

**Minutes of the DIVISION OF INVERTEBRATE ZOOLOGY BUSINESS MEETING,
January 5, 2011, Salt Lake City, Utah**

Dianna Padilla (DIZ Chair) opened the meeting. The SICB officers arrived and were introduced: Rich Satterlie (President), Lou Burnett (Secretary), Brian Tsukimura (Program Officer), Robert Roer (Treasurer), and Brett Burk (Executive Director). Rich mentioned the importance of getting good candidates for current elections (such as the current opening for a new Division Chair in DIZ), urged DIZ members to attend the Society-wide business meeting, and pointed out that the executive committee had responded to past comments/issues in ways such as expanding the distance between poster boards. The current distance seems to be working well, and attempts are being made to have sufficient distance at future meetings. Rich indicated that some members mentioned they want warm climates for future meetings, but he also reminded us as to why SICB is in Salt Lake City this year, rather than New Orleans. Brett reported that attendance coming into the meeting was 1349, which makes it the third or fourth largest in modern history, and that SICB's membership is increasing, which is fantastic news. Brian pointed out that the deadline for symposium applications for San Francisco (2013) will be August 19, 2011. The journal *Integrative and Comparative Biology* subsidizes the meeting, which is further reason why we should all want the journal to be strong with a high impact factor. Because the symposium topics are the only content of the journal, it is even more important that we have symposia that are "forward-thinking, broad and diverse, and substantive!"

Next, Dianna requested a motion to approve the minutes of the previous year's meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved. Erika encouraged submissions to the DIZ researchers database. Bob Podolsky suggested that there should be a way to link from the main page researcher's information (including his) to the DIZ researcher's database. Dianna Padilla mentioned that she couldn't get the link to work when trying to enter herself into the researcher database. Erika said she would look into these issues.

Beth Davis-Berg (Student Awards) reported that 20 students submitted their names to be considered in the competition and there were many judges, so that each presentation will likely have at least 3 judges, and some will have 5 or 6. There have been some problems encountered with the online form where people indicated their willingness to judge, so if you had said you wanted to judge and did not receive a packet to do so, let Beth know. There is a new judging scale on the judge's report form, which will hopefully reduce confusion. Beth will be typing up the comments from the various judges and then giving those summary comments to each competing student. If anyone would like to volunteer to assist in the changes that will be made on the evaluation form, Beth would be happy to hear from you. Also new this year is a poster celebrating last year's winners of the various presentation awards, with their pictures. Each of the winners received a specialized DIZ award certificate, made by Dianna Padilla. It was pointed out that this year there were many fewer students competing for awards in DIZ than in other divisions (such as DEE), for unknown reasons. Encourage your students to compete in DIZ's awards program!

Bruno Pernet (past Chair, presenting for Jennifer Burnaford who is current Chair of the Libbie Hyman Memorial Fund Committee) said that the award last year went to Des Ramirez at UC Santa Barbara, who used the funds to support a two-month stay while taking a class at the

Marine Biological Laboratory and to begin collecting specimens for his PhD work in Todd Oakley's laboratory. The amount of this award has been greater than \$1000 for the past three years, and this past year it was \$1200. The application is online (and the deadline is in early March each year). Dianna said that she is looking into the account for the Libbie Hyman award, because there might be an accounting error in one of the past years—the records aren't clear. She also reported that the amount of the award each year is 4% of the 5-year average of the fund, which is estimated at \$1100 for this upcoming year. If anyone wants to make a donation and earmark it to be used for this year (rather than placed in the endowment) to increase the amount of the award for this particular year, that is easy to do and can be done online through the web page. When to have the next Hyman auction was discussed and the decision was to have it, a huge one, at the San Francisco meeting in 2013, so make sure to start gathering your items now!

Bruno Pernet provided a report on the journal *Invertebrate Biology*: Last year, Pat Reynolds finished his second term as editor-in-chief and Bruno assumed that position; the transition went smoothly. This past year had the second largest number of manuscripts submitted. There is a team of six editors, so they can handle a lot of submissions and are trying to encourage an increase in the number of high quality submissions. Articles do not need to be microscopy-based research. The average turnaround is 44 days to first decision, and most are online within two months of final acceptance.

William Zamer provided a National Science Foundation Update: The success rates for funding of grants last year ranged from 12 to 17% among the clusters. The Grand Challenges workshop appeared to be a success; a lot of new people came and participated in the discussions, which was great. Research Coordination Networks (RCNs) promote coordination among researchers to avoid duplication of effort, coordinate training among students, or develop a common research tool or database to make the science leap forward. RCNs do not pay for field work or bench work, they are to advance the coordination, or the bringing of people together, and can range up to \$500,000 over 5 years. Dianna noted that this would be a good time to remind Congress of the importance of science (especially to your particular representatives) and also to society in general.

Dianna Padilla provided the report from the Executive Committee meeting: There were 1082 papers given at the conference and 11 symposia. Many people attended the meeting for a few days, rather than the entire time. DIZ thanked Jim McClintock for the fantastic job he has done as Program Officer (and indeed, he had also been recognized for his great work at the Executive Committee meeting).

The new Program Officer, John Zardus, was *in absentia* (due to another meeting), so Sara Lindsay filled in. Sara noted that it is extremely important that you carefully choose the topics and keywords that you list to identify your talk, as this is an integrative biology group and there are no DIZ-specific sessions anymore. Thus, the session in which your talk gets placed is determined by the topics/keywords you choose, so choose carefully to assure correct sorting for your presentation. Now is the time to start thinking of future symposia, and the deadline for San Francisco's 2013 is August 19, 2011 for applying, with decisions made next fall. Perhaps an effective way to do this is by thinking of ones that you would like to go to and inviting others to submit proposals for that topic. When doing this, think of people who are not already well-

recognized, but rising top researchers, as it will help promote their work. Most symposia are endorsed by more than one division, and if you hope to get funding from NSF, you need to include women and under-represented minorities in the speaker list. Also, the issue of having a variety of institutions involved in the speaker list is important to NSF.

Dianna Padilla noted: All of SICB's recent annual meetings except for Boston have been in the red, and SICB's dues also have us in the red, but the journal is in the black and keeps SICB afloat and fiscally sound. Overall, the society is in good shape fiscally-speaking, but likely there will be a rise in registration costs for next year to help insure that the annual meeting can end in the black. The question was then raised: If the society is fine overall, should registration be raised significantly? Dianna pointed out that this issue was complicated, in part because costs of publication are also going up for the journal, and it is critical that the Society remain fiscally sound overall.

Dianna also reported that there is a proposal to raise all dues by \$5, and that money would then go back to the Division, proportional to the divisions according to the size of their membership. Each person's dues would increase by a set \$5, regardless of the number of divisions the member belonged to. Currently Divisions have no discretionary funds, and so cannot do things such as pay for SICB membership of student award winners if the Division wants. This problem has been raised, and this is a proposed way to give the Divisions some discretionary funds that could be rolled over from year to year. This proposal was discussed and agreed upon by the DIZ members present, so Dianna will vote "yes" on this proposed dues increase when the vote arises.

The Broadening Participation Committee is now active. They gave 31 travel awards to underrepresented minorities to the meeting in Salt Lake City and have applied for funding from the NSF.

Bob Podolsky reported on the Digital Library (which can be found under "Publications" on the SICB web page): In a SICB survey last year, only 12% of people said they would not use the Digital Library if it had more information available there. Bob would like this division to be the next topical subject in the Digital Library—it would make a very valuable resource! Content is needed (images, video, active learning exercises) and so is an editor for this Division's section. Ruedi Birenheide, the SICB webmaster, posts the content, so it is an easy submission process and an easy editorial process. If you have questions about being a Digital Library section editor, speak with Steve Vogel. A database of teaching exercises is planned. Stay tuned.

Under New Business: There is an Invertebrate Morphology Meeting in Cambridge (20-23 June), the American Malacological Society Meeting is in Pittsburgh (23-28 July), and the North American Echinoderm Meeting is in Anacortes, WA (14 August). Dianna Padilla said that the division is due for a new Chair and a nominating committee had been formed: Ben Miner, Bruno Pernet, and Amy Moran.

The meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by Erika Iyengar, Secretary