

Division of Vertebrate Morphology

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DVM Officers & Representatives

John Hutchinson
Chair 2017-2019

L Patricia Hernandez
Chair Elect 2017-2019

Callum Ross
Past Chair 2017-2019

Laura Ekstrom
Secretary 2018-2020

Andrew Clark
Past Secretary 2018-2019

Brooke Flammang
Program Officer 2017-2019

Christopher Mayerl
Student/Postdoc Representative 2017-2020

Message from the Chair

John Hutchinson (chair.dvm@sicb.org)

Greetings DVM members,

Thanks for a great turnout at the SICB 2018 business/members/divisional meeting and for a lot of vigorous discussion there and since. It was a wonderful meeting, too! I am shocked to realize that my tenure as Chair is over halfway done and I'll be handing things over to Patricia Hernandez at the end of SICB 2019. Congratulations again to our winners of best student presentations — it was a pleasure to chair and judge them, with such consistently high quality. I look forward to doing that again. Please encourage your students to join in the competition for SICB 2019!

There was an email about the DVM-DCB social sent around soliciting feedback, and we'll be considering that feedback as we prepare for SIC B2019, which offer a different type of social. Enough said about that for now, but in my next update this year there will be plenty more information.

As a reminder or for those who missed the business meeting, we discussed whether a change to a more inclusive DVM, to become something like the Division of Organismal (or Integrative, or whatever) Morphology, would be a good thing overall. There were many pros and cons raised, and after that discussion I called for a semi-informal show of hands to see if we should take this to a whole-DVM vote (2/3 in favor needed to pass this major change) or not. I considered abstentions and "no" votes to be equivalent, and did not see a majority in favor. Hence we are not pursuing this idea further — but it is on the record as an idea that can be revisited in the future, so it's not dead. I think that change and lateral thinking should be at least discussed now and then, and that is what business meetings should (at least in part) be for.

Speaking of meetings, why not organize your own DVM regional meeting? This is a proud DVM tradition. You can talk with others who have organized a meeting before, get together with local colleagues to co-organize, and/or speak to DVM representatives for advice. We can provide some funding or other support (contact me about that well in advance, please!).

Finally, another email that has gone out from me via SICB is about our regional meeting in London on 11 May. Details can be found at: <https://sicbdvm.wixsite.com/london>. We are very excited about this! Please let any colleagues in the greater London/Europe area know. We have space for 200 attendees and are hoping to pack the NHM's Flett Theatre. Once those 200 tickets sell out, we cannot take any more meeting registrants. It is a beautiful time of year to visit London, with spring flowers and (sometimes) nice sunshine, so maybe schedule a trip? The NHM has a blue whale skeleton mounted in its



great hall, which is very impressive (as is Cambridge's whale). With all London area museums free to visit, why not make a big trip out of it?

I already am eagerly anticipating my trip to SICB 2019 in Tampa. As you can see online at www.sicb.org/meetings/2019/symposia/index.php, DMV is co-sponsoring 5 symposia. Keep an eye on the 2019 meeting website, and I hope to see you in Florida if not sooner!

Gracias, John

Message from the Program Officer

Brooke Flammang (dpo.dvm@sicb.org)

This year, once again, the society received a very large number of abstracts – close to 2000, with approximately a quarter of those from DVM and DCB combined. Together, DVM and DCB featured 35 oral sessions over 4 days, and 3 days of poster sessions showcasing 185 posters. Jake Socha and I had a happily challenging time constructing the talk and poster schedule as a result of all your excellent submissions. As DVM PO, I am really proud of the exceptional quality of work that is showcased in our divisions, especially given the number of presentations overall at the meeting this year.

For the third year in a row we featured a dedicated session for students competing in the Dwight D. Davis Best Student Oral Presentation competition — which by all accounts was fantastic and it was a difficult decision for the judges to choose the winner. Similarly, the Karel F. Liem Poster Presentation competition displayed some of our highest quality student work yet. Big congratulations to our Best Student Presentation award winners **Kristin Stover** (Dwight Davis award) and **Dylan Wainwright** (Karl Liem award). Our students continue to be a scientific tour de force and represent a bright future for our society.

Looking forward to the 2019 meeting in Tampa, we will be co-sponsoring 5 very exciting symposia:

1. **Adaptation and Evolution of Biological Materials** (Organizers: Rob Campbell & Mason Dean)
2. **Comparative Evolutionary Morphology and Biomechanics in the Era of Big Data** (Organizers: Martha Munoz & Samantha Price)
3. **Multifunctional Structures and Multistructural Functions: Functional Coupling and Integration in the**

Evolution of Biomechanical Systems (Organizers: Stacy Farina & Emily Kane)

4. **Playing with Power: Mechanisms of Energy Flow in Organismal Movement** (Organizers: Jeffrey Olberding, Michael Rosario, & Stephen Deban)
5. **The Path Less Traveled: Reciprocal Illumination of Gecko Adhesion by Unifying Material Science, Biomechanics, Ecology, and Evolution** (Organized by: Tim Higham, Alyssa Stark, & Anthony Russell)

The website for symposium proposals for the 2020 SICB meeting in Austin, TX is live: sicb.org/meetings/2020/callsymp.php. Proposal guidelines are also available on this website. The deadline for symposium proposals is August 24, 2018. The Program Committee will select the final symposia for 2020 at our meeting this fall. As a reminder, we are particularly interested in forward-looking symposia that are of interest to members across SICB and that address the broader impacts criteria of NSF. Please feel free to contact me with any questions and to discuss any topic ideas that you may have.

One last quick note, for other morphological conference fun, ICVM is a guest society at Experimental Biology in San Diego April 22-25 2018 and the International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology (ICVM) will be in Prague in July 2019 (they are also accepting symposia ideas for ICVM until April 15).

Message from the Secretary

Laura Ekstrom (secretary.dvm@sicb.org)

En route to the airport to depart for my first SICB meeting as DVM Secretary, I received the dreaded text: Your flight has been cancelled due to a winter storm. So, my first official business is to thank the outgoing DVM Secretary, Andrew Clark, for stepping in and covering for me during the DVM business meeting.

Also, thank you to all of you! This year, DVM contributed to the largest divisional submission of abstracts (along with DCB). I heard nothing but jealousy-inducing reports about the quality of the science and dining options in San Francisco.

As is true for past years, our symposia proceedings constitute most of the material for our ICB journal, which, in turn, is a substantial source of revenue for SICB. Please consider proposing symposia for future meetings (Deadline for SICB



2020 in Austin, TX is August 24, 2018). In other journal news, SICB will have a second journal appearing in 2019; look for more details on the new journal coming soon!

DVM's Twitter and Facebook groups continue to be useful resources for job postings, research advice, and teaching suggestions. Please also refer to [SICB's RER](#) (Research and Educational Resources) page for additional teaching resources and to share your own ideas.

No new revisions to bylaws were proposed in this year's DVM Business Meeting. The Division will be electing a Chair-Elect and Secretary-Elect (see below for candidate profiles). Thank you to all who are currently serving, and to our officer nominating committee (Manny Azizi, Misty Paig-Tran, and Nicolai Konow). We welcome Mason Dean as our new PO-elect!

Message from the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Christopher Mayerl

Hi Everyone,

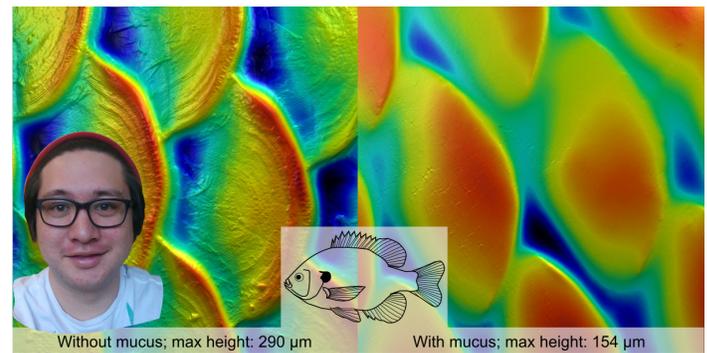
I hope you are all having a lovely start to the spring. I wanted to let you know about a couple of things that I've been doing in conjunction with the DCB SPDAC, Brett Aiello. First, I wanted to remind you all that we now have a DVM/DCB twitter that we're using as a resource to both highlight student accomplishments (papers, presentations, etc) in the divisions, as well as disseminate job possibilities for students (grad school, postdoc, faculty positions). If you're a student and you just published a paper, let us know at [@mechsNmorph](#) so that we can share it with the world! And if you have a postdoctoral position that you're hiring for, or if you know of any that might be relevant to DVM students, let us know that as well!

The other thing I wanted to highlight is that Brett and I have been feeling like we're having to rediscover the wheel in our search for postdoctoral fellowships. To that end, we've started curating a list of potential fellowships for postdocs, and we'll continue adding to it as we discover more and more! Here's the [link to what we've found so far](#). If you know of any others, don't hesitate to tell us so that we can add them to the list! Also, don't forget about the list of grants and fellowships that SPDAC maintains [here](#).

As always, if any students or postdocs have any questions, ideas, or need anything else from me, feel free to contact me directly. Thanks!

Best Student Paper Awards

This year DVM's Best Student Paper awards went to Kristin Stover and Dylan Wainwright. Kristin won the Dwight Davis Award for Best Oral Presentation for her talk, *Not so fast food: Morphological speed limits in the domestic turkey*. Kristin's work demonstrated that domestic turkeys have a morphological speed limit compared to wild turkeys, and this is influenced by both muscle weakness due to scaling and changes in mass distribution. Dylan won the Karl Liem Best Poster Presentation Award for his poster, *Mucus matters: the complex and slippery surfaces of fish*. In it, Dylan demonstrated that the mucus coat of fishes can interact with scale topography in many ways — from having very little effect, to completely obscuring the scales. Kristin completed her PhD at Brown University and is now a postdoc at UC Irvine with Manny Azizi and Dylan is finishing up his PhD with George Lauder at Harvard and will soon be on the hunt for a postdoc position. Congratulations on your awards!



Dylan Wainwright, Harvard University



Kristin Stover, UC Irvine



Candidate Profiles for the Spring 2018 DVM Elections

Chair-Elect



Casey Holliday,
University of Missouri

Casey Holliday

Current Position: Associate Professor of Anatomy, Integrative Anatomy Program, Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences, University of Missouri.

Education: Ph.D., 2006, Ecology & Evolutionary Biology, Ohio University (with Lawrence Witmer); B.S., 1997, Zoology, University of Florida.

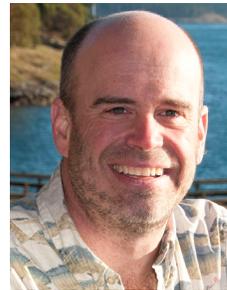
Professional Experience: 2009-present, Assistant/Associate Professor, Integrative Anatomy Program, Department of Pathology and Anatomical Sciences, University of Missouri. 2007-2009, Assistant Professor, Department of Pathology and Anatomy, Marshall University. 2005-2007, Lecturer in Anatomy, Ohio University. 1998-2000, Fossil Preparator, Field Museum of Natural History. 1995-1998, Collections Assistant, Florida Museum of Natural History. Symposia organized: Adaptive Medicine: Zoo and Exotics Veterinary Care in an Endangered World (AAA 2019). The Beginning of the Age of Crocodiles: Paleobiology of Early Mesozoic Suchians (SVP 2019). The Future of Life's History, SVP mini-meeting (AAA 2017). Development, Evolution and Biomechanics of the Palate (ICVM 2016). The Scaling of Imaging (AAA 2015). New Directions in Reptile Skeletal Tissue Biology (ICVM 2013). Making Connections: the evolution and function of joints in the fossil record (SVP 2010).

SICB Activities: Member of DVM since 2001 and DCB & DCPB since their inception. SICB DVM Secretary 2013-2015. Presentation/Poster Judge, 2012. SICB Mentor Program 2018. ISVM Scientific Programming Committee 2018-2019.

Other Memberships: Society of Vertebrate Paleontology, American Association of Anatomists, International Society of Vertebrate Morphology, the Paleontological Society

Research Interests: My research interests lie in exploring the form, function and evolution of the skull, particularly those of crocodiles, birds and dinosaurs. I use a variety of anatomical and computational tools to answer questions about the biomechanics of cranial kinesis, skeletal tissue biology of joints, and jaw muscle anatomy and evolution.

Statement of Goals: SICB DVM has always been my home and I look forward to having the opportunity to help serve and guide our group. My recent stints abroad as program officer for AAA among other experiences have introduced me to how we, as morphologists, scientists, and educators, can build bridges amongst our peers in neighboring fields. We have interesting times ahead as we grow and mentor the next generation of members, navigate the role of social media in the sciences, and continue to shepherd inclusivity, all the while struggling to maintain support for our work at a number of institutional levels. As chair, I will continue to serve you, promote you, and work to develop means of further strengthening DVM. I will also propose that all further publications from members solely be about crocodiles.



Adam Summers,
University of
Washington's Friday
Harbor Laboratories

Adam Summers

Current Position: Professor, University of Washington's Friday Harbor Laboratories

Education: Ph.D. 1999 UMASS Amherst (with Beth Brainerd); MS in Biology 1992 NYU; BA in Mathematics & BS in Engineering 1986 Swarthmore College.

Professional Experience: 1999-2001 Miller Post doc, UC Berkeley (w/ Marvilee and David Wake); 2001-2009 Assistant and Associate Professor, UC Irvine; 2008-2009 NSF Program Director, BIO/IOS; 2017 Keohane Distinguished Visiting Professor UNC and Duke.

SICB Activities: Founding EIC Integrative Organismal Biology (2018-present), Nominating Committee DVM (2008, 2015, 2017), Nominating Committee (Society-wide) (2011, 2018), Nominating Committee DCB (2009), Bartholomew Award selection committee (2009-2018), Member at large (2009-2011), Editorial Board, Integrative and Comparative Biology (2007-2012), Student talk award judge, Division of Comparative Biomechanics (2008), Membership Committee (2004-2007), Student Support Committee (2004-2005), Chair (2006-2007), D. Dwight Davis best student paper judge - DVM (2001), Chair of the best poster prize naming committee (2000), Post-doctoral representative for the Division of Vertebrate Morphology (2000-2001), Graduate student representative for DVM (1995-1998)

Other Memberships: American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, American Elasmobranch Society, AAAS



Research Interests: Vertebrate morphology, biomaterials, biomechanics, visualizing morphology in 3D, open access and open science.

Statement of Goals: Our division is strong and has a wonderful sense of community. On many issues DVM has tested the waters and forged new paths. I would like to see that continue with initiatives to make the meeting more accessible to people who are not attending. Open access, live streamed talks and poster sessions, and open access publication of posters are all issues I would like to see our vibrant community talk about. I would also like to air out John Hutchinson's question about posting social media about talks and posters during the meeting.

Secretary-Elect



Angela Horner, Cal
State University
San Bernardino

Angela Horner

Current Position: Assistant Professor of Biology, Cal State University San Bernardino

Education: BS, 2000 Centre College; MS, 2005 University of Cincinnati; PhD, 2010 Ohio University

Professional Experience: 2013-Present, Assistant Professor of Biology CSUSB; 2010-2013, Research and Teaching Postdoc Brown University, SEB and EB symposium organizer and contributor

SICB Activities: DVM Nominating committee, DVM and DCB student presentation judge, active member since 2003.

Other Memberships: Society for Experimental Biology, International Society of Vertebrate Morphology, American Society of Mammalogists

Research Interests: Functional morphology and locomotion (especially of small mammals), comparative biomechanics, and the evolution of substrate specialization

Statement of Goals: I'm excited to have the opportunity to take a more active role in SICB, and DVM in particular; I recall a mentor encouraging me to attend business meetings at a very early stage, and have been proud to see our division grow in membership and activity since then. Regional meetings are now quite widespread and very well attended, and I hope to see these meetings spread to even more locations — they are a wonderful opportunity to make connections with local(ish) researchers, and for our students to showcase their work. I am encouraged by the directions our Division has taken to make data more widely and easily accessible,

and will continue to advocate for sharing of resources, both pedagogical and research related.



Emily Kane, Georgia
Southern University

Emily Kane

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Biology Department, Georgia Southern University, Statesboro. GA

Education: B.S., 2006, Marine Science with Biology concentration, Southampton College of Long Island University; M.S., 2009, Wildlife and Fisheries Sciences, Texas A&M University; Ph.D., 2014, Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology, University of California - Riverside

Professional Experience: NSF Postdoctoral Fellow, 2014-2016, Colorado State University; Assistant Professor, 2017-current, Georgia Southern University

SICB Activities: Member of SICB since 2006; Active in DVM, DCB, and DEE, including business meetings, socials, workshops, and student talk/poster judge; Co-Organizer for upcoming symposium, "Multifunctional structures and multistructural functions: Functional coupling and integration in the evolution of biomechanical systems" in Tampa, FL

Other Memberships: Sigma Xi; Society for the Study of Evolution

Research Interests: Evolutionary and ecological biomechanics; I am currently using freshwater guppies and sunfish as model systems to understand how feeding and locomotor systems work together over short and long time scales.

Statement of Goals: I am honored to receive a nomination for this position! As I transition into a new faculty role, I am eager to begin increasing my involvement in SICB and DVM in new ways. I am organized and I write everything down, so I could transition naturally into this position and ensure the success of DVM. I am also an advocate of science communication and being able to convey messages to broad audiences. Although we normally think of this skill relative to research content, effective communication skills also extend to writing divisional newsletters and emails and interacting with SICB members as an officer. I have gained many of these skills as a byproduct of advancing in academia, but I look forward to learning new ways to practice and develop communication skills. DVM has done an incredible job supporting the scholarship of their members and I look forward to contributing to that success into the future!