

# SICB Fall 2003 Newsletter

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## Message from the President

*John C. Wingfield*

I hope you all had a productive and enjoyable summer. As many of you may have heard, a long time member of the Society, Aubrey Gorbman, passed away on September 21. Aubrey was unique in many ways, having been a cofounder of one of our divisions (comparative endocrinology) and a Past President. He also set a standard insofar as he only missed one SICB (ASZ) meeting in almost 40 years! There will be a presentation by Howard Bern before the invited speaker session on January 5 in New Orleans. For further information see the [DCE newsletter](#).

Now that the fall semester/quarter is well under way, it is time to look forward to the annual meeting in New Orleans. This looks to be an outstanding affair with over 1,100 abstracts submitted! The symposia and other sessions are extremely diverse and I look forward to many inspiring presentations and stimulating dialog. This is also a good opportunity to thank Stacia Sower for her hard work and leadership as Program Officer. Stacia has brought together all the Division Program Officers as well as Sue Burk and others in BAI for a two day meeting to put the program together. This meeting of the Program Committee has worked extremely well over the past two years. It has been particularly useful to have all the Division Program Officers together to talk and plan in ways not possible over electronic mail and the telephone. Stacia has also made some very important suggestions for future meeting organization that I am sure incoming Program Officer Kate Loudon, and all of us, will find to be extremely useful in the coming years. So, many thanks indeed Stacia for an outstanding job as Program Officer, and for your initiative, creativity, and patience, not to mention diplomacy in dealing with difficult scheduling problems. As I write, incoming Program Officer Kate Loudon is working hard on symposia for the 2005 meeting in San Diego. Let us hope that meeting will be as well attended as the New Orleans one promises to be.

There is one very important matter of business that all of us must attend to this fall. Two years ago, Past President Marvalee Wake, asked then SICB Secretary Penny Hopkins to form a committee and begin revising the society constitution and bylaws. This committee included Vic Hutchison, Kathy Packard, and Sue Herring. The changes that are proposed are major and will help us operate far more efficiently and effectively. Drafts of the revisions have been pored over by core officers, and at the Toronto meeting earlier this year the Executive Committee as a whole approved the changes for vote by the membership. By the time you read this, the voting period will be coming to an end so if you have not voted yet, please do so now. This is a very important issue for us and governs how we operate. Many thanks indeed to Penny Hopkins and her committee for the incredible amount of work and thought they put into these revisions. The Society as a whole is greatly indebted to them.

Once the voting for revisions to the constitution and bylaws are over, I shall be introducing a strategic plan for the future. I know many you may think that "strategic plan" is jargon introduced by administrators of universities, but I feel strongly that it will be useful and we have many exciting areas to develop over the next few years. We have been discussing the plan for the past two years and I will bring a draft of it to the Executive Committee in New Orleans. If nothing else I hope it will trigger new ideas in education and research from the membership at large. Some major areas include 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. There is also great interest in how to extend to other nations in the new world – and bring faculty and their students to our meeting. What new areas in biology we should be nurturing particularly in relation to major problems that society faces in the next few decades? Conservation biology is already re-emerging in the society and has the potential to involve every division. Other areas include bioinformatics. We are in a unique position to begin assembling a web site to include data bases truly characteristic of our diverse society. These would be a valuable asset to global knowledge and probably would not be assembled anywhere else. We need input from you, and as I said in my spring message, please do not

hesitate to send me ideas etc. that you may have (some of you have done so already and I thank you very much!).

Exciting times are ahead and I welcome your input. I especially look forward to seeing many of you in New Orleans in the New Year. In the meantime enjoy the fall!

## Message from the Program Officer

*Stacia Sower*

We are all much looking forward to a very exciting SICB meeting in New Orleans. We have an outstanding group of symposia, contributed oral and poster presentations, special lectures, workshops, get-togethers, and socials. This meeting has the largest number of presentations, 1128, since 1996. As examples, the number of presentations was 524 in 1997, 916 in Anaheim (2001) and 778 in Toronto (2002). The 1128 abstracts have been submitted, arranged into sessions, and will be posted on the SICB website for your perusal by early November. The grid is already posted.

Our meeting begins on Monday, Jan 5 with our plenary speaker: Professor John A. McLachlan – "Environmental signaling: A systems biology approach to human and ecological health." John A. McLachlan, Ph.D., is the Weatherhead Distinguished Professor of Environmental Studies; Professor of Pharmacology; Director, Center for Bioenvironmental Research; Tulane and Xavier Universities; Acting Director, National Center for the Mississippi River. Dr. McLachlan is one of the preeminent scientists in the field of "Endocrine Disruptors." His research areas include developmental pharmacology, toxicology and endocrinology; estrogen action and environmental estrogens; signalling, gene regulation, and gynecologic cancers. His plenary talk complements one of our symposia entitled "EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology" and supports recognition of conservation biology re-emerging in SICB.

Prior to our plenary lecture, Professor Howard Bern, Distinguished Professor at Berkeley and a Past-President of SICB will give a short talk entitled "A Tribute to Aubrey Gorbman." Following these two talks, we will have a welcome opening reception.

In addition to the opening talk, there will be two other special lectures at the New Orleans meeting. On Tuesday evening, we will have the DCPB Bartholomew Awardee, Dr. Jason Podrabsky, presenting the Bartholomew Lecture entitled "From mud puddles to microarrays: Searching for the molecular basis of eurythermy and diapause in the annual killifish *Austrofundulus limnaeus*." The Bartholomew lecture will follow a SICB wide-symposium entitled "Integrative Biology: A Symposium Honoring George A. Bartholomew." The following evening, Wednesday, Dr. Yoshitaka Nagahama, a preeminent endocrinologist from the National Institute for Basic Biology Okazaki, Japan, will give the third DCE Howard Bern Lecture series with a talk entitled "The Plasticity of Fish Gender: An Evolutionary Basis for Sex Determination and Differentiation in Vertebrates".

There will be a second Society-wide symposium entitled "In Vino Veritas: The Comparative Biology of Ethanol Consumption." This SICB-wide symposium promises to offer very exciting topics and perhaps appropriate for New Orleans. The ten Division-sponsored symposia range from "Bateman's Principles: Is it Time for a Re-evaluation?" to "The Evolution of Thermal Reaction Norms for Growth Rate and Body Size in Ectotherms," to "Sponges: New Views of Old Animals", to "Morphological Innovations," to "Advances in Neurobiology." In addition, we have a special mini-symposium entitled "Wake Mini-Symposium" in Honor of Marvalee Wake. Check the Divisional Program Officers' messages in this newsletter for their accounts of the Divisional symposia, as well as the symposium descriptions on the SICB website.

This year the contributed oral and poster presentations both will again be organized by topics, effectively mixing the interests of many of the divisions, and facilitating exchange of ideas and viewpoints.

NSF program officers Dr. Judy Verbeke and Dr. Bill Zamer, will be present on Thursday to meet with members and discuss funding opportunities. Among the special sessions planned will be three workshops: Biology as a Way of Knowing (a student/postdoctoral committee sponsored workshop) and two annual workshops: Evolution Town Meeting and the Phylogenetics for Dummies Workshop. The Graduate

Student/Postdoc Committee has continued to organize events for students, the heart of our Society, with a luncheon for students on Tuesday; and a very different and exciting society-wide social on Thursday evening with a Zydeco Band (be prepared to dance).

As my last message as Program Officer for SICB, I would have to say that this has been an extremely intense and time consuming job yet rewarding and challenging position. Many of my goals were accomplished because of the input and assistance of extremely capable divisional program officers, input from the Presidents (both Marvalee Wake and John Wingfield), Ron Dimock (treasurer) and others on the Executive Committee, John Pearse (Past Program Officer), Kate Loudon (incoming Program Officer), and outstanding assistance from Sue Burk and others of Burk Associates, Ruedi Birenheide (SICB webmaster). These goals were to promote programs and symposia to enhance the concepts of integrative and comparative biology, to maintain strong divisional structure and to integrate leading edge symposia and speakers. New ideas and ways of programming were implemented.

The most successful idea to be implemented was adding an annual program meeting in early Fall of each year to fully develop a comprehensive and cohesive program. This meeting includes all the divisional program officers, SICB program officer, past Program Officer and Meeting Director and Assistant Director (Burk Associates). Our second meeting was Sept 27 and 28, 2003 in New Orleans and similar to last year, it was an outstanding success. All divisions were represented and we accomplished all of the objectives: putting together the entire program for the New Orleans Meeting and approving the symposia for San Diego led by our incoming Program Officer, Kate Loudon. It was and will continue to be an excellent way for scheduling the upcoming meeting as well as long term planning in a timely fashion. This annual planning meeting allows the divisional program officers to be more actively involved in this process and therefore in the long-term help to promote the program for SICB and to help it continue to grow and thrive. In addition, this and future meetings will allow a continuity of the process, will invest more members into the program and provide the energy, vision and excitement for future programming. Decisions for symposia are now made over a year in advance allowing the symposium organizers to have time to prepare their symposia and to apply for funding. Importantly, this also allows us to get the program to the members well in advance of the meeting.

It has been a great pleasure to work with especially Sue Burk and the rest of the staff of Burk Associates, Inc., and also with our ever-incredible webmaster.

I look forward to seeing everyone in New Orleans

## Message from the Treasurer

*Ron Dimock*

In the Fall Newsletter a year ago (and at the business meeting in Toronto), I optimistically suggested that the financial news from the Annual Meeting in Anaheim might be good. Well, it's actually great! The audit for fiscal 2002 is complete, and the annual meeting finished in the black for the first time in at least 20–25 years, perhaps much longer. In contrast to the budget projection of nearly \$45,000 in the red for that meeting, we actually enjoyed a net income of nearly \$4,100! This speaks volumes to the cost-cutting that SICB has enjoyed under the skilled management of Burk & Associates, Inc., and especially to the efforts of Sue Burk and her Annual Meeting staff. In comparison, the Atlanta meeting (2000) was \$121,000 in the red, and Chicago, 2001, finished with a deficit of \$13,500. Completely reversing the "tradition" of losing in excess of \$100,000 per annual meeting to actually generating a profit is a financial outcome of considerable note. The prospects for the final reckoning of the meeting in Toronto seem equally optimistic, and with the overwhelming response to the meeting in New Orleans, we could be poised for celebration.

And the financial news in another sector is very encouraging...

In 2002, with the endorsement of the Executive Committee, the Finance Committee authorized a professional investment councilor to invest just under \$500,000 in a series of mutual funds, and \$200,000 in a real estate investment trust (REIT), roughly \$200,000 per quarter for the last 3 quarters of 2002. In respect to the mutual funds, SICB, together with nearly every other investor in the country, experienced the continuing downward trend of the market into the end of 2002 and the 1st quarter of 2003. By the end of the 1st quarter of this year, our mutual fund portfolio was down 17 % (but the S&P was off 26 %!) Our deficit diminished to –5 % in the 2nd quarter and at the 3rd quarter is –2 % (with the S&P at –13 %.) So, our rate of bleeding has slowed significantly.

However, the really good news is the status of the REIT, which pays a guaranteed dividend of 8 %, which is automatically reinvested. Thus, at the end of the 3rd quarter the REIT has increased by \$19,600 (9.8 %) which gives us an overall +1 % for our total of these investments. We are in the black! The recent changes in the market suggest that by the end of the 4th quarter, we should be much more confident about this component of our total financial situation.

However, there is ample reason to remain cautious and in fact to be vigilant if not concerned. That somewhat foreboding statement concerns the status of our journal, ICB. The problem is with institutional subscriptions. The combination of budget reductions for a great many libraries, the proliferation of electronic dissemination of publications (and the concomitant cancellation of hard-copy subscriptions) and a fluke with a major distributing house going bankrupt and causing a significant delay in the delivery of already printed publications has undermined library renewals not only of ICB but of a great many journals. For SICB this has meant that subscription income (and in fact, net income from the journal) in 2002 was down nearly \$110,000 from what was projected in the budget. While this is not yet a financial disaster, it clearly is reason to review the journal expenses and revenue very carefully. Income from the journal constitutes just over 50% of the Society's total annual income.

Clearly our investments have the potential to offset some decline in journal income, and a net positive balance for the annual meetings will be a major factor in the continuing financial health of SICB. But if we can attract new members, can encourage more people to elect Life Membership, and can persuade our own libraries to continue to subscribe to ICB, we can all contribute to the financial wellbeing of SICB. An outstanding attendance in New Orleans will also be a financial boost.

## Message from the Secretary

*Sunny K. Boyd*

It is my pleasure to announce the winners of the 2003 election. We very much appreciate the willingness of all the candidates to stand for office.

### SICB 2003 Election – Electronic Ballot Results

(Elected Officers Listed)

SICB Member at Large of the Executive Committee Elect  
**George V. Lauder**

DAB Chair Elect  
**Scott A. MacDougall–Shackleton**

DCE Secretary Elect  
**Kevin M. Kelley**

DEE Chair Elect  
**Fredric J. Janzen**

DSEB Chair Elect  
**Kenneth M. Halanych**

DVM Program Officer Elect  
**John E.A. Bertram**

SICB Educational Council Chair  
Elect  
**Henry B. John–Alder**

DCE Chair Elect  
**Robert J. Denver**

DCPB Secretary Elect  
**Paul H. Yancey**

DIZ Secretary Elect  
**Robert W. Thacker**

DSEB Secretary Elect  
**Patrick D. Reynolds**

## Committee Reports

- Educational Council
  - Student Support Committee
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### Educational Council

*Wendy Ryan, Chair*

Congratulations to Manuel Joao Costa of the University of Azores, Portugal. His presentation, "Demystifying Molecular Biology: a role for conservation" earned him recognition as the first recipient of the SICB Award for Excellence and Innovation in Science Education at the 2003 annual meeting in Toronto.

The SICB Award for Excellence and Innovation in Science Education will be awarded for the second time at the annual meeting in New Orleans. The award will be given in recognition of the outstanding paper or poster presentation given at the annual meeting in any area pertaining to science education. The intent of this award is to increase the profile of innovation in science education within and beyond SICB, and also to attempt to highlight the contribution of such activities towards the goal of increasing science literacy in the general population. Anyone who has submitted an oral or poster presentation with an education component for the New Orleans meeting is eligible to compete for the award. You will need to contact me by December 10, 2003 with the following information to be considered for the award: name of the primary presenter; current position (graduate student, post-doctoral student, non-tenured faculty, tenured faculty); division affiliation; title of presentation and session.

The Education Council meeting in New Orleans will be open to anyone interested in participating in activities or programs related to science education within or related to SICB. Feel free to join our meeting or forward your ideas to any council member if you will be unable to meet with us in New Orleans. If you are interested in serving as a representative on the Council please let me know. We are always looking for new members who represent the diversity of disciplines within SICB, so if your division is not represented on the Council and you have an interest in science education we would be particularly interested in having you join us.

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### Student Support Committee

*Brian Tsukimura, Chair*

Students of SICB,

The Student Support Committee wishes to announce 2 award opportunities this Fall, 2003. The membership of the SICB has generously set aside funds to provide two forms of research awards, the **Grants-In-Aid-of-Research** and **Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel**. Students can apply to only

ONE program per year. Students have a "lifetime eligibility" to receive only one award (FGST or GIAR).

The **Grants-In-Aid-of-Research** (GIAR) are available to provide small awards to graduate students in support of their research in the fields of integrative and comparative biology. Awards are made payable to the individual recipients. No part of an award may be used for the payment of indirect costs to the recipient's institution. All funds must be expended directly in support of the proposed investigation. Any equipment purchased shall be the property of the institution. Awards are made in amounts up to a maximum of \$ 1,000. In Fall 2002, 61 applications were submitted. The SSC reviewed these at the Toronto meeting (January 2003) and made 26 awards (42%) for a total of \$23,997 to students from each of the 9 divisions in the Society. The **Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel** (FGST) are available to provide student funds for travel and other expenses at distant research laboratories, museums, or field sites. The primary purpose is for travel to "distant" research sites to learn specialized techniques or to use unique equipment or collections. The SSC expects to grant 2–3 fellowships of up to \$2000 this year. In Fall 2002, 14 applications were submitted. The SSC reviewed these at the Toronto meeting (January 2003) and made 3 (21%) \$2,000 awards, for a total of \$6,000.

## Division of Animal Behavior (DAB): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- Message from the Program Officer
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### Message from the Program Officer

*Paul V. Cupp, Jr*

I would like to encourage all DAB members to attend the New Orleans meeting as the program promises to be outstanding. DAB is well-represented in both oral paper and poster sessions. Also, the division is sponsoring a symposium entitled, "Bateman's Principle, is it time for a reexamination", organized by Zuleyma Tang-Martinez for this meeting.

Symposia for the San Diego meeting in 2005 were approved at a recent meeting of program officers. So, now is the time to consider symposia for the 2006 meeting in Orlando. The society is looking for a few good symposia. Symposia help to maintain and increase interest in our division. DAB can sponsor or cosponsor one or two symposia a year.

We have a pretty good attendance of our members at SICB meetings, but we need more of you to attend the DAB business meeting. Please mark the date and time of the meeting on your schedule and plan to attend. We need your participation. Graduate students and post-docs are very much welcome at the business meeting. See you there!

Paul V. Cupp, Jr  
DAB Program Officer

## Division of Comparative Endocrinology (DCE): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Officers](#)
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### Message from the Officers

*Michael C. Moore*, Chair; *Kyle W. Selcer*, Program Officer; *James A. Carr*, Secretary

### Meeting News

Kyle just returned from the program officer's meeting in New Orleans at the New Orleans Marriott, site of the 2004 SICB meeting. It is a very nice hotel, perfectly located on Canal Street near the French Quarter, with more than adequate conference space for the entire meeting. All events and sessions will be within the hotel, and the meeting rooms are reasonably close together, allowing for easy movement between sessions. The city should be still hopping, due to the Sugar Bowl a few days before the meeting (when is New Orleans not hopping?).

Again this year the talks and abstracts were sorted by general theme, rather than divisional affiliation. We scheduled over 1100 abstracts for symposia, talks and posters. Most of the abstracts from DCE members will be under Regulatory Biology, for which there were about 125 abstracts. Oral sessions will include: comparative endocrinology (2 sessions); environmental endocrinology (2 sessions); stress and heat shock; and hormone binding proteins. Poster sessions will include: comparative endocrinology–vertebrate; comparative endocrinology–invertebrate; stress; regulation of reproduction, development and behavior; neuroendocrinology; hormone binding proteins; and environmental endocrinology and toxicology.

At the meeting, DCE will co-sponsor a one-and-a-half day symposium on "EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology." This interesting symposium was organized by Rob Stevenson and Shea Tuberty. It will be a rather unique program that integrates the perspectives of environmental/stress physiology with reproductive failure, population extinctions and habitat degradation. Speakers will attempt to bring endocrine physiology of vertebrates and invertebrates into the discussion of species distribution, environmental contamination, and conservation issues. In addition, there are two SICB-wide symposia that should be of interest to DCE members. These are: 1) Raymond B. Huey: Integrative Biology: A Symposium Honoring George A. Bartholomew and 2) Robert Dudley and Michael Dickinson: In Vino Veritas: The Comparative Biology of Ethanol Consumption.

The DCE Business Meeting will be on Wednesday evening. This will be followed by The Howard Bern Lecture, given by Dr. Yoshi Nagahama, entitled "The Plasticity of Fish Gender, An Evolutionary Basis for Sex Determination and Differentiation in Vertebrates". After the talk, the DCE social will be held.

The program officers also selected the symposia for the 2005 meeting in San Diego. DCE will be sponsoring a mini-symposium organized by Valentine Lance entitled: Zoo-based Research and Conservation. If you don't know already, 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/boston.html>) for details.

### **Divisonal Officers**

The results of the 203 DCE elections are in! Congratulations to Robert Denver as the incoming chair–elect and Kevin Kelley as the incoming DCE secretary–elect. We thank everyone who ran for office and everyone who took the time to vote. David Borst will become the new chair of the division at the beginning of the New Orleans meeting. Kyle Selcer continues as the program officer.

### **Aubrey Gorbman Remembered**

We were all saddened by the loss of Aubrey Gorbman, one of the Founding Fathers of Comparative Endocrinology, on September 21, 2003. Howard Bern will deliver a special remembrance of Aubrey prior to the SICB Plenary talk in New Orleans and an upcoming issue of *General and Comparative Endocrinology* will be devoted to memorializing Aubrey. Below is the message sent to DCE members by Michael Moore remembering Aubrey and a copy of the obituary prepared by his daughter Claudia:

September 29, 2003

Dear Members of the Division of Comparative Endocrinology,

For those of you who have not heard, I am sorry to announce the passing of Aubrey Gorbman, of one of the founding fathers of our discipline. He passed away quietly in his sleep on Sunday, September 21 from complications of Parkinson's disease. Aubrey has been such a central figure in our discipline for so long that it will be hard to imagine carrying on without him. He will certainly be remembered for his remarkable, wide–ranging scientific achievements, including some of the very first comparative studies in endocrinology, his classic studies of the developmental anatomy of the pituitary gland and the ground breaking comparative studies of his beloved hagfish. However, I think he will be most remembered for his unwavering devotion to comparative endocrinology as a discipline and for the inspired leadership and focus he provided for the discipline for over six decades. No doubt Aubrey could be tough as nails when he had to be, but he was also warm and personable and reached out to everyone in the discipline. I think the greatest part of his incredible legacy will be this personal touch. I am certain that nearly all of you knew Aubrey personally and that you have your our own special memories of him. I will always remember his forceful, intelligent criticism that pushed you to be better than you thought you could be and how it was always delivered with that characteristic twinkle in his eye that let you know that he was really doing this for your own good. All of us who knew Aubrey are clearly better than we thought we could be because of it. We hope that we can carry on his vision, leadership and energy to a new a generation of comparative endocrinologists in a way that would live up to the high standards that Aubrey always applied to himself and expected of everyone around him.

I have appended an obituary prepared by his daughter Claudia with more details of Aubrey's life and a suggestion for where contributions can be sent in lieu of flowers. An upcoming special issue of *General and Comparative Endocrinology* will be devoted to memorializing Aubrey and his remarkable contributions and we will be planning something for the upcoming SICB meeting. Suggestions are welcome.

Michael Moore  
Chair, Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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Aubrey Gorbman, Zoologist, 88

Aubrey Gorbman, an eminent zoologist and emeritus professor at the University of Washington, died at home in Seattle on September 21 from Parkinson's disease.

Professor Howard Bern of the University of California at Berkeley writes, "The scientific community has lost

a giant figure. Aubrey Gorbman provided national and international leadership in his field of comparative endocrinology. He was principled and supportive in his collegiality with his fellow academics and with his students. He especially appreciated the need to be helpful to professional women of all ages; in academia he was a feminist par excellence, gratifyingly recognized as such not only by those who knew him well but also by the President of the United States."

Aubrey Gorbman was born in Detroit in 1914 to Russian immigrants, David Gorbman and Esther Kornblit, who built up a laundry business there. [He attended Fordson High School, now Dearborn, and was a star student.] He graduated from Wayne State University in 1935, earning a masters degree in the following year. He married Genevieve Tapperman while in graduate school, and received his Ph.D. in Zoology from UC Berkeley in 1940. Following fellowships at Yale and elsewhere, he joined the zoology faculties at Barnard College and Columbia University in New York, and served as chair of zoology at Columbia from 1951 to 1954. He and his family moved to Seattle in 1963, where he chaired the zoology department at the University of Washington for three years and remained a professor until retiring in 1985.

Grants from the National Science Foundation, and the Fulbright and Guggenheim foundations, allowed him to pursue research at the College de France (1950), the University of Hawaii (1956), and the University of Tokyo (1960). In addition to these year-long stays with his family, he taught and lectured throughout the world. He particularly welcomed young Japanese scientists to work in his laboratory, and thereby over the years he cultivated significant exchanges between western and Asian scientific communities. He worked with the American government on several occasions: studying effects of radiation on marine organisms at the Brookhaven National Laboratories in the 1950s and at the Eniwetok atoll of the Marshall Islands; and serving on panels of the National Science Foundation and participating in national reviews of biology education.

Dr. Gorbman was made a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science in 1959; he served as president of the American Society of Zoologists in 1976. He was editor-in-chief of the journal *General and Comparative Endocrinology* for 31 years, beginning with its first issue in 1961. In 1998 he was recognized for his longstanding support and encouragement of the careers of women in zoology, receiving a Presidential Award for Mentoring in Science, presented to him by President Clinton. Toho University awarded him an honorary doctorate in 1999.

Retirement did not stem Dr. Gorbman's passion for research, which produced a total of five books and some 250 refereed articles. Continuing to work until weeks before his death, he took particular interest in the evolutionary roles of GnRH, or gonadotropin releasing hormone. Work he did at the age of 86 strongly suggests that in many invertebrate species, GnRH functions as a pheromone, stimulating simultaneous release of eggs and sperm by individuals of a population living in sea water, assuring successful fertilization and reproduction and thus the population's survival. His co-authored article on this hormone's functions in 500 million years of evolution will appear posthumously.

Aubrey Gorbman was an enthusiastic traveler, boatsman, and collector of clocks; mostly he will be remembered as a wonderful husband, devoted father, and deeply committed mentor and friend. His beloved wife of sixty years, Genevieve, died in 1998. He is survived by his sister Rose, of Detroit, by three daughters, Beryl, Leila, and Claudia, and one son, Eric, all of Seattle, and by four grandchildren.

In lieu of flowers, the family encourages contributions to the Aubrey Gorbman Lecture Fund at the University of Washington. This endowment will annually bring distinguished scientists for lectures to the UW's academic and wider community. For information contact Paul Rudnick in the College of Arts and Sciences at UW, 206-616-1709, email [prudnick@u.washington.edu](mailto:prudnick@u.washington.edu).

## Division of Comparative Physiology & Biochemistry (DCPB): 2003 Fall Newsletter

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### Message from the Chair

*Nora B. Terwilliger*

Congratulations to Dr. Jason Podrabsky, the 11<sup>th</sup> Bartholomew Award winner! Jason obtained his BS degree from Oregon State University, where he joined George Somero's lab as an undergraduate research assistant. As a doctoral student with Steve Hand at University of Colorado, he began his field studies and research on gene expression on *Austrofundulus limnaeus*, a killifish from Venezuela. He returned to the Somero lab at Hopkins Marine Station as a post-doctoral fellow and moved into the realm of DNA microarray technology. Jason is currently a new assistant professor at Portland State University, Oregon (and a new father). He is continuing his outstanding work on alterations in gene expression during ontogeny of this annual fish, including the effects of diurnal and seasonal changes in temperature experienced by the animal. You'll get to hear all about his research when you come to New Orleans for the SICB 2004 annual meeting and attend the Bartholomew Award lecture.

The SICB 2004 meeting promises to be a stimulating week of science with excellent symposia, posters, and contributed papers, as well as the festivities for which New Orleans is famous. DCPB members will want to be sure to put Tuesday's society-wide symposium honoring George Bartholomew on their meeting calendar. It features lectures by our outstanding group of past Bartholomew Awardees as well as Bart himself. Tuesday evening will feature the Bartholomew Award lecture by Jason Podrabsky, with a reception and DCPB Social immediately following the lecture. Two other symposia with special DCPB focus include Ontogeny of Physiological Regulatory Mechanisms: Fitting into the Environment as well as Selection Experiments as a Tool in Evolutionary and Comparative Physiology: Insights into Complex Traits. The fun doesn't stop there however; since the research interests of most members of our division are integrative and comparative, we'll be challenged with many intriguing choices during the entire meeting. This diversity of topics is one of the strengths of the SICB meeting, of course, which distinguishes it from some of the more specialized meetings we each attend. For more information on the program, see the comments of our DCPB Program Officer, Michael Dickinson. He and the other Program Officers have done a superb job in weaving together the program for this Louisiana meeting.

We encourage all members, including students and post-docs, to attend our DCPB Business Meeting, which will be held on Tuesday, January 7, 2003. Mary Chamberlin, our Secretary, spearheaded a committee that revised the DCPB Bylaws. Please review her portion of this newsletter, including the recommended revisions, so that you can vote knowledgeably on the Bylaws at our Business Meeting. At the meeting you will also get a good preview of coming attractions in the area of comparative physiology and biochemistry.

Congratulations to Paul Yancey, who has been elected Secretary of DCPB. He will be assuming his new role at the New Orleans meeting.

Let the good times roll...

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### **Message from the Program Officer**

*Michael Dickinson*

Over 1100 Abstracts were submitted to SICB this year, a sizable increase over 2002. In reading through physiology and biochemistry entries at the recent program officer's meeting, I was impressed by the diversity of both topics and taxa. Comparative Physiology is alive and well!

This year's meeting in New Orleans is chock-o-block with events and symposia of interest to DCPB members. Tuesday is a big day. The symposium to honor George Bartholomew will run from 8:00am to 3:30pm. Special thanks to Ray Huey and Gretchen Hofmann for organizing this chance to pay tribute to a seminal figure in comparative physiology. In case you were thinking of slipping down to Bourbon street for a Hurricane from 5:30 to 6:30 (after the poster sessions ends), please save that time for the Divisional Business Meeting. The Bartholomew Award Lecture will start at 6:30, followed by a reception at 7:30.

A DCPB-sponsored symposium entitled, 'Selection experiments as a tool in evolutionary and comparative physiology: Insights into complex traits' will start on Wednesday morning. John Swallow and Ted Garland have organized an intriguing and comprehensive collection of talks, which includes research on over a dozen different model systems. A SICB-wide symposium entitled, 'In vino veritas: The comparative biology of ethanol consumption' will also start Wednesday morning. Talks in this collection will link the peculiar ethanol-tolerant physiology of fruit flies, fruit bats, and primates. Another DCPB-sponsored symposium entitled, 'Ontogeny of physiological regulatory mechanisms: fitting into the environment', will run on Thursday afternoon. This interdisciplinary collection of talks was organized by Carl Reiber.

Contributed oral presentations related to DCPB will run Wednesday through Friday. Given the expected interest in the Bartholomew Symposium, the program officers managed to keep Tuesday free. Relevant posters will be distributed throughout the meeting.

Now the all important Program Officer's culinary tips:

- Best Muffuletta Sandwich: Napoleon House
- Best Beignet: Cafe du Monde
- Best (relatively cheap) Cajun: Gumbo Shop
- Best (expensive) Cajun: Bon Ton Cafe
- Best Oyster: Acme Oyster House (it is worth the wait)
- Best Bar: Molly's at the Market (try to act like a local)

Laissez les bons temps roulez!

P.S. It is never too soon to start planning for the 2006 meeting. Please email me ([flyman@caltech.edu](mailto:flyman@caltech.edu)) to discuss your ideas.

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### Message from the Secretary

*Mary E. Chamberlin*

Below you will find the revised DCPB Bylaws. Many thanks to the members of an ad hoc Bylaws committee (Nora Terwilliger, Donna Wolcott, Lou Burnett, Steve Hand, Michael Dickinson, Jennifer Head) for their input on this matter. The Bylaws that are currently on the web (<http://sicb.org/handbook/bylaws.php3#dcpbbylaws>) are incorrect in that they are missing a section on the Best Student Paper Award, which had been approved by the members of DCPB in the 1990's. Fortunately, Lou Burnett had a copy of the original wording:

#### "Article XII. Awards

A. Monetary first-, second-, and third-place awards and other recognition may be given to graduate student members of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology for superior papers and for superior poster presentations at annual scientific meetings of the Division. The research must be original and conducted exclusively by the student. Ordinarily the paper should be single-authored, but joint authorship with the adviser will be allowed if a letter from the adviser certifies that the student worked independently. Postdoctoral fellows may participate in the competition when they present results of studies used in the preparation of the dissertation. In case of a tie, duplicate awards may be given. The Chairperson of the Division shall appoint annually a sufficient number of divisional members to serve as judges. A minimum of two judges will evaluate each paper or presentation. The formal title for these awards is: "DCPB Best Student Paper Award, named in honor of distinguished comparative physiologists and biochemists." Immediately following this title will be a list of the names (plus year dates of birth and death) of those (deceased) distinguished persons who have been members of the Division or otherwise significantly involved with it who have been formally designated by the Divisional Executive as worthy of inclusion. The Division will recognize each year's winners by award to them of cash prizes and certificates signed by all current Divisional officers. These certificates will be presented to them at the next subsequent Divisional business meeting."

We have modified this description and included it in the revised Bylaws. Another major change to the Bylaws is a new Article X regarding the Graduate Student Representative. Other revisions are minor amendments and corrections. All proposed deletions are crossed out and all proposed additions appear in bold italics.

Amendments to the Bylaws will be voted on at the DCBP Business Meeting (Tuesday, January 7, 2003).

Please read these revised bylaws and **come to the divisional Business Meeting to participate in the discussion and cast your vote!**

## **SOCIETY FOR INTEGRATIVE AND COMPARATIVE BIOLOGY DIVISION OF COMPARATIVE PHYSIOLOGY & BIOCHEMISTRY BYLAWS**

(As amended December 1983; December 28, 1986; December 1988; September 1990; December 1993; March 1995; December 1995; January 2002)

## **Article I. Organization**

The name of this division shall be the Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. It shall be governed in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Society.

## **Article II. Membership**

Any member of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology may register with the Executive Director of the Society as a member of the Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, and may withdraw from the roll of the Division at any time on notice to the Executive Director.

## **Article III. Purpose**

The purpose of the Division shall be to facilitate communication among comparative physiologists and biochemists.

## **Article IV. Officers**

Officers of the Division shall be a Chair, a Chair–Elect, a Past Chair, a Program Officer and a Secretary. They shall be elected by a majority vote of the members conducted by a mail ballot prior to the annual meeting by a procedure consonant with the Bylaws of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. In the case when a divisional office is unexpectedly vacated, the current Nominating Committee will recommend to the Chair an interim officer who will be appointed to serve the remainder of the term. The Officers *plus the graduate student representative* shall constitute an Executive Committee responsible for divisional affairs. The business year of the Division shall run January 1 through December 31.

## **Article V. Chair**

The Chair shall preside at business meetings of the Division, and shall represent the Division on the Executive Committee of the Society. Each year the Chair shall appoint a Nominating Committee of three divisional members and such other committees or representatives to committees as may be desirable to promote affairs of the Division in the Society. All proposals submitted on behalf of the Division to granting agencies shall be signed by the Chair or be delegated by the Chair for approval by the Chair–elect. The Chair shall serve a term of two years and shall not be eligible for reelection within three years.

## **Article VI. Chair–Elect**

The Chair–Elect shall assume the duties of the Chair whenever that person is unable to act, and shall succeed the Chair. Election shall be for a term of one year, beginning with the second year of the Chair term.

## **Article VII. Past Chair**

The Past Chair shall assist the Chair and other members of the divisional Executive Committee in handling divisional affairs. The Past Chair assumes this position upon completion of a term as chair and shall serve for two years. The Past Chair shall serve as a member of the Nominating Committee.

## **Article VIII. Program Officer**

The Program Officer shall arrange programs for meetings of the Division, which shall include coordination of joint or special programs with the Program Officer of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology and with the program officers or secretaries of other divisions or societies when desirable. Election shall be for a term of two years. The Program Officer shall not be eligible for reelection within two years.

## **Article IX. Secretary**

The Secretary shall keep divisional records, *coordinate the production of the biannual Divisional newsletter*, and conduct business affairs in consultation with the Executive Director, the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. The term of elective office shall be two years and alternate with the term of the Program Officer. The Secretary shall not be eligible for reelection within two years.

## **Article X. Graduate Student Representative**

*The Division Chair shall appoint a Graduate Student Representative for a term concurrent with the Division Chair. The Graduate Student Representative will contribute to the biannual Divisional newsletter and represent DCPB at the graduate student/postdoc lunch at the annual Society meeting. The Graduate Student Representative will serve on the Divisional Executive Committee as a non-voting member.*

## **Article XI. Finances**

Necessary expenditures of the Division shall be paid from the treasury of the Society within the limits set by the Executive Committee of the Society in the annual budget. The Chair shall authorize all disbursements, and coordinate financial procedures with the Executive Officer of the Society.

## **Article XII. Meetings**

A business meeting of the Division shall be held annually, normally concurrent with meetings of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology. Notice of this and other meetings shall be sent at least sixty (60) days in advance to all members of the Division.

## **Article XIII. Awards**

### ***A. Best Student Paper Awards***

*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. Each award will include a certificate and monetary prize. Undergraduate students and graduate students who have not yet been awarded the PhD are eligible for the award, as are new PhD's who have received the degree no more than 12 months prior to the meeting. The work must be original and must be carried out principally by the student presenting the paper or poster. A student who applies must be a member of the Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry. In any one year, a student can enter either the oral or poster competition. A student awarded either the top DCPB poster or talk prize is not eligible for future DCPB student presentation contests. The DCPB Chair will appoint a DCPB member to chair the student competition and, in consultation with that member, will select the other judges.*

### ***B. Bartholomew Award***

An annual prize may be given to a young investigator for distinguished contributions to comparative physiology and biochemistry or to related fields of functional and integrative biology. The formal title for this award is "The George A. Bartholomew Award." Eligible candidates are those who have completed their doctorate within the past seven years. The Chair of the Division shall appoint an Award Committee consisting of at least three divisional members with diverse interests to serve as judges. ***The Chair of the Division will designate one of the members as the chair of the Award Committee.*** Committee members will normally serve for ***no more than*** three years, with at least one member being replaced each year. Candidates may apply directly or be nominated, but both types of candidates will be evaluated equivalently. Applicants shall submit to the Chair of the Award Committee a short description of their work, selected reprints, and a curriculum vitae; 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. The Committee may recommend for approval one candidate to the Chair of the Division. Each year's winner will be invited to present a special address at the annual meeting. The Chair of the Division may authorize reimbursement of appropriate expenses incurred by the winner in attending the meeting. The Chair may also authorize a cash prize. The awardee will be presented with a certificate signed by all current Divisional officers.

#### **Article XIVH. Publications**

The Division (DCPB) sponsors two research journals: a) *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology (CBP)* ; and b) *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology (PBZ)* . The terms of the relationships between DCPB and these journals are:

a) This section recognizes that the DCPB of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology is one of several societies that sponsor the journal *Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology (CBP)*.

i) *CBP* will have up to nine Associate Editors, which will expand to 12 in the future, and 36 Editorial Board Members. The terms of service of the Associate Editors will be three years, non-renewable until at least three additional years have passed. The Editors, however, following a timely third year review of the performance of the Associate Editors carried out in consultation with the DCPB Executive, may renew the appointment of ~~the~~ ***an*** Associate Editor if the Editors determine that this is in the best interests of *CBP*. Such a reappointment will be for only one additional three year term. The terms of service of the Editorial Board Members will be three years, non-renewable until at least three additional years have passed. The ~~e~~***Editors***, however, following timely third year reviews of the performance of ~~the~~ ***an*** Editorial Board ***member*** carried out in consultation with the DCPB Executive, may renew the appointments of Editorial Board for one additional three year term if the Editors determine this is in the best interest of *CBP*. No individual will be appointed for more than two consecutive terms. In the event that either ~~the~~ ***an*** Associate Editor or one or more of the Editorial Board members resigns or is otherwise unable to complete his/her term, the Editors will follow the regular nomination and appointment processes to find replacements. These replacements will then serve regular three-year terms.

ii) In the appointment of the Associate Editors and the Editorial Board, the Editors will attempt to achieve a balance of international and regional representation. There will normally be two Associate Editors representing DCPB. These appointments are made by the Editors from a list of candidates nominated by the DCPB Executive. All candidates on these lists must be mutually acceptable to both sides. Associate Editors must be active members of DCPB. The DCPB will ***be*** represented by six (6) appointments to the Editorial Board.

iii) One of the Associate Editors or his/her designated representative will present annual oral and written reports on the activities of the journal at the Business Meetings of DCPB.

iv) The overall intent of this section is that all aspects of the relationship between DCPB and *CBP* will be carried out on the basis of full and open consultation, shared responsibility and collegiality.

b) The Editor of *PBZ* is appointed by the Board of University Publications, University of Chicago (BUPUC) based on the recommendation of the DCPB Executive. The Editor shall serve for a term of five years, with reappointment for only one additional term permissible. The Editor may request the appointment of an associate editor(s). The appointment(s) of an Associate Editor(s) will be made by the BUPUC with the approval of the DCPB Executive. The Editorial Board of *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology* shall be appointed by the Editor, following consultation with the DCPB Executive. Early in the fifth year, the DCPB Executive will review the performance of the Editor and recommend to BUPUC whether or not the Editor should be appointed to a second five-year term. In the event that the editor resigns early or is otherwise unable to complete his/her term, the BUPUC will consult with the DCPB Executive and appoint a mutually agreeable replacement, who will then serve a five-year term and be eligible for an additional term. The term of office of the Associate Editor(s) will be coterminous with that of the editor.

The Associate Editor(s) shall serve for a term of five years, with reappointment for one additional term permissible; members of the Editorial Board shall serve for terms of three years, with reappointment for one additional term permissible. No individual will be appointed for more than two consecutive terms.

The Editor or his/her designated representative will present annual oral and written reports on the activities of the journal at the Business Meetings of DCPB.

The overall intent of this section, excluding the business aspects of journal operations that are the purview of BUPUC, and the day-to-day editorial matters that are the purview of the editorial staff, is that all aspects of the relationship between BUPUC, the editorial staff and DCPB will be carried out on the basis of equal authority, shared responsibility and collegiality.

#### **Article XIV. Annual Report**

The Division shall report in writing to the Secretary, the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology, in advance of the annual meeting of the Society. Its official notices and voted actions shall be included in the records of the Society.

#### **Article XVI. Amendments**

The Bylaws may be amended at any annual meeting by a two-thirds vote of those present provided that notice has been given to all members at least sixty (60) days in advance or by at least two-thirds vote of the members responding to a mail ballot. In either case, it is the responsibility of the divisional executive to assure that opportunities for discussion, either verbal or written, occur before a ballot is taken.

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#### **Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative**

*Jennifer Head*

Greetings DCBP student members! As we prepare for the upcoming SICB meeting in New Orleans there are a few deadlines to be aware of. By this time, I am sure everyone is aware that the dates of the 2004 meeting have been changed to January 5–9. The last day to register with the SICB business office is Thursday, December 4, 2003. Keep in mind that **generous** student support is available via the SICB Student Support Program (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2004/studentssupport.php3>). Although the deadline for the 2004 meeting will have passed by the time you read this newsletter, be sure to keep this program in mind for the 2005 meeting in San Diego.

Speaking of funding opportunities, several scientific organizations offer grants called GIAR (Grants-in-AID of Research). These are generally awarded to students in support of scientific investigation in any field and usually fund costs such as the purchase of special equipment and travel to and from a research site. The maximum award is generally \$1000.00. Sigma Xi (75% of funds are awarded to Sigma Xi members or students whose primary advisors are members) offers a GIAR. Deadlines are **October 15 and March 15 annually**. SICB also offers a GIAR program. The SICB GIAR deadline is **November 24, 2003**. The Student Support Committee encourages all graduate student members of SICB to apply. SICB also offers the Fellowship for Graduate Student Travel (\$2000.00). Students may apply to one award per program year. Check out these web pages for more information:

- SICB <http://www.sicb.org/grants/researchgrant.php3>
- Sigma Xi <http://www.sigmaxi.org/programs/giar/guide.shtml>

Good luck with all that you have going on. As usual, feel free to write ([jhead@oimb.uoregon.edu](mailto:jhead@oimb.uoregon.edu)) with questions and comments. Hope to see you all at the meeting in New Orleans!

## Division of Developmental & Cell Biology (DDCB): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Acting Chair](#)
- 

### Message from the Acting Chair

*Patricia Glas*

Dear Colleagues,

In this newsletter, you should receive a copy of the proposal to form an association between DDCB and DEDB for the purposes of providing leadership for our Division, click the link to see this agreement: [http://sicb.org/divisions/Memo\\_of\\_Understanding.doc](http://sicb.org/divisions/Memo_of_Understanding.doc). Due to lack of enough participation by members of this division, we are going on hiatus for a while. There is enough interest in Developmental and Cell Biology for us to continue, but not enough members that are able, or willing, to serve as guiding forces. In order to maintain our division, we are joining with DEDB. We have tried to set this joint venture so we may use the strengths of our respective divisions, so that, should future directions dictate, the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology may easily reassert itself as a separate entity.

This joining of Divisions has not been done hastily. The Chairs of both DEDB and DDCB drafted this proposal with additional input from the SICB Executive Board. DDCB will continue to co-sponsor symposia, and will also provide funds for Best Student Presentations. DDCB members will serve on some of the committees within DEDB to allow for input from our division.

Meanwhile, I hope to see members reaffirm their commitment to Developmental and Cell Biology by checking the division as a secondary member. Should we recruit sufficient numbers of willing new faculty and postdoctoral students to the division, and establish a pool of graduate students that will continue in divisional support positions, then I expect to see the Division once again establish itself as a separate entity. Until that time, I ask that we all support the joint DEDB/DDCB officers and programs and continue to recruit students and new faculty to the organization.

Patricia S. Glas  
Acting Chair

P.S. Be sure to check the symposium that we are also listed as co-sponsors for: DCE/DIZ/Crustacean Society: Organized by Robert Stevenson and Shea R. Tuberty: EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology

# Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB): 2003 Fall Newsletter

## In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
  - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
  - [Message from the Secretary](#)
  - [Message from the Student Representative](#)
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## Message from the Chair

*Günter Wagner*

Dear Member of the DEDB,

In this letter I wish to focus on a single issue, which affects the life of the Division and I therefore want your full attention drawn to it. At the last meeting of SICB the issue came up that some divisions have a problem attracting the participation of their members to sustain normal operations and societal functions. Fortunately this does not apply to our division, thanks to the dedication of you and your colleagues. One of these divisions is the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology. In Toronto the chair of that division, Patricia Glas, and I discussed how to help the DDCB live through this bottleneck of member participation. We came up with the idea that our divisions could associate and perform some of their functions together. The intention is to be able to maintain a formal presence of Cell Biology in SICB. At the same time this will streamline processes and functions such that DDCB is not paralyzed by the lack of officers to perform these functions. Over the summer Pat and I drafted a Memorandum of Understanding that describes the details of the agreement between our divisions. This memorandum was then vetted by the President of the Society, John Wingfield, and the executive committee and is now posted on the divisional website:

<http://www.sicb.org/divisions/dedb.php3>

Please consult this website for details and bring up any objections you may have against this move by sending an email to me ([gunter.wagner@yale.edu](mailto:gunter.wagner@yale.edu)) or our secretary, Frietson Galis ([galis@rulsfb.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:galis@rulsfb.leidenuniv.nl)). Pat and I will bring this document, and your reactions to the next business meeting of our division and ask for a vote. In order to be prepared for this vote, please read this document and send your reactions before we come to New Orleans. At the meeting I will only consider comments that were submitted by December 15th 2003.

Thank you for your continuing enthusiasm for the division. I am looking forward seeing you at our next meeting.

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## Message from the Program Officer

Eduardo Rosa–Molinar

¡Que tal! I hope that the year has been good to you. I have exciting news regarding the scientific program of the 2004 Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) annual meeting scheduled for the 5<sup>th</sup> through the 9<sup>th</sup> of January in New Orleans as well as for the 2005 annual meeting in San Diego.

The divisional program officers, SICB Program Officer, past, SICB Program Officer elect, and Meeting Director and Assistant Director (Burk Associates) converged at the New Orleans Marriott Hotel September 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> to finalize a comprehensive scientific program for the SICB 2004 New Orleans meeting and the SICB 2005 San Diego meeting.

**2004 SICB Annual Meeting: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2004>**

This year SICB members submitted 1115 abstracts, almost 400 more than last year. The 2004 scientific program looks outstanding, thanks to all who submitted abstracts. Your efforts are critical to the survival of the division and the society. Below is a listing of the topics, divisional sponsors, and number of abstracts submitted.

- A. Development: DCDB and DEEB; 80 abstracts
- B. Ecology and Behavior: DAB and DEE; 120 abstracts
- C. Environmental Biology: DCE, DEE, DSEB and DCPB; 69 abstracts
- D. Evolution: DSEB, DEEB, 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

The DEEB's broad program representation in New Orleans promises an exciting and productive meeting. DEEB, DCDB and DVM, and DEE will have joint oral and poster sessions.

I particularly encourage you to stay for the *Evolutionary Innovations* symposium organized by Gerd B. Müller and Stuart A. Newman. "This symposium will provide insight into organismal formative processes that extend beyond the genetic level, physical/material properties, architectural constraints, and the dynamical properties of reaction–diffusion systems embodied in genetic and developmental networks. A group of impressive speakers has been assembled to describe experimental and theoretical analyses that illuminate scenarios of morphological innovation in a variety of vertebrate and invertebrate systems."

Gerd and Stuart have funding from the National Science Foundation to hold this symposium. We need good attendance for this symposium and support for all DEEB activities.

DEEB is also co–sponsoring the *Model Systems for the Basal Metazoa* symposium organized by Neil Blackstone, Hans Bode, Cliff Cunningham, and Rob Steele. "Developing a clearer picture of character evolution in the metazoans requires both robust phylogenies and well–documented character states. These issues have attracted considerable attention recently (e.g., at the following recent SICB symposia: Evolutionary Relationships of Metazoa phyla [Jan '98], HOX Clusters and the Evolution of Morphology [Jan '00], The Lesser Known Protostome Taxa [Jan '01], New Perspectives on the Origin of Metazoan Complexity [Jan. '02]). Analyses of character evolution crucially depend on the character states of basal taxa. There is a strong consensus that the basal metazoans are represented by sponges (which may be paraphyletic),

placozoans, cnidarians, and ctenophores. Character evolution in metazoans can thus be illuminated by developing well-studied "model systems" in these basal groups. At this time, sponges seem deserving of an entirely separate treatment, in part because they exhibit several primitive features and in part because their systematics is in a state of flux. Here the focus will be on the possibly more derived basal metazoans – placozoans, cnidarians, and ctenophores. By virtue of their greater diversity and, correspondingly, greater scrutiny particularly at the molecular level, cnidarians will receive the bulk of the attention."

Keep checking the SICB website and DEDB newsletter for updates regarding this symposium and others that DEDB will co-sponsor. The SICB website should soon have a link to the DEDB/DCDB webpage that will be up in the near future.

### **2005 SICB Annual Meeting:**

**<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005>**

At the September 2003 meeting we also reviewed and approved the symposium for the 2005 meeting scheduled for January 4–8, 2005 in San Diego.

The DEDB is the primary sponsor for the following 2005 symposia:

***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.

***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 for the 2005 SICB meeting in San Diego because of the breadth of the topic and the general interest that we expect it to generate.

Encourage your graduate students and colleagues to join SICB and the DEDB and keep sending your original research papers and/or symposia to ***Evolution and Development*** (Blackwell Science, Inc.), ***Molecular and Developmental Evolution***, or to ***Journal of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology***, journals sponsored by SICB.

### **¡Mira! The 2004 SICB Annual Meeting Hotel**

The 2004 SICB Annual Meeting will be held at the New Orleans Marriott, 555 Canal Street, New Orleans, Louisiana. Our hotel is on the edge of the French quarter and fully equipped with audio visual equipment, lounges, bars, and beverages of your choice. I am hoping that New Orleans will promote exciting and productive discussions and collaborations.

I hope to see you in New Orleans.

¡Saludos de Puerto Rico!

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### **Message from the Secretary**

*Frietson Galis*

Dear members of the DEDB,

We are continuing to improve the website of our division with the much appreciated help of our webmaster, Ruediger Birenheide. Conferences and symposia in our field are now listed on the website. A list of divisional members is also included and for each member there is a link to the contact information. Please mail me if you have an announcement of a conference or symposium, or if you have other news that is of interest to our members ([galis@rulsfb.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:galis@rulsfb.leidenuniv.nl)).

The program of the upcoming meeting in New Orleans looks promising, especially for our division. I am looking forward to seeing you there.

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### **Message from the Student Representative**

*Brad Davidson*

Hello,

Looking forward to seeing you all in New Orleans! I have begun to organize a student/post-doc invitational symposium for the 2005 or 2006 meeting and you should soon receive an email asking for your nominations. Whether or not you receive the email, please feel free to send me your nominations directly. I have included a description of the symposium below.

### **Innovative Research in Developmental Biology and Evolution**

What is it?

This is a student/post-doc invitational symposium. So you decide who to invite. Is there a student or post-doc in your department who is conducting extraordinary research? Have you recently seen a talk or read a paper that shifted your understanding of a core developmental concept? This is your opportunity to recognize ground-breaking research in comparative development.

How to make a nomination.

Just send a list of up to three nominees directly to [bandl@uclink.berkeley.edu](mailto:bandl@uclink.berkeley.edu). Include a minimum one sentence description of the nominee's research. You do not need to be a SICB member to participate. Nominees may include grad students, post-docs or professors. You may also include a more detailed description of the nominee's research and why you think they should be invited, but this is not required.

What next?

Nominations will continue until sufficient numbers have been received (a minimum of 50 for the 10 speaker slots). I will compile all nominations and send them out for a vote. The top 10 will be invited to participate in the symposium to take place in either 2005 or 2006. Invited speakers' registration fees will be waived and we intend to cover their travel and lodging costs as well. Speakers will also write up their talks for publication in the SICB Journal.

## Division of Ecology & Evolution (DEE): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

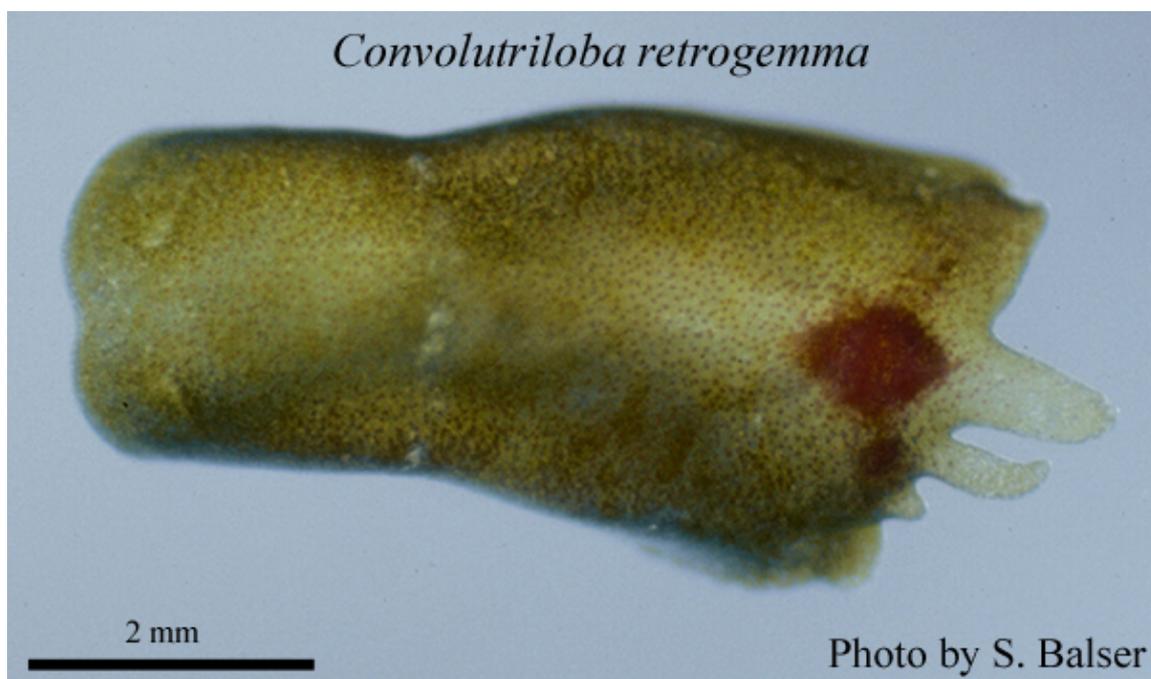
- [Message from the DEE officers](#)

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### Message from the Officers

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

Greetings from the DEE officers. We trust that you had an enjoyable and productive summer. We are looking forward to seeing you at the upcoming meetings in New Orleans in January. Please note that the meeting dates are January 5 through 9. It promises to be another great meeting. We are sponsoring a symposium organized by Michael J. Angilletta Jr.: "The Evolution of Thermal Reaction Norms for Growth Rate and Body Size in Ectotherms". We are also co-sponsoring a Society-wide symposium honoring George Bartholomew, organized by Raymond B. Huey and Gretchen E. Hofmann: "Integrative Biology: A Symposium Honoring George A. Bartholomew". There will be a social associated with this Symposium that you are encouraged to attend and don't miss our joint social with DIZ and AMS. We will be looking for judges for the best student papers, so if you are willing to judge a few papers, please contact Mike Temkin ([mtemkin@stlawu.edu](mailto:mtemkin@stlawu.edu)).



## Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
  - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
  - [Message from the Secretary](#)
  - [Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship](#)
  - [Message from the Graduate Student–Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative](#)
  - [Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair](#)
  - [DIZ Auction](#)
- 

### Message from the Chair

*Thomas Wolcott*

I hope that all of you had a summer that was productive, or pleasant, or both, and that you're looking forward to exciting meetings in New Orleans after the turn of the year. I recognize that travel may be more difficult in these times of floundering economies (Isabel came as quite a blow to ours), but hope that you too feel the SICB meetings are worth the investment. Given all the recent news of flooding in eastern NC, some of you may be concerned that we'll be meeting below sea level in New Orleans. Let me reassure you: the clout of the DIZ Chair's office is such that I've been able to extract a firm commitment from the meteorologists: "No hurricane landfalls during the SICB meetings."

Relieved of the hurricane threat, we'll be able to turn our attention to the panoply of contributed paper and poster sessions, as well as the traditional smorgasbord of cutting-edge symposia. In that context, I'm delighted to report that DIZ Program Officer Penny Barnes has been peppered with proposals for future symposia. Let me emphasize that these are not dregs extracted by inverting the barrel and beating on the bottom; these are really interesting topics volunteered by the membership. We will have the luxury, and the agony, of deciding which of them we are able to sponsor at upcoming meetings.

In New Orleans we are doing not shabbily at all. DIZ is sponsoring or co-sponsoring three:

- Model Systems for the Basal Metazoa: Cnidarians, Ctenophores, and Placozoans (Organized by Neil Blackstone)
- Sponges: New Views of Old Animals (Organized by Scott Anthony Nichols and Gert Woerheide)
- EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology (co-sponsored with DCE/DDCB/Crustacean Society; Organized by Robert Stevenson and Shea R. Tuberty)

These are in addition to the two society side symposia:

- Integrative Biology: A Symposium Honoring George A. Bartholomew (Organized by Raymond B. Huey and Gretchen E. Hofmann)
- In Vino Veritas: The Comparative Biology of Ethanol Consumption (Organized by Robert Dudley and Michael Dickinson)

Truly, a feast for the mind!

Another not-to-be-missed facet of the New Orleans meetings will be our joint DIZ/AMS/DEE/TCS social. The DIZ executive committee has had very positive feedback about our previous joint socials and the opportunities they presented for meeting and networking with new sets of folks sharing invertebrate interests. Our thought is to have a joint social with one such "outside" group at each meeting. At New Orleans, though, we decided "The more the merrier!" This is because Past-Chair Rachel Merz, bless her, has instigated an auction to augment the Libbie Hyman Awards endowment (see her message elsewhere in this Newsletter). It promises to be a riotous time, so please plan on dreaming up/dredging up priceless objets d'invertebres to put on the block, and on coming to join in the fun!

Finally, a revisitation of a spring newsletter item. As you may recall, I asked for suggestions of ways to increase the frequency and effectiveness with which invertebrate models are used in teaching biology. One proposal was to assemble a set of exercises that would use invertebrates to teach important biological principles, with versions appropriate for levels from K-12 up through college. Such a thing might not only expose more students to more invertebrates and disabuse them of the notion that "the vertebrate way is the only way", but allow teachers in cash-strapped systems to do things on the cheap. For instance, many inland students think all blood is red, partly because most big hemocyanin users are marine—but nice quantities of HCy can also be drawn from plain old garden snails.

I'm pleased to report that the spring blurb elicited two enthusiastic "ataboys", but less thrilled to report that that's all it elicited. What's needed is several people who say not only "This is a cool idea that someone ought to follow up", but "OK, here's a draft of an exercise that I've used or thought about using..." Just in case the

spring blurb hit just before the summer doldrums (hah! as though we weren't busier than ever!), here's the final call. Absent contributors of the second sort, the proposal will quietly join the fossil record.

Perhaps we can talk of this, and other ideas for DIZ's role, over in New Orleans. See you there!

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## Message from the Program Officer

*Penelope Barnes*

At the late September meeting of the SICB and Divisional Program Officers, over 1100 abstracts were scheduled for the upcoming meeting in New Orleans! This represents a significant increase over the 780 abstracts that were submitted for the Toronto meeting and the 916 abstracts submitted for the Anaheim meeting. The Division of Invertebrate Zoology will be well represented at the New Orleans meeting, as per usual. Also, DIZ is sponsoring three symposia in New Orleans. Neil Blackstone has organized an exciting list of speakers for his Model Systems for the Basal Metazoans: Cnidarians, Ctenophores, and Placozoans symposium scheduled for the mornings of January 6th and 7th. Click on the title and check out the informative web page for this symposium! Another DIZ symposium, Sponges: New Views of Old Animals, is scheduled for the mornings of January 8th and 9th and brings together many of the world's leading sponge biologists. Click on the title for a list of scheduled speakers (and to view some spectacular sponge photos!). In addition, DIZ is pleased to join DCE, DDCB, National Science Foundation, and The Crustacean Society, as co-sponsor of EcoPhysiology and Conservation: The Contribution of Endocrinology and Immunology, a symposium organized by Robert Stevenson, Shea Tuberty, John Wingfield and Peter deFur. This symposium is scheduled for the afternoon of January 6th and all day on January 7th. Again, click on the symposium title to view the list of speakers for this important symposium.

At the last SICB meeting, as you all know, the traditional DIZ/AMS social was expanded to include DEE. The social received great reviews from all and so, building on the success of last year's event, our social in New Orleans has been expanded further to include The Crustacean Society! The upcoming social should prove to be a "don't miss" event for a second reason: Rachel Merz is organizing an auction in support of the Libbie Hyman Awards endowment. The preliminary list of items to be auctioned (ranging from handmade silver jewelry to books) suggests that we will see some competitive bidding in support of this worthy cause! The DIZ/AMS/DEE/TCS social is scheduled for the night of January 7th (Wednesday) from 6:30 to 8 pm (check the meeting program to confirm).

More good news – DIZ will be well represented with symposia, again, at the San Diego meeting in January 2005! DIZ will join with DEE to sponsor a symposium, organized by Ben Miner and Diana Padilla, entitled "Memorial to Larry McEdward: Life History, Ecology and Evolution of Marine Invertebrates". In addition, DIZ, with DAB and DEE, will be sponsoring Janet Leonard's symposium, "Mating systems and sexual selection in hermaphrodites". Ken Halanych's "WormNet: Recent advances in Annelid systematics, development and evolution" will be co-sponsored by DIZ. Nigel Hughes' symposium entitled "Terminal addition, segmentation, and the evolution of metazoan body plan regionalization", of which DIZ is a co-sponsor, has been accepted as a society-wide symposium for the San Diego meeting. There is also the possibility that DIZ may assist in co-sponsoring Peter Alpert's and Jim Clegg's society-wide symposium entitled "Desiccation tolerance in animals, microbes and plants: comparative mechanisms and evolution" and the American Microscopical Society's symposium, provisionally entitled "The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis". Congratulations to all on excellent proposals! All symposia proposals, submitted for consideration, were impressive and the Program Officers had an extremely difficult task in selecting the ten

symposia for the San Diego meeting.

Because symposia are now planned more than one year in advance, proposals for the 2006 SICB meeting will be scheduled for submission in early September 2004. So, after the upcoming New Orleans meeting, please start thinking about symposia ideas for the 2006 meeting in Orlando. Let's keep up the momentum!

See you in New Orleans!

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### **Message from the Secretary**

*Will Jaeckle*

I hope that each of you had a successful summer studying your favorite invertebrate animal. The suite of symposia that relate to our favorite form of animal are quite impressive. Please refer to the Program Officers message for details.

For new and future members of the Society, take a moment review the criteria for qualification and application process for the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship (see Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship). This endowed award provides financial assistance for young graduate students and advanced undergraduate students to help defray the costs of their first professional experience at a research station. Any financial contribution that members of the division can make to support this fund and maintain the vigor of this program would be appreciated and should be direct to Amy Johnson.

Please attend the Divisional Business meeting. Our Division's vitality is clearly a function of the activities and involvement of its membership. So, my message is "get engaged in the workings of the DIZ".

This is my last go-round as DIZ secretary and it has been an interesting and informative experience. Our next divisional secretary will be Robert (Bob) W. Thacker.

I look forward to seeing you in New Orleans and a very successful meeting.

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### **Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship**

In the last round of awards we were able to award a scholarship to Joana Zanol Pinheiro da Silva, a talented and hard working doctoral student at George Washington University with strong interests in invertebrate biology. Joana, whose interests in the evolution of patterns in development stem from her research on polychaetes at the Federal University of Rio de Janeiro (UFRJ) in Brazil, was able to use this scholarship to study "Comparative Invertebrate Embryology" and "Evolution and Development of Metazoa" at Friday Harbor Laboratories this past summer.

We continue to make the effort to expand the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund toward the eventual goal of awarding two scholarships each year, one to an undergraduate and one to a graduate student. Though the endowment has been growing since its establishment, the 2003 grant was \$750. To keep pace with the expenses of space and time at a research station, the DIZ is planning an auction at our next national

meeting in New Orleans (January, 2004). The auction will take place during the DIZ/DEE/AMS/TCS social from 6:30–8 pm on the third day of the meeting (Wednesday, Jan 7). Donations can be brought to the meeting or can be mailed directly to Judy Williams ahead of time (see below for her email address). If you have any questions or would like to make a donation for this auction, please contact a member of the auction committee:

Kyle Aveni–Deforge [kyled@rocky.geol.sc.edu](mailto:kyled@rocky.geol.sc.edu)

Rachel Merz [rmerz1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:rmerz1@swarthmore.edu)

Amy Johnson [ajohnson@bowdoin.edu](mailto:ajohnson@bowdoin.edu)

Judy Williams [Judith.Williams@usm.edu](mailto:Judith.Williams@usm.edu)

Linda Walters [ljwalter@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu](mailto:ljwalter@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu)

As always, Monetary contributions, large or small may be sent, to: SICB Business Office, Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund, 1313 Dolley Madison Blvd., Suite 402, McLean, VA 22101. Checks should be made payable to SICB and marked as a "Contribution to the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Fund." All contributions are tax deductible.

This scholarship, in memory of Libbie H. Hyman, one of America's foremost invertebrate zoologists, provides assistance to students to take courses OR to do research on invertebrates at a marine, freshwater or terrestrial field station. The Hyman scholarship is intended to help support a first field station experience for a first– or second–year graduate student or an advanced undergraduate student.

Completed applications, which must be submitted on–line, must include:

A one to two page description of the proposed coursework or research

Two (2) letters of recommendation from faculty members

Transcripts of both undergraduate and (if applicable) graduate course work.

Deadline: MARCH 3, 2004

Notification of Awards: APRIL 3, 2004.

Application forms and further information are available on the web at:

<http://sicb.org/grants/hyman/>

For more information contact:

Dr. Amy S. Johnson

Chair, SICB Libbie Hyman Scholarship Committee

Biology Department

Bowdoin College

6500 College Station

Brunswick, ME 04011

FAX: 207–725–3405

Email: [ajohnson@bowdoin.edu](mailto:ajohnson@bowdoin.edu)

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**Message from the Graduate Student–Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative**

*Ben Miner*

Hello fellow students. The New Orleans meeting is quickly approaching, and I would like to remind student/postdoc members that the due date for meeting registration is Dec 4. When registering, don't forget to indicate that you are a member of the Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ).

There are several student/postdoc events at the meetings in New Orleans that should not be missed. These are the

- Student "First Timer" orientation,
- Student/postdoc luncheon,
- Student/postdoc workshop, and the
- Society-wide evening social in honor of students and postdocs.

These events provide an excellent opportunity to interact with other students and fellow invertebrate zoologists. In addition, I strongly encourage student and postdocs to attend the DIZ business meeting.

SICB provides excellent travel support for students. These travel awards cover either registration or housing, and only require that student work a half day at the meetings. This is a great deal! The deadline for student support is Nov 1. I hope to see you in New Orleans.

Additionally, there are 3 excellent funding opportunities that are available to students:

- Grant-In-Aid of Research (\$1,000), deadline is Nov 24,
- Fellowship for Graduate Student Travel (\$2,000), deadline is Nov. 24, and
- Libbie H. Hyman (\$750), early Spring 2004

See the SICB webpage for more details (<http://www.sicb.org/grants/researchgrant.php3>).

If you have any suggestions, please email them to me at [miner@zoo.ufl.edu](mailto:miner@zoo.ufl.edu). Good luck with your studies and research!

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### **Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair**

*Sara Lindsay*

Calling all judges! As you make your plans for the annual meeting, please consider serving as a judge for the student presentations. DIZ awards a prize for the best student oral presentation, poster presentation, and the Adrian Wenner Strong Inference Award. Our students are doing fine work and it is real pleasure to support their enthusiasm. But we can't make these awards without your help. Depending on the number of student presentations and judges, judges can expect to evaluate 2–3 presentations; each student is judged by at least two people. Last year we had only 10 presentations, but I expect that number to go up given that we will have DIZ symposia this year. If you can help, please email me: [slindsay@maine.edu](mailto:slindsay@maine.edu). Also, if you would be willing to serve as the on-site contact person, please let me know. I will not be at the meeting this year.

Many thanks to judges past, present and future!

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## DIZ Auction

Greetings to All DIZ Members,

If you think about your own development as a biologist, it's a good bet that your first experience being at a field station made a huge impression. That opportunity to see organisms in situ and to be in the company of other enthusiastic biologists is a pretty heady mix. The Libbie Hyman endowment was established more than 25 years ago by Trish Morse and Pete Riser to support students on their first trip to a field station. (You can see information about the award at: <http://www.sicb.org/newsletters/nl11-2003/diz.php3#dizhyman>) Through the years, the endowment has grown somewhat, but not nearly enough to keep up with the rising cost of supporting a student at a field station (the current stipends have been in the \$600 – 700 range). To remedy this gap DIZ voted at the last meeting to hold an auction to support the fund at this year's meeting in New Orleans.

Your auction committee has begun to gather donations – Alan Kohn has given two volumes – Hyman's *Echinodermata* and Harrison and Kohn's *Microscopic Anatomy of Invertebrates, vol. 5, Mollusca 1* (Amazon price \$362.50); Judy William's University has graciously donated 3 antique microscopes (circa 1910) as well as artwork from local Gulf Coast artists (specializing in ocean critters!); Trish Morse promises a silver bracelet, made by her with an invertebrate theme; the President–elect of SICB, Sally Woodin, is offering up a polychaete inspired, hand–made trivet and we have a growing pile of classic Friday Harbor t–shirts. In addition we have secured a "challenge grant" – a good–hearted (but anonymous) supporter has offered to match any proceeds from the auction up to \$2,000.

So, clearly, we want two things from you – more donations and your participation in the auction itself (which will take place during the DIZ social). Please think about what you have that might be good material for the auction – books, artwork, craftwork, a CD of your most interesting teaching slides, jewelry, prints, famous t–shirts or oddball cool stuff that people are going to want, also, it doesn't have to have an invertebrate theme (for instance, Judy Williams has offered up an espresso maker). If you have something in mind, just contact one of us and we'll sort out how to get it to the auction. We hope to have something of a virtual catalogue to offer you before the auction, so we will be interested in digital photos or descriptions of your cool offerings. Email any of us at the addresses below and thanks for your support of students.

Rachel Merz [rmerz1@swarthmore.edu](mailto:rmerz1@swarthmore.edu) Amy Johnson [ajohnson@bowdoin.edu](mailto:ajohnson@bowdoin.edu) Judy Williams  
[Judith.Williams@usm.edu](mailto:Judith.Williams@usm.edu) Linda Walters [ljwalter@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu](mailto:ljwalter@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu) Kyle Aveni–Deforge  
[kyled@rocky.geol.sc.edu](mailto:kyled@rocky.geol.sc.edu)

## Division of Neurobiology (DNB): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Officers](#)
- 

### Message from the DNB Officers DNB in New Orleans

This conference season, New Orleans suffers from a surfeit of neuroscientists; first, the Society for Neuroscience (SFN) meeting in November, and then the SICB meeting in January. We realize that it might be difficult for people to attend both meetings. Nevertheless, we hope that the combined temptations of the cultural and culinary attractions of New Orleans and the student-friendly, high-energy context of an SICB meeting will bring a good number of neurobiologists to the Crescent City to kick off the new year.

At the meeting, the officers of the Division of Neurobiology would like to invite SICB members to join us at a PAC-sponsored symposium at the upcoming meeting in New Orleans. The "Recent Developments in Neurobiology" symposium, organized by Rich Satterlie, will include talks on:

- Motor Control (Jim Belanger and Jennifer Schreiner);
- Neural Control of Hand Movement (Marco Santello and Sara Winges);
- Chemical Signaling in Amacrine Cells (Evanna Gleason and Brian Hoffpauir);
- Chemical Signals and Social Behavior in Crayfish (Paul Moore and Dan Bergman); and
- Modulation of Hypothalamic Neuroendocrine Cells (Jeff Tasker and Shi Di).

In addition, DNB will continue its tradition of presenting awards to the best poster and platform presentation made by students in the division. Each award will include a monetary prize. Students who have not yet been awarded the Ph.D. are eligible for the award, as are recently-minted PhDs who have received the degree no more than 12 months prior to the meeting. The work must be original and must be carried out principally by the student presenting the paper or poster. A student who applies must be a member of the Division of Neurobiology. A student awarded the top poster or talk prize is not eligible for future DNB student presentation competitions. The DNB Chair will appoint members of the Division to judge the competition. If you are a student who is giving a platform or poster presentation at the meeting, and you would like to be considered for this competition, please email Hank Trapido-Rosenthal, DNB Secretary ([hank@bbsr.edu](mailto:hank@bbsr.edu)) with your name and presentation title by December 10, 2003.

Finally, we would like to remind our readers that the term of DNB Chair is coming to its appointed end, so we will be voting in the new year for a new Chair. If you are interested in running for the office please come to the DNB business meeting at the New Orleans meeting and introduce yourself to the members so they have an idea of who we have as candidates.

## Division of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology (DSEB): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Officers](#)
- 

### Message from the Officers

*Rich Mooi, Chair; Donald Swiderski, Program Officer; Ingrid Kaatz, Secretary*

We are all anticipating a superb meeting in January of 2004, in New Orleans, and expect that DSEB members will find many sessions illuminating and on point for their own research programs. The number of abstracts submitted is nearly 50% more than last year; clearly the excitement won't all be out on Bourbon Street. At this year's meeting, DSEB will be sponsoring the symposium "The Study of Sequences in Natural Sciences", organized by Jonathan Jeffery and Robert Guralnick. The speaker list promises a lively and informative session that will highlight many aspects to the analyses of a diversity of sequences in nature. Jonathan and Robert have also consented to organizing our ever-popular "Phylogenetics for Dummies" workshop, focusing on methods of comparing sequences and the kinds of information that can be extracted from sequence differences. Also at the meeting, we will have 9 students competing for the division's Best Student Paper award. We need volunteers to judge these presentations; so if you are a member of DSEB and not a student, and are willing to sacrifice a little bit of time for this important program, please contact Don Swiderski ([dlswider@umich.edu](mailto:dlswider@umich.edu)).

For next year in San Diego, DSEB is one of many divisions supporting an exciting symposium on "Terminal Addition", to be organized by Nigel Hughes and Dave Jacobs. This fascinating and fast-growing area of research deals with a process by which the body of bilaterian animals grows at a posterior growth zone. Although segmented animals are most often the model for studies of this process, terminal addition occurs in some form or another in many disparate metazoan groups. Understanding the developmental basis of body plan specification through terminal addition will provide perspectives on evolutionary novelty throughout Metazoan diversification. We trust that this symposium, and the involvement of Nigel and Dave in the "Phylogenetics for Dummies" workshop will provide a unique opportunity to shed light on the analysis of terminal addition throughout the Metazoa.

It is never too late to begin developing plans for DSEB symposia at the 2006 meeting (in Orlando). Please email ideas, however germinal, to Don Swiderski ([dlswider@umich.edu](mailto:dlswider@umich.edu)) or Rich Mooi ([rmooi@calacademy.org](mailto:rmooi@calacademy.org)).

We look forward to seeing you in New Orleans.

## Division of Vertebrate Morphology (DVM): 2003 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
  - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
  - [Message from the Secretary](#)
- 

### Message from the Chair

*Frank Fish*

It's that time again. Time to start thinking seriously about preparing for the SICB meeting in New Orleans this coming January. Now is the time to get that data in order, set up your PowerPoint, download your video clips, and register. Better to get everything ready now than to be generating new graphs fifteen minutes before your talk is to begin (and we all know that never happens). The New Orleans venue is, to use an all too familiar term from your students, AWESOME! This may be why the number of abstracts submitted for the meeting is way up. As always, there will be a wealth of quality presentations expanding the frontiers of vertebrate morphology. I would expect that after a day of contributed talks, posters, and symposia, there will be a continuation of presentations in the evening by DVM members. Discussions will ensue on topics such as Alligator Swimming in Creole Sauce, Muscle Fiber Architecture of Blackened Redfish, and Comparative Masticatory Effort in Sampling Crawfish Etouffée. The meeting is set for January 5–9, 2004. While these dates do not encompass a Saturday night to possibly reduce the cost of airfare, New Orleans is a great place to spend the extra night either before or after the meeting.

Last year was the initiation of video night running concurrently with the DVM social. We will continue the video night with contributions that are sure to amaze, amuse, and educate the division. Please bring your videos on tape or CD to the social. The videos can pertain to your research or simply be an interesting observation related to animal morphology.

An extra event to be included in this year's program is a celebration of the contributions and accomplishments of Marvalee Wake. A mini-symposium has been organized by Wyatt Korff. The mini-symposium will occur in the regular sessions before the DVM social. At the social, we will further celebrate. So come and raise a glass in honor of Marvalee Wake, who has been an exceptional force in the field of vertebrate morphology and provided so much service to the SICB.

I must congratulate Bret Tobalske, whose term as DVM Program Officer will be ending after the January meeting. Brett has organized the meeting presentations and helped shepherd a number of symposium. His work is important for the functioning of the DVM. Despite Bret leaving the position of Program Officer, I am happy to announce that John Bertram will be taking over Bret's duties. I look forward to working with John. Audrone Biknevičius has graciously consented to remain as division secretary. She has been invaluable in helping to manage the division. So come April remember Audrone on National Secretary's Day.

Holding the SICB meeting in New Orleans and eating hot and spicy food is the perfect prerequisite for acclimating to southern Florida for the summer of 2004, where the International Congress of Vertebrate

Morphology (ICVM-7) will be held. This is the second time that the ICVM has been held in North America. Jeanette Wyenken has done a spectacular job in getting everything ready in Boca Roton. At this point, symposia have been organized that are sure to be of interest to all morphologists.

Finally, I would like to make an appeal for your support to the D. Dwight Davis fund. This fund is important in providing awards for student presentations. Each year the best student paper is presented with an award from this fund. It would be welcome to increase support for this award, so please make a contribution to the Davis fund.

Have a productive and fun fall, and I hope to see you all in the Big Easy.

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### **Message from the Program Officer**

*Bret Tobalske*

New Orleans is going to be fun! I spent the past weekend at the New Orleans Marriott hotel with the other program officers, working out the schedule for the upcoming meeting. We worked diligently, as we were dealing with over 1100 abstracts – the largest number submitted to the annual SICB meeting for the past ten years. The hotel is adjacent to the French Quarter, though, so we had time for fine food and a bit of gawking at the non-stop party that appears typical of Bourbon Street after sunset.

Because of the large number of symposia (12) and submitted abstracts, there will be up to 13 concurrent sessions this year. DVM has the largest number of submissions among divisions. With over 200 abstracts under the umbrella of "morphology," DVM will have a variety of paper and poster sessions each day of the week. There is solid competition for the D. Dwight Davis award, with 46 contenders for Best Student Paper. This year will feature a quality poster experience for all concerned, as the poster sessions will run from 3:30 until 6:00, without concurrent papers to interfere with attendance at the posters.

Members of DVM will find several symposia of interest. These include the Society Wide Symposia, one in honor of George A. Bartholomew and one in awe of the comparative biology of ethanol consumption. There will also be symposia on selection experiments as tools in comparative work, thermal effects on growth in ectotherms, morphological innovations, and recent advances in neurobiology. Of special note, DVM is hosting a mini-symposium in Honor of Marvalee Wake as she embarks on her retirement. This is a relatively formal, but not too serious, way to sincerely thank her for her many contributions to SICB and DVM.

Back on the relaxing side, we will have a divisional social after our business meeting on Wednesday (7 January), and there will be a Society Wide social, featuring a Zydeco band, on Thursday night (8 January).

So, as one might say in the quarter: A bientôt (see you soon).

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### **Message from the Secretary**

*Audrone Biknevičius*

1. Letter from William E. Bemis (university of Massachusetts, Amherst):

Dear Colleagues,

By arrangement with our publisher, I am posting for free downloading my PowerPoint Presentations to accompany our textbook, *Functional Anatomy of the Vertebrates – An Evolutionary Perspective* (otherwise known as *FAOV*, 3rd edition; K.F. Liem, W.E. Bemis, W.F. Walker & L. Grande; Brooks Cole, Philadelphia, 2001). These are the files that I use in my own teaching, and they include virtually all of the figures from *FAOV*. To download the files, go to:

[http://www.bio.umass.edu/biology/bemis/FAOV\\_PPTS/FAOV3.htm](http://www.bio.umass.edu/biology/bemis/FAOV_PPTS/FAOV3.htm)

and follow the instructions to reach the links page. You will see that the files are organized by chapter, with one file for each of the book's 22 chapters.

I hope that you will find these materials useful for your own teaching and presentations.

Willy

2. REPORT: 2003 Southeast Regional DVM meetings

The first Southeast Regional DVM meeting was held September 27, 2003 at James Madison University in Harrisonburg, VA. There were 33 participants from South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, Maryland, D.C., Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Ohio. There were 20 talks, lots of food, and great conversation. Participants who stayed until Sunday joined a hike up Furnace mountain to get great views of the Shenandoah valley.

There was also an extended discussion about the importance of regional meetings, the need to make students (both graduate and undergraduate) aware of the value and informal nature of these meetings, and the importance of greater faculty attendance. Rick Blob expressed interest in hosting a Southeast Regional meeting at Clemson University next year, although he and others expressed some concern about the proximity of a fall regional meeting to the ICVM at the end of July. (submitted by Roshna Wunderlich, James Madison University)

3. REMINDER: 7<sup>th</sup> 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/> (submitted by Jeanette Wyneken, ICVM–7 convener, Florida Atlantic University)