

SICB Spring 2004 Newsletter

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Message from the President

John C. Wingfield

Even if you were not at the annual meeting in New Orleans last January, you have probably heard what a spectacular success it was. We had the highest attendance in many years (over 1,600) with about 1,100 abstracts – an incredibly busy schedule. The symposia were superb and although the numbers of posters and concurrent oral sessions were daunting at times, the spectrum of topics to choose from was truly inspiring. The Society is alive and well! Everyone I talked to enjoyed the science and the venue (indeed many suggested we should have the meeting in New Orleans every three years or so). It is with thanks to the Program Committee chaired by Stacia Sower and coordinated by Burk and Associates (especially Sue Burk) that this meeting was so successful. Stacia stepped down in New Orleans and we welcome Kate Loudon as the new Chair of the Program Committee. Our next meeting in San Diego in 2005 looks to be just as exciting, so make a note on your calendars!

One of the most encouraging facts from the New Orleans meeting was the large number of undergraduate and graduate students that attended – over 600. Add to this the contingent of postdoctoral fellows and we had an enormous group of young attendees. At this point I would like to thank all the students who helped at the meeting in whatever capacity. It all helps to make our annual gathering run smoothly. Many thanks also to the Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee chaired by Shea Tuberty for organizing the special lunch. I addressed this group briefly during this session and I was greatly impressed with the number and enthusiasm of these young people. The future of our Society looks to be very strong. Members should also be aware that the Society was able to support a record number of students that underscores our commitment to fostering education and research development. We should especially thank Brian Tsukimura and the Student Support Committee for their dedicated hard work reviewing many proposals (another record) for grants-in-aid of research and travel for graduate students. We hope very much to continue to expand our support of young members of the Society and nurture integrative and comparative biology for generations to come. To aid this, we now have an easily accessible "donate" button on our website. Support of students in S.I.C.B. depends almost entirely on such sources of funds. Given the impressive things our students, and postdoctoral fellows, are doing I hope you will visit our website and make a donation. We wait in anticipation to see how many students and postdoctoral fellows will attend the San Diego meeting.

During the Executive Committee meeting we discussed our strategic plan for the future. As I mentioned in the last newsletter, we have been discussing and developing this for the past two years. The goal is to promote new ideas in education and research from the membership at large, including development of endowments and other funding for the Society, so that we can offer more travel grants, research support (especially for students) and fund initiatives in education, outreach etc. As I mentioned last fall, there is growing interest in outreach to other nations in the new world, especially to bring faculty and their students to our meeting. This plan is now on our website for your information, comments and initiatives (<http://sicb.org/handbook/plan.php3>). It is not a directive, but rather a starting point to focus ideas from members and implement them.

In conjunction with the introduction of this plan, there are already new developments. The Committee for Increasing Membership Diversity in SICB, chaired by Bobby Espinoza, is now in its second year and flourishing. Several students and teachers from the New Orleans area were invited to the meeting and judging from those that I met, they were all inspired by the opportunities in education and research in basic biology. The activities of the committee were very lively and inspiring. Grant writing is underway to support the initiatives in expanding diversity in our society and I cannot emphasize enough how we need donations to ensure that the work of this committee will continue to expand and be effective. We look forward to San Diego where we will attract local students and their teachers that represent diversity.

Other committees were also hard at work in New Orleans. Many thanks to Wendy Ryan who stepped down as Chair of the Education Council and welcome to Henry John–Alder who takes over as the next Chair. This is another important, and long standing, initiative of our society that is a major component of our strategic plan. Thanks to Trish Morse a new teaching resource, the SICB Digital Library (SICB–DL) was launched in New Orleans. You will see more about this on the Society website. Speaking of which, there are a number of members in at least two committees that are involved in promoting our society. The Public Affairs Committee chaired by Miriam Ashley–Ross continues to work hard and effectively. The Electronics and Communications Committee chaired by Craig Frank, is active and will be focusing on website changes. I am very grateful for their willingness to serve our Society and our plan is to work with our talented and extremely able Webmaster Ruedi Birenheide to make major changes in the website that will reflect our planning and future initiatives.

Finally, we have our annual round of voting for new officers coming up. Carol Vleck and the Nominations Committee worked tirelessly in New Orleans and since then to put together a distinguished slate for elections. We will vote for a new President Elect, Program Officer Elect and a Member–at–Large. The statements and backgrounds of these candidates are included in this newsletter. Additionally, note that we will also be voting for divisional officers. This is a crucial election and I urge you to take a look at the candidates and vote! We will hold an electronic ballot again this year (although mail in votes are also welcome).

Well, this has been a busy message but an enjoyable one to write given the many things going on in our Society. There is more I could write about, but I will save that until the fall. Until then enjoy the spring and summer, but do not forget to vote and feel free to send us your ideas and initiatives.

Message from the Program Officer

Catherine Loudon

The 2004 SICB meeting in January in New Orleans was an outstanding success, with the largest number of presentations at a SICB meeting (1128) in at least 8 years. The scientific program opened with a tribute to Dr. Aubrey Gorbman, given by a Past President of SICB, Dr. Howard Bern. Following the tribute was a lecture by the plenary speaker, Dr. John McLachlan, on "Environmental signaling: A systems approach to human and ecological health." Other special lectures in New Orleans were given by the DCPB Bartholomew Awardee, Dr. Jason Podrabsky, the Howard Bern Lecturer, Dr. Yoshitaka Nagahama, and the AMS Past President Lecturer Dr. Mary Beth Thomas. These special lectures were well-attended, as were the many workshops and social events. There were numerous contributed sessions and symposia, several of which were standing-room only, even with up to 13 simultaneous competing events.

Such a successful meeting would not have been possible without the hard work of the Program Officer for that meeting, Stacia Sower, and all of the Divisional Program Officers and other members of the Program Committee (Penelope Barnes, Emily Carrington, Kathryn Coates, Paul Cupp, Michael Dickinson, Patricia Glas, Eduardo Rosa-Molinar, Richard Satterlie, Kyle Selcer, Donald Swiderski, and Bret Tobalske). Sue Burk and the staff of Burk Associates, Inc. dealt efficiently and pleasantly with a vast number of chores, large and small. Thanks also to the President, John Wingfield, President-Elect Sally Woodin, the other members of the Executive Committee, and the members of the many, many other committees for their thoughtful and creative input into the meeting and the running of the society. There was a record number of student helpers at the 2004 meeting, demonstrating again how this society has always valued and supported its student members. We thank the students for their help. And finally, thanks to all symposium organizers and speakers, and all of you who took the time to present a talk or a poster, as this is truly the heart of the meeting.

Looking ahead to the 2005 meeting in San Diego, I am happy to report another stimulating and diverse assortment of symposia. Please see the SICB website for a list of these symposia. The complete program for the 2005 SICB meeting will be finalized in September 2004 at the annual Program Meeting. The poster sessions for the 2005 meeting will be scheduled in the afternoons without any other competing events, due to the overwhelmingly positive response from that schedule at the 2004 meeting.

Symposia are now planned over a year ahead of time, allowing the symposium organizers time to prepare their symposia and apply for funding. Therefore, it is time to look ahead to our 2006 meeting in Orlando, and many individuals are already working on symposium or workshop ideas for that meeting. You are encouraged to discuss symposium ideas with your divisional program officers and submit a symposium proposal (deadline August 20, 2004). More information about symposium proposal submission appears on the SICB website. The SICB website has a growing importance for the members of the society – not just as a place for members to go for information, but also increasingly as an interactive site for members – e.g. for submission of symposium proposals, and for voting on opening session speakers. We are greatly in debt to Ruedi Birenheide, the SICB webmaster, for his hard work maintaining the SICB website so diligently.

Several important initiatives in planning the annual SICB meeting were started by the Past Program Officer, Stacia Sower, who developed effective mechanisms to include more individuals in the planning of the annual SICB meeting (e.g. the Program Meeting in the fall with the Divisional Program Officers, and the inclusion of all members in voting on the opening speakers). I plan to continue developing these initiatives and welcome feedback from the members on how to make the meetings (and their planning) as useful and enjoyable as possible.

I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego in January 2005.

Kate Loudon
Society Program Officer

Message from the Treasurer

Ron Dimock

For those of you who were unable to attend the annual meeting in New Orleans, you will find the very exciting data about attendance of both full members and students, and the very large number of papers and posters that were presented, in President Wingfield's message in this newsletter. The meeting was a tremendous success. The 1st quarter financial data for 2004 are being compiled as I write this, but I'm optimistic that we'll see some very favorable financial news from the New Orleans meeting.

As most of you know, the Society supports student attendance at the meeting as fully as it can. Because of the record number of students in attendance this year (over 650), the student support budget swelled from its typical (and budgeted) level of about \$35,000 to over \$50,000. When one adds in \$24,000 for Grants in Aid of Research, and \$6000 for graduate student travel fellowships, it is apparent that SICB is very supportive of its student members. I think all members would agree that this is money well spent. Student members are, after all, the future of the Society.

Fortunately, the Society remains solidly in the black and is able to fund such worthwhile initiatives. As I noted in last fall's newsletter, and reiterated in the annual treasurer's report at the business meeting in New Orleans, the meeting in Anaheim finished in the black. This is an historic event in recent times since prior to our involvement with Burk & Assoc., Inc., we had been losing in excess of \$100,000 on annual meetings. When the formal audit of fiscal 2003 is completed within the next few weeks, I'm confident that the summary of the meeting in Toronto also will be quite positive.

The portfolio of Society funds that are being managed by Matthew Tederick of LPL Financial Services, also has recovered nicely from the excess red ink of 2002 and early 2003. At the end of the 1st quarter 2004, the mutual fund component was over \$56,000 in the black (a 12% gain) and the portion in a Real Estate Investment Trust was up \$29,000, or 15%. This is an overall increase of 11% since initiating the investment of roughly \$800,000. In contrast, the S&P finished at -2% over the same time course.

However, there is ample reason to remain cautious. A major concern for the Society is the continuing decline in institutional subscriptions to ICB. While the decline seems to be leveling off slightly and is being experienced by nearly every professional society with a publication, a significant fraction of SICB's annual income is in jeopardy. For example, the component of the total journal income that comes from institutional subscriptions declined from \$410,228 in 2001 to \$342,849 in 2002, and looks to be about \$320,775 for 2003.

In an effort to increase funding for Student Support activities, the SICB home page now has a link for volunteer contributors to make online donations to the Society. Hopefully many of you will visit sicb.org and take advantage of this new mechanism for supporting the Society.

Message from the Secretary

Sunny K. Boyd

Just before this year's annual meeting in New Orleans, our newly revised society-wide Constitution and By Laws went on-line (<http://www.sicb.org/handbook/bylaws.php3>). We now have clear, useful documents for the general governance of the society. Individual divisions, on the other hand, may not be so lucky! It is time to turn our attention to the divisional bylaws. Some division bylaws are in good shape but other sets of bylaws are wildly out of touch with current practice or directly conflict with the society-wide conventions. I have asked division chairs to review their bylaws for clarity, accuracy and conformity with the rest of the society. I would encourage any of you with an interest in this important job to volunteer your services to your chairs. The help of past officers would be especially useful because of your knowledge of actual (perhaps unwritten) practices within your divisions.

Also at the division level, the secretaries are most interested in increasing the usefulness and appeal of the divisional webpages. Current pages are static and opportunities to connect with our members and the public are likely missed. The format for these pages is wide-open and our webmaster, Ruedi Birenheide, is anxious to help spice these up. Please contact your division secretary if you have any ideas or information to contribute. Graduate students and post-docs take note especially! As usual, this request for help includes you. Why don't you send your secretary a stunning photo and get a little extra publicity for your project?

Lastly, I would recommend that those of you unfamiliar with the American Institute of Biological Sciences visit the AIBS website (<http://www.aibs.org>). SICB is a member of this umbrella organization which serves science and scientific societies. AIBS provides our link with Washington and public policy. Any interested person can subscribe to the AIBS Public Policy Report via the website and keep up-to-date.

Committee Reports

- Membership Diversity Committee
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Membership Diversity Committee

Robert E. Espinoza, Chair

SICB's Membership Diversity Committee, which seeks to increase the ethnic composition, representation, and participation of the *SICB* membership, seeks mentors for our mentoring program for the San Diego meeting. In 2004, we conducted a society-funded pilot program at the New Orleans meeting. This program brought African-American faculty and undergraduates from Xavier University of Louisiana to the meeting. Xavier is the oldest historically black Catholic college in the United States, and currently has the best record in the US for placing African-American students into medical schools. Thus, Xavier students are well prepared for careers in the sciences, yet largely unexposed to research. During three targeted social events, the invited student and faculty participants interacted with *SICB* faculty and students, which included Fred Stollnitz, who oversees the Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology (UMEB) Program at NSF, several NSF-UMEB PIs, and *SICB* President John Wingfield and President-elect Sally Woodin. On the basis of feedback from the participating faculty and students, and our own observations, the effort was a resounding success. Students reported (1) before the meeting, they were unaware of possibility and breadth of careers in research; (2) a profound sense of reinforcement for their interest in science and personal support; and (3) interactions with faculty at the meeting have already led to opportunities to participate in research.

Based on the success of the pilot program, we have a plan for future efforts to sustain this positive momentum. We will implement an expanded mentoring program for underrepresented student members at the San Diego meeting. Here's where you come in. If you are willing to serve as a mentor, please contact me and share with me your interests. Your responsibility will be to help the student navigate the often-overwhelming program our society offers its members. This might include helping the student choose among concurrent presentations and social events and introducing them to investigators (faculty and students) that share their interests. You will not be expected to spend every minute with the student. We will do our best to match students and mentors with mutual research interests. Postdocs and seasoned graduate students are encouraged to participate and you need not be an underrepresented minority yourself to be a mentor.

Elections

Candidates and Biographies

- [Candidates for President](#)
- [Candidates for Program Officer](#)
- [Candidate for Member at Large of the Executive Committee](#)

President

Timothy J. Bradley

Current position: Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Irvine

Education: Ph.D, University of British Columbia; M.S., University of Oklahoma; B.A. Vanderbilt University

Professional Experience: 1990–present, Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Irvine; 1995–98, Chair, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology; 1985–89, Associate Professor of Developmental and Cell Biology, University of California, Irvine; 1986–87, Chair, Department of Developmental and Cell Biology; 1979–1985, Assistant Professor of Developmental and Cell Biology, University of California, Irvine; 1978–79, Post–doctoral Fellow, Department of Anatomy, Albert Einstein College of Medicine; 1977–78, Post–doctoral Fellow, Department of Physiology and Anatomy, University of California, Berkeley.

SICB Activities: Chair, Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, 1998–2000; Presenter at SICB meetings since 1975; Organized or co–organized symposia on Cellular Mechanisms of Ion Transport in Arthropods, Integrative Aspect of Epithelial Structure and Function, and Evolutionary Physiology. Participant in numerous other symposia.

Other Memberships and Activities: American Physiological Society; Society of Vector Ecologists; Society for the Study of Evolution; Campus Director, University of California Natural Reserve System; Associate Editor of *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*.

Research Interests: Physiological ecology, salt and water balance, aquatic ecology, evolutionary physiology, immune responses in insects, animal energetics and respiration, the structure and function of epithelia.

Goals Statement: The Society has made tremendous strides in recent years, improving our financial stability, enhancing the quality of the meetings, increasing membership, and revamping and modernizing our journal. The primary goal is to continue these positive trends. To achieve this, we must maintain and indeed slowly grow our membership to assure the fiscal health of the Society and increase the vibrancy of the meetings. I will continue our activities in reaching out to other societies, thereby enriching and diversifying the science at our meetings. These efforts serve to make members of other societies more aware of our activities and intellectual approaches, and may attract new members of like interest. The most important mechanism for increasing our numbers, however, is growth through the addition of young scientists, not least of all our own graduate students. SICB does an extraordinary job of supporting, fostering and training graduate students. At our meetings, the students are exposed to science at the cutting edge of our fields and an opportunity to present their own research to a broad and knowledgeable audience. I will work to strengthen our meetings, to reach out to other fields, and continue to support and foster graduate student participation, as a way of strengthening the Society and assuring our growth and success well into the future.

John S. Pearse

Current position: Professor Emeritus/Research Professor, Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of California, Santa Cruz.

Education: B.Sc., Zoology, University of Chicago, 1958; Ph.D., Biological Sciences, Stanford University, 1964.

Professional Experience: University of California, Santa Cruz, Prof. Emeritus/Research Prof. 1994–present; Professor, 1978–94; Associate Professor, 1974–78; Assistant Professor, 1971–74; California Institute of Technology, Research Fellow, 1968–71; American University of Cairo, Egypt, Assistant Professor, 1965–68; visiting faculty positions at: Bamfield Marine Laboratory, Catalina Marine Laboratory, Harvard University, Isles of Shoals Marine Laboratory, Oregon State University, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute, Stanford University, University of California, San Diego. SICB

SICB Activities: Member of SICB since 1963; Member of Best Student Paper committees, DIZ, various years; Symposium Organizer, 1989 (with Jim McClintock) and 2002 (with Marvalee Wake); Society Program Officer, 1999–2002.

Other Memberships: American Association for the Advancement of Science (Fellow 1983), California Academy of Sciences (Fellow 1979, Trustee 1994–2003, President 1997–2003), International Society for Invertebrate Reproduction (President 1995–98), Santa Cruz City Museum Association (President 1985–86), Sea Studios Foundation (Board Member 1999–present), Sigma–Xi (Campus President 1997–99), The Otter Project (Board Member 1996–present), Western Society of Naturalists (President 1983); Regional Editor, *Marine Biology* (1974–1976), Editorial Board, *Invert. Repro. Develop.* (1978–present), Editorial Advisor, *Mar. Ecol.–Prog. Ser.* (1979–1995), Board of Reviewers, *Science* 1985–1988), Associate Editor, *Encyclopedia of Reproduction* (1996–98).

Honors: American University of Cairo, Egypt, Student Body Best Teacher Award (1966); University of California, Santa Cruz, Alumni Distinguished Teacher Award (1982), Re–Entry Program Teacher of the Year (1994), Academic Senate Committee on Teaching Excellence in Teaching Award (1997); Western Society of Naturalists, Naturalist for the Ages award (2002); Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Annual Recognition Award for Science (1994), Annual Recognition Award for Education (2003), Ricketts Memorial Lecture Award (2004).

Research Interests: Reproductive mode and timing in marine invertebrates, rocky intertidal and kelp forest ecology, invertebrate biology, especially echinoderms, speciation and biogeography of tropical and Antarctic echinoderms and west coast banana slugs.

Goals Statement: Biology has made tremendous advances in the 20th century, in large part because of increasing focus in specialized fields at the expense of more integrated holistic approaches. The success of specialization is beyond question. On the other hand, we are well into an exciting time of linking fields and approaches to address larger questions unapproachable just a few years ago. SICB, by the action of far–sighted, broadly trained officers, has been nearly unique among biological societies in holding together diverse specialized fields that span much of biology as one interacting unit. We are now in the position to build on our strength to more fully integrate our approaches. Facilitating this integration would be my highest priority. In addition, advances in biology and other sciences pervade all aspects of our culture, and will do so increasingly in the coming decades. Yet the majority of Americans, including those in high positions of

authority, has only vague notions of the biological revolution that is upon us, or even how science is done. I believe SICB is in a good position to reach out to the general public and would make that another of my main priorities. Finally, our world is in the midst of irreversible globalization, and SICB should be able to help lead the way to establish stronger international linkages in our science. I have benefited professionally, and greatly enjoyed the interactions and collegiality gained, from attending our meetings over the years, and I have especially appreciated how SICB has welcomed and nourished students and younger members of our profession while remaining valuable to our long-term members. Serving as the Society Program Officer was a very rewarding experience for me as I worked closely with so many of our members, including Tim Bradley. I'm impressed with the talent and commitment of my colleagues, as well as with Burk and Associates, our management group. While there remain many formidable challenges for SICB, I would (mostly) enjoy engaging them with you.

Program Officer

Patrick Reynolds

Current position: Associate Professor, Biology, Hamilton College, NY; 1998–present

Education: 1983 B.Sc.: Zoology, University College Galway, Ireland. 1991 Ph.D.: Biology, University of Victoria, Canada.

Professional Experience: Assistant Professor, Biology, Hamilton College, 1992–98. Research Associate/Visiting Post-doc, Inst. Marine Sciences, UC Santa Cruz, 1990–92. Lecturer, Integrative Biology, UC Berkeley 1990, 1991

SICB Activities: Member 1987–present; presentations/abstracts in 1988, '91, '95, '97, '98; Student Best Paper Award Panel (DIZ), 1998, 1999; Secretary, DSEB, 2004–2006. Editor, 2004–present, Co-editor, 1997–2003, *Invertebrate Biology*, quarterly journal of the American Microscopical Society and DIZ

Other Memberships: AAAS, American Malacological Society, American Microscopical Society, Malacological Society of London, Sigma Xi, Society for the Study of Evolution, Society of Systematic Biologists, Willi Hennig Society

Research Interests: Functional morphology and evolution of invertebrates, particularly the Mollusca; comparative studies addressing the evolution of organ systems and clades using morphological and molecular systematics.

Goals Statement: Having been a member of SICB since graduate days, I would be honored to serve as Program Officer. I support SICB because of its strength in bringing biologists from diverse fields to a single organization that emphasizes their cross-disciplinary interests. I therefore view programming that enhances communication beyond divisional membership as essential. In addition to continuing topical session programming, I would promote multi-divisional /co-host society symposia, and try to facilitate member attendance at secondary division and other extra-session meetings that enrich our AGM. While the logistic challenges of increasing attendance must be met to preserve the scope and success of our meetings (as presentation length, promotion of posters, etc. are examined), this success can also promote the nascent initiatives for societal growth in educational and international arenas. I would look forward to serving the

divisional POs in aiding and coordinating their activities to produce a series of meetings that reflect the uniquely integrative mission of SICB.

Linda J. Walters

Current position: Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Education: Bates College (B.S. in Biology, 1983), University of South Carolina (M.S. and Ph.D. in Biology, 1986 & 1991)

Professional Experience: Assistant Professor, University of Central Florida (1997–2003); Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Hawaii at Manoa with Dr. M. Hadfield and Dr. C. Smith (1992–94); Indo–American Fellow through the Fulbright Program at Cochin University of Science and Technology in Cochin, India (1994–95); Postdoctoral Fellow, Université Laval in Quebec, Canada with Dr. Edwin Bourget (1995–96)

SICB Activities: Member since 1984. Student Support Committee (awarding GIAR and travel grants): 2002–2005. Co–Chair: Libbie Hyman Fund Raising Auction Committee (raised nearly \$12,000 in 2004!): 2003–3004. Chair: DEE Outstanding Student Presentations (2000–2003). Divisional Secretary: DEE (2000–2003). Judge: DIZ and DEE student presentations (1995–present).

Other Memberships: Sigma Xi, Ecology Society of America, Estuarine Research Federation, International Society for Reef Studies.

Research Interests: I am interested in: 1) the basic biology/ecology of native and invasive estuarine and marine organisms, and 2) understanding and minimizing human impacts on aquatic ecosystems in tropical, subtropical and temperate waters.

Goals Statement: Like many SICB members, I joined this society in my first year of graduate school. More than any other society, SICB provided me with research contacts and workshops/advice that have been extremely beneficial in grantsmanship and employment. Now, I would like the opportunity to help the society. I feel that SICB is presently headed on a very good path and my goal in running for Program Officer is to help SICB navigate this road while keeping the society attractive to a wide range of scientists (members and potential members). The Program Officer's job is straightforward – to maximize the success of annual meetings by providing logical electronic submissions, searchable abstract databases, and oral/poster venues that maximize exposure of the diverse research accomplishments of all members. In addition to diversifying abstract keywords, I will work toward creating the best matches between presenters and interdivisional session topics.

Member at Large of the Executive Committee

James A. Carr

Elections

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University

Education: B.S., (with honors), Zoology, Rutgers University, 1982. M.A., Zoology, University of Colorado, 1986. Ph.D., Zoology, University of Colorado, 1988.

Professional Experience: Research Associate, Department of Anatomy, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Albuquerque, 1988–1989; NIH Postdoctoral Fellow, University of New Mexico School of Medicine, Albuquerque, 1989–1991; Assistant Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, 1991–1996; Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Texas Tech University, 1997– Present; Adjunct Faculty, The Institute for Environmental and Human Health, Texas Tech University, 1998–Present; Panel member, National Science Foundation Integrative Animal Biology Panel; Associate Editor for General and Comparative Endocrinology, 2002–Present.

SICB Participation: Member, 20 yrs. Secretary, Division of Comparative Endocrinology, 2002–2004; Co–organizer, SICB symposium, "Stress–Is it more than a Disease? A Comparative Look at Stress and Adaptation", 2001; Judge, Aubrey Gorbman Best Student Paper/Poster, Division of Comparative Endocrinology (1996, 1999, 2000); Co–organizer, Southwest Regional Conference on Comparative Endocrinology, Lubbock, TX, 1994.

Other Memberships and Activities: Society for Neuroscience, J.B. Johnston Club, Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry, American Heart Association, International Neuropeptide Society, European Comparative Endocrinology Society.

Research Interests: My research focuses on various aspects of comparative neuroendocrinology and the environmental endocrinology of amphibians.

Goals Statement: As Member–at–Large I will interact with the Executive Committee as a voice for society members on all of the major issues that face our rapidly growing society. Maintaining the growth of our society without losing our identity as a truly integrated organization will require effective communication between society members and the executive committee. I also will continue to support and publicize our regional and national meetings as unique platforms for discussing integrative biology.

Billie J. Swalla

Current Position: Associate Professor of Biology, University of Washington at Seattle

Education: PhD in Biology, University of Iowa; M.S. with thesis in Zoology, University of Iowa; B.S. with honors in Zoology, University of Iowa.

Professional Experience: 2001–04 Associate Professor; Biology Department, University of Washington. 1999 – 2000 Assistant Professor; Zoology Department, University of Washington. 1997 –99 Assistant Professor; Department of Biology, Pennsylvania State University. 1994–97 Assistant Professor; Biology Department, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, TN. 1991–94 Assistant Research Developmental Biologist; Bodega Marine Laboratory, University of California – Davis, Bodega Bay, CA. 1989–92 NIH Post–Doctoral Fellow; Bodega Marine Laboratory, University of California – Davis, Bodega Bay, CA. 1988–89 AAUW Sarah Berliner Post–Doctoral Fellow; Center for Developmental Biology, University of Texas – Austin, TX.

SICB Participation: 2000 Founded the SICB Division for Developmental Evolutionary Biology; Symposium Co-organizer for 2 Symposium SICB Annual Meetings; Atlanta, GA Jan. 5–8, 2000 "Hom/Hox Clusters and the Evolution of Morphology" and "Evolutionary Developmental Biology: Paradigms, Problems and Prospects" [see Nature 403: 125 (2000) and Science 287:570 (2000) for reports]; 1996–99 Program Officer, Division of Developmental and Cell Biology; 1994–97 SICB President's Advisory Committee.

Other Memberships and Activities: Associate Editor for *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, *Molecular Biology and Evolution*, *JEZ:Molecular and Developmental Evolution*; 2003–05 Council Member for the Society for Systematic Biologists; 2001–04 American Association for the Advancement of Science Officer, Chairman of the Electorate Nominating Committee for Section on Biological Sciences; 2002–04 Executive Board; Biology Department; University of Washington; 2002–04 Friday Harbor Laboratories Advisory Committee; U of Washington; 2002–04 Member of the Council for Gordon Research Conferences

Research Interests: Evolution and Development of the Chordates; Tunicata and Hemichordata Phylogeny and Development; Evolution of Marine Invertebrate Metamorphosis; Evolution and Development of Coloniality.

Goals Statement: I would be pleased to be a Member-at-Large because I am interested in many of the SICB divisions. I work on marine invertebrates, conducting interdisciplinary studies at the interface of ecology, evolution and development. I am primarily interested in keeping top notch programs presented at the SICB meetings, promoting interaction between the many divisions of SICB and recruiting new members. It is an exciting time to be a scientist and we have much to appreciate and share with our different scientific viewpoints.

Division of Animal Behavior (DAB): 2004 Spring Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Scott MacDougall–Shackleton

The 2004 meeting in New Orleans was my first acting as the DAB chair–elect/chair and I enjoyed meeting with many of you and getting involved in the executive committee of the society. As chair, I can act as a conduit between DAB members and the society executive committee so please feel free to contact me with concerns and suggestions.

The meeting was a wonderful success, and animal behavior was –as usual– well represented in the scientific program. Zuleyma Tang–Martinez organized an excellent symposium entitled "Bateman's Principles: Is it Time for a Re–evaluation?" and I look forward to its publication. Please extend congratulations to the winners of the best student presentations in DAB: Kathleen Lynch, Jordanna Sprayberry, and Christopher Leary. It is clear that the scientific activity of our division is vigorous, and I have no doubt this will continue at the San Diego meeting.

Business items that I hope to accomplish this year are to update the division by–laws to match those of the society and increase communication between the division and the executives. If you have comments on these initiatives please let me know. We also hope to update the division's web page, so send in suggestions and contributions. At the San Diego meeting I plan to hold a division social concurrently with the business meeting to encourage attendance.

Our division has a strong history of excellent symposia. You may wonder when is the best time to approach the DAB with ideas for symposia you'd like to organize. The answer is ANYTIME. If you'd like to organize a symposium for the 2006 meeting in Orlando you should contact us soon.

Best wishes for a productive summer,

Scott.

Message from the Secretary

Tom Hahn

I only have a few things to add to Scott's comments. First, on behalf of everyone in DAB, I would like to extend our gratitude to Paul Cupp for his excellent service as program officer. The time has come for him to pass the baton, and we have one candidate, Sarah Humfeld, who has kindly agreed to serve. Please be sure to cast your ballots when the time comes. There should be a copy of Sarah's CV available on the website for your perusal. She was awarded "best student paper" for her presentation at the 2002 meeting, and we are delighted that she is willing to contribute her enthusiasm and ideas as our new program officer. There were many important topics discussed at the meeting of divisional secretaries in New Orleans. As noted by Scott, updating division bylaws is a high priority that we will be working on over the coming months. We also will be putting together "operations manuals" for all of the different officers' positions, to help new officers carry out their responsibilities. We are particularly interested in updating and streamlining the process by which papers and posters are evaluated, clarifying how many times individuals can compete in them, and so forth. You can send your thoughts and suggestions to me. Regarding Scott's comment about the website: One idea that we are exploring is to highlight the research of one or more DAB members on the website. This would be something that rotates periodically, and could include a brief description of the research, perhaps a bio of the researcher, a few figures or photos ... it need not be super complicated, but something to give visitors to the website a taste of what some of our division members are doing. If any of you have suggestions for good folks to begin with on this, please let me know.

DAB Elections

Candidate for Program Officer

Sarah C. Humfeldt

Current Position: Senior Research Technician, Division of Biological Sciences, University of Missouri–Columbia

Education: 2003: University of Missouri–Columbia Ph.D., Division of Biological Sciences; Advisor: H. Carl Gerhardt. 1991–1995: Trinity University (San Antonio, TX), Bachelor of Science, Biology *magna cum laude* and Departmental Honors.

Professional Experience: *Research:* 1996–2003: Signaling, intersexual dynamics and the adoption of alternative male mating behaviors in green treefrogs, *Hyla cinerea*. Ph.D. dissertation. Advisor: H. Carl Gerhardt. Division of Biological Sciences, University of Missouri–Columbia, Columbia, MO. 1995: Social organization of *Neotoma micropus*, the Southern Plains woodrat. Senior honors research. Advisor: David Ribble. Department of Biology, Trinity University, San Antonio, TX. *Teaching:* 1997–2003: Teaching Assistant. University of Missouri–Columbia. Introductory Biology Lab for Majors (BIO 42), Introductory Biology Lab for Nonmajors (BIO 10), Ecology (BIO 362). 2001–2002: Preparing Future Faculty Fellow. 2001: University of Missouri team member at SENCER (Science Education for New Civic Engagement and Responsibility) Workshop, San Jose, CA. *Other:* 2001: Co-organizer of 2001 Midwest Regional Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society, University of Missouri, Columbia, MO. 2001: Organizer of symposium on "Alternative Mating Tactics" at 2001 Midwest Regional Meeting of the Animal Behavior Society.

SICB Activities: Attended 2001–2004 annual meetings, participated in 2003–2004 DAB business meetings

Other Memberships: Animal Behavior Society

Research Interests: My research interests lie in the area of phenotypic flexibility, or the ability of organisms to adaptively change their phenotype in response to changing environments. My dissertation research focused on the individual behavioral decisions made by male anuran amphibians regarding adoption of alternative mating tactics. Male green treefrogs (*Hyla cinerea*) may call to attract females or silently position themselves near other callers and attempt to intercept females. Given the observation that individual males can adopt different tactics within the same night, males probably make these mating tactic decisions over a very short timeframe. Males assess their condition in the context of the acoustic environment. Several characters of the advertisement call are condition-dependent, and if males cannot produce effective or attractive advertisement calls relative to their nearest neighbors, they switch to the silent satellite tactic. My future research interests involve looking at the genetic architecture underlying this conditional mating strategy. Do all males have identical switchpoints, or do some males have a greater propensity to switch mating tactics? If switchpoints do have heritable variation, I predict that populations in different environments might have evolved different average switchpoints. I am especially interested in looking for variation in conditional tactic adoption in populations that breed syntopically with a close congener, the barking treefrog (*Hyla gratiosa*). I am also interested in the proximate mechanisms involved in mating tactic switches (energetics and hormones).

Goals Statement: I began attending Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology meetings as a young graduate student after several years of encouragement from a friend. I wish I had become a member much earlier! I look forward to and value the annual meeting for two reasons. First, the atmosphere at the meeting is fantastic; students are made to feel welcome, comfortable and valued. Secondly, I love the breadth of topics that are pursued integratively throughout the society. I always return from the meeting with my head filled with new research ideas. As program officer, I hope to continue and improve upon the tradition of encouraging the scientific pursuits of student members. I believe we can do this through a continued commitment to the student paper competition. I think we can also increase the networking opportunities of students by instituting a DAB social activity at the annual meeting. This latter proposal also speaks to the goal of increasing the integration of animal behavior with other divisions in SICB. Many meeting attendees list DAB as a secondary affiliation. We should attempt to reach out to these members, both through social opportunities and special symposia. I would like to work to increase the numbers of special symposia that DAB hosts, especially those that are integrative in nature.

Division of Comparative Endocrinology (DCE): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
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 - [Message from the Secretary](#)
 - [Candidates for Elections](#)
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Message from the Chair

David Borst (dwborst@mail.bio.ilstu.edu)

The SICB Annual Meeting in New Orleans proved to be an excellent start for 2004 – the science was great and the city was a pleasure to visit. A particularly high point was the presentation by Yoshi Nagahama as the third annual Howard Bern Lecturer. Yoshi's presentation was entitled "The plasticity of fish gender: An evolutionary basis for sex determination and differentiation in vertebrates". The Bern Lecture series is supported by Elsevier and the SICB and has become an important addition to the SICB annual meeting. In addition to the Bern Lecture, the symposia supported by our Division were strong this year. Likewise, the number and quality of the contributed papers was high. My thanks to Kyle Selcer, who did an excellent job organizing the program this year.

As occurs every year, there were changes in our leadership. I want to thank Michael Moore for his exceptional service as chair of DCE during the last two years. I am especially grateful for the help he gave me in learning the duties of this position. In addition, we welcome Robert Denver as the incoming chair–elect and Kevin Kelley as the incoming secretary–elect of the Division.

This year, the Division will be selecting a Program Officer–elect. We have two excellent candidates, Mike Romero and Brian Tsukimura. Biographical sketches for both candidates appear at the end of the newsletter. I would like to thank Henry John–Alder for chairing the nomination committee.

The judging of the Aubrey Gorbman awards for student presentations was organized by Kyle Selcer. My thanks to Kyle and all of the individuals involved in judging the presentations. The decisions were difficult owing to the quality of the presentations. The **Aubrey Gorbman Award for Best Student Oral Presentation** was awarded to Noah T. Owen–Ashley (University of Washington; *Hormonal, behavioral, and thermoregulatory consequences of lipopolysaccharide–induced sickness in the White–crowned Sparrow, Zonotrichia leucophrys gambelii*). There were two honorable mentions in this category. These were awarded to Tamatha R. Barbeau (University of Florida; *Decreased gonadal steroidogenesis and increased plasma insulin–like growth factor–1 in frogs exposed to aquatic nitrates*) and to Kirsten J. Navara (Auburn University; *Differential effects of exogenous yolk testosterone on growth and immune response in bluebird nestlings.*)

The **Aubrey Gorbman Award for Best Student Poster Presentation** was awarded to Darren T. Lerner (University Massachusetts–Amherst; *Effects of nonylphenol on larval survival and smolt development of Atlantic salmon, Salmo salar.*) There were two honorable mentions in the category as well. These were

awarded to Meredith Swett (University Texas–Austin; *Testosterone correlates with morph–type in the behaviorally polymorphic white–throated sparrow, Zonotrichia albicollis*) and to J. Adam Luckenbach (North Carolina State University; *Aromatase: a functional biomarker for female differentiation in a teleost fish.*)

As you are probably aware, the SICB is doing well financially, and the meeting in New Orleans saw a significant increase in attendance and in the number of presentations. To accommodate such increases at future meetings, the Society is considering a reduction in the length of contributed oral paper from 20 to 15 minutes. This change would allow more oral presentations without increasing the number of concurrent sessions. In addition, this change would help synchronize contributed paper sessions with symposia presentations, which are typically 30 minutes long. There was a lengthy discussion of the advantages and disadvantages of this plan, with the attendees at the Division meeting being equally split for and against the idea. Nevertheless, I suspect that this plan may be the best solution if the number of oral presentations continues to grow at future meetings.

In addition to the above discussion, there was also a brief report on *General and Comparative Endocrinology* from Bob Dores at the Division meeting. Our journal is prospering and continues to grow in size and quality. Ian Callard also gave a short report on the status of the next International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology. This meeting will be held in Boston on May 23–28, 2005, so circle those dates on your calendars.

I am looking forward to serving you as Chair this year. The San Diego meeting in January, 2005 promises to be another exceptional meeting; please plan to attend and get your colleagues to come too!

Message from the Program Officer

Kyle W. Selcer (selcer@duq.edu)

Symposia for the San Diego Meeting, January, 2005

Plans are well under way for the next SICB meeting in San Diego, January 4–8, 2005. There are two SICB–wide symposia that should be of interest to DCE members. These are:

1) "Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution", organized by: Peter Alpert (U. of Massachusetts), James Clegg (U. of California/Davis), Brent Mishler (U. of California/Berkeley), and Mel Oliver (USDA) and sponsored by the following divisions: DCPB (primary), DEE and DIZ (additional).

2) "Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization", organized by: Nigel Hughes (U. of California/Riverside) and David K. Jacobs (UCLA), and sponsored by the following divisions: DEDB and DDCB (primary), DSEB, DIZ, DVM, and the Paleontological Society (additional).

Request for Symposia Proposals for the Orlando Meeting in January, 2006.

Plans are underway for the SICB Meeting in Orlando, FL, January, 2006. We are now requesting symposia proposals for this meeting. Symposia are a major draw for our annual meeting and can be extremely rewarding for the organizers as well. Symposium papers are often published together in an issue of *Integrative and Comparative Biology* (formerly called *American Zoologist*). The deadline for receipt of symposia proposals is August 15, 2004, so please start developing your ideas and talking with your colleagues about possibilities. If you have an idea for a symposium, please do not hesitate to contact me (selcer@duq.edu).

More general information and the symposium proposal submittal forms can be found on the SICB website.

Volunteer for the Chair of the DCE student awards at the San Diego meeting.

I need a volunteer to serve as the chair of the Aubrey Gorbman student awards for next year. The chair should have past experience with judging these awards. If you are interested, please email me at selcer@duq.edu.

Message from the Secretary

Jim Carr (james.carr@ttu.edu)

Minutes of the DCE Business Meeting
New Orleans, Louisiana
January 7, 2004

The meeting was called to order by DCE Chair David Borst at 5:30 pm. The minutes from the 2003 DCE Business Meeting were approved. David introduced the other DCE officers, Kyle Selcer (Program Officer) and Jim Carr (Secretary) and then provided details on the numbers of participants and presentations at the SICB 2004 meeting. There were 1445 registered attendees for the 2004 meeting, making it the largest meeting since 1996. There were a total of 1128 presentations at the 2004 SICB meeting compared to 728 in Toronto (SICB 2003) and approximately 900 presentations in Anaheim (2002 meeting). A total of 276 students received travel assistance in 2004. David congratulated the organizers of DCE co-sponsored symposium "EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology" (co-sponsored by DCE/DDCB/DIZ). David announced the winners of the 2003 DCE elections. Bob Denver was elected as DCE Chair-elect and Kevin Kelley was elected as Secretary-elect.

David introduced Ian Callard, who provided some details regarding the upcoming XVth International Conference on Comparative Endocrinology to be held in Boston in May 2005. Ian announced a call for nominations for the Pickford and Bargmann/Scharrer awards (see the official call for nominations below) and announced that abstracts for the meeting will likely be due in December 2004. Ian introduced the other members of the XVth ICCE organizing committee in attendance; F. Anne McNabb, Steve McCormick, and Stacia Sower (the full committee is listed on the XVth ICCE website <http://www.bu.edu/icce15>).

David recognized Henry John-Alder as the chair of the DCE nominating committee for 2004. Other committee members include Don Michaels and Sunny Boyd. David mentioned that there are two ad hoc committees that will need to be formed in order to address changes to the DCE by-laws and DCE fund-raising issues.

John Wingfield, SICB President, introduced SICB officers in attendance, including Sarah Woodin (SICB President-elect) and Ronald Dimock (SICB Treasurer-elect). John updated the SICB attendance numbers, mentioning that a total 1520 registrants were in attendance, 600 of whom were students. John mentioned his strong support for increasing the endowment available for supporting student travel to the annual meeting and recognized the need to increase the diversity within the society membership. John also mentioned an initiative that he is spearheading to develop a program focused on conservation biology.

Bob Dores (Editor in Chief, USA) updated the membership on the status of General and Comparative Endocrinology. In 2003, the journal printed 1019 pages, which were 600 more pages than budgeted for. The current impact rating of the journal is 1.84 and the rejection rate for new manuscripts is approximately 35%.

The current turnaround time from submission to publication is 10 months, and the time from submission to acceptance of the paper is 6 months. Bob thanked Stacia Sower and Howard Bern for organizing a special issue of GCE remembering the late Aubrey Gorbman, and announced that GCE will be publishing the proceedings of the 5th International Symposium on Fish Endocrinology, to be held at the Institute of Aquaculture Torre de la Sal in Castellon, Spain, September 5–9, 2004.

David Borst announced that John Edwards will serve for another 7 years as Editor of the Journal of Comparative and Integrative Biology.

Kyle Selcer announced that the SICB program officers were discussing the possibility of shortening the length of submitted talks to 15 min. He mentioned that one reason for the idea was that the 20 oral presentation time frame is out of sync with the symposia sessions, which generally have 30 min oral presentations. Considerable discussion of this issue ensued, and among attendees support was split approximately 50/50 for and against the proposed change in length for oral presentations. Kyle mentioned that one possibility was to limit the number of oral presentations, but Mike Romero voiced his concern that limiting the number of oral presentations might relegate students to giving posters rather than oral presentations. Tom Hahn voiced his concern that the poster sessions were too crowded at the 2004 meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20 pm.

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The 15th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology will be organized by Burk and Associates and will be held May 23–28, 2005 in Boston. Check the website (<http://www.bu.edu/icce15/index.html>) for details.

The 22nd Conference of European Comparative Endocrinologists will take place August 24–28, 2004 at Uppsala University, Uppsala, Sweden. The meeting is being organized by Dan Larhammar. Check the website (<http://www.neuro.uu.se/medfarm/cece2004/cece.htm>) for more information.

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

Bargmann–Scharrer Lecture, Pickford Medal Lecture, And A Special Aubrey Gorbman Memorial Lecture For The XVth International Congress Of Comparative Endocrinology In Boston, USA, May 2005.

The Council of the International Federation of Comparative Endocrinological Societies (IFCES) requests nominations for the Bargmann–Scharrer lecture and for the Pickford Medal lecture to be given at the 15th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology in Boston, USA in May 2005. The Bargmann–Scharrer lecturer should be a prominent comparative neuroendocrinologist. The Pickford medalist should be a comparative endocrinologist under the age of 45.

The IFCES Council also seeks nominations for a special Gorbman Memorial lecture for the 15th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology in Boston, USA in May 2005. The nominee should be a prominent comparative endocrinologist with a broad perspective.

Please send by June 1, 2004, a nomination letter and a short CV of the nominee to Yoshitaka Nagahama, Department of Developmental Biology, National Institute for Basic Biology, Okazaki 444–8585, Japan. Fax, 81–564–55–7556; e-mail, nagahama@nibb.ac.jp.

DCE Elections

Candidates for Program Officer

L. Michael Romero

Current Position: Associate Professor of Biology, Tufts University; Adjunct Associate Professor of Environmental and Population Health, Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine

Education: B.A. Biology, Swarthmore College, 1988; M.S. Biology, Stanford University, 1992; Ph.D. Biology, Stanford University, 1993.

Professional Experience: American Psychological Association Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Zoology, University of Washington, 1993–1994; NSF Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Zoology, University of Washington, 1994–1996; Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Tufts University, 1996–2002; Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Tufts University, 2002–present; Adjunct Assistant/Associate Professor, Department of Environmental and Population Health, Tufts University School of Veterinary Medicine, 1999–present; Served as grant reviewer on the National Science Foundation Neuroendocrinology Panel (IBN); Managing Editor for *General and Comparative Endocrinology*.

SICB Activities: SICB Member since 1996; Judge for "Best Student Paper" awards committee for DCE at 1998 meeting; Chaired "Best Student Paper" awards committee for DCE at 2001 meeting.

Other Memberships: American Physiological Society; Cooper Ornithological Society; Sigma Xi; Society for Neuroscience; Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology.

Research Interests: My research focuses on understanding the vertebrate stress response. Specifically, I am interested in understanding how glucocorticoids interact with other hormonal, physiological, and behavioral systems in creating an integrated stress response that allows wild animals to survive in their native habitats. About 2/3 of the work in my lab focuses on avian species and about 1/3 focuses on various reptiles and amphibians.

Goals Statement: I feel that SICB, and especially DCE, serves an important role in promoting integrative and comparative science. Even in this age of genomics, the comparative approach continues to be valuable in attacking many problems in endocrinology. As DCE program officer, I would like to work to highlight contributions from our division at the national meeting. Creating the right groupings of presentations, and forging the best connections with other divisions, will maximize the exposure of our work. This will be an important task to ensure that comparative endocrinology continues to thrive.

Brian Tsukimura

Current Position: Associate Professor of Physiology, Department of Biology, California State University, Fresno.

Education: A.B. Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, 1981; M.S. Zoology, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 1985; Ph.D. University of Hawaii, 1988.

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Fellow, Endocrinology, Illinois State University, 1988 – 1992; Lecturer in Biology, Illinois State University, 1990; Acting Assistant Professor, Illinois State University, 1992 – 1994; Assistant Professor of Physiology, 1994 – 2000, California State University, Fresno; Associate Professor of Physiology, 2000 – present, California State University, Fresno. Interagency Ecology Project – Mitten Crab Workteam, 1999 – present.

SICB Activities: First annual meeting was 1986 A.S.Z., Nashville, and I have attended all to date except 1987 (New Orleans). Chair, Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, 1995–1997 (lobbied to get this Chair onto the Executive Committee). Chair, Student Support Committee, 2003 – present. Participation in the Midwestern Regional Conference on Comparative Endocrinology (co-organizer, 1990) and Western Regional Conference on Comparative Endocrinology.

Other Memberships: Sigma Xi, Crustacean Society, American Microscopical Society, AAAS – Pacific Division, Sierra Foothill Conservancy.

Research Interests: Comparative endocrinology of the regulation of development, growth, and reproduction using crustacean models. Current studies focus on the influence of environmental factors on reproduction and development, and the regulatory hormones integrating these influences, particularly on vitellogenin synthesis and larval growth. Recent studies in invasive species biology have led to the use of the Chinese mitten crab as a new model organism for me, and selenium as a stressor on tadpole metamorphosis.

Goal Statement: The annual SICB meeting serves as a forum for our members of the DCE to share data and exchange ideas. I hope to continue the great job both past and present DCE program officers to accomplish the maintenance of this important option for our members. In addition, as the research areas of our members expand, I hope to encourage an increase in the integrative and comparative nature of our symposia and sessions in Regulatory Biology. I also have strong beliefs that the SICB and DCE retain its student/post-doc friendly stature by keeping all options for data presentation (posters and oral contributions) open for these important constituents.

Division of Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry (DCPB): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary: Business Meeting Minutes and Candidates for Election](#)
 - [Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative](#)

 - [The George A. Bartholomew Award](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Donna L. Wolcott

I have inherited from the Past-Chair, Nora Terwilliger, leadership of a vibrant division, and at over 800 members, the largest in SICB. What an awesome assemblage of expertise and interests! The meetings in January 2004 in New Orleans offered many excellent symposia sponsored or co-sponsored by DCPB. One of the highlights for me was the symposium honoring George Bartholomew, a society-wide symposium presented by the past recipients of the Bartholomew award – all ten of them! At the last minute, George himself was unable to attend.

My 8.5E+09m dash as chair is well underway. The starting line is lost in the detritus of a busy semester, and sometimes when I am churning through the flurry of insistent immediacy – trivial or otherwise, I lose track of the goal. And on really bad days, the goal seems to be getting further away. But one goal is to deliver to my successor a division as healthy as I found it. I realize that it is the height of hubris to think that the success of the division lies in my hands. I share the leadership with an excellent executive committee, (Nora Terwilliger, past-chair; Michael Dickinson, program officer; Paul Yancey, secretary; Joanna Joyner Matos, grad rep, UFL), and receive critical help from DCPB members who are active in affiliated societies. For instance, Lou Burnett is the SICB Representative on the US National Committee of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS). The IUPS Congress in 2005 will be held in the US for the first time in over thirty-five years, so the National Organizing Committee is especially busy. I encourage all of you to contribute to travel support for young investigators, especially those from outside the US, so that they can attend the Congress. Visit <http://www.iups2005.org/sponsorship.htm> and make a donation. Even if you don't generally attend IUPS functions, please contribute. I would like members of the division to at least match the \$5K that members of the SICB executive committee approved (yes, the full \$5K requested was reinstated, instead of the initial allocation of \$2K). These funds will go to support development of symposia with integrative and comparative content for the Congress. DCPB representatives made a persuasive case to SICB that the US-held Congress provides a unique opportunity to highlight the value of integrative and comparative science – and hence, SICB. A culmination of several years of effort by DCPB/SICB members in planning and organizing, the 2005 Congress presents a real opportunity to move the rudder of the great ship of physiological sciences and shift it ever so slightly from its overly human-centered course into the productive waters of comparative and integrative studies. Oh the places we'll go... So please give generously to the travel fund for the Congress. Who knows? If we can match the SICB donation, it is much more likely that the SICB exec. committee can

justify an additional infusion of \$10K in 2005, as requested, to support international student travel to the Congress.

Thanks to all of you who expressed interest in doing editorial work for *Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry* – another example of the health of the division. I will pass along the names of the new "recruits with this year's nomination of the DCPB executive committee. Editor Pat Walsh will make the selections for DCPB–affiliated editors from among our nominations, and use the additional pool for any non–affiliated positions that might be available.

Thanks to David Tapley, who organized a well–run competition for best student paper and poster, and the 45 students who participated (23 posters, 22 papers). The quality of the presentations was so uniformly good, that it made selection of the very best work quite difficult. The decisions of the judges can be found in Michael Dickinson's Message of the Program Officer. Please encourage students to participate in 2005. Information on the competition can be found at <http://sicb.org/awards.php3#bsp>

We have two important elections this Spring: Chair–Elect and Program Officer. Check out the candidates' statements found elsewhere in the newsletter, and vote. Thanks to Nora Terwilliger, Warren Burggren, and Harvey Lillywhite, the nominating committee, for an excellent recruiting effort.

Think back on your past experiences at SICB meetings. Can you think of someone who used to be active, but hasn't shown up for awhile? Pass on the name to me, or even better yet, send an email to him/her yourself. If you have colleagues who could contribute to the intellectual – and social (!) mix of the meetings, contact them, too. Let them know you would value their participation. Keeping and building a strong membership is yet another goal for the division. I look forward to see you all in San Diego next January.

Message from the Program Officer

Michael Dickinson

New Orleans:

A special thanks to all who helped to organize the DCPB–sponsored symposia in the last meeting, including Carl Reiber, John Swallow, Ted Garland, Ray Huey, Gretchen Hofmann, and Robert Dudley. Along with the record number of contributed papers, the symposia helped make the meeting a great success. Thanks also to Yoshitaka Nagahama for delivering the Howard Bern Lecture, as well as Howard himself for providing a tribute to Aubrey Gorbman. Congratulations to Jason Podrabsky, who was awarded this year's George A. Bartholomew Award [see his biography at the end of this newsletter].

San Diego:

The Division is sponsoring two symposia for next year's meeting, both focusing on physiological adaptations to extreme ecological conditions. Peter Albert, Jim Clegg, Brent Mishler, and Mel Oliver have organized a society–wide symposium entitled, "Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution". Robert Dudley and Doug Altshuler have organized a symposium (co–sponsored with DVM) entitled, "Adaptations for Life at High Elevations".

Future Meetings:

It is never too soon to start thinking of ideas for symposia for future meetings. The symposia are a great way to relay new research themes to all members of the Society. Organizing a symposium does not require as much effort as you may think. Please email me (flyman@caltech.edu) or call (626-395-5775) to discuss ideas and get started.

Upcoming Events:

Next year, the 35th Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) will be held in San Diego from March 31 to April 5th (<http://www.iups.org/>). Although this meeting is only a few months after the next SICB meeting in the same town, there are many excellent reasons for attending. First, the Congress has an integrative theme this year: *From Genomes to Functions*, which will be of interest to DCPB members. Indeed, several members of the IUPS Program Committee are active SICB physiologists, including Barbara Block, Malcolm Gordon, and Harold Atwood. Second, the last time this truly international congress was held in the United States was in 1968. Thus, this meeting represents a rare and relatively inexpensive opportunity to meet and interact with our colleagues across the globe. Third, SICB is an official sponsor of the Congress, as are the American Physiological Society (APS), the Society of General Physiologists, and the Society for Neuroscience. The Division encourages all of its members to attend what is sure to be an excellent meeting.

The 7th Congress of the International Society for Neuroethology will be held this summer from August 8–13 in Nyborg, Denmark (<http://neuro.biology.sdu.dk/>). This tri-annual event is an exceptional meeting for those interested in the mechanistic underpinnings of behavior.

Finally, here are the results of the best presentation competition at the New Orleans meeting:

Best Poster Competition:

First Place: Lisa K. Johnson, UNC Wilmington, NC, for

Johnson, L.K, Kinsey, S.T. "Effects of muscle fiber size on post-contractile lactate recovery in the blue crab *Callinectes sapidus*." UNC, Wilmington.

Honorable Mention:

Jeremy Holman, College of Charleston, SC, for

Holman, J.D., Burnett, L.E., Burnett, K.G. Jorgensen, D.D. "The depression of oxygen uptake in blue crabs in response to bacterial challenge."

Patrick Baker, Miami University, OH, for

Baker, P.J., Costanzo, J.P., Herlands, R., Wood, R.C., Lee Jr., R.E. "A tolerance for freezing promotes winter survival of hatchlings of the northern diamondback terrapin, *Malaclemys terrapin*."

Best Oral Presentation:

First Place: Allison Green, USC, CA, for

Green, A.J., Manahan, D.T. "Metabolic efficiency in fast-growing larvae."

Honorable Mention:

Katrina Salvante, Simon Fraser U., Canada, for

Salvante, K.G., Walzem, R.L., Williams, T.D. "Differential allocation of lipid resources during avian egg production."

Jason Blank, Hopkins Marine Station, CA, for

Blank, J.M., Morrisette, J.M., Landeira-Fernandez, A.M., Block, B.A. "Cardiac performance of Pacific bluefin tuna in response to temperature."

Message from the Secretary

Paul H. Yancey

MINUTES FROM THE BUSINESS MEETING, JANUARY 5, 2004, NEW ORLEANS

Nora Terwilliger (Chair) presented the minutes from the DCPB Business meeting in Toronto, January 2003. The minutes were approved unanimously.

Nora then introduced Paul Yancey as the newly elected secretary, and thanked Gene Williams for standing for election. Paul then presented the revised divisional bylaws as distributed in the Fall 2003 newsletter. The primary revision was the addition of a section on "Best Student Paper Awards," which had been approved some years earlier but which had not yet been incorporated into the official bylaws. This section began with the following:

"Two awards will be given in the Best Student Paper competition at the Annual Meeting, one for the best oral presentation and one for the best poster presentation. Each year the award will be titled in honor of a distinguished comparative physiologist or biochemist. The name of the honored person will be selected by the DCPB Executive Committee."

The revision was amended with the addition of the word "deceased," to read:

"in honor of a deceased distinguished comparative physiologist or biochemist."

The final version was approved. The current bylaws can be found at:

<http://sicb.org/handbook/bylaws.php3#dcpbbylaws>

Michael Dickinson (Program Officer) then reported on upcoming meetings, including symposia of interest to DCPB at SICB 2005 in San Diego and at the IUPS 2005 meeting in San Diego. See his report *Message from the Program Officer* in this newsletter for more information.

Lou Burnett (IUBS and IUPS Representative) and Malcolm Gordon (Chair of Commission on Comparative Physiology for IUPS) and Barbara Block (member of the commission) reported that the IUPS 2005 meeting

will be about 10–12% comparative in content, a high amount for a general physiology congress. DCPB members were encouraged to support this meeting and the hard work done to increase the comparative content. This content will include symposia (about 12), featured topics (about 5), contributed papers, and satellite symposia (e.g., on Bioinspired Engineering at Caltech 2 days prior to IUPS). The Krogh Lecture will be given by Roy Weber. A final program will be made in February or March with a call for papers. Nora reported that the DCPB Executive Committee requested \$5000 from SICB to help with IUPS planning and \$10,000 for student travel and other aspects of the meeting itself, but that the SICB Finance Committee approved only \$2000 for planning so far. Nora noted that IUPS ties into the new SICB mission of fostering an international presence for the society, which includes promoting participation of foreign students (who often have difficulties in attending US meetings). Also, SICB should support this rare occurrence of IUPS being held in the USA.

A motion was made by Peter DeFur to call again for \$5000 from SICB for the planning of IUPS 2005. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

John Wingfield, President of SICB, dropped in to report on the ongoing SICB Strategic Planning. He is requesting ideas on the society-wide issues of diversity, conservation, outreach to Central and South America. He reported that there is a possibility of holding an SICB meeting in Mexico. Finally, he noted that this New Orleans meeting had over 1500 attendees.

David Goldstein reported on the APS (American Physiological Society) comparative meeting to be held in 2006, noting that DCPB needs to work closely with APS because this meeting is a collaborative project. The deadline for symposia ideas is April 1. He also noted that the upcoming Experimental Biology 2004 meeting has a good comparative component.

Jim Hicks (editor of *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology, PBZ*) reported that the journal has a new manager, Andrea Canfield. The 2003 level of submission (190) was similar to 2002, with 60% from outside the USA, and with a 51% acceptance rate. Turnaround dropped from 82 to 70 days between 2002 and 2003. Publication schedule is still problematical with the University of Chicago Press.

Nora reported that Pat Walsh and Tom Mommsen, editors of *CPB (Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology)* could not attend the business meeting. However, they did submit a written report on the journal, as follows:

1. Submissions Statistics:

2003 total submissions=771 manuscripts

Acceptances/Rejections for first half of 2003

	# MS	Total MS	%
- desk-rejections	82	424	19.3
- rejections after review	43	424	10.1

Therefore total direct rejection rate is 29.5%

	#MS	Total MS	%
- major problems- not returned by authors	54	424	12.7

- moderate problems - not returned 11 424 2.6

Therefore total indirect rejection rate is 15.3%

Overall rejection rate is 44.8%

Average reviewing time: 3.4 weeks

Reviewers involved in reviewing process: 1341

Overall conclusion is that CBP referees continue to maintain high standards in their reviewing. Increased desk rejection rate by Editors and Editorial Board has decreased use of valuable referee time on questionable papers. Overall rate of manuscript submission remains about the same. We do wish to encourage SICB members with toxicology as part of their research programs to consider publishing in CBP Part C as manuscript flow there is a little lower than Parts A or B, and we can fasttrack manuscripts for more rapid publication. Also, we have a separate subheading for Comparative Genomics, Proteomics, Functional Genomics papers. Once papers are accepted in general, our time to publication is 14–18 weeks.

2. We expect some turnover in the Editorial Board this coming year. Since the initial appointment term of an EB member is 3 years, we want to turnover about 1/3 of the board each year so that the whole board does not turnover all at once. This year we will rotate several members off and will be looking especially for expertise in the following areas due to increased manuscript flow in these areas:

Avian Physiology, Toxicology, Nutrition, Development
Fish Nutrition, Aquaculture
Mammalian (grazing) nutrition
Biomechanics, hydrodynamics, functional morphology, locomotory power
Marine Mammal Physiology
Developmental Biology, especially invertebrates
Immunology

Pathology, Apoptosis
Insect Physiology/Endocrinology
Toxicology:

Cyt P450, antioxidants
Endocrine Disruption and "Normal" Endocrinology
Mammalian Toxicology

Natural Products/Toxins/Venoms
Enzyme/Protein Biochem (Digestive Enzymes, Serum Proteins)
Molecular Biology
Genomics/Bioinformatics

Major duties of EB members are to suggest referees for papers in their areas of expertise, and to advise the Editors on papers where adjudication between conflicting referee reports is required. Manuscript flow is kept to less than 1 per month on average, and in many cases is far lower (e.g., three per year).

We welcome nominations to the EB by SICB DCPB officers and members.

3. Several Scientific Symposia are slated for publication in 2004, and organizers of SICB symposia are encouraged to contact the Editors with ideas for publication of future symposia. However, the number of slots is limited as we do not wish to slow down the publication rate of primary manuscripts.

4. We expect that the switch to fully electronic review will be complete by March 2004.

Nora reported on the best student papers for 2003. Dave Tapley organized the judging at this 2004 meeting. Nora then presented a proposal from the SICB Executive Committee and Program Officer to change contributed talks from 20 to 15 minutes to allow synchronization with the 30-minute symposium talks. There was considerable discussion on this issue, with some members noting that 15 minutes does not give much chance to develop concepts for audience members outside a narrow field, while others noted that this change would allow more students to give talks. There was no general consensus.

Nora finally welcomed Donna Wolcott as the incoming Chair of DCPB. Donna thanked the division, and the meeting was adjourned.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

We are holding elections for DCPB Chair and Program Officer. Electronic ballots will be distributed during the summer. Please be sure to vote. Biographies of the candidates are below:

DCPB Elections

Candidates for Chair

Joe B. Williams

Current Position: Associate Professor, Ohio State University

Education: B.A., David Lipscomb University, Nashville, Tennessee, 1970; M.A., Zoology, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, 1974; Ph.D., Ecology and Evolution, University of Illinois, Urbana, Illinois, 1977; Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Pennsylvania, 1980–1982

Professional Experience: isiting Instructor in Biology at University of Illinois, 1976; Assistant Professor, Division of Natural Science, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, 1977–1979; Postdoctoral Fellow University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1980–1982; Associate Professor, Pepperdine University, Malibu, California, 1982–1986; Visiting Research Fellow University of Western Australia, Perth, Western Australia, 1986; Research Fellow University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona, 1986–1989; C.S.I.R. Fellow University of Cape Town, Rondebosch, South Africa, 1988–1994; Assistant Professor Ohio State University, 1994–1998

SICB Activities: 6 posters, 6 oral presentations, symposium speaker for SICB symposium "Taking Physiology to the Field". 16 papers published in *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*. 1 paper published in *Integrative and Comparative Biology*.

Other Memberships: Ecological Society of America, American Ornithologists Union, Cooper Ornithological Society.

Research Interests: Research in our laboratory is generally concerned with both pattern and process of physiological adaptation of animals, especially vertebrates. Because studies on animals living in harsh environments often provide insights into the constraints and mechanisms driving physiological adjustment, we concentrate much of our work in regions of climatic extremes, especially deserts. Much of our work has revolved around attempts to understand the factors that influence daily energy and water requirements because these together are fundamental requisites for life and likely candidates for the action of natural selection. Recently we have begun an examination of the influence of lipids in the skin of birds on cutaneous water loss. Tropics vs temperate

Statement of Goals: The SICB has as one of its goals to facilitate "Integrative Biology" among its members. I think that we need to highlight this goal, and to insure that members of the DCPB have the opportunity to exchange ideas with other members in far different fields of endeavor from their own.

Patrick J. Walsh

Current Position: Professor of Marine Biology and Fisheries, Rosenstiel School of Marine and Atmospheric Science, University of Miami.

Education: Ph.D., Marine Biology, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, University of California, San Diego, 1981; B.S., Biology and Chemistry, University of Miami, 1975.

Professional Experience: Director, NIEHS Marine and Freshwater Biomedical Sciences Center, University of Miami, 1999–present; Co–Editor–In–Chief, *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology*, 2001–present; Division Chair, Marine Biology and Fisheries, University of Miami, 1991–1995; Assistant and Associate Professor, University of Miami, 1984–1992; Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa, 1983–84; Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Biology, University of Ottawa, 1981–1983.

SICB Activities: Member since 1983; Student presentation judge for DCPB; Numerous contributed presentations.

Other Memberships: AAAS (Fellow, 1995); Sigma Xi; Society for Experimental Biology; American Physiological Society; Canadian Society of Zoologists; Society for Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry; Editorial Board, *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*, 1997–present; Consortium for Oceanographic Research and Education (CORE), Committee on Oceans and Human Health, 2003–present.

Research Interests: Comparative and evolutionary aspects of the physiology, biochemistry and molecular biology of aquatic animals, especially marine fish, mollusks, crustaceans and cnidarians, and especially nitrogen metabolism and excretion; physiology and biochemistry of xenobiotic metabolism; biochemical and molecular genetics of populations.

Statement of Goals: While I have been a rank and file member of ASZ/SICB for a number of years, I would like to try to contribute more to the society. As DCPB Chair, I want to try to accomplish several things: (1) ascertain the priorities of the division members as to what issues DCPB should pursue; (2) work with other DCPB officers to continue the high quality of scientific symposia at the annual SICB meeting and at international meetings; (3) foster communication between DCPB and other international comparative societies; (4) foster communications between DCPB and funding agencies (e.g., NSF, NIH, etc.) to try to enhance funding opportunities for comparative research; (5) encourage senior DCPB members to continue to mentor our student, postdoctoral and junior–faculty division members; (6) learn new things and have fun.

Candidates for Program Officer

Kimberly A. Hammond

Current Position: Associate Professor of Biology, University of California, Riverside

Education: Ph.D., Dept. of Biology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, 1989; M.A., Dept. of Biology, State University of New York, Buffalo, New York, 1983; B.S., Dept. of Zoology, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, Colorado, 1978

Professional Experience: Post Doctoral: Department of Physiology; UCLA School of Medicine, Los Angeles CA. 1990–1994

SICB Activities: Member Graduate Student and Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, 1989–1992; Member–at–Large (Society Wide) and Executive Committee, 2000–2003.

Other Memberships: Ecological Society of America; Sigma Xi; Current President of the Riverside Chapter: Comparative Nutrition Society; American Physiological Society

Research Interests: I am interested in how anatomical and physiological capacities meet environmental demands. Animals often meet demands by changing organ size and organ capacity. This approach demands an appreciation of both mechanistic physiology and ecology. I study animals at all stages of development, concentrating on the effects of environmental demands in utero and during adulthood. At present I work primarily on physiological acclimation and adaptation to high altitude.

Statement of Goals: I have two sets of goals. One involves the distribution between symposia, posters and talks at the annual meetings, and the other involves maintaining an integrative thread that will allow sessions on different, but closely related topics, to be accessible. Talks allow for presentations with the dynamics of a group discussion. Posters allow for one–on–one discussion and a longer "look" at the data. Both are very important venues and neither type of presentation should be de–emphasized. I would work hard to promote a distribution of presentations that brings us all together in BOTH venues. At any scientific meeting, it is critical to maintain a cohesive set of presentations that will compliment symposia talks. However, I would also like to allow for presenters to bring new ideas and connections between fields to the table. An example would be to blend traditional "developmental biology" talks (traditionally very cell and molecular) with integrative physiology research that is developmental in nature. I will work hard to find creative ways to do this.

Gretchen E. Hofmann

Current Position: Assistant Professor and Worster Scholar, Department of Ecology, Evolution, and Marine Biology, University of California, Santa Barbara

Education: BS, University of Wyoming, 1987; MS University of Colorado, Boulder, 1988; PhD University of Colorado, Boulder, 1992

Professional Experience: Assistant Professor, University of California, Santa Barbara, 2002–present; Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Arizona State University, 1999–2002; Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Univ. of New Mexico, 1997–1999; NSF Marine Biotechnology Postdoctoral Fellow, Oregon State University and Stanford University, 1994–1996; Postdoctoral Research Fellow Oregon State University, 1992–1994

SICB Activities: Member since 1992. Routine attendance at annual meetings, missing some due to travel to the Antarctic. Co-organized two SICB symposia: the biology of heat-shock proteins (with Martin Feder) at the Denver meeting in 1999 and the Bartholomew Symposium in New Orleans in 2004. Participated in 1 other SICB symposium in the ecological physiology of the rocky intertidal zone. Graduate students and post-docs from the lab attend meetings and present their research.

Other Memberships: AAAS, Western Society of Naturalists

Research Interests: My research focuses on the physiology and comparative biochemistry of marine invertebrates and fish in an ecological context. I am particularly interested in temperature biology and have studied the expression and function of heat-shock proteins in natural populations of marine ectotherms. Although the techniques employed in my lab are biochemical and molecular, my research integrates these approaches with broader ecological question such as addressing the factors that contribute to setting species' range limits in the marine ecosystem.

Statement of Goals: My interest in serving as DCPB Program Officer lies in my past and present experiences with SICB, and my interest in the future of our field. As a student attendee to SICB meetings, I met scientists such as Jeff Hazel – who scared me a bit at that time – but who later became my mentor as a colleague. I first met my postdoctoral supervisor, George Somero, at a SICB meeting. These contacts and the opportunity to talk with the finest in our field were, in hindsight, invaluable to my future path in academics. In the present, as I bring my own students to the annual meetings, I am more committed than ever to preserve and enhance such opportunities for the future crop of comparative physiologists. (You know who you are.) Finally, as an ever greater diversity of biologists becomes interested in organismal biology and recognizes the power of comparative approaches, we have an opportunity to expand our field and interact with researchers in other divisions and with those from areas that have not been traditionally represented within SICB. One of my goals as DCPB Program Officer would be to focus on new areas of overlap with other fields and to emphasize how our area of study is strengthened by such interactions.

Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative

Joanna Joyner Matos

Hello DCPB student members! The 2004 Annual Meeting in New Orleans was a great success, both for the DCPB and for student members of SICB. There were more students attending and presenting at the meeting than at any SICB meeting in recent memory. SICB generously provided housing to a large number of us and the student activities were very fun. DCPB members were kept busy by interesting several interesting symposia, especially the symposium honoring George A. Bartholomew.

Do not forget that the Sigma Xi Grant-in-Aid of Research grant proposal is due **March 15**. This program funds the purchase of specific equipment necessary to undertake the proposed research project and travel to a field site. <http://www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/index.shtml>

If you like thinking ahead, there are several large grant/fellowship opportunities due early in the fall, including the NSF Graduate Research Fellowship and Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grant, EPA STAR proposal, SICB Grant-in-Aid of Research and Graduate Student Travel Fellowship, and the Sigma Xi Grant-in Aid of Research. Details of all of these programs are available on the respective web sites.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at jjoyner@zoo.ufl.edu

Good luck with your studies and research!

The George A. Bartholomew Award Competition

The Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry solicits applications and nominations for the 2004 George A. Bartholomew Award—an annual prize given to a young investigator for distinguished contributions to comparative physiology and biochemistry or to related fields of functional and integrative biology. Eligible candidates are those who have completed their doctorate within the past seven (7) years. Additional information about the award is available on the SICB website (<http://www.sicb.org/grants/bartholomew.php3>). Candidates may apply directly or be nominated: both types of candidates will be evaluated equivalently. Applicants should submit a short description of their work, three (3) reprints, and a curriculum vita and also request three letters of recommendation. Nominators must arrange for these same materials (except that only two additional letters of recommendation are required) to be submitted to the Committee. All materials should be submitted electronically in pdf format to the Chair of the Selection Committee Dr. W. Ross Ellington, Department of Biological Science, Florida State University (email address: elling@bio.fsu.edu). Deadline for receipt of all materials is Wednesday, 1 September 2004. The winner will present a Plenary Lecture at the 2005 Annual Meeting in San Diego.

The 2003 George A. Bartholomew Recipient: Jason Podrabsky

Jason Podrabsky graduated with a B.S. in Biology from Oregon State University in 1993. Jason was first exposed to the world of comparative physiology at OSU by Dr. George Somero during a course in Marine Biology at Hatfield Marine Science Center. This experience triggered a profound revelation that caused him to abandon his aspirations of becoming a wealthy physician with practices in the Puget Sound and Baja California, for the age-old pursuit of knowledge of fish physiology. Ever since that day he has remained a devout comparative physiologist. After spending some time as a technician in Dr. Somero's lab he abandoned the rain and gloom (and athlete's foot) of Oregon for the blue skies and mountains (and altitude sickness) of Boulder, Colorado. He received his Ph.D. in Environmental, Population, and Organismic Biology under the direction of Dr. Steve Hand at the University of Colorado. Jason's dissertation focused on the bioenergetics of diapause in the annual killifish *Austrofundulus limnaeus*. Having been land-locked for long enough, he decided to return to George Somero's lab, but this time in the much more hospitable climes of Hopkins Marine Station (HMS) in Pacific Grove California. There he enjoyed being the only person working on a freshwater fish at a marine station, and for his efforts was awarded honorary marine biologist status. During his stay at HMS, Jason developed a cDNA microarray for *A. limnaeus* and used this resource to investigate changes in gene expression associated with diurnal temperature cycling in fish. After three years of living in paradise, he often found himself sitting on the rocks at HMS with his buddies Eric Sanford and Jonathon Stillman, daydreaming of those rainy Oregon winters. His day dreams soon (too soon?) became reality when he accepted a job in his natal state of Oregon at Portland State University in 2003. Current projects in Jason's lab at PSU include, exploring changes in gene expression during entry and exit from diapause and during exposure to anoxia in *A. limnaeus*, and environmental gene regulation in salt creek desert pupfish.



Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) and Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

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 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary](#)
 - [Message from the Student/Postdoc Representative](#)
 - [Candidates for Elections](#)
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Message from the Chair

Brian K. Hall

Dear Member of the DEDB and DDCB,

This is the first message to the newly amalgamated divisions of evolutionary developmental biology, developmental biology and cell biology. Fortunately, we have not been asked to construct a new acronym (DEDBDDCB, DEDBbut will continue with our individual identities and acronyms (DEDB, DDCB) as we work collectively to further our common the interests. On your behalf I extend our warmest thanks to Patricia Glas and Günter Wagner for all their efforts over the past year in bringing the two divisions into amalgamation.

If you check the minutes of the meetings of the two divisions held in New Orleans in January you will find the document of amalgamation as approved. This is not necessarily a permanent change (see the document) but gives us time to energize the two divisions in ways that will best serve us as member and the society as a whole.

The 2004 meeting was an excellent one with high attendance, excellent divisional symposia, first-rate posters and contributed talks, and the usual high level of interactions in the corridors – often accompanied by New Orleans jazz. The 2005 meeting should be equally strong and enjoyable:

Moya Smith from Kings College London has organized a symposium on "*Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition*" sponsored by our two amalgamated divisions along with the Divisions of Vertebrate Morphology and Evolutionary Biology.

Our graduate student and post-doctoral fellow representative Brad Davidson is organizing a symposium (*Movers and Shakers: A Young Investigators Symposium on Mesoderm Evolution*), which will consist of speakers nominated by grad. student and post. doc. members of the divisions. This is an innovative and welcome move. Mesoderm evolution is not the simple issue we older members once thought it to be – one germ layer, one evolutionary origin, one mode of formation. Check out Brad's message below.

It is not too early to begin thinking about symposia for January 2006. The deadline has been September in the past, so start thinking now. Symposia that integrate activities of the two divisions would be especially appropriate. And it is not too early to begin to think about graduate student–post doc–sponsored symposia for 2007 and beyond; participate while you are still a graduate student or post doc.

You will find information on candidates nominated for the positions of joint divisional program officer, secretary, and graduate student–post doctoral fellow representative. Don't forget to exercise your franchise.

We retain our association with the two journals *Evolution & Development* and the *Journal of Experimental Zoology Part B: Molecular and Developmental Evolution* and encourage you to subscribe and submit. Papers from the Kowalevsky symposium, sponsored by DEDB and held at the Toronto meeting are published in the January 2004 issue of *JEZ (MDE)*, volume 302B, issue #1. Our thanks to Manfred Laubichler and Günter Wagner for organizing the symposium and for orchestrating publication.

Message from the Program Officer

Eduardo Rosa–Molinar

¡Saludos from Puerto Rico! For the 2004 Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) Annual Meeting in New Orleans, Louisiana members submitted 1115 abstracts, almost 400 more than last year! The attendance was approximately 1550. There were also an incredible number of students at this year's meeting. The breakdown is shown below:

- A. Development: *DDCB and *DEDB; 80 abstracts
- B. Ecology and Behavior: *DAB and *DEE; 120 abstracts
- C. Environmental Biology: *DCE, DEE, DSEB and *DCPB; 69 abstracts
- D. Evolution: *DSEB, DEDB, *DVM, DEE; 166 abstracts
- E. Integrative and Comparative Issues: *DIZ and *DNB; 21 abstracts
- F. Morphology: DVM and DIZ; 200 abstracts
- G. Physiology and Behavior: DCPB; 167 abstracts
- H. Regulatory Biology: DCE, DCPB, DNB; 106 abstracts
- I. Mini–symposia: 14 abstracts
- J. Symposia: 172 abstracts

***DAB** – Division of Animal Behavior; **DCE** – Division of Comparative Endocrinology; **DCPB** – Division of Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry; **DDCB** – Division of Developmental & Cell Biology; **DEDB** – Division of Evolutionary & Developmental Biology; **DEE** – Division of Ecology & Evolution; **DIZ** – Division of Invertebrate Zoology; **DNB** – Division of Neurobiology; **DSEB** – Division of Systematic & Evolutionary Biology; **DVM** – Division of Vertebrate Morphology

DEDB sponsored the *Morphological Innovations* symposium organized by Gerd B. Müller and Stuart A. Newman. This symposium was extremely well attended (standing room only) and generated discussion and debate as seen in the 13th of February 2004 issue of *Science* (vol. 303 page 951). DEDB also co–sponsored the *Model Systems for the Basal Metazoa* symposium (although not listed in the final program and abstracts book) organized by Neil Blackstone, Hans Bode, Cliff Cunningham, and Rob Steele. I want to thank Gerd, Stuart, Neil, Hans, Cliff, and Rob for doing an excellent job in organizing these symposia and the attendees for making the 2004 SICB annual meeting a success.

Seven students entered the best student talk and poster presentation competition. I thank all of the students and faculty mentors who entered and encouraged their students to enter the Best Student Paper Competition.

Your participation was critical in making this meeting a success.

Although there were many excellent DEDB presentations, the Program Committee found two outstanding presentations.

Davenport, Ian, Robert. *A Novel Actin-Based Framework Aids in the Evolution of Extreme Egg Size in Chondrichthyan Fishes* (Collaborator: J. P. Wourms). Tanka, Kohtaro. *Morphogenesis of the Adult Legs in Manduca Sexta: Contribution of Different Larval Cell Populations*. (Collaborator: J. W. Truman). Congratulations to Ian and Kohtaro for their excellent work and many thanks to the judges for taking time out of their busy schedules to evaluate all of the student presentations. Ian's and Kohtaro's presentations exemplify the outstanding work being done by DEDB students, faculty mentors, and collaborators. Keep it goin'!



Ian and Kohtaro will receive a \$100.00 cash prize and a signed second edition of the book "*From DNA to Diversity*" by Sean Carroll, et al. In addition, they will receive a one-year online subscription to *Evolution and Development*. I would like to thank Ms. Nancy Whilton from Blackwell Publishing for supporting the book award. The check and book are in the mail!

The divisional program officers' meeting for the 2005 SICB annual meeting has been set for September 25th and 26th, 2004. If you have any comments and/or concerns regarding the meeting that you want me to bring up during the program officers meeting, please send them to me via e-mail (ed@hpcf.upr.edu).

The 2005 meeting will be held January 4–8, in San Diego, California. Start making plans. It promises to be an excellent meeting. DEDB and DDCB will be the primary sponsors for the:

- ◆ *Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization* organized by Nigel Hughes, Ph.D. and David Jacobs, Ph.D. This symposium was selected as a society-wide symposium because of the breadth of the topic and the general interest that we expect it to generate. This symposium will be co-sponsored by DSEB, DIZ, and DVM
- ◆ *WormNet: Recent Advances in Annelid Systematics, Development, and Evolution* organized by Kenneth M. Halanych, Ph.D.. This symposium will be sponsored by DEDB, DIZ, and DSEB.
- ◆ *Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition* organized by Moya Meredith Smith, Ph.D.. This symposium will be sponsored by DEDB, DVM, DDCB, and DSEB.

Keep checking the SICB website (<http://www.sicb.org>) and reading the DEDB newsletter for updates regarding the 2005 meeting in San Diego.

It is time to begin planning new symposia for the 2006 SICB meeting. Brad Davidson, our post-doctoral representative, has an excellent proposal for a symposium. The symposium is entitled: "*Movers and Shakers: A Young Investigators Symposium on Mesoderm Evolution*". Please feel free to contact me if you would like to discuss ideas for other symposia for the

2006 annual meeting and beyond. An official call for 2006 symposia will be going out soon, and you will be able to find it on the SICB webpage (<http://www.sicb.org>). Symposia proposal(s) will be DUE sometime in August.

Finally, encourage your graduate students and colleagues to join SICB and the DEDB and DDCB and keep sending your original research papers and/or symposia to *Evolution and Development* (Blackwell Science, Inc.), *Molecular and Developmental Evolution* (Wiley-Liss, Inc), *American Naturalist* (University of Chicago Press) or to *Integrative and Comparative Biology* (Allen Press, Inc), SICB's own journal. These journals are all sponsored by SICB. I hope to see you all in San Diego.

¡Hasta Pronto!

Message from the Secretary

Frietson Galis

Dear members of the DEDB and DDCB, here are the minutes of the well-attended DEDB business meeting at the conference on Wednesday, 7 January 2004:

- Opening of the meeting by our Chair, Günter Wagner.
 - Vote on the proposal for association with DDCB (see below), including
 - ◆ Contract of association which can be cancelled by either division.
 - ◆ Joint officers, elected by the combined membership of DDCB and DEDB, with the exception of the chair (there will be two Chairs).
 - ◆ Joint program development
- The proposal for association with DDCB was accepted by those present at the meeting.
- Report of the program officer, Eduardo Rosa-Molinar (see his report in this newsletter).
 - Report of the secretary
 - ◆ Our website has been expanded this year. A member list has been added as well as information on upcoming meetings that we think are of interest to our members. Ruediger Birenheide has been particularly helpful in keeping our website updated. The executive committee has asked us to make the website more visually attractive. We shall work on this.
 - ◆ We have been asked to make an operation manual that lists the activities of officers. This should make the start of new officers easier and the functioning of the division more efficient.
 - ◆ When members want to send information to other members of the division, they can send an email to me at: galis@rulsfb.leidenuniv.nl
 - Report of the student/post-doc representative, Brad Davidson, (see his report in this newsletter)
 - Request by the Executive Committee on a proposal to reduce the lengths of the contributed talks from 20 minutes to 15 minutes. A large majority voted to keep the length at 20 minutes (this was also the outcome for the society at large).
 - Reminder by the Chair-elect Brian Hall that elections for secretary, program officer and student/post-doc representative are necessary this year, see below for biosketches of the candidates.
 - Announcement by James Hanken, president of the International Vertebrate Morphology Society, of a late abstract deadline of 1 March for the 7th meeting of the Society in Boca Raton Florida from 27 July to 1 August 2004.

- Request by Jonathan Losos to consider the American Naturalist as journal for developmental evolutionary papers, next to the specialist journals Molecular Developmental Evolution (Journal of Experimental Zoology, series B) and Evolution and Development that are supported by our society.
- Announcement of our first joint social with both the DDCB and DVM divisions immediately following the business meeting.

Memorandum of Understanding between the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB) and the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB)

Regarding: association of DDCB and DEDB

Date: Monday, July 21, 2003

With this memorandum the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology, hereafter called DDCB, and the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, hereafter called DEDB, of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology, hereafter called SICB, confirm their decision to form an Association to perform the business and scientific program functions of a Division of SICB as detailed below.

[rationale: the problem to be solved is the lack of participation in DDCB and thus the idea is to consolidate the functions of the Divisions as much as possible.]

The Association shall continue as long as it is perceived by the membership in the interest of the participating parties, DDCB, DEDB and SICB. The Association may be dissolved unilaterally by a vote of one of the participating Divisions. The vote has to be a simple majority of those members of the Division participating in the vote.

[rationale: this makes sure that neither Division can be held hostage by this agreement.]

The Association shall be represented to SICB by the Chair of DEDB and a co-chair who is a primary or secondary member of DDCB. Other officer positions may be filled by members of either DEDB or DDCB. The chair of DEDB will be elected by the membership of DEDB and the co-chair by the membership of DDCB. All the other officers will be elected by the combined membership of DEDB and DDCB.

[rationale: to allow DDCB its continuing identity at least one officer has to be present to represent the interests of DDCB.]

For the duration of the Association the committee structure and business rules shall be those as explicated in the bylaws of DEDB.

[rationale: I am in the process of proposing changes to the DEDB bylaws so that the business rules become more effective and less baroque. The association of the Divisions shall not undermine the efficiency of the administrative rules. Democratic control will be guaranteed by a) the existence of a DDCB co-chair, b) the fact that the officers of the Association are elected by both divisions, and c) the ability of either Division to dissolve the association.]

The Association will be represented in the Program Committee by a Program Officer and Program Officer Elect elected by the combined membership of DDCB and DEDB. The program officer will be charged with also representing the interests of both Divisions, DDCB as well as DEDB, in the formulation of the scientific

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) and Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB)

program.

[rationale: an independent program officer will not solve the problem of lack of leadership in DDCB, but we have to make the DEDB program officer responsible for the interests of DDCB.]

The Association will strive to nominate two representatives for the editorial board of the Journal of SICB representing the two Divisions. At most one of them can be a primary member of DDCB or DEDB.

[rationale: again this is to minimize the pressure to find active participants from DDCB and allows for flexibility, but at the same time ensure that DDCB will not be dominated by DEDB against their interests.]

The Association will request funding from SICB sufficient to support the Student Best Paper Awards of both Divisions, as well as independently sponsored symposia.

[rationale: the ultimate goal is to re-grow DDCB to full fighting strength and this is only possible with their own scientific program.]

This memorandum of understanding shall be made available to the membership of SICB for comment at the SICB website, the newsletter, and division e-mail, and will become effective after affirmative votes in each division of a simple majority of the members by electronic ballot or printable ballot four weeks after posting.

Message from the Student/Postdoc Representative

Brad Davidson

Call for Nominations!

Greetings fellow post-docs and grad-students. I hope you all enjoyed this year's meeting in New Orleans. I wanted to give a brief update on my attempts to organize an Invitational Symposium. On the advice of the Program Committee, I have restructured the symposium on a more traditional theme oriented-basis. In its newest incarnation, the symposium proposal for the Jan. 2006 meeting is titled:

Movers and Shakers: A Young Investigators Symposium on Mesoderm Evolution

This symposium will highlight innovative research on the evolutionary origins of mesoderm and on more general questions regarding mesoderm evolution and comparative development. Some of the speakers will be invited by the organizers while the remaining speakers will be chosen through a broad nomination/voting process by students and post-docs.

Please send me your nominations! Nominees should be grad-students, post-docs or newly hired professors whom you believe are conducting innovative research on mesoderm evolution or development.

Nominations can be made by anyone, members/non-members, students or professors. Please send me up to three nominees and a brief, one sentence, description of their research.

Speaker's travel, lodging and registration costs will be covered and their presented papers will be published either in the SICB journal or in *Evolution and Development*.

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) and Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DECB)

I will be forwarding this email request to all DEDB members for circulation within relevant departments. If you do not receive a departmental email regarding this symposium, please take a minute to forward this message within your department.

Send your nominations to me at bandl@uclink.berkeley.edu

Thank you,
Brad Davidson

DEDB Candidates for Elections

Candidate for Program Officer

Eduardo Rosa–Molinar

Current Position: Associate Professor, Julio Garcia Diaz Center for Investigations in Biology, University of Puerto Rico–Rio Piedras, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Education: The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. Natural Sciences; B.S., 1994 University of Nebraska Medical Center, Omaha, Nebraska. Medical Sciences Ph.D., 1997 Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, Nebraska. Cellular & Molecular Neurobiology, 1997–1999

Professional Experience: August, 2003–present: Associate Professor, Julio Garcia Diaz Center for Investigations in Biology, University of Puerto Rico–Rio Piedras, San Juan, Puerto Rico; August, 1999–July, 2003: Assistant Professor, Julio Garcia Diaz Center for Investigations in Biology, University of Puerto Rico, Rio Piedras Campus, San Juan, Puerto Rico; July, 1997–July, 1999: Post–Doctoral Research Fellow in Neuroscience, Department of Biomedical Sciences, Creighton University School of Medicine, Omaha, Nebraska

SICB Activities: Editorial Board (2003–present). *Journal of Integrative and Comparative Biology*, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology; Symposium Co–Organizer (2003). *Alexander Kowalevsky Award Recipients Mini–Symposium*. Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology; Program Committee (2003–present). Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology; Program Officer (2001–present). Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology; Committee Member (2001–present). Committee on Diversity, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology; Symposium Organizer (2001). *Starting from Fins: Parallelism in the Evolution of Limbs and Genitalia*. Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology

Other Memberships: Society for Developmental Biology; Spanish Society of Developmental Biology; American Association of Anatomists; Society for Neuroscience; Johnston Black Johnston Club; Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology; Histochemical Society; Microscopy Society of America; Sigma Xi; American Association of the Advancement of Science

Research Interests: Comparative and Evolutionary Neuroembryology, Cellular and Developmental Neuroendocrinology, Development of Neuroanatomical Tract–Tracing Probes and Techniques for the

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) and Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB)

Detection and Manipulation of Single Molecules for Correlative Light and Electron Microscopy and Cellular and Molecular Imaging.

Statement of Goals: If elected for a second term, my primary objective during my tenure as DEDB program officer would be to continue recruiting, working with, and encouraging developmental and evolutionary biologists to develop proposals, symposia, and obtain funding (i.e. money for international travel) to bring together more investigators within SICB and outside of SICB to continue working on "big picture questions" in the field of evolutionary developmental biology (Evo–Devo) as well as the latest most appropriate tools and theories in evolutionary and developmental biology. I will continue to strengthen ties with other divisions of SICB and with other organizations. I intend to recruit and encourage plant biologists to develop symposia. I also intend to continue to work to provide more recognition for the student presentation competition.

Candidate for Secretary

Frietson Galis

Current Position: Researcher, Institute of Biology, Leiden University, The Netherlands.

Education: Ph.D., Leiden University, The Netherlands.

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral research at Wageningen University, The Netherlands, 1991–97; Fulbright junior scholarship at Harvard University, 1993; Researcher, Leiden University, 1997–; Member of the Editorial Board of the *Journal of Experimental Zoology (Series B, Molecular Developmental Evolution)*, Zoology and Animal Biology; Member of the Scientific Program Committee, Sixth International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology (ICVM–6).

SICB Activities: SICB member since 1992. Secretary of the Division of Developmental and Evolutionary Biology (DEDB), 2002–present.

Other Memberships: International Society for Vertebrate Morphology.

Research Interests: My research interests focus on innovations and mechanisms that facilitate evolutionary morphological changes and on the constraining effect of internal selection on such changes (i.e. selection caused by characteristics of the developmental system). Recently my main focus has been on the conservation of the number of cervical vertebrae in mammals, the number of digits in tetrapods and the early organogenesis stage in vertebrates. In this project we are trying to understand the interplay between genetic architecture, developmental mechanisms and stabilizing selection that leads to the conservation of morphological traits. A second project is on the evolution of structural novelties in the pharyngeal jaw apparatus of cichlid fishes, and its role in adaptive radiation. A third project concerns the role of phenotypic plasticity and genetic assimilation in the process of adaptation and evolutionary change of cichlid fishes. My fourth project is on the intra-specific relationship between size and longevity in dogs. Furthermore I am writing a book on *Development, Functional Morphology and Evolution* for the University of California Press.

Statement of Goals: The DEDB division is an important meeting ground for researchers in evolutionary developmental biology. I have enjoyed being a secretary and would like to continue to help strengthen the division with the experience that I have gained in my first term. In particular I would like to improve communication among the members of the division, amongst others by continuing the improvement of our website in collaboration with the SICB webmaster Ruediger Birenheide.

Candidate for Student/Post–Doc Representative

Nathan Bird

Current Position: Graduate Student, Department of Biological Sciences, George Washington University

Education: 2003–Current Ph.D. student at GWU (Advisor: Dr. L. Patricia Hernandez); 2003 M.S. in Biology, University of South Dakota (Advisor: Dr. Paula Mabee); 1999 B.S. in Biology, University of South Dakota

Professional Experience: Robert Weintraub Research Fellowship, 2004–2005; Teaching Assistantship, 2003–2004, George Washington University; Teaching Assistantship, 2000–2003, University of South Dakota; co–PI, CoBRE NIH Pilot grant (with Dr. Paula Mabee and Patricia Crotwell at USD)

SICB Activities: Presented posters or talks at each of the last 3 SICB meetings; 2002 SICB Grant in Aid of Research Award; Also member of DVM.

Other Memberships: American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists (ASIH), Society of Systematic Biologists (SSB), Society for Developmental Biology (SDB), and the American Association of Anatomists (AAA).

Research Interests: My dissertation research focuses on the development and evolution of morphological novelties and adaptations, particularly in the skeletal system of vertebrates. I am currently investigating the evolution and development of the Weberian apparatus of otophysan fishes, a possible key innovation that has allowed for the great radiation of this group. I am particularly interested in the genetic mechanisms underlying morphological change, and the evolutionary processes driving the change.

Statement of Goals: My primary goal as graduate student/post–doc representative for DEDB would be to continue the work done by our previous representatives, Brad Davidson and Patricia Hernandez. This includes a greater level of communication between students both within DEDB and in the society as a whole, increasing recruitment, and increasing student funding and award opportunities. In addition, I wish to strengthen the ties of the Society, and specifically DEDB, with other societies in order to increase the visibility of SICB in the scientific community, and to make DEDB the premiere arena for discussion of all things EvoDevo.

Division of Ecology & Evolution (DEE): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the DEE officers](#)
- [Candidate list for elections](#)

Message from the Chair *Mary Alice Coffroth*, Secretary *Michael Temkin* and Program Officer *Emily Carrington*

Greeting from the DEE officers: New Orleans was a great meeting and we would like to thank everyone who helped to make it so. As many of you heard at the meeting, it was one of the largest meetings in recent history. DEE sponsored or co-sponsored two symposia and by all accounts these were very successful.

This year we had thirty-seven students compete for the DEE best paper presentation award and fourteen students compete for the best poster presentation award. As always the judges had a very hard time selecting the winners of the competitions. This year's winner of the best paper presentation was Kelly Lee (Princeton University) for her talk entitled "*Sex Influences Immune Responses Differently in the House Sparrow and a Monomorphic Congener, the Eurasian Tree Sparrow.*" The winner of the best poster presentation was Alexander Cheroske (University of Maryland) for his presentation entitled "'All in favor, say *eyeâ*': Adaptive color and postural signaling by stomatopod crustaceans in different light environments." Kelly and Alexander each receive an award of \$100, a certificate, and our best wishes for continued success in their research endeavors.

We thank all of the DEE members who graciously volunteered to serve as judges for the competitions: Patrick Baker, Marilyn Banta, Lisa Belden, Pat Boily, Rachel Bowden, Dennis Claussen, Mary Alice Coffroth, Brian Eads, Suzanne Edmands, Bobby Espinoza, David Foltz, Jennifer Gee, Jonathan Geller, Allen Gibbs, Michael Horn, John Hranitz, Duncan Irschick, Fred Janzen, Deborah Kristan, John Lighton, Pat Lorch, Cathy McFadden, Scott McWilliams, Donald Miles, Amy Moran, Tony Steyermark, Jonathon Stillman, John Swallow, Bob Thacker, Carl Thurman, Joe Veech, Linda Walters, Martin Wikelski, and Peter Zani.

We are looking forward to an exciting meeting in San Diego next January, where DEE is co-sponsoring four symposia: 1) "*Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution*", 2) "*The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis*", 3) "*Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites*", and 4) "*Complex Life-histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward*". For those of us who will present contributed papers in San Diego, we will have an updated list of "topics" to choose from when we submit our abstracts in a few months. The new list should serve ecologists better, and make the tedious process of sorting abstracts run much smoother. Thanks to all for many helpful suggestions!

Looking ahead, the 2006 meeting will be held in Orlando, FL. It's not too soon to start thinking about symposium ideas for that meeting; formal proposals will be due towards the end of summer.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Fred Janzen who is the new chair–elect for DEE. In addition, Sophia Hussain (smhussai@helios.acomp.usf.edu) has agreed to serve as the DEE representative to the Graduate Student and Post–Doc Affairs Committee. Any comments or suggestions for this group, please let Sophia know.

During the coming year we hope to revamp the DEE webpage. Please contact one of the officers with any suggestions or comments.

Division of Ecology and Evolution Business Meeting Minutes

Meeting called to order 5:37 pm.

The division officers (Mary Alice Coffroth– President, Emily Carrington – Program Officer, and Michael Temkin Secretary) were introduced at the start of the meeting.

The minutes of the 2003 DEE business meeting were approved.

Mike reported that last years winners of the best student paper and poster competitions were Hannah Stewart (University of California at Berkeley) for her talk entitled "*Hydrodynamic consequences of buoyancy versus flexural stiffness in the tropical alga Turbinaria ornata*" and Cynthia Lewis (State University of New York at Buffalo) for her poster entitled "*Changing horses in midstream: secondary zooxanthellae uptake by the Caribbean octocoral Briareum asbestinum following an experimentally induced bleaching event.*"

Mike reported that at the New Orleans meeting 51 students are participating in the best student paper and poster competitions. Mike stated that once again the members of the division had responded extremely well to the call for judges. Mike thanked all of the 38 members who are serving as judges for the New Orleans meeting.

Emily thanked Michael Angilletta, Jr. for organizing the symposium on "*The evolution of thermal reaction norms for growth rate and body size in ectotherms*" and Raymond Huey for organizing the "*Bartholomew Award Symposium.*" These symposia were the only DEE co–sponsored symposia at the New Orleans meeting.

Emily reported that DEE is co–sponsoring the following four symposia at the 2005 meeting in San Diego: 1) "*Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution*", 2) "*The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis*" 3) "*Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites*", and 4) "*Complex Life–histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward.*"

Looking ahead Emily stated that it was not too soon to plan for symposia for the Orlando 2006 meeting. She reminded the members that symposia proposals for the Orlando meeting are due by August, 2004.

Emily worked with those attending the DEE business meeting to develop new key words for categorizing contributed papers.

Mary Alice reported that the New Orleans meeting was the largest meeting in 10 years with more than 1200 participants.

Mary Alice stated that she had been asked by the Society to discuss several issues with the members of DEE:

1. SICB would like to increase international participation – Should SICB hold a meeting in Mexico?
Members' responses included: It may be hard for people at small schools to attend and bring students.

However, increases in travel costs, may be offset by low hotel and food costs. There was the suggestion that SICB might change the nature of support for students from housing to travel. International students in US may not want/be able to leave US. There was concern that Mexico may have an appropriate venue. It was suggested SICB increase the support for international speakers and also support international attendees. It was suggested that symposia focus on Latin American or Caribbean topics. It was suggested that symposia focus on Theoretical and Mathematical Ecology.

2. What did people think about the larger program format for meeting schedules and abstracts? DEE members thought that the organization was not good. Members wanted a published event grid and not the purple pages for each data. The schedule of events should be located up front in the program.
3. SICB asked for DEE membership input on the journal – Our Editorial Board Representative Dianna Padilla reported that the journal was using consortium editing and that there is no longer a publication back log. Dianna reported that electronic copy of the journal is available through Bio ONE. Unfortunately, SICB does not get any money back from Bio One. Consequently, members need to let their librarian know that journal is important in print form.
4. There seemed to be a lack of discussion at talks. Members were asked to suggest ways to simulate discussions. It was suggested that members ask more questions. It was also suggested that session chairs could help stimulate discussion. It was pointed out that for many talks there is not enough time to ask questions or have discussion. It was suggested that talks should be stopped at 18 minutes to that there is time available for questions.
5. At the New Orleans meeting there were 1300 abstracts and many concurrent sessions. Mary Alice asked the question, "Should talks be decreased to a total of 15 min talks in order to reduce the number of concurrent sessions from 13 to 10 ?" It was suggested that more established people give fewer oral presentations, allowing students to present since they need the experience of presenting – similar to the guidelines for Society for Evolution. However, many members believed that having prominent people talk at the meeting is important. Shorter talks may work, but question periods are not long enough. Consequently, it was suggested that if the format of shorter talks was adopted then there would need to be more time to meet outside of sessions for discussions. Mary Alice announced that there was a round meeting on "Increasing Diversity in the Society" and that Sophie Hussain was the DEE graduate student representative.

The DEE business meeting was visited by the SICB Executive Committee. The SICB Executive Committee reported that the New Orleans meeting was the largest in 10 years with about 1250 people attending. The Committee stated that they are interested hearing from the membership about any new ideas or initiatives.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30.

Respectfully submitted,
Michael Temkin
DEE Secretary

DEE Candidates for Election

Candidates for DEE Secretary

John M. Hranitz

Current Position: Assistant Professor; Department of Biological and Allied Health Sciences, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania

Education: B.S., Biology, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, 1987; M.S., Biology, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, 1989; Ph.D., Biology, Mississippi State University, 1993

Professional Experience: Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of Central Oklahoma, 1993–1998; Associate Professor, Department of Biology, University of Central Oklahoma, 1998–2002; Assistant Professor, Department of Biological and Allied Health Sciences, Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, 2002–Present

SICB Activities: SICB Education Council participant, 1998–2001, 2003–2004; Judge for Best Student Paper Committee, Division of Ecology and Evolution 2001, 2003, 2004.

Other Memberships: American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Sigma Xi, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Society for the Study of Evolution

Research Interests: Ecological genetics, molecular ecology, and physiological ecology; more specifically I, with collaborators, study the reproductive success of collared lizards, the role of heat shock protein 70 in the thermal niche separation of native and introduced solitary bees, and the population genetic structure of pelagic barnacles.

Statement of Goals: When I was introduced to SICB (at that time ASZ) by my masters and doctoral major professors in 1989, the diversity of topics and approaches to conducting science available at the meeting provided an eye-opening experience for me. Later, I realized that this was typical of our society's meetings and the unique role SICB plays in the biological sciences, supporting scientists who use integrative and comparative approaches in biology. Because an active society relies on an engaged membership, I would aid programs of the DEE that maintain the interest of current members, promote student attendance and development, and attract new members. Toward this goal, I would facilitate the activities that DEE members believe will maintain an active DEE membership.

Anthony C. Steyermark

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of St. Thomas, St. Paul, MN.

Education: B.S., Saint Joseph's University, 1990; M.S., Ph.D., Drexel University, 1994, 1999.

Professional Experience: Adjunct Assistant Professor, School of Environmental Science, Engineering and Policy, Drexel University, 1999; Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Physiology, UCLA School of Medicine, 1999 – 2002; Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, University of St. Thomas, 2002 – present.

SICB Activities: Diversity Committee, 2003 – present; Session Co – Chair, Contributed Papers in Ecology and Evolution, 2000; Judge for Best Student Paper Committee, Division of Ecology and Evolution, 2000 – 2004.

Other Memberships: American Physiological Society, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Sigma Xi, Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles, Society for the Study of Evolution.

Research Interests: Physiological ecology; metabolic regulation and animal energetics; phenotypic selection; sea turtle conservation (see <http://www.stthomas.edu/biol/faculty/asteyermark>)

Statement of Goals: As SICB strives to maintain a healthy position in promoting the importance of integrative biology, effective communication with colleagues, potential members, and the public becomes increasingly vital. SICB continues to gain prominence as a biological society, as evidenced through increasing memberships, and efforts and successes in promoting the teaching of evolution in school curricula and in recruiting members from underrepresented groups. These successes can be expanded by continuing to foster an inclusive atmosphere for students through web site initiatives to connect students with potential mentors; advocating DEE goals to non-members and the public at large; encouraging interdisciplinary collaborations among existing and potential DEE members; and creating a forum for a freer exchange of ideas within the division. Many of these goals can be realized through creative web programs and targeted e-mailings. Reaching out to non-SICB colleagues engaged in ecological and evolutionary research, and bringing current members closer together, will make both DEE and SICB stronger as the division and society look toward the future.

Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ): 2004 Spring Newsletter



(Photo by Patrick Erwin)

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
- [Message from the Program Officer](#)
- [Message from the Secretary](#)
- [Message from the Graduate Student–Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative](#)
- [Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair](#)
- [Minutes of the 2004 Annual Business Meeting](#)
- [Elections: Candidates for DIZ Program Officer](#)

Message from the Chair

Thomas Wolcott

Once again we had our annual meeting in New Orleans, and what a meeting it was! It was the largest in many years, with more participants and more presentations than, um... let's just say that those of us who have been around long enough to remember meetings this big can't any more. The venue carries stronger memories for

me than for many of you, perhaps, because the very first ASZ meeting I ever attended (as an associate professor!) was in New Orleans. Coming from a strongly vertebrocentric land-grant university, I was stunned to find that all the people whose land crab papers I'd been citing were sitting in my audience. Not only that, they were enthusiastically interested in my research! It was, literally, the first such encouragement I'd received in my career, and I never forgot the experience. This society has been Donna's and my professional family ever since. For (gulp) a quarter of a century it's been a continual source of stimulation, encouragement and good fellowship. I am honored to be able to serve as an officer and help ensure that it continue to serve those roles for our colleagues, especially the newer ones.

One of the roles DIZ plays for those newer colleagues is presenting the Libby Hyman Awards. Amy Johnson has ably chaired the selection committee for several years, and will be rotating off this year. I am delighted to report that Isidro ("Sid") Bosch, who has been a long-standing member, has accepted appointment as the incoming chair and will continue the proud and pleasant tradition of helping send our best and brightest off for their first experience at a field station.

A highlight of the meeting was the interdivisional social held by DIZ, TCS, AMS and DEE. Not only did we have munchies, good company and opportunities to network by having our people speak to other peoples' people, we had the Great Auction in support of the Libbie Hyman Awards Endowment. Rachel Merz and her co-conspirators deserve a Grand Commendation and Very Large Medal for organizing this raucous event. The increment to the endowment was further augmented by an unprecedented "attagirl!" (or "attadiv!") from the SICB Executive Committee. They felt that this is exactly the sort of initiative that will help build divisions, the society, and its impact on the profession, and they chose to recognize the effort by matching what the auction brought in, bringing the endowment up by a total of about \$12K, or over 60%! Thanks to all of you who participated (and made off with sundry treasures, books, and memorabilia).

Several hot-button issues were discussed at our well-attended DIZ business meeting, foremost among them the proposal by the collective Program Officers to reduce the length of oral presentations to 15 minutes. The objectives would be to increase the number of papers that could be accommodated in a reasonable number of concurrent sessions, and to facilitate synchronization with 20-minute symposium schedules. Strong opinions were expressed on both sides, and the issue probably will continue to be discussed, especially if numbers at the meetings remain as high as in N.O. Let your officers know your views.

As this newsletter goes to e-press, I thank you for the chance to participate in your society and wish you successful completion of the spring term, mild cases of spring fever, and a relaxing and/or productive summer!

Message from the Program Officer

Penelope Barnes

The 2004 SICB meeting in New Orleans was a great success! The total number of presentations was an impressive 1103 and DIZ, as always, was well represented in both oral and poster sessions. DIZ sponsored three, very successful symposia in New Orleans. Neil Blackstone's *Model Systems for the Basal Metazoa: Cnidarians, Ctenophores, and Placozoans* symposium was frequently a "standing room only" situation. *Sponges: New Views of Old Animals*, organized by Scott Nichols and Gert Woerheide, included a truly impressive diversity of presentations by some of the world's leading sponge biologists. DIZ also joined DCE, DDCB, the National Science Foundation and The Crustacean Society in sponsoring the highly successful

symposium entitled *EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology*, organized by Robert Stevenson and Shea R. Tuberty.

Following on the success of the DIZ/AMS/DEE social in Toronto, the social at the New Orleans meeting was expanded further to include the Crustacean Society. The social was deemed a great success, due in no small part to the well executed and highly entertaining auction in support of the Libbie Hyman Awards endowment. Congratulations to organizer Rachel Merz and her assistants!

The January 2005 SICB meeting in San Diego promises to be a particularly exciting one for DIZ members, as the Division is sponsoring or co-sponsoring six symposia! DIZ is primary sponsor, with DEE as additional sponsor, of "*Complex Life—histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward*" organized by Ben Miner and Diana Padilla. DIZ and DAB are primary sponsors, along with DEE as additional sponsor, of Janet Leonard's symposium, "*Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites*". DIZ, DESB and DEDB join together as primary sponsors for Ken Halanych's symposium entitled "*WormNet: Recent advances in Annelid systematics, development and evolution*." Five SICB divisions, including DIZ, will be additional sponsors for the American Microscopical Society's symposium, "*The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis*". The AMS symposium will be organized by Ruth Ann Dewel, Kathy Coates, Mary Beth Thomas, Clay Cook and Julian Smith. DIZ is also additional sponsor on the two society-wide symposia: "*Terminal addition, segmentation, and the evolution of metazoan body plan regionalization*" organized by Nigel Hughes and David Jacobs and "*Desiccation tolerance in animals, microbes and plants: comparative mechanisms and evolution*" organized by Peter Alpert, Jim Clegg, Brent Mishler and Mel Oliver. The San Diego meeting will definitely be a busy one for DIZ members!

Because symposia are now planned more than one year in advance, proposals for the 2006 SICB meeting are scheduled for submission now with a deadline of August 20, 2004. Please start thinking about symposia ideas for the 2006 meeting in Orlando and e-mail me with any questions you may have. Let's keep up the momentum and ensure that DIZ continues to be well represented!

Message from the Secretary

Bob Thacker

The 2004 meeting in New Orleans was extremely successful, with excellent feedback for all three of the DIZ-sponsored symposia. Thanks to Rachel Merz, Linda Walters, Judy Williams, Amy Johnson, and Kyle Aveni for organizing the popular Invertebrate Auction, with special thanks to all who donated and purchased items. If you travel to an exciting field station this summer, consider bringing back artwork or a T-shirt to auction at a future meeting!

The society has asked each division to improve the divisional web pages. I would like to receive suggestions on what you, the members of DIZ, would like to see on our web page. In addition, we are in the process of updating the divisional by-laws, which are available for review on the SICB website. Please send any and all comments or suggestions to me at thacker@uab.edu.

We have two candidates for the position of Program Officer. Biographical sketches for Amy L. Moran (University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill) and Michael William Hart (Dalhousie University) are provided at the end of this newsletter. Please participate in the election!

Message from the Graduate Student–Postdoctoral Affairs Committee

Ben Miner

Hello fellow students and postdocs. The New Orleans meeting is behind us, and I would like to extend the Division's thanks to all the graduate students who worked to make this meeting such a success. I would also like to congratulate Alex Cheroske for winning the best student oral presentation, Collin Johnson for winning the best student poster presentation, and Michelangelo Von Dassow for winning the Adrian Wenner Strong Inference Award. I encourage all undergraduate, graduate, and recently graduated (< 1 year) students to enter these competitions in 2005. The next meeting will be held in San Diego January 4–8, 2005 at the Town and Country Hotel. So, break out the sunblock.

To ensure SICB continues to consider the needs of graduate students, I encourage comments and suggestions for improving future meetings. In particular, I am interested in whether people have suggestions for additional student tasks. Student support is currently provided in exchange for a half–day's service, such as working a half–day session, practice room, or registration desk. Please email suggestions to me at bgminer@ucdavis.edu.

Good luck with your studies and research!

Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair

Sara Lindsay

Thank you to all those who judged student presentations at the New Orleans meeting, and special thanks to Will Jaeckle for serving as the "Go to Guy" in my absence. Thanks also to the students, for your fine efforts. Twenty–two students competed in the DIZ student paper competition this year, once again displaying a wonderful diversity of topics ranging from sensory biology, physiology and development to feeding ecology, host–selection, genetics, and evolutionary biology. Alex Cheroske won the Best Student Oral Presentation award for his paper "*Phenotypically plastic color vision in a stomatopod crustacean and its potential effects on color signaling in variable light environments*." One judge commented on Alex's paper "This was...a splendid paper deserving of the highest honors. I am not usually given to superlatives in my grading (just ask my students!), but I give this paper a 10 across the board." Great job, Alex! The close Runner–Up for the Oral presentation was Jeff Riffell, who spoke on "*Sex and the single cell: Mechanisms of sperm chemoattraction in laminar shear flows*". Collin Johnson won the Best Student Poster award for his poster, "*Assessing the energetic and ecological benefits of dissolved organic matter (DOM) for the marine bryozoan Bugula neritina*". Last year's winner, Constance Rogers–Lowery was the Runner–Up with her poster "*Encapsulation of the glochidium larva of freshwater mussels on naive and resistant host fish*".

The Adrian Wenner Strong Inference Award was also a close race this year. The winner is Michelangelo Von Dassow for his paper "*Development of a fluid transport system: An example from colonial organisms*". Sheri Johnson is the Runner–Up; she presented a paper on "*Sperm longevity and fertilization in the colonial*

ascidian, Botryllus schlosseri". Congratulations to all! Students should learn more details about their awards from DIZ president Tom Wolcott soon. We look forward to seeing more outstanding student presentations next year in San Diego.

Minutes of the 2004 Annual Business Meeting

Thomas Wolcott (DIZ Chair) opened the meeting by requesting approval of the minutes of the previous year's meeting. Bob Thacker was introduced by the Chair as the Secretary–elect and will assume the role of Division Secretary at the end of the conference.

Chair Wolcott introduced DIZ Program Officer Penny Barnes, who announced DIZ sponsorship of 3 symposia at the current meeting (1) "*Model Systems for the Basal Metazoa: Cnidarians, Ctenophores, and Placozoans*" organized by Neil Blackstone, (2) "*Sponges: New Views of Old Animals*" organized by Scott Nichols and Gert Woerheide, and (3) co–sponsorship of "*EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology*" organized by Robert Stevenson and Shea Tuberty. For the 2005 Annual Meeting in San Diego, DIZ will be the primary sponsor of 3 symposia, and a secondary sponsor for 3 other symposia.

Since only 1 proposal has been submitted for the 2006 Annual Meeting, Program Officer Barnes requested that DIZ members submit symposium ideas by August, indicating that she would be available to help with formatting the proposals.

Past DIZ Chair Rachel Merz reminded all members to attend the Invertebrate Auction at the AMS–DIZ–DEE–TCS Social to enhance the endowment of the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship.

Members were reminded to submit program ideas, such as the Invertebrate Auction, to the Program Officer by August, prior to the joint meeting of all POs at which the program schedule is set.

The SICB Executive Committee visited our business meeting and SICB President John Wingfield requested feedback on the future directions of SICB. He raised the issue of enhancing participation by Central and South American scientists and students, perhaps by holding a future meeting in Mexico or by providing additional funds to offset the travel costs of international participants.

Chair Wolcott initiated a discussion of this issue, noting that a meeting in Mexico may have increased travel costs for North American participants, but that these costs may be offset by lower facility fees. Concerns were voiced that fewer North American scientists would attend a meeting in Mexico, but several DIZ members indicated that a novel location could enhance attendance.

Chair Wolcott next addressed the issue of increasing SICB's international visibility through the sponsorship of international congresses. Several DIZ members objected to such sponsorship if allocating these funds would (1) decrease funds available to DIZ symposia and (2) decrease funds to bring international speakers to SICB annual meetings. The membership did not agree with a clear dichotomy between funding international congresses and funding international travel for SICB symposia speakers, stating that both would be priorities, but that the group lacked enough financial information to make a sound judgment. Chair Wolcott posed a second choice: support for international meetings vs. support for SICB annual meetings. 25 members made support of the SICB annual meeting the top priority, while none supported other meetings as a top priority. All were agreed that SICB should support other meetings only if enough funds are available and if this

support would benefit the society as a whole.

Program Officer Barnes reported that the lack of international travel funds caused 2 speakers to cancel their attendance at the current DIZ sponge symposium. Diana Padilla requested that Chair Wolcott inform the executive committee that DIZ would rank increased travel support for international speakers as a high priority.

Chair Wolcott initiated a discussion of support for a Congressional Fellow. SICB supported a fellow in the past but has not recently. Mary Rice indicated that the Fellow would be a shared cost with AAAS and/or other societies, and that the Fellow would make a report of activities to the executive committee. The membership strongly supported this proposal.

Chair Wolcott requested two volunteers for a nominating committee for the post of Program Officer, as Penny Barnes will complete her term at the 2005 Annual Meeting in San Diego. Past Chair Rachel Merz, Ken Halanych, Susie Balsler volunteered to serve as the nominating committee.

Chair Wolcott initiated a discussion on the proposal to reduce the time allotted for contributed oral presentations from 20 minutes to 15 minutes. A major benefit of this proposal would be an increased number of presentations in the current facility size, but disadvantages would be less time for presentation, discussion, and moving between concurrent sessions. Alternative proposals include increasing the number of concurrent sessions (and possibly venue size) and/or limiting the number of oral presentations. Program Officer Barnes reported that the program committee had agreed not to add an additional day to the conference, and that oral presentations should not be scheduled during the evening hours, when there are already many separate evening functions. Chair Wolcott and Program Officer Barnes requested that the members discuss these issues and make suggestions to them during the remainder of the meeting.

The meeting closed with a reminder to attend the AMS–DIZ–DEE–TCS Social and Invertebrate Auction.

Submitted by RW Thacker

Elections: Candidates for DIZ Program Officer

Amy L. Moran

Current Position: Research Assistant Professor, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Department of Marine Sciences and Curriculum in Ecology.

Education: 1990, B.A. (Biology, and Music), Bates College, Lewiston, ME. 1997, Ph.D. (Biology), University of Oregon.

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Southern California and Wrigley Institute for Environmental Studies. Postdoctoral Fellow, Friday Harbor Laboratories, University of Washington. Short–Term Fellow, Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute. Visiting Instructor, Invertebrate Zoology, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology (University of Oregon).

SICB Activities: Member and presenter at Annual Meetings since larval phase. Student Presentation Judge for DIZ and DEE.

Other Memberships: AAAS, Western Society of Malacologists, Society for the Study of Evolution.

Research Interests: Larval physiology, ecology, functional morphology, reproductive ecology and evolution of marine invertebrates. Evolution of reproductive modes, behavior and reproductive ecology of echinoderms and molluscs.

Statement of Goals: I have been a member of DIZ since my early days in graduate school and I, like many in DIZ, have moved in and out of other divisions at SICB as well. DIZ is by nature a diverse and integrative division that contains many interests, representing some of the best traditions of SICB. I hope to continue in this vein by encouraging new themes for symposia, sessions, and workshops that bring together diverse interests under the umbrella of Invertebrate Zoology. The major responsibilities of the Program Officer are to organize symposia and arrange the programs for future annual meetings, and I look forward to the opportunity to facilitate the continued excellence of the DIZ sessions I have attended over the past decade. I also look forward to interacting with other Division leaders, and I would carry out the administrative aspects of the position (program and workshop scheduling, newsletter contributions) with enthusiasm.

Michael William Hart

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Dalhousie University, Halifax, Canada.

Education: 1984, B.S. (Zoology), University of Alberta. 1987, M.S. (Biology), Dalhousie University. 1993, Ph.D. (Zoology), University of Washington.

Professional Experience: 2004, 2002, 2000, Visiting Assistant/Associate Professor, University of Washington. 1996–1998, Postdoctoral Research Associate, Section of Evolution & Ecology, University of California, Davis. 1994–1995, NSERC Postdoctoral Fellow, Institute of Molecular Biology & Biochemistry, Simon Fraser Univ

SICB Activities: Best Student Paper judge for DIZ, DEE; symposium participant.

Other Memberships: Society of Systematic Biologists; Society for the Study of Evolution; American Microscopical Society.

Research Interests: population genetics; phylogenetics; larval ecology; comparative embryology.

Statement of Goals: My modest ambitions as Program Officer will be to do as well as other recent POs at the development of interesting, topical divisional and interdisciplinary symposia at the annual meeting, and the smooth unfolding of those symposia. I would particularly like to encourage symposia that could bring traditional marine invertebrate zoologists together with specialists on other organisms (especially botanists and entomologists) who study comparable problems in physiology, ecology, or development. I would also like to see more graduate students invited to participate in these symposia wherever possible. I'm willing to serve as Program Officer as a way to give something back to the Society that sponsors my favourite conference. And, on the advice of Tom Wolcott, I pledge not to raise taxes.

Division of Neurobiology (DNB): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary and Candidates for Election](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Robin L. Cooper

The last three years as chair of DNB have been quite interesting. Input from members reveals that DNB section members continue to struggle with attending the Society for Neuroscience (SfN) meeting and the SICB meeting, however there is a consensus that the venue of the SICB meeting is more conducive for discussion and for exposure to a variety of topics. Lets keep the word going out that the SICB meetings are a great place for students to present their work and have meaningful discussions without the stress and mayhem of the SfN meeting.

The variety of topics with DNB may be seeing some shift towards the functional genomics and broad species comparisons in the years to come. Thus the comparative nature of SICB in general may be very appealing for these individuals. So, look at this as another opportunity to entice your colleagues and their students to become active in DNB and SICB.

Message from the Secretary

Hank Trapido-Rosenthal

The Division of Neurobiology has awarded two awards to graduate student participants in the 2004 New Orleans meeting. Alexandre Dieudonné received an award for his poster "*Neuroanatomy of Antennal Bristle Fields in the Hawk Moth, Manduca sexta*" done at the University of Washington. The award for best platform presentation went to Julie Adams of Bowling Green State University, who described aspects of her dissertation research in a talk entitled "*Foraging in a Complex Chemical Background: DOM from Elevated CO₂ Detritus and Its Impact on Crayfish Orientation to a Food Source.*"

This year we are to hold an election for the Chair of the Division of Neurobiology. The task should be relatively easy: we have one candidate, and he is outstanding. Should he be elected, he will take over his duties from current Chair Dr. Robin Cooper in January 2005; his term will run for two years, until January 2007. His credentials and interests appear below.

ELECTIONS

Candidate for Chair

Paul A. Moore, Ph.D.

Current Position: Professor of Biological Sciences at Bowling Green State University

Education: B.S., Biological Oceanography, University of Michigan, 1986; Ph.D. Marine Biology, Boston University, 1991.

Professional Experience: 2003 – present, Director, University Honors Program. 2003 – present, Full Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Bowling Green State University. 2001 – present, Director, UMBS Stream Research Facility. 2000 – 2002, Director of the Center for Neuroscience, Mind & Behavior, Bowling Green State University. 1999 – 2003, Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Bowling Green State University. 1994 – 1999, Assistant Professor, Director of Marine Program, Department of Biological Sciences, Bowling Green State University. 1992 – 1994, Research Associate, Dr. Bruce Bryant, Monell Chemical Senses Center. 1990 – 1992, Post-Doctoral Fellow, Dr. Greg Gerhardt, University of Colorado Health Science Center.

SICB Activities: Dr. Moore presents at the annual meeting but also engages students to present.

Other Memberships: American Society of Limnology and Oceanography, Animal Behaviour, Association of Chemoreception Sciences, International Society of Neuroethology,

Research Interests: Animal behavior, social behavior, the neural basis of aggression, social behavior and decision making, chemoreception, and sensory processing.

Statement of Goals: My goals as chair will be to increase the presence of the neurobiology division within SICB by helping to integrate and make connections from neurobiology to the other divisions. It is also critical to develop and support undergraduate and graduate student presentations at SICB and to help promote the growth of younger scientists.

Division of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology (DSEB): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary](#)
 - [Elections: Candidates for DSEB Chair and DSEB Program Officer](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Kenneth M. Halanych

The New Orleans meeting in January was a big success. DSEB had a strong showing with contributed papers and posters as well as symposia. Furthermore, the integration of systematic methods across society divisions is a testament to the importance of the DSEB at SICB. The division would also like to thank Rich Mooi and Ingrid Kaatz for their stewardship over the past two years. Rich and Ingrid have done an excellent job and been helpful with easing the transition.

I encourage participation in DSEB. Given our strong membership list, we should have better participation at the annual business meeting. In particular, it would be good to generate a list of those willing to serve as officers in the future. I also have a specific request for feedback from the membership as to the scientific scope of the division. Over the last decade, the field of "Systematics/Phylogenetics" has grown considerably and now encompasses many aspects: phylogenetic methods, organismal phylogenies, gene genealogies, paleontology, intra-specific relationships, etc. DSEB is strong in some of these areas, and may wish to further develop others, perhaps through symposia or workshops. The officers of the Division would welcome thoughts or new ideas that you may have as to how best focus the division's efforts.

Message from the Program Officer

Don Swiderski

First and foremost, thanks and congratulations.

Thanks to Rob Guralnick and Jon Jeffrey for a fine symposium, "The Study of Sequences in Natural Sciences," and a boffo "Systematics for Dummies" workshop.

Thanks to the students who entered the best student paper contest and especially the judges who evaluated their talks and posters. This year, two presentations were so remarkable that the judges were hopelessly

deadlocked. Accordingly, two prizes will be awarded to:

E. B. Rosenblum: "Reptile Color Variation and *Mc1r*"

S. A. Nichols: "Does the existing classification reflect the relationships within demosponges? A molecular phylogenetic approach."

Congratulations to both, and to their respective labs at the University of California, Berkeley.

Next year, we can look forward to equally exciting symposia by Nigel Hughes and company (*Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization*), Moya Smith (*Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition*), and our new fearless leader Ken Halanych (*WormNet: Recent Advances in Annelid Systematics, Development, and Evolution*).

Now comes the tedious semi-annual plea for symposium and workshop proposals. We especially need ideas for 2006, but we will also welcome ideas for '07 and even '08. I need to hear your ideas for '06 as soon as possible, so we can work together to polish up your idea bright and shiny for the September program officers' meeting.

Message from the Secretary

Pat Reynolds

Greetings to all. On behalf of the nominating committee, consisting of Rachel Collin (Chair), Marta de Maintenon, and myself, I would like to thank our candidates for agreeing to be nominated for the positions of Chair and Program Officer. Voting is now online, and I encourage everyone to participate. I would like to echo Ken's call for members to consider serving the Division as Officers, and invite anyone interested to send me a message to that effect. I will compile the list and pass it on to next year's nominating committee.

At the Society Secretaries meeting in New Orleans last January, Sunny Boyd (SICB Secretary) charged the Division Secretaries to review their divisional bylaws, and propose revisions to offices, terms, and other aspects with a view towards attaining consistency across the society. To this end we have attached a draft of proposed changes, for review and discussion by the membership. Please let us know your thoughts; email me or any of the Officers. The more significant changes include more explicit identification of "elect" offices and terms (which will also help in planning elections and clarifying officer transitions), extending the term of the Secretary to three years, relying upon term length to stagger elections and terms within the Executive Committee, and more explicit information on student best paper awards.

After incorporating feedback, and as provided by our current bylaws, we will present a motion for revising the division bylaws to the membership in the Fall newsletter or at the Annual Business Meeting next January.

Proposed Changes to DSEB Bylaws

Comments to DSEB Secretary, Pat Reynolds <preynold@hamilton.edu>, before September 1, 2004
Vote on final version will take place via Fall newsletter or at 2005 Annual Meeting.

The proposed bylaws with changes indicated are available in PDF format for downloading/viewing using Adobe Reader or similar software: **Proposed DSEB Bylaws (.pdf)**

Minutes of the DSEB Annual Business Meeting, 7 Jan. 2004, New Orleans

The meeting convened at 5:38 pm; 11 members were present (reaching quorum).

1. There was discussion on 3 items brought by Chair Rich Mooi from the SICB Executive Committee:
 - a) Consideration of support being resumed for a Congressional Fellow. The body was in general agreement.
 - b) Consideration of SICB sponsorship of a symposium at an international conference being held in North America. Views were mixed, and the discussion wide-ranging on issues of symposium support.
 - c) Consideration of SICB holding a future meeting outside of the US. Rich noted that the 2007 venue was being left open for the moment to allow for the possibility of finding a venue in South or Central America, e.g., Mexico. Some discussion ensued.
2. Rich Mooi welcomed the new Chair of DSEB, Ken Halanych.
3. Rich Mooi appointed the 2004 nominating committee, consisting of Rachel Collin (Chair), Marta de Maintenon, and Pat Reynolds.
4. Ken Halanych, standing in for Program Officer Don Swiderski who unexpectedly couldn't attend the meeting, reviewed programming items:
 - a) A proposal from the Program Officers' meeting to change duration of oral presentations in future meetings from 20 min to 15 min, due to the large size of the current meeting (1300 abstracts); symposium presentations would be set at 30 mins. Some discussion ensued.
 - b) Ken reviewed the DSEB sponsorship for SICB symposia for the 2005 meetings in San Diego:

Primary sponsorship of the symposium "Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition," organized by Moya Smith (King's College London Dental Institute).

Secondary sponsorship for the Society-wide symposium "Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization," organized by Nigel Hughes (U. of California/Riverside) and David K. Jacobs (UCLA), and of the regular symposium "WormNet: Recent Advances in Annelid Systematics, Development, and Evolution," organized by Kenneth M. Halanych (Auburn University)

DSEB is an additional sponsoring division for the American Microscopical Society symposium of "The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis," organized by Ruth Ann Dewel (Appalachian State University), Kathy Coates (Bermuda Biological Station), Mary Beth Thomas, Clay Cook (Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution), and Julian Smith (Winthrop University)

- c) Ken urged those interested in organizing a symposium for the 2006 meetings in Orlando to contact the Program Officer, Don Swiderski. He noted that nothing was currently on the slate, and proposals would be due mid-September.

d) The best student paper award competition, organized by Don Swiderski, comprised 12 entrants and 4 judges; the award would be given before the next meeting.

5. Rich Mooi brought several issues from the SICB Editorial Board, to which he is a representative:

a) should the Editorial structure remain as at present

b) the speed with which symposia are published, and if the rate of submission could be speeded up

c) whether the students receiving an accommodation subsidy from the society (250 at the current meeting), who no longer are operating slide carousels, could be used in an editing or type copy role. Ken Halanych suggested that the subsidized students could chair sessions, perhaps partnered by a senior member to help drive discussion.

6. A delegation from the SICB Executive Committee, including John Wingfield (President), Sarah Woodin (President–Elect), Brett Burk (Executive Director), and Ron Dimock (Treasurer) visited the meeting, bringing salutations. John noted that the meeting was the biggest in many years, with 1520 registrants, including 600 students, and was a sign of expansion of the society. He further noted that there were several issues on which he wanted to hear from the membership, including:

a) student support by the society, in terms of travel, research, and undergraduates

b) diversity in the society, and particularly the possibilities for outreach to Central and South America

c) the society's role in issues of conservation biology

The meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Reynolds

DSEB Secretary

Upcoming Meetings of Interest to the Division

The Evolution Conference 2004, jointly sponsored by the Society for the Study of Evolution, Society of Systematic Biologists, and The American Society of Naturalists, will be held June 26–30, 2004, in Fort Collins, Colorado, at Colorado State University, and hosted by faculty in the Department of Biology (Lisa Angeloni, Mike Antolin, Shanna Carney, Cameron Ghalambor, Mark Simmons and Colleen Webb) and the Department of Bioagricultural Sciences and Pest Management (Ruth Hufbauer). Further information at: <http://evolution04.biology.colostate.edu/>

Elections: Biographies of candidates for DSEB Chair and DSEB Program Officer

Candidates for DSEB Chair

Donald Swiderski

Current Position: Research Assistant, Kresge Hearing Research Institute, and Adjunct Research Investigator, Museum of Zoology, University of Michigan.

Education: Ph.D., Zoology, Michigan State University, 1990. M.S., Geology (Paleontology), Michigan State University, 1986. B.S., Geology, Michigan State University, 1981.

Professional Experience: Instructor, Life Science, Washtenaw Community College, 2003. Lecturer, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Michigan, 2002. Visiting Assistant Professor, Zoology Department, Michigan State University, 2001. Research Assistant, Division of Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine, Department of Internal Medicine, and Thoracic Surgery Research Laboratory, Department of Surgery, University of Michigan Medical Center, 1991–1996. Research Assistant, Department of Geological Sciences and Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan, 1990–1991.

SICB Activities: Program Officer, DSEB, 2002–2005. . Workshop Co–organizer (with C. Sheil) "Systematics for Dummies, 2: Finding the Right Tree in the Forest," 2001. Symposium Organizer "Beyond Reconstruction: Using Phylogenies to Test Hypotheses about Vertebrate Evolution," sponsored by DSEB, 2001. Workshop Co–organizer (with A. Maglia) "Systematics for Dummies, 1: Mapping and Optimization," 2000.

Other Memberships: American Society of Mammalogists, Society for the Study of Evolution, American Association for the Advancement of Science.

Research Interests: My research focuses on the relationship of morphological diversity to ecological and functional diversity, encompassing both variation within species and differentiation between species. I am particularly interested in the morphological diversity that is due to differences in shape.

Statement of Goals: My primary goal as an officer of this division is to foster a growing awareness of the importance of systematics. A society that bills itself as "integrative and comparative" needs a strong division of systematic biology. As program officer, I have tried to promote programs that highlight the role of systematics in comparative studies, and then teach methods and provide resources for researchers interested in similar studies. These projects have helped raise the visibility of our division and attracted some active younger members. Now is time to turn our attention to more directly building membership and encouraging more active involvement of our existing members.

Candidates for DSEB Program Officer

Michele K. Nishiguchi

Current Position: 1999–present Assistant Professor, New Mexico State University

Education: 1994 Ph.D., UC Santa Cruz. 1989 M.S., Scripps Institution of Oceanography, UC San Diego. 1985 B.S., UC Davis.

Professional Experience: 1997–98 Postdoctoral Research Scientist, Earth & Space Sciences, UCLA. 1994–97 NSF Postdoctoral Fellow, U Hawaii and USC. 1994 Teaching staff, McMurdo Station, Antarctica. 1989–93 Teaching Assistant, Biology, UC Santa Cruz.

SICB Activities: Member since 1987.

Other Memberships: American Malacological Union, American Society of Microbiology, Sigma Xi, Society for the Study of Evolution.

Research Interests: Evolution of animal and bacterial associations; development and specificity of symbiotic relationships. Specifically, the mutualistic association between sepiolid squids (Cephalopoda) and their *Vibrio* symbionts. Mechanisms of host–symbiont recognition, and assessment of environmental factors and inherent genetic characters affecting speciation and diversity among *Vibrio* bacteria.

Statement of Goals: As program officer for DSEB, I would promote more "between discipline" symposia, as well as recruitment of underrepresented minorities into the fields of integrative and comparative biology. Since SICB changed its name from ASZ some time ago, I have felt the need to actually start "integrating" many of the disciplines that are represented (but usually in separate forums) at our annual meetings. In this manner, we can then combine research foci from groups that may not regularly have the chance to meet or exchange ideas and form new collaborations. At New Mexico State University, where our undergraduate student body is represented by > 50% ethnically diverse groups, I have been heavily involved in recruitment of underrepresented students to science, and feel the need to increase their involvement at our meetings. While seeking funding in their support, I would like to initially incorporate special symposia that would focus on the research from these students, and eventually have this as a regular event within the society.

Francesco Santini

Current Position: Marie Curie Research Fellow, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

Education: 1997 Laurea degree in Biological Sciences, University of Pisa, Italy. 2003 Ph.D. in Zoology, University of Toronto, Canada.

Professional Experience: May 2003–present, Marie Curie Research Fellow, Museum National d'Histoire Naturelle, Paris.

SICB Activities: Member since 1999; presentations at 2000, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2004 Annual Meetings; co–organizer of the symposium on "Patterns and processes in the evolution of fishes" held during the 2003 annual meeting in Toronto and sponsored by SICB, DSEB, DVM, DEE, DEDB, and the Paleontological Society; co–organizer of the "Phylogenetics for dummies" workshop held during the 2003 annual meeting.

Other Memberships: Society of Systematic Biology, Society for Conservation Biology, European Society for Evolutionary Biology, National Association of Science Writers.

Research Interests: Phylogenetic relationships of acanthomorph (spiny–rayed) fishes, with particular emphasis on pufferfish and allies (Tetraodontiformes); evolution of key morphological structures in fishes; problems associated the use of model organisms in studies of evolutionary biology and genomics; historical biogeography of the marine biota; theoretical aspects of the use of incomplete fossil taxa in phylogenetic analyses.

Statement of Goals: I would like to see DSEB increase the number of its members, and I think that in order to do this the Division should try to recruit new members outside the traditional membership of SICB, a

society that has historically been dominated by zoologists. As program officer of DSEB I would try to attract a greater number of botanists, microbiologists, and paleontologists to SICB meetings through symposia, workshops, and other activities in which DSEB is traditionally involved. As most members of SICB reside in the US and Canada, I would also try to develop ways to encourage the participation of fellow systematists from other countries to our annual meetings.

Division of Vertebrate Morphology (DVM): 2004 Spring Newsletter

In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary](#)
 - [Elections: Candidates for DVM Chair](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Frank Fish



*And gentleman in England now a-bed
Shall think themselves accurs'd they were
not here,
William Shakespeare (King Henry V)*

There is a lot I can say about the SICB meeting in New Orleans and it's all good. I have never seen a higher level of science than what was presented in New Orleans. The biggest problem at the meeting was trying to decide which competing talks to go to see. The hotel had an excellent location, being only a few blocks from Bourbon Street, the Mississippi River, and the Audubon Aquarium. Of course, dinner was a major undertaking, as there were so many extraordinary restaurants to choose from. To make things even more fun, SICB hired a band to entertain everyone. Being New Orleans you have to have music. The band was truly appreciated by the students. If you didn't attend, then you missed a meeting that was really special. However, you can make up for this past sin by being sure to prepare for next year's meeting in San Diego.

The students performed marvelously in New Orleans, making highly professional presentations. This made the job of the Davis Award Committee even more difficult, when you consider that they had to judge over 40

oral and poster presentations. Indeed by the end of the meeting, the committee had tied on the winner of the Davis Award. So this year there are two co-winners of the Davis Award (see photos in secretary's report). The winners are Jill A. Holliday (Florida State University) for her presentation "*Character evolution in carnivora: specialization, stasis, and directional bias*" and Tobias Landberg (University of Massachusetts) for his presentation "*Aquatic escape performance through ontogeny and metamorphosis of spotted salamanders, Ambystoma maculatum.*" The winner of the DVM Poster Award was Julia C. Schaum (James Madison University) for her poster "*Hindlimb kinematics during bipedalism in Propithecus verreauxi.*" Also acknowledged is Robert Levine for Honorable Mention for his presentation "*Contribution of eye retraction to swallowing performance in the Northern leopard frog, Rana pipiens.*" I would like to thank Rick Blob (Clemson University), chair, Miriam Ashley-Ross (Wake Forest University), Lance McBrayer (Stephen F. Austin St. University), Matt McHenry (Harvard University), Natalia Rybczynski (Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa) for their fine work as the Davis Award Committee.

Although the DVM did not sponsor a regular symposium this year, a mini-symposium to honor Marvalee Wake was organized by Kurt Schwenk and Wyatt Korff. Marvalee is entering a new phase of her career. Her accomplishments and influence in the field of vertebrate morphology were being celebrated. Marvalee has been a driving force in science, SICB and particularly the DVM. We all wish her well in her new endeavors.

At the business meeting in New Orleans, a number of issues were brought up. Some of the venues for future meetings have been scheduled. We will meet in San Diego in 2005, Orlando in 2006 and San Antonio in 2008. 2007 has not been booked at this time and there is some consideration that SICB may meet in Mexico. The issue of changing the length of oral presentations was discussed. For the present time, it looks like talks will still be 20 minutes in length, although this may have to change if the SICB continues to grow. Presently, only the length of symposium talks will change to 30 minutes from 40 minutes. Melina Hale (University of Chicago) has been appointed to the Editorial Board for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Any concerns about the journal should be forwarded to her. Audrone Biknevičius (Ohio University) has agreed to remain as DVM secretary, for which I am very thankful as she has continued to maintain order in the DVM and kept me focused. Bret Tobalske (University of Oregon) has now officially stepped down as division Program Officer. Bret was instrumental in helping to schedule the mini-symposium for Marvalee Wake with a very little notice. John Bertram (Florida State University) has now come on board as the DVM Program Officer.

An important function of the DVM is to support additional meetings for presentation of ideas in vertebrate morphology. Two regional meetings were planned in 2003. The Southeast regional meeting at James Madison University went off well, but the Northeast regional meeting at SUNY at Stony Brook unfortunately did not come to fruition. Despite any set-backs, these meetings are important and provide a venue for students, who cannot afford to come to the national meeting or who use it to develop their ideas. Please think about organizing a regional meeting. The DVM has funds to help in this endeavor. One meeting sure to provide a lot of interest is the International Congress of Vertebrate Morphologists (ICVM-7) scheduled this summer in Boca Raton, Florida. I suggest everyone make an effort to come as the strength of the schedule of this meeting makes it one not to miss.

I would like to ask that people provide information on websites of interest to morphologists. As more and more information accumulates on the world-wide web, it becomes harder and more time consuming to find useful information. There is a wealth of free software downloads, information on new equipment, teaching sites, and images that can be accessed. If you come across websites of interest, forward a brief description and web address to Audrone, who can include the information in the newsletter.

Lastly, be prepared to vote for the new DVM Chair-elect. The election will be an epic contest between two titans in the field of vertebrate morphology. We have our candidates Kiisa Nishikawa (Northern Arizona University) and Kurt Schwenk (University of Connecticut). Be sure that no one will be speaking with a forked tongue and that this will be a fair and balanced election without the need for a recount in Florida. I wish to

thank the selection committee of Peter Wainwright (University California at Davis), Miriam Ashley–Ross (Wake Forest University), and John Long (Vassar College) for getting two outstanding candidates.

I hope that things continue to go swimmingly for you and your research.

Message from the (Novice) Program Officer

John Bertram



First, thank you to those who had faith enough in me (or bore a large enough grudge) to elect me to this position. I hope I can carry on the work that has been done so well over the last couple of years by Bret Tobalske. My thanks certainly go out to him for leaving the DVM program for San Diego in such good repair.

The San Diego meeting may seem a rather distant concept at this point, but it is certainly time to begin thinking about making room in your schedule and planning your participation. I was particularly impressed with the poster sessions at the New Orleans meeting. They were extremely well attended and there was a great deal of interesting exchange between the presenters and the crowds filing past. Personally, this was by far my most enjoyable poster experience. Keep this in mind as you consider whether you would prefer to present your work as a poster or platform presentation.

DVM is co–sponsoring three symposia this year; a society–wide symposium organized by Nigel Hughes and David Jacobs, "*Terminal addition, segmentation, and the evolution of Metazoan body plan regionalization*"; a symposium organized by Robert Dudley and Douglas Altshuler, "*Adaptations for life at high elevations*"; and a symposium organized by Moya Smith, "*Evolution and development of vertebrate dentition*". As always, we

would entertain suggestions for more great symposia as meetings are planned for upcoming years. Having done this in the past, I highly recommend initiating the process well in advance.

If you recall, in New Orleans a new and controversial scheduling plan was being discussed. The suggestion was made that the platform presentations be shortened to 15 and the symposium presentations to 30 minutes. The purpose for these changes was to allow for increased numbers of symposia while maintaining congruence between the timing of symposia and regular sessions. My perception was (1) that there was a groundswell of resistance to shortening the regular platform sessions and (2) that there was no particular need to keep the regular and symposium sessions in absolute congruence if other factors dictate. Although the final program for San Diego has not been set, I would claim that the program staff has responded well to the Society's membership. The current plan is to maintain the 20-minute platform presentations while shortening the symposia presentations to 30 minutes. Now, before too many objections are sounded and alternative plans presented, please keep in mind that maximizing program satisfaction with such diverse individuals and divisions will always necessitate some compromises. Also, realize that the program drives like a supertanker – adjustments cannot be made at the last minute and any adjustments that are made have their effect one or two meetings in the future.

I sincerely hope your research goes well this spring and summer. I look forward to seeing you all in San Diego. Lets all hope our protocols are approved, our grants are funded and we all catch our own errors before they appear in print!

Cheers, John

Message from the Secretary and Candidates for Election

Audrone Biknevicus

1. **7th International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology.** The 7th International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology will held on 27 July – 1 August 2003 at Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida, USA. Please visit the ICVM-7 web site for registration, travel and housing updates: <http://www.iconferences.org/icvm7/>.

2. **2004 SICB-DVM Student Awards.** As noted above in the chair's report, we were treated to outstanding student presentations (oral and poster) at the 2004 SICB meetings. Please join me in cheering on this year's awardees:



Jill A. Holliday
Florida State University

Tobias Landberg
University of Massachusetts

Julie C. Schaum
James Madison University

(Tobias requests that we acknowledge the co-author of his study: "Manny Azizi is a fellow graduate student, a friend and a mentor. Without him, this study would not have been possible.")

3. SICB–DVM ELECTIONS FOR DIVISION CHAIR

(Candidates listed alphabetically) SICB–DVM will be holding elections for a new divisional chair–elect this spring. Below are our two candidates. You will be contacted in a future e–mail from the society office to submit your vote.

Kiisa Nishikawa



Current Position: Regentsâ€™ Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Northern Arizona University, <http://www2.nau.edu/~kiisa/>

Education: 1980, B. S. Biology (Magna cum laude), State University of New York, Albany, NY. 1985, Ph. D. Zoology, University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill, NC.

Professional Experience: 1985, Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. of Anatomy, Dalhousie University, Nova Scotia, Canada. 1985–87 Miller Fellow, Museum of Vertebrate Zoology, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 1987–89 Assistant Professor, Dept. of Biological Sciences, University of Kentucky, Lexington, KY. 1989 Visiting Professor, University of Bremen, Germany. 1990 Visiting Professor, Studienstiftung des deutschen Volkes, Germany. 1997 Visiting Associate Professor, Dept. of Physiology, Univ. of Minnesota, Minneapolis, MN. 1998 Visiting Associate Professor, Department of Zoology, Duke University, Durham, NC

Awards and Honors 1985, Miller Postdoctoral Fellowship, University of California, Berkeley, CA. 1993, Burlington Resources Foundation Faculty Achievement Award for Scholarly Research, NAU. 1996, Presidentâ€™s Faculty Award, Northern Arizona University. 1997, Honorable Mention, Presidentâ€™s Award for Cultural Diversity, NAU. 1998, Excellence in Teaching Award, Alumni Association, State University of New York, Albany.

SICB Activities: 1989, Judge, Best Student Paper Competition, Comparative Biochemistry & Physiology, American Society of Zoology (ASZ). 1990, Chair, Best Student Paper Committee, Division of Vertebrate Morphology, ASZ. 1992–93, Member, Membership Committee, American Society of Zoologists. 1992–94, Member, Program Committee, IVth International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology. 1995, Member, Best Student Paper Committee, Division of Vertebrate Morphology, ASZ. 1995–98, Secretary, Division of Neurobiology, Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. 2002, Member, Nominating Committee, Division of Vertebrate Morphology, SICB.

Other Memberships: American Society of Ichthyologists & Herpetologists (ASIH), International Society of Vertebrate Morphologists, International Society for Neuroethology, The J.B. Johnston Club (JBJC), Organization for Tropical Studies (OTS), Sigma Xi, Society for Neuroscience (SN) **Research Interests:** Neuromuscular control of ballistic movement; mechanisms of power amplification in ballistic movement; functional morphology of feeding in vertebrates; evolution of brain and behavior.

Statement of Goals: My goals would be: 1) to maintain/increase membership in the DVM, and work to increase minority participation at all levels; 2) to promote the importance of vertebrate morphology in contemporary and interdisciplinary research; 3) to maintain/expand regional meetings of the DVM; and 4) to work with the SICB to ensure continued support for regional meetings, symposia and other DVM events.

Kurt Schwenk



Current Position: Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, University of Connecticut; <http://www.eeb.uconn.edu/faculty/schwenk/schwenk.htm>

Education: Ph.D. 1984: University of California, Berkeley; B.A. 1977: Oberlin College.

Professional Experience: Present: Professor of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology, Univ. of Connecticut; Curator of Mammalogy, Ecology and Evolutionary Biology Research Collections; Associate of Zoology, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University; 1995–2001: Associate Professor, EEB, UConn; 1989–1995: Assistant Professor, EEB, UConn; 1989: Lecturer on Biology, Dept. of Organismic and

Evolutionary Biology, Harvard University; 1987–1989: NIH Postdoctoral Fellow, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University; 1986–1987; Instructor in Anatomy, Dept. of Oral Anatomy, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago School of Dentistry; 1984–1987: Postdoctoral Research Associate, Dept. of Oral Anatomy, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago School of Dentistry; 1976–1977: Zookeeper, Depts. of Herpetology and Mammalogy, Bronx Zoo.

Awards and Honors: 1976: Sigma Xi, elected member; 1977: graduation with High Honors in Biology; 1982–1983: University of California Regents Fellow; 1984: Honorable Mention, Stoye Award for best student paper, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists; 1987–1989: NIH National Research Service Award; 1990: Associate of Zoology, Museum of Comparative Zoology, Harvard University; 1993: Keynote speaker, Univ. of Leiden, The Netherlands; 1995–2002: NSF advisory panels, Doctoral Dissertation and Ecological & Evolutionary Physiology Programs; 1998: Phi Kappa Phi, elected member; 2000: plenary lecture, International Congress of Zoology, Athens, Greece.

SICB Activities: 1986–present: Chair, contributed paper sessions, DVM; 1988 and 1996: Chair, D. Dwight Davis Award Committee, DVM; 1989: Nominating Committee, DVM; 1993–1994: Editorial Committee, 4th International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology; 1999–2000: Program Officer, DVM; 2001–2002: Nominating Committee, SICB; 2002–2004: Scientific Program Committee, 7th International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology; 2004–2006: Associate Editor, *Evolution*.

Other Memberships: American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists; International Society of Vertebrate Morphology; Sigma Xi; Society of Systematic Biologists; Society for the Study of Amphibians and Reptiles.

Research Interests: Evolutionary and functional morphology of tetrapod feeding systems; evolutionary and functional morphology of squamate chemosensory systems; comparative anatomy of the tongue; phenotypic evolution, especially in functionally integrated, complex systems; evolutionary constraint.

Statement of Goals: As Division chair, I promise to remain amusing, no matter how ineffectual. Beyond this, my central goal will be to retain the strength, vitality and centrality of DVM within SICB and in the arena of comparative biology. I see a potential threat in future fragmentation of DVM as additional divisions are created to accommodate niche interests, such as evo–devo. While obviously an asset to the Society and of tremendous interest to DVM members, such new divisions could result in a realignment of memberships and alliances within the Society, with a concomitant loss of member participation and devotion to DVM (attendance at the DVM business meeting in New Orleans, for example, was shockingly poor). I would therefore work with division members to re–define our vision of ourselves and to re–affirm the empirical and conceptual centrality of morphology to diverse disciplines. I would advocate a position of inclusiveness so that niche interests feel they are best served within the division. One strategy is to solidify and extend practices that attract and support student participation in the division and at the meetings – something DVM already does well. We could then bend student wills to ours, molding them like putty, instilling in them an undying allegiance to DVM... Sorry – got carried away. Nonetheless, I feel passionately that vertebrate morphology is more vital, more exciting and more central than ever before – anyone who attends the meetings knows this to be true. But by virtue of DVM's integrative nature, the diversity of our interests tends to pull us in different directions. I see this diversity as a core strength of DVM, but it could become a source of divisiveness if we are not pro–active. I would therefore work inside and outside the society to strengthen the perception of morphology as both relevant and timely across a wide variety of disciplines. I would also work to avoid run–on sentences in future DVM blurbs.