

SOCIETY FOR INTEGRATIVE AND COMPARATIVE BIOLOGY
Annual Business Meeting
6 January 2015
West Palm Beach Convention Center, Ballroom B
West Palm Beach, Florida

The meeting was called to order at 5:45 p.m. by President Billie Swalla.

The minutes of the 2014 SICB Business meeting were approved as distributed.

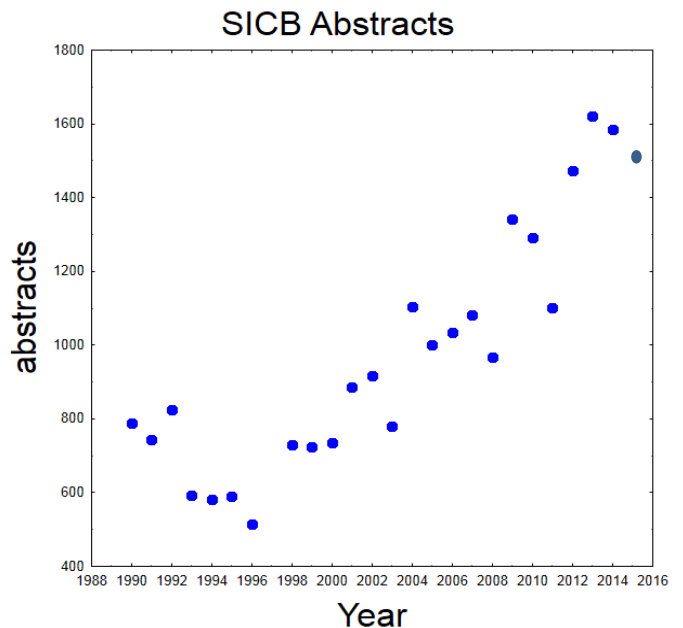
I. Officer reports

• **Secretary Report, Lou Burnett**

- Executive Officers met 41 times on conference calls, each lasting one hour over the past year. In addition, there was one face-to-face meeting Oct. 3 and 4, 2014.
- One society-wide officer (Member-at-Large) and numerous divisional officers will be elected this spring. Members were encouraged to vote.

• **Program Officer Report, Sherry Tamone**

- **The following statistics were presented for the 2015 West Palm Beach meeting.**
 - 1508 submitted Abstracts
 - 115 oral sessions (727 talks)
 - 12 Symposia (120 talks)
 - 611 posters
 - 1841 Registered Attendees
 - >50 cancellations
- The current meeting is the third largest with 1508 abstracts.
- The Program Committee was thanked for their dedication and service in putting together a strong program. Members of the Program Committee: Manny Azizi, Rachel Colin, Charles Derby, Sarah DuRant, Jon Harrison, Rosemary Knapp, Donald Miles, Louise Page, Bruno Pernet, Jonathon Stillman, Sherry Tamone, Robert Thacker, Joseph Thompson, Allison Welch, John Zardus
- The organizers of the symposia presented at the meeting were thanked for their diligence and hard work. Symposium organizers: Rebecca Calisi, Glenn Crossin, Paolo Domenici, Frank Fish, Jon Harrison, Tim Higham, Rich Hochberg, Valentine Lance, Oliver Love, Christine Madliger, Laura Miller, Leonid Moroz, James Murray, Zoltan Nemeth, Timothy Roth II, Colin Saldanha, Sherry Tamone, Peter Wainwright, Lindsay Waldrop, Elizabeth Walsh, Robbie Wilson, Russell Wyeth



- The staff of Burk and Associates, Inc., the SICB management company, were acknowledged for the efforts and dedication to making the meeting a success.
 - Brett Burk
 - Lori Strong
 - Jennifer Rosenberg
 - Jill Drupa
 - Heide Rohland
 - Ruedi Birenheide
- Symposia for the 2016 Portland meeting were highlighted.
 - **Neuroecology: neural mechanisms of sensory and motor processes that mediate ecologically relevant behaviors**
Organizers: Jeff Riffell & Ashlee Rowe
 - **Life on the edge: the biology of organisms inhabiting extreme environments**
Organizer: Annie Lindgren
 - **Parasites and Pests in Motion: Biology, Biodiversity and Climate Change (SICB-wide)**
Organizers: Christopher B. Boyko and Jason Williams
 - **Extraocular, nonvisual, and simple photoreceptors**
Organizers: Thomas Cronin & Sonke Johnsen
 - **Are migratory animals superspreaders of infection?**
Organizers: Alexa Fritzche & Bethany Hoye
 - **Building an Extravagant Toolbox: The Morphological Diversity of Intromittent Organs**
Organizers: Brandon Moore and Diane Kelly
 - **Evolutionary Endocrinology: Hormones as mediators of evolutionary phenomena (SICB-wide)**
Organizers: Robert Cox, Joel McGlothlin & Frances Bonier
 - **Integrative and comparative biology of venom**
Organizers: Marymegan Daly & Lisle Gibbs
 - **Beyond the mean: Biological impacts of changing patterns of temperature variation**
Organizers: Michael Dillon, Michael Sears, & Art Woods
 - **A bigger picture: Organismal function at the nexus of development, ecology, and evolution**
Organizers: Sharlene E. Santana & Paul Gignac
 - **Tapping the Power of Crustacean Transcriptomes to Address Grand Challenges in Comparative Biology**
Organizers: Don Mykles, Karen Burnett, David Durica, & Jonathon Stillman
 - **New Frontiers in the Integrative Study of Animal Behavior: Nothing in Neuroscience Makes Sense Except in the Light of Behavior (SICB-wide)**
Organizers: Suzy Renn, Hans Hofmann, & Dustin Rubenstein
- **Treasurer Report, Karen Martin**

- This has been an interesting year for the financial welfare of our Society, for a number of reasons. First and foremost, we continue to be financially stable and able to meet our obligations as well as continue to support our students and symposia during our annual meeting. For the fifth year in a row, no increase in meeting registration fees is anticipated. Membership dues will remain the same for the ninth year.
- During FY 2014 a change in the membership year from Jan –Dec to Apr-Mar caused some effects on the receipt of dues. While this change was much needed to align our membership year with the timing of abstract submission and our annual meeting, one result in 2014 was that some members delayed renewing memberships until reminded by the abstract deadline in August, meaning that their dues were not received until after FY 14 ended. In spite of this, most members got back on board with the new program and the revenues from dues were nearly identical in FY 14 as in FY 13.
- The journal continues to do well under the editorship of Hal Heatwole. Revenues were over \$319K from Oxford Press, against expenses of about \$102K. The anticipated passing of the editorial baton upon his retirement should be smooth, and no financial concerns are anticipated from that process.
- The Austin meeting brought in \$384K in revenue against \$380.6K in expenses, thus finishing in the black by about \$3500. This razor-thin positive margin indicates that revenues and expenses are fairly evenly matched for the annual meeting, showing good management and sound predictions. For 8 of the past 10 years, the annual meeting has finished in the black. (The exceptions were Orlando in 2006 and Phoenix in 2007.)
- One issue of concern for the Finance Committee and the Treasurer has been the stagnation of the many named funds that provide assistance for student research and travel, and for meeting awards and speakers. Analysis of these funds over the past 8 years revealed lack of growth or loss in many of the funds, at the same time that the unrestricted funds for the society have been increasing. With the cooperation of our management team, the way that interest and dividends are calculated for these funds will be changed going forward. In addition some losses from previous years after poor performance of the stock market have been restored from unrestricted funds to named funds as appropriate. No funds have been lost as a result of this revision of book keeping practices; we were able to adjust balances to the appropriate amounts. With the current formula, prudent use of the funds should allow maintenance of principal and slow, steady growth. In addition we are working on a more transparent way to report the funds that will allow the Executive Committee, the divisions, and donors to better understand them. This will be addressed in FY 2015.
- Total invested funds were \$1,311,418 as of Dec. 30, 2014, up from \$1,220,128 at this time last year, an increase of \$91,290, or about 7.5%.
- Donations to SICB in 2014 totaled \$19,137--- including a generous gift of stock from Jarid Simons for the Hyman fund worth over \$13,500.
- Finally, after the close of FY2014 a complete audit of the society's financial records was done. For the past years an annual independent financial review, but not an audit, has been done. Because of the timing, the final tallies for FY 2014

are still somewhat tenuous, but based on the preliminary report, all is well and no problems were uncovered. Revenues exceeded expenses by approximately \$159K last year.

- A balanced budget will be presented to the Executive Committee for approval for FY 2016 for the second year in a row, with no anticipated increase this year in membership dues or conference registration fees. Additional details will be presented at the Business Meetings of the Executive Committee and the Society.

II. Committee Reports

• Development Committee Report – Darwin Jorgensen, Chair

- The ribbons on the meeting badges indicate 5 levels of giving and has been a great way to members to show support for the various SICB funds. This will be continued.
- Contributions to the SICB funds has not only grown in dollar amounts, but in the level of member participation. In September 2013 a total of 13 individuals had given to various SICB funds. In September 2014 a total of 40 individuals had given.
- Various other activities contributed to SICB fund raising.
 - Logo tee shirts and polo shirts were sold.
 - The Lori Strong Pub Crawl had over 70 people subscribe.
- Contributors to the different SICB funds will be acknowledged in the spring newsletter.

III. New Business

- President Swalla announced the appointment of a new editor for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Hal Heatwole is the current editor and is stepping down in January 2016 after ten years of service. The Executive Committee has appointed Lynn Marty Martin as the next editor. His five year term will begin in January 2016 at the end of the second Executive Committee meeting. President Swalla thanked the members of the search committee: Richard Satterlie (chair), Mike Alfaro, Alice Gibb, Sandra Shumway, and Peter Wainwright.

IV. Recognition of Lecturers and Awards

Lectures

Howard Bern Lecture – Randy Nelson, Ohio State University, “The Dark Side of Light at Night”

John Moore Lecture – John R. Jungck, University of Delaware "Morphospaces, Adaptive and Epigenetic Landscapes, Phylogenetic Networks, and n-Dimensional Niches: Re-Visioning Quantitative Biology Education

Awards

- **George A. Bartholomew Award – Jodie Rummer, James Cook University, “Lessons from the most successful vertebrates: Coping with stress and maintaining performance in a changing world”**
- **2014 Libbie H. Hyman Scholarship – David Charifson, SUNY Stony Brook.**
- **Dorothy M. Skinner Award – Devaleena Pradhan, UCLA**
 - **Honorable Mention – Ondi Crino**
(Cheryl Wilga, chair of the selection committee presented the award and acknowledged other members of the selection committee: Patricia Hernandez, Connie O’Connor, and Brooke Flammang.)
- Sheila Patek, Chair of the Student Support Committee announced that there were 120 applicants for Grants in Aid of Research (GIAR) and Fellowships for Graduate Student Travel (FGST) with 28 GIAR and 2 FGST awards being made. She acknowledged and thanks the members of the committee: Miriam Ashley-Ross, Jonathan Allen, John Bertram, Christine Byrum, Ryan Earley, Tony Frankino, Jerry Husak, Matt Lovern, Eric McElroy, Marianne Porter, and Angela Rivera.
- The following SICB students were awarded a Grant in Aid of Research

Vikram	Baliga	U. of California Santa Cruz
Sarah	Barfield	Univeristy of Texas, Austin
Amos	Belmaker	Cornell U.
Phred	Benham	U. of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign
Timothy	Colston	U. of Mississippi
Emily	Elderbrock	U. of Memphis
Morgan	Gilmour	U. of California Santa Cruz
Taylor	Gullett	U. of Texas at Austin
Michael	Hague	U. of Virginia
William	James	U. of Alabama at Birmingham
Rochelle	Kelly	U. of Washington, Seattle
Rebecca	Koch	Auburn U.
Nora	Lewin	Michigan State U.

Sarah	Longo	U. of California, Davis
Leith	Miller	U. of Washington
Tim	O'Connor	U. of Arizona
Phillip	Pearson	U. of Alabama at Birmingham
Mark	Phuong	U. of California, Los Angeles
Nikki	Rendon	Indiana U. Bloomington
Kieran	Samuk	U. of British Columbia
Catherine	Shine	U. of Idaho
Matthew	Siegle	U. of British Columbia
Samuel	Slowinski	Indiana U.
Joshua	Smith	Florida International U.
Jennifer	Wagner	Virginia Polytechnic Institute
Joni	Wright	U. of Florida
Lu	Yao	U. of Chicago
Vanessa	Young	Clemson U.

- Fellowships for Graduate Student Travel were awarded to Elizabeth Kelly, Cornell University and Denita Weeks, University of Memphis.
- **M. Patricia Morse Award for Excellence and Innovation in Science Teaching** – Awarded to Linda Walters; the award will be presented at the Moore Lecture.

Recognition of Service

A number of SICB members are retiring from service on various committees. They were recognized for their service.

- Educational Council
 - **Bob Podolsky, Chair**
 - **Nancy Staub**
 - **Joe Thompson**
- **Jon Allen**, Membership Committee
- Members rotating off **ICB Editorial Board**
 - **Robert Thacker**
 - **Vinod Kumar**
 - **Conrad Matthee**
- Members rotating off the **Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee**
 - **Maxine Zylberberg**
 - **Graham Slater**
- Members rotating off the **Student Support Committee**
 - **Sheila Patek, Chair**
 - **Miriam Ashley-Ross**
 - **Ryan Earley**
 - **Marianne Porter**
 - **Angela Rivera**
- Development Committee

- **Emily Carrington**
 - Public Affairs Committee
 - **Jake Socha**
 - Broadening Participation Committee
 - **Andrew Clark**
 - **Rita Mehta**
 - **Susan Williams**
- Recognition of Retiring **Divisional Secretaries**
 - **Melissa Bowlin, DAB**
 - **Rachel Bowden, DCE**
 - **Brad Davidson, DEDB**
 - **Aaron Krochmal, DEE**
- Recognition of Retiring **Divisional Program Officers**
 - **Jonathon Stillman, DCPB**
 - **Rachel Collin, DPCB**
 - **Rita Mehta, DVM**
- Recognition of SICB Executive Committee Members whose terms will end.
 - **Billie Swalla, President**
 - **Lou Burnett, Secretary**
 - **Jon Harrison, Past Program Officer**
 - **Beth Brainerd, Member-at-Large**
 - **Mark Denny, DCB Chair**
 - **Mike Angilletta, DEE Chair**
 - **Jim McClintock, DIZ Chair**
 - **Jim Belanger, DNB Chair**
 - **Alice Gibb, DVM Chair**
 - **Bob Podolsky, Chair Educational Council**

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.