

DEDB Business Meeting, January 4th, 2020, 5:45 pm
Lone Star H, Austin, TX

In attendance: Approximately 27 persons over the span of the meeting

Announcement from DEDB president Deirdre Lyons:

1. Dierdre Lyons is pleased to begin her service as Chair of DEDB.
2. Introduction of current officers and officers elect: Matt Rockman (returning Program Officer), Prashant Sharma (new DEDB Secretary), Leslie Babonis (DEDB Secretary-Elect), Amaneet Loechab (outgoing Student/Postdoc Rep), and Ryan Hulett (incoming Student/Postdoc Rep).
3. DEDB membership continues to flourish, with high number of attendees and DEDB affiliation interest. Division shows healthy growth with respect to finances and registrations over the past several years.
4. *Comment from Billie Swalla (audience member in attendance):* DEDB has just turned 20 years old this meeting!
5. Healthy finances means the ability to host symposia and invite speakers from distant institutions. This is because registration is covered for symposium speakers (continuation of a new policy introduced in 2019).
6. Excellent representation of DEDB in symposia this year. More on this from Matt Rockman's report.
7. Deirdre and Mansi Srivastava (audience member in attendance): Postdocs can absolutely host symposia. Dede and Mansi did so as postdocs and would be happy to coach postdocs who want to develop symposium application submissions.
8. There will be an election for Chair-Elect and Program Officer-Elect later this year. We welcome nominations! Self-nominations are completely acceptable.
9. Reminder of SICB-sponsored journals: *Integrative and Comparative Biology* and *Integrative Organismal Biology*. Encouragement to submit.
10. Many thanks to Amaneet Loechab for her outstanding leadership in spearheading the DEDB dinner date and coffee meet ups program.
11. Encouragement to attend DEDB social event, which is coordinated with other divisions.
12. Encouragement to attend Broadening Participation events through SICB (e.g., "Can We Talk?" screening), with emphasis on student award distribution and diversity in representation.
13. The Division welcomes volunteers to spur presence on social media. Suggestion that Student/postdoc Rep. could assist with this duty.

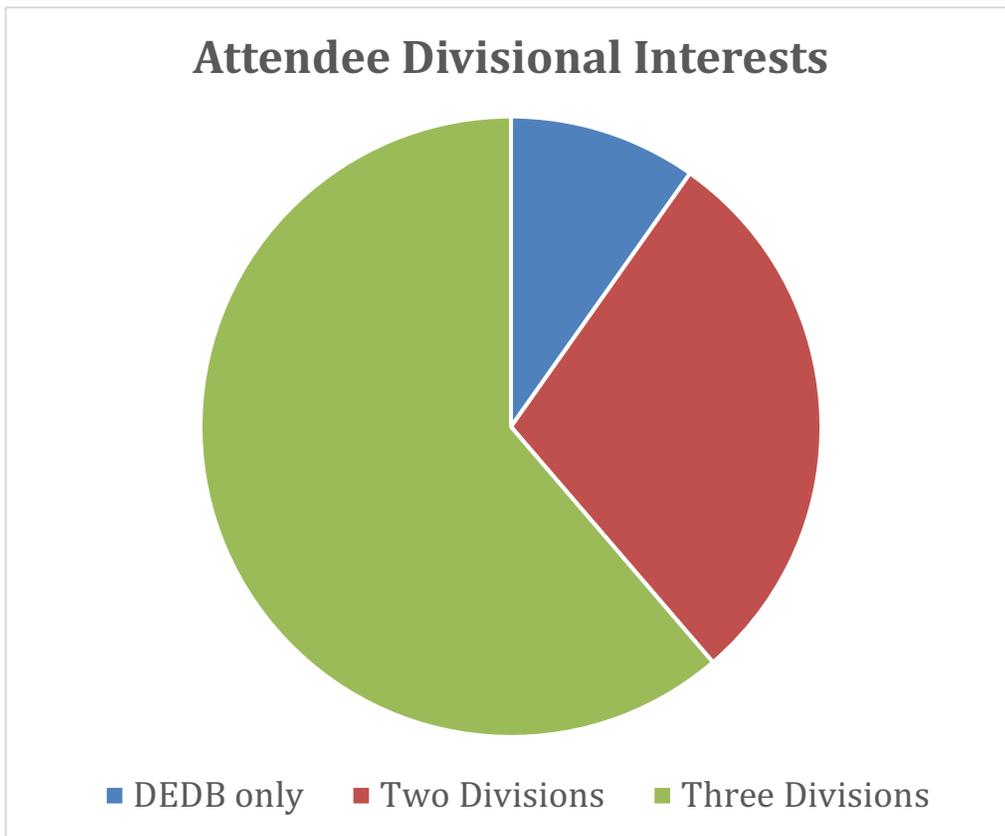
Update from DEDB Program Officer Matt Rockman:

1. Matt Rockman takes over as Program Officer at this meeting.
2. DEDB previously sponsored only one symposium in 2019. This was a major concern for the past business meeting.
3. This year, DEDB has an outsize presence in symposia, hosting five at this meeting: (a) Epigenetic Variation in Endocrine Systems (4 Jan); (b) Biology at the Cusp (4 Jan); (c) Reproduction from the Female Perspective (5 Jan); (d) Building Bridges from Genome to Phenome (6 Jan), and (e) Melding Modeling and Morphology (7 Jan). He is happy to help with submissions for the 2021 meeting.

4. The Best Student Presentation oral session went very well today. Due to timing of the session (same afternoon as this Business Meeting), judges have not yet been able to convey the winner/s to the DEDB Chair.
5. BSP winners will be announced immediately after the meeting, with notification in the newsletter.

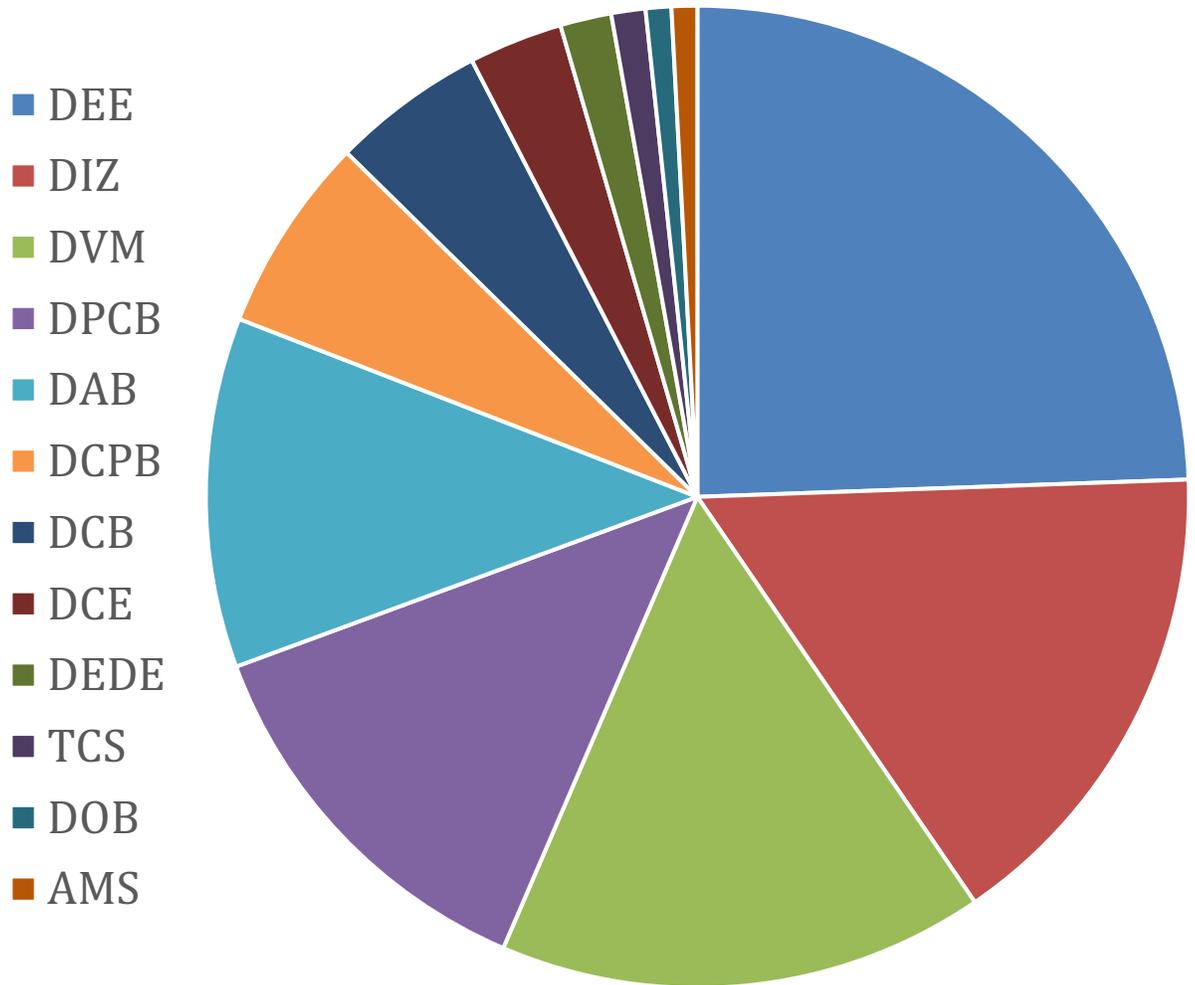
Update from DEDB Secretary Prashant Sharma:

1. Special thanks to judges of poster and BSP session. Your service is very much appreciated.
2. This year, I am implementing hard copy ballots with detachable portions for freeform student feedback. I will mail these to the student competitors after the meeting as anonymous feedback from each judge. This is anticipated to aid students who are hoping to compete again at SICB or other conferences.
3. Analysis of registration data. 235 attendees have listed DEDB as one of their divisional interests at this meeting. Of these, 23 (9.79%) listed DEDB only; 68 (23.94%) listed DEDB and one other division; and 144 (61.28%) listed DEDB and two other divisions.



4. Then examined the divisional interests of attendees who listed other divisions. The breakdown as follows: DEE: 87; DIZ: 57; DVM: 57; DPCB: 46; DAB: 41; DCPB: 23; DCB : 18; DCE: 11; DEDE: 6; TCS: 4; DOB: 3; AMS: 3.

Attendee Secondary and Tertiary Divisional Interests



5. *Question from Mansi Srivastava (audience member in attendance):* What is the context for this information?
6. Answer (Deirdre): Registration funds are distributed to SICB Divisions as a function of which Divisions attendees are affiliated with. If multiple affiliations are listed, then each division receives a fraction of the fee charged to the attendee.
7. Answer (Prashant): The goal of this reporting is also to keep an eye on DEDB's attendance and financial health. DEDB does not currently charge a fee for listing us as an affiliation. Some divisions' attendance has been in decline over the past ten years.
8. Prashant will keep an eye on these data next year and make a report at the 2021 Business Meeting.
9. Please stay tuned for solicitations for the next SICB newsletter, spring edition.

Update from Graduate student/Postdoc Representative Ryan Hulett

1. Ryan is taking over as the Graduate student/Postdoc Representative from Amaneet Loechab.
2. Special thanks to Amaneet for all her guidance and leadership on the transitions.
3. Coffee meetups program continues. Strong attendance from faculty and also postdocs for the second year in a row.
4. Dinner dates program also continues. Strong attendance yet again, positive feedback from attendees.
5. Any suggestions for making the process better are welcome.

Open discussion from the membership:

1. Discussion primarily focused on SICB's recent LGBTQI+ initiatives in light of location of the meeting. Several members conveyed discomfort with the location of the meeting, given recent history of Texas state law disenfranchising LGBTQI+ community. Additional concerns about holding meeting in Austin again in the future. Another member (Billie Swalla) noted that these decisions are made years in advance, so important not to associate location of this year's meeting with tacit support/acquiescence with recent events in Texas. But SICB leadership is aware of the concerns and expects to make their position clear on these and other issues of justice and equality.
2. Suggestions on how to increase mentoring and involvement, with emphasis on diversity.
3. Billie Swalla puts in a plug for coordination with the Pan-American Society for Evolutionary Developmental Biology (PASEDB). Their next meeting will be jointly held with Society for Developmental Biology (SDB). May be an excellent opportunity for cross-pollination of efforts and ideas.

Announcements from the SICB executive officers:

1. Introduction of officers.
2. Reminder of upcoming meetings
3. Encouragement to vote in SICB-wide elections, especially for junior scientists.
4. Updates about SICB's sponsored journals and encouragement to keep developing symposia, especially joint symposia between multiple divisions, as well as society-wide initiatives.
5. Broadening Participation committee update and plug.