

## DCPB Member Meeting Minutes, 4 Jan 2023

General intros Jon Harrison (DCPB chair) - overview of exec committee meeting

- Society-wide best student paper system created
- Society-wide conflict of interest SICB budget - increasing membership fees to run 8% in the black to make up for large loss in 2023 due to COVID
- Leaps grant awarded to SICB to change culture of inclusivity - Need to fill out the demography forms
- SICB generating a strategic plan
  - divisions need to do this by June 1
  - where we want to be in 5 years?
  - Jon and Jason Podrabsky (DCPB chair-elect) will meet at this meeting to discuss a plan for making this happen

Jon led a discussion of people's impression of DCPB and where we may want to go. Some insights gained:

- Member numbers are down - § 390 members in DCPB used to be one of the largest divisions at 600-700
- we have to think of ways to reverse the trend of faculty not coming - is it too expensive to attend due to travel etc and highlighted that there may be programmatic issues - fewer symposia seem to be attracting people
- Need for more frequent and effective and targeted communication - actively build support between meetings
- The need for a mentoring program such as Beer and Brains was discussed - DCPB is interested in pursuing this. Do we do a mentor lunch? That would be a good event that students are likely to engage in. Mentor socials would be a benefit - interdisciplinary would be great. Science is so collaborative- highlight this point
- need to develop fun activities – like sticker competitions and other activities that engage the division
- Bart social could be a way to reach people and suggested some ideas to create opportunities for interaction during the social – like tables that are intended to spark themed discussions
- the division structure is a little cumbersome and antiquated - need to address this with younger members
- there is a dilution effect – people share multiple scientific identities (example given – people studying larval biology/physiology) this splits people's attention and interests across divisions – further, the divisions are not relevant outside of

the meeting – we should highlight/spotlight people from the division during the year to keep membership relevant

- Undergrad student – this was their first intro to any conference- senses a competition between divisions that is hard for students to navigate - they feel forced to choose – but the divisions are not well defined – an info pamphlet might help

Budget Spend about \$10k/year

- \$7k from Bart fund
- Used to have divisional dues that we no longer collect - but \$10 of SICB membership fees goes to the division you sign up for – (it is split evenly if you sign up for multiple divisions)
- Will leaps funding be available for events? Jon - only if we get the \$2million implementation grant
- nominating committee formed for the following positions
  - Program officer, Chair-elect, student/postdoc affairs SPDAC officer
  - Committee composed of: Barney Rees, Greg Ragland, Ken Welch

Lisa Treidel – outgoing SPDAC rep provided SPDAC report

- student /postdoc is society-wide committee with one rep from each division
- organize and run events/activities for students at the meeting
- commitment is low key but networking is great!
- We need to highlight grad students at ICB in their spotlight series – Jon suggested that mentors should be nominating/encouraging their trainees to be spotlighted

Alex Gerson gave program officer update-

- 165 abstracts, 4 symposium we are supporting
- Model for supporting symposium has been changed now
  - § \$1000/division to choose which symposia to support
  - § \$1000/division is pooled with other divisions and then spread across all Symposia
  - § Each division used to get \$2000 to distribute
- 3 symposia we are supporting this year
- We are being out-competed for symposia
- Lisa – pointed out that extramural funding is necessary any more
  - § Alex pointed out that we have a repository of successful grants

§ Kathy – NSF will vet symposia requests first and make sure they are fundable- proposals are great at the end of the fiscal year (May)

Jon Harrison presented the Secretary's Report on behalf of DCPB secretary Caroline Williams, who was not able to attend:

- Spring elections: Secretary-Elect (Kate Wilsterman, term begins Feb 2024)  
*Big thank you to all candidates for your willingness to serve, and to all members who voted!*
- [Amendments](#) to divisional bylaws passed (100% in favor)
- Shift in officer terms (Feb start, after completion of annual meeting duties)
- Redefining relationship between journals and division
- Alignment of best student presentation awards process society-wide (led by SICB secretary Michele Johnson)
- Low member responses to requests for newsletter submissions – but we print all of them and appreciate hearing from members! Please let us know how we can communicate with members more effectively!

Kathy Dickson – report from NSF – IOS

- thanked folks for reviewing and participating on panels
- encouraged folks to reach out at the booth if you want to get involved with nsf service
- supporting Workshops for students- info available online
- 9 Program Directors here mostly from IOS
- Workshop on Thur on what is new at nsf
- Virtual office hours occur monthly - Always time for Q&A - good way to get info from PDs
- Encouraged folks to talk with a PD to find the best fit for their work or ideas - They don't mind being bugged
- Core research programs have no Deadlines but other programs do have deadlines – read and follow solicitations
- Integrative biology is now a track of the core solicitation
- Safe and inclusive environments work plan is now required for work that includes off-campus work - need to submit this plan as appropriate
- Main priorities: resilient planet, bioeconomy, CASA-bio, good science everywhere, Synthesis centers - used existing data New directorate

Ted Garland - Report from EEP

- Name change from PBZ - now Ecological and evolutionary
- Divisional relationship has been inconsistent over time- working to make this more consistent
- Usage trends are stable for the journal
- Impact factor is reduced lately

- Submissions are way down and this is concerning
- acceptance rates are up
- Need ideas to get submissions up
- Papers published is down 50% since 2014
- Focused issues and special collections are now searchable- could improve usage
- Need ideas for special collections
- Jon noted that we need to discuss the positives of publishing in discipline-specific journals – you get better end-product from better reviews
- Journal is accessible for free to all DCPB members through SICB website!
- DCPB chooses the editor for EEP – so we are connected!

Jason Podrabsky – gave an update on CBPA for Mike Hedrick

- Changes to associate editors - Jordi Altimiras and Holly Shiels are stepping down and Tobais Wang and Helene Volkoff will be joining continuing AA Gary Anderson
- Impact factor is down from 2.9 in 2021 to 2.3 in 2022 - this is mostly due to changes in how Clarivate calculates impact factors
- Cite score reached a high in 2022 of 4.9 (3076 citations/634 documents between 2019 and 2022)
- CBPA is ranked 56/456 in the “Animal Science and Zoology” category
- CBPA is ranked 46/84 among physiology journals
- Review speed is amazing at an average of 2.1 weeks for first decision and 5.2 weeks for final decision
  - This speed to decision was viewed as impressive and Jon asked how they might be able to achieve this
- Top countries for article downloads in the past 5 years: 1. USA, 2. China, 3. UK, 4. Canada, 5. Australia
- The journal has supported a number of successful special issues:
  - Athletes of the animal kingdom: Exercise insights from comparative and evolutionary biology
  - Adaptations of the nutrient supply organs that fuel the fire of life
  - Comparative models in biomedical research
  - Comparative physiology and the legacy of August Krogh, 1920-2020
  - Combatting the cold: comparative physiology of low temperature and related stressors in arthropods

- There are 3 special issues being assembled now and you can reach out to Mike Hedrick if you are interested in participating in these or would like to propose a new special issue ([michael.hedrick@csueastbay.edu](mailto:michael.hedrick@csueastbay.edu))
  - Novel Mechanisms of Epithelial Ion Transport and Its Regulation
  - Osmoregulation in animals: Molecular to physiological adaptation (joint Special Issue w/ Part D).
  - Methods in Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology: Challenges and Opportunities (joint Special Issue across all 4 journals)