5:45pm: Meeting starts

5:55pm: Presentation by Melissa Coleman, Program Director of Neural Systems at NSF IOS

- Neural Systems is divided into Activation, Organization, and Modulation.
- Applicants should pay attention to the specific mandates for each division.
- The PPAGG for Neural Systems now requires: a) one general mentoring plan that covers graduate students and post-docs and b) approvals from tribal nations for work conducted on tribal lands.
- There are still no set deadlines for regular proposals.
- The DNNSB community should be aware of funding through Neurobiology in Changing Ecosystems (NiCE), NSF 42-121.

6:10pm: Presentation by Marianne Porter, SICB Secretary.

- Society-wide Strategic Plan contains bold steps including:
    a. Career Support and Mentorship
    b. Building a Scientific Culture of Belonging for All
    c. Financial Sustainability
    d. Membership Growth and Engagement

6:20pm: Presentation by Loranzie Rodgers, SPDAC Representative.

- SPDAC is hosting individual students and post-doc groups at booth
- New SPDAC website open, see https://sicb.org/student-postdoctoral-affairs-committee/
- Hosting SPDAC-only meeting at SICB 2026
- SPDAC non-academic career track workshop has been very popular, so we should consider supporting this workshop with a higher budget (SPDAC stickers and candy at the booth could be a fundraiser)

6:25pm: Presentation by Megan Gall, DNNSB Chair

- BSP update
    - 32 submissions for 8 slots
    - 41 posters
    - Increase of 12.5% from last year, which was 10% over the previous year.
    - We will need lots of judges but we did fine filling up the judge slots.
    - Maybe we should have a panel for the talks for consistency across talks? Some people drop in/out of the talks and scores might fluctuate.
- Symposia Update
    - We are co-hosting the following symposia at the 2025 meeting:
        - Cities as natural experiments
        - Pollinators
        - Cnidarians
- Chair-elect position is open!
- Financial Update
    - Starting balance almost 5k last year, dues of 1500.
    - We get $800 for the social and $300 for the student awards (these expire).

    - We don't have the full amount of dues known yet.
    - We might consider taking students in the BSP session to lunch.
    - We are solvent and have money to spend.
- Strategic plan:
    1. Increase membership through recruitment and retention
    2. Emphasize interdisciplinary approach and increase connections to other divisions
    3. Increase member engagement with DNNSB
- Strategies
    1. Increase diversity of awards: undergrad and grad BSPs. Postdoc service award. Officer's choice awards (best title, most integrative, etc; this might be awarded with swag)
    2. Encourage integrative symposia. Host a workshop on symposium planning; access to previous successful applications; incite ICB; invitations to younger students
    3. Make connections with other divisions. Plan events, highlight interdisciplinary talk sessions.

6:35pm: Presentation by Jim Newcomb

- Encourages submissions to IOB, SICB's open access journal.
- Our division submitted 28 last year, some divisions submitted >100.
- SICB members get a discount (~1800, vs ~2500, which is a competitive price for an open-access journal).
- We could also give one out as an award.
- Always looking for reviewers!
- If your university has a read and publish agreement with Oxford Press, it's free.

Discussion:

- Yash Sondhi suggests using some funds for international travel for symposia; NSF won't fund this.
- Discussion about BSP: we need to notify students that they are or are not included in the Best Talk session. We'd also like to try and announce the winner at the social.
- Award suggestion: fund the BSP winners to travel to the meeting for the following year. But, many of them are senior undergrads. It's a lot of money though so we might not have the funds. Maybe we could provide registration costs.