

DEDB Business Meeting Minutes Portland, January 2016

Chair - Sally Leys

Introduction of officers and agenda.

NSF - Anthea Letsou

Wanted to make everyone aware that there are now two tracks within the IOS solicitation. One is the Core Track, which is the normal mechanism, and the other is a new track entitled Enabling Discovery Through Genomic Tools (EDGE). EDGE is focused on the development of functional genomic tools (e.g., CRISPR), approaches and associated infrastructure to enable genome manipulation in diverse, emerging model organisms. Although a preproposal is not required, proposers who wish to submit to the EDGE track must submit a Letter of Intent (due in April) prior to submission of the full proposal.

Chair - Sally Leys

- 1) *Regarding officers:* Noted that two officers turn over this meeting (Sally Leys, current Chair, and Louise Page, current program officer). Thanks to Louise for work over the last 3 years; Yui Suzuki will be taking her place. Introduced Cassandra Extavour as the new Chair of the Division and noted that we have a new Secretary Elect, Julia Bowsher. Also noted that the Division officers will be soliciting candidates to run for Chair of the Division for 2018-2020 and that we welcome suggestions.
- 2) Explained a current proposal to publish an open online version of the ICB Journal and that feedback from all members has been solicited by the Society Executive Committee.

Program Officer - Louise Page

- 1) DEDB was the primary sponsor of two symposia that will go forward at the 2017 meeting in New Orleans (Jan 4-8, 2017). The titles of these Symposia will be officially announced by the executive of SICB later this year.
- 2) Yui Suzuki, who pursues evo-devo research at Wellesley College, was introduced as the incoming DEDB Program Officer for a 3-year term beginning at the end of the 2016 Portland meeting.
- 3) DEDB members were encouraged to submit symposium proposals for the 2018 SICB meeting in San Francisco (Jan 3-7, 2018).
Information relevant to symposium proposals was given at the business meeting:
 - a) In order to receive SICB funds to subsidize symposium costs (i.e. \$100 toward conference registration fee for symposium participants and modest funds to assist with travel costs), symposium organizers must demonstrate that they have applied for outside funds to help defray the costs of the symposium. To

obtain the SICB subsidy, the attempt to procure outside funds need not be successful.

- b) Symposium participants must supply a manuscript for publication in the journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. SICB is very serious about this commitment because monies from the society journal are an essential funding source for SICB.
 - c) Symposium proposals for the 2018 San Francisco meeting are due at the end of August 2016. The online application is not mounted on the SICB website until Spring. If people contemplating a symposium proposal would like a copy of a successful application from a previous year, Yui can send them a pdf of a previously successful application (dpo.dedb@sicb.org).
 - d) symposium applications need to be forward looking and proposed participants should represent a range of career stages and have both male and female representation.
 - e) symposium proposals should seek secondary support from as many other SICB divisions as appropriate, in order to demonstrate multidisciplinary appeal of the proposed symposium. (Also consider secondary sponsorship from the American Microscopical Society and the Crustacean Society, which hold their respective annual meetings with SICB and participate in the judging of successful symposium applications during the September meeting of the Program Officers).
- 4) Thanks to those DEDB members who signed-on to judge ALL (or as many as possible) of the presentations in the DEDB – Best Student Oral Presentation session, and to those who volunteered to judge the DEDB poster submissions.

Secretary – Greg Davis

- 1) Reminded everyone of the change this meeting to have a separate session dedicated to the best student oral presentation competition and the potential advantage that judging ought to be more consistent (same judges, side by side comparison for all presentations).
- 2) Briefly described process of selecting finalists for the BSP Session. This included forming a committee to choose eight finalists among the submitted abstracts from students who expressed a wish to be considered for the best student oral presentation competition. It was a bit of a learning process and it was quickly realized that the selection criteria ought to be more explicit and available to students prior to submitting abstracts. This will be the case for the next meeting. Greg then reminded everyone that for this first time we did **not** require a special, extended abstract to be considered for the special session. Some discussion followed on the pros and cons of this approach. Cons: 1) avoids extra work for applicants, 2) increases pool of applicants. Pros: 1) having to write an extended abstract is good practice for students and might self-select among applicants, making the selection easier, 2) more information would make the selection process easier for the committee. The issue of whether we will ask for an extended abstract next year was left undecided.

With regard to judges for the special session, the original plan was for the Secretary to select and recruit a panel of judges. In the end, however, volunteers were just allowed to decide if they wanted to judge the oral session but were asked to commit to judge all the presentations in the session. Discussion was opened to concerns and none were expressed. Chair-Elect Cassandra Extavour expressed a desire to hear feedback on the special session and offered that anyone with feedback could email her (chair.dedb@sicb.org).

SICB EXECUTIVE Committee:

Introductions

Peter Wainwright (SICB president) noted that Oxford Press is encouraging SICB to make a second journal in the hopes that this would raise revenue for the Society. One proposal is that this new journal would be open access and would take independent submissions not tied to meeting symposia.

There was a concern, expressed by the audience, that ICB already struggles to get publications (even from symposium participants), so a new journal might weaken ICB further. Also, that there are already so many open access journals that concern was raised about how a new journal would distinguish itself.

Chair Elect – Cassandra Extavour

- Noted success of meeting of the Pan-American Society of Evolutionary Developmental Biology in August.
- Discussed ways in which SICB DEDB and PASEDB can strengthen each other going forward.

Student Post-doc Rep – Amanda Kahn

- Noted the faculty-student dinner date program was occurring again this year with 18 faculty hosts and 30 students and thanked the participants.
- Noted that 2016 will be Amanda's last year as the student/post-doc rep and if any one is interested in this position they should come talk to her.