

## **Minutes of the 2013 DCE Business Meeting**

SICB Annual Meeting San Francisco 5 January 2013

Meeting was lead by Steve McCormick, DCE Chair, called to order at 5:15 pm.

### NSF Update:

Steve Ellis and John Wingfield from NSF stopped by to tell us about the current status of grants and funding. Steve reminded the group that NSF was operating under a continuing resolution, and is currently at 80% level of funding. He also mentioned that NSF was interested in supporting symposia, particularly those that are forward thinking. He mentioned the RCN mechanism (13-520) to promote groups to work on a particular question. The REU supplement (12-569) is a 3 page supplementary document to include undergraduates in research, but NSF is expecting PIs to incorporate student support into the original proposal. Finally, Steve reminded the group that Bill Zamer from NSF would be presenting on IOS/DEB pre-proposals on 6 January at 5:15 pm. John Wingfield let us know that NSF was being cautious with their budget in case sequestration occurred, but that the 2012 budget represented a 4.9% increase over 2011 and NSF seems to fair well on both sides of the aisle in congress. He noted that for next year, he expects basic research support to be very strong.

### SICB Executive Committee Update:

The SICB Executive Committee (President Ken Sebens, President-Elect Billie Swalla, Past-President Richard Satterlie, Program Officer Jon Harrison, Treasurer-Elect Karen Martin, and Executive Director Brett Burk) stopped by to remind us that the society-wide business meeting would be held on 6 January at 5:15 pm. The next annual meeting is to be held in Austin, TX followed by Palm Beach, FL. Voting for the 2016 meeting venue would be done on 7 January, and would be between Portland, San Diego, and Phoenix). Jon Harrison mentioned that the San Francisco meeting was the largest ever with 1651 abstracts and 2100 pre-registered. A post meeting survey will be sent out electronically, comments for improvement are welcome, and we are encouraged to take the survey. Membership in the society is increasing and the budget is in good shape, but it would be good to have more individual donations to the society to help support students. There was a concerted effort to improve the AV this year, and thus far things seemed to be going well.

### Steve McCormick, Chair, made several announcements:

He introduced the DCE divisional officers: Ignacio Moore Program Officer, Erica Crespi Secretary, Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez Student/Postdoctoral Rep, Mary Mendonça President-Elect, Rachel Bowden Secretary-Elect, Molly Dickens Student/Postdoctoral Rep-Elect. Rosemary Knapp (Program Officer-Elect) was not able to be at the meeting this year. Steve recognized the two outgoing officers (Erica Crespi and Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez) and thanked them both for their efforts over the previous two years.

Steve made several announcements including that the 2013 Bern Lecture, given by Ellen Ketterson, would be held at 6:30 pm and there was a social to follow. Free drink tickets were given out to all DCE business meeting attendees (thanks to Ignacio Moore making this happen), and the first DCE Data Blitz (organized by Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez) would be held at the social.

Minutes from the 2012 Business Meeting were unanimously approved.

Ignacio Moore, Program Officer, made several announcements:

He reminded us that the San Francisco meeting was the largest ever and that there were 1650 presentations. DCE co-sponsored four symposia and would be co-sponsoring four symposia at the Austin meeting, including an Endocrine Disruptor symposium organized by Kevin Kelley. He also mentioned that there would be a session honoring John Wingfield in Austin. He encouraged DCE members to submit symposium ideas with the goal of having at least one DCE symposium at each meeting. He mentioned that symposium proposals may take more than one round to get approved, and that SICB requires proposers to apply for external funding. The deadline for the West Palm Beach meeting is in August, so DCE members should be thinking of new ideas and diverse speakers.

Ignacio noted that there had been some complaints about placement of talks within sessions and encouraged the group to be careful when submitting abstracts. The boxes that you click, tracks the abstract to different Program Officers. Brian Tsukimura said that all DCE members should select "Regulatory Biology" first to ensure that the abstract is sent to the DCE Program Officer. There were several suggestions about how to reorganize the program to highlight all concurrent sessions, including re-orienting the program horizontally, and moving to an on-line format. The new SICB app was a step in that direction, but needs improvement to be functional.

Erica Crespi gave the Secretary's Report:

Erica reminded everyone that all announcements must go through the Divisional Secretary to be sent onto SICB. She also thanked everyone for tolerating the barrage of emails that had come from SICB. She noted that Rachel Bowden would be taking over at Divisional Secretary, so any correspondence should now go Rachel.

She let the group know that should Rosemary not be able to participate as Program Officer next year, Ignacio Moore has agreed to continue in that role for another year.

There has been discussion across divisions about how best to run student presentation awards. In DEE, for the 2013 meeting they had students submit an expanded abstract and a small committee chose a select group to participate in a single session (one for posters and one for oral presentations). This idea received several positive comments, but concerns were raised including that there would be limited time for the committee to review and select abstracts before getting names to the Program Officer, and that it seems this approach takes out any information on the presentation from the initial decision. On the plus side, it would require many fewer judges, all presenters for a given presentation type would be judged by the same individuals, and it may serve to make the awards more prestigious.

Erica announced that there would be a workshop on 6 January at 7pm, "Genomics for non-model organisms", and encouraged people to submit ideas for workshops for the Austin meeting. The DCE Facebook page has 58 members, and we still need submissions to the DCE researcher database.

Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez gave the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Report:

Rebecca noted that SICB is seen as a very student friendly meeting and provides much funding to support student participation. She reminded the group that the Broadening Participation Committee has travel awards for underrepresented groups including female postdocs and assistant professors. A workshop on how to negotiate

your first job offer will be held on 6 January, and the social in honor of students and postdocs would be held that evening.

She then explained the format for the DCE data blitz and noted that one of the goals was to get more of the younger DCE members to attend the social. Participants would have two minutes and two slides to present their story. It is meant to be fun, and winner will be determined by applause. She also mentioned that the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (Peggy Biga, Chair) was hosting booth to help young members edit their CVs, and that Sean Lema would be the next Chair of the committee.

#### General and Comparative Endocrinology (GCE) Update:

Bob Dores, Editor of GCE) was not able to attend the meeting this year, so Steve McCormick gave the journal report. The impact factor for the journal has risen to 3.267 and there were 508 manuscripts submitted, a new high for the journal. There are several special issues planned for 2013 including: Comparative Endocrinology in Asia: Proceedings of the AOSCE Meeting (Malaysia) and International Symposium on Comparative Endocrinology and Stress Physiology (India), Proceedings of the conference on Avian Endocrinology (Japan), Proceedings of the European Comparative Endocrine Conference (Switzerland), and Proceedings of the International Symposium on Fish Endocrinology (Argentina). They also are planning two special issues for 2014 including: Proceedings of the NASCE meeting (Mexico), and Proceedings of the International Congress on Comparative Endocrinology (Spain). They are seeking ideas for other special issues on themes in comparative endocrinology for publication in 2014 and 2015, please send ideas to Bob Dores ([rdores@du.edu](mailto:rdores@du.edu)).

Henry John-Alder is the new representative for Integrative and Comparative Biology (ICB). ICB is considering opening up to contributed papers or special issues beyond just symposia.

Steve McCormick then updated the group on the Bern Lecture endowment, it is currently at \$9000, but needs to get to \$20,000-30,000 to be fully endowed. Please consider contributing. He also reminded us to put in contributions to the researcher database.

DCE membership is growing from a low in 2007 of 235 members to 350 members in 2013. Since instituting the \$10/member fee (plus the \$5/member fee given to each division by SICB), DCE has additional funds to support symposia or special sessions. If you have ideas for either, please contact Ignacio Moore or Steve. The DCE Executive Committee discussed the possibility of waiving the \$10 fee for students, and would eventually like to eliminate for all members. It may be possible to use some of these funds to help support the Bern Lecture, or it was suggested that we consider seeking a corporate sponsor.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.