



Division of Neurobiology, Neuroethology, and Sensory Biology

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Message from the Chair

Mike Baltzley (chair.dnnsb@sicb.org)

The 2019 SICB annual conference in Tampa is quickly approaching. Jeff Riffell and the rest of the SICB Program Committee have put together a great schedule of presentations, symposia, and events for the meeting. Details of the schedule that are specific to our division can be found in Jeff's newsletter piece below.

As in the past few years, our **Best Student Presentation (BSP) oral competition** will be composed of eight talks that are held within a single session. Please make an effort to attend this session on **Friday, January 4th** to support our student members. As the meeting approaches, I will be making a call for judges for our BSP awards. We have 32 total oral and poster presentations and will therefore need many DNN SB members who are willing to judge presentations. When you are registering for the meeting, please check the box indicating that you volunteer to help with this important task. You will be contacted as the meeting approaches about judging procedures and notified of the presentations that you'll be asked to judge.

Our division has been actively addressing how we can improve our BSP competition over the last several years. A change that we are trying out this year is a new scoring rubric that should help us standardize our evaluations of student presentations. I am grateful to Jim Newcomb and the DNN SB officers for all their work helping put together the rubric. The rubric will be sent to the student BSP entrants prior to the meeting so they can be aware of the scoring criteria as they prepare their presentations. At our division business meeting on Friday, January 4th, we will discuss how well the rubric worked for

DNNSB Officers & Representatives

Michael Baltzley
Chair 2018-2021

Lisa Mangiamele
Secretary 2016-2019

Jeff Riffell
Program Officer 2017-2020

Alexandra Kingston
Student/Postdoc Representative 2016-2019



Tampa Bay Convention Center



our students and our judges in order to make improvements moving forward.

The DNNSB officers have also been discussing ways to increase our visibility and attract new members to our division. One idea is to offer DNNSB best student presentation awards at regional meetings. We will discuss this idea with the DNNSB membership during our division business meeting in Tampa, but please feel free to send me your ideas and thoughts prior to the meeting. In particular, if you know of regional meetings that would be a good match with our division, please let me know.

Lastly, the DNNSB officers will be putting together the agenda for the annual business meeting in the coming weeks. If you have items you want to see discussed or acted on, please email them to me. You can contact me at Chair.DNNSB@sicb.org.

I look forward to seeing you all in Tampa!

Message from the Program Officer

Jeff Riffell (dpo.dnnsb@sicb.org)

The SICB Program Committee met over the weekend of October 7 and prepared the schedule for the Tampa meeting. There was solid turn-out in the number of submitted abstracts (1,874 total), with 189 DNNSB-related oral presentations and posters.

Our Division's **Business Meeting** is scheduled for **Friday, January 4th** from 5:30 pm to 6:15 pm. Please plan on attending. Our **Social** will be held on **Saturday, January 5th** at 8pm, after the Bern lecture. Similar to past socials, we're co-sponsoring the event with the Division of Animal Behavior, the Division of Comparative Endocrinology, and Division of Ecoimmunology and Disease Ecology. We share many of the same interests (and members) with these divisions, and this will allow us to increase the food and drink at the social. The social will be at the Tampa Convention Center, in a great location that overlooks the bay.

Best Student Presentations

We will hold the Best Student Presentation (BSP) session on Friday, January 4th at 10:15am. This session will feature the top eight BSP presentations. This year we had 32 total entrants. As in previous years, we will need volunteers to judge these presentations and posters — so please be prepared to help judge these great presentations.



Organizing the program schedule for the Tampa meeting. Jenny Gumm (acting DAB Program Director) was hard at work organizing the DAB and DNNSB presentations.

Next Year's and Future Symposia

We will be co-sponsoring a number of symposia for the Austin 2020 Meeting (more details to come), and several of them are strongly related to DNNSB interests, which is exciting. I want to remind everyone to bring their symposium ideas to Tampa and discuss them with me, Michael and Lisa. In addition, we'll be contacting many of you to encourage symposium proposals for the 2021 meeting.

Message from the Secretary

Lisa Mangiamele (secretary.dnnsb@sicb.org)

Register Now for SICB

Don't forget to register soon for the upcoming year's meeting (Jan 3-7, 2019) in San Francisco. [Online registration](#) is open now. The deadline to register if you are planning to present a talk or poster is **November 6, 2018**, and discounted meeting registration rates apply through **December 4th**. New policy this year: Registration is now **FREE** for all symposium participants (via reimbursement after manuscript submission). When you're done registering, go to the [travel page](#) to get more information about transportation and accommodations in Tampa.

Information for Parents and Breastfeeding Mothers

For those of you traveling to Tampa with children, there will be **free childcare at SICB** this year, with no lower age limit. **Advance registration by December 4th is required** for your child to participate. See the [travel page](#) for more information.



The blue eyes of a bay scallop. Photo credit: Alexandra Kingston

SICB has also committed to providing a lactation room for breastfeeding mothers. When I receive more information about its location and amenities, I will post it to our [@SICB_DNNSB](#) Twitter account.

Follow SICB on Social Media

If you have a Twitter account, follow [@SICBTweets](#), or our Division [@SICB_DNNSB](#). You can use the meeting hashtag [#SICB2019](#) to publicize your own presentation at the meeting or comment on someone else's. Be a part of the growing community of scientists who are reaching out and connecting with each other and with the public through social media!

If you are a Facebook user, you can join SICB's group and receive updates on the annual meeting and issues relevant to the society. Here is link to the society-wide Facebook page: www.facebook.com/groups/SICBmembers. DNNSB also has a Facebook group. To join go to: www.facebook.com/groups/4274475554

Annual Meeting Code of Conduct

The SICB leadership is committed to ensuring that the annual meeting is an environment where all members have equal opportunity to participate and everyone feels respected and safe. In advance of the meeting, members should read the full statement [here](#), and be advised of the no-tolerance policy for harassment.

News for Students and Postdocs

Alexandra Kingston, DNNSB Student/Postdoc Representative, anahm1@umbc.edu

With our annual meeting coming up soon in Tampa, here's a reminder about student support, grants, and meeting tips. Be sure to check out [@SICBTweets](#) and [@SICB_SPDAC](#) on Twitter!

Annual Meeting Tips:

1. Download the SICB app and make your schedule before you arrive. With hundreds of talks and posters, it helps to have an idea of the talks and posters you plan to see.
2. Are you giving a poster at SICB? The Student/Postdoc Affairs Committee (SPDAC) will be running a virtual poster workshop this fall! Follow [@SICB_SPDAC](#) on Twitter to stay informed on when the workshop will take place.
3. Take breaks during the meeting and meet new people! Some of the best ideas, new collaborations, and friendships come about during SICB, so make sure you get out there and network! Poster sessions and socials are great and fun ways to meet new people and see what others are working on.
4. Make sure you visit the vendors. The SPDAC will have a table to answer questions during the meeting.

