

# **SICB Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ)**

## ***Meeting Minutes***

### **Minutes of the 2007 Annual Business Meeting**

Phoenix, Arizona, January 4, 2007

Janice Voltzow (DIZ Chair) opened the meeting by requesting motions to approve the minutes of the previous year's meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Bob Thacker (DIZ Secretary) announced the results of the Secretary election: Renae Brodie will be the next DIZ Secretary. Congratulations were given to Renae; Larry Basch was also thanked for his willingness to run for office. Bob also announced that last year's proposed changes to the DIZ By-Laws were approved.

Bob also presented proposed changes to the DIZ By-Laws that will be subject to a vote this year. The current By-Laws do not reflect our current practice for the Chair-Elect term. A change is proposed to Article V, to state: "The Chair-Elect shall be elected triennially. The Chair-Elect should attend the annual meeting that follows her/his election. At the end of this annual meeting, the Chair-Elect shall automatically become Chair for three years. He/She shall serve as Past Chair during the succeeding two years."

A second change moves a responsibility from the Past-Chair to the current Chair, moving the statement "He/She shall sign all proposals to federal granting agencies on behalf of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology" from Article VII to Article VI.

Amy Moran (DIZ Program Officer) detailed DIZ sponsorship of SICB Symposia in 2007, as well as Symposia planned for 2008 (San Antonio) and 2009 (Boston). Amy encouraged all attendees to submit proposals for future symposia. Amy also led discussion of the concern that symposia take too long to organize and described the proposed, less formal group sessions that may be featured at future meetings.

Ben Miner (Student Awards Committee Chair) thanked all volunteers for helping judge the Best Student Paper / Poster Competition. 29 students competed at the 2007 meeting, with 27 volunteer judges. Winners of the 2006 awards were announced and congratulated.

Chair Voltzow announced the winner of the Libbie Hyman award. She also encouraged graduate students and postdoctoral researchers to contact Scott Nichols (Graduate Student / Postdoctoral Affairs Representative) with their ideas, questions, and concerns.

Bob Thacker encouraged all DIZ members to participate in updating the DIZ Researchers Database on the SICB website.

Chair Voltzow thanked Bob for his service to the Division as Secretary for the past three years.

Chair Voltzow asked the DIZ membership to think of ways to enhance support for graduate students at SICB. She announced the intention to hold another DIZ Auction at the 2008 meeting to raise funds for the Libbie Hyman award. DIZ members are encouraged to donate to this fund, to make or bring items for the auction, and to participate by purchasing items at the auction.

All members were encouraged to attend the DIZ and Society-wide social events.

Announcements included a call for an editor of the Invertebrate Zoology section of the SICB Digital Library. The goal of the library is to make many resources available for teaching, including slide sets, syllabi, and

digital videos. Editor(s) are needed to coordinate the peer-review process for the library.

The society's journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology* has now caught up in its publication schedule, with all 2006 symposia published. All symposium papers are now due at the end of January. The journal has made a commitment to a fast turn-around from reviewers. Attendees were reminded that *Integrative and Comparative Biology* has first refusal of publications resulting from SICB symposia.

The SICB Executive Committee (Sally Woodin, John Pearse, Lou Burnett, and Ron Dimock) visited the meeting, and invited all to attend the General SICB Business Meeting. SICB President Sally Woodin announced a new fund with a \$100,000 endowment for support of symposia. SICB is currently seeking contributions to increase the size of this endowment. President Woodin also asked the membership to consider which aspects of the annual meeting are most important for them, and to consider where the society could cut costs.

Bill Zamer and Diana Padilla (NSF) encouraged DIZ members to attend the workshop on NSF's Integrative Organismal Systems program.

Patrick Reynolds provided information on the status of *Invertebrate Biology*, which is sponsored by AMS and DIZ. Patrick thanked his previous co-editor, Susie Balsler, and welcomed new members of the editorial board, Bruno Pernet, Louise Page, and Michael Hart. The past year saw 91 submissions and 34 published papers, with about 30 days time to decisions. In January 2007, the journal begins continuous electronic publication, with quarterly printed issues. The journal's impact factor increased to 1.29.

Rick Harrison announced the first International Congress on Invertebrate Morphology, to be held in Copenhagen in 2008.

Rachel Collin announced the 13<sup>th</sup> International Congress on Invertebrate Reproduction and Development, to be held in Panama in August 2007. The registration deadline is May 31, 2007. Details are available at <http://striweb.si.edu/icird/>

Chair Voltzow requested volunteers to form a nominating committee to identify candidates for DIZ Program Officer-Elect. The three volunteers included Diana Padilla, Ben Miner, and Patrick Reynolds.

A round of applause thanked Bob Thacker for his service as DIZ Secretary, and welcomed Renae Brodie as the new DIZ Secretary.

Submitted by R Brodie and RW Thacker.