

DEE Business meeting, Jan 4 2018
Minutes

5:50 pm Cox called to order
Introductions of officers

Secretary report (Dillon):

Elections of Program Officer Elect and Chair Elect this year! Will need nominations (2 for each office) for the spring newsletter. We would really like to get diverse elements of DEE into officer roles.

(Padilla): Many of us aren't getting email from SICB or DEE and can't correct our profiles.

(Dillon): I'll check on the membership list and with Ruedi to see what may be the problem.

Program Officer report (Tracy):

Description and discussion of the role of the program officer. A really important job that is crazy for one week, but otherwise not too onerous. We continue to have the problem that officers are too uniformly from one group – we need more diverse representation. How do we get it?

NSF update – Karen Mabry, Animal Behavior Program:

They still don't know what the budget is (continuing resolution). Symposia support is competitive – they want to fund forward-looking topics and big new ideas. NSF BIO-wide policy requires participation of women and URG, so be sure you address that in your proposal. IOS/DEB handle supplements differently. REU, RET applications due March 1. Mid-career (anyone post-tenure) supplements to existing award to learn new tools. Also be aware of Research Opportunity and Career Life Balance awards – contact your PO on an as-needed basis. Switching to no pre-proposals and no deadlines. Expect the solicitation to be released in June to August (Career awards haven't changed). Also be aware of the EDGE track to develop genomic tools for non-model systems (due Feb. 1), and the Rules of Life Dear Colleague letter that recently came out. NSF fully supports SICB efforts to broaden participation.

Executive committee:

Officer introductions

(Burnett): meetings for next 5 years: Tampa, Austin, DC, Phoenix, Austin
Will be redesigning SICB web site in next year. Symposia are critical to the long-term health of SICB. They would like to better support Symposia organizers by “treating them like royalty”. This may include a breakfast and better financial deals in upcoming meetings.

(Summers): New open-access journal broadly representing SICB should be the outlet for publishing SICB-type work. He needs broad slate of Associate Editors – be sure to nominate people from our division. They also need early-career people savvy with social media outlets to shepherd publications through the post-publication process. They haven't yet decided on a name for the journal – please send potential names. The journal will “hard” launch at the next SICB meeting, and they expect a full slate of manuscripts.

(Telemeco): How does it differ from ICB?

(Summers): It is not a replacement for ICB, but will take contributions (rather than symposia). He envisions the format to be somewhat like a standard JEB paper, about 4500-6800 words, double blind peer review.

Chair's report (Cox):

Need to generate symposia from DEE, including for Austin. DEE is not a primary sponsor on any current symposia. Any ideas for getting more DEE symposia?

(Padilla): There is a problem with only IOS-sponsored symposia funds. If it is a requirement to apply for funding, that makes it tough for DEE because NSF DEB doesn't support symposia. Decisions on internal support are contingent on external support?

(Cox): *Application* (not receipt) for external support required. POs get \$2000 to allocate among symposia.

(Tracy): Some pressure to support Society-Wide symposia will often cut into Division-specific support.

The target is to have 12 symposia per meeting to fill ICB. Some selection helps in case proposals are not well-formed.

(Cox): Society-wide elections for a new President-Elect, Program Officer, and Member at large. Nominate DEE folks who might be interested. Strong Huey Award competition this year with 48 total entries (39 talks, 9 posters). The seven talk finalists were excellent, posters will be up tomorrow (Friday). For the FGST and GIAR, about 1/3 were DEE members, highlighting our strong student representation in the society. Our operating budget has increased slightly from 2012 – 2017. Our major expenses (about 2500-3000 per year) are for Beer and Brains and the social. At last year's meeting we discussed additional dues for DEE to raise more funds for the division.

(Telemeco): What would we do with additional funds?

(Cox): Could use to supplement Social, Business Meeting, Beer and Brains. Open to other ideas about what to do with the budget.

(unknown): But membership may drop off if you add a fee.

(Padilla): We need to have a compelling idea about what we need more money for before we talk about how to raise it.

(Muñoz): We could use money to add a cash prize for the Huey award, or a small grant for grad students. Another way to distinguish DEE.

(Padilla): The society made it illegal to change the prize for best student papers, so now it is standardized across divisions.

(unknown): Perhaps use it to support student travel to the meeting (i.e. for Huey award finalists)?

(Telemeco): Provide additional support for DEE symposia?

(Padilla): Allocation of the DEE budget to symposia is completely at the discretion of division.

(Ghalambor): He would pay an additional membership fee to support DEE.

(Tracy): We discussed all this last year as well. What is the next step to either change things or decide not to?

(unknown): Can we poll the division on some of these? Some of these ideas would require a change in bylaws.

(unknown): Maybe the extra fee for DEE could be an optional tick box – are there rules on this?

(Tracy): Should we change the format of Beer & Brains?

(unknown): I liked it best when it was smaller. It's fun with lots of grad students, but not very personal interactions with brains. Smaller and more intimate is also cheaper. Perhaps the DEE social could be one end of the spectrum and Beer & Brains the other.

(Cox): How best to invite students and brains? The current approach – first come first served – may not be ideal? Perhaps all interested (students and brains) enter a random draw from which we choose a subset. Maybe more guided random selection of brains.

(Cox): The Wenner award for strong inference is available for DEE, DIZ, and DAB. They aim to spend out the 15K fund. For a paper at the meeting that demonstrates this.

(unknown): Interest in building a new division of Plant and Algal Biology—members of which may also join DEE. Beth Brainerd is the contact. This is likely to happen in the next year.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Dillon, January 9, 2018