

DEE Business Meeting Minutes
Jan. 5, 2017

Mike Sears called the meeting to order at 5:47 pm
18 present

1. NSF program officers from DEB and IOS reported on budgets – everything is currently up in the air, and they are on a continuing resolution until the end of March. They set aside a budget for supporting meetings every year and often support SICB symposia. These are competitive funds and they are looking for forward-looking proposals addressing “hot” topics and that clearly outline a strong approach to inclusion of underrepresented groups, women, and scientists at diverse career stages. REUs and RETs for current grants are due by March 1. IOS is very interested in supporting mid-career investigators (post-tenure, pre-retirement) through supplements to expand their skills. This can be included in new full proposals or added as a supplement to an existing grant. For IOS, the PSS: symbiosis program has changed – proposals should now go to NSF-PBI. The EDGE program has been successful and will now have its own solicitation (for development of genomic tools). For DEB, COA document requirements have changed so be aware of that. NSF listens to feedback so continue to weigh in.

Question from Mike Sears: Are IOS and DEB considering moving to a no deadline approach (submissions accepted anytime)?

NSF POs: The preproposal process is under review by an outside group, so they will wait to make any of these kind of decisions until after that is complete. PGRP and GEO went to no deadline. GEO likes the approach and feels that it improves the quality and reduces the number of submitted proposals.

2. Chair’s report (Mike Sears): Mike is finished with his term as DEE chair after this meeting. Bob Cox is the new chair, Cameron Ghalambor is the chair-elect, Michelle Nishiguchi (“Nish”) is program officer-elect. [Hearty thanks from the crowd to Mike for all his work for DEE].

3. Executive committee: Future meetings in San Francisco (2018), Tampa (2019), Austin (2020), Washington, DC (2021) and Austin (2023); 2022 is currently TBA. The society is launching a new journal, ICB Open, which will cover all areas of integrative biology and hopefully galvanize the society’s place for this kind of research globally. They have initiated a search for the founding editor of the journal, who should come from the Society, understand the culture, and help build the journal from the ground up. The editor search committee will include Marty Martin, Elizabeth Brainerd, Richard Satterlie, Andy Biewener, Ken Halanych and Peter Wainright. Rick Blob requested more excellent symposium applications as they provide the content for ICB, our face to the broader scientific community.

4. Cameron Ghalambor (Associate Editor, ICB, DEE chair-elect): Marty Martin is the new editor in chief and there is a lot of excitement about upcoming changes. A general perception is also a key issue: many people who publish in ICB don't want to put their best stuff there, likely because of the symposium format. The new board wants to make it a place where everyone sends their best stuff. Bylaws constrain us to publish symposia, but we are now trying to get other types of “perspectives” in the journal to supplement symposia. The Bart award recipient (Sheriff)

will write a paper, and ICB will likely continue to invite award winners to contribute. The current perception of a “rubber stamp” approach to submitted manuscripts will likely change as review standards will be more rigorous under Marty.

5. General Discussion:

Question from Chris Tracy: Has there been any talk of expanding symposia papers to include affiliated sessions?

C. Ghalambor: Historically, papers were due Jan 31, and most of them were late. The new deadline is Mar 31st, but contributors will still get free color figures with the Jan 31 deadline. ICB has approached all the symposium organizers and asked them to identify papers in companion sessions that could be included. One excellent paper can elevate the impact of a symposium collection.

M. Sears: More continuous output would elevate impact factor – ICB is hurt by the way IF is calculated and its publication schedule. Possibility of invited papers from post-docs?

B. Cox: Any reason papers can't go out the following year?

C. Ghalambor: Have to check on bylaws ... wheels of bureaucracy. Each division could internally start nominating post-docs for invited papers – this could make for a “highlighted DEE postdoc award” paper.

M. Sears: DEE had very few symposia for San Francisco (maybe 5?). Perhaps officers and others should start pushing these harder and singling out people (particularly junior) for symposium proposals.

C. Tracy: This was a big topic of the PO meeting in September. We were right at the minimum number required this year, so all got funded.

M. Sears: The journal funds the society in large part: DEE (and other divisions) gets \$2000 for symposia, \$800 for our social, which doesn't go far. Dues may go up next year to help cover costs. We also spend a significant amount on Beer & Brains.

C. Ghalambor: DEE is free, should we add dues like some other divisions?

C. Tracy: DEE is one of largest divisions, but gets the same budget.

A group discussion ensued regarding holding the DEE social off-site, given the exorbitant charges for on site events. DEE students could be provided tickets. But, it is convenient to hold the event at the hotel and adding another event to an already full schedule may mean no one comes. It was suggested that we add a poll to the Spring newsletter to put the question before DEE members. It was also suggested that we set up a social committee that could help coordinate all of the social events at each meeting, taking some of that burden off the executive committee and the chair, in particular.

C. Tracy: DEE social on Saturday at 6:30 pm, R06, R07 (with several other divisions). The Huey session will be on Friday from 8-10 am, with posters in multiple sessions.

Meeting adjourned at 6:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Michael Dillon