergraduates. I will work to encourage cutting-edge symposia themes that will bring in new members and encourage involvement by members of other divisions.

Michelle K. Nishiguchi (Nish)



Current Position: Regents Professor and Sundt Honors College Endowed Chair, Department of Biology, New Mexico State University, Las Cruces, NM.

Educational Background: B.S., Biochemistry and Theatre Arts, University of California, Davis (1985); M.S., Marine Biology, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San

Diego (1989); Ph.D., Biology, University of California, Santa Cruz (1994).

Professional Experience: NSF Postdoctoral Associate, University of Southern California and University of Hawaii (1994-97); Postdoctoral Associate, University of California, Los Angeles (1997-98); Assistant Professor (1999-2005), Associate Professor (2005-2009), Professor (2009-2015), New Mexico State University.

SICB Activities: Member since 1988 (DEE, DIZ); Program Officer for DSEB (2004-2007); Chair and Chair-elect for DEE (2007-2011); member of the committee for student support (2007-2010); member of the Broadening Participation committee (2007-2013); Chair of the Broadening Participation committee (2013-2015).



Other Memberships: AAAS; American Malacological Society; American Society of Microbiology; International Society for Microbial Ecology; Sigma Xi; Society for the Study of Evolution; Unitas Malacologia.

Research Interests: My research as an evolutionary microbiologist spans the bridge between microbial ecology and disease evolution, and is best known for deciphering the mechanisms for bacterial infections that occur in animal hosts. My laboratory uses the beneficial association between sepiolid squids (Mollusca: Cephalopoda) and their *Vibrio* symbionts, because it is an experimentally tractable model to study the evolution of animal-bacterial associations through both environmentally isolated and experimentally evolved *Vibrio* populations. Since *Vibrio* bacteria are environmentally transmitted to new hosts with every generation, it provides a unique opportunity to resolve how the ecology of the free-living symbiont affects the architecture of bacterial-host interactions, particularly with respect to environmental conditions.

Statement of Goals: I have been involved with SICB since the late 80s, and have always had an interest in increasing participation, with respect to diversity. I believe that the growth of the Society (as well as meeting attendance) demonstrates a trend for how integrated the divisions within the Society have become, as well as the push for increasing diversity among disciplines. I believe that my experience within multiple avenues of the society will provide additional insight as to more integrated symposia, as well as a program that best represents the direction of where basic science is heading. DEE is one of the divisions that has multiple members across the various research areas, and having that broad spectrum will allow us to bring forth new collaborative research in the program/meeting that highlights what DEE is about.



From the DEE Researchers Database: Sonke Johnsen, *Visual ecology and magnetoreception of marine organisms*