

DEE Business Meeting Minutes, January 4, 2016

16 people in attendance

Chair Mike Sears opened the meeting and introduced Scott Santos from NSF. Santos discussed recent NSF calls and reminded members of upcoming grant deadlines.

Chair report (Mike Sears): Sears brought to the group the idea of an open-access publication associated with SICB. There was much discussion of the pros and cons, with some worried about how we would supply another editorial board and others worried about the quality of the work given the open-access model. It was suggested that it could provide a publication outlet for undergraduate research presented at the meeting. But others objected with the argument that it could lead to publication of preliminary work that was not of the highest quality – driving a potentially negative view of the society. Sears finished the chair's report highlighting the success of both the beer and brains event and the Huey awards.

Secretary report (Michael Dillon): The chair was asked, in accordance with bylaws, to put together a candidate nominations committee in November and was reminded several times, but that hasn't been done. Dillon brought up again the need for candidates for chair-elect and program officer-elect (two for each office), and asked that people pass on information about candidates to him. If you haven't already done so, create a profile for adding to the DEE researcher database.

Program officer report (Don Miles): DEE supported several symposia that looked to be well-attended and successful. Talk with the program officer about symposium ideas so we can continue to contribute and fund strong symposia. The Huey award session continues to be a highlight of the meeting. Encourage students to keep applying.

Open discussion: Chris Tracy asked about our membership trajectory – how big is the division? How might we increase attendance at the business meeting? Wolcott: The meetings are sparsely attended because there is no reason to attend. Perhaps we should add concrete items that always get taken care of in business meetings. Others agreed and suggested that we do elections nominations in the business meeting, disburse money associated with awards. It was also brought up that we might consider adding a DEE fee like some of the other divisions have. There was mixed support for this, with some worried that it would deter student involvement (one of our biggest strengths) and others suggesting that it could provide money for more student-centered awards and events. Would it be possible to not charge graduate students?

SICB Executive committee visit: Plans to upgrade the SICB digital library and grow the research and teaching materials available there. Over 2000 in attendance at the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Dillon.