

**Minutes of the DIVISION OF ECOLOGY AND EVOLUTION BUSINESS
MEETING, January 3, 2008, San Antonio, TX**

The meeting was called to order. There were seven attendees, including George Bakken (Chair), Michelle Nishiguchi (Chair-Elect), Michael Finkler (Secretary), and Michael O'Connor (Program Officer).

The chair led a discussion regarding changes to the bylaws that would (A) set the term of all officers to two years and (B) create the positions of "secretary-elect" and "program officer-elect" in order to help prepare individuals who will assume the roles of the secretary and the program officer. In 2007, both the secretary and program officer had to step down from their positions due to health issues. Those replacing them lacked the benefit of consultation with their predecessors in conducting the business of the division. The proposed positions would help smooth the transition of new officers into their positions, and would help buffer the impact that an unexpected departure of an officer would have on the function of the division.

The chair also commented on the budget available for organizing symposia, and encourages the membership to continue submitting proposals for symposia for 2010 and beyond. DEE sponsored four symposia in San Antonio:

1. Going with the flow: Ecomorphological variation across flow regimes.
2. Evolution vs. Creationism in the classroom: Evolving student attitudes.
3. Aeroecology: Probing and modeling the aerosphere: the new frontier.
4. Consequences of maternally-derived yolk hormones for offspring: Current status, challenges, and opportunities.

The Division will be sponsoring four symposia at the 2009 meeting in Boston:

1. The Biology of the Parasitic Crustacean
2. Genomics and Vertebrate Adaptive Radiation: A Celebration of the First Cichlid Genome
3. Cell-Cell Signaling Drives the Evolution of Complex Traits
4. PharmEcology Symposium: A pharmacological approach to understanding plant-herbivore interactions

The secretary reported that there was a sizeable turnout for the student presentation competition, with 48 entries. He also encouraged the membership to suggest ideas for the development of the divisional web pages and to contribute to the researcher database.

The program officer echoed the chair's call for symposia for future meetings. He commented on the importance of seeking external funding by symposia organizers as well as the option of late-breaking symposia.

NSF-Program Officer Goggy Davidowitz spoke to the meeting attendees on funding opportunities through the NSF. He noted that overall the percentage of proposals receiving funding has increased recently. He also noted that there are funding programs that have had relatively low rates of proposal submission that DEE members may be interested in, such as Research Coordination Networks.

Submitted by Secretary Michael Finkler