

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology

Contents

Message from the Chair	1
Message from the Program Officer	2
Message from the Student/Postdoc Representative	3
Message from the Secretary	3
Current Officers	3

DEDB Officers & Representatives

Cassandra Extavour
Chair 2016-2018

Sally Leys
Past Chair 2016-2018

Gregory Davis
Secretary 2015-2017

Julia Bowsher
Secretary-Elect 2016-2017

Yui Suzuki
Program Officer 2016-2019

Amanda Kahn
*Student/Postdoctoral Affairs
2014-2017*

Message from the Chair

Cassandra Extavour, Chair.DEDB@sicb.org

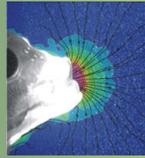
Dear DEDB members!

Winter is coming (apologies to those of you who don't follow Game of Thrones). For many of us this means an end to a summer hopefully filled with interesting conferences and perhaps even—gasp—a few days off, and the beginning of the academic year, which may bring lectures, demonstration labs, grant review panels, and committee meeting after committee meeting.... No matter what the fall and winter may bring to you, we hope that they also bring continued success, excitement, and the joy of discovery as you continue to pursue your research in evolutionary developmental biology.

As you will see in the message from our Program Officer, Yuichiro Suzuki, the upcoming 2017 SICB meeting in New Orleans is going to be spectacular, with two fascinating Symposia on DEDB themes, and dozens of poster and oral presentations by members of our community who will share with us their latest findings in comparative, ecological and evolutionary developmental biology. Don't forget to register, book your hotel and travel soon—January is only a few months away! The registration deadline for those presenting posters and giving talks is **November 5, 2016**, and, for everyone else, the early fee deadline is **December 1, 2016**.

Please also remember that we plan to organize DEDB student/faculty dinners at the 2017 meeting in New Orleans. Students and faculty can sign up to participate in this program, and will be matched in small groups to have dinner together in an informal setting during the conference. For students, this is a fantastic opportunity to get to know some of the people whose work you may be familiar with in print, in person! Hearing about the science, career trajectory and survival strategies of senior members of our community is the best way to learn about what being a professional academic scientist means. This can help you make more informed decisions about the next steps you want to take in your own career, post-SICB and beyond. For faculty participants, sharing your work and professional experiences with the next generation of scientists is an incredibly rewarding activity in and of itself. Of course, this is also an opportunity to meet prospective students and postdocs who could join your research team in the future. So this program is a win-win! Please watch this space and your inbox in the next couple of months for details on how to become involved in this program.

The political climate all over the world is in flux, and many scientists of all career stages are concerned about how this might affect the future of research in all fields, especially in the basic sciences. Some of the most widely publicized—although by no means the only or most significant—recent political events include the upcoming presidential election in the US, Brexit in Europe, and the Syrian refugee



crisis, whose effects are being felt far beyond the Middle East. Our colleagues, junior and senior, work and live in places affected by these events, and it is inevitable that our profession will also be affected. Movements of people around the globe to attend conferences such as SICB, perform field work, start new labs, or begin a student, postdoc, or independent position, can all be affected, not just by changes in available resources or access to those resources, but also by a desire to stay in, leave, or move to a particular place. As humans have always done, all we can do as scientists is to stay aware and informed, and adapt: consider looking to non-traditional funding sources, consider collaborations with colleagues in new locations, contemplate recruiting students, postdocs, or new faculty members from sources you may not have considered previously. We can be responsive to the ongoing changes in the world, while still striving to keep the rigorous pursuit of new understanding of the natural world foremost in our minds at the bench, in the field and in the classroom.

Finally, upcoming meetings that will be of interest to SICB members include, but are of course not limited to, the following:

- The second meeting of the Pan American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology (PANAM SEDB) in Calgary, Alberta, Canada, 19-23 August 2017.
- The 76th meeting of the Society for Developmental Biology (SDB) in Minneapolis, Minnesota, 13-17 July 2017.
- The annual meeting of the Society for the Study of Evolution in Portland, Oregon, 23-27 July 2017.
- The biennial meeting of the European Society for Evolutionary Biology (ESEB) in Groningen, the Netherlands, 20-25 August 2017.
- The 18th International Congress of Developmental Biology in Singapore, 18-22 June 2017.
- The seventh meeting of the European Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology (EED) in Galway, Ireland, in 2018 – dates have not been set yet but it is likely to take place in July, as have previous EED meetings.

Looking forward to seeing you all in New Orleans in January 2017!

Message from the Program Officer

Yui Suzuki, DPO.DEDB@sicb.org

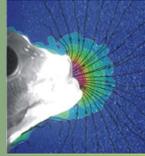
During the weekend of September 24, the Program Officers met in New Orleans to organize the schedule for the 2017 SICB meeting. Sorting and scheduling all the oral and poster sessions, symposia, and divisional business meetings and socials was an enormous challenge, and I returned with a renewed gratitude towards my predecessors who have so successfully organized prior meetings.

Oral and poster sessions – I've tried my best to place everyone's abstracts into sessions with as little conflict as possible. However, trying to organize 146 oral sessions is not a simple task (1952 abstracts were submitted in total, of which 1065 were oral abstracts)! I apologize in advance if there are conflicts and if talks are not placed in ideal sessions. This year, DEEB received 55 oral and 33 poster abstracts, which I organized into eight oral sessions and three poster sessions, respectively. 8 out of 16 oral abstracts submitted for the Best Student Presentation competition were selected by a committee assembled by the Division Secretary. These were organized into one DEEB BSP session (January 6, 1:30-3:30 PM), and the talks will be evaluated by a panel of DEEB judges. Thanks to all who submitted abstracts, and congratulations to those of you who were selected to compete—the committee had to make some tough decisions, as there were many very strong abstracts.

Symposia – There are two symposia for the 2017 meeting which should be of interest to the DEEB community: 1) *The Evolution of Arthropod Body Plans – Integrating Phylogeny, Fossils and Development* organized by Ariel Chipman and Doug Erwin (January 7), and 2) *Physical and Genetic Mechanisms for Evolutionary Novelty* organized by Thomas Stewart, Stuart Newman and Günther Wagner (January 8).

On a separate note, if you contacted me about a potential symposium for SICB 2018 this summer and did not hear back from me, I am very sorry. Emails sent to the DPO email address were not being forwarded properly, so your email most likely never got to me. If you had an idea and would like to be considered for the conference in 2019, please let me know (the email works now!).

Registration – To all of you presenting at the SICB 2017 meeting, please remember that the presenter registration deadline is **November 5, 2016**. For everyone else, the early fee deadline is **December 1, 2016**.



SICB Newsletter

Fall 2016 Issue

If you need child care, please complete the child care survey (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/childcareform/index.php>) by **November 15**.

Venue – The SICB 2017 meeting will be held at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center. The convention center is enormous, but all the rooms used for the oral sessions will be clustered and should minimize time spent moving between rooms. There is free WiFi service in the hallways, but not in individual session rooms. The main hotel is the Hilton Riverside Hotel, which is located very close to the convention center. The Opening Plenary Session will be held at the hotel. You can get more information about making hotel reservations by visiting <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2017/travel.php>. SICB has an official conference discount for airport shuttles/shared rides. If you would like to take advantage of the discounted fare, you will need to book your shuttle at least 24 hrs in advance by visiting: <http://airportshuttleneworleans.hudsonltd.net/res?USERIDENTRY=SICB0117&LOGON=GO>

DEDB Business Meeting and Social – The DEDB Business Meeting will be held on January 5, 5:45-6:30 PM. The DEDB Social will be held on January 7, 6:30-8:30 PM, in conjunction with DIZ/DPCB/DEE/AMS/TCS. I strongly recommend everyone to attend these gatherings.

The conference promises to be very exciting and memorable, and I am looking forward to seeing many of you in January! In the meantime, if you have any questions about the program, please feel free to contact me.

Message from the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Amanda Kahn, kahn@ualberta.ca

Hello fellow students and postdocs! The annual meeting is coming up quickly so this newsletter is to alert you of some great upcoming events in New Orleans.

First, we will continue our very successful division-only event, "Evo-Devo Dinner Dates." Whether this is your first meeting or you are a seasoned conference-goer, I highly recommend that you participate. This is how it works: faculty or researchers working in diverse areas of evo-devo sign up for the program, agreeing to take a couple students out for a meal and to cover the cost. Then, you look through the list of researchers and sign up to go out for lunch or dinner with whichever researcher you are interested in. It's a great way to break the ice and interact in a friendly atmosphere with

a faculty member or researcher whose work interests you. It's also a great way to get a free meal! Keep your eyes out for an email with sign-up information, which we will send out as we get closer to the meeting dates.

In addition to our division-specific "dinner dates" program, the conference-wide Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC) will host its annual workshop at the meeting. SPDAC workshops focus on topics relevant to students and postdocs. Check out the External Grants and Fellowships page curated by SPDAC (<http://www.sicb.org/grants/externalgrants.php>) and come visit the SPDAC booth at the meeting.

Our division thrives because of the activity of its members. Please feel free to get in touch with me any time (kahn@ualberta.ca) if you want to find new ways to get involved within our division, have questions about the annual meeting, or have any student- or postdoc-related suggestions or questions within SICB. I would love to facilitate your involvement in DEDB. This is my final SICB meeting as your representative and I've appreciated your input over the years.

See you in New Orleans!

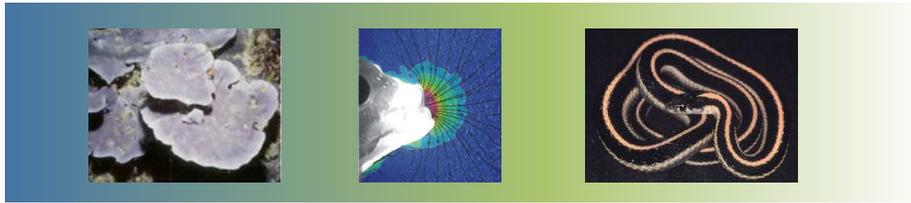
Message from the Secretary

Greg Davis, Secretary.DEDB@sicb.org

Greetings! Thanks to efforts of Yui Suzuki and the other program officers, another fantastic annual meeting has once again been assembled. As you wander among the sessions and posters, make sure to keep an eye out for Yui so you can thank him for his hard work. Even better, please come by our divisional business meeting (January 5, 5:45-6:30 PM) where you will be sure to find him and can also pitch your ideas and suggestions, particularly with regard to potential future symposium topics.

New Chair-Elect – We have tabulated the results of our Spring 2016 election and congratulate Kim Hoke, our new Chair-Elect. Kim will assume Chair duties after the 2018 annual meeting.

Hey Students, Free Dinner! – SICB is a society that genuinely values the participation and contributions of our junior members. For the last four years, we have instituted a program to help encourage increased interaction between students and faculty. The "Evo-Devo Dinner Date" program brings approximately 40 students and 20 faculty members together for informal conversation and a meal on the faculty members' dime. In recent years Amanda Kahn, our student/postdoctoral representative, has done an amazing job organiz-



ing this activity, with the result that faculty and student participants have greatly enjoyed these meetings. We will of course run this program at our upcoming meeting. Amanda highlights this program in her message above for students, but I also want to encourage faculty to keep an eye out for an email from Amanda with sign-up information as the annual meeting approaches.

Bylaws Changes Approved – The changes to the DEDB Bylaws, proposed to better reflect how we now conduct the best student poster and oral competitions, were approved 70-0 during our spring elections. Thanks for voting!

Best Student Presentation Oral Session – Please join us for our second special session devoted to the Best Student Oral Presentation, to be held January 6, 1:30-3:30 PM. Thanks to all of the students who asked to be considered for the competition and thanks to the DEDB members who were willing to serve on the selection committee. We received more outstanding and deserving abstracts than we could fit into this particular session, so please be sure to attend as many of the DEDB sessions as you can to hear as many terrific talks as possible.

A Field Guide to DEDB Officers – Here, once again, are a few photos of our divisional officers to assist you when trying to identify us. All of these individuals can be found at the division business meeting, so please stop by to provide feedback, raise concerns or propose any ideas for future symposia or activities.

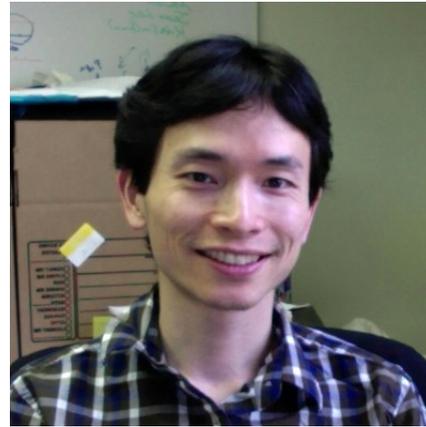
Current officers:

DEDB Chair Cassandra Extavour

DEDB Program Officer Yui Suzuki



DEDB Secretary Greg Davis



DEDB SPDAC Representative Amanda Kahn

