

**Minutes of the DIVISION OF INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY BUSINESS MEETING, January 4, 2010, Seattle, WA**

Dianna Padilla (DIZ Chair) opened the meeting by requesting motions to approve the minutes of the previous year's meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved. Salt Lake City has been approved for the next meeting and DIZ is sponsoring four symposia: Bioinspiration and mechanical design (Marianne Porter), Speciation in marine organisms (Maria Pia Miglietta), Environmentally induced hatching across taxa (Karen Martin) and Population dynamics in Crustacea (Jen Buhay).

Ben Miner (Student Awards) reported that 50 people volunteered to judge student talks and posters and thanked everyone who participated. Winners for last year's meeting were:

Best oral presentation

Winner

Dennis Evangelista

Runner up

Jann Vendetti

Best poster presentation

Winner

Katie Marshall

Runner up

Eric Campos

Adrian M Wenner Strong Inference Award

Winner

Katie Marshall

Runner up

Cawa Tran

Bruno Pernet mentioned that Dennis Evangelista (Best oral presentation) was the 2008 Libbie Hyman award winner; he used the funds to go to Friday Harbor Laboratories for the biomechanics course, and his winning oral presentation was about a project that he started in that course. Someone else mentioned that Katie Marshall (Best poster presentation) has recently published her work in PNAS. Ben emphasized the ease with which volunteers can select talks online to judge. This is Ben's last year; he introduced Beth Berg (Columbia College Chicago), the new organizer for Student Awards.

Bruno Pernet (Chair, Libbie Hyman Memorial Fund Committee) reported that a large number of students applied for the fund this year: 26 people compared to the 12 or 13 who usually apply. This year the award went to Frederick Larabee who used the funds to study jaw-based propulsion in trap-jaw ants at the Archbold Biological Station in Florida. Dianna Padilla thanked Bruno, who is finishing his term this year. Dianna mentioned that the executive committee would like DIZ to require students applying for the Libbie Hyman award to be division members. Rachel Merz thought this was a bad idea since the point of the award is to draw in students; the fund is there to support brand new scientists. Ben Miner asked how many winners have become members. Bruno replied that he didn't know since membership affiliation is not on the application and is not tracked. Mary Rice emphasized that the fund was set up to bring people into the society and a membership requirement for applicants would not be appropriate.

Dianna remarked that the society used to give memberships to winners as part of their award, but is no longer allowed to allot funds to this. She has asked for greater flexibility with funds.

The SICB officers arrived and were introduced: Rich Satterlie (President), Lou Burnett (Secretary), Brian Tsukimura (Program Officer), Eduardo Rosa-Molinar (Past Program Officer), Ron Dimock (Treasurer), and Brett Burk (Executive Director). Rich mentioned that there would be a workshop to discuss the implementation of the “Grand Challenges” from NSF from noon until 3 pm on Wednesday; he urged DIZ members to attend. Ron Dimock encouraged DIZ members to attend the society-wide business meeting; he also encouraged members to donate to the Skinner award and other under-supported awards. Vicki Pearse asked why the money raised from the auction in 2009 to support the Libbie Hyman Fund did not appear in the DIZ budget. Brett Burk reassured DIZ members that money from the auction would be applied to the Hyman fund; there was a glitch that needed to be fixed in the budget spreadsheet due to how losses from the stock market were allocated. He also acknowledged that alcohol prices at the Seattle meeting were too high and would be lowered for the social. Brian Tsukimura encouraged DIZ to come up with great symposia for the Charleston meeting and reminded members that the deadline to apply for symposia was in mid-August. Sarah Lindsay asked how the symposium enhancement fund was accessed. Eduardo Rosa-Molinar replied that each symposium submits a proposal and applies for reimbursement. He also mentioned that he is growing the fund by selling web page real estate (advertisements on the annual meeting website).

Vicki Pearse addressed another issue concerning symposium funds: “We are given 2K and the Program Officer must allocate this money by October or it disappears.” Furthermore, \$800 is allocated to the social and there is no flexibility. Dianna Padilla would like flexibility so that funds could be distributed after DIZ learns who has received external funding for symposia. Amy Moran (Past Program Officer for DIZ) mentioned that the rules for allocations kept changing during her term and were difficult to track. Jim McClintock (Current Program Officer for DIZ) added that the late breaking symposia did have funds set aside, but that allocating funds was still difficult. Sarah Lindsay said that it is nice to know ahead of time how much the society is willing to give before approaching NSF with a proposal. Rachel Merz reminded members that in the past all divisions received the same level of funding and that money could be moved within a year— from the symposia to the party if symposia were thin, for example— and from year to year. SICB has tightened up on the rules to fix the egregious budget over-runs that used to occur. Dianna Padilla asked if there was a consensus among DIZ members that more flexibility was in order— at the very least to move funds around within a year. There was general agreement that DIZ members were in consensus.

Dianna Padilla (DIZ Chair) reported that 1600 people registered for the meeting this year and 1700 total are expected with onsite registration. She mentioned that the society was doing well in spite of the economy and encouraged members to fill out the surveys— they have a big impact. She reminded members of the Grand Challenges workshop: “what do we need to do to start answering grand challenges?” she asked. She mentioned that no one from DIZ had submitted an opinion piece related to the grand challenges and that submissions were due in mid-February. Sarah Berke asked when the call for papers had gone out. “Yesterday,” Dianna Padilla replied.

Clay Cook (Program Director for Division of Integrative Organismal Systems, NSF) reported that funding rates for IOS were at 24%. IOS was currently running on the fiscal year 2009 budget, but President Obama had signed off on the new budget and funding would increase shortly. Clay announced that BIO would no longer accept 2-page updates to grant proposals since few decisions were changed by these updates. Four million dollars has been awarded to the Life in Transition priority (up from 3.5 million) and this rate will continue through fiscal year 2010

and possibly into 2011. New NSF initiatives include paradigms of biodiversity and ocean acidification. IOS sets aside a pot of money for symposia. Dianna added that serving as a program officer for NSF was valuable for mastering the art of proposal writing. She also noted that SICB needed to increase the involvement of minorities and lags far behind ESA, ASLO, etc. Clay said that NSF really wanted to get behind the push for increasing the participation of underrepresented groups

Dianna Padilla informed DIZ members that the Education Council wanted to know whether we would like an “education” speaker emphasizing K-12 with every symposium. It was agreed that this would be too difficult to accomplish and instead of mandating an education speaker that symposium participants could incorporate an education aspect into their talks.

Dianna Padilla noted that we need to add tools for teaching invertebrate biology to the DIZ web page. Rachel Merz pointed out that there is a digital library, but that it can't be found by Google because it is embedded in the society web page. “What about an invertebrate zoology wiki?” asked Howie Lasker. Dianna suggested that Howie could chair a committee on that project.

Renae Brodie (Secretary) introduced Erika Iyengar (not present) as the new secretary. She encouraged members to advertise meetings on the DIZ web page and to submit a paragraph that describes their work along with a picture.

Jann Vendetti (Student and Post Doc Representative) noted that the graduate student/postdoc panel in Boston was useful but lacked a female perspective. The topic was “How to Find a Postdoc & How to Apply for an Academic Job” and there were no women among the panelists. Issues particular to women in academia and specifically women landing postdocs and jobs were not addressed. Jann suggested that future panels include women. Jann also suggested that DIZ student and postdoc members start a mentoring program to bring in undergraduates and graduate students of color.

Pat Reynolds (Editor for Invertebrate Biology) noted that the journal is going strong with a 10% increase in submissions. One hundred and twenty-six manuscripts were submitted in the past year, one quarter of these were from the United States. On average, the journal arrives at a decision within 23 days of submission. Bruno Pernet was introduced as the new editor of IB.

Dianna Padilla said that the division is due for a new Program Officer and a nominating committee was needed.

Sarah Lindsay mentioned a polychaete conference in Italy in June. Other meetings mentioned were: The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Congress on Invertebrate Morphology in Boston, Invertebrate reproduction and development in Prague and the Larval Biology meeting in New Zealand.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Renae Brodie

