

DIZ minutes, Thursday January 4, 2024, 5:45pm

Jon Allen – welcome, agenda, introduce officers

NSF program officer (Suzy Renn) – stop by the NSF booth, they are always looking for reviewers, ad hoc and panel options. Consider being a rotating program officer, 60% staff permanent officers, 40% rotators; if interested in being a rotator, first step is to join panels; DCL – dear colleague letter – announcements of areas NSF has interest (\$ set aside within a program). Program officers respond quickly, use the alias email rather than one person's email, follow up after a week. Annual reports – used to see if project is progressing as expected, don't need extensive details, include both IM and broader impacts, include all students even if they aren't paid.

Jon recommends the NSF virtual office hours

PAPPG – proposal award policy guidelines has info about when to submit annual reports, supplements (family leave, internships for students, ROA – research opportunity award – to invite and host prof from PUI to come and do research). Supplement proposals are a few pages, internally reviewed, contact program officer to ask questions.

Lots of changes in forms – these will continue to be updated. Safe and Inclusive workplace – applies to research off-campus, need a plan specific to project.

BRC – Bio – for early career faculty at PUIs or R2s, smaller grants to jump-start a career.

Officer Reports

Jon Allen – do demographic survey

Kelly Dorgan – send photos and info for newsletter

Adam Reitzel – supported 6 symposia at this meeting, 4 symposia at Atlanta; best student presentations – 8 talks, 31 posters

Abby Cahill – in 2023, got 5 proposals for Hyman scholarship (1 disqualified), reviewed, gave 2 awards, 1 student declined because not accepted in field course

Will Ballentine – spdac – social at student orientation, undergrad tables, hosting workshop for postdocs and later-stage grad students for preparing faculty applications

Bob Podalsky – issues to work on – focus on membership, regaining membership very slowly compared to other divisions; mentorship; use Hymen fund to support students, strategic plan

SICB Executive officers:

Strategic planning mission, asking all divisions to discuss goals for our division, submit up to 1 pg document by June 1 to Molly Jacobs

Grad students – be peer reviewers for SICB journals

IOB – send science, >200 papers in 5 years

Elections – 75 elected officers, students can vote; send stuff for newsletters

Budget - \$ dedicated to student support, bring students

Committees – volunteer to be on committees

Social media – what social media do people use? Feature BSP winners – send photos to Molly Bio LEAFS award – leading cultural change through professional societies – fill out demographic survey

Elections--Nominating Committee for Secretary (Kelly Dorgan/Justin McAlister/Bruno Pernet)--self nominations are welcome!

Kevin Kocot, Arvind Santhanakrishnan, vote in election, bios in next newsletter

Update on DIZ Mentoring Program (Kelly Dorgan/Andy Mahon) – paired about 25 mentees with mentors in our first year. Comments: clarify sign-up process, distinguish DIZ program from SICB program, should coordinate with other divisions on this.

Update on Hyman Fund and discussion of how to allocate funds – over \$400K a year ago, gifts from Mary Rice and Margaret Simpson, now \$573K, not sure where the \$ came from, possibly stock options were worth more than expected. Have more than doubled the goal for the fund, maybe almost tripled goal.

About \$20K/year in funds available each year. Discussion about what to do with funds – currently the advertisement was restrictive.

DIZ Officers have identified several suggestions for future priorities for the fund. In no particular order, these include:

- Relax constraints on existing applications to give preference to, but not require that this be the first meaningful experience (Already done!) Also preference to but not requiring students be in first or 2nd year of grad school.

- Funds that are reserved/given to underrepresented students to increase DEI in DIZ

- Use funds to address declines in DIZ membership by rewarding students for activities at SICB including:

 - best lay abstract

 - best example of science communication

- Use funds to support/extend connections to DIZ (and indirectly address declines in membership) via:

 - financial support for SPDAC rep to attend meeting

 - financial support for Hyman scholarship winners to attend meeting and present research

 - support student/faculty mentorship program

 - extend Mangum support to 4th year

Trish – was part of the starting of the Libbie Hyman fund, symposium in Chicago – book funds from that symposium started Libbie Hyman fund. Should loosen restrictions, but continue the initial goal. Have a strategic plan and get the word out. Don't change the purpose of the fund. There are other funds to bring students to SICB.

Other views:

SICB funding is limited for students, should fund students to come to SICB.

Problem is not getting enough applications. Advertisement part of the problem. Next NAML meeting – bring this up.

Maybe adjust the deadline or have a rolling deadline. Pushed deadline back a week. Lots of applications are for Friday Harbor courses. Also fund research – should apply for \$ to bring students for field work.

Molly is happy to help advertise.

Consider putting together a committee to work on advertising.

Best student presentation – in some places, award is registration and attend next meeting.

Try advertising before making big plans. Think about what impacts we can have with small amounts of \$.

Maybe consider another fund, shouldn't use Hyman fund. John Pearse fund? When you give \$5000, there's a named award but only lasts as long as the funds are there.

General support for loosening of restrictions, spread the word about available \$.

Get Ken a short description, and he can send out to NAML.

Word of mouth – need to be talking outside this division. No requirement to be SICB member. Post-covid – more reason to loosen restrictions.

Mangum fund provides \$12K of \$70K needed – society will need to fundraise to build this fund. DIZ also has discretionary fund that can be used for some of these other ideas.

Advertise through broadening participation group.

END MEETING