

SOCIETY FOR INTEGRATIVE AND COMPARATIVE BIOLOGY
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
3 January 2016 and 7 January 2016
Adams/Jefferson Room, DoubleTree Hotel
Portland, Oregon

Executive Committee Members, 3 Jan 2016:

President – Peter Wainwright
President-Elect – Lou Burnett
Past President – Billie Swalla
Secretary – Kathy Dickson
Program Officer – Sherry Tamone
Program Officer-Elect – Rick Blob
Treasurer – Karen Martin
Member-at-Large – Cheryl Wilga
Member-at-Large – Patricia Hernandez
Member-at-Large – Jennifer Burnaford

Divisional Chairs:

DAB – Diana Hews
DCB – Melina Hale
DCE – Mary Mendonça
DCPB – Stephen Secor
DEDB – Sally Leys
DEDE – Marty Martin
DEE – Mike Sears
DIZ – John Zardus
DNB – Paul Moore
DPCB – Mike Alfaro
DVM – Callum Ross
Editor, *ICB* – Harold Heatwole
Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Chair – Sean Lema
Educational Council Chair – Bram Lutton
Broadening Participation Committee Chair – Michele Nishiguchi
Executive Director (*ex officio*) – Brett Burk

Others present:

Committee Chairs:

Marcus Davis – Membership Committee Chair
Ryan Earley – Student Support Committee Chair

Guests

Jill Drupa – BAI
Carol Fassbinder-Orth – Chair-Elect, DEDE
Robert Miller – NSF
Suzanne Miller – *ICB*
Jim Olds – NSF
Bill Zamer – NSF

Note: Blue underlined items are reports appended to the end of these minutes.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by President Peter Wainwright. President Wainwright welcomed and introduced the members of the Executive Committee and guests. He then opened a discussion of a proposal that SICB add an open access journal that would publish high quality, primary research papers in the topic areas encompassed by SICB, be more international in scope, and complement the current journal *ICB*, which has a unique focus on publishing papers from the annual meeting symposia. Pros, cons, and concerns were discussed, and all present were urged to seek out opinions during the meeting. The discussion, including discussion of a proposal for an open access journal prepared by Oxford University Press, the *ICB* publisher, continued on 7 January 2016.

2. Record of Executive Committee Actions

a. The minutes of the 2015 Executive Committee Meeting in West Palm Beach were approved as submitted.

[\(Minutes, SICB Executive Committee 2015 posted on SICB web site\)](#)

b. Actions of the Executive Committee and the President between annual meetings:

The following actions between the annual meetings were read into the minutes for the record:

1. **Approval of 2018, 2019, and 2020 meeting venues:**

- a. 4 March 2015 – selection of 2018 meeting site, choosing between West Palm Beach, Florida, and Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. 17 voted for West Palm Beach, 6 voted for Pittsburg, for a total of 23 voting.
- b. 5 April 2015 – seeking approval of 2018 meeting site in San Francisco, California (overturning the selection of West Palm Beach, Florida), and seeking approval of 2020 annual meeting in Austin, Texas.
 - i. Approval of San Francisco in 2018: 21 approved, 0 disapproved, total of 21 voting.
 - ii. Approval of Austin in 2020: 21 approved, 0 disapproved, total of 21 voting.
- c. 14 May 2015 – selection of 2019 meeting site, choosing between Tampa, Florida, and West Palm Beach, Florida. 14 voted for Tampa, 5 voted for West Palm Beach, with a total of 19 voting.

2. **Educational Council appointments: Bram Lutton as Chair and Erika Iyengar as member**

In the spring 2014 SICB elections, Erika Iyengar and Bram Lutton were candidates for Chair of the Educational Council. Erika Iyengar was elected to serve a three-year term beginning in January 2015. For personal reasons, Erika decided in January 2015 that she could not take on the role as Educational Council Chair. Subsequent to this announcement, the Educational Council recommended that Bram Lutton fill Erika's term as Chair of the Educational Council and that Erika complete Bram's remaining term as a member of the committee through January 2016. These recommendations were forwarded to SICB President Peter Wainwright, who appointed Bram Lutton to fill Erika's

elected term as committee chair from January 2015 through January 2018. Erika Iyengar was appointed as a member of the Educational Council to fill Bram's term as a committee member through January 2016.

3. Officer Reports

a. Program Officer – Tamone

Program Officer Report ([A3-Program Officer Report 2015](#))

1. The Program Officer reviewed highlights of the week's schedule, referring to the SICB grid, and noted the major lectures.
2. A meeting registration report was presented; Portland is the largest SICB meeting ever, based on number of abstracts.

b. Secretary – Dickson

Secretary Report

1. The Secretary reported on a number of items associated with the organization and management of the Society ([A3-Secretary Report 2015](#)).
2. The Secretary presented the newsletter schedule for 2016:
 - a. Spring 2016
 - i. Mar 4 - submission due
 - ii. Mar 25 - review on-line draft
 - iii. Mar 30 - corrections due
 - iv. Apr 6 - newsletter goes on-line
 - b. Fall 2016
 - i. Oct 3 - submission due
 - ii. Oct 20 - review on-line draft
 - iii. Oct 27 - corrections due
 - iv. Nov 2 - newsletter goes online
3. The Secretary reviewed the Spring 2016 election schedule.
 - a. Elections occur in the spring ([A3-Secretary, SICB Election Schedule for Spring 2016](#) for SICB-wide and divisional elections). The full election schedule is online: go to Resources > Elections > Election Schedule for SICB and Divisions or <http://www.sicb.org/resources/electionschedule.php3>.
 - b. The divisional chairs were reminded to appoint nominating committees for divisional offices in the fall prior to the annual meeting.
 - c. Nominating committees may use the list of candidates who have previously run for offices which is available on the SICB website go to Resources > Elections > Election Candidates for SICB and Divisions or <http://www.sicb.org/resources/electioncandidates.php3>.
4. SICB Bylaws changes.
 - a. There were no bylaws amendments in 2015.
5. Divisional Best Student Presentation awards.
 - a. Best Student Presentation procedures for administering the awards are posted on SICB website Resources > Administration, Contacts & Handbooks > Administrative Procedures for Divisional Best Student Presentations. The description of the procedures for some divisions was revised during 2015 ([A3-Secretary, SICB Admin Procedures on](#)

[Divisional Best Student Presentation Awards at the Annual Meeting 2016](#)).

- b. Divisional Chairs were reminded to have the Divisional Secretaries report the results of Best Student Presentation awards to the SICB Secretary within 2 weeks of the annual meeting for posting on the SICB web site and notification of winners.
 - c. Procedures for processing certificates and checks were reviewed. Divisional Chairs signed a circulating form for certificates to be presented.
6. The Secretary reviewed other Resources available on the SICB web site: the @sicb.org emails, list of officers for each division, the SICB calendar, officer manuals; most items are under the Resources tab. SICB Educational Council Chair Lutton asked Division Chairs to let their members know how to add to the SICB Digital Library [to be renamed SICB Research and Education Resources (RER)]. Bram will join the executive officers at the divisional business meetings to make an announcement about the change and encourage submissions from divisions.
 7. **Post-meeting Survey:** Last year a post-meeting survey was sent to all attendees of the 2015 annual meeting, and 660 individuals responded. The results of the survey were shared with the Executive Committee. The feedback was used to improve the annual meeting and the program of the meeting. A post-meeting survey is again planned for this year, with responses due ~Feb 1.
- c. Treasurer – Martin
 1. The Treasurer reported on the finances of the Society and reviewed the budget for fiscal year 2015 ([A3-Treasurer Report 2015](#)).
 2. A budget for fiscal year 2017 (7/1/2016-6/30/2017) was presented and discussed.
 3. The Treasurer announced that an annual evaluation (electronic survey) of Burk & Associates, Inc. and SICB Executive Officers will be sent after the annual meeting to all 2015 Executive Committee members, SICB committee chairs, and divisional officers. The survey will close on January 31, 2016.
 - d. President-Elect – Burnett

President-Elect Report ([A3-President-Elect Report 2015](#)).

 1. The President-Elect reviewed a draft of the Member Survey, to be opened in March 2016, which reflects input from Executive Committee members and especially Committee Chairs. The last Member Survey was done in 2009 and was an important planning tool for this group. Members were asked to send any feedback on the draft survey to Lou Burnett at President.Elect@SICB.org.
 2. The President-Elect reviewed upcoming committee appointments for the next year (see list in [A3-President-Elect Report 2015](#)). It is the responsibility of each Executive Committee member to respond to the yearly survey sent out for suggestions to fill vacancies on the various committees. The President consults with Executive Officers about appointments and uses this to consider individual appointments. Please think carefully about developing a pipeline of members to take on divisional and society leadership roles.

4. Special Reports (at approx. 4:00 p.m. on 1-3-15)

- a. Jim Olds, Assistant Director, Directorate for Biological Sciences, National Science Foundation joined the meeting remotely, and Program Directors Bill Zamer and Rob Miller joined in person. Jim reported that NSF is cautiously optimistic about how biology is being considered by the current Congress and White House. There is a consensus that biology represents the key for the economy with regard to environmental protection, healthcare, and climate change, and the perception that NSF and NIH are essential to the healthcare crisis. This is reflected in several new programs of interest to SICB, including the President's Brain Initiative (neuroscience in non-model organisms and understanding neuroscience across multiple levels, from synapses to circuits), Genomes to Phenomes, EDGE (proposals for creating tools for functional genomics), and Math-Bio workshop. He also discussed the following topics:
 Data sharing: grant annual and final project reports should demonstrate how you have implemented a data sharing plan for data management.
 Graduate education: NSF spends \$1 billion a year on graduate education. The White House is looking to us to explore viable options for biology graduates, to think outside the box in regards to different career opportunities other than tenure at major universities.
- b. In response to President Wainwright's question about NSF's willingness to support an open access journal like the one SICB is considering, Jim Olds replied that open access is very important to the future of science, and editorial curation and peer review are value added and need to be paid for in some way.
- c. President Wainwright also brought up the time crunch for IOS preproposals due so close to the holidays and the SICB meeting, and asked if a deadline one-week later could be considered as it would make a huge difference for SICB. The deadlines are based on the one-year cycle of review and allowing time for review as well as feedback to PIs for full proposals, CAREER proposals, and the next round of pre-proposals; thus any changes to be considered will have cascading effects that must be taken into account.

5. Committee Reports

- a. **Journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology*** – Hal Heatwole
 1. Editor Report – Editor Heatwole presented a PowerPoint highlighting the symposia, a projection for the number of expected 2015 papers, exemptions, reviewer response, and revision time. ([A5-ICB Editor Report](#))
 2. Editorial Board Appointments: Five new members of the Editorial Board were nominated:
 Two divisional representatives, recommended by the respective division:
 - a. DCPB Representative, Donovan German
 - b. DVM Representative, Sharlene Santana
 3. Three new Associate (international) member appointments; nominated by Editor Hal Heatwole:
 - a. Berry Pinshow (Israel) – extend his term for two years, through Jan 2018
 - b. Stéphane Hourdez (France)
 - c. Jun Kitano (Japan)

The Executive Committee approved the five appointments by acclamation.

Starting this year, the *ICB* Editor will meet with the Program Committee to facilitate planning for symposia that will become the contents of the journal.

4. The Publisher's Report was discussed on 7 January 2016.

b. Standing Committee Reports ([Appendix 5](#))

1. Advisory Committee – Swalla ([A5-Advisory Committee Report 2015](#)). The committee discussed the proposed open access journal at their Portland meeting and reported back on 7 January.
2. Educational Council ([A5-Educational Council Report 2015](#)) – Lutton reminded everyone of the undergraduate poster session later in the day near registration, the teaching and learning workshop on K-12 partnerships, the Morse award, and the John Moore lecture to be presented by Jay Labov. Lutton planned to accompany the executive officers to the divisional business meetings to discuss the educational resources available in the Digital Library on the SICB website.
3. Membership – Davis ([A5-Membership Committee Report 2015](#)). First, the meeting skipped to item 7.a. of the agenda, to approve two SICB Honorary Members, as proposed by the Membership Committee (see below). Davis then brought up some questions that the committee had been discussing: Is there a mechanism for tracking membership data, and what type of membership data can be extracted from SICB databases? Is there a way to increase diversity or inclusion? Is there a way to garner information from institutions in regards to where students stand in their scientific schooling and/or careers? The committee is interested in demographic data, in particular, data on whether student members change to other categories.
4. Nominating – Booth. The committee was continuing its search for good candidates for the Society-wide positions to be filled, and had solicited nominations via the member update.
5. Editorial Board, *ICB* – Heatwole (included in Journal Report)
6. Student/Postdoctoral Affairs – Lema ([A5-SPDAC Committee Report 2015](#)). The SPDAC workshop topic at the 2016 meeting is Academic Transitions: Successfully Navigating from Undergraduate to Professor. The committee is discussing ways to enhance communication with members throughout the year rather than at meetings only. To meet the need for full member sponsorship for students who submit abstracts, which could deter students from submitting, the suggestion was made to add a note to the abstract submission page giving an email address so that students would know who to reference if they don't know a member.
7. Student Support ([A5-Student Support Committee Report 2015](#)) – Earley reported a 22% increase in the number of applications submitted to GIAR/FGST (151 this year vs. 118 last year), and thanked President Wainwright for making more funds available to support students this year. There were 132 GIAR and 19 FGST applications in 2015. The committee discussed adding more accountability for students after they receive an award, e.g., having them submit a brief report or abstract, adding a flag to subsequent SICB programs to identify which presenters were funded by this program. The application review process will be streamlined.
8. Finance Committee – Martin (included in Treasurer Report)
9. Public Affairs ([A5-Public Affairs Committee Report 2015](#)) – Jacobs reported on 7 January 2016.
10. Program – Tamone (included in Program Officer Report)

11. Development ([A5-Development Committee Report 2015](#)) – Jorgensen reported on 7 January 2016.
12. Broadening Participation ([A5-Broadening Participation Committee Report 2015](#)) – Nishiguchi reported that there were 51 applications for BP funding this year. This year’s BP workshop, led by Sharlene Santana and Michele Nishiguchi, will focus on how to integrate diversity awareness into science institutions, from the bottom up. All present are invited to the meet and greet social on January 3rd at 5-6 PM, the BP committee meeting (7-8 AM on January 4th), and the BP social on January 6th at The Albita.

7. New Business

- a. Honorary Members – as per the SICB Bylaws, the Membership Committee has recommended approval of two new honorary members (Drs. Jarid Simons and Jay Labov; see also Membership Committee Report); both were nominated by the SICB Executive Officers; Labov, the 2016 Moore Lecturer, was nominated on the recommendation of the Educational Council. Since the motions come from a committee, they require no second.

The motions passed by acclamation.

Both Jarid Simons and Jay Labov shall be given an Honorary Membership in the SICB.

8. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m. on 3 January 2016.

Executive Committee Members, 7 Jan 2016:

President – Peter Wainwright
President-Elect – Lou Burnett
Past President – Billie Swalla
Secretary – Kathy Dickson
Program Officer – Sherry Tamone
Program Officer-Elect – Rick Blob
Treasurer – Karen Martin
Member-at-Large – Cheryl Wilga
Member-at-Large – Patricia Hernandez
Member-at-Large – Jennifer Burnaford

Divisional Chairs:

DAB – Diana Hews
DCB – Melina Hale
DCE – Mary Mendonça
DCPB – Stephen Secor
DEDB – Sally Leys, not present
DEDE – Marty Martin
DEE – Mike Sears
DIZ – John Zardus
DNB – Paul Moore, not present
DPCB – Mike Alfaro, not present
DVM – Callum Ross
Editor, *ICB* – Harold Heatwole
Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Chair – Sean Lema
Educational Council Chair – Bram Lutton
Broadening Participation Committee Chair – Michele Nishiguchi
Executive Director (*ex officio*) – Brett Burk

Others present:

Committee Chairs:

Molly Jacobs – Public Affairs Committee Chair
Darwin Jorgensen – Development Committee Chair

Guests:

Kerin Claeson – Chair-Elect, DPCB
Stacey Combes – incoming Broadening Participation Committee Chair
Jill Drupa – BAI
Cassandra Extavour – Chair-Elect, DEDB
Carol Fassbinder-Orth – Chair-Elect, DEDE
April Hill – incoming Member-at-Large
Suzanne Miller – *ICB*
Ian Sherman, Oxford University Press
Inna Sokolova – Chair-Elect, DCPB

5. Committee Reports (continued from 3 January 2016)

c. **Journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology***

4. Ian Sherman, Oxford University Press, reviewed the Publisher's Report previously circulated to the Executive Committee. He provided information on journal operations. He also participated in the discussion about the proposed new open access journal.

d. **Standing Committee Reports ([Appendix 5](#))** – those that reported on 7 Jan:

1. Advisory – Swalla reported on the divergent views among the Past Presidents with regard to starting a new open access journal.
2. Student Support – Earley provided a more detailed report on the student awardees for GIAR and FGST. ([A5-Student Support Committee Report 2015](#))
3. Finance Committee – Martin (included in Treasurer Report); discussion of the budget for FY2017 that was presented on 3 January continued on 7 January. The budget was proposed by the Finance Committee. Treasurer Karen Martin reported that the proposed budget is a balanced budget.

The Executive Committee approved the SICB FY2017 budget by acclamation.

4. Public Affairs – Jacobs ([A5-Public Affairs Committee Report 2015](#)). Jacobs reported that 8 press releases were picked up by Science Daily with more than 1000 hits each!
5. Development – Jorgensen reported on donations and efforts of the committee to raise more funds for SICB and to build the endowment, including by selling T-shirts and other items with SICB logos at this and future meetings, and to continue the ribbons on badges to recognize donors ([A5-Development Committee Report 2015](#)).

6. Divisional Reports ([Appendix 6](#))

1. Animal Behavior
2. Comparative Biomechanics
3. Comparative Endocrinology
4. Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry
5. Evolutionary Developmental Biology
6. Ecoimmunology & Disease Ecology
7. Ecology & Evolution
8. Invertebrate Zoology
9. Neurobiology
10. Phylogenetics & Comparative Biology
11. Vertebrate Morphology

7. New Business

- a. The SICB Meeting App and issues with its use were discussed. Feedback will be sought on the post-meeting survey.

- b. The discussion of a new, proposed open access journal continued, with input from Ian Sherman from Oxford University Press: In a week much of the society had digested the information and there were many common themes and concerns: Is there a need for such a journal – will it meet an unmet need? We want to be sure it complements *ICB* and does not supplant that journal. The new Editor has been and will be closely involved in the discussions. Additional input from the membership will be solicited in the member survey. Developing a statement of mission or scope for the journal will be important. The idea is that it will broaden international participation. There should be a financial benefit to the society, to help diversify the society’s portfolio. Open access journals are supported by submissions rather than subscriptions, so the financial model differs from *ICB*. The Executive Officers will take all of the feedback into consideration as the discussion continues.

8. Recognition of Officers

The following SICB officers who are ending their terms at the end of the 2016 meeting were recognized and thanked sincerely for their service:

Society-wide officers:	
Tamone, Sherry	Program Officer
Wilga, Cheryl	Member-at-Large
Heatwole, Harold	Editor, <i>ICB</i>
Divisional Chairs:	
Hews, Diana	DAB, Chair
Mendonça, Mary	DCE, Chair
Secor, Stephen	DCPB, Chair
Leys, Sally	DEDB, Chair
Martin, Lynn (Marty)	DEDE, Chair
Alfaro, Michael	DPCB, Chair
Committee Chairs:	
Davis, Marcus	Membership
Jorgenson, Darwin	Development
Lema, Sean	Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Chair
Nishiguchi, Michele	Broadening Participation Committee Chair

9. Adjournment. The meeting adjourned at 8:15 a.m. on 7 January 2016.

Appendix 3 – Program Officer Report 2015

Sherry Tamone, Program Officer and Program Committee Chair

Program Committee

Manny Azizi, Richard Blob, Rachel Collin, Charles Derby, Sarah DuRant, Rosemary Knapp, Donald Miles, Louise Page, Bruno Pernet, Jonathon Stillman, Sherry Tamone, Joseph Thompson, Allison Welch, John Zardus

The Program Committee met in Portland, OR, on September 25-27, 2015, to view the venue and to organize abstracts into cohesive sessions and select symposia for 2017 SICB meeting in New Orleans, LA. The 1683 abstracts were organized into:

- 1) Plenary Session
- 2) 3 special lectures
 - a. Bartholomew Lecture: Vincent Careau
 - b. Bern Lecture: Elizabeth Adkins-Regan
 - c. Moore Lecture: Jay Labov
- 3) 132 sessions
- 4) 3 days of posters (725 posters) in addition to the Undergraduate Poster Session at the start of the meeting
- 5) 12 Symposia
- 6) One special session (Annelids: in Honor of Kristian Fauchald)

There were 1683 submitted abstracts by September 15th. Notification of abstract acceptance went out in early November, and since then 35 talks or posters were cancelled. To date there are 1648 abstracts which makes this the largest SICB meeting to date.

As Program Chair:

- 1) I worked with the Chairs of the Public Affairs Committee, the Broadening Participation Committee, the Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, and the Education Council to formalize workshops during the meeting. Workshops will be offered each of the 4 days of the meeting. The Workshops that we will have in Portland are
 - a. Broadening Participation
 - b. Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee
 - c. Public Affairs
 - d. NSF: Update on the IOS solicitation and Q&A
 - e. Genome to Phenome
 - f. Crustacean Transcriptomics
 - g. Data Management
- 2) I worked with the twelve 2015 symposium organizers to insure that they were in compliance with ICB requirements. I worked with symposium organizers to make sure that their symposia were publicized correctly on the web and in the program.
- 3) I worked with the Program Officer Elect (Rick Blob) as he prepares to take over Program Officer duties in 2016.
- 4) I worked with Burk, Inc and SICB Webmaster to develop information for the Meetings Webpage and the published program.
 - a. I worked with organizers of the Bartholomew Award, Bern Lecture, and Moore Lecture to publicize this information on the SICB WebPage
- 5) I worked with presenters, Burk, Inc., and Ruedi to finalize the program in the face of multiple changes that occurred between October and December.

Appendix 3 – Secretary Report 2015
Kathy Dickson, Secretary

The items reported here are ones in which the secretary had significant involvement.

Officer and Committee Manuals (available on the SICB web site > Resources > Administration, Contacts & Handbooks > Officer Handbooks and Committees and Other). The Divisional Chairs Manual was updated and a Program Officer’s Manual is almost complete. The manuals contain standard operating procedures.

Evaluation of Burk and Associates Inc. The Executive Officers conducted an annual evaluation of the SICB management company.

Bylaws Updates. There were no bylaws amendments in 2015.

Newsletter. Two newsletters are produced each year with the help of all the officers, committee chairs and Burk and Associates. The Spring newsletter contains information about the Society-wide and divisional elections, as well as any bylaws revisions. In 2015, the first Experiences in Science Education articles, written by the first two winners of the M. Patricia Morse award, Michael Hadfield and Linda Walters, appeared in the newsletters.

SICB-Wide Elections in 2016:

President-Elect

Secretary-Elect

Program Officer-Elect

Member-at-Large

Member Updates. We have continued to use SICB Member Updates to provide members with monthly information on the activities of the society. We receive many requests from divisions and committees to post announcements and these are included in the monthly updates.

Executive Officers. The executive officers of the society had significant interaction with each other throughout the year with a total of 40 conference calls and a September planning meeting in Portland, Oregon.

Special thanks to past Secretary Lou Burnett for setting things up so well that my job this year has been relatively easy.

Appendix 3 – Secretary Report

SICB Election Schedule for Spring 2016

SICB-Wide Elections in 2016:

President-Elect
Secretary-Elect
Program Officer-Elect
Member-at-Large

Divisional Elections in 2016:

Division of Animal Behavior	Program Officer
Division of Comparative Biomechanics	Chair-Elect
Division of Comparative Endocrinology	Program Officer-Elect
Division of Comparative Biochemistry & Physiology	Chair-Elect Program Officer
Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology	Chair-Elect
Division of Ecoimmunology & Disease Ecology	Chair-Elect Program Officer-Elect Secretary-Elect
Division of Ecology & Evolution	Chair-Elect Program Officer-Elect
Division of Invertebrate Zoology	Program Officer
Division of Neurobiology	Program Officer
Division of Phylogenetics & Comparative Biology	Program Officer-Elect
Division of Vertebrate Morphology	Chair-Elect Secretary-Elect

Please see <http://sicb.org/resources/electionschedule.php3> for the entire SICB election schedule.

Appendix 3 – Secretary Report

Administrative Procedures

Divisional Best Student Presentation Awards at the Annual Meeting (updated 12-27-15)

These procedures outline the responsibilities of the Divisional Chair, the divisional representatives, the SICB business office, and the SICB Secretary in administering the Best Student Presentation Awards.

1. **Awards Committee Appointment.** Divisions should review their procedures and the Chair should appoint an awards committee no later than the summer prior to the annual meeting. This is a part of the SICB calendar.
2. **Judging.** Appointment of judges is the responsibility of the Divisional Chair or the Chair's delegate. Information on the individuals who wish to be considered for judging is collected as a part of the annual meeting registration process. Additional names may be obtained by divisions. Divisions should emphasize in the fall newsletter the importance of having judges. Instructions on how to volunteer for judging should be provided.
 - a. **List of individuals volunteering to judge.** Names collected through registration will be given to each Chair in the form of a link provided by the SICB webmaster ([link 1](#)). Through this link a separate spreadsheet can be downloaded for each division. The spreadsheet gives the name of the volunteer judge, the email address, SICB membership status (remember only Postdoctoral and Full Members are allowed to judge), and division(s) for which the individual is willing to serve as a judge.
 - b. **Contact the Judges.** Judges should then be contacted by email and asked to sign up for presentations they are willing to judge. The webmaster will provide the appropriate link for sign-up ([link 2](#)). On this page judges can view their assignments. Some divisions have rules governing the number of judges required for each paper or poster, so additional work might be required by the division to obtain the desired coverage.
 - c. **List of Presentations and Assigned Judges.** A listing of the presentations and the assigned judges for each division can be obtained through a link provided by the webmaster: [link 3](#).
 - d. **Collecting Scores.** Scoring can be submitted to the division by paper/email/other means, or by asking the judges to enter their score into an online form: [link 4](#). **This electronic form can be used regardless of whether the judges have signed up on-line in the step above. The two databases are independent. A division could invite a judge ad hoc at the meeting and have her/him enter the scores on the on-line scoring form.**
 - e. **Viewing the Results.** A list of presentations and their scores by division can be found at the following link: [link 5](#).
3. **Awards associated with prizes with budgetary implications.** The review of the procedures must include provisions in the divisional budgets for cash awards, memberships, or other prizes that the division will award to student award winners. Wiley-Blackwell has generously underwritten the Best Student Presentations such that each division is allocated \$300 for the student awards (\$150 for best oral presentation and \$150 for best poster presentation). Wiley-Blackwell also provides student winners with a free one year subscription to an appropriate one of their journals. The following journals are associated with the divisions.

Division of Animal Behavior	Ethology
Division of Comparative Biomechanics	J. of Zoology
Division of Comparative Endocrinology	J. Exp. Zoology A
Division of Comparative Physiol. & Biochem.	J. Exp. Zoology A
Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biol.	J. Exp. Zoology B
Division of Ecoimmunology & Disease Ecology	Functional Ecology
Division of Ecology & Evolution	Ecology Letters
Division of Invertebrate Zoology	Invertebrate Biology
Division of Neurobiology	Developmental Neurobiology
Division of Phylogenetics & Comparative Biology	Evolution
Division of Vertebrate Morphology	J. Morphology

4. **Certificates.** SICB headquarters will make available certificates for each division to present to the student award winners. A sample of the certificates will be provided to the Chairs of each division before or during the annual meeting. At this time, Chairs should order special wording. Certificates will be printed by the business office once student award winners are known.
5. **Reporting winners to SICB.** Divisions handle the mechanisms of judging in different ways. However, the winners of the competitions should be announced on the SICB web site as soon as possible after the annual meeting. *To this end, it is the responsibility of the **divisional Secretary** to report the names of the winners (with the presentation number) to the SICB Secretary within two weeks after the annual meeting.*
6. **Notifying students of their award.** It is the responsibility of the divisional Chair to notify the students of the status of their awards. The Chair should announce the winners to all students in the division who entered the contest. This can be done simply by an email congratulating the student winners. In this communication, each Chair can indicate that the winners will receive a certificate, a check and a subscription to one of the Wiley journals. A list of student participants and their email addresses can be found at the following link: [link 6](#).
7. **Certificates (and checks) will be sent to award winners by the SICB business office.** Once the student winners are known, the certificates will be completed for each division by SICB headquarters and mailed along with the check to the award winner.

Appendix 3 – Treasurer Report

Karen Martin, Treasurer

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 sixth year in a row, no increase in meeting registration fees is anticipated. Membership dues will remain unchanged for the tenth year.

The journal continues to do well. Revenues were \$326,511 from Oxford Press, but expenses of about \$166,666 were greater than in previous years to make up for some under-counting of member subscriptions in the past. The anticipated passing of the editorial baton upon retirement of Hal Heatwole to Marty Martin should be smooth, and no financial concerns are anticipated from that process. The new editor will receive a small stipend and additional expenses are associated with an assistant as in the past.

The West Palm Beach meeting brought in \$364,288 in revenue against \$371,502 in expenses, thus finishing in the red by about \$7,214. This margin indicates that revenues and expenses are fairly evenly matched for the annual meeting, but audio-visual costs in particular continue to exceed predictions. For 8 of the past 11 years, the annual meeting has finished in the black. (The exceptions were Orlando in 2006, Phoenix in 2007, and now WPB in 2015.)

One issue of continuing concern for the Finance Committee and the Treasurer has been the stagnation of the named funds in the endowment. Interest and dividends calculated for these funds changed in FY2014, but last year's poor performance of the stock market did not provide much help. The current formula should permit prudent use of the funds with maintenance of principal and slow growth. However, beginning FY 2015 the total value of the named funds was \$1,062,264 while at the end the value was \$1,105,105. This is an increase of \$42,536, but that increase is less than the value of the past year's donations, which were above \$60,000. More analysis and possibly additional changes to the management of these funds will be considered in 2016.

Total invested funds were \$1,304,922 as of June 30, 2014, up to \$1,351,520 at the end of FY 2015 on June 30, 2015, an increase of \$46,598. This balance takes into account donations of stock worth \$41,068 and management fees of \$13,164 so the net growth was only \$5,530 or about 0.5% over the fiscal year.

Donations to SICB in 2014 totaled \$60,222, including two generous gifts of stock from Jarid Simons for the Hyman fund and the Moore fund. Happily, these funds achieved the \$25,000 threshold over the past year. The Bern fund, thanks to yeoman fund raising efforts by the Division of Comparative Endocrinology, reached this milestone in early FY 2016. At this time three of the 12 funds remain under \$25,000: the Davis, Wenner, and Skinner funds.

Financial reports for FY 2015 indicate total expenses of \$1,041,136 with revenues of \$991,808, for a loss of \$73,500. Nevertheless the total assets of SICB are up by \$46,300 and the unrestricted funds increased by \$116,900 or 21% from \$551,412 in FY 2014 to \$669,698 at the end of FY 2015.

A balanced budget will be presented for approval for FY 2017 for the third year in a row, with no anticipated increase this year in membership dues or conference registration fees. Anticipated revenues are \$885,025 and anticipated expenses are \$881,525, for a thin margin in the black of \$3,500.

Additional details are shown below and will be presented at the Business Meetings of the Executive Committee and the Society.

Fig. 1. Proposed Budget for FY 2017: revenues are \$885,025 and anticipated expenses are \$881,525 for a net of \$3,500.



Proposed Budget, FY 2017

- In 2017, we are once again proposing a balanced budget.

Expenses		Revenue	
Administrative	\$314,520.00	Administrative	166,000
Annual Meeting	\$344,713.00	Annual Meeting	358,175
Endowment Fund	\$38,100.00	Endowment Fund	16,350
Committees	\$26,270.00	Committees	
Journal	\$92,000.00	Journal	330,000
SICB Memberships	\$4,400.00	SICB Memberships	
Divisional Budget	\$51,500.00	Divisional Budget	14,500
Contingency Fund	\$10,000.00	Contingency Fund	

Appendix 3. President-Elect Report

Lou Burnett, President-Elect

This year the President-Elect took over the duties from the Secretary of collecting recommendations from the Executive Committee on committee appointments and coordinating the specific suggestions and nominations for Society-wide appointments. These appointments are made by the President.

Please note that officer and committee memberships turn over at the end of the second Executive Committee meeting at the annual meeting each year as stipulated in the SICB Bylaws. Officers and appointee names and terms of service can be found on the SICB website.

- Society-wide officers and committee appointments: About SICB *tab* > Committees & Appointments or <http://sicb.org/resources/committees.php3>.
- Divisional officers: Divisions *tab* > then select a specific division or <http://sicb.org/divisions/>.

Advisory by the Executive Committee.

A survey is sent each fall to the Executive Committee soliciting input on appointments for upcoming committee vacancies. It is the responsibility of each Executive Committee member to respond to this survey. The President consults with the Executive Officers about appointments and uses this information to consider individual appointments.

Committee Vacancies for the upcoming year with specific ties to divisions.

ICB Editorial Board.

From SICB Bylaws.

Article XV. Standing Committees. Section 5. Editorial Board: The Editorial Board of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* shall consist of one member from each Division, each of whom shall serve for a term of five years. Additional members may be added to the Editorial Board as Associate members and each shall serve a term of 2, 3, or 4 years, as agreed between the Editor and the appointee. All members of the Editorial Board shall be appointed by the President upon nomination by the Editor and approval of the Executive Committee. The Editorial Board shall advise the Editor in matters relating to journal policy, with particular reference to determining editorial and business policies for the journal in all respects not otherwise specified by the Constitution and Bylaws.

The following individuals rotate off the Editorial Board of ICB in January 2017. Divisional Chairs should forward suggestions to the President-Elect in the fall of 2016. Chairs should confirm the SICB membership of the individual suggested and provide an up-to-date c.v. Suggestions will be forwarded to the ICB Editor, Marty Martin who makes the official nomination. The SICB Executive Committee approves the nominations and the SICB President makes the appointment.

Division of Comparative Biomechanics	Anna Ahn
Division of Ecology & Evolution	Mike Sears

Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee.

From SICB Bylaws.

Article XV. Standing Committees. Section 6. Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee: The President shall appoint a Committee consisting of a Full Member as Chair and, after consultation with each Division, a student or postdoctoral member from each Division. The Committee shall host a program of special interest to Student and Postdoctoral Members at each annual meeting. The term of the Chair shall be three years and the Chair will sit on the Executive Committee; the terms of the Student and Postdoctoral Members shall be flexible, but no more than three years, depending upon academic status of the individuals. The Chair shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Broadening Participation Committee.

The following individuals rotate off the committee in January 2017.

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology	Amanda Kahn
Division of Ecology & Evolution	Eric Riddell
Division of Invertebrate Zoology	Jenna Moore
Division of Vertebrate Morphology	Morgan Burnette

*INTEGRATIVE AND
COMPARATIVE BIOLOGY,
REPORT FOR 2015*

By Harold Heatwole
Editor in Chief

SICB SYMPOSIA PUBLISHED IN VOLUME 55 (2015)

S1 –Towards a General Framework for Predicting Animal Movement Speeds in Nature

Organized by Robbie Wilson

S2 -Physiology in Changing Landscapes: An Integrative Perspective for Conservative Biology

Organized by Christine Madliger, Glenn Crossin, and Oliver Love

S3- Integrated Biology of Crocodylia

Organized by Valentine Lance

S4 - Soft Bodies, Hard Jaws: Phylogenetic Diversity of Prey Capture and Processing in Jawed, Soft-Bodied Invertebrates

Organized by: Rick Hochberg and Elizabeth Walsh

S5- Origins of Neurons and Parallel Evolution of Nervous Systems: The Dawn of Neuronal Biology

Organized by Leonid Moroz

S6- Thinking About Change: An Integrative Approach for Examining Cognition in a Changing World

Organized by Timothy Roth II and Zoltan Nemeth

S7- Unsteady Aquatic Locomotion with Respect to Eco-Design and Mechanics

Organized by Frank Fish and Paolo Domenici

S8- Neurohormones, Brain, and Behavior: A Comparative Approach to Rapid Neuroendocrine Function

Organized by Rebecca Calisi and Colin Saldanha

S9-Leading Students and Faculty to Quantitative Biology Through Active Learning

Organized by Laura Miller and Lindsay Waldrop

S10-Chemicals that Organize Ecology: Towards a Greater Integration of Chemoreception, Neuroscience, Organismal Biology and Chemical Ecology

Organized by James Murray and Russell Wyeth

S11- Breaking Boundaries for Evolutionary Synthesis: An Interactive, and Integrative Symposium Linking Crustacean and Insect Physiology

Organized by Jon Harrison and Sherry Tamone

S12- New Insights Into Suction Feeding Biomechanics and Evolution

Organized by Timothy Higham and Peter Wainwright

NUMBER OF PAPERS IN SICB SYMPOSIA 2015

Symposium	Papers Presented	Papers Published
S1	8	7*
S2	11	7*
S3	11	5
S4	8	7*
S5	11	10*
S6	12	8*
S7	11	11*
S8	12	7*
S9	12	5*
S10	11	10*
S11	12	11*
S12	12	13*
Total	101	121

*includes introductions

NUMBER OF AUTHORS BY COUNTRY

Australia	18
Belgium	3
Canada	24
Chile	2
China	4
Germany	7
Hungary	1
Israel	10
Italy	5
Japan	5
Spain	1
United Kingdom	2
United States	178
TOTAL	260

INTERNATIONAL REPRESENTATION ON THE EDITORIAL BOARD

United States, Belgium, Germany, Israel,
and Northern Ireland

5 TOTAL COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

PROJECTED FOR 2015

111 papers are projected for 2015.
15 exemptions were applied with 3
granted and 12 denied.

REVIEWERS' RESPONSE/NUMBER OF REVIEWERS THAT:

SYMPOSIUM (EXCLUDING INTRODUCTORY PAPERS)	WERE ASKED	DIDN'T ANSWER	DECLINED	REVIEWED ON TIME	REVIEWED LATE	AGREED BUT DIDN'T REVIEW	WERE UNAVAILABLE
S-1 (6 Papers)	33	4	15	6	6	0	2
S-2 (6 papers)	21	2	6	7	5	0	1
S-3 (7 papers)	35	6	11	6	8	2	2
S-4 (6 papers)	31	10	8	5	7	0	1
S-5 (9 papers)	50	10	16	12	6	1	5
S-6 (7 papers)	24	4	2	9	5	1	3
S-7 (10 papers + 1 resubmission)	85	19	24	14	8	6	14
S-8 (6 papers)	37	6	13	6	6	1	5
S-9 (4 papers)	22	5	4	4	4	2	3

Prompt and Late Submission and Revision of Papers

NUMBER OF ACCEPTED PAPERS THAT WERE:

SYMPOSIUM	PAPERS PLEDGED	SUBMITTED ON TIME	SUBMITTED LATE	REVISED ON TIME	REVISED LATE
S-1	10	0	6	4	2
S-2	10	2	4	2	4
S-3	12	4	0	3	1
S-4	8	4	2	5	1
S-5	13	3	6	4	5
S-6	12	4	3	2	5
S-7	12	8	3	1	10
S-8	12	2	4	0	6
S-9	12	0	4	1	3
S-10	11	5	4	1	8
S-11	12	1	10	5	6
S-12	12	5	7	2	10

Appendix 5 – Advisory Committee Report 2015

Billie Swalla, Chair

The Advisory Committee met in Portland at 7:00 AM in C120 Convention Center

Past Presidents Attending: Michael Hadfield, Alan Kohn, M. Patricia Morse, John Pearse, Richard Satterlie, David Wake, Marvalee Wake, Sally Woodin

SICB Officers Attending: Brett Burk, Executive Director; Lou Burnett, President-Elect; Billie Swalla, Past President (Chair); Peter Wainwright, President

Discussions:

1. **Transition of ICB this year from Hal Heatwole to Marty Martin, new ICB Editor for 2016-2021.** We thank Hal Heatwole for his 10 years of service and look forward to the next 5 years of Marty Martin's leadership. At this Portland meeting it has been arranged for the Program Officers to meet with the ICB editors at lunch so that they can discuss ideas for symposia for San Francisco.
2. **NEW ICB Open Access Journal** – Much discussion ensued about the pros and cons. We were reminded that there had been another SICB journal that failed, so it's not necessarily going to fly. Otherwise, some were optimistic (especially Marvalee Wake) that an excellent organismal journal would bring in new SICB members who are integrative biologists that want to publish in the new journal and highlight our science, while others (such as David Wake) mentioned the plethora of journals already out there and how would this be different?
3. **NEW Model for allowing donations <\$25K to honor SICB members.** We discussed the generous Wake Donation this year and how this forum will help honor someone with smaller donations. We discussed that we should make a clear policy about the minimum donation and whether the donation goes into restricted funds or current use funds. For example, if someone gives one gift of \$1,000 do they get a named fund every year?
4. **SCOTUS letter to Judge Scalia about his comments** – Some of the Past Presidents had not heard about this and were pleased that a letter had been sent about it. This was NOT sent around to SICB members because it was so close to the Portland meeting, but we should send it out in an email blast after the meetings*. (*see PAC report below for a copy*)

*** Action Item for Brett**

Appendix 5 – Educational Council Report 2015

Bram Lutton, Chair

Educational Council:

Dr. Bram Lutton, Chair, Endicott College
Dr. Erika Iyengar, Muhlenberg College
Dr. Michele Johnson, Trinity College
Dr. Sarah Boyer, Macalester College
Dr. James Murray, California State University East Bay

In 2015 the Educational Council was successful in establishing the theme of *K-12 Scientific Outreach*. The events we have established regarding “outreach” (or more appropriately, *K-12 “Partnerships”*) include the M. Patricia Morse Award for Excellence and Innovation in Science Education (to Dr. Michael LaBarbera), the John A. Moore Lecture (by Dr. Jay Labov), and the Teaching and Learning Workshop, *Scientific Outreach for the K-12 Audience* (organized by Dr. Lisa Whitenack, Dr. Linda Walters, and Dr. Bill Hoese). With considerable assistance from Kathy Dickson, Sherry Tamone, and Ruedi Birehnehide, we have improved the nomination process for the Morse Award, the Moore Lecture, and the TALX workshops by posting the procedures on the SICB website. For more information please visit the following websites and see the end of this report for website information:

Morse Award: The accompanying *Experiences in Science Education* article will be published in the spring 2016 newsletter; <http://www.sicb.org/membership/awards.php3#morse>

Moore Lecture: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2016/schedule/abstractdetails.php?id=1733>

TAL workshop: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2016/talx.php>

The Educational Council has made a request for **Honorary membership** for the Moore Lecturer, Dr. Jay Labov; this e-mail request was sent Sept. 30th, 2015.

Educational Council annual meeting (Tuesday, January 5th, 12-1:30pm, room C120):

On the agenda for our meeting will be to discuss our aims for improving both the Digital Library (DL) and the Teaching Resources information page in the Member Directory. The current plan is for the Educational Council Chair to attend the division meetings with members of the Executive Committee to explain to division officers how they can help to disseminate the objectives of the DL, including the benefits of including Teaching information on the website. The next steps in this process will be to build upon the searchable database, organized by teaching areas and subareas. Prior information provided by Dr. Bob Podolsky, the previous Chair of the Educational Council, includes the following:

2011 Newsletter appeal to members: “The Educational Council urges all SICB members to enter information about the courses they teach in the new “Teaching Information” section of the member data page. This information will be used to build a searchable database that will provide easy access to course webpages and contact information, will allow members to plan and organize teaching workshops and informal exchange, and will promote networking and course development for new faculty. To update your member information, choose “Directory” at the lower left of the [sicb.org](http://www.sicb.org) page, login, and choose “Update your record” near the top of the page. Creation of this valuable database depends entirely on all of our members entering and updating their teaching

information. Members at all levels who are not currently teaching are encouraged to enter their teaching interests.”

2012 Educational Council Report: “We are working to increase the society’s ability to organize and provide information on teaching expertise. The first step has involved adding a section for teaching information to each member’s information page, and sending out requests for members to provide this information... We hope this database will be used as an aid to networking and designing teaching-based workshops, symposia components, and Grand Challenges efforts.”

Suggested Educational Council members for 2018-2021:

In consultation with the Educational Council, I am putting forward the following nominations to fill positions on the SICB Educational Council starting at the end of the Portland meeting. All are current members. We have two positions to fill, with Sarah Boyer and Erika Iyengar rotating off of the Educational Council this year.

Position 1: Harry Itagaki (itagaki@kenyon.edu), Kenyon College. Harry’s nomination results from discussion with Lou Burnett and is drawn from the list of potential candidates put forth by the Executive Committee. Harry has accepted the nomination if the Executive Committee agrees on his appointment.

Position 2: Jason Davis (jdavis319@radford.edu), Radford University. Jason’s nomination results from Lynn “Marty” Martin, Editor of *ICB*.

In addition, we will have two Undergraduate Poster Display sessions (3-5pm and 5-7pm) on the first day of the annual meeting, during the registration period and prior to the Plenary Lecture.

The M. Patricia Morse Award for Excellence and Innovation in Science Education

An annual award given to a SICB member at any career stage for significant achievement in science education. This award honors Trish Morse, a past President of SICB, for her extraordinary achievements and contributions to the society’s mission of education. The SICB Educational Council will accept and evaluate nominations for this award. Nominators should submit the following materials in support of their nominee: the nominee’s current curriculum vitae, a one-page description of the nominee’s contributions to science education, and any additional supporting materials related to the nominee’s achievements in science education, along with three recommendation letters. Nominators are expected to submit at least one of the recommendation letters. Awardees are expected to write a brief (1500-2000 words) “Experiences in Science Education” article for the spring SICB newsletter following the annual conference, describing their personal achievements or another aspect of science education. Each year’s winner will be recognized in the preceding SICB fall newsletter and prior to the introduction of the Moore Lecturer at the annual conference. The file of nominated candidates will be kept for consideration for a total of three years, with the nominated candidate asked each year if they would like to update any aspect of the file before consideration for that year’s award. The Chair of the Educational Council may authorize funds to help support the winner’s attendance at that year’s meeting. Please send nominations for this award to the Chair of the Educational Council (Chair.EdCouncil@sicb.org).

The deadline for nominations is August 24th.

SICB Teaching and Learning Workshops

Established in 2013, the goal of the *Teaching and Learning X Workshops* (where *TALX* is pronounced “*talks*”) is to take advantage of the broad teaching expertise within SICB by giving members a forum to share their most innovative ideas for teaching in their respective disciplines.

The SICB Educational Council established *TALX* as a moniker for these popular teaching and learning workshops because it emphasizes the multi-disciplinary nature of the Society, in the sense that “X” is replaced with a different field or topic each year. Past workshops have included topics such as the implementation of Science Education Reform in Introductory Biology Courses, Evolution, Quantitative Biology, and K-12 Outreach. These roundtable-style workshops are designed to address the needs of SICB members with respect to the following: *understanding* innovative pedagogies that have been developed for science classrooms and laboratories, *implementing* new methods in the classroom, and *engaging* academic administrators so that they understand and support utilization of novel approaches to teaching. As part of the coordination of the workshop, applications should include the following specific information, along with any additional logistical considerations they foresee: space/location, timing, invited participants, refreshments, and an itemized budget. Past TALX workshops have generally been two hours in length, in the evening or during lunch, and they generally include refreshments; however, this is an informal and flexible opportunity and *all* ideas are welcome! The Chair of the Educational Council may authorize funds to help in support of the TALX workshop at each year's meeting. Please send application materials to Chair.EdCouncil@sicb.org. **The deadline for applications is June 1st.**

The John A. Moore Lectureship

The Moore lectureship was established in 1990 by the SICB Educational Council. The aim of this lecture series is to invite a nationally-recognized speaker who does not generally attend the SICB annual meeting to offer the society a new perspective on science education. While Professor Moore's work in the fields of embryology and genetics led to his election to the National Academy of Sciences, he is also well known as an educator and, in particular, for the creation of the *Science as a Way of Knowing* (SAAWOK) series. This series consisted of a set of essays and a book (*Science as a Way of Knowing: The Foundations of Modern Biology*) by John Moore that resulted from multi-day symposia by leading biologists held at the annual SICB (previously the American Society of Zoologists, ASZ) meetings from 1983-1994. The goals of SAAWOK for improving biology education remain at the forefront of science education today: to evolve entry level courses that emphasize concepts with materials consistent with the changing needs of students and society, to relate how scientific procedures lead to a better understanding of the natural world and to the solutions of important human problems, and to present biology as a relevant humanistic discipline. For more information on the SAAWOK series, please read the article describing their rich history by past SICB President, Trish Morse (<http://sicb.org/newsletters/nl04-2009/SICBNewsletter2009-04.pdf>).

The Moore Lecture is scheduled on the final day of the annual conference and is an hour-long presentation. Applications should include the following materials in support of nominees, which will be evaluated each year by the SICB Educational Council to select the Moore Lecturer: the nominee's current curriculum vitae, a one-page description of the nominee's contributions to science education, and any additional supporting materials related to the nominee's achievements in science education, along with up to three recommendation letters. Nominators are expected to submit at least one of the recommendation letters. The file of nominated candidates will be kept for consideration for a total of three years, with the nominated candidate asked each year if they would like to update any aspect of the file before consideration for that year's award. The Chair of the Educational Council may authorize funds to help support the winner's attendance at that year's meeting. Please send nomination materials for this lectureship to the Chair of the Educational Council (Chair.EdCouncil@sicb.org). **The deadline for nominations is August 24th.**

Appendix 5 – Membership Committee Report

Marcus Davis, Chair

Chair	Marcus Davis (01/2013-01/2016)
Member	Jeanette Yen (01/2014-01/2017)
Member	Sarah Berke (01/2015-01/2018)
Ex Officio-Secretary	Kathy Dickson

The primary role of the Membership Committee is to consider matters related to the recruitment of new members and the procedures and policies of membership in the Society. The Membership Committee is also responsible for reviewing the credentials of nominees for honorary memberships and make recommendations on their approval to the Executive Committee.

The Membership Committee met formally during the 2015 meeting in West Palm Beach. At that meeting, chaired by Jonathan Allen, we discussed the following:

1) Can we develop a mechanism for tracking membership demographic data, in particular student member changes to other categories (such as Full Member)?

- What types of data are available through the SICB database?
- Can this data inform SICB’s commitments towards diversity and inclusion?

2) To further this discussion, an accessory meeting between Jonathan Allen, Marcus Davis, Lou Burnett, Kathy Dickson, Heide Rohland, and webmaster Ruedi Birenheide occurred to discuss how membership data could be equitably and anonymously “mined” to best understand membership trends.

These discussions continued via email throughout 2015, with the recognition that these goals overlapped with the *ad hoc* committee formed by SICB President Peter Wainwright to study the professional outcomes of SICB students. Outgoing Membership Chair Marcus Davis is now a member of this new committee, chaired by Jake Socha, and will keep in close communication with the Membership Committee on progress.

In addition, the Membership Committee voted unanimously to support the Educational Council's nomination of Dr. Jay Labov as an Honorary Member of SICB and the nomination of Dr. Jarid Simons as an Honorary Member of SICB

Appendix 5 – Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC) Report 2015

Sean C. Lema, Chair

The SPDAC once again focused its efforts this year on finding ways to provide SICB’s student and postdoctoral researcher members with resources aimed at enhancing their career and scientific success. During the SICB Annual Meeting in Portland, the SPDAC will be working with SICB’s student and postdoctoral members through two main avenues: 1) the SPDAC Brown Bag Workshop, and 2) a SPDAC Informational Booth in the Exhibitor Hall.

This SPDAC Workshop at the Portland meeting will focus on the topic of “*Academic Transitions: Successfully Navigating from Undergraduate to Professor.*” The primary aim of this SPDAC Workshop is to help SICB’s student and postdoctoral members learn best practices and strategies for successfully navigating major changes during one’s academic training and career including the transitions from undergraduate student to a Master’s or PhD graduate program, from a graduate student to a postdoctoral researcher, and from a postdoc to a faculty position or job outside of academia. Given the diversity of training levels of SICB’s student and postdoctoral researcher members, the SPDAC decided that this workshop needed to cover several divergent subtopics associated with academic transitions including the following: Getting into Graduate School, Unwritten Rules for Success in Grad School, Finding a Postdoc, and Applying and Interviewing for Faculty Positions. In order to cover such varied subtopics, SPDAC is running this Workshop as a series of small discussion groups with each group led by a SICB member who has recent experience navigating that transition successfully in his or her own career. Several SICB members have kindly agreed to lead a small group discussion during this workshop, and the SPDAC would like to thank the following persons for volunteering their time and effort toward that end:

Dr. Jamie Cornelius, Eastern Michigan University
Dr. Misty Paig-Tran, California State University, Fullerton
Dr. Erik Sperling, Stanford University
Dr. Karen Maruska, Louisiana State University
Dr. Taylor Chappel, Stanford University
Dr. Gregory Cunningham, St. John Fisher College
Amanda Kahn, University of Alberta

The SPDAC will again be operating an informational booth in the Exhibitor Hall during the Portland meeting. This booth will be used to provide meeting attendees with information and handouts on topics relevant to SICB’s student and postdoc membership. Topics covered by these handouts include the following: how to write a CV, how to write a job cover letter, the do’s and don’ts of grant writing, the do’s and don’ts of submitting manuscripts, how to survive in academia, etc. The information contained within these handouts originated from the contributions of SICB members that participated in SPDAC workshops at previous annual meetings. Several of these resources are also provided on-line to SICB members via the SICB website.

In other activities, the SPDAC is making efforts to enhance the visibility of SICB’s student and postdoctoral resources (e.g., SICB funding opportunities, job board, etc.) via a Twitter account (@SICB_SPDAC) and a Facebook SPDAC page (www.facebook.com/sicbspdac). The SPDAC has tasked itself with finding ways to make these new social networking resources avenues for continued communication with SICB’s student and postdoctoral membership during the year. The SPDAC also completed its annual activity of reviewing and updating the “External Grants and Fellowships” resource on the SICB website (<http://www.sicb.org/grants/externalgrants.php>), which lists over 120 grant and fellowship opportunities of relevance to SICB members.

Appendix 5 – Student Support Committee Report Ryan L. Earley, Chair (DAB, DCE, DEE)

This year, we received 151 grant applications (132 GIAR, 19 FGST), a 21.85% increase from the 118 applications received last year. Twelve faculty grant reviewers, including the committee chair, reviewed all applications and the winners were announced during the SICB 2016 conference in Portland, OR. 38 applicants were awarded grants totaling \$39,999.65 (out of the \$40,000.00 budget). 34 GIAR were funded (\$33,542.15) and 4 FGST were funded (\$6,457.50)

As of January 7, 2016, Jonathan Allen and Brian Helmuth indicated that they would roll off the committee. We recruited 3 new members for the next review cycle (Bill Hoese, Monica Daley, Cory Williams). This leaves us with 13 committee members, which should be sufficient to manage the grants in next year's cycle. The new committee is:

John Bertram	jbertram@ucalgary.ca	2014-2016	U. Calgary	DCB, DVM
Christine Byrum	ByrumC@cofc.edu	2015-2017	College of Charleston	DEDB, DIZ
Monica Daley	mdaley@rvc.ac.uk	2016-2018	Royal Veterinary College	DCB, DVM
Cynthia Downs	cdowns@hamilton.edu	2015-2017	Hamilton College	DEDE, DEE
Ryan Earley	rlearley@ua.edu	2015-2018	University of Alabama	DAB, DCE, DEE
Tony Frankino	frankino@uh.edu	2014-2016	U. Houston	DAB, DEE, DEDB, DIZ
Bill Hoese	bhoese@fullerton.edu	2016-2018	CSU Fullerton	DAB, DVM
Jerry Husak	jerry.husak@stthomas.edu	2015-2017	U. St. Thomas	DAB, DEE, DVM
Matt Lovern	matt.lovern@okstate.edu	2015-2017	Oklahoma state	DAB, DCE, DCPB
Eric McElroy	McelroyE@cofc.edu	2014-2016	College of Charleston	DCB, DEE, DPCB, DVM
Marianne Moore	marianne.moore@asu.edu	2015-2017	Arizona State	DEDE, DCPB, DEE
James Strother	james.a.strother@gmail.com	2015-2017	Oregon State Univ	DCB, DCPB, DIZ, DNB, DVM
Cory Williams	ctwilliams@uaa.alaska.edu	2016-2018	University of Alaska	DAB? DCPB? DEE?

If needed, several potential committee members have been identified, and these folks will be contacted in the event that additional people roll off between now and the 2017 meeting and perhaps in anticipation of folks rolling off following the 2017 meeting:

- Rindy Anderson (Florida Atlantic University – DAB?, DNB?)
- Tonia Hsieh (Temple University – DCB, DVM)
- Michele Johnson (Trinity University – DAB, DEE)
- Mike Baltzley (Western Oregon University – DAB, DIZ, DNB)
- Justin McAlister (Holy Cross – DEE, DIZ)
- Angela Horner (CSU-San Bernardino – DCB, DCPB, DVM)

Previous Chair Remarks & Solutions

The previous chair indicated in her last report that the existing website for uploading and reviewing the student grants would have to migrate from Duke's server. The current committee chair inquired with the University of Alabama about maintaining the site but the University of Alabama indicated some hesitation. Therefore, the current committee chair worked with Ruediger Birenheide to establish an Administrative Page (<http://sicb.org/grants/gfreview/admin.php>) and a Reviewing Page

(<http://sicb.org/grants/gfreview/review.php>) interfaced with SICB's primary website. These pages worked beautifully on the first round and we hope to implement some changes that will streamline the reviewing process for next year. Those changes include:

- Adding a comment window so that reviewers can provide a short comment on each grant
- Coming up with a mechanism for distributing reviewer comments and scores to the students
- Adding to the grant applications a Statistics & Analysis section of less than 200 words to evaluate whether the students have a firm grasp on experimental design and data handling.
- Adding a 'Scholarship' radio button for the review process so that the committee can evaluate scholarship independent of the other evaluation categories.

Recommendations from Previous Chair to Discuss (if not already implemented):

- Consider having students submit a short report, graphic, or some other brief post of the outcome of these funds.
- Add a flag to the SICB program so that we can see which student talks were funded by this program.
- Add a flag to the nametag to show grant recipient status.

Remarks from the Student Support Committee Meeting

Review Process

1. The Chair will work with the webmaster to revise the online guidelines to inform students that they should include information regarding statistical analysis and experimental design.
2. The committee voted to eliminate the comments window associated with review.
3. The committee voted to generate a mechanism for distributing reviewer scores to the students; this was conducted by the Chair for the 2015-2016 round of proposals (all students received their scores and a rubric for interpreting the scores).
4. The committee discussed the possibility of including a Statistics & Analysis section of less than 200 words to evaluate whether the students have a firm grasp on experimental design and data handling. The committee indicated interest in continuing this discussion via e-mail and considering, for example, how proposals that conduct more descriptive research would be evaluated.
5. The committee discussed adding a "Scholarship" question to the list of review questions. The general feeling was that this would be redundant with some of the other review criteria but the Chair would like to continue discussion about this via e-mail.
6. The committee voted to add a "Divisional Affiliation" button to the grant application
7. The committee voted to delete the "How well qualified are you to review this proposal" button from the grant application
8. The committee discussed having students upload a graphical abstract in addition to the written text; this suggestion was voted down.
9. The committee discussed streamlining the online review interface, particularly allowing the reviewers to see the "Priority" score and a "Cumulative" numerical score for each proposal

as they proceed through the review process. This would allow the reviewers to compare reviews as they go. The Chair will work with the webmaster to make this happen.

Award Process

1. The committee indicated some concern about students using GIAR funds for travel expenses. The Chair will ensure that the online instructions make it clear to students that the GIAR should *not* be used to cover travel expenses. This will become part of the review criteria.

Other Discussions

1. The committee indicated interest in running a Workshop at the 2017 meeting to discuss how to generate a competitive GIAR/FGST proposal; the Chair will discuss this possibility with Richard Blob
2. The committee discussed having previous awardees participate in the Workshop. Also, to generate some mechanism of accountability, the committee discussed having previous awardees upload a list of presentations/publications 1-2 years post-award. The committee also discussed making it explicitly clear that the students should acknowledge SICB support in any presentation/publication that results from the award.
3. The Chair will discuss adding a flag to the SICB program so that we can see which student talks were funded by this program.
4. The Chair will discuss adding a flag to the nametag of the previous year's awardees for purposes of recognizing past recipients of the GIAR/FGST fund.

Appendix 5 – Public Affairs Committee Report 2015

Molly Jacobs, Chair

Committee membership (year indicates end of term on PAC)

Molly Jacobs (Chair) '18

Thom Sanger '18

David Hu '17

Tonia Hsieh '17

Mike Simon '16

Jake Socha '16

Sherry Tamone (Ex officio)

Kathy Dickson (Ex officio)

The PAC is currently discussing potential new members, and plans to submit a recommendation to the Executive Committee shortly.

The committee met four times, in person on Jan 6 and via Skype on June 2, September 15, and November 3.

Summary of Committee Activity in 2015:

Annual Meeting Workshops:

2015: *Speak Your Science: How to Engage with Policy Makers*

Panelists included Dr. Jason O. Day, Legislative Director for Representative Daniel Lipinski (IL-3); Dr. Meredith White, postdoctoral researcher with the Bigelow Laboratory for Ocean Sciences and a member of Maine's recently formed Ocean Acidification Study Commission; and Dr. Michael Simon, Principle Data Scientist with Arcadia Healthcare Solutions, former AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow. The workshop was well-attended, and the audience responded well to the panelists. The workshop was organized by Mike Simon and Molly Jacobs.

2016: *Explaining the Importance of “Oddball” Science: Strategies for Public Outreach”*

Scheduled for January 5th, 8:00-10:00 pm

We are cosponsoring this workshop along with the Symposium on the Morphological Diversity of Intromittent Organs. The workshop will help members of the SICB community learn about and discuss effective ways to make the value of basic and seemingly esoteric research clear to a broad audience. David Hu is the point person for the PAC on the workshop, which will be open to the public and include an ice cream social.

Organizers/Facilitators/Backstage Presences:

- Diane Kelly
- Brandon Moore

Panel Moderator:

- Patricia Brennan: Reproductive biology scientist, basic science defender

Panelists:

- Marc Abrahams: Founder of the Ig Nobel awards, science humorist
- Kayt Sukel: Journalist, science writer
- Brian Langerhans: fish gonopodia/effects of human perturbation on evolution
- Duncan Irschick: gecko motion researcher; Geckskin inventor

Press Releases to Advertise the Annual Meeting

2015: Press releases issued through Newswise for the 2015 meeting had many hits, ranging from 712 to 2161. The top release was the one on baleen whales, with disco clams a close second. The ‘Disco Clams’ story was also a featured story on the front page of Newswise on January 5th.

2016: The PAC selected eight abstracts to feature in press releases. Our selection process was similar to that in 2015: a PAC member (Mike Simon) attended the programming meeting in October, and worked with the program officers to develop a list of approximately 40 candidate abstracts for the press releases. The entire committee then worked together to winnow the list down to eight first choice abstracts and five ‘back-ups’. The list was approved by the executive committee. One of the scientists on our list turned us down because they didn’t want to attract publicity prior to publication, and so we replaced it with one of our back-ups.

Press releases were written by alumni of the student journalism intern program. Jake Socha served as the editor for press releases. The writing process is now complete, and the press releases have been submitted to Newswise (available to journalists, but embargoed until the meeting).

SICB 2016 Featured Abstracts (First author and title):

Melissa Bernardo (Wesleyan University): “Nutrient-mediated manipulation of host feeding behavior by a parasitoid”

Louise Page (University of Victoria): “Built to break: developmental assembly of a sea slug’s autotomy plane”

Brandon Jackson (Longwood University): “Dog-fighting bees: 3D tracking of nest defense flight performance in eastern carpenter bees, *Xylocopa virginica*”

Michael Hart (Simon Fraser University): “Selection on coevolving human gamete recognition genes”

Laura Bagge (Duke University): “The limits of an invisibility cloak: transparent shrimp become opaque after multiple tail-flipping escapes”

Dale Broder (Colorado State): “Authentic science with live organisms can transform evolution education”

Hollie Putnam (University of Hawaii): “Ocean acidification influences DNA methylation and phenotypic plasticity in environmentally susceptible corals”

Zach Stahlschmidt (University of the Pacific): “Eating increases oxidative damage”

Student Journalism Program

2015: We worked with four student journalists. The program kicked off with breakfast on the first day of the West Palm Beach conference. The stories were completed by April 2014 and published on the front page of the SICB website, where they remained throughout the year. The stories are:

Chipmunks on the move: new ways to measure behavior help researchers explore uneven impacts of climate change

By Laura Booth, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Environmental Biology, Columbia University

Where will lightning strike next?

By Ieva Roznere, Department of Evolution, Ecology, and Organismal Biology, The Ohio State University

Hamsters use a novel approach to control aggression

By Devin Merullo, Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin-Madison

The mind of the matter: social interactions contribute to intelligence in birds

By Alexis Lanza, Department of Biology, University of Florida

2016: We experienced a record number of applications (32), and have recruited six student journalists for the 2016 meeting. Those students are:

Ashley Booth, Nicholls State University

Sara ElShafie, University of California, Berkeley

Phoebe Edwards, University of Toronto

Callum Kingwell, Cornell University

Kaitlyn Lowder, University of California, San Diego

Dinesh Natesan, KTH Royal Institute of Technology (Sweden)

Other Activities

1. Letter from SICB to the Supreme Court defending the importance of diversity in the sciences (appended). The PAC spearheaded this effort and drafted the letter, which was edited by the executive committee and then sent by SICB president Peter Wainwright on behalf of the society.
2. Advised executive committee on SICB's potential response to the passage of H.R. 1806, the reauthorization of the *America Competes* act. The revised bill has been strongly criticized by the scientific community because it would reduce funding, direct funding away from climate science, and change some of NSF's grant review processes. However, the Senate version of the bill is still in early stages (but likely to be very different), and President Obama has stated that he would veto the House version. The executive committee decided to keep following this important issue but hold off involvement until a later time, and asked the PAC to help keep track of the progress.

Major Goals for next year:

1. Discuss SICB's social media presence and figure out role for PAC
2. Expanded publicity for the student journalism articles – could they be published in ICB, for example?

SICB
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd, Suite 402
McLean VA 22101

21 December 2015

Supreme Court of the United States
1 First Street, NE
Washington, DC 20543

During recent oral arguments before the Supreme Court in the case of Fisher vs. University of Texas, Justice Antonin Scalia suggested that many black college students would be better off at “less advanced” institutions of higher education. The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB)¹ unequivocally rejects this statement.

As professional scientists, the members of SICB strive to improve diversity in the classroom, the laboratory, and in professional scientific societies such as our own. SICB’s mission is to foster research, education, public awareness and understanding of living organisms from molecules and cells to ecology and evolution. SICB also encourages interdisciplinary cooperative research that integrates across scales, and new models and methodologies to enhance research and education. Diversity is fundamental to every part of this mission.

Diversity within the sciences is critical to advancing the frontiers of science and to improving science education and communication, because it allows us access to unique ideas, perspectives, and human resources. Although we believe that affirmative action alone is insufficient to achieve diversity, we reject Justice Scalia’s suggestion that students from under-represented groups leave STEM fields disproportionately because they lack ability or competence. Rather than lay the blame for current inequities at the feet of those experiencing discrimination, those interested in undoing pervasive injustices should seek to pair affirmative action with reforms that make the sciences more welcoming to students from underrepresented groups.

SICB is proud to join its collective voice to those of other scientists and the conscientious public who are making a stand for the importance of diversity to the future of research and education in STEM fields.

¹ SICB represents 2,500 faculty, students, and other professionals in the biological sciences and beyond, across all fifty states and around the world

Appendix 5 – Development Committee Report 2015

Dar Jorgensen, Chair

The Development Committee: Ray Huey, Dar Jorgensen, Karen Martin, Bob Roer, Brian Tsukimura, Karen Burnett, and Brett Burk (*ex officio*)

In West Palm Beach, the following Committee members assembled for a formal meeting: Dar Jorgensen (Chair), Karen Martin, Bob Roer, Brian Tsukimura, and Brett Burk (*ex officio*). Ray Huey could not attend the meeting. General discussions centered on Committee events at the West Palm meeting and preliminary planning for the Portland meeting.

1. Brian Tsukimura joined the Committee formally in West Palm and it was determined that another seat on the Committee would be created. Two candidates had been nominated by the Executive Committee and Karen Burnett was invited to fill the open position. She will begin a term on the Committee formally at the Portland meeting. Dar Jorgensen had been asked in 2014 to continue to sit on the Committee for another 3-year term, staying on as Chair through the end of the Portland meeting.
2. The Committee had general discussions in West Palm regarding the Endowment funds and how best to approach targeted asks to increase corpus amounts of funds. The Committee will work with the Treasurer (who sits on the Committee) as it moves forward with plans to build the Endowment. One idea that was discussed was to arrange for individuals to be able to “text” a donation amount at one of the lecture events in Portland. While this idea is still extant, it was decided to wait until the idea could be explored more fully.

Through mid-November 2015 (and post-West Palm), individual donations to funds were pretty evenly distributed. The Wenner fund saw no individual donations although this may change by the end of the Portland meeting. The Bern fund enjoyed relatively high activity particularly in the fall, growing by over \$18,000 with several gifts at the \$1000 level and one gift at \$10,000. Donations through the end of mid-November 2015 (this will have changed by the time of the Portland meeting as donations made through the end of the meeting will be included in the 2015 totals) stood at nearly \$25,000. Merchandise sales at West Palm netted about \$1000 (\$635 of that amount went to the Endowment).
3. At the West Palm meeting, we continued a donor recognition program. Ribbons (that were affixed to badges) identified donors at five different levels, and these donors were identified in the spring 2015 Society newsletter.
4. The Committee has planned a number of activities and events for the Portland meeting: 1) a continuation of the donor recognition program, 2) logoed shirts will be available for purchase, 3) an evening social event (the 3rd annual Lori Strong pub crawl) is being planned, and 4) a wine & cheese social has been scheduled:
 - Donors to the Endowment since the end of the West Palm meeting (and through the end of the Portland meeting) this year, again, will find a ribbon, color-coded to indicate donation amount, included in their registration packets. The ribbons can be attached to badges. All 2015 donors will be identified in the spring 2016 Society newsletter.
 - We have printed meeting-specific, logoed t-shirts that will be on sale at the Portland meeting. Polo shirts that bear the Society logo will also be available. The Committee will

explore the idea in Portland of having other logoed items that can be marketed throughout the year.

- The Committee will be hosting a small (by invitation only) social event at the Portland meeting to honor a small group of donors who made substantial contributions to the Endowment fund in 2015.

We have been asked by the Executive Committee to move forward on the idea of mounting a capital campaign over the next period of time to build the Society's endowment. This will be one of the principal Committee tasks in Portland.

The Committee wishes to extend profound thanks to the good people at Burk Inc. for all of their help over the previous year. Lori Strong, in particular, has been instrumental in helping us plan Development events for the Portland meeting and we extend special thanks to her.

Appendix 5 – Broadening Participation Committee Report 2015

Michele Nishiguchi, Chair

BP meeting in Washington, D.C., September 21, 2015

Michele Nishiguchi and Brian Tsukimura attended an invitation-only Broadening Participation (BP) meeting held September 21, 2015, at the Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) campus in Bethesda, MD, sponsored by The Society for Developmental Biology (SDB). The meeting was facilitated by Dr. Ida Chow, who is the lead co-PI for the NSF BP funded grant to SDB. The purpose of the meeting was to have the four currently funded BP grantees (SDB, The American Physiological Society-APS, and The Council for Undergraduate Research-CUR) present their ongoing work in broadening participation in their societies for the past three years. NSF Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS) representatives were also present, and updated the group on funding opportunities that may be available next year for societies as well as other scientific groups. SDB also invited representatives from other scientific societies to get their feedback and also provide them with information on types of programs that are being implemented at the undergraduate level to increase diversity within the societies.

Four invited speakers were at the meeting to give their insights for broadening participation. The first speaker was Dr. Patricia Campbell, from Campbell-Kibler Associates. Her presentation focused on “What’s happening collecting and using data for program assessment and improvement.” Dr. Campbell is best known for her publication “The AAUW Report: How schools shortchange girls” and her website www.BeyondRigor.org, which provides tips to improve the quality of evaluations and research done on diverse populations. Dr. Campbell’s presentation focused on how we design methods to ascertain trends within our universities and societies, and to also obtain meaningful information from assessment. This is especially true when targeting underrepresented groups (URGs), for which there is limited information available. The second invited speaker was Dr. Steven Lee, who is the graduate diversity officer for STEM disciplines at the University of California, Davis. Dr. Lee’s talk, “Understanding and minimizing unconscious biases in the STEM disciplines,” presented interesting insights as to how we have unconscious bias starting from the application process of an incoming graduate student, to tenure and promotion decisions and beyond. Dr. Long engaged the group using an evidence-based activity, which focused on unconscious bias. The third speaker, Dr. Alison Hall, is the deputy director of the Division of Training, Workforce Development, and Diversity at the National Institute of General Medical Sciences, NIH. Dr. Hall presented data that the NIH has been collecting over the past 15 years for URGs, but only from their programs that are offered through the NIH. Dr. Hall mentioned that it would be best if there was a way to combine all the information from multiple organizations that fund URGs in STEM disciplines. Dr. Hall also mentioned the programs that the NIH funds in her division that are specific for URG, from the graduate stage continuing through to the principal investigator. The last speaker was Dr. Oni Celestin, who is a AAAS fellow in the Division of Integrative Organismal Systems at NSF. Dr. Celestin mentioned a possible funding opportunity for societies through the NSF called INCLUDES which will be a comprehensive national initiative using collective impact on preparation, participation, advancement, and contributions of all STEM scientists and students who have traditionally been underserved and/or underrepresented. This initiative is from the Director’s office, and will be NSF wide (instead of just in IOS). The budget for this program will be approximately \$15M, with \$1.4M going to BIO (including IOS). Some of the target objectives include impacting inclusion on a large-scale basis, such as professional and social networks, and using effective technologies designed for collective impact, empowering all youth for STEM disciplines by providing learning opportunities for middle grades and beyond, and targeting researchers from URGs along their entire career path.

Finally, the PIs from three of the funded societies reported on how their programs were running. SDB co-PI Dr. Graciela Unguez mentioned how their program of training undergraduates early in their career (freshman/sophomore) has provided those students with many skills and experiences that helped them advance toward a graduate or professional school degree. Three participants from the program were present to talk about their experiences in this program, Dylan Faltine-Gonzalez, an SDB fellow, Dr. Victor Varner, lab mentor, and Dr. Carmen Domingo, academic mentor. Each summarized their experiences and insights about the program, and how well “Choose Development” worked for themselves and their mentees. Additionally, Christine Weston, who is the “Choose Development” evaluator, provided comments about each of the participants’ experiences from the past two years. Brooke Brothers from APS gave an update on their program, “Broadening participation through research experiences and professional socialization,” and also had two participants present to speak about their experiences - IOSP fellow Lillian Horin and Dr. Rudy Ortiz, who was her research host. Both mentioned how this program gave Lillian experiences that have now led her to a career path in STEM. Finally, Dr. Mary Crowe gave an update on CUR activities, which were not well attended this past year due to high costs and lack of advertising. She hopes to provide better workshops that are more affordable to faculty who would like to attend, but do not have the funds for this type of meeting.

Portland Oregon, 2016 activities

SICB 2016 meeting activities

The Broadening Participation Committee will sponsor one workshop at the annual SICB meeting in 2016. The workshop leader will be Drs. Sharlene Santana and Michele Nishiguchi. Both will speak about how to integrate diversity awareness into science institutions, from the bottom up. The workshop will be held on January 6th from 12:00 to 1:30 pm. Other activities will include our meet and greet social, held on January 3rd at 5-6 PM, the BP committee meeting (7-8 AM on January 4th), and the BP social on January 6th at The Albita.

Appendix 6 – Reports by the Chairs of all 11 Divisions:

Annual Report of the DAB – 2015

Chair: Diana Hews 1/2013 – 1/2016

Secretary: Michele Johnson 1/2015 – 1/2018

Program Officer: Allison Welch 1/2011 – 1/2014; 1/2014 – 1/2017

Student/Postdoc Representative: Helen Chmura 1/2015 – 1/2018

Division Posts: This is my third year as Chair of the DAB. The current Student/Post-doctoral Affairs Committee Rep. is Helen Chmura, and the Incoming Chair-elect is Jenny Gumm who starts her term at the end of this 2016 meeting.

Meeting statistics, current and future symposia (notes from Alison Welch PO): See also table 1. At the 2015 West Palm Beach meeting the DAB cosponsored the following symposia:

- 1) Neuroecology: Neural Mechanisms of Sensory and Motor Processes that Mediate Ecologically Relevant Behaviors (DAB, DCB, DCE, DEE)
- 2) Integrative Biology of the Crocrodilia (DAB, DCPB, DEDB, DNB, DEE & DPCB);
- 3) Thinking About Change: An Integrative Approach for Examining Cognition in a Changing World (DAB, DCE & DEE)
- 4) Neurohormones, Brain and Behavior: a Comparative Approach to Exploring Rapid Neuroendocrine Function. (DCE, DAB & DCPB)
- 5) Workshop- Leading Students and Faculty to Quantitative Biology Through Active Learning (SICB-wide; DAB, DCB, DCPB, & DVM)

Secretary Michele Johnson began work in the DAB Secretary's position. As Secretary, Michele also oversees the Best Student Presentation (BSP) awards for the division. With her guidance, the DAB Executive Committee continued to refine the structure of the new BSP oral session and the mechanisms of solicitation and selection. This year we decided to have the extended abstract submitted at the same time as the SICB abstract; last year's separation created too much confusion and necessitated a great deal of additional communication between the applicants and the Secretary.

In this past year, we have established a new DAB Facebook page to more effectively communicate with our members, and we've enhanced our divisional newsletter to include more photographs and research updates from the membership.

DAB BSP Awards: For the 2015 competition at the West Palm Beach meetings, the DAB had 30 talk entrants; seven finalists were selected to present in one oral session, based upon a judging panel's evaluation of an extended abstract submitted in September. In the poster BSP competition we had 32 entrants. The winner of each competition receives \$150 and a one-year subscription to the journal *Ethology*.

The winner of DAB's Best Student Presentation award in the oral category at the West Palm Beach 2015 meetings was **Gavin Leighton**, for his talk on "*Genomic relatedness predicts investment in a public good.*" Leighton is in the Department of Biology at the University of Miami.

The winner of DAB's Best Student Presentation in the poster category was **Robin Costello**, for her presentation: "*Effects of anthropogenic noise on male signaling behavior and female phonotaxis in *Oecanthus tree crickets*.*" Costello is in the Department of Biology at the University of Virginia.

DAB is one of the three Divisions that may also choose to award the Adrian Wenner Award for Strong Inference, and this year **Brent Stoffer** was selected for this honor for his talk, "*Experience matters: the effects of the social environment on mate choice plasticity in a wolf spider.*" Stoffer is in the Department of Biological Sciences at the University of Cincinnati.

During Fall 2015, the DAB Executive Committee and Judges evaluated 20 extended abstracts to select the finalists for the 2016 Best Student Oral Presentation award. Congratulations are extended to the seven finalists: Alexandra Bentz (University of Georgia), Jennifer Hellman (The Ohio State University), Carl Keiser (University of Pittsburgh), Isaac Ligocki (The Ohio State University), Yuxiang Lui (University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill), Peter Marting (Arizona State University) and Avery Russell (University of Arizona). Their presentations will be given in Session 30 on Monday Jan 4, 2016, at 1:30 pm - 3:00 pm in Room B115. We will also have 28 students compete in the Best Student Poster Presentation, with a subset of these posters presented in each of three poster sessions. Judges for the Oral BSP competition will be Diana Hews, Allison Welch, Michele Johnson, Erica Westerman, and Jenny Gumm.

Next Business Meeting. Our DAB Business Meeting for the 2016 Portland meeting will be on Monday, January 4 at 5:45 pm in room B112, followed by a joint DAB/DNB social in "Lobby B" at 6:30-8:00 pm. At the business meeting we will announce the winners of the Oral BSP competition. We also will solicit suggestions from the membership and then vote on renaming the Oral Best Student Paper competition. We seek names of noted animal behaviorists that exemplify the SICB.

Submitted by, Diana Hews, Allison Welch, Michelle Johnson, Helen Chmura.

Table 1. DAB activity over the past 3 years assembled by Allison Welch, DPO of DAB.

Categories	2013, San Francisco	2014, Austin *	2015, West Palm Beach
Oral presentations in behaviorally-themed sessions (# Talks / # Sessions)	48/9	77/12	65/10
Posters in behaviorally-themed sessions	54	58	68
Presentations in other sessions by authors with DAB or ABS affiliation	61	102	74
Entrants in DAB's best student presentation competitions (oral, poster)	63	50	46
DAB co-sponsored Society wide / Regular symposia	3/3	1/5	2/3

* For the 2014 meeting, the DAB changed its BSP format of Oral talks to an invited competition based upon an extended abstract that was submitted in the fall.

DCB Report to the Executive Committee, SICB 2016.

Melina Hale, Chair

The Division of Comparative Biomechanics has had a busy year with ups and downs.

The passing of Steven Vogel was felt deeply in the Division of Comparative Biomechanics and was a sad end to the year. The division's best student poster award was named the Steven Vogel Award for the Best Student Poster in Biomechanics in 2015 we were glad to have had a chance to share that news with Steve. We are in the process of considering other ways to celebrate Steve's many contributions.

The Division's Best Student Paper Award was also named in 2015 and, in a lovely turn of events with tied votes for Mimi Koehl and Stephen Wainwright, it is now called the Mimi A. R. Koehl and Stephen A. Wainwright Award for the Best Student Presentation in biomechanics.

2016 will be the second year DCB has run a special Best Student Paper and Poster Sessions. Talks and posters for those sessions were selected from presentations entered to compete through an extended abstract process. This approach was a huge success in 2015 with a lot of excitement around the best presentation sessions. The sessions were great community events with a packed audience and served as an impressive showcase of terrific student research.

The Division did not give a Gans Award in 2015, due to the small number of nominees. The fall off in nominations was concerning and this year we worked hard to encourage more. For the 2016 award we had an outstanding group of nominees and some tough choices. It would be great if we could enhance the culture of nominations and would love to hear the experiences of other divisions. The Gans Award Committee, John H. Long (chair, Vassar), Stacey Coombs (U.C. Davis) and Rachel Merz (Swarthmore) who worked with me on nominee evaluations, did a terrific job working through the competitive cohort of nominees. As a committee we also discussed the description of the award. One Gans award can be given per year either to an outstanding junior scientist for distinguished contributions to the field or for "the single most significant contribution published in the past year" in biomechanics to a scientist at any rank. This year nominations in both categories competed for the award. The process raised questions for us over whether the second category of award could be better framed. It is unclear whether this would be possible given the stipulations of the endowment but we think it should be examined.

For a number of years, Steve Vogel and Rachel Merz have served as co-editors for the biomechanics teaching materials in the SICB digital library. During this time they have provided important leadership and excellent curation. The Division is incredibly appreciative of their efforts. They would like to turn the responsibility for the site over to the Division. We are currently working on a plan for this and for increasing contributions to and use of the site.

This past year we held elections for secretary and program officer. Andie Ward (Adelphi University) won reelection as secretary and Jake Socha (Virginia Tech) is our new program officer, taking over from Joe Thompson (Franklin and Marshall). DCB is very appreciative of the efforts of Laura Miller (UNC) and Mark Westneat (U. Chicago) who served on the nominating committee and of Joe for his great work in programming.

In addition to division elections, Sandy Kawano (postdoc, NIMBioS) has been appointed as our new student and postdoc. representative. Sandy takes over from Nick Gidmark (postdoc., U. Chicago) who is ending his three-year term and has been an important voice in the division.

One of the issues I was interested in raising when I ran for chair of DCB was our opportunity for outreach to local communities at the site of the annual meeting. Middle school and high school students frequently prepare posters for science fairs yet never have the opportunity to see poster presentations of scientists. Last year I was so impressed by the undergraduate posters put up on the first day of the meeting and it seems like that might be an excellent opportunity for a class of local high school students to come through and experience a poster session and meet college students, people close in age to them, who are pursuing science. I think there would be a way to organize an outreach event like this inexpensively that would be of high value both to the local community and to our own students and the society.

DCE Chair Annual Report 2015-2016

The 2015 DCE Best Student Oral Presentation competition (Aubrey Gorbman Award) ran as a dedicated session for a second year. We had a better student participation in the new format for the Gorbman competition (17 applications which resulted in 7 people chosen to compete) than the previous year (which had only three competitors). The Aubrey Gorbman Best Oral Presentation was awarded to **Darcy Ernst**; Honorable Mentions: **Doug Barron** and **Kayla Titali**. The Lynn Riddiford Award for Best Poster Presentation was awarded to **Holly Hennin**; Honorable Mention: **Allison Bailey**.

The increased number of applications may be because we dropped the requirement of an extended abstract. We will continue to only require the normal length abstract to be considered for the competition. For the 2016 meeting, we had 18 applications and chose 8 finalists for the dedicated student presentation session which will occur on the first day of presentations.

DCE is co-sponsoring 6 symposia this meeting that range from transcriptomics, neuroendocrinology, morphology, evolutionary endocrinology to climate change.

The **Bern Lecturer** will be Professor **Elizabeth Adkins-Regan**, Professor of Psychology and Department of Neurobiology at Cornell University. Professor Adkins-Regan is the President of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, was Editor of *Hormones and Behavior* and *Proceedings of the Royal Society B*, and is a Fellow in three societies, American Society for the Advancement of Science, American Psychological Society, and the Animal Behavior Society. Dr. Adkins-Regan is internationally recognized for her ground-breaking research in the neuroendocrinology of social behavior. Her work is iconic in its comparative and evolutionary approach to exploring the hormonal and neural mechanisms of behavior. She did seminal research describing the hormonal organization and activation of sexually dimorphic reproductive behaviors in birds. Her works continues to be wide-ranging: encompassing effects of yolk steroids on offspring, hormonal effects on neural plasticity and morphology, and the endocrine and neural mechanisms involved in mate choice, sexual orientation, and socially monogamous pairing behavior. She has published over 150 scientific articles and book chapters and is the author of *Hormones and Animal Social Behavior*. We are delighted that Dr. Adkins-Regan accepted our invitation to give the 2016 Bern Lecture entitled: *Comparative Endocrinology of Social Monogamy*.

Elections were held this spring for the Chair and Secretary positions in our division. Congratulations to Chair-Elect **Loren Buck** (University of Alaska) and Secretary-Elect **Sharon Lynn** (The College of Wooster)!

DCE initiated an aggressive fund-raising campaign for the Bern Fund this year. We contacted many former post-docs and graduate students of Professor Bern. We raised about \$22,000 in the last year to bring the Bern Fund to \$32,645. I wish to enthusiastically and gratefully thank all the donors who helped us meet the necessary threshold amount to maintain the Bern Fund. I especially want to thank Dr. Richard Nishioka, a former post-doctoral fellow of Professor Bern,

who has especially helpful in putting me in contact with people (and for his own generous donation). His efforts resulted in our obtaining a large donation of \$10,000 from Kazuhiro Hashimoto, Chairman, and Kochi Hashimoto, President, of the Zenyaku Kogyu Co. Other donors in this last year are: Michael Moore, Pei-San Tsai, Mary Mendonça, Lauren Bern, Darwin Jorgensen, Josep Planas, Menetake Shimuzu, Duncan McKenzie, Akihiro Hara, Shizuo Kimura, Jumpie Enami, Sherry Tamone, James Clegg, Rosemary Knapp, Michael Romero, Ignacio Moore, Erica Crespi, Christine Lattin, Sara O'Brien, William Klitz, Kevin Foskett, Raphael Cruz Guzman, Stephanie Grum, Maria Kivel, Gopalan Unithan, Elaine Alarias. Many others have contributed over the last 5 years. DCE really appreciates all the contributions, and we hope more people will donate to maintain this important seminar series to honor Howard's memory. The DCE Executive Committee continues to petition the SICB Executive Committee to allow us to start a crowd sourcing site to keep the momentum and bring the Fund to even higher levels.

Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry

2015 Chair Report

Submitted by Stephen Secor, Chair DCPB

DCPB officer nominations and elections

DCPB held a single election for Secretary for 2015. Nominees included Marshall McCue (St. Mary's University) and Robin Warne (Southern Illinois University). Following spring elections, Robin Warne was elected Secretary with his two-year term starting following the 2016 meeting. Nominations for Chair-Elect and Program Officer will be sought early in 2016 to start in 2017 to replace Inna Sokolova and Jason Podrabsky, respectively.

DCPB Finances

As of June 30, 2015, there was a balance of about \$14,421 in unrestricted funds. However this may include \$9000 that was allocated to APS for the 2014 Intersociety meeting held in San Diego.

Additional resources for 2015:

\$2000 from SICB for symposia support
\$300 from SICB for support of student awards
\$800 from SICB for divisional social
\$1000 from annual meeting funds for Bartholomew Award social
\$5028 from George Bartholomew Award fund
\$2250 in divisional dues (projected)

Expenditures (allocated and projected for 2016)

\$2000 for symposia support for 2016 meeting
\$300 for support of 2016 student awards
\$5200 Bartholomew Award/divisional social (projected)
\$1500 Travel, housing, and registration for Vincent Careau (Bartholomew Award recipient)

There is an estimated balance of \$16799 (\$7799 if \$9000 is yet allocated to APS) that will carry into 2016.

SICB Meetings

DCPB had a strong presence at the 2015 meeting held in West Palm Beach, Florida, with 98 oral presentations in 14 physiology-themed sessions with topics that included Thermal Physiology, Muscle Physiology, Ocean Acidification, Metabolism, Respiration, Reproduction, Osmotic and Ionic Regulation, and Cellular and Molecular Biology; in addition to 94 posters on physiological topics in poster sub-sessions. There were more than 150 presentations given by authors that acknowledge DCPB as their primary affiliation. In addition, there were 79 entrants in DCPB Best Student Paper competitions (oral and poster).

The 2016 meeting in Portland will include nearly 148 abstracts for the presenters noted DCPB as their primary affiliation, and of these nearly 50% are contributed by students. Over 110 oral presentations will be given in 10 sessions representing a diversity of physiology topics including: energetics and metabolism, thermal physiology, water and ion homeostasis, and digestive, respiratory and reproductive physiology. In addition, 75 posters will be presented in physiologically-themed poster sessions.

DCPB support of symposia:

For the 2015 SICB meeting, DCPB co-sponsored six symposia, including the SICB-wide symposia “Towards a general framework for predicting animal movement speeds in nature” and “Leading students and faculty to quantitative biology through active learning”, together with the symposia “Physiology in changing landscapes: an integrative perspective for conservation biology” (with DCE), “Integrative biology of the crocodylian” (with DAB, DEDB, DNB, DEE and DPCB), “Neurohormones, brain and behavior: a comparative approach to exploring rapid neuroendocrine function” (with DCE and DAB), and “Chemicals that organize ecology: towards a greater integration of chemoreception, neuroscience, organismal biology, and chemical ecology” (with DNB and DIZ).

In 2015, DCPB also supported the symposium “Phenotypic flexibility of energetics in a seasonal world” held at the ICCPB meeting in Karków, Poland, August 23-28.

For 2016 in Portland, DCPB will co-sponsor five symposia, including: Life on the edge: the biology of organisms inhabiting extreme environments” (with DVM), “Extraocular , nonvisual, and simple photoreceptors” (with DIZ, DNB, and AMS), “Integrative and comparative biology of venom” (with DEE, DIZ, DNB, and DPCB), “Beyond the mean: biological impact of changing patterns of temperature variation” (with DAB, DCE, DEE, and DIZ), and “Tapping the power of crustacean transcriptomics to address grand challenges in comparative biology” (with TCS, DCE, DEDB, DIZ, and DNB).

George Bartholomew Award

The 2015 George Bartholomew Award was presented to Dr. Jodie Rummer of James Cook University in Australia. Dr. Rummer gave the George Bartholomew Lecture “Lessons from the most successful vertebrates: Coping with stress and maintaining performance in a changing world” on January 4th, followed by a social hosted by DCPB. The George Bartholomew Award Committee for that year included Sheila Patek (Chair), Adam Summers, Alison Sweeney, Marty Martin, and Robert Cox. Dr. Rummer was presented with a plaque and a gift from Sable Systems International.

The 2016 George Bartholomew Award winner is Dr. Vincent Careau of the University of Ottawa. Dr. Careau will give the George Bartholomew Lecture “Interfacing energetics, behavioral ecology and evolution to illuminate blind spots and elicit discovery” at 7 pm on January 4th to be followed by a reception hosted by DCPB. Dr. Careau completed his B.S. degree in Biology at Université de Sherbrooke, his M.S. degree at the Université du Québec à Montréal, and his

Ph.D. at the Université de Sherbrooke. He has held postdoctoral positions at the University of California Riverside and in Australia as an Alfred Deakin Postdoctoral Research Fellow. He is currently an assistant professor at the University of Ottawa. Dr. Careau's research program involves the combination of several approaches (quantitative genetics, comparative methods, experimental evolution, and field studies) to examine trait co-variation across multiple levels of organization (e.g., intra-individual, inter-individual, inter-population, and inter-specific levels). He studies co-adaptations among metabolic rates, performance, behavior, and life-history strategies favored under different ecological conditions. Vincent was selected from nominations by the George Bartholomew Award Committee that included Sheila Patek (Chair), Adam Summers, Alison Sweeney, Marty Martin, and Robert Cox. Dr. Careau will be presented with a plaque and a gift from Sable Systems International. The DCPB again thanks John Lighton and Robin Turner of Sable Systems International for their continued gracious support of the George Bartholomew Award.

DCPB Best Student Presentations

Each year, DCPB names the Best Student Presentation competition in honor of an eminent physiologist who has recently passed. For 2015, the award competition was named in honor of Dr. Robert Boutilier, a Lecturer in Zoology at the University of Cambridge. Bob's research focused on understanding the relationship between organisms and their environments, from the level of behavior to the level of tissues and molecules. He was particularly interested in the mechanisms and significance of metabolic depression in animals.

The 2015 DCPB student competition consisted of 73 oral and poster presentations. Dr. Ana Jimenez coordinated with 30 judges the judging of the student presentations. The 2015 DCPB Robert Boutilier Award for best student oral presentation was presented to Tim Crombie (University of Florida), and the best student poster presentation was awarded to Lisa Treidel (Illinois State University).

For the 2016 meeting, 57 students have entered the competition for DCPB Best Student Presentation for either oral or poster presentation. This year the award competition will be named in honor of Dr. Louis Guillette. Ana Jimenez will again coordinate the judging of the student presentations.

Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee

Natalie Pitts (Colorado State Univ) graduated in December and therefore stepped down as DCPB's representative to the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC). Catherine Dayger, a doctoral student at Portland State University, has been appointed as the division's representative to SPDAC.

December 22, 2015

Report from DEDB Chair Sally Leys (Chair.DEDB@sicb.org)

The division has sponsored 2 symposia at the Portland meeting, Jan 5th *Evolutionary Endocrinology: Hormones as mediators of evolutionary phenomena* and Jan 7th *Tapping the Power of Crustacean Transcriptomes to Address Grand Challenges in Comparative Biology* (SICB-wide symposium). Two proposals were submitted for New Orleans, one successful (Ariel Chipman - primary organizer - and Doug Erwin titled: The Evolution of Arthropod Body Plans - Integrating Phylogeny, Fossils, and Development).

DEDB had one new officer this year: we are happy to report that Julia Bowsher (North Dakota State University) is secretary elect. This year is transitional since our new Chair Cassandra Extavour (Harvard) takes over leading the division this meeting. Cassandra has been instrumental in fostering a new society of evolutionary developmental biology - the Pan American Evolutionary Developmental Biology Society - and her connection to the two societies offers great potential for energizing the division and fostering symposia or even holding joint meetings. All of these will be a focus of discussion at this years' meeting.

Our great divisional student/PDF representative Amanda Kahn reports that this year we have a large number of people signed up for the Evo-Devo Dinner dates (in which students are hosted by a faculty member), a program that has been hugely successful each year.

This year is our first for running a divisional 'Best Student Presentation' symposium, so we're keen to learn how well this works for the division. So far we had a good number of submissions to choose from for the competition and a good selection of judges.

Sally Leys
DEDB Chair

Division of Ecoimmunology and Disease Ecology

Marty Martin, Chair

Officers:

Outgoing Chair: Lynn B. (Marty) Martin (6/2014-1/2016)

Chair: Carol Fassbinder-Orth (1/2016-12/2018)

Secretary: Travis Wilcoxon (6/2014-1/2017)

Program Officer: Sarah DuRant (6/2014-1/2017)

Student/Postdoc Representative: Dan Becker (9/2015-12/2017)

Division posts:

An election occurred in Spring 2015 to replace Chair Martin. Two candidates ran for office, Raoul Boughton and Carol Fassbinder-Orth. Dr. Fassbinder-Orth was elected to the position, and will serve for the next few years. A replacement was also needed for the Student/Postdoc Representative, as Cynthia Downs earned a faculty position at Hamilton College. Dan Becker, a PhD candidate at the University of Georgia, was tapped for that role.

In 2016, DEDE will need to identify future officers ('Elect' positions). A nomination committee will be formed during the 2016 business meeting, and new candidates will be identified to run in the Spring 2016 elections.

Meeting statistics and current and future symposia:

DEDE is comprised of 230 members (SICB website, Dec 2015). At the 2016 meeting, DEDE will have a good presence, hosting many oral and poster sessions and sponsoring two disease-related symposia at the 2016 meeting. One symposium is organized by Christopher Boyko and is entitled, "Parasites and Pests in Motion: Biology, Biodiversity and Climate Change". DIZ and TCS are also sponsors. The other is organized by Alexa Fritzche and entitled "Are migratory animals superspreaders of infection?", and is co-sponsored by DAB.

Thanks to Dan Becker, DEDE will continue its 'Lunch with an Ecoimmunologist' experience at the 2016 meeting. This year, Ken Field, Brett Sinclair, Michelle Nishiguchi, and Andy Blaustein will participate.

Student awards:

We have many folks competing for the Best DEDE Student Presentation Award! We again thank Loren Merrill for coordinating the judging!

Next business meeting and social:

The 2016 business meeting will occur on Monday, January 4, at 5:45-6:30 in Room B110/111. The social will be co-hosted with DCE, on Tuesday, January 5 from 8:00-10:00 in Ballroom 202. Thanks to DCE for allowing us to join them!

Division of Ecology and Evolution (DEE)

Mike Sears, Chair

In 2015, the Division of Ecology & Evolution arranged an exciting line up of events for the 2015 meeting in Portland and has started to plan for the meeting in 2017.

- 1) The Huey Award competition is entering its fourth year. The DEE officers conducted preliminary evaluations of abstracts for the 2015 meeting. Seven finalists are scheduled to deliver their oral presentations and six finalists will be presenting their posters on January 4th.
- 2) Our alternative social event, Beer and Brains, was also held at the meeting in West Palm Beach. 50 students and 15 mentors met at Copper Blues Rock Pub on Jan 6th. Over free food and beer, mentors and students engaged in conversation focussing on how to succeed in science. Both students and mentors provided rave reviews for this event.
- 3) DEE agreed to support five symposia for the New Orleans meeting in 2017.
- 4) With respect to officers and elections, Robert Cox began his term as Chair-Elect, Michael Dillon began his term as secretary, and Christopher Tracy began his term as Program Officer-Elect.

2015 Report, Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ)

John D. Zardus, Divisional Chair

DIZ Executive Committee

Chair, John D. Zardus

Secretary, Jonathan Allen

Past Program Officer, N/A

Past-Chair, Jim B. McClintoch

Past Secretary, N/A

Chair-Elect, N/A

Program Off., Bruno Pernet

Briefs from the 2015 West Palm Beach meeting

DIZ co-sponsored six symposia at the 2015 meetings in West Palm Beach, Florida: 1) Unsteady aquatic locomotion with respect to eco-design and mechanics, 2) Soft bodies, hard jaws: Phylogenetic diversity of prey capture and processing in jawed, soft-bodied invertebrates, 3) New insights into suction feeding biomechanics and evolution, 4) Linking insects and crustaceans: Comparative physiology of the Pancrustacea, 5) Chemicals that organize ecology: Towards a greater integration of chemoreception, neuroscience, organismal biology, and chemical ecology, and 6) Origins of neurons and parallel evolution of nervous systems: The dawn of neuronal organization.

Anne Böttger, chair of the DIZ committee overseeing student awards, did another splendid job of organizing the judging for the Best Student presentation awards.

The best presentation awards winner and runner up awardees for DIZ were:

Best Oral Presentation

Winner- Emily Hall from the State University of New York for “A test of genetic variation for resistance to effects of seawater acidification on the skeletal development of sea urchin larvae.”

Runner up- Kenan Matterson from the University of Alabama at Birmingham for “Variable impact of top-down forces and photosymbiont-derived nutrition on Caribbean shallow-water sponges.”

Best Poster Presentation

Winner- Fergus McCorkell from the University of Oxford for “Tuning of flow-sensitive hairs to airflow stimuli in the desert locust (*Schistocerca gregaria*).”

Runner up- Amanda Kahn from the University of Alberta for “Demosponges in disguise: Formation of new syncytial tissue in a glass sponge, *Aphrocallistes vastus*.”

Adrian M. Wenner Strong Inference Award

Winner- Amanda Kahn from the University of Alberta for “Demosponges in disguise: Formation of new syncytial tissue in a glass sponge, *Aphrocallistes vastus*”

2015 Election Outcomes

Dr. Sarah Berke, Assistant Professor, Siena College, Loudonville NY, was elected to replace Jonathan Allen in 2016 as our divisional secretary.

Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee

Representative Jenna Moore, University of Florida, took charge overseeing the new DIZ Facebook page.

Libbie Hyman Scholarship Committee

Chair Jennifer Burnaford continues doing a wonderful job as chair of the scholarship selection committee. This year due to a second generous donation from Dr. Jarid Simons to the scholarship fund, we were able to award two \$1500 scholarships.

One scholarship was awarded to Antonin Crumiere, a second-year graduate student in the lab of Abderrahman Khila at the Institut de Génomique Fonctionnelle de Lyon, France. The scholarship will support coursework and research on insects at the Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute in Gamboa, Panama.

The other scholarship was awarded to Caitlin Boas, a first-year Ph.D. student in the lab of Seth Finnegan, at the University of California Berkeley. The scholarship will support her participation in the Marine Invertebrate Zoology summer course at the University of Washington Friday Harbor Laboratories. Caitlin's thesis work is focused on discriminating the ecological roles of ammonites.

Briefs from the current Portland, Oregon meeting (2016)

DIZ is again sponsoring six symposia: 1) Parasites and pests in motion: Biology, biodiversity and climate change, 2) Extraocular, nonvisual, and simple photoreceptors, 3) The morphological diversity of intromittent organs, 4) Integrative and comparative biology of venom, 5) Beyond the mean: Biological impacts of changing patterns of temperature variation, and 6) Tapping the power of crustacean transcriptomes to address grand challenges in comparative biology.

The triennial auction for the Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund will be held Wednesday, Jan. 6th at 7:30, preceded by a multi-division social and followed by a society-wide dance.

Annual divisional discretionary funds will be allocated at the DIZ business meeting following open discussion. As in the past, any funds not expended will be invested in raising the principal of the Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund.

2016 Elections and Appointments

- Election for Program Officer, Bruno Pernet's term will expire Jan. 2017
- Appointment of a new representative for the Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee

Division of Neurobiology (DNB)

Paul A. Moore, Chair

General News

The division has reached out to the International Society of Neuroethology and to its President Peter Narins in an effort to encourage its members to attend our SICB meetings. ISN meets every other year and we are hoping that on their off years their members will select SICB as their meeting of choice. Our proposal to their society would allow them to attend our meeting at member rates without having to formally join SICB. Peter is working with his executive committee on our proposal.

Lisa Mangiamele (Bowdoin College) was re-elected as Division Secretary and has done a wonderful job in helping me transition into my duties as Division Chair.

Alex Kingston (1st year post-doc) is our new graduate student/post-doc rep for the Division.

During the West Palm Beach meeting, we had a discussion during our business meeting on the potential to add an additional fee for Division members that may be used for symposium or increasing the award funds to our student presentations. The Division decided against this motion.

Portland Meeting news

For Portland, 2016, the Division of Neurobiology is the primary sponsor for 2 symposia: Neuroecology: Neural Mechanisms of Sensory and Motor Processes that Mediate Ecologically Relevant Behaviors and Extraocular, Nonvisual, and Simple Photoreceptors. In addition, the division is co-sponsoring 3 other symposia.

For the first time, the Division of Neurobiology will be holding a best student presentation symposia on Wednesday morning of the meeting. We currently have selected 6 student presentations for this symposia and are hoping to grow this number in future meetings.

We have kept the best poster nominees spread out through the meeting to place these posters in the appropriate session for their topics.

Division of Phylogenetics and Comparative Biology

Michael Alfaro (outgoing Chair)

Kerin Claeson (incoming Chair)

General News

DPCB is pleased to announce a generous donation made by Marvalee and David Wake to support student research in phylogenetics and comparative biology. The donation will be directed to the Grants in Aid of Research program and we will develop a mechanism to let DPCB awardees know that their research is being supported in part through a donation from the Wakes.

2016 will see Kerin Claeson taking over as DPCB chair and David Blackburn as Secretary. Ryan Felice is also the new Student and PD affairs rep.

Portland Meeting News

DPCB is co-sponsoring two symposia in Portland, the SICB wide symposium “Evolutionary Endocrinology: Hormones as mediators of evolutionary phenomena” and the “Integrative and Comparative Biology of Venom”.

We are also excited about the Wake Awards this year. We are experimenting with a new format that asks students to submit an extended abstract to enter the oral competition and we have decided to hold all of the oral presentations in a special session. We have four presentations in the Wake session this year and will be working to increase this number for future meetings.

DVM Annual Report, 2015
Callum F. Ross, Chair of DVM
rossc@uchicago.edu

Meeting Participation

DVM folks submitted 400 abstracts out of the 1700 received across SICB as a whole, so we continue to be a strong division. DVM is sponsoring 3 symposia this year. All DVM student podium presentations competing for the Davis Award will be in one session that is not scheduled opposite any other DVM or DCB sessions. This is a great opportunity for our students to present to the largest possible audience.

Funding

In response to prompting from SICB, the Executive Committee of DVM agreed that a fund-raising drive is needed to put DVM on a stronger financial footing. In response, we solicited donations from the members and the membership voted at the 2015 meeting to institute a membership fee for DVM (\$10 for full members, \$5 for students and postdocs). As of 12/23/2015 our Davis Fund was just over \$17K, approaching the \$25K target. Hopefully we can hit that target this year.

2016 Social event

At the 2016 meeting in Portland, DVM and DCB will co-host a social event off-site organized by Melina Hale (Chair of DCB) and Callum Ross (Chair of DVM). The aim is to create a fun night of dancing and light eats in an environment where people of all ages can participate. The event will be at the Star Theater in Portland from 8 pm to 1130 pm, will host up to 200 people, and will include dance music and some food. ID will be needed to purchase alcohol, but under-age folks are welcome in the venue as well. We will solicit feedback on the event after to determine whether this social event is valuable to the membership.

Committee Positions

Casey Holliday's term as Divisional Secretary ends on Jan 7, 2016. Casey did an excellent job and we extend his thanks to him. He will be replaced by Andrew Clark.