



The Society for
Integrative &
Comparative
Biology

**SICB Society-wide Member Meeting (slide deck [here](#))
5 January 2024 6:00-7:00PM PST**

1. Call to order – President Patricia Hernandez, SICB President
2. Approval of the [minutes of the 6 January 2023 SICB Society Meeting](#)
Motion: Adam Summers; Seconded: Miriam Ashley-Ross. All present approved.
3. Recognition of members who have passed away in the last year: Tim Casey, Russell Main, and Karen Maruska. Video created by Frank Fish, Chair of the Development Committee, and Michael Rosario.
4. President's Report and Recognition of Sponsors

SICB's NSF BIO-LEAPS grant was just funded, on December 28. The PIs of the grant are Brian Tsukimura, Michele Nishiguchi, Susan Williams, and Patricia Hernandez. This grant aims to change culture within scientific societies, to create a more welcoming space for all of our members.

SICB is embarking on a new strategic planning process. All divisions and committees are asked to contribute ideas; if anyone has a thought to share about the future of the society, please reach out to Patricia at president@sicb.org to share.

We welcome MISS (Minorities in Shark Sciences) who met in conjunction with our SICB meeting this year, and who have enhanced the meeting for all of SICB. Thanks to all exhibitors and sponsors, including the Gans Fund for providing 7 years of funding for Broadening Participation awards, and Wiley for funding BSPs for decades.

President's Challenge. Students are our lifeblood! Over the last 10 years, SICB has spent an annual average of \$60K on Mangum Funds to support students; the total was \$90K this year. Yet, we only receive \$12K from Mangum Fund itself; we greatly need to expand that fund. President Hernandez donated \$7,500 to start this effort this morning, and several others on the Executive Committee have already

donated. We aim to have the highest proportion of SICB membership donating than ever before. Even small amounts are helpful, because we can demonstrate to potential donors how many of our members contribute, so that we can continue to bring in more and more students.

4. Brief Officer Reports (Full reports will be provided in the Executive Committee Meeting Minutes for 2024 Meeting)

1. President-Elect, Michele Nishiguchi

Our new two-year BIO-LEAPS grant aims to train SICB leadership in DEI, to create cultural change in the life sciences. We will train members of the Executive Committee first, including all division and committee chairs. In two years, SICB will apply for a five-year “implementation” BIO-LEAPS grant for \$2 million. We first need our membership to complete the SICB demographic survey, so that SICB has a baseline to record our improvement as a result of the grant.

2. Program Officer, Thom Sanger

The Seattle 2024 meeting had just shy of 2000 abstracts - a record for our society! Many other scientific societies still haven't recovered from the pandemic, but SICB has been successful during this time. Seattle is our 4th largest meeting in terms of attendance.

The atmosphere of the meeting and our governing body is one with the energy and motivation to continue improving our society. The Science and Society Lecture has been an exciting new element of our meeting. The goal is to keep going forward with that space in the programming, which sends an important message by leading the meeting with that plenary. We have also aimed to increase membership in newer and smaller divisions; this year we reached out to the Evo-Devo community and saw a 20% bump in DEDB abstracts.

3. Program Officer-Elect, Janet Steven

Symposia are an important part of our meeting, and a source of income to the society. We have streamlined the application process, with more steps to support organizers as they develop ideas and look for funding.

4. Treasurer, Miriam Ashley-Ross

SICB is solvent and we have a plan to remain so. We are still making up ground lost from FY 2022, to offset the \$275K loss on the Phoenix

meeting, due to our flexible cancellation policy that year. Our investments gained \$205K during FY 2023. We broke even on the last meeting, and our journals remain profitable. This year, we were gifted contributions of \$198K that both went to the Hyman Fund, and so are not available for general use.

Going forward: the Seattle meeting should be in the black and help add to SICB reserves. Our investments are doing well, a trend that should continue through 2024, as there is usually a bull market during election years. This will help make up for losses from COVID years. The goal is to plan for a well attended Atlanta meeting. Rather than trying to break even, which has traditionally been our goal, the plan is to start budgeting for a small profit. Then, if we ever have another situation like COVID, there will be a comfortable buffer. Due to inflation, there will be a small but regular increase in dues and registration to meet those goals. As we change venues, prices will fluctuate, depending on the location.

5. Secretary, Michele Johnson

Thanks to everyone (student participants, judges, and officers) who participated in Best Student Presentation competitions. We have worked for the past two years to streamline the processes behind these competitions, to make them more transparent and equitable. We welcome feedback on your experiences in these competitions.

6. Secretary-Elect, Marianne Porter

There are more than 75 elected positions and even more positions on committees. Volunteer for positions and make sure you vote! All members can vote, including students!

7. Communications Editor - Molly Jacobs

Communications Editor produces Monthly Member Updates, and is developing a new social media plan. We need members to help us understand what platforms are currently used, and how this changes over time. Molly is also the liaison of our new strategic planning process.

5. Editor Reports

1. ICB – Ulrike Müller

IOB is doing very well, publishing symposia and special paper bundles. If you'd like to volunteer to participate in the editorial process, please contact Ulrike.

2. IOB – Adam Summers

IOB is our Open Access journal, and is doing well. IOB has published 219 articles, and has had 1888 citations (as of last week). The average article is getting about 8 citations over 5 years, which means that people are downloading, reading, and citing these articles. Because abstracts are published in multiple languages, people all over the world are able to understand science in their own language. Our double blind review process is working so well that the Royal Society has adopted it too. IOB is on the cutting edge of changing the culture of academic publishing. So many SICB members have sent great work to the journal, which also directly benefits the society.

6. Society-wide Awards:

1. Awards and major lectures

- M. Patricia Morse Award for Excellence and Innovation in Science Teaching: Cindy Harley
- Dorothy M. Skinner Awardee: Samantha Bock
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Justice awards - Lauren Simonitis, Devaleena Pradhan, Chelsea Connor
- Inaugural Science and Society Lecture, Christopher Schell
- Moore Lecturer, David Shiffman
- Gans Award, Michael Granatosky
- Bartholomew Lecture, Eleanor Caves
- Bern Lecture, Marilyn Ramenofsky
- President's Select Plenary, Matthew Harris

7. GIAR and FGST Awards
8. Named Student Research Awards
9. BPC Professional Development Grants
10. Recognition of Service

Committee members completing their service:

- Members rotating off the ICB Editorial Board
 - Devaleena Pradhan, DCPB
 - Hannah Wood, DPCB
 - Cecilia Conaco, Assistant Editor
 - Tonia Hsieh, Assistant Editor
 - Armita Manafzadeh, Assistant Editor
 - Jeff Olberding, Assistant Editor
 - Marianne Porter, Assistant Editor
 - Vittoria Roncalli, Assistant Editor
 - Emily Taylor, Assistant Editor
- Members rotating off the Broadening Participation Committee
 - Nick Burnett, chair
 - Shayle Matsuda
 - Alyssa Hernandez
 - Thomas Stewart
- Members rotating off the Development Committee
 - Lou Burnett
 - Ana Christiansen
- Members rotating off the Educational Council
 - Alicia Fox
- Members rotating off the Nominating Committee
 - Marguerite Butler, chair
 - Jennifer Burnaford
 - Erica Westerman
 - Susan Williams
- Members rotating off Public Affairs Committee
 - Sebastien Alvarado
 - Noah Bressman

- Phoebe Edwards
 - Ryan Hulett
 - Members rotating off the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee
 - Conner Philson, DAB
 - Maria Stager, DCPB
 - Jennifer Houtz, DEDE
 - Members rotating off the Student Support Committee
 - Mike Minicozzi, chair
 - Rachel Cohen
 - Clinton Moran
 - Joseph Styga
- Recognition of Retiring Divisional Secretaries
 - Allison Welch, DAB
 - Laura Habegger, DCB
 - Caroline Williams, DCPB
 - Karolina Heyduk, DOB
 - Vanessa Young, DVM
- Recognition of Retiring Divisional Program Officers
 - Jimmy Liao, DCB
 - Sara O'Brien, DCE
 - Martha Muñoz, DEE
 - Leigha Lynch, DPCB
- Recognition of SICB Executive Committee Members (other than committee chairs) whose terms end at the culmination of the Executive Committee meeting:
 - Division Chairs
 - Rachel Bowdon, DCE
 - Jon Harrison, DCPB
 - David Angelini, DEDB
 - Jim Adelman, DEDE
 - Jonathan Allen, DIZ
 - James Newcomb, DNNSB

- ❑ Marguerite Butler, Member-at-Large (*served an extra year to replace Marianne Porter*)
- ❑ Michele Johnson, Secretary
- ❑ Thom Sanger, Program Officer

11. Call for New Business – Patricia Hernandez

a. President asks SICB members for New Business or Announcements

Sally Wooden: President's challenge is a superb goal and we should all take this seriously. The new NSF grant is an exciting opportunity, and the idea of an advisory committee to help with strategic planning will be fruitful.

12. Motion to adjourn by Adam Summers at 6:42pm, seconded by Miriam Ashley-Ross.