

**Minutes of the DIVISION OF EVOLUTIONARY DEVELOPMENTAL BIOLOGY BUSINESS MEETING, January 4, 2009, Boston MA**

- Opening of the meeting by DEDB Chair, Linda Holland
- Welcome of new DEDB secretary, Elaine Seaver, welcome of chair-elect, Mark Martindale and Program Officer-elect, Patricia Fernandez
- Announcement by Program Officer Wendy Olson of two DEDB supported symposia for the 2010 SICB meeting in Seattle, 1) spiralian development and evolution (Dave Lambert, organizer and Elaine Seaver, co-organizer) and one on regeneration (Alexa Bely, organizer and Sarah Lindsay, co-organizer). Olson encouraged the membership to attend the DEDB sponsored symposia for the current meeting entitled “Cell-cell signaling drives the evolution of complex traits,” organized by John Torday.
- Linda Holland reported on a call from NSF via Bill Zamer to the entire SICB society to formulate a unifying theme of organismal biology research (‘Grand Challenge’)
- Discussion and brain storming for NSF ‘Grand Challenge’.
- Visit from Jim Deshler, interim Program Officer for Mechanisms of Development/Evolution of Developmental Mechanisms at NSF
  - Deshler reported statistics on current funding levels of IOB and Developmental Mechanisms. Reported that predictive and quantitative proposals were well received. Encouraged proposals that fall into a new focus at NSF, ‘Life in Transition’
- Visit from SICB executive committee. Introduction of current and elect executive committee members. Attendance at the general SICB business meeting was encouraged.
- Meeting adjourned

Submitted by Secretary Elaine C. Seaver