

SOCIETY FOR INTEGRATIVE & COMPARATIVE BIOLOGY
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes, First Meeting
6 January 2008
Marriott Rivercenter Hotel
San Antonio, Texas

Executive Committee Members Present:

President – John Pearse
President-Elect – Richard Satterlie
Past President – Sally Woodin
Secretary – Lou Burnett
Program Officer – Linda Walters
Program Officer-Elect – Eduardo Rosa-Molinar
Past Program Officer – Catherine Loudon
Treasurer – Ron Dimock
Member-at-Large – John Long
Member-at-Large – Rachel Merz
Member-at-Large – Sönke Johnsen

Divisional Chairs

DAB – Tom Hahn
DCB – Robert Full
DCE – Robert Denver – not present, Stacia Sower (Chair-Elect)
DCPB – Joe Williams (Chair-Elect)
DDCB – Karen Crawford
DEDB – Billie Swalla
DEE – George Bakken, Michele Nishiguchi (Chair-Elect)
DIZ – Janice Voltzow
DNB – James Murray
DSEB – Don Swiderski
DVM – Kurt Schwenk
Editor-in-Chief, ICB – Harold Heatwole
Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Chair – Larry Riley
Educational Council Chair – Robin Cooper
Public Affairs Committee Chair – Peter deFur
Executive Director (*ex officio*) – Brett Burk

Others present:

Cathy Kennedy, Oxford University Press
Michele Nishiguchi (DEE Chair-Elect)
Sherry Tamone, Chair, Student Support Committee

1. **Call to Order.** President John Pearse called the meeting to order at 7:10 a.m.
2. **Order of Business.** Secretary Lou Burnett reviewed the order of business for the day.
3. **Request from the Public Affairs Committee (PAC).** Peter deFur, Chair. deFur is the newly appointed chair of this committee.
 - a. deFur asked each person to provide meeting highlights for the meeting so that he could produce summaries for the web page. Pictures would be particularly appreciated. deFur noted that PAC is trying to get the Bartholomew Award speaker's presentation and links to her video clips on the website. The long term goal is to reach out to those who should be at the meeting, those who should join SICB and the members of the press.
 - b. deFur will be working with Pearse to create a press release on our just-adopted resolution.
4. **Dorothy M. Skinner Scholarship.** Burnett stated that this is the first year that it has been awarded. Don Mykles, the SICB member who spearheaded the effort to set up the scholarship and who chaired the first selection committee, has requested that the official name be changed from "Scholarship" to "Award."
 - a. **Motion.** Nishiguchi moved (Swalla seconded) to change the name of the Dorothy M. Skinner Scholarship to the Dorothy M. Skinner Award.
The motion was approved unanimously.
5. **Constitution and Bylaws Proposal.** Burnett read several small changes to the previously distributed bylaws changes proposal. The amended version appears in **Appendix 10.**
 - a. **Motion.** Swalla moved (Sower seconded) that the proposed changes be approved and placed on the Spring ballot for consideration of the membership.
The motion was approved unanimously.
6. **2007 SICB Budget Approval.** Secretary Burnett read into the minutes that the vote of the Executive Committee ending March 5, 2007 approved the 2007 budget (last 6 months) and the full 2008 budget. The intention is to read into the minutes any electronic votes that occur between meetings of the committee.
7. **2008 Budget (continued from January 2, 2008 EC Meeting)**
 - a. Treasurer Dimock noted that we have added \$10K to the audiovisual budget for the annual meeting in Boston so that we may make sure that there are connections from the ready room and the meeting room computers.
 - b. The budget assumes that the students will be three occupants to each room.
 - c. There was discussion about the value of the CDs containing the meeting program if the program is available online. The cost of this effort was questioned since it duplicates what is available on the web.
Motion. Woodin moved (Heatwole seconded) that SICB no longer supplies program CDs to meeting registrants.
The motion was approved unanimously.
 - d. **Motion.** Voltzow moved (Woodin seconded) that SICB match the funds that are raised by the Division of Invertebrate Zoology auction in 2009 to raise money for the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship. Points raised in the discussion:
 - i. Money saved from the removal of the CDs (previous motion) can be diverted to this scholarship fund.
 - ii. This scholarship is administered by the Division of Invertebrate Zoology. It was established to provide "assistance to students to take courses or to pursue research on invertebrates at a marine, freshwater, or terrestrial field station." There are many members of SICB who do not work on invertebrates and use of society-wide funds does

not benefit all members of SICB. It was suggested that perhaps the language associated with the scholarship could be changed to broaden its appeal.

- iii. Burk noted that the SICB contribution to the scholarship as a match to auction funds has been done once before (2005) and that the goal of that action was to offer matching as an incentive to the divisions. Others noted that for such a measure to be an incentive, it should be made known throughout the society that this was being done for this purpose. This has not happened.
- iv. Since this scholarship fund is an endowed fund, normally only about 4% of the fund is used to provide scholarships. If SICB contributed money to the scholarship fund, only a small fraction of this contribution would benefit students.
- v. The savings from the elimination of the program CDs should not be viewed as a windfall in light of the overall operating budget deficits that we are currently working under.

The motion was defeated – 10 in favor, 12 opposed, 0 abstentions.

- e. The Program Officer (PO) meeting in the fall adds significant costs to the operating budget. There was discussion about the need to have this PO meeting. The group discussed the vital need for it. It invests the POs in the program and also makes much of the organization of the meeting possible.
- f. There was some discussion about the potential to have longer time for lunches at the annual meetings in the future. This authority resides with the Program Officers in their organization of the meeting.
- g. Crawford asked if SICB would consider requests for registration fee reductions for those who have funding challenges due to family financial stress. Crawford was raising this question on behalf of a member. Burnett noted that for something like this to be fair it would need to be advertised to everyone and we would need to have a selection committee. Such a measure could be very costly. It was suggested that this be sent to the Broadening Diversity Committee for consideration.
- h. Budget Issues - *ICB Journal*.
 - i. Cathy Kennedy, Oxford University Press, brought up some concerns regarding the *Journal*. There has been discussion about the impact factor for the journal. Kennedy presented the impact factor heights that the ASZ had achieved in the past. Even though it is not an ideal system, many institutional subscriptions depend on a good journal impact factor; we need to get back to where we were instead of just tracking with the others in our cohort. Kennedy also stated that impact factors are important in attracting and retaining authors. Kennedy would like for us to establish a mechanism to address the impact factor. It was agreed that this issue be directed to the editorial board for continued discussion and recommendations.
 - ii. Hahn suggested that we create an option for members to opt out of receiving a hard copy of *ICB*. Editor Heatwole indicated that this would not be a problem from the perspective of the journal. Burk noted that this would not impose a serious administrative burden on BAI. There would be some savings to SICB. Members opting to receive only an electronic version of the journal would not have a reduction in dues.
Action. The Executive Committee agreed by consensus to give SICB members the option of receiving the online version of *ICB* or the online version plus a hardcopy of the journal.
- i. Divisional Budgets. Schwenk stated that DVM would like the Executive Committee to readdress the divisional budgets such that larger divisions are allocated more funding. He suggested that we use a simple formula to account for the number of members in a division. Dimock asked what didn't get funded this year that the division wanted. Schwenk stated that there was inadequate funding for the divisional social and the symposia. There is also a regional

(divisional) meeting that they would like to sponsor as well. Satterlie said that the question is whether the financial needs are being met - the social might be a membership needs issue, but the symposia and the student awards are not. Walters stated that all symposia got full funding this year and all divisions rejected offers for additional funding. Voltzow stated that perhaps we should list divisional support in the meeting program to make clearer divisional sponsorship. This has been done in the past and did not occur this year.

- j. **Motion.** Schwenk moved (Burnett seconded) to develop a simple formula to create funding of divisions in proportion to their size.

The motion was defeated – 2 in favor, remainder opposed.

- k. **Motion.** Woodin moved (Walters seconded) to approve the 2009 SICB Budget as amended (summary appears below).

Revenue		
000	Administrative	\$172,100.00
100	Annual Meeting	\$225,075.00
3005	Endowment Fund	\$9,300.00
200	Journal	\$265,000.00
300	Grants	\$0.00
600	Divisional Budget	\$5,000.00
	Total Revenue	\$676,475.00
Expenses		
500	Administrative	\$323,192.27
100	Annual Meeting	\$201,025.00
3005	Endowment Fund	\$38,050.00
650	Committees	\$19,590.00
200	Journal	\$100,470.00
300/400	Grants	\$0.00
000	SICB Memberships	\$7,900.00
6005	Divisional Budget	\$34,100.00
000	Contingency Fund	\$10,000.00
	Total Expense	\$734,327.27
	Net Income (Loss)	(\$57,852.27)

The motion passed unanimously.

8. **Future Meeting Sites.** Burk presented two options under consideration for the site of the annual meeting in 2010. We are looking at the middle of the country, possibly New Orleans, for 2011.
- Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, CA.
 - Seattle Sheraton Hotel & Washington State Convention and Trade Center, Seattle, WA.
- Attributes of each site were discussed briefly. Further detailed information will be sent electronically to members of the Executive Committee as soon as possible and a vote will be made over email.
9. **Recognition of Program Officer.** President Pearse recognized the hard work and accomplishments of Linda Walters, Program Officer, whose term ends at this meeting.
10. **Adjournment.** The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 a.m.

Appendix 10 – Constitution and Bylaws Proposal

SICB Constitution & Bylaws Revisions

SICB Constitution and Bylaws Issues Overview

- The membership categories are now more uniformly defined; voting and office-holding privileges for each category are specified. Emeritus Membership is better defined.
- There is a reference to a Public Affairs Committee (PAC) in the present SICB Bylaws, but this is not established as a Standing Committee. References (2) are to Secretary and Program Officer working with the PAC. The executive officers suggest that this should be a standing committee.
- Ditto above for the Development Committee in the SICB Bylaws. Treasurer duty is to serve as *ex officio* on the Development Committee, but the Development Committee is not a Standing Committee.
- Article VII. Section 5 states that the Program Officer will chair a Program Committee of divisional Program Officers. But this committee is not listed as a standing committee. The wording in Article VII. Section 5, which outlines the duties of the Program Officer, can be streamlined to reflect that the PO is the chair of the Program Committee for the general purposes of organizing the program at the annual meeting. Specifics of what the Program Committee does can then be moved to the section establishing it as a standing committee. We also suggest some wording on the membership of the committee to include the divisional Program Officers (current wording), but others appointed by the President. We have other individuals currently serving on this committee, but no real mechanism for their appointment.
- The current wording of Bylaw Article XVI does not prescribe a mechanism for changing the bylaws. Wording is borrowed from Article VII of the SICB Constitution to accomplish this.

Proposed changes – **Additions in Bold Underline**; Deletions

SICB Constitution Revisions

Article II: Membership – substantive change in Emeritus Membership definition; edits elsewhere for consistency

Section 1. The Society shall consist of Full Members, Student Members, Postdoctoral members, Emeritus Members, Honorary Members, Life Members and Family Members.

Section 2. Full Members: Any individual who has scientific training and is professionally engaged in the study or promotion of biology as a scientific discipline shall be eligible for Full Membership. **Full Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. Full Members may vote and hold office.**

Section 3. Graduate Student Members: Any student enrolled in a graduate program in the biological sciences shall be eligible for Graduate Student Membership. An individual may hold Graduate Student Membership for a maximum of six years. After six years, the Graduate Student Member who has completed a doctorate shall automatically be promoted to Full Membership. A Graduate Student Member may request a limited extension of Graduate Student Membership by written request to the Business Office. Graduate Student Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. Graduate Student Members may vote but may not hold office. A Graduate Student Member may present one paper or poster at each meeting of the Society under sponsorship of a Full Member.

Section 4. Student-in-Training (SIT) Members: Any undergraduate college or upper level high school student who has demonstrated a precocious and clear-cut understanding of science, which should lead to Full Membership at a later date, may hold this membership. Normally an individual may not hold SIT Membership for more than five years, after which he/she should be eligible for Graduate Student Membership. SIT Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. They may neither vote nor hold office. A SIT Member may present one paper at each meeting of the Society, under sponsorship of a Full Member.

Section 5. Emeritus Members: Any individual SICB member who has ~~retired~~ **belonged to the Society for at least 10 years and has reached the age of 65, or who has belonged to the Society for at least 25 years and has been granted retirement** shall, after written application to the Secretary, be designated as an Emeritus Member. Emeritus ~~Members~~ members shall **receive announcements of meetings and may elect to receive the Journal.** Emeritus members shall hold one of two levels of membership; those who receive the Journal and those who do not. The Executive Committee will set membership dues as stated in the Bylaws. **They may vote and hold office.**

Section 6. Postdoctoral Members: Any student who has earned a doctoral degree **and is professionally engaged in the study or promotion of biology as a scientific discipline** ~~in biological science~~ and is a postdoctoral fellow or associate shall be eligible for Postdoctoral Membership. **Postdoctoral Members shall receive announcements of meetings and all Society publications. Postdoctoral Members may vote but may not hold office.**

Section 7. Family Members: SICB offers three types of family memberships: Full Family Membership, Postdoctoral Family Membership, and Graduate Student Family Membership. Family memberships allow two persons in one household to be members. Although both members are eligible to vote, only one subscription of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* **the Journal** per household is included in this membership category.

Section 8. Life Members: Individuals qualified for Full Membership may elect to become Life Members upon payment of the appropriate dues as set by the Executive Committee. Such members would receive all the rights, privileges and benefits of traditional ~~full membership~~ **Full Membership**, for life.

Section 9. Honorary Members: Honorary Members are individuals distinguished for their research and/or for their contributions to the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Honorary Members are exempt from yearly dues, and receive the journal **Journal**. Potential Honorary Members may be nominated by divisions, the **executive** officers, and/or the Membership Committee. The Membership Committee shall review the credentials of nominees, and make recommendations for approval/denial to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will vote on the recommendations. The President will notify a new Honorary Member of his or her election. **Honorary Members may neither vote nor hold office.**

Rationale: Most of the changes in the membership section are for consistency from section to section. For example, nowhere in the current Constitution does it state that Full Members can vote or hold office. Stipulations for voting and holding office are included in each section and follow current practices. The addition of the word “executive” in Section 9 makes this section consistent with the recommended use of this term below (see Article III. Section. 2. Executive Committee below).

Article III: Administrative Organization – changes: word additions in Sections 1 and 2

Section 1. Officers: The **executive** officers of the Society shall be a President, Past President, President-Elect, Secretary, Secretary-Elect, Program Officer, Program Officer-Elect, **Past Program Officer**, Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect. The President-Elect shall be elected before one annual meeting and serve for a term, as hereinafter provided, and shall then successively and automatically become President for two years and then successively and automatically become Past President for two years. The term of the President-Elect shall be two years. The Secretary-Elect and Treasurer-Elect shall be elected triennially, and shall hold office for a term of one year, and then automatically succeed to their elected office for three years. The expiration date of the terms of these offices shall be arranged so that only one of these two officers need be elected in any one year. The Program Officer-Elect shall be elected to serve for one year and shall then successively and automatically become Program Officer for two years and then successively and automatically become Past Program Officer **for one year.**

Section 2. Executive Committee: The management of the Society shall be vested in an Executive Committee consisting of the **executive** officers, three Members-at-Large from the Society general membership, the Chairs of the Divisions of the Society, the Editor of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, the Chair of the Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, and the Chair of the Educational Council. Of the three Members-at-Large, one shall be elected each year for a term of three years. The Executive Director of the Society shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Executive Committee, **but may not vote.**

Rationale for changes in Sections 1 and 2: The executive officers are specified here and clearly (from section 1) include President, President-Elect, Past President, Secretary, Secretary-Elect, Program Officer, Program Officer-Elect, Past Program Officer, Treasurer and Treasurer-Elect. The “executive” officers in practice confer with each other and the executive director on a regular, often weekly, basis about the management and operation of the society. Adjectives describing this group such as “core” officers and “primary” officers have been used and the addition of the word “executive” simply provides a convenient designation for referencing this subset of the Executive Committee. Such a designation is a common practice for scientific societies. The designation “executive” officers implies no change in powers or duties of any officer or the Executive Committee.

The Past Program Officer should be included in the list of officers in the first sentence, since clearly that is the intention in the last part of the paragraph. The term of the Past Program Officer should be established just like the terms of the other officers. It is logical that it is a one year term so that each year the society has a Program Officer and Program Officer-Elect or a Program Officer and a Past Program Officer. In this way, after being elected, the Program Officer-Elect serves SICB for a period of four years through the end of the Past Program Officer term.

The practice of this society is that the Executive Director is involved in most aspects of running the society, but does so without an official vote. This change codifies the practice.

Article III. Administrative Organization. Section 4. Elections – changes: balloting process is expanded to cover divisions.

Section 4. Elections: Elections of Society-wide Officers, ~~and~~ Members-At-Large of the Executive Committee, **and Divisional Officers** shall be held by both paper and appropriately secure electronic ballots. The Secretary shall make certain that ballots are made available to the entire membership of the Society and allow one month for their return, the due date being stated on the ballot. The Secretary shall be responsible for overseeing the counting, tabulation, and recording of the votes and shall notify the candidates and the Executive Committee of the results of the election. The results of the election will be published in the Fall Newsletter of the Society prior to the Annual Meeting. In the event that the vote for any **Society-wide** candidate should result in a tie, the three Members-at-Large of the Executive Committee shall vote ~~by mail~~ to resolve the tie.

Rationale: The voting process is now centralized for all SICB voting, including divisions. It is a process that is done electronically with paper ballots issued upon request. This is overseen by the Society-wide Secretary. The proposed wording changes account for this. Divisional Secretaries are still involved in the balloting process. Divisions are being asked to make appropriate adjustments in bylaws to account for the current practice.

SICB Bylaws Revisions

Article VII: Program Officer – changes: eliminate part of Section 3, eliminate Section 4, reword and eliminate part of Section 5, add Section 6 (formerly part of Section 5)

Section 3. The Program Officer shall oversee the arrangement for and supervise the publication of the programs and abstracts of meetings of the Society ~~in collaboration with the Editor of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*.~~

Rationale: The provision for collaborating with the Editor can be dropped since we no longer publish meeting abstracts in ICB.

~~Section 4. The Program Officer shall authorize purchases and employ assistance as provided for in the Annual Budget in order to expedite the business of the Society. All actual monetary transactions shall be reimbursed from the funds of the Society for such expenses.~~

Rationale: It is unclear what this section is for!

Section 5 will become the new Section 4 and the additional section will be the new Section 5.

Section 4. The Program Officer shall chair **the Program Committee for the purposes of establishing and organizing the program for the annual meeting.** ~~a committee composed of Divisional Program Officers. Each year this Committee shall decide upon at least one Society wide symposium, to be held at the annual meeting one year hence. The members of this Committee shall also identify topics for the planned oral contribution sessions arranged on inter-divisional lines, which will be made known to the members in the call for papers. The Program Officer shall work with the Public Affairs Committee to broadly advertise the selected Society wide symposia.~~

Rationale: This is the current Section 5, which becomes Section 4. The committee of Program Officers should have a name, which it doesn't. There was once a Program Advisory Committee, but the committee referred to above is not advisory, it actually sets the program with some approvals of the Executive Committee. The suggestion is to call it a Program Committee and it needs to be established as a standing committee (see SICB Bylaws revisions below).

Section 5. The Program Officer shall work with the Public Affairs Committee to broadly advertise the program of the annual meeting.

Rationale: This is a new section, but it is derived from the last sentence of the present Section 5, with some wording changes. As mentioned elsewhere, the Public Affairs Committee will be established as a standing committee (see SICB Bylaws revisions below). However, this new section states that the Program Officer will work with the Public Affairs Committee to advertise the entire program of the annual meeting and not just the Society-wide symposia.

Article XIII: Duties of the Executive Committee – changes: rewording and clarification in Section 1

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall serve as the governing Board of the Society. **The Executive Committee is responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the Society** and shall review and establish policies and procedures of the Society in line with the provisions of the Constitution and Bylaws. ~~The Executive Committee is responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the Society during periods between annual meetings.~~

Rationale: The new wording of this section suggests that the Executive Committee is responsible for the conduct of the affairs of the Society at all times, during and between annual meetings.

Article VII: Amendments – changes: minor word changes to make this consistent with the process of amending the bylaws (see below)

Section 1. Proposed amendments of the Constitution may be originated by the Executive Committee or by the members of the Society. Proposals from members shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing and shall bear the signatures of at least twenty-five members.

Section 2. **The Constitution may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting by ballot, provided a quorum of the Society membership votes (see Article V).** ~~Voting shall be by mail or by electronic ballots. Proposed amendments to the Constitution shall be posted by the Society Secretary on the Web Page at least one month prior to voting. Ballots will be made available to the membership and one month will be allowed for voting. The ballot closing date shall be stated on the ballot. ~~With a quorum voting (see Article V), an affirmative vote by two-thirds of the members voting shall be necessary for the adoption of amendments to the Constitution.~~~~

Section 3. Votes will be collected and tabulated and the Secretary will notify the Executive Committee of the results. The Secretary will also post the results on the Society's Web Page and in the appropriate fall or spring Newsletter.

Section 4. Amendments shall become effective following their adoption as stated in Article VII Sections 1-3.

Section 5. Articles of Incorporation: The Articles of the Constitution and Bylaws of this Society may be amended except that no such action shall be taken that would adversely affect the qualification of the Corporation under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954, as amended (or the corresponding provisions of any future United States Internal Revenue law).

Article XV: Standing Committees – changes: reword Section 3 and add Sections 9, 10, and 11 to establish three new standing committees

Section 3. Membership Committee: The President shall appoint a Membership Committee of three members, each for a term of three years. ~~The Committee shall consider matters relating to the recruitment of new members and the procedures and policies of membership in the Society.~~ The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of one member shall expire each year. The senior member of the Committee shall serve as Chairperson and the Secretary shall be an *ex officio* member of the Committee. **The Committee shall consider matters relating to the recruitment of new members and the procedures and policies of membership in the Society. The Committee shall review the credentials of nominees for honorary membership, and make recommendations for approval/denial to the Executive Committee.**

Rationale: The composition of the committee and details of the appointments are reordered to precede the duties of the committees as is done in other sections. The addition of the duty of making recommendations on honorary membership is already specified in the SICB Constitution, Article II Membership, Section 9 and is repeated here for clarity and completeness.

Section 9. Public Affairs Committee: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of at least three members, each for a term of three years. The President shall appoint the chair of the Committee. The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of one member shall expire each year. The Committee shall promote the programs and interests of the Society, consistent with the Society mission, to the public. The Committee shall also conduct programs and workshops for Society members in order to develop skills and provide information regarding public affairs. The Committee shall work with the Program Officer to broadly advertise the program of the Annual Meeting of the Society. The Committee shall work with the Secretary to report to the press important activities of the Society. The Program Officer and the Secretary shall be *ex officio* members of the Committee.

Rationale: This is a new section to change the Public Affairs Committee, already a temporary committee, to a standing committee. The intention that this be a standing committee is already apparent in the two references to it in the present bylaws; Article V. Section 3 and Article VII. Section 5 reference the committee working with the Secretary and the Program Officer, respectively.

Section 10. Program Committee: The Program Committee shall consist of the Program Officer, who shall chair the committee, the Program Officer-Elect or the Past Program Officer, the Divisional Program Officers, and other individuals appointed by the President. This Committee shall decide upon at least one Society-wide symposium to be held at the annual meeting. The Committee shall identify

topics for the planned oral contribution sessions arranged on inter-divisional lines, which will be made known to the members in the call for papers.

Rationale: This establishes the committee and its membership mentioned in Article VII, Section 5 of the SICB Constitution as a standing committee giving it the name Program Committee. The practice is that there are other individuals on this committee representing different societies with whom the SICB meets. This provision allows these appointments by the President.

Section 11. Development Committee. The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of at least three members, each for a term of three years. The appointment of members of the Committee shall be ordered so that the term of one member shall expire each year. The senior member of the Committee shall serve as Chairperson and the Treasurer shall serve as an *ex officio* member. The Committee is broadly charged to assist the Executive Committee to develop and enhance resources for the Society to support its programs.

Rationale: The Development Committee currently exists as a temporary committee. The addition the Development Committee as a standing committee makes the bylaws internally consistent, since reference is already made to the Development Committee in our SICB Bylaws Article XI: Treasurer, Section 5 where the Treasurer duties are described. The functioning of such a committee could be very important.

Article XVI: Bylaws – changes: wording changes to make the process consistent with that used to amend the constitution; one substantive change disallows amending bylaws at the annual business meeting by majority vote; this change does not preclude discussion of bylaws (or constitutional amendments) at the business meeting, but attendance at the business meeting is a rather small subset of the society; see more comments below under Rationale

~~Section 1. Bylaws for the Society may be enacted by the membership.~~

~~Section 2. The Bylaws may be amended or new ones enacted at the Annual Business Meeting by a majority vote, a quorum being present, or by a two-thirds vote of the members voting by ballot. Proposed changes in the Bylaws must be posted on the Society's Web Page by the Secretary at least one month prior to any vote being taken. Votes will be collected and tabulated. The Secretary will notify the Executive Committee and post the results on the Society's Web Page as well as in the appropriate fall or spring Newsletter.~~

Section 1. Proposed amendments of the Bylaws may be originated by the Executive Committee or by the members of the Society. Proposals from members shall be submitted to the Executive Committee in writing and shall bear the signatures of at least twenty-five members.

Section 2. The Bylaws may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members voting by ballot, provided a quorum of the Society membership votes (see Article V of the Constitution). Proposed amendments to the Bylaws shall be posted by the Society Secretary on the Web Page at least one month prior to voting. Ballots will be made available to the membership and one month will be allowed for voting. The ballot closing date shall be stated on the ballot.

Section 3. Votes will be collected and tabulated and the Secretary will notify the Executive Committee of the results. The Secretary will also post the results on the Society's Web Page and in the appropriate fall or spring Newsletter.

Section 4. Amendments shall become effective following their adoption as stated in Article XVI Sections 1-3.

Rationale: The current wording is vague on how bylaws can be changed. The proposed wording is borrowed from the process used to change the constitution (see above). The only substantive change is to disallow voting on bylaws amendments at the Annual Business Meeting. Improvements in web technology allowing “discussion” of bylaws amendments provides all members with the ability to participate in discussing and voting on bylaws and not just a subset of the members who attend the annual meeting and a subset of those who go to the business meeting. Bylaws (and constitutional) amendments may still be discussed at the business meeting.