

Minutes of the 2013 DVM Business Meeting, January 5, 2013, San Francisco, CA

Chair Kiisa Nishikawa called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

She reported that it has been an outstanding year for SICB, and DVM in particular. The 2013 Annual meeting had the highest number of abstracts submitted, attendees and symposium applications to date. SICB activity and participation is up across the board.

Kiisa thanked a number of folks who have made her time including the current officers, Rita Mehta and Susan Williams, and Jimmy Liao for coordinating the student judging this year. She also highlighted and thanked the organizers of the regional meetings that took place in 2012. DVM/DCB joint meetings were held in the Southeast (College of Charleston), Northeast (UMass Amherst) and Southwest (Cal State San Bernadino).

Kiisa reported that the SICB website is being revamped and will provide information on officer's roles. There will also be more information and resources for student presentation competitions and judging. She also announced that the impact factor for ICB went down. This may be due to a reduction in page numbers and the fact that they are inviting more reviews. Symposium participants may be required to submit a paper, and if someone is interested in writing a review, they can volunteer. DVM Member Sharon Swartz announced that each division may be asked to come up with a "forward-looking" review.

Kiisa also announced the DEE is trying out a new process for judging the student presentation competitions to alleviate the need for so many judges at SICB and requested feedback from DVM on their approach. Currently in DEE and DVM, not all judges get to see the same talks or posters so it is difficult to come to a consensus on the best presentations. DEE had students submit an extended abstract (1-page) before the SICB abstract deadline. The top 6 abstracts for talks and posters were then chosen and only those students compete at the conference for a prize. The entire student judging committee attended each presentation.

Program Officer Rita Mehta reported that DVM is receiving an increase in abstracts for the annual meeting, and that several great symposia are lined up for the 2014 meeting in Austin, TX. Symposium proposals for the West Palm Beach meeting in 2015 are due in August, 2013. She encouraged symposium organizers to look for outside support.

DVM Member Casey Holliday announced tentative plans for a Midwest regional DVM meeting in Columbia, Missouri.

DVM Chair-Elect Alice Gibb announced that DVM funds for student prizes are low and that we need to fundraise to increase our reserve. She also brought up the idea of an undergraduate prize.

DVM Member Adam Summers announced the upcoming International Congress on Vertebrate Morphology in Barcelona, Spain from July 8-12. This meeting will feature 19 symposia, of which 2 are NSF-funded. NSF also funded the Congress directly. The annual meeting for the Society for Experimental Biology is happening right before ICVM in Valencia, Spain from July 3-6.

Secretary Susan Williams reminded attendees about the changes to the by-laws that were announced in the Fall, 2012 newsletter that needed to be approved. These changes are to add new officers to the DVM Executive Committee (Past Chair, Program Officer-Elect and the Secretary-Elect) and defining their roles. A vote was held and the changes to the by-laws were approved unanimously by the attendees. She also announced the upcoming Spring election for Program Officer-Elect and solicited nominations for this position. She then thanked Kiisa for her hard work as DVM Chair.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 PM.