



## Division of Comparative Endocrinology

### Contents

<a href="#">Message from the Chair</a> .....	1
<a href="#">Message from the Program Officer</a> ...	2
<a href="#">Message from the Secretary</a> .....	3
<a href="#">Message from the Student and Post-doc Representative</a> .....	4

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Rosemary Knapp  
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Christine Lattin  
*Student/Postdoctoral Affairs  
Committee Representative  
2015-2018*

### Message from the Chair

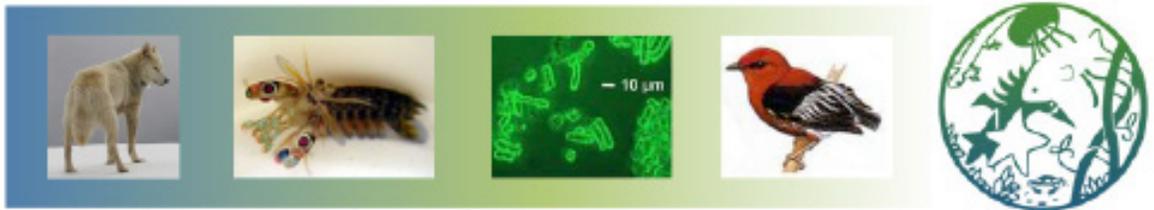
Mary Mendonça, [Chair.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:Chair.DCE@sicb.org)

We will be meeting in Portland, Oregon this January, a city whose motto, *Keep Portland Weird*, suggests that this is going to be a unique and exciting venue for our annual gathering. Portland is renowned for being a "foodie paradise," ranging from inexpensive food trucks to nationally acclaimed restaurants. It allegedly has more craft breweries than "any other city on earth," which, if true, may make the SICB sponsored pub tour a marathon event. The 2016 meeting sounds like a blockbuster, with a record number of presentations and symposia. The Oregon Convention Center is an excellent venue with an easy layout to run from talk to talk to talk.

We are co-sponsoring six symposia this year that range from transcriptomics, neuroendocrinology, morphology, and evolutionary endocrinology to climate change. There should be something for everyone and we hope you attend. Our Program Officer, **Rosemary Knapp**, has details on these exciting symposia below. Additionally, we had an excellent response in presentation submissions, resulting in multiple endocrine-oriented sessions. It should be a very stimulating meeting. The Aubrey Gorbman Best Student Presentation student competition will again occur in a dedicated session on the first day. I thank **Rosemary Knapp**, for chairing the Selection Committee, and **Ignacio Moore, Sarah Woodley, and Christine Lattin** for assisting her in the very difficult selection process.

The joint DCE-DEDE social we inaugurated last year was very well attended, proved a natural combination, and was great fun, so we are doing it again this year. The Data Blitz, coordinated by **Rebecca Calisi-Rodriguez**, continues to be a big hit at the social, so it will return for the 4th year. Please see Rosemary's section below for more details about the student competitions and participating in the Data Blitz.

It is my great pleasure to announce that this year's **Bern Lecturer** will be Professor **Elizabeth Adkins-Regan**, Departments of Psychology and of Neurobiology and Behavior at Cornell University. She is the President of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, was the Editor of *Hormones and Behavior* and *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, and is a Fellow in three societies, *American Society for the Advancement of Science*, *American Psychological Society*, and *Animal Behavior Society*. Dr. Adkins-Regan is internationally recognized for her ground-breaking research in the neuroendocrinology of social behavior. Her work is iconic in its comparative and evolutionary approach to exploring the hormonal and neural mechanisms of behavior. She did seminal research describing the hormonal organization and activation of sexually dimorphic reproductive behaviors in birds. Her work continues to be wide-ranging,



encompassing effects of yolk steroids on offspring, hormonal effects on neural plasticity and structure, and the endocrine and neural mechanisms involved in mate choice, sexual orientation, and socially monogamous pairing behavior. She has published over 150 scientific articles and book chapters and is the author of the textbook *Hormones and Animal Social Behavior*. We are delighted that Dr. Adkins-Regan accepted our invitation to give the 2016 Bern Lecture entitled: *Comparative endocrinology of social monogamy*.



*Elizabeth Adkins-Regan, the 2016 Bern Lecturer*

Elections were held this spring for the Chair and Secretary positions in our division. Thanks to all who ran for office and to the nominating committee (i.e., former and current members of the DCE Executive Committee). Congratulations to Chair-Elect **Loren Buck** (University of Alaska) and Secretary-Elect **Sharon Lynn** (The College of Wooster)!

We continue to solicit donations to the Howard A. Bern Lecture Fund. Please remember we need to reach a threshold of \$25,000 to maintain the Bern Lecture as an annual, high profile seminar at SICB or else it will be discontinued. The Bern Lectureship has honored extraordinary scientists who have come to SICB to celebrate the memory of Howard Bern and discuss advances in the field of comparative endocrinology. I want to thank all the people who have contributed in the past year: Richard Nishioka, Michael Moore, Pei-San Tsai, Lauren Bern, Darwin Jorgensen, Josep Planas, Menetake Shimuzu, Duncan McKenzie, Akihiro Hara, Shizuo Kimura, Jumpie Enami, Sherry Tamone, James Clegg, Rosemary Knapp, Michael Romero, Ignacio

Moore, Erica Crespi, Christine Lattin, Sara O'Brien, William Klitz, Kevin Foskett, Raphael Cruz Guzman, Stephanie Grum, Maria Kivel, Gopalan Unithan, Elaine Alarid, and Zenyaku Kogyu Co., as well as the many others who have contributed over the last 5 years. We really appreciate all the contributions and hope more people will donate to maintain this important seminar series to honor Howard's memory.

I want to note with enormous sadness the passing of Dr. Lou Guillette Jr. on Aug. 6, 2015. Lou was the 2014 Bern Lecturer and a pioneer in the fields of environmental endocrinology and endocrine disruptors. He was an enormously impactful figure in our field, being an extremely productive and visionary scientist doing ground breaking research with enormous health, ecological, and political ramifications. He was also an incredibly supportive and interactive colleague, a charismatic role model, and extremely nice person. He will be greatly missed in our community on multiple levels.

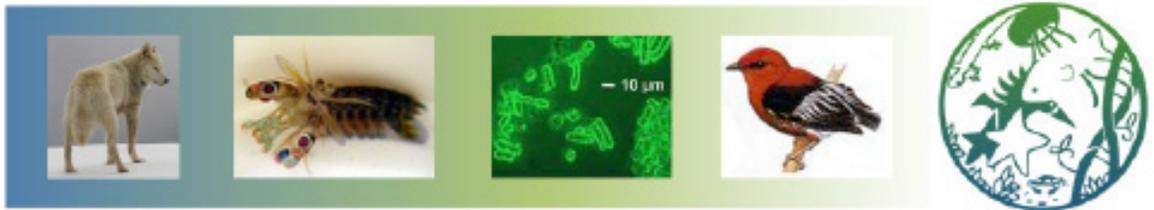
The next annual meetings will be held in New Orleans in 2017 and in San Francisco in 2018. As always, we are looking for people who want to propose and organize symposia as well as workshops. So please feel free to discuss potential ideas for these at the DCE business meeting, social, or just in the hallway. Rosemary and I, as well as any other members of the DCE Executive Committee, are more than willing to listen and help. Finally, this is my last Newsletter as Chair. It has been a great honor that I really have appreciated. DCE will be in excellent hands with your new Chair, Michael Romero.

Hope to see you soon in Portland!

### Message from the Program Officer

Rosemary Knapp, [PO.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:PO.DCE@sicb.org)

The Program Committee just met for the Portland SICB meeting and it promises to be another great conference, in fact the largest SICB meeting to date! Getting from the airport to the hotels is very easy because of Portland's metro system. **You will be receiving a multi-day metro pass when you pick up your name tag and program, so when you arrive in Portland, only purchase a 2.5 hour pass (\$2.50) if you take the metro to your hotel.** The conference center is very well laid out and all of our meeting rooms and the poster/exhibits hall are on the same floor. With the record number of presentations (1,660), scheduling to avoid overlap was a challenge,



but I think we've done a good job and there will be something for everyone on every day of the meeting.

DCE is co-sponsoring 6 symposia this year. January 4: *Neuroecology: Neural mechanisms of sensory and motor processes that mediate ecologically relevant behaviors* (Jeff Riffell & Ashlee Rowe); January 5: *The morphological diversity of intromittent organs* (Brandon Moore & Diane Kelly) and *Evolutionary endocrinology: Hormones as mediators of evolutionary phenomena* (SICB wide) (Robert Cox, Joel McGlothlin & Frances Bonier); January 6: *Beyond the mean: Biological impacts of changing patterns of temperature variation* (Michael Dillon, Art Woods & Michael Sears); January 7: *Tapping the power of crustacean transcriptomes to address grand challenges in comparative biology* (Donald Mykles, Karen Burnett, David Durica & Jonathon Stillman) and *New frontiers in the integrative study of animal behavior: Nothing in neuroscience makes sense except in the light of behavior* (SICB wide) (Suzy Renn, Hans Hofmann & Dustin Rubenstein).

DCE members submitted 93 abstracts for the Portland meeting. For DCE, I programmed the 101 'Endocrinology' presentations into 6 contributed paper sessions and 58 posters based on the main topic that presenters chose when submitting abstracts. We will be having a full slate of talks and symposia on the final day of the meeting (January 7), so keep that in mind when you make your travel plans.

The DCE Gorbman Student Oral Presentation Competition will again take place in a dedicated oral session on the first day of the meeting. We had 17 applicants and I headed a group of 5 judges that used the abstracts to select the 8 students who will compete for the award. The students who were not selected to compete had the option of moving to a regular oral presentation or to compete in the DCE Riddiford Student Poster Presentation Competition. The 15 students competing for the Riddiford Award will also present their posters on the first day of the meeting and are grouped together. I hope that everyone will make a real effort to see the presentations by the next generation of comparative endocrinologists. Winners will be announced at the DCE social.

The Bern lecture will be given by Elizabeth Adkins-Regan and her research ties in nicely with two of the symposia that DCE is co-sponsoring this year. As per tradition, we will follow the Bern lecture with the DCE social. Again this year, DCE and DEDE are pooling our

resources and holding our socials together. Although the catering prices for food are quite high this year, the prices at the cash bar will be reasonable. The social will be just a few doors down from the Bern lecture and in a room that will allow us to hold the 4th annual Data Blitz. Thanks to Rebecca Calisi-Rodriguez for organizing this activity again this year. If you are interested in competing, please contact her at [rmcalisi@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rmcalisi@ucdavis.edu).

It's not too early to be thinking ahead to future meetings. Please plan on talking to Mary Mendonça, Michael Romero, Ignacio Moore or me about planning a symposium for future conferences. DCE will be co-sponsoring 6 great symposia planned for 2017 in New Orleans (more about those in the Spring newsletter), and we need to keep the momentum going for the 2018 meeting when SICB returns to San Francisco!

Looking forward to seeing you all in Portland!

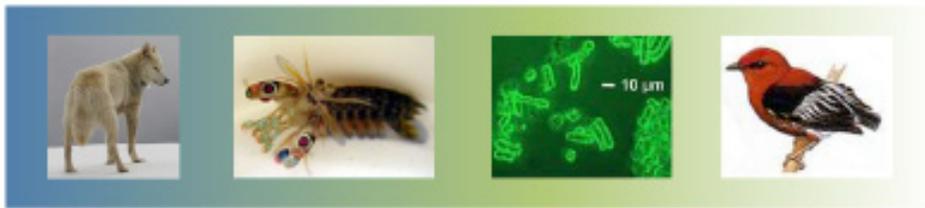
### Message from the Secretary

Sarah Woodley, [Secretary.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:Secretary.DCE@sicb.org)

Hello DCE members! I hope your semester is going well and you are looking forward to a fabulous meeting in Portland. Don't forget that that the registration deadline for presenters is Nov. 5 and the early registration deadline is Dec. 1.

The success of our division depends on all of us. To stay connected, check out the DCE website, and become a member of our Facebook group, now with **175 members**. Go to <https://www.facebook.com/groups/104465249680261/>. This is a great way to ask questions, advertise for positions, and just stay in touch. Another option is to email me at [Secretary.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:Secretary.DCE@sicb.org) with important announcements by the 5th of each month and I will have them included in the SICB Monthly Member Update.

Believe it or not, one of my favorite events of the meeting is the DCE business meeting, where we are updated on the health and vigor of DCE and SICB as well as important issues related to funding, etc. Please plan on attending, and bring your students too! Occasionally free drink tickets are handed out. This year, the business meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 5, right before the Bern Lecture.



Upcoming meetings to mark on your calendars:

- Endocrine Society Annual Meeting: April 1-4, 2016, Boston MA.
- Evolution Annual Meeting: June 18-21, 2016, Austin Texas.
- 18th European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE 2016): May 28-31, 2016, Munich, Germany
- Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology Annual Meeting: June 22-25, 2016, Montreal Quebec, Canada.
- 8th International Symposium on Fish Endocrinology: June 28-July 2, 2016, Gothenburg Sweden.
- American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists Annual Meeting: July 15-19, 2016, New Orleans, Louisiana.
- Animal Behavior Society Annual Meeting: July 30-August 3, 2016, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO.
- 8th World Congress of Herpetology: August 15-21, 2016, Hangzhou, China.
- 18th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology (ICCE) held jointly with the 4th biennial conference of the North American Society for Comparative Endocrinology (NASCE) and the 9th International Symposium on Amphibian and Reptilian Endocrinology and Neurobiology (ISAREN): June 4-9, 2017, Chateau Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada.

### Message from the Student/ Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Christine Lattin, [christine.lattin@yale.edu](mailto:christine.lattin@yale.edu)

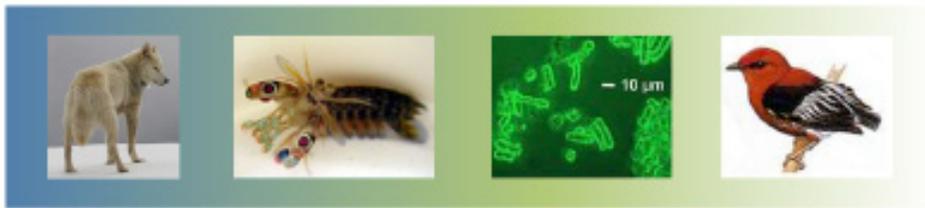
I don't know how many of you are "Portlandia" fans, but I'm certainly excited for our upcoming meeting in the place "where young people go to retire." If you haven't [registered](#) yet, make sure to do so by Nov. 5 if you are presenting, and by Dec. 1 to take advantage of lower registration fees.

Here are a few meeting highlights that students and post-docs should be aware of:

- The Data Blitz is back! This will be the 4th year Rebecca Calisi-Rodriguez will be hosting this event during the DCE social. Intrepid students, post-docs and assistant professors have only 2 minutes and 2 slides to get their science across. If you are interested in participating, please contact Becca at [rmcalisi@ucdavis.edu](mailto:rmcalisi@ucdavis.edu).
- There will be a Training Session and First-Timer's Orientation on Jan. 3 at 5:30 pm. This session will help you get the most out of your meeting, and is mandatory for Charlotte Magnum funding recipients.
- This year's Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Workshop will be on navigating career transitions, date and time TBA.
- SICB's Society-Wide Social in Honor of Students and Postdocs will be Jan. 7, 4-6 PM. Finally, the recognition we all crave, plus free cheese.
- There will be an Employment Opportunity bulletin board near the SICB Registration area, where students and post-docs can post "Positions Wanted" and peruse "Positions Available".

Students and post-docs looking for funding to help them attend the meeting should check out SICB's [student awards and scholarships page](#). (This site, and the Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee's page on [External Grant & Fellowship Opportunities](#), also include information on research funding.) And make sure to take advantage of SICB's [Room-mate Matching Service](#) if you are looking to split hotel costs during the meeting.

See the [registration brochure](#) for even more details on the 2016 Portland meeting, and join [DCE's Facebook group](#) if you haven't already!



*DCE student member Chloe Josefson (Auburn University) studies avian stress physiology and bird song in Eastern Bluebirds*



*DCE student member Jess Thomas (Duquesne University) studies seasonal patterns of the stress physiology, reproduction, and immune function in salamanders*

