



Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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DCE Officers & Representatives

Mark Sheridan
Chair 2010-2012

Erica Crespi
Secretary 2011-2013

Rosemary Knapp
Program Officer 2010-2012

Rebecca Calisi
Student/Postdoc Representative
2010-2012

Robert John Denver
ICB Editorial Board Representative
2008-2013

Message from the Chair

Mark Sheridan

Salt Lake City Annual Meeting Highlights

Although I was unable to attend the annual meeting due to a death in my family, all reports indicate that it was a great venue and an excellent meeting. The **Howard Bern Lecture** was given by **Dr. John Wingfield** of University of California-Davis. His presentation entitled, "Putting the brakes on reproduction. Implications for conservation? Global climate change?" was a great kick-off and helped set the tone for the entire meeting. It addressed critical issues that must be faced not only by the endocrine community, but by the society as a whole.



Steve McCormick, DCE Chair-Elect, introduced John Wingfield, the tenth Howard A. Bern Lecturer.



John Wingfield presented a story of his research that integrates the environmental, social, behavioral, neuroendocrine, and molecular controls of reproduction in birds.



Wingfield spoke to a full house: hundreds of SICB members across divisions came to hear his presentation.



Marilyn Ramenofsky has Steven Schoech, Mary Mendonca, and Pierre Deviche riveted at the reception following the Bern Lecture.



After the lecture, Wingfield took a moment to pose with (left-right) Bob Dores, George Bentley, Marilyn Ramenofsky, Steve McCormick, (John Wingfield), Mike Romero, Rosemarie Knapp, Erica Crespi and Mary Mendonça.

We also had an excellent collection of symposium, 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 **Joe Casto** and his committee of many others for judging the student papers. I am delighted to announce the following winners of this year's prizes:



Sara Pinson

The recipient of the **Aubrey Gorbman Best Oral Presentation** was **Sara Pinson** for the presentation entitled "Elevated testosterone during meiotic segregation stimulates laying hens to produce more sons." The recipient of the **Best Poster Presentation** was **Nicholas Garcia** for the presentation entitled "Leptin modulates mate choice permissiveness in the Plains spadefoot toad (*Spea bombifrons*)."

The committee of judges also identified two presentations for honorable mention. **Honorable mention for oral presentation** was awarded to **Thomas Luloff** for the paper entitled, "Visual stimulation by blooming thistles accelerates changes in reproductive physiology in American goldfinches." **Honorable mention for poster presentation** was awarded to **Katherine James** for the paper entitled, "Stress affects song control nuclei growth in adult male House Finches, *Carpodacus mexicanus*."



Nicholas Garcia



Thomas Luloff



Katherine James

Bern Endowment

Since its inception in 2002, the Howard A. 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 is to support the lecture from the recently established Howard A. Bern Lecture Fund. The principal amount needed before proceeds can be used to support the lecture is \$25,000. To



date, we have received \$8,720. If you have made a contribution already—Thank you!

<Insert Howard_Bern>

<Caption: Howard Bern>

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:

SICB1313 Dolley Madison Blvd.

Suite 402

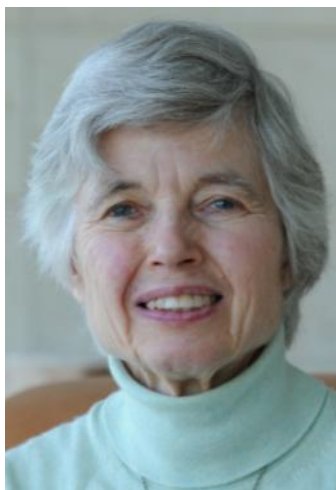
McLean VA 22101

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

Naming of the Best Poster Award

Following a year-long process, culminated by a vote of DCE membership, I am pleased to announce that the Best Poster Presentation will be called the **Lynn Riddiford Best Poster Award**. Lynn, a long-time member of DCE, is also a member of the National Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute for her tremendous contributions in the field of insect developmental endocrinology.

To make this official, however, requires a change in our bylaws. The proposed change, along with a few other minor housekeeping changes to our bylaws, appear in the report of



Lynn Riddiford

our divisional secretary, Erica Crespi.

Call for Focused Contributed Paper Sessions and Symposia

For the upcoming 2012 meeting in Charleston, SC, I would like to again include focused oral sessions. These are a great way to engage/re-engage colleagues with SICB. All it entails is getting six or so colleagues to present papers on a related theme. If you have ideas for topics or would like to help organize such a session, please contact me or Rosemary Knapp.

It also is time to start thinking about symposia for the 2013 meeting in San Francisco, CA. Symposia are a major attraction at the annual meeting, and offer an excellent opportunity to draw non-SICB members to the meeting. The deadline for symposium proposals is August 19, 2011. Please contact Rosemary Knapp for more information.

Acknowledgements

I would like to thank **Mary Mendonça**, our outgoing secretary, for her dedicated service. I also would like to thank the Nominating Committee, chaired by **Larry Riley**, for coming up with our slate of Chair-elect and Secretary-elect candidates (see below).

Message from the Program Officer

Rosemary Knapp

I hope that everyone who attended January's meeting enjoyed the venue, the scenery, and especially the science. The symposium that DCE co-sponsored at the meeting, "*Bridging the Gap between Ecoimmunology and Disease Ecology*" (organized by Greg Demas and Susannah French) was a resounding success. The 33 com-



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plementary presentations helped make this topic a major theme of the meeting. The new four-full-days format also seemed to have worked well as judged by the attendance at the end of the meeting social.

In his Howard Bern lecture, "Putting the brakes on reproduction. Implications for conservation? Global climate change?" John Wingfield summarized for a packed room the current evidence that gonadotropin inhibiting hormone is a major break on initiation of ovulation in seasonally breeding birds, as a model for vertebrates more generally. As usual, John gave us much food for thought about the implications of this model in the context of global climate change.

Congratulations to Sara Pinson and Nicholas Garcia for their student award-winning presentations. Many thanks to **Joe Casto** for organizing the judging of the 20 student oral presentations and 8 posters presentations that competed for these awards. Joe was ably assisted by a large group of judges: Morgan Benowitz-Fredericks, Peggy Biga, Frances Bonier, Rachel Bowden, Rebecca Calisi, Joe Casto, Pierre Deviche, Ryan Earley, Russell Easy, Kent Edmonds, Jennifer Grindstaff, Alf Haukenes, Rosemary Knapp, Herman Lehman, Lynn Martin, Bronwyn McAllan, Ignacio Moore, Dawn O'Neal, Ned Place, Larry Riley, Alison Roark, Louise Rollins-Smith, David Rostal, Stephan Schoech, Tom Small, Robin Warne, Tony Williams, and Sarah Woodley. Thank you all!

I hope that you are planning to join us in Charleston next January. Abstract and registration details will be emailed and posted online this summer. DCE will be co-sponsoring four (yes, four) symposia. So the 2012 meeting should have something for everyone! They are:

Mangrove killifish: an exemplar of integrative biology (organized by Ed Orlando and Ryan Earley)

The impacts of developmental plasticity on evolutionary innovation and diversification (organized by Matthew Wund)

Comparative proteomics of environmental and pollution stress (organized by Lars Tomanek)

EvoDevo rides the genomics express (organized by Billie Swalla).

Speaking of symposia, I encourage any who have thought about organizing a symposium to start planning for our 2013 meeting in San Francisco. Proposals will be due in August 19; please see the instructions posted on the SICB website. Don't hesitate to contact me should you have any questions about organizing a symposium. Mark Sheridan and I stand ready to help you make your proposal as strong as possible.

Message from the Secretary

Erica Crespi

I first would like to thank Mary Mendonça for helping me learn my new role as DCE Secretary—I have some big shoes to fill, so I hope I will continue to do as good a job as Mary did during the two years of her tenure in this position. Now, let's get down to business. There's a lot to report to you!

Researcher Database

Do you have a paragraph describing your research on your departmental or laboratory web site? Do you have a really great picture of your model organism or figure from a manuscript that describes your work? **OF COURSE YOU DO!** Please take a few seconds to copy and paste these in an email to me so I can submit your information in the DCE Researcher's Database. The more complete our database is, the better it can be



used as a resource for your colleagues, prospective students, conservation workers, or news media to learn about what you do.

2011 Skinner Award recipient: Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez



Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez

Congratulations to Rebecca, a post-doctoral fellow at the University of California, Davis, for winning the Dorothy M. Skinner award. Skinner was a long-time SICB and Crustacean Society member and advocate of advancing women in science, and this award provides travel support to the SICB meeting for the most promising, early-career female scientist who demonstrates great scholarship and excellence in research.

We thank the selection committee, who reviewed many outstanding applications, and we encourage other female graduate students and post-docs to apply for this award for next year's meeting!

Related Society Meetings 2011

The 93rd Endocrine Society's annual meeting will be held on June 4-7, 2011 in Boston, MA. Late-breaking abstracts may be submitted for consideration between March 24 and April 8. Early registration deadline: April 5th. Further meeting information is found at <http://www.endo-society.org/meetings/Annual/index.cfm>

15th annual meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology will be held in Santiago de Queretaro, Mexico June 23-26, in conjunction with the Instituto de Neurobiología, and the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México.

Early registration deadline: April 15, 2011. For more information, see: <http://www.sbne.org/meetings/2011/index.html>

The 7th International Symposium on Amphibian and Reptilian Endocrinology and Neurobiology (ISAREN) will be held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor July 11-13, 2011. Abstract submission deadline: April 15, 2011; early registration deadline: May 15, 2011. For more information, see <http://www.mcdb.lsa.umich.edu/labs/denver/ISAREN/>

The inaugural meeting of the North American Society for Comparative Endocrinology (NASCE 2011) will be held at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor July 13-16, 2011. Abstract submission deadline: April 15, 2011; Early registration deadline: May 15, 2011. DCE is co-sponsoring the **General and Comparative Endocrinology 50th Anniversary Symposium held at the meeting**. For more information, see <http://www.mcdb.lsa.umich.edu/labs/denver/NASCE/NASCE2011.php>

The 44th Annual Meeting of the Society for the Study of Reproduction is meeting 31 July-4 Aug 2011 in Portland, Oregon. See <http://www.ssr.org/> for registration information.

Meetings to keep on your extended calendars:

10th International Symposium on Avian Endocrinology, Gifu, Japan. June 5-9, 2012 <http://www.isae2012.org/>

7th International Symposium on Fish Endocrinology, Buenos Aires Argentina. September 3-6, 2012

17th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology, Barcelona, Spain. July 15-19, 2013



Message from the Graduate Student and Post-doc Representative

Rebecca M. Calisi-Rodríguez

'Twas a great meeting this past January in Salt Lake City. The climate was cold, the cider was hot, and the talks were interesting. Workshops focused on issues such as the grand challenges of our fields, mentorship, media communications, life and career balance and broadening participation. Prof. John C. Wingfield (UC Davis and NSF) gave an exciting Bern Lecture, highlighting the role of neurohormones and their implications for conservation. And finally, a big congrats to Sara Pinson (Univ. Georgia, Athens) for winning DCE's Aubrey Gorbman Oral Presentation Award, and to Nicholas Garcia (Univ. North Carolina, Chapel Hill) for winning the Poster Presentation Award.

If you have any ideas (for example, workshop ideas), comments or suggestions for upcoming meetings that would make your experience even better, please contact me by email.

It was so good to see everyone, and I hope to see you again next year (if not sooner)!

DCE 2011 Minutes of the Business Meeting

These minutes also will be posted on the DCE website
(<http://www.sicb.org/divisions/dce.php3>).

Business Meeting Minutes

SICB Annual Meeting Salt Lake City Jan. 5, 2011

Steve McCormick, Chair-elect, led the meeting as DCE Chair, Mark Sheridan, could not

attend the meeting due to a personal emergency.

Steve introduced the new DCE officers: Rebecca Calisi-Rodríguez, Graduate Student-Post-doc Representative; Erica Crespi, Secretary; Ignacio Moore, Program Officer Elect

Steve also announced that the 2011 Bern Lecture will be given by Dr. John Wingfield of the University of California, Davis. He invited all to attend the much-anticipated talk.

Minutes from the 2010 Business Meeting were unanimously approved.

Rosemary Knapp, Program Officer, made several announcements:

For the Salt Lake City 2011 meeting, there were 59 contributed oral presentations and posters handled by DCE, including 28 student oral presentations/posters. This number does not include environmental endocrinology talks that were listed under different divisions. The symposium that DCE co-sponsored at the meeting, "*Bridging the Gap between Ecoimmunology and Disease Ecology*" (organized by Greg Demas and Susannah French) was a resounding success. The 33 complementary presentations helped make this topic a major theme of the meeting. The new four-full-days format also seemed to have worked well as judged by the attendance at the end of the meeting social.

Rosemary expressed how pleased she was with the Salt Palace as a venue for the meeting, which was echoed by several others in the room, because of the comfortable amount of space for the poster presentations, proximity to lodging and restaurants, and availability of food and drink within the facility. Rosemary announced that DCE is co-sponsoring four symposia for the 2012 Charleston SICB meeting: "*Mangrove killifish: an exemplar of integrative biology*" (organized by Ed Orlando and Ryan Earley), "*The impacts of developmental plasticity on evolutionary innovation and diversification*" (organized by Matthew Wund), "*Comparative proteomics of environmental and*



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pollution stress" (organized by Lars Tomanek), and "*EvoDevo rides the genomics express*" (organized by Billie Swalla).

She also reminded people to list their talks under Regulatory Biology in the meeting registration box so the presentation will be included within DCE; because of the interdisciplinary nature of many comparative endocrinology talks/posters, they often fall in other divisions. For the 2013 SICB meeting in San Francisco, symposium proposals will be due in August 19, 2011. Late-breaking symposium could still be submitted for the Charleston meeting.

Steve Schoech, a former Program Officer, suggested that the Program Officer position should be longer than 2 years—by the time he learned how to best organize sessions and symposia within the meeting, his term ended. Steve McCormick said other divisions have 3-4 year terms; maybe the division can discuss this idea further at a later time.

Steve McCormick asked if the DCE business meeting could be held after the Bern Lecture at the next meeting; Brian Tsukimura said he would look into the timing of events to see if this is possible.

Mary Mendonça gave the Secretary's Report:

Mary announced that the DCE bylaws needed to be revised to match the wording of the society-wide bylaws concerning student oral and poster presentations. She presented the text that needed to be revised and received feedback from several people. Given this feedback, the re-wording of the bylaws will be announced to members of DCE electronically at a later date and in the newsletter for subsequent voting. Mary made her last plea before leaving office for researchers to submit information to the SICB Researcher Database—all that is needed is a digital picture and a paragraph describing research interests. All submissions

should be made to the incoming Secretary, Erica Crespi (erica.crespi@wsu.edu). DCE needs submissions!

2011 meetings of related societies were announced:

Endocrine Society: June 4-7, Boston, MA

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology:
June 23-26, Santiago de Queretaro,
Mexico

North American Society of Comparative Endocrinologists: July 14-17, Ann Arbor, MI.

At the end of Mary's report, Steve McCormick gave her a Certificate of Appreciation on behalf of the DCE members for the great job she had done during her two years of service as Division Secretary.

SICB Officer Update:

The SICB officers, including Richard Satterlie (President), Robert Roer (Treasurer), Brett Burke (Executive Director), and Brian Tsukimura (Program Officer), made several announcements. They invited everyone to attend the society-wide business meeting, to be held the following evening, where they will discuss the budget and the financial health of the society. They also expressed that many people across the society were pleased with the Salt Palace in Salt Lake City as a venue for the meeting—especially the 15 feet of space between poster boards this year. They also encouraged DCE to submit symposia for 2013 to ensure that Integrative and Comparative Biology journal publish on endocrinology topics. Currently ICB has an impact factor of 1.1.

NSF Update:

John Wingfield, the new director of Integrative Organismal Systems Program addressed the division membership. He wanted to open a



dialogue with the members about the direction of funding in IOS. The programs within IOS are: Behavioral Systems, Developmental Systems, Neural Systems, Physiological and Structural Systems, and Plant Genome Research. He said unfortunately the number of proposals has increased and the amount of available funding has decreased to 85% of 2010 level, resulting in lower funding rates (10-15%). He added that the Neural Systems, Behavioral Systems and Physiological and Structural Systems clusters are among the programs with the lowest funding rates. He also encouraged members to contact him about their views on the next frontier of research on organisms and their environments, and identify the roadblocks researchers face when trying to ask questions at the technological edge, including genomics and bioinformatics, epigenetics, and landscape-level analyses.

Steve McCormick led discussion of other business items:

1. The Bern Lecture fund is in need of contributions. We currently have \$1000 that Elsevier has contributed, and we are now at \$7,590 but we need to achieve \$25,000 for the fund to be sustainable. Donations are appreciated!

2. The survey that DCE conducted last year revealed several ways the division can become stronger, including soliciting more molecular and mechanistic endocrinology contributions to the meeting and organizing symposia that focus on endocrinology topics and other "hot topics" in comparative endocrinology.

3. Larry Riley is the new Nominations Committee Chair and they will be seeking candidates for DCE Chair and Secretary for 2013-2014 terms.

Naming of the best poster award: Rosemary Knapp, Penny Hopkins, Stacia Sauer, and Ignacio Moore served on a committee to select prominent scientists in the field of comparative endocrinology as candidates who will be honored as the namesake of the student poster

award. Lynn Riddleford and David Borst were selected as candidates and a vote among DCE members will be conducted in the next couple of weeks after the meeting.

General and Comparative Endocrinology (GCE) Update:

Bob Does, Editor of GCE, presented an annual report of the journal's activity. In 2010, the journal received more than 400 manuscripts, with a 56% acceptance rate. He compared this figure to 200-250 submissions to the journal 10 years ago. The impact factor of the journal has risen to 2.7, and he is dedicated to continuing the goal of faster processing of papers and shortening the time from submission to publication. The journal has adopted a new format for references, which now are numbered in the text, and now manuscripts include research highlights, a three-sentence description of the research described in each manuscript so readers can quickly get a bit more information than that included in the headline when looking through the Table of Contents. 2011 marks the 50th anniversary of the journal. To mark this event, there will be review articles in every issue that highlight significant areas of study in comparative endocrinology. He also invited anyone with ideas for writing mini-reviews in the areas of environmental endocrinology, behavioral endocrinology, and physiological ecology to submit them to him; manuscripts would be due by June 15.

The meeting concluded with a general discussion among the meeting attendees, with the following topics raised:

1. Erica Crespi suggested that in addition to symposia, it would be good if DCE could sponsor workshops that help scientists learn new statistical methods, bioinformatic tools, or the latest methods for endocrine research (e.g., genomic approaches, computational modeling, molecular techniques, etc.). Rosemary Knapp likened this idea to the "Phylogenetics for Dummies" workshops conducted by DEE. Steve McCormick added that there is some



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money that DCE could use to at least partially fund a workshop. Brian Tsukimura said a problem in terms of programming is finding time-slots to place these workshops within the course of the annual meetings.

Kevin Kelley raised the issue of finding other ways to fund awards for students.

Proposed Bylaws Changes

There are three changes to the DCE bylaws that need to be considered by our members:

- 1) Minor edits in Article XVI
- 2) Edits to Article XVII on student presentation awards to make them consistent with SICB bylaws and to reflect the new name for the Best Student Poster Award
- 3) Renumbering of articles to make the Article on Amendments last

The specific wording of each change is given below—boldface indicates new text; strike-through indicates deleted text. These changes were discussed at the DCE business meeting at the SICB meeting in Salt Lake City, and you should have received notification of these changes via email. **You will have the opportunity to vote on these changes in May**, 60 days after the initial notification of the changes was sent, at which time you will receive a notice and link to the electronic ballot via email.

Article XVI. Annual Report

~~An annual report by the Secretary of the Division and official notices shall be included in the records of the SICB.~~

(The rationale for this change is to make our bylaws consistent with current practices of the society in which the Society Secretary solicits the divisional chairs for the annual reports in advance of the SICB annual meeting.)

Article XVIII **XVII**. Best Student Paper Presentation Awards

Two awards will be given in the Best Student Paper Presentation competition at the Annual Meeting: one for the best oral presentation and one for the best poster presentation. **Competitors must be members of SICB.** The award for the best oral presentation will be named the Aubrey Gorbman Award. **The award for the best poster presentation will be named the Lynn Riddiford Award.** ~~In addition to a certificate, the prize will carry with it an award of \$100.~~ **Student-in-Training Members, Graduate Student Members and those who have received a Ph.D. within 12 months of the competition are eligible to compete for awards.** ~~Students who have not yet been awarded a Ph.D. are eligible for the prize, as are new Ph.D.'s who have received the degree no more than 12 months prior to the meeting and are presenting a paper on their graduate research. The work presented must be original and must have been carried out principally by the student competitor presenting the paper.~~

(The rationale for this change is to 1) name the Best Poster Award, 2) make divisional bylaws consistent with the bylaws of the society regarding eligibility for competing for the best student presentation awards, and 3) provide flexibility regarding the nature and size of the best presentation awards (the current cash prize is \$150).)

Renumber Article XVII. Amendments to **Article XVIII. Amendments.**

(This is a housekeeping change that places the provision/process for amendments last among the articles of our bylaws.)



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2011 Officer Elections

And the Nominees Are....

This year, elections will take place for Chair-Elect and Secretary-Elect. We thank Larry Riley, Chair of the Nominations Committee, who collected information about the nominees for each position, and thank you to the nominees for your commitment and your willingness to contribute your time and energy to DCE. Please read over each candidate's biographical sketch and goals statement below. Elections will take place within the next few weeks—look out for an email with a link to the electronic ballot.

Candidates for DCE Chair-Elect (will serve 2012-2014, will be Chair 2014-2016)

Penny Hopkins

Current Position: Noble Foundation Presidential Professor of Zoology, University of Oklahoma, Norman, 73019



Penny Hopkins

Education: B.A, Biology, Texas Tech University, 1966; Ph.D., Biology, Tulane University, 1970.

Professional Experience: 2009 Fulbright Fellowship, Visiting Scholars Program, CIFE, Mumbai, India; 1998 - Present, Samuel Roberts Noble Foundation Presidential Professorship; 1992-

Present Professor of Zoology, University of Oklahoma; 1983-92 Associate Professor of Zoology, University of Oklahoma; 1977-83

Assistant Professor of Zoology, University of Oklahoma; 1985 Chair, Faculty Senate, Norman Campus; 1976/80 Investigator, Marine Biological Laboratories, Woods Hole, MA; 1975-77 Assistant Professor of Biology, Department of Biology, Ramapo College of New Jersey, Mahway, NJ; 1970-75 Adjunct Assistant Professor of Biology, The City University of New York, New York City, NY; 1970-75 Postdoctoral Research Fellow and Research Associate, Department of Fossil and Living Invertebrates, American Museum of Natural History, NYC.

SICB Activities: SICB member since 1970; Organized DCE Symposia, *A Tribute to Milton Fingerman (2000)* and in 1997, *Evolution of the steroid, thyroid, retinoid family of nuclear receptors*; 1999-03 Executive Secretary of SICB; 1997-03 Executive Committee, SICB; 1997 Nominating Committee, DIV Comparative Endocrinology, SICB; 1993-96 Executive Board, ASZ; 1991-99 Div. General Comparative Endocrinology, Special Treasurer; 1990-95 Education Committee, ASZ; 1988 Chair, Nominating Committee, - Program Officer, Div. of General Comparative Endocrinology; 1982,83,85 Judge, Best Student Papers - Div. of General Comparative Endocrinology; 1977-2009 DCE Paper Sessions, Chair; 1975, Organized (with Linda Mantel) Crustacean Club at ASZ annual meetings (which later morphed into the Crustacean Society).

Other Memberships: AAAS (elected Fellow, 1993), Sigma Xi, Phi Beta Kappa, Crustacean Society.

Research Interests: Hormonal regulation of regeneration, molting and growth in crustaceans.

Goal Statement: The Division of Comparative Endocrinology has always been one of the leading divisions of ASZ/SICB. This is due to the centrality of endocrinology to most of the other divisions. I would work to support DCE in sponsoring more symposia - particularly symposia that integrate with



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those of other divisions. I would like to see DCE sponsor more workshops that are dedicated to the latest methods and materials. Such workshops would be helpful not only to established researchers but to graduate students and postdoctoral students as well.

Mary Mendonça



Mary Mendonça

Current Position: Alumni Professor and Graduate Program Officer, Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University

Education: BA Rutgers University, Newark; MS University of Central Florida; PhD University of California, Berkeley

Professional Experience: Full Professor, Associate Assistant Professor, Auburn University (1992-present);

Individual NRSA Post-doctoral Fellowship, University of Texas, Austin; ARGS Post-doctoral Fellowship, University of Western Australia. Panel member: NSF Integrative Animal Biology, Ecological and Evolutionary Physiology, Integrative Graduate Research and Education Training, and EPA STAR Fellowship.

SICB Membership and Activities: Attended and presented at majority of annual meetings since first meeting in 1980. Session chair: 1994-1997, 1999, 2000, 2002, 2004-2008. Judge Student Oral and/or Poster presentations (1999, 2000, 2002). Endocrine Disruptor Symposium Participant (1999). DCE Nomination Committee (2005, 2008). DCE Secretary-Elect (2008) and DCE Secretary (2009-2011).

Other Memberships: AAAS; Animal Behavior Society, Society for Behavioral Neuro-

endocrinology, American Society of Ichthyologists and Herpetologists

Research Interests: My investigations center on how proximate environmental parameters and physiological mechanisms are integrated at the neural level to control the timing of seasonal reproduction. I also study the integration of the stress and immune responses and their relation to disease susceptibility in vertebrates from disturbed habitats. Other lines of study include the effects of xenobiotics on wildlife species as well as the maternal contribution to offspring quality and sex ratio.

Goals Statement: Membership in the DCE division of SICB has been one of the most intellectually beneficial aspects of my career. I would enjoy serving the division as Chair. I am especially interested in keeping DCE membership high and assuring opportunities for interactions across levels and among disciplinary emphases. I would actively promote and, along with our Program Officer, organize formal symposia, informal, self-emergent mini-symposia (from presentations related to the main symposia), panel discussions, and workshops that will both attract and train comparative endocrinologists working at multiple levels, ranging from genomic/molecular endocrine mechanisms to environmental/conservation endocrinology. DCE should not be a once a year thought, only occurring because you have to check a box. It should be a forum to highlight specific research areas or controversies, new techniques and approaches, and promote discussion. One approach might be to have an ongoing blog with guest writers posting questions, reporting from different meetings, highlighting a field or an approach or a lab, which also provides useful information to the membership. This approach would make us more interactive as well as more attractive to new members.



Candidates for DCE Secretary-Elect (will serve 2012-2013, will be Secretary 2013-2015)



Rachel Bowden

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, Post-doctoral 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 (2004, 2005, 2006, 2010, 2011), 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: 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. As secretary, I would work to communicate and promote upcoming events relevant to the DCE membership through the bi-annual newsletters. I would also like to highlight opportunities for students and post-doctoral members within the society, and increase the visibility of DCE and its members both within SICB as well as to other groups outside the society.

Darren T. Lerner

Current Position: Assistant Researcher, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology and Associate Director, University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program

Education: B.S., Political Science/ Psychology, University of Missouri-Columbia, 1992; M.S., Zoology, Oregon State University, 1998; Ph.D., Organismal and Evolutionary Biology,



Darren Lerner



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University of Massachusetts-Amherst, 2006.

Professional Experience: Assistant Researcher, Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawaii at Manoa, 2007-present; Associate Director, University of Hawaii Sea Grant College Program 2007-present; Graduate Faculty, Department of Molecular Biosciences and Bioengineering, University of Hawaii at Manoa 2009-present; Research Physiologist, U.S. Geological Survey, Conte Anadromous Fish Research Center, 2000-2006; Project Leader, U.S. Geological Survey, Oregon Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, 1998-2000.

SICB Activities: SICB member since 2000; DCE Representative, Graduate Student- Postdoctoral Affairs Committee, Division of Comparative Endocrinology; DCE Best Student Paper Award Committee, 2007-2009

Other Memberships: AAAS, American Fisheries Society, Sigma Xi, Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology

Research Interests: Environmental physiology and hormonal regulation of osmoregulation, growth and development in vertebrates.

Goal Statement: My professional experience began as a student attending the annual meeting of the SICB and the interaction gained through the Society and the DCE has been invaluable to my career. It is critical that as students enter into successful professional positions that we provide the environment that I and many others have had the good fortune to enjoy and benefit. I look forward to working with the DCE chair and other members to assist in promoting a diverse and exciting scientific program through DCE specific symposia and workshops.