

Division of Neurobiology

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Message from the Chair

James Murray, Chair.DNB@sicb.org

Greetings neuro folk, I hope you all had a productive summer. I spent much of my summer at the Friday Harbor Laboratories teaching a graduate course and using their fine facilities for research. Being at FHL is a daily history lesson, as the labs contain evidence of the visits of many fine neuroscientists over the decades. I am remembering one ancient sun-bleached wooden table used to hold an inertial weight with the names of at least a dozen 'slug pokers' on it (including those of former SICB president Rich Satterlie former DNB Secretary Tom Pirtle). The lab was the site of some of the earliest intracellular recordings from freely moving animals, but in addition to the preserved history, it has also embraced modern technology and techniques. Like FHL, our Society also truly values an historical perspective, and encourages advancing technology and student training as part of its mission.

Speaking of technology, we will soon be announcing a loan program to provide your lab with a physiology recording system (PowerLab with LabChart software by ADInstruments). [ADInstruments](#) has generously offered to loan this system to one of our neuroscientists and the unit will change hands periodically (interval to be determined). One of the great strengths of this system is the ease of use and its ability to synchronize video of behavior with physiological recordings. ADInstruments usually has a booth at the meeting if you wish to view what they are offering.

I am relinquishing the chair this January and becoming a civilian again. I am pleased to be handing over the gavel to Jim Belanger in San Francisco, but I will be staying active in DNB. Thank you all for supporting me as chair these many years. I am also pleased that the annual meeting is coming to my adopted home 'town' of San Francisco. The organizers I'm sure will help orient you to some of what this great city has to offer, but I also encourage you to contact me if you have any questions (Chair.DNB@sicb.org). I will send out some advice for things to do as we get closer to the meeting, but for starters, SF has two (!) very nice aquariums, one in the beautiful California Academy of Sciences. I hope if you travel from far away, you can afford to come early or leave late and enjoy the city. By that time, I plan to have our newly installed confocal microscope, so if you feel like bringing some slides, I can give you a tour of our facility. My university is not far from our Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) train station.

I look forward to seeing you all again, your presentations and symposia. Thanks to Lisa for her efforts as Secretary, and especially to Duane for many years of productive effort as DNB Program Officer.

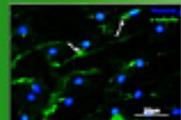
DNB Officers & Representatives

James Murray
Chair 2007-2013

Lisa Mangiamele
Secretary 2012-2014

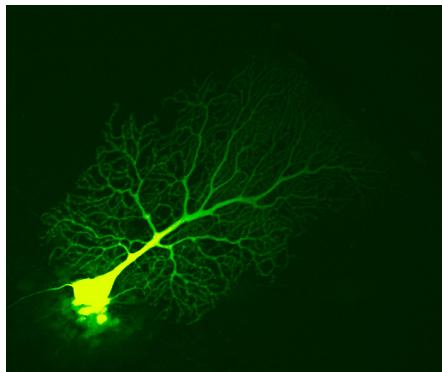
Duane McPherson
Program Officer 2012-2014

Darcy Ernst
Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative 2010-2013



SICB Newsletter

Fall 2012 Issue



Message from the Program Officer *Duane McPherson, DPO.DNB@sicb.org*

Greetings! The SICB Program Committee met on the weekend of September 22nd and set up the program schedule for the San Francisco meeting. As we had anticipated, a record number of abstracts were submitted: 1642 at last count. Within Neurobiology, there are 29 oral presentations scheduled and 37 posters, distributed across the four days of invited and contributed sessions. These numbers represent increases over previous years, showing that our division is continuing to grow. Besides the abstracts specifically designated for neurobiology, there are of course many presentations in the symposia and in other contributed sessions with neurobiological themes.

Our **Business Meeting** is scheduled for **Saturday, January 5th** from 5:15 to 6:15 p.m. Please plan to attend, because the health of our division depends on the participation of its members.

Our **Social** will be held on **Friday, January 4th** beginning at 6:00 p.m. As we have done in recent years, the social is a joint event with the Division of Animal Behavior (their business meeting immediately precedes the social). Holding a joint social not only enhances our natural affiliation with the behavioral biologists but also allows us to pool our dollar resources and provide more and better refreshments.

Note: In a departure from past years, we have decided not to have a cash bar at this year's social. The reason for that decision is that it costs a lot to pay for the required bartender and also that the price-per-drink was going to be in the \$9 to \$10 range. It seemed unlikely that many of our members would buy enough drinks at that price to make it worthwhile providing the bar. So instead we will have more money to spend on tasty hors d'ouevres. So have a beverage in the poster session, or at one of the many bars around the hotel, and then join us in the Cityscape room at

the top of the hotel (46th floor) and enjoy some fabulous views of the city and surrounds. And in contrast to last year's social, the space won't be crowded: the Cityscape room has more than 8,500 square feet.

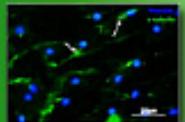
Best Student Presentations: As always, we need volunteers to judge the Best Student Presentations. Please be a nice person and volunteer to judge some posters or talks, by checking the appropriate box on your meeting registration form. Then, if you will notify me that you'll be judging (DPO.DNB@sicb.org or mcpheiso@geneseo.edu), I'll arrange to have your registration packet pre-loaded with judging forms.

Message from the Secretary *Lisa Mangiameli, Secretary.DNB@sicb.org*

As we look forward to the upcoming SICB meeting (Jan 3 -7, 2013) in San Francisco, I'd like to remind you of ways that you can connect with other DNB members. As Duane mentioned, please plan to attend the joint DAB/DNB social event on Friday. Of course, there will also be the Neurobiology-related talks and poster sessions, but don't forget to also attend the **undergraduate poster session**, usually held on the first day of the meeting. This is one way that we can all support our junior DNB members, and the students really appreciate the conversations and feedback. At the last business meeting, members suggested that this poster session should be better advertised, so please encourage everyone you know to go!

As always, I also encourage you to connect with other SICB DNB members outside the meeting via social networks. SICB DNB has a Facebook group and a LinkedIn group (see News & Announcements below for details on how to join). Because we are all looking forward to seeing friends and colleagues at the upcoming meeting, now would be a great time to join!

And finally, we still don't have many entries representing DNB in the **Researcher Database**. This is a society-wide effort meant to facilitate information exchange among SICB members about their research interests and current projects. To add your information to the database, just email me (Secretary.DNB@sicb.org) a short description of your research, along with a photo, and I will add it to the SICB webpage. It's free publicity: photos entered in the Researcher Database will show up on the rotating image at the top of the SICB homepage!



SICB Newsletter

Fall 2012 Issue

Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative Darcy Kato Ernst

Hello Students! I hope you are all excited about the upcoming meeting! I wanted to point out four events at the 2013 meeting that are especially relevant to students and postdoc members:

- 1) If it is your first time at the meeting, consider attending the **orientation session** on **Thursday, January 3** at 5:30 pm, "How to get the most out of your SICB meeting."
- 2) The Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee is putting on a **workshop for students** on **Sunday, January 6** from 6:30 to 8 pm. The workshop will be about "elevator talks." It will be an interactive workshop on how to develop an "elevator talk" for your research level (undergrad, grad, postdoc) and how to effectively explain your science in just a few minutes.
- 3) There will be a student/postdoc booth in the exhibition hall throughout the conference that will be staffed with volunteer faculty members there to mentor students on a specific topic. Potential topics include mentoring, editing CVs, teaching portfolios, application processes, and alternative careers. Definitive topics will be announced closer to the meeting.
- 4) Attend the society-wide **social in honor of students and postdocs** on **Monday, January 7** from 4:00 – 6:00 pm.



News and Announcements: SICB DNB Facebook and LinkedIn Groups

Want to connect with other SICB members online? Here's how:

To join the Facebook group, go to: <http://www.facebook.com/groups/4274475545/>
Click **Ask to Join Group** at the upper right side of the SICB DNB group's page. You can also be added to a group by a friend who is already a member.

To join the **LinkedIn** group, log in to your LinkedIn page, move your cursor over Groups at the top of your homepage, and select **Groups Directory** from the dropdown menu. Then search for "SICB Division of Neurobiology" using the **Search Groups** box on the left. Click the **Join Group** button.

New DNB Chair: Jim Belanger



Our new Chair of DNB, Jim Belanger (West Virginia University), officially takes office at the end of the upcoming SICB meeting in January. Be sure to say hello and introduce yourself when you see him at the meeting!

SICB Digital Library/Teaching Database

Check out the new section of the SICB web site: under the Resources tab, go to Educational and Teaching Resources and select SICB Digital Library. The Digital Library is a database of instructional materials, resources, and activities submitted by some SICB members to enhance undergraduate education in integrative and comparative biology. However, the Educational Council encourages **all** SICB members to share teaching resources. Right now, you can do this by entering information about the courses you teach into your member directory page. The quality of this resource depends on the active participation of all SICB members, so please contribute!

Jobs & Fellowships

It's that time of year again – the job season! Don't forget that the SICB website maintains a searchable database of jobs (all levels) and fellowships that are especially relevant to SICB members. This is an excellent resource for students/postdocs hoping to take the next step, but it is also a valuable (and free!) resource for more senior DNB members who are looking to advertise positions in their departments. Check it out: under the Resources tab on the SICB main web site, go to Educational and Teaching Resources and select Jobs and Fellowships.