

# Minutes of DPCB Members Meeting

## SICB Annual Meeting 2025

Intro from Chair Sam Price.

- Biggest group of DPCB members ever! >20 people

Started with the NSF programme officer visit

- Thanked the PIs for acting as reviewers- they cant award grants without being a reviewer!
- Reminded us to meet with the POs at the NSF booth here at the meeting
- How to keep on top of whats going on at BIO-NSF:
  - Sign up for the newsletters
  - Check the blog
  - Check the monthly virtual office hours
  - You can email one-pagers to program officers to get feedback on your fit
- In BIO and GEO there are no deadlines and no limit on number of proposals anymore for Core Programs
- Special Programs- limited lifespan programs like Int Bio
- BIO priorities -> building a resilient planet, Bio/AI, and advancing the bio economy

Address from Patricia Hernandez SICB President

- SICB strategic plan: bold steps, strategy, objectives and tactics
  - They are currently asking us to give feedback on the strategic plan which can be read here: [https://sicb.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/SICB-Strategic-Plan\\_Dec.2024.pdf](https://sicb.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/12/SICB-Strategic-Plan_Dec.2024.pdf)
- Step 1: Career support and Mentorship to mentor folks - even profs are going to get a chance to BE MENTORED. This will help us support our postdocs the way we support our students. For example, best presentation awards and travel awards for postdocs. Promote non-academic career paths
- Step 2: building culture of belonging for all. Want to establish 2 new significant support mechanisms for groups that are not currently supported
- Step 3: financial stability- they are going to find ways to get more donations
- Step 4: Want to grow membership a little bit- helps us build a war chest of membership dues. Need to advertise the society more!

Back to Sam Price:

Sam shared our strategic plan and the link to it. (1) knowledge transfer of cutting-edge methods through workshops, expert booths, and online resources (2) support Early Career Researcher career development through mentorship (3) grow the size of the division

Noted that we are looking for volunteers to run for the program-officer direct

Haley O'Brien asked- what are we doing with social media

Appoint social media chair

Michael Alfaro asked for what our membership numbers are

There was a drop of 5-6 years ago but we have been clawing it back and we are now middle-sized

Next question- what is the appetite for workshops? Can we have workshops tied to symposia?

Paul Gignac suggest a workshop for AI coding

Haley O'brien brought up that SICB is building a database of tutorials: Biology education and assessment resources (BEAR)

Darien Satterfield- mentioned that it would be good to have a list of experts that would be willing to talk to you about methods in a skill-share kind of way

"Methods cafe"

There is a lack of systematics training at undergraduate levels. Could develop a workbook of theory and methods?

Sam: symposia jointly with other groups on phylogenetic stuff

David Blackburn- a plug for SICB journals. IOB is a great open access journal for our type of research!

Ryan Felice: We will award best student presentations in a few days, still waiting on symposia.

Announcement:: we need a program officer to run in the election!

Action Item- Talk to program officers that there were a lot of issues with talk sessions overlapping socials and coffee sessions