

## **DEDB Business Meeting Minutes West Palm Beach, January 2015**

### **Chair - Sally Leys**

Introduction to officers and agenda

### **NSF - Anthea Letsu**

IOS - Animal Development and Evolution

### **Funding Status**

Prelim Budget - Slight Increase - put into core programs - research and meetings  
Will have 100% of last years budget available.

### **Opportunities:**

- 1) Support for symposia and workshops (including SICB Symposia): Competitive application process; should be forward looking (not retrospective) and are even better if they will result in a white paper.
- 2) Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants
- 3) Career Awards: Due this summer; do not need a pre-proposal but you are encouraged to submit a pre-proposal in order to get feedback

Be sure to call and talk to your program officers about your proposals and ideas.

### **Genomes to Phenomes**

Next year - move towards integration of quantitative approaches, bringing biologists and mathematicians together. What do we need to bring in new approaches and expertise? - Meeting to discuss at SICB this year.

### **Broadening Participation** - key goal for NSF and SICB

### **Supplements** to existing awards: - Due March 1

REUs\*

Mid-career (tenure to retirement) investigator awards - use genomics or novel technologies to answer questions - update technology in your lab.

\*Going forward, REU supplements must be requested in the full proposal (currently existing grants are grandfathered, but deadline is March 1<sup>st</sup> in these cases).

Pre-Proposal System is now being externally evaluated and report will be available after this year (3<sup>rd</sup> year).

### **Program Officer - Louise Page**

We had six sessions + 20 posters this meeting and supported three symposia (Origin of Neurons and Parallel Evolution of Nervous Systems, Integrative Biology of the Crocrodilia, and Breaking Boundaries for Evolutionary Synthesis: An Interactive and Integrative Symposium Linking Crustaceans and Insect Physiology).

No symposia planned for Portland.

*Need proposals* for 2017 meeting in New Orleans – SICB deadline is end of August (but NSF deadline is in March). SICB will help with registration fees of invitees as long as you apply for outside support. (Ariel Chipman mentioned that one can sometimes get money for symposia from relevant journals.) Typically need 11-12 participants – get in touch with them to get preliminary sense of who is available. Contact Louise for further information and examples of successful proposals, as well as list of past symposiums.

Can also organize a complimentary contributed paper session for grad students. Can get \$100 for registration fee for each invitee, but this is contingent on seeking outside funding. Also think about having a speed dating session.

**Sally Leys:** Funding that is available for symposium – have \$2000 + accumulated fund of \$2500 – also SICB will help fund airfare for foreign speakers – best if two symposia are put forward

Ideas for symposia raised: “sponge biology”, “unifying EVO-DEVO”, “Epigenetics in Evo-Devo (both Waddingtonian and chromosomal modification types)”.

Note: International members or post-docs need to work with other US citizen faculty members in order to submit application to NSF.

IDEA: organize 5-minute presentation session – could be members of a lab or focus on local groups.

### **Discussion on Best Student Paper Competition:**

It was proposed that we follow some other divisions in selecting from the standard abstracts a slate of competitors and have a dedicated session. Advantages: quality of talks will increase, and judging is more consistent (same judges, side by side comparison for all presentations). Vote was taken on this proposal and it passed. Greg Davis will organize a committee to judge abstracts. Will need to notify students of results early on and give those not chosen for the competition the option to enter the poster competition instead (if they still want to compete for a prize). The poster competition procedures will not change.

### **SICB EXECUTIVE Committee:**

introduction

membership is up

budget is balanced

working on soliciting private donations – having success

New ICB editor – Marty Martin

3<sup>rd</sup> biggest meeting

Issue of participation was raised: How do evo-devo people decide which meeting to attend? How can we raise the profile of SICB, especially as pan-american meetings

launch this summer? It was mentioned that we should highlight SICB DEDB at this summer's pan-american meeting.

**Marcus Davis – chair of membership committee for the Society**

Will be working to parse data on membership in order to improve attendance

Student numbers are increasing but not full membership

Hopes to identify regulars vs. sporadic attendees and work on strategies for increasing participation

Need good dialogue with new Pan-American society so that pan-american meeting raises awareness of SICB rather than drawing participants away.

Need to emphasize student friendly nature of SICB

**Secretary – Brad Davidson**

Asked for volunteers on nominating committee for Secretary Elect: Neva Meyer, Brad Davidson and Greg Davis will solicit nominees

Asked for a volunteer to coordinate best student presentation contest: Julia Bowsher will coordinate judging (and probably be on committee to select abstracts for competition)

**Student Post-doc Rep – Amanda Khan**

Looking to get more participation in dinner date program

Offers to solicit faculty participation prior to registration

140 students contacted –  
28 signed up

60 faculty contacted  
17 signed up

last year 22 students  
17 -18 faculty

Will solicit feedback

**Billie Swalla – pan-american evo-devo conference at Berkeley, August 5-9.**

There is going to be limit on the number of participants.

Registration should open by Thursday.