

Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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DCE Officers & Representatives

C. Loren Buck

Chair 2018-2020

Sharon Lynn

Secretary 2017-2019

Brian Walker

Program Officer 2018-2020

Suzanne Austin

*Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee
Representative 2017-2020*

Message from the Chair

C. Loren Buck, chair.DCE@sicb.org

I hope that everyone who was able to attend the meeting in San Francisco enjoyed the meeting, sights, and interactions. I came back both excited and rejuvenated by the research and felt that this was quite possibly the best SICB meeting I have attended. I look forward to seeing all of you, plus new faces, next January in Tampa, FL (2019) and the following year in Austin, TX (2020).

DCE meeting highlights: The 17th annual Howard Bern lecture was presented by Dr. **David Norris**. His lecture, "Five decades of Environmental Comparative Endocrinology", provided an intriguing tour of the history of environmental endocrinology and endocrine disruption. His lecture highlighted the breadth of endocrine disruption and the need for those of us conducting endocrine studies to clearly and consistently communicate our findings to the public. The lecture was well attended and was followed by much discussion that continued at our social over drinks and snacks at the Laughing Bear Organic Brewery. The off-site social, shared with DEDE/DAB and DNNSB, was a first for DCE and seems to have been a great success and a model for future DCE socials.

We also had intense student competitions for the Aubrey Gorbman Oral Presentation Award, won by **Nathan Rieger** for his talk entitled "Oxytocin Induces Sex-Specific Changes in Territorial Defense by Pair-Bonded California Mice", and the Lynn Riddiford Poster Presentation Award, won by **Brenna Gormally** for her poster entitled "Examining how recovery periods during chronic stress impact physiology and behavior in *Passer domesticus*." A big thanks to all of the participants and congratulations to the winners! A special thanks goes to all those who volunteered their time to judge the presentations, and especially to **Bobby Fokidis** who stepped up to the challenge of serving as coordinator and tabulated the final data.

And finally, the efforts and experience of **Ignacio Moore** as outgoing DCE program officer cannot be overstated. Ignacio was instrumental in pulling together a fantastic program and for successfully moving our DCE social off-site. We thank both Ignacio and **Michael Romero**, outgoing DCE chair, for their excellent work for the division.



Michael Romero (outgoing DCE Chair) and David Norris following Dr. Norris' presentation of the 2018 Howard Bern Lecture.



New Business: The DCE business meeting covered a number of important topics. The financial status of the division is good. We continued to discuss the endowment fund for the Howard Bern lecture. To fully fund the annual lecture requires the endowment to eventually reach at least \$80,000. The good news is that we are more than halfway to our goal. Please consider donations to the fund — with every little bit we get closer!

I also want to alert everyone to the upcoming election for the DCE program officer-elect. (**Bobby Fokidis** and **Sara O'Brien** have graciously agreed to run). I strongly encourage everyone to vote. And finally, it is time to begin planning for our next meetings in Tampa and Austin, respectively. Specifically, please contact me or any of the DCE officers with your suggested nominations for the Howard Bern lecture (note that the deadline for nominations is August 24, 2018) or to propose exciting DCE symposia.

Message from the Program Officer

Brian Walker, DPO.DCE@SICB.org

Greetings DCE members. Thanks to all for a really wonderful 2018 SICB-DCE meeting in San Francisco in January. It was the largest SICB conference to date, and was full of great symposia, talks and posters! It is not too early to start thinking about Tampa in 2019 (January 3-7).

As Loren mentioned above, for this year's DCE social, we partnered with three other divisions and went off-site. Please, if you have any feedback — positive or negative — about this year's social, let me know your thoughts at the above email address.

The symposia for Tampa have already been set. There is a great group of 12 sessions that have been scheduled. Excitingly, five of the symposia are co-sponsored by our division! You can see the list at the SICB webpage for the [Tampa meeting](#).

Also, the symposia for the 2020 meeting in Austin will be decided in October, when the Program Committee convenes in Tampa to get the final details of the 2019 meeting worked out. Please, if you have ideas for future symposia, go to the SICB webpage: sicb.org/meetings/2020/callsymp.php. **Please note that the deadline is August 24th 2018.** It would be great to have four or more symposia that represent our division!

Here's to a productive spring to all of you!

Message from the Secretary

Sharon Lynn, secretary.DCE@sicb.org

What a terrific SICB meeting in San Francisco this year! Thanks to all of you for your contributions to making the conference a success. I hope everyone who attended found it to be stimulating and productive, and that the new year is off to a great start for all of you.

Once again, it is time for another DCE election! **Brian Walker** began his two-year term as DCE Program Officer at this year's conference, and now is the time to elect a Program Officer-Elect for our division who will follow in Brian's footsteps. We have a two excellent candidates, whose information appears below. Please take a moment to vote and make your voice heard!

Also, if you haven't already, please join our **Facebook group**: www.facebook.com/groups/104465249680261. This is an excellent venue for asking endocrinology-related questions, connecting with colleagues, and posting announcements about jobs, funding opportunities, and conferences. We currently have nearly 250 members and would like to keep the group growing!

Also, our Student/Post Doc representative, **Suzanne Austin**, has recently created a **DCE Twitter account (@SICB_DCE)**. Thanks, Suzanne! If you would like to have anything posted to the twitter account, please contact Suzanne directly.

You can also email me at secretary.DCE@sicb.org with any announcements you would like to have included in the SICB monthly member update. If you would like to do this, please be sure to do so by the 5th of each month.

Finally, below are some **upcoming meetings** to mark on your calendars:

- Canadian Society of Zoologists Annual Meeting: May 7-11, 2018, Memorial University, St. John's.
- Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Annual Meeting (joint meeting with International Congress of Neuroendocrinology): June 15-18, 2018, Toronto, Canada.
- Animal Behavior Society Annual Meeting: August 2-6, 2018, University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee, WI.
- Evolution Annual Meeting: August 19-22, 2018, Montpellier, France.
- Society for Experimental Biology: July 3-6, 2018, Florence, Italy.



- American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Annual Meeting: July 11-15, 2018, Rochester, NY.
- Society for Neuroscience Annual Meeting: November 3-7, 2018, San Diego, CA.
- 29th Conference of European Comparative Endocrinology: August 2018, Glasgow, United Kingdom.
- North American Society for Comparative Endocrinology (NASCE), 2019, University of Florida, Gainesville, FL.

Wishing you all a safe and productive spring!

Message from the Student/Post-doctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Suzanne Austin, shaustin@ucdavis.edu

It was great to see so many students and post-docs at this year's annual meeting in San Francisco. As always, the meeting offered great opportunities for learning new skills and networking. Workshops of particular interest to DCE or early career scientists were the *ICB Editor's Challenge to Define Stress* (1/3/2018), the SPDAC roundtable, "*Just publish papers*" vs. *outreach and advocacy* (1/4/2018), and the Student Support Committee's workshop for graduate students on *Writing a Competitive GIAR/FGST Grant*. On the final afternoon, there was also the society-wide social event in honor of students and post-docs.

Make sure to check out the comprehensive list of External Grant & Fellowship Opportunities for Students and Postdocs put together by the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee. It can be accessed through the "[For Students tab](#)" on the SICB website (though links may change as the website is updated), along with a number of other links of interest to students and post-docs.

Finally, thanks to everyone who live-tweeted DCE talks, events, and symposia using the #SICB2018 hashtag! I'm looking forward to seeing you all at #SICB2019 in Tampa, Florida! Please feel free to reach out to me via email if you have any suggestions, comments, or questions related to students and post-docs or DCE.

If you haven't already, please join our **Facebook group** (www.facebook.com/groups/104465249680261). It's a wonderful resource!

Best Student Paper Awards

DCE would like to congratulate our best student paper award winners for 2018!

- Aubrey Gorbman Best Student Oral Presentation Award, **Nathan Rieger**, "Oxytocin Induces Sex-Specific Changes in Territorial Defense by Pair-Bonded California Mice"
- Lynn Riddiford Best Student Poster Award, **Brenna Gormally**, "Examining how recovery periods during chronic stress impact physiology and behavior in *Passer domesticus*".

Divisional Candidates

Candidates for Program Officer-Elect, in alphabetical order



Bobby Fokidis,
candidate for DCE
Program Officer-elect

H. Bobby Fokidis

Bobby Fokidis, candidate for DCE Program Officer-elect

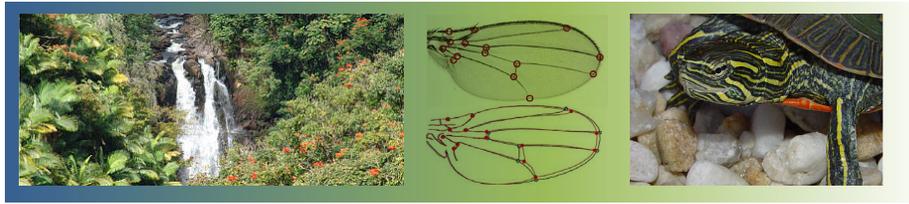
Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Rollins College, Winter Park, Florida.

Education: BSc in Environmental Sciences. University of Toronto, 2001, MS in Biology, Arkansas State University, 2004, PhD in Biology, Arizona State University, 2010.

Professional Experience: National Sciences and Engineering Research Council Fellow and Adjunct Professor, Department of Psychology. University of British Columbia. Research Scientist, Vancouver Prostate Centre.

SICB Activities: 2006-ongoing, Session chair or co-chair for sessions on *Stress* (2008, 2012), *Behavioral Neuroendocrinology* (2010, 2011, 2014) and *Comparative Endocrinology* (2018). Organizer for Aubrey Gorbman and Lynn Riddiford Awards (2018). DCE student presentation and poster judge (various years from 2008-2018)

Other Memberships: Society for Neuroscience, Society for Behavioral Neuroscience, Animal Behavior Society, American Physiological Society, International Society for Behavioral Ecology, American Ornithological Society, American Society for Ichthyologists and Herpetologists.



Research Interests: Endocrine and metabolic consequences of anthropogenic disturbance to birds and reptiles; Urbanization impacts on native and invasive lizards and turtles; Neuroendocrine regulation of territorial behavior during food insecurity in songbirds; The role of energy balance in the promotion of local tissue-level steroidogenesis.

Goals Statement: If elected Program Officer, my goal would be to work alongside other SICB divisional representatives to continue the well-structured programs seen at the annual meetings and particularly to encourage the membership to develop new symposia and workshops on novel, cutting-edge topics that focus on addressing large-scale questions in integrative biology and comparative endocrinology. Particularly, I am interested in developing a means to encourage increased participation from international researchers and from researchers at smaller US institutions. This could include collaborating with other program officers at SICB on fund-raising activities.



Sara O'Brien

Sara O'Brien, candidate for DCE Program Officer-elect

Current Position: Associate Professor, Radford University Dept. of Biology, Radford VA, 2012-present. Director, Radford University Scholar-Citizen Initiative, Radford VA, 2017-present.

Education: PhD, University of Washington, Seattle, WA, 2009, Zoology. MS, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 2002, Integrative

Biology. BS, University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign, 1999, Animal Science.

*Sara O'Brien,
candidate for DCE
Program Officer-elect*

Professional Experience: PULSE-SERP Institute Fellow, 2016; Council for Undergraduate Research (CUR) Outstanding Mentor, Biology Division-Early Career, 2015; Radford University "Roots & Branches" Commission-campus diversity initiative, 2014-present; Radford University "Summer Bridge" young women in science advancement program-Faculty Fellow, Environmental Science, 2013-14; Environmental Assessment scientist: Torello Co. Building and Land Use, Wildlife Health & Habitat Reporting, 2006.

SICB Activities: Conference presentations: 2003, -04, -06, -07*, -09**, -10, -14*, -15*, -16*, -17*, -18* (*co-author, **best student poster); Additional Attendee Years: 2013. DCE Best Student Paper Judge; SICB Donor; SICB Loyal Member.

Other Memberships: Sigma Xi, AWIS, AAC&U, CUR.

Research Interests: Exploring how organisms respond to dynamic environments, be it natural or anthropogenic changes. Current research topics include elucidating mechanisms involved in the timing of breeding (reproductive endocrinology) and the impact of endocrine disrupting chemicals on aquatic wildlife (ecotoxicology).

Goals Statement: Since I attended my first conference in 2003, SICB has remained a touchstone for me as a scientific community, a source for scientific networking, and a display of scientific advancement. SICB welcomed me during my own development as a scientist and now I continue to encourage and foster the participation of my own students. I value the SICB wealth of knowledge as a resource for my own continuing research endeavors well into my career. It is my hope to participate more formally within SICB and the DCE in particular. Knowing the current program officer and having a good working relationship with him will allow for a seamless transition from Dr. Brian Walker's leadership. I will continue to work to continue to deliver the impressive and seamless symposia organized by the DCE, and I will be honored to serve in this role and uphold this tradition. I will continue to promote DCE symposia in future years, continue to seek promotion and support of the Bern Lecture, and will continue work to ensure that DCE and SICB are welcoming and inclusive to scientists of any background.