



Division of Ecology and Evolution

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DEE Officers & Representatives

Robert Cox

Chair 2017-2019

Cameron Ghalambor

Chair-Elect 2017-2019

Michael Sears

Past Chair 2017-2019

Michael Dillon

Secretary 2015-2019

Michele Nishiguchi

Program Officer 2018-2020

Christopher Tracy

Past Program Officer 2018-2019

Ariel Kahrl

Student/Postdoc Representative 2017-2020

Message from the Chair

Robert M. Cox, Chair.DEE@sicb.org

DEE Members,

Did you know that the Division of Ecology and Evolution has doubled in size over the past decade and is now the largest SICB division, with nearly half of all SICB members (1131 of 2350 = 48% in 2017-18) selecting DEE as one of their divisional affiliations?! Yep, and we think that it's a great time follow up on our discussions from the last DEE Business Meeting in San Francisco by sending out a survey to 'take the pulse' of the Division. We hope to gain a better picture of the current DEE membership, collect feedback on ways to improve DEE, and increase transparency and awareness of DEE activities and procedures. Stay tuned for an email to all DEE members in the fall!

We're also just a few months away from SICB 2019 in Tampa! So, get ready for five days of great science along the waterfront in a great new venue for SICB! Here are a few quick tips to get the most out of the meeting and your membership in DEE:

1. Check out one of the five **Symposia supported by DEE**. With topics ranging from the evolution of biomaterials and evolutionary biomechanics to the spatial ecology of disease and integrative plant biology, these symposia highlight a key role of DEE in providing the ecological and evolutionary context that integrates the many divisions of SICB. Check out the message from Nish (below) for more details.
2. Attend the **DEE Business Meeting** on January 4th from 5:45pm-6:30pm. This is a great way to meet the DEE members who help out behind the scenes, to learn more about what is happening in the Division and the Society as a whole, and to make your voice heard in planning the future of the Division.
3. Check out the **DEE Huey Award symposium** for best student presentation on the morning of January 4th, featuring talks by 8 finalists selected from a very competitive pool of over 50 applicants (our largest to date). We'll also have a special session for the finalists of the best poster competition that afternoon.
4. Sign up for the **6th annual DEE Beer & Brains** event at [Franklin Manor](#) on the night of Sunday, January 6. Students, look for an email in December to reserve your spot. Faculty, email me if you are interested in participating as a "Brain".
5. Ask yourself: **What science do I want to see at SICB 2021 in Washington, DC?** Then, dream up a symposium that **you** could organize! Talk to colleagues who might contribute to the event. Pitch your idea to the DEE officers. Remember that **SICB is your society**, and this is a great way to bring the topics that interest you into the limelight for an upcoming meeting!

See you in Tampa! Bob



Message from the Program Officer

Michele Nishiguchi (Nish), DPO.DEE@sicb.org

Welcome to the beginning of the academic year and planning for the upcoming SICB meeting in Tampa. The program officers met in early October to organize over 1500 abstracts into the various Symposia, oral sessions and poster sessions. This year's abstracts came from a wide variety of members, including graduate and undergraduate students and postdoctoral fellows, as well as many from investigators that normally do not attend the SICB annual meetings. The meeting site is the Tampa Convention Center, near the Marriott Tampa Waterside Hotel and Marina (SICB hotel), located in downtown Tampa Bay. The location has convenient access to restaurants, watersports, the Tampa Bay Lightning Ice hockey rink, Tampa Zoo, and a water-front run/walk that meanders around the channel.

Here are a few highlights of the upcoming meeting. The meeting will start off with the plenary lecture by Peter Wainwright entitled "Key Innovations in Fish Jaws: A SICB Story".

There will be twelve symposia this year, including six that are sponsored by DEE.

- "The scale of sickness: How immune variation across space and species affects infectious disease dynamics" will be held on January 4th.
- A SICB-wide supported symposium on "Integrative Plant Biology," also held on the 4th, will focus on photosynthetic organisms in an effort to bring more participation of plant biologists to SICB.
- "Adaptation and evolution of biological materials" (also SICB wide) will be held on January 5th.
- "Comparative evolutionary morphology and biomechanics in the era of Big Data" (SICB wide) will be held on January 6th.
- On January 7th, there will be another SICB-wide symposium, "The world is not flat: Accounting for the dynamic nature of the environment as we move beyond static experimental manipulations."
- "The pass less traveled: Reciprocal illumination of gecko adhesion by unifying material science, biomechanics, ecology, and evolution" will also be held on January 7th.

Last, and certainly not least, please come to the full morning session on January 4th, which will be devoted to the Huey Best Student Presentation Award competition. Eight students will be presenting their research, and there will be a poster session in the afternoon as well.

This year, we will have several opportunities to meet and talk to other DEE members. First, please make an effort to attend the DEE Business Meeting on January 4th from 5:45pm-6:30pm, just after the poster sessions. Second, come to the DEE social and reception, which will be held jointly with DEDB and DIZ; this is a chance to mingle with friends from the three divisions. Finally, the 5th annual Beer and Brains social event will continue the tradition of giving DEE graduate students the opportunity to pick the Brains of a selection of some of our established members in a small, informal setting.

Message from the Secretary

Michael E. Dillon, secretary.DEE@sicb.org

As Bob has mentioned, DEE continues to grow both in its membership and in its SICB footprint. We can keep DEE growing and active by continuing to sponsor outstanding events (Huey Award, Beer and Brains), by attracting more members, and by encouraging a broader swath of our membership to step into leadership roles. Martha Muñoz will take over as Secretary at the end of that 2019 meeting — I am sure she will do many great things for the Division in that role!

Next spring, we will be selecting a Secretary-Elect. If you are interested in this position, or know someone who might be, please contact any of the current or past officers and come to the DEE business meeting to find out more.

Based on productive discussions at last year's business meeting, we will be sending out a survey to get DEE member input on key issues facing the division. Please be sure to participate in the survey — this is a low-effort way to convey your opinions and ideas and help guide our large and growing division.

Check out the DEE Researcher Database [here](#) to get a feel for our membership and their science. To add your research profile to the DEE page, or to update an existing file, send text files (.doc, .docx or .txt), images (.tif, .jpg, .png, or .gif), or movies (.avi or .mpeg) to secretary.dee@sicb.org.

Michael



Message from the Student/Postdoctoral Representative

Ariel Kahrl

We are happy to announce that DEE will host the 6th annual 'Beer and Brains' at [Franklin Manor](#) on Sunday Jan 6th. This is a great opportunity for students and faculty to network over dinner and a beer. We always have high demand for this event — so students, please stay tuned to your email for the registration link!

This year the Student-Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC) will host a brown-bag lunch workshop to help you improve the quality of your poster presentations. This workshop will be lead by Dr. Zen Faulkes who has created a blog called 'Better Posters' (betterposters.blogspot.com) that gives examples of how to make your poster both informative and beautiful. During this workshop, he will cover the basics of poster design, will go through the process of modifying and improving posters (students will walk through their own poster transformations), and will help students critique their own posters. More information about the time and location of this workshop will be circulated before the meeting. Check out Zen's blog before the conference to get some tips on making your poster the best it can be. Hope to see you there!

If you are interested in other resources that SPDAC has to offer, check out our link on the SICB website for advice on applying to postdocs and grant and fellowship opportunities: www.sicb.org/resources/studentpostdoc.php3