



Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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DCE Officers & Representatives

Mark Sheridan
Chair 2010-2012

Mary T. Mendonca
Secretary 2009-2011

Erika Crespi
Secretary-Elect 2010-2011

Rosemary Knapp
Program Officer 2010-2012

Rebecca M. Calisi
Student/Postdoc Rep. 2010-2012

Robert John Denver
ICB Editorial Board Representative
2008-2013

Message from the Chair

Mark Sheridan

Seattle Annual Meeting Highlights

The meeting in Seattle was excellent. The **Howard Bern Lecture** was by **Dr. Carl Schreck**, Oregon State University Cooperative Fisheries Research Unit. His presentation, entitled "Haruspication: why is the endocrine system so similar and why is it so dissimilar amongst fishes" was a great kick-off and helped set the tone for the entire meeting. It provided a broad overview of acute and chronic stress, and seamlessly integrated animal function, behavior, and fitness. The reflections about individual, population, seasonal, and other sources of variation challenged all of us to examine our work in that light. I might add that the use of haruspicy to resolve the similarity and dissimilarity of the endocrine systems of fish would truly have appealed to Howard.

We also had an excellent collection of symposia as well as oral and poster contributed presentations, which will be summarized by **Rosemary Knapp**, our Program Officer.

The student/postdoc presentations were extremely competitive, and I would like to thank everyone who submitted an entry to the contest. I would like to thank **Ignacio Moore** and his committee of many others for judging the student papers. I am delighted to announce the following winners of this year's prizes:

The recipient of the **Aubrey Gorbman Best Oral Paper Award** was **Ohed Rosen**, Ben Gurion University of the Negrev, for his paper "A sexual shift induced by an androgenic gland insulin-like gene silencing in intersex crayfish."



The recipient of the **Best Poster Award** was **Tara Clever**, California State University Fresno, for



2010 Howard Bern
Lecturer Carl Schreck





her paper "Investigating the interaction between ghrelin and insulin on the endocrine control of appetite in the brain of tilapia (*Oreochromis mossambicus*)."

Bern Birthday and Endowment

Professor Howard Bern,

one of the founders of our field of comparative endocrinology and pioneer in the study of endocrine disruption (and namesake of the Bern Lecture), celebrated his 90th birthday on January 30, 2010. A surprise party was held in his honor at the UC Berkeley Faculty Club. An e-card signed by some 90 DCE members was presented to Howard at the party. He was genuinely touched by all of the well wishes. I would like to thank **Mary Mendonça** for her effort to organize the e-card project.



Since its inception in 2002, the Bern Lecture was supported by Elsevier. Unfortunately, due to economic constraints, Elsevier stopped making an annual contribution to support the lecture in 2009. As a temporary stop-gap measure, an extra levy was placed on DCE dues. The long-term plan to support the lecture was to establish the Howard Bern Lecture Fund. The establishment of this endowed fund was approved by the SICB Executive Committee at the Seattle meeting. The principal amount needed before proceeds

can be used to support the lecture is \$25,000. Howard's contributions and influence have touched all of us, and I urge everyone to make a contribution to the fund.

Contributions to the Howard Bern Lecture Fund can be made in the following ways:

On-line at <https://ssl4.westserver.net/birenheide/secure/sicb/cart/donations.php>

By sending a check to:

SICB
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Suite 402
McLean VA 22101

(be sure to write "Bern Fund" on the memo line)

Grand Challenges

DCE has led the way in responding to NSF's call to identify Grand Challenges in organismal biology. The paper "Comparative endocrinology in the 21st century" by **Robert J. Denver, Penny M. Hopkins, Stephen D. McCormick, Catherine R. Propper, Lynn Riddiford, Stacia A. Sower, and John C. Wingfield** is an excellent perspective on our field and will appear in an upcoming issue of *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. You may view the paper at http://icb.oxfordjournals.org/content/vol49/issue4/index.dtl#GRAND_CHALLENGES.

The next phase of the process will be to develop an implementation strategy, which will consist of distilling the challenge themes and tying them to funding programs at NSF. I would like to thank **Brian Tsukimura** for organizing the Grand Challenge workshop at the Seattle meeting and initiating the effort to move us to the next phase. There will be a series of upcoming meetings on implementation strategies, and your participation in these



sessions and your input will be crucial. Please see Brian's Message from the Society Program Officer.

Status of our division, challenges and opportunities

Although DCE is one of the largest divisions of SICB (e.g., top 2-3, depending on how you count), total membership has declined over the last 10 years. Certainly, the field has evolved and become much more diverse during this time, and there may be many reasons for this decline.

In order to assess the field and better serve the DCE membership, the DCE officers recently developed and distributed a member survey. The results of the survey are at

http://www.surveymonkey.com/sr.aspx?sm=4fSX0atavuvvsNCb0fbC1PLbUEzRIZI2WXnCqnbD7GEM_3d.

Several points emerge from the survey: 1) many respondents also affiliate with the divisions of animal behavior, comparative physiology and biochemistry, and ecology and evolution, 2) the research of most respondents is directed at the organismal and ecological/environmental levels, 3) attendance of the annual meeting is influenced by the location of the meeting as well as by the time of the meeting, symposia topics, and the diversity/integrative nature of the program, and 4) while most respondents feel that organismal and ecology/environmental levels are most represented in the meeting, there is interest in expanding program offerings at the genomic, molecular, and systems levels.

These observations provide us with a sense of our current strengths, and suggest where there are opportunities to expand participation in DCE and the SICB annual meeting. We should continue our emphasis on integration, and have program offerings in organismal, behavioral, and ecological/environmental endocrinology, but at

the same time we should expand program opportunities at other scales. To this end, I would like to expand focus-type oral sessions in genomic, molecular, and systems endocrinology, and to integrate these scales into our other sessions as well (see the call for papers and symposia below).

The survey also asked about the proposal by Bob Denver to form a North American Society for Comparative Endocrinology (NASCE). As you will note, the results are somewhat split. While some thought such an organization would be advantageous, others were concerned about the impact on DCE and attendance at the annual SICB meeting. Funding constraints may preclude many from attending the SICB meeting in years when a NASCE meeting is held. DCE members interested in continuing a dialog on the NASCE issue are encouraged to do so at

<http://www.sicb.org/divisions/DCE/bbdce/>.

The decision to move forward or not with this proposal does not rest with DCE, and your other officers and I are focused on increasing DCE membership and expanding DCE programming at the annual SICB meetings. However, we need your help. The best way to do this is to encourage your non-member colleagues to join SICB and attend the annual meeting!

Call for Focused Contributed Paper Sessions and Symposia

For the upcoming 2011 Salt Lake City meeting, I would like to include focused oral sessions as I mentioned above. If you have ideas for topics or would like to help organize such session, please contact me or Rosemary Knapp.

It also is time to start thinking about symposia for the 2012 Charleston, SC meeting. Symposia are a major attraction at the annual meeting, and offer an opportunity to draw non-SICB members to the meeting. The deadline is August 16, 2010. Please contact Rosemary Knapp for more infor-



mation.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank our outgoing officers, **Stacia Sower** (Chair) and **Steve Schoech** (Program Officer), as well as **Alexandra Class** (Graduate Student/Postdoc Affairs Committee Representative) for their dedicated service. I also would like to thank the nominating committee, comprised of **Steve McCormick**, **Erica Crespi**, and **Ignacio Moore**, for coming up with our slate of Program Officer-elect candidates.

Message from the Program Officer

Rosemary Knapp

I hope that everyone who attended the Seattle meeting enjoyed it as much as I did. Yes, like many of you, I missed those colleagues (including a roommate) who couldn't make it due to weather-related travel disruptions. The symposia, talks, and posters were excellent, and I returned home energized. Please join me in thanking Steve Schoech for his service as our Division Program Officer the past couple of years. Steve oversaw the scheduling in Seattle of 52 oral presentations, 47 posters, and two symposia: *In-*



sights of Early Chordate Genomics: Endocrinology and Development in Amphioxus, Tunicates and Lampreys and *Integrative Migration Biology* that listed DCE as their affiliation.

Dr. Carl Schreck's Howard Bern lecture was a wonderful overview of stress endocrinology while at the same time thought-provoking with respect to whether we know as much as we think we do.

Congratulations to the winners of the Student Presentation Awards: Ohed Rosen (Ben Gurion University of the Negev) won the Aubrey Gorbman Oral Presentation Award for "A sexual shift induced by an androgenic gland insulin-like gene silencing in intersex crayfish." Tara Clever (California State Univ. Fresno) won the Poster Presentation Award for "Investigating the interaction between ghrelin and insulin on the endocrine control of appetite in the brain of tilapia (*Oreochromis mossambicus*)."

Many thanks to Ignacio Moore for organizing the judging of 45 student presentations, and then overseeing the judges in absentia. He was ably assisted by a large group of judges: Peggy Biga, Rachel Bowden, Eli Bridge, Laura Carruth, Erica Crespi, Thea Edwards, Megumi Fuse, Alf Haukenes, Rosemary Knapp, Herman Lehman, Sean Lema, Matthew Lovern, Deb Lutterschmidt, Sharon Lynn, Stephen McCormick, Katie O'Reilly, Nicole Perfito, Ned Place, Susan Renn, Steve Schoech, Christine Strand, Karen Sweazea, Alan Vajda, Ann Tarrant, Maren Vitousek, Haruka Wada. Thank you all! Joe Casto has already volunteered to be our organizer next year. Thanks Joe!

I'm already looking forward to seeing all of you in Salt Lake City next January. Abstract and registration details will be emailed and posted online this summer. I've just learned BAI negotiated amazingly low hotel rates at the meeting hotel, so plan to bring all your students with you to SLC! DCE will be co-



sponsoring the symposium "Bridging the gap between eco-immunology and disease ecology" organized by Susannah French and Greg Demas. There are several other symposia planned that will also interest various subsets of DCE members. Speaking of symposia, I encourage any who have thought about organizing a symposium to start planning for our 2012 meeting in Charleston; proposals will be due late summer. Feel free to contact me should you have any questions about organizing one.

Message from the Secretary

Mary Mendonça

As Mark and Rosemary have said, the Seattle meeting was great. I think it was held at one of the best venues for presentations I have ever experienced. All the sessions were in close proximity which really helped getting to different talks and the architecture of the building was beautiful. There were a number of outstanding symposia and high quality talks, especially by the students. Seattle had a variety of wonderful restaurants and the sun even came out on the last day so we could see the famous skyline. All in all, it was a great experience (especially when they lowered the alcohol prices to compensate for overcharging us at the first social!).

I want to thank all of you that signed the birthday card to celebrate Howard Bern's 90th birthday on Jan 30th. There were 95 signatures in all and the 13 ft long card was delivered to Howard on his birthday. You can still see the card and all the messages for Howard at the following link:

<http://www.groupcard.com/c/Js5xFNpzao>.

I have been told that Howard was particularly moved by receiving the card with all your warm wishes.

Also thank you for participating in the recent survey on the future of DCE. There were 96

respondents. The responses indicated support for or neutrality toward the new comparative endocrinology society but there were also concerns about its impact on the future of DCE. The survey echoed the discussion that occurred at this year's business meeting on this topic. I urge you to read the minutes of the business meeting for a summary of that discussion.

You will be receiving a ballot in the spring to vote for a new Program Officer. **Rachel Bowden** and **Ignacio Moore** have been nominated and their Bios and Goals Statements appear at the end of the Newsletter. The survey results clearly indicate that, aside from the location of the meeting, the most important factors influencing meeting attendance is symposia topics and the diversity and integrative nature of the presentations. The Program Officer is a crucial player in setting up meeting events. So please vote for this very important position.

The **DCE Researcher Database** has increased in number of contributions, but they still only amount to a handful and I would really like to see the database grow exponentially this year. We would like you to submit a paragraph on your research accompanied by an arresting photo or graphic which illustrates you and/or your work. Once you submit your contribution, it can also be cross-listed in other Divisions where you have indicated an affiliation. Having your information on the SICB web site is a great recruitment tool for your lab! Please take a few minutes and send me the information and watch the DCE Researcher Database grow.

Here is a list of upcoming meetings that were mentioned at the business meeting, along with links to the meeting web site and relevant deadlines. If you know of or want to advertise other meetings, please send me an email and I will be happy to list them.

The 14th International Congress of Endocrinology (ICE 2010) will be held in



Kyoto, Japan from March 26-30
(<http://ice2010.org/>)

The 12th European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE 2010) in Prague, Czech Republic, April 24-28 (<http://www.escendo.info/>).

The 2010 Gordon Conference on Environmental Endocrine Disruptors will be held May 30-June 4 in Les Diablerets, Switzerland (<http://www.grc.org/programs.aspx?year=2010&program=envido>) . Applications for the meeting must be submitted by May 9.

Neurobiology of Stress Workshop 2010 is scheduled for June 15-18 in Boulder, CO (<http://psych.colorado.edu/~stressworkshop2010/>) . Abstract submission and registration deadline -April 16.

The Endocrine Society's annual meeting will be held on June 19-22, 2010 in San Diego, CA (<http://www.endo-society.org/meetings/annual/index.cfm>). Abstract submission and early registration deadline is April 15.

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction is meeting 30 July-3 Aug 2010 in Milwaukee, WI (<http://www.ssr.org/Meetings.shtml>)

The 9th International Congress on the Biology of Fish in Barcelona, Spain (July 5-9) will feature numerous symposia of relevance to comparative endocrinologists (e.g. Sexual Dimorphisms: Known and Unknown, Stress Axis Regulation: From Molecules to Fish, Zebra Fish Endocrinology, etc.

<http://sidciencias.uab.es/9FishBiologyCongress/>).

The 18th International Ecdysone Workshop, will be held in the Czech Republic on July 19 - 23

(<http://www.ecdysone2010.cz/>) Abstract submission and registration deadline is May 1.

Society of Behavioral Neuroendocrinology will hold their annual meeting July 18-21 in Toronto, Canada (<http://www.sbne.org/meetings/2010/>) . Abstracts are due April 9

The 25th Conference of the European Comparative Endocrinologists (CECE 2010) is scheduled for August 31-Sept 4, 2010 in Pecs, Hungary (<http://answer.pote.hu/CONGR/CECE25.htm>)

Message from the Graduate Student and Post-doc Representative

Rebecca M. Calisi

Hello to all postdoc and graduate student members of DCE! I was recently assigned as your representative and wanted to introduce myself. However, being so new to the position, I have little to say! So stay tuned for future helpful tidbits and profound statements....

Minutes of 2010 DCE Business Meeting – Seattle, 5 January 2010

The Business Meeting was called to order by DCE Chair, Stacia Sower.

Introductions: Stacia Sower then introduced the new divisional officers, Mark Sheri-



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dan, incoming Chair, Rosemary Knapp, incoming Program Officer, and Chair-elect, Steve McCormick and Secretary-elect, Erica Crespi.

Announcements: This year's honoree to give the Howard Bern Lecture is Dr. Carl Schreck from Oregon State University. Stacia noted Carl's many accomplishments that made him the choice for the honor of being chosen as the Bern Lecturer. She also thanked the members of the Howard Bern Lectureship Nominating Committee for their work. This is now the second year we have used this process. The committee received excellent nominations and it seems to be an excellent forum by which to select the Howard Bern Lecturer.

Program Officer Steve Schoech announced that this year's Seattle meeting is second in attendance only to 2009's record-setting meeting in Boston. There were 1318 abstracts submitted to this year's meeting. There were 52 oral presentations and 47 posters that listed DCE as their affiliation and DCE sponsored or co-sponsored two symposia: *Insights of Early Chordate Genomics: Endocrinology and Development in Amphioxus, Tunicates and Lampreys* and *Integrative Migration Biology*. He reminded members that they should be sure to pick DCE as their affiliation when future abstracts are

submitted. He also emphasized that DCE needs to sponsor more symposia. Late breaking symposia can still be proposed in the next month for next year's meeting in Salt Lake City and symposia can be proposed until mid-August for the 2012 Charleston meeting.

Steve then said there were 24 talks and 21 posters competing for Best Student Paper or Poster in DCE. The Chair of the Judging Committee for Best Student

Oral and Poster Presentations was Ignacio Moore (for the 2nd consecutive year!) and we

thanked him and his judges for their hard work. Wiley Science is providing \$300 for the student award winners. The names of the winners of the student competitions will be posted on the SICB web site as soon as possible and they will also be posted in the Spring Newsletter along with the names of the judging committee.

Secretary Mary Mendonça then announced that there has been discussion by the SICB Executive Committee to standardize the eligibility requirements for student competition participants across the different divisions. The proposed revised SICB By-Law, Article XVI, was displayed which explicitly stated that a competing student must be a graduate student member or student-in-training member of SICB as well as a member of the division in which he/she was competing. A student that has won a competition (i.e., best oral or best poster presentation) in one division cannot compete for that specific award again in that same division. That student could compete in another division for best oral or poster competition. Mary then displayed the current DCE By-Law Article XVIII, which was vague as to whether the student competitors had to be members of DCE and had no restrictions as to whether students could compete again after winning.

There was a general discussion about the change and it appeared that there was no objection to the proposed SICB By-Law revision because it did not overly impact what was written in the specific DCE Student Awards By-Law. There will be a ballot on the proposed By-Law change this spring. A question was raised as to why the Best Oral Presentation was named the Aubrey Gorbman Award whereas the Best Poster Presentation Award had no name attached to it. Mary Mendonça said that was a good question and maybe we should consider having it be a named award.

Mary then listed several upcoming meetings



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and others were mentioned from the floor. The following is a list of upcoming meetings that were mentioned:

The 14th International Congress of Endocrinology (ICE 2010) will be held in Kyoto, Japan from March 26-30.

The 12th European Congress of Endocrinology (ECE 2010) in Prague, Czech Republic, April 24-28.

The 2010 Gordon Conference on Endocrine Disruptors will be held May 30- June 4 in Les Diablerets, Switzerland.

Neurobiology of Stress Workshop 2010 is scheduled for June 15-18 in Boulder, CO.

The Endocrine Society's annual meeting will be held on June 19-22, 2010 in San Diego, CA.

The 43rd Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction is meeting 30 July-3 Aug 2010 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin

The 9th International Congress on the Biology of Fish in Barcelona, Spain (July 5-9) will feature numerous symposia of relevance to comparative endocrinologists (Sexual Dimorphisms: Known and Unknown, Stress Axis Regulation: From Molecules to Fish, Zebra Fish Endocrinology, etc).

The 18th International Ecdysone Workshop, will be held in the Czech Republic in July, 2010.

The 25th Conference of the European Comparative Endocrinologists (CECE 2010) is scheduled for August 31-Sept 4, 2010 in Pecs, Hungary

The 25th meeting of the International Ornithological Congress will be held in Campos do Jordao, Brazil on 22-28 August, 2010

The chair of this year's Nominating Committee is Steve McCormick. He and his committee are seeking nominees for the position of DCE Program Officer.

The minutes from last year's DCE business

meeting in Boston, which had been posted in the Spring 2009 newsletter on the SICB web page, were then unanimously approved.

The SICB Executive Officers (Richard Satterlie, Lou Burnett, Brian Tsukimura, Ed Rosa-Molinar, Ron Dimock) visited the DCE meeting. Richard Satterlie encouraged DCE members to attend the Grand Challenges Workshop on Wednesday which will begin discussions on how to implement the Grand Challenges. Ron Dimock also encouraged us to attend the general SICB business meeting and to donate to the various Endowed Funds: there are presently 10 endowed funds (like Grants In Aid of Research and Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel) and there are plans for an eleventh fund to support the Bern Lecturer Award. Ed Rosa-Molinar was very complimentary of Stacia Sower and Linda Holland for organizing DCE's late breaking symposium on *Insights of Early Chordate Genomics* and Stacia and Linda were thanked to great applause. Brian Tsukimura encouraged us to propose other late-breaking symposia. The deadline for submitting symposia for the 2012 Charleston meeting is mid-August. There are already 11 symposia scheduled for the 2011 meeting in Salt Lake City but if there was a pressing enough topic, a late-breaking symposium could still be proposed in the next few weeks. The SICB officers then left the meeting.

Stacia Sower again urged that members submit an entry to the Researcher Data Base on the SICB web site. She pointed out that there were only three DCE contributions to the data base which puts us far behind the other divisions. This entry could be a picture of you or your students or some interesting graphic of your research. Having these contributions increases the number of hits on the other Division sites. She told people to send their contributions to Mary Mendonça who will get it uploaded to our Division page.

Bob Dores, Editor-in-Chief of *General and Comparative Endocrinology*, gave a report on the



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status of the journal. He stated that GCE's impact factor has risen, that they have been publishing a number of great papers and it is an exciting journal to read. In the last 2 years, they had hoped to receive 300 manuscripts and in fact have received 400. There will be 3 special issues of GCE this year: 2 symposia from the International Congress of Endocrinology will be published and a special issue on Amphibian Endocrinology. Additionally, the Profiles in Comparative Endocrinology series will continue with tributes to Carl Schreck and Glen van der Kraak. Next year will be GCE's 50th anniversary and there will be many special features to celebrate that.

He also talked about DCE's contribution to the Grand Challenge's series in *Integrative and Comparative Biology* by Bob Denver, Penny Hopkins, Steve McCormick, Cathy Propper, Lynn Riddiford, Stacia Sower, and John Wingfield entitled "Comparative Endocrinology in the 21st century". Bob Dores said it was a great manifesto and there will be an editorial in GCE talking about it. A PDF of it is available on the SICB web site.

Mary Chamberlin, NSF Program Officer for Processes, Structure, and Integrity announced that there was no more stimulus money for NSF grants. She also announced that NSF would no longer accept the 2-page updates for submitted grant proposals (though, if there was an important update, a PI could still contact the Program Officer and let them know the information). She also reminded people that the "Life in Transition" interdisciplinary funding program is still encouraging proposal submission to obtain matching funding for a successful proposal. If a proposal covers the LIT's focus areas, then place the letters LIT in front of the proposal's title so it can be considered for matching funds. Finally, Dr. Chamberlin announced that she will be stepping down as Program Officer of PSI this year. She will still be at NSF as a rotator and coming back for panels. She stated NSF is seeking Program

Officers as well as reviewers.

Action Items:

Mark Sheridan announced that he is spearheading the effort to establish a Howard Bern Lecturer Endowment Fund. The series was formerly supported by Elsevier since 2002. Establishing the endowment fund will allow us to officially solicit contributions. We have \$0 now but hope to have \$25,000 by this time next year. He asked the members to spread the word as well as contribute.

Steve McCormick suggested that Howard Bern has many international collaborators and that we should contact them. Stacia Sower thanked Mark for taking the lead in this endeavor.

Bob Denver had two announcements: one concerning the journal *Integrative and Comparative Biology (ICB)* and the second about the establishment of a new comparative endocrinology society. The impact factor of *ICB* has gone up to 2.74 but it is still not listed in PubMed. There have been three attempts to list it, and they will try again in July. The editorial board of *ICB* has made some key contacts to get it on and Bob is hopeful that they will succeed.

He then went on to discuss the establishment of a North America Society for Comparative Endocrinology (NASCE). He said a group of people at an endocrine meeting 3 years ago in Berkeley talked about establishing a society similar to the European Society of Comparative Endocrinology. It would include researchers from Canada, US, and Mexico and, in the future, South and Central America. It would also bring in people from other disciplines that do not belong to DCE. It will incorporate this year as a non-profit organization. It will meet every two years in the summer. The first meeting will be in Ann Arbor, MI, July 15-19 2011 concurrent with ISAREN (International Symposium on Amphibian and Reptilian Endocrinology and Neurobiology). It will also have a special symposium to celebrate the 50th anniversary of GCE.



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Bob Does said that this was a great idea and they should try to get support of Elsevier to support the meeting.

The point was raised that this will make DCE attendance go down. Bob Denver said that having this society will give Comparative Endocrinology a higher profile than just being a Division in SICB. Also he said he is not convinced that it would detract from this group that attends DCE already.

Steve Schoech said: It *will* be competing. He gave the example of Society of Behavioral Neuroendocrinology and how its formation really hurt this division.

Stacia Sower: We have tried to increase membership but it is already down. There used to be 500 members of DCE in the eighties and the Western Regional hasn't had a meeting in two years. Stacia quoted Peter Thomas who had made the comment to Stacia at another meeting that Comparative Endocrinology as a discipline does not have the necessary visibility for the funding agencies. A separate society could help raise our profile

Cunming Duan also supported the formation of a separate society and said a successful example is the Japanese Society of Comparative Endocrinology.

Bob Denver states he goes to European Comparative Endocrine meetings and it is nice to have a meeting of only comparative endocrinologists with links to other meetings.

Peggy Biga said SICB is very friendly to young investigators and students and that she wondered how the new society would treat new investigators and students. Bob answered that it would be equally friendly.

Bob then stated they were just trying out this idea and seeing if it would work.

The meeting then drew to a close. Mark Sheridan presented the outgoing officers, Chair Stacia Sower and Program Officer Steve Schoech with certificates for their dedicated service and they were thanked with much applause for all their excellent work.

Submitted by Secretary Mary Mendonça

DCE Elections

Candidates for Program Officer, in alphabetical order

Rachel Bowden

Current Position: Associate Professor, School of Biological Sciences, Illinois State University

Education: B.A. with honors, Environmental, Population, and Organismal Biology, University of Colorado-Boulder, 1994; Ph.D. Biology, Indiana University-Bloomington, 2001

Professional Experience:

2001-2003, Postdoctoral Fellow, Department of Zoology and Genetics, Iowa State University
2003-2009, Assistant Professor, School of Biological Sciences, Illinois State University

SICB Activities: I attended my first annual meeting in 1999 and have attended every meeting since. I also attended the Western Regional Conference on Comparative Endocrinology meeting in 2003. I have served as a DCE judge for the best student presentations





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(2004, 2005, 2006, 2010), and co-organized and presented in the 2008 DCE-sponsored symposium "*Consequences of maternally derived yolk hormones for offspring: Current status, challenges, and opportunities.*"

Other Memberships: Phi Sigma, Sigma Xi, Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Research Interests: Research in my laboratory focuses on 1) maternal transfer of endocrine and immune factors to offspring and the consequences of these factors to offspring development, 2) understanding the role of the embryo in regulating its endocrine environment during development, and 3) interactions between the endocrine and immune systems. This work is currently being conducted using the red-eared slider turtle, a species with temperature-dependent sex determination.

Goals Statement: Although SICB was not the first meeting I attended, it was the first meeting where I felt scientifically connected. The combination of exciting and timely integrative research as well as the strong focus on students has made SICB the meeting I return year after year. Since becoming a faculty member, I have encouraged my students (both graduate and undergraduate) to participate in the society because I know they will receive a quality experience just as I had. As program officer I would continue efforts to promote student involvement and to increase the profile of students within DCE by encouraging student contributions to companion sessions of DCE sponsored symposia. I would also actively solicit ideas for symposia that have broad appeal to DCE members and encourage cross-disciplinary symposia that can bring exciting new ideas to the DCE membership. I feel very fortunate to have found a scientific home in SICB and look forward to

the opportunity to help organize more exceptional meetings in support of our division.

Ignacio Moore

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Virginia Tech

Education: 1994, B.S., Biochemistry, University of Arizona; 2000 Ph.D. Zoology, Oregon State University; 2000-2004 Postdoc, Zoology, University of Washington

Professional Experience: 1997-99 Porter Predoctoral Fellow, Oregon State University, American Physiological Society; 2000-02 NSF Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Washington; 2003 Society for Neuroscience Postdoctoral Fellow, University of Washington; 2004-09 Assistant Professor, Virginia Tech; 2009-current Associate Professor, Virginia Tech; NSF panelist 2005, 2006.

SICB Membership and Activities: I attended my first meeting in 1994 and have subsequently attended most editions. I co-organized the society-wide symposium "Hormonal regulation of whole-animal performance: implications for selection" in 2009. I have served DCE as a student presentation judge in 2004, 2005, 2007, 2008 and chaired the committee in 2009, 2010. I was a member of the Howard Bern Lecture nominating committee in 2008 and of the DCE Nominating Committee in 2010. I am currently a member of the Student Support Committee





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for the society (2008-11).

Other Memberships: AAAS, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists, Animal Behavior Society, Association for Tropical Biology and Conservation, Sigma Xi, Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Society for Neuroscience

Research Interests: Behavioral endocrinology and reproductive biology of birds and reptiles and how hormone-behavior relationships are adapted to unique physical and social environments. My current focus is on the timing of reproduction and associated behaviors in tropical birds.

Goals Statement: As an undergraduate, the 1994 ASZ meeting was the first scientific meeting I attended and it was a watershed moment in my scientific life. I learned that I did not have to limit myself to a single subject or taxon but that integrative biology allowed me to pursue my interests without barriers. I have tried to attend the conference every year since then and the meeting has always been my favorite. It is a great atmosphere for a student's first presentation as well as for an established researcher to summarize a career. As Program Officer for DCE, I will do my best to ensure that future conferences maintain their inclusive and integrative nature. Symposia on broad topics are the heart of what makes our society special. I will work to promote the broad symposia that attract attention from our division as well as from the society as a whole. I would also explore the possibility of having symposia for 'future leaders' in which exceptional graduate students present a summary of their dissertation research.