

# SICB Fall 2004 Newsletter

## *Contents*

### **Message from the President**

John. C. Wingfield

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

Catherine Loudon

### **Message from the Secretary**

Sunny K. Boyd

### **Message from the Treasurer**

Ron Dimock

### **News and Announcements**

- Meetings & Conferences
- In Memoriam

### **Committee Reports**

- Membership Diversity Committee
- Student Support Committee
- Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee

### *Division Newsletters*

#### **Animal Behavior (DAB)**

- Message from the Chair
- Message from the Secretary

#### **Comparative Endocrinology (DCE)**

- Message from the Officers

#### **Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry (DCPB)**

- Message from the Chair
- Message from the SICB Representative to IUPS

- [Message from the Program Officer](#)
- [Message from the Secretary](#)
- [Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative](#)

### **Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB)**

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

### **Ecology and Evolution (DEE)**

- [Message from the DEE officers](#)

### **Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ)**

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

### **Neurobiology (DNB)**

- [Message from the Officers](#)

### **Systematic and Evolutionary Biology (DSEB)**

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

### **Vertebrate Morphology (DVM)**

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

## Message from the President

*John C. Wingfield*

Another year has gone by and we look forward to the annual meeting in January 2005 in San Diego. Just a few weeks ago we held the annual planning meeting of core officers that overlapped one day with the program officers meeting. This was the first time that we have held these meetings conjointly and it was a great success. Our new S.I.C.B. Program Officer, Kate Loudon, the Divisional Program Officers, Sue Burk and Burk Associates did an impressive job putting the program together in just two days. It is also a great advantage to do this at the venue of our annual meeting in San Diego. The facilities are terrific and the hotel is located on extensive grounds – very pleasant. The meeting is shaping up to be terrific with symposia, oral contributed sessions and posters coordinated on a broad spectrum of themes. We have deviated a little from the pattern of past meetings with a plenary symposium instead of an invited speaker at the start of the proceedings on the evening before the first full day. This session is in honor of one of our most distinguished members, Professor Ted Bullock. Many thanks to Bob Josephson and Kate Loudon for organizing this symposium that includes outstanding neuroscientists in a tribute to Professor Bullock, who had a huge influence on emergence of neurobiology, particularly comparative aspects, as one of the major foci of biology today. The plenary session will begin on the afternoon of January 4, so please plan to arrive in time to attend.

The meeting in San Diego will also be an important one for reasons pertaining to the future of our society. The strategic plan and a list of goals for the society have been on the web site now for several months. The most pressing concerns should be implemented as soon as we are able. Some of these I refer to below and they will be brought to the general business meeting in San Diego, so please plan on attending. It is very important that you do so and bring your ideas!

Our financial situation continues to be good despite a fluctuating market. Once again I thank our outstanding Treasurer, Ron Dimock, and Burk and Associates for shepherding us through the past few years. We are very fortunate indeed to have Ron for a second term as Treasurer! Although we are in the black, we do need to increase donations to the society further and begin building endowments to fund many projects dear to our hearts. It is highly important that we expand our funding for grants-in-aid-of-research to students and postdoctoral fellows spanning everything from travel to research sites and meetings, to new exciting areas of investigation, attracting minorities to research and education and bringing them to our annual meeting. Divisions within the society also have their own funds to provide research awards or support symposia. We should plan future ways in which we can attract donations to expand these further. Our web site has a special link for donations – please take a look at it! Of course we will be happy to hear of any ideas from you concerning development.

A fun project over the past year has been the overhaul of the S.I.C.B. website – or at least the first steps toward doing so. Several members have already made some recommendations, or pointed out where some things need to be updated and re-organized. This is inevitable given how times change so rapidly and our society evolves. So, we have begun working with our terrific webmaster, Ruedi Birenheide, and hopefully we will have a new and attractive website ready for testing in the weeks leading up to our gathering in San Diego.

Integrative biology continues to be a central issue in modern biology, indeed it will likely be critical for addressing global problems in the future. Few societies can claim such a broad continuum of members who are actively working to bring together disparate topics in biology in creative new ways. I think most of you, if not all, agree that there is nothing quite like S.I.C.B. anywhere in the world and we should continue to work toward being the leading integrative biology society internationally. Given that we consistently attract foreign participants, it is clear we are in a position to be an even larger international influence than ever. Our society is home for several disciplines (e.g. evolutionary developmental biology, biomechanics) and others for which we provide a home base and a regular meeting venue. We should build on this and promote the society

accordingly, especially outreach toward Latin American countries. Having said this, it is also unfortunate that we live in a very troubled world with increasing restrictions on visits of foreigners to this country and funding of them. The next few years will be telling, and we should work hard to not just maintain, but also expand our international outlook.

One thorny issue that needs immediate attention is the state of our journal, *Integrative and Comparative Biology*. The Editor, John Edwards, our core officers and I have been discussing this at length over the past two years. The main problem is a continuing decline of institutional subscriptions – a major source of income for S.I.C.B. The good news is that the journal is otherwise flourishing and symposia are being published at a steady rate. However, the trend of declining subscriptions needs to be stopped, indeed reversed. I have asked the Editorial Board and the Advisory Committee to report to us in San Diego where the journal issue will be a major item on the general business meeting agenda (another reason for you to attend). Any recommendations will be brought to the Executive Committee for action.

Finally, it is with some amazement that I realize I am coming to the end of my two-year term as President. There have been some trying times, but overwhelmingly I have enjoyed being President and the opportunity to serve the society. My fortunate experience is in no small part to the truly outstanding officers and membership in general who have always had the society's best interests at heart. It is remarkable how many people work so hard to keep this society the mix of integrative biologists that it is, and we have much to look forward to. I am also most grateful to Burk and Associates for their unflagging support of so many of our society operations, their thoughts and experience concerning future plans, and the excellent choices in hotels for our annual meetings.

At the end of the San Diego meeting I will hand over the Presidency to Sally Woodin. Working with her over the past two years has been delightful and I know you will have an outstanding President in 2005 and 2006. Congratulations to John Pearse who will become President Elect in San Diego. Clearly the leadership of our society is in excellent hands for several years to come.

See you in San Diego!

## Message from the Program Officer

*Catherine Loudon*

I. Program for 2005 SICB annual meeting in San Diego

II. Description of Program Planning meeting

III. Changes in Best Student Paper policy recommended by Program Committee

IV. Recognition of helpful individuals

---

### I. Program for 2005 annual SICB meeting in San Diego

We have a very exciting program planned for our annual SICB meeting in San Diego in January 2005. There will be ten symposia, sixty-two contributed oral sessions, three afternoons of poster presentations, as well as special lectures, workshops, and socials. We continue to attract a large number of presentations (1021 submitted abstracts), and will have about a dozen simultaneous sessions in San Diego during the mornings and early afternoons. Scheduling the posters in the late afternoon without any other competing events worked so well last year in New Orleans that we will schedule poster sessions the same way in San Diego. All symposia, contributed talks and posters have been arranged into sessions, and will be posted on the SICB website for your perusal by early November. The grid will be posted earlier. Workshops and social events are still being scheduled, so check the grid for their times and locations.

Our meeting begins Tuesday, Jan. 4, with a special plenary session featuring a distinguished series of neurobiologists: Michael Bennett (Albert Einstein College of Medicine), Daniel Johnston (Baylor College of Medicine), R. Douglas Fields (National Institutes of Health), Charles Stevens (Salk Institute), and Eve Marder (Brandeis University). The speakers will be evaluating and updating different aspects of the "Neuron Doctrine," such as stability in identified neurons and evolutionary scaling laws. The plenary session will honor Theodore Holmes Bullock for his many contributions to neurobiology. T.H. Bullock, who will celebrate his 90th birthday in 2005, is a past president of SICB (when it was the American Society of Zoologists). The plenary session will start a few hours earlier than usual, at 2:30 pm, so make sure that you arrive early enough for this special event. Thanks to Robert Josephson for his hard work behind the scenes working on the plenary session. A society-wide welcome opening session of the San Diego meeting will be held that same evening (Tuesday) at the hotel (the Town and Country Resort).

In addition to the plenary session, there will be three other special lectures at the San Diego meeting. On Wednesday evening, the DCPB Bartholomew Awardee will present the Bartholomew Lecture. The following evening (Thursday), Dr. James Truman, of the University of Washington, will give the fourth Bern Lecture in Comparative Endocrinology. The title of his talk will be "Insect Ecdysis: dissection of an endocrine cascade that underlies a complex program of behavior." There will also be an address given by the Past-President of the American Microscopical Society, Dr William D. Hummon, who will be speaking on: "Documenting biodiversity: Groveling in the sand and mud."

Symposia are the heart of the annual meeting, and there will be a broad and thought-provoking array of symposia in San Diego. There will be two Society-wide symposia: "Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution" (organized by Peter Alpert, James Clegg, Brent Mishler, and Mel Oliver) and "Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization" (organized by Nigel Hughes and David Jacobs). The other eight symposia are "Adaptations for Life at High Elevation," "The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis,"

"WormNet: Recent Advances in Annelid Systematics, Development, and Evolution," "Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites," "Complex Life-histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward," "Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition," "Crustacea of Ephemeral Wetlands and Crustacean Diapause in Variable Environments," and "Zoo-based Research and Conservation." For more information about these symposia, please see their web pages which are accessible from the SICB website.

## II. Description of Program Planning meeting

The Program Planning meeting (started two years ago by Stacia Sower, Past Program Officer, and Sue Burk, SICB Meeting Director) continues to be extremely important in pulling together the entire program for the upcoming annual meeting and to select symposia for the following meeting (over a year hence). This Program Planning meeting (which was held Sept. 25 and 26 in San Diego) includes all of the divisional program officers, representatives from associated societies (AMS and TCS), the SICB program officer, Past Program Officer, Meeting Director, and Assistant Meeting Director (the last two from Burk Associates). This annual planning meeting allows the divisional program officers to be more actively involved in the annual meeting and in long-term programmatic planning for the society.

## III. Changes in Best Student Paper policy recommended by Program Committee

At this latest Program Planning meeting, it was unanimously agreed that the Best Student Paper award programs administered by most of the SICB divisions would benefit from standardizing some (but not all) of the procedures and requirements of those programs. The Program Committee recommended that each division continue to make its own decisions about the number of awards, type of awards, and criteria for the awards to be granted by that division. The specific changes recommended made by the Program Committee are:

(1) to eliminate division affiliation requirements of candidates for the Best Student Paper programs (at the current time, division affiliation of a candidate is a requirement by DCPB, DEE, and DIZ, but not DAB, DCE, DDCB, DEEB, DSEB, or DVM). Division affiliation is a problem to enforce and administer; e.g. abstract submission occurs before registration, and therefore the division of a candidate may be undetermined. In addition, an individual can change divisional affiliation with a single click on their SICB member information page, making the requirement less meaningful.

(2) that an individual awarded the first place Best Student oral award from any division would be ineligible to compete for the Best Student oral award in that same division or any other division in the future. Similarly, an individual awarded the first place Best Student poster award from any division would be ineligible to compete for the Best Student poster award in that same division or any other division in the future. An individual could compete for a poster award after winning an oral award, and vice versa. (at the current time there are divisional restrictions in the number of awards that any individual could win in DCPB, DDCB, DEE, and DEEB, but not in DAB, DCE, DIZ, DSEB, or DVM). This change would give the society an increased opportunity to acknowledge a larger number of the students making outstanding presentations.

## IV. Recognition of helpful individuals

It has been a pleasure to work with a group of outstanding individuals during my first year as the Program Officer for SICB: the Past Program Officer (Stacia Sower), all of the hardworking members of the Program Committee, the members of the Executive Committee (especially John Wingfield, Sally Woodin, Ron Dimock, and Sunny Boyd), and all of the symposium organizers and participants who have worked constructively within the programming constraints. My job has been made much easier by the pleasant and efficient input and assistance from the SICB webmaster (Ruedi Birenheide) and the terrific people at Burk Associates (Sue Burk, Lori Strong, and Brett Burk).

I look forward to seeing everyone in San Diego.

## Message from the Treasurer

*Ron Dimock*

SICB continues to be a bargain for its members, and is especially student–friendly. A review of the combination of annual dues and registration fees for annual meetings among 17 societies that are members of AIBS and for which the data were available revealed that SICB is one of only 2 that have dues less than \$100 AND registration fee less than \$200. When one adds in the very considerable amount of financial support for students (roughly \$50,000 in student support for the New Orleans meeting, \$24,000 in Grants in Aid of Research, and \$6000 for the new Fellowships for Graduate Student Travel), it becomes clear what a wonderful society this is for fostering the development of young biologists. With over 1000 abstracts submitted for the San Diego meeting, there should be many students in attendance, perhaps rivaling the huge number in New Orleans.

And speaking of Annual Meetings... the audit figures are in for fiscal 2003. For the 2nd year, the Annual Meeting finished in the black! Net income for the Toronto meeting was \$8,607. Of course the Anaheim meeting in 2002 was the first to finish in the black in modern memory. There seems little doubt that the 2004 meeting in New Orleans also will have a positive balance. The days of 6–figure losses seem clearly to be a thing of the past, as was promised by Burk & Associates Inc. when they became our management company.

However, the financial picture of the Society is not all peaches and cream. A major concern continues to be a steady decline in institutional subscriptions to ICB. Fortunately the rate of decline in subscription income has decreased. From fiscal 2002 to 2003 the decline was only 5%, but the 2003 figure is 25% lower than that of 2000. There is some slight relief from income from BioOne, so the net income for the journal for 2003 actually increased 5% over 2002. The Society can ill afford further erosion of this source of income.

Fortunately, the Society remains solidly in the black. Net assets from the 2003 audit were \$2,071,763 vs \$1,616,353 for 2002. This increase has come about by continuing efforts to reduce costs, especially those associated with the annual meeting, and by the good performance of the portfolio of Society funds that is managed by Matthew Tederick of LPL Financial Services. At the end of the 3rd quarter 2004, the total Strategic Assets Management account of just under \$580,000 invested in mutual funds between April 2002 and November 2003 is up 12.3%. The \$200,000 in a Real Estate Investment Trust is up 19.8%. Total gain of money market funds and mutual funds/REIT investments at LPL is up 12.7%. The SPindex was –1.4% between April 02 and October 04. The Society also stands to make a significant profit when the current REIT goes public.

In an effort to sustain the financial health of the Society, and to facilitate the inception of new programs and initiatives, President Wingfield is re–activating the Development Committee, which for several years prospered under the care of Mike Hadfield. President Wingfield is exploring possibilities of how to staff and charge such a committee. He would welcome input from members who might be interested in serving on that committee or who might have ideas about how that committee could function. And on a final note, remember that the SICB home page now has a link for interested parties to make online donations to the Society.

## Message from the Secretary

*Sunny K. Boyd*

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

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

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

## SICB Fall 2004 Newsletter News & Announcements

- [Meetings & Conferences](#)
  - [In Memoriam](#)
- 

### Meeting Announcements

#### **Call for Contributed Papers Symposium on "Biophysical and Biomechanical Adaptation and Bioinspired Engineering"**

A small international conference on this subject is being organized to take place at Caltech (Pasadena, CA) from March 28 – March 30, 2005. Detailed information concerning the conference is available at <http://www.its.caltech.edu/~iupscit>. This meeting will be a satellite symposium associated with the 34th International Congress of Physiological Sciences, which will take place in San Diego beginning the day after the symposium ends.

Interested people wishing to participate in the meeting are invited to submit, via the website, abstracts of posters describing research relevant to one or more of the four themes of the meeting: Locomotion and Motility, Muscle, Internal Flows, and Materials. The website facility for abstract submission will be in operation from October 1 – December 31, 2004.

Efforts are in process to obtain funding to assist more junior people (graduate students, postdocs, junior faculty) and people from overseas with expenses associated with the conference. See the website for specifics.

Please address questions not adequately answered on the website to: Malcolm Gordon [[msgordon@ucla.edu](mailto:msgordon@ucla.edu)] for scientific content and Martha Salcedo [[msalcedo@caltech.edu](mailto:msalcedo@caltech.edu)] for logistical and administrative matters.

#### **Second International Meeting on Physiology and Pharmacology of Temperature Regulation**

(Phoenix, Arizona, March 3–6, 2006)

The website for the meeting has gone live. Go to <http://www.FeverLab.net> for important information concerning this event and to pre-register for the meeting. Please also encourage your associates to pre-register.

The meeting will include several plenary symposia, and we now seek symposium proposals for consideration.

The symposium proposal form is available on the meeting's website. The submission deadline is November 15, 2004.

### **AmphibiaTree Workshop**

AmphibiaTree, a research initiative sponsored by NSF's Assembling the Tree of Life (AToL) program, will host a workshop in early December 2004 that includes sessions on "Morphological Analysis in Amphibian Phylogeny" and "Advanced Techniques in Phylogenetic Analysis." For more information, see <http://amphibiatree.org/aw/atree/participate.html>.

---

## **In Memoriam**

**Ingrith Deyrup–Olsen**, Professor Emeritus of Biology at the University of Washington

Born in 1919 in Englewood New Jersey, Professor Deyrup–Olsen was trained as a Zoologist at Barnard College where she received her AB (Summa cum laude) in 1940. Four years later, she earned her doctorate in Physiology from Columbia University in 1944 where she continued as an Instructor at Columbia's College of Physicians and Surgeons. In 1947 she joined the faculty at Barnard College where she pursued a research career on the biochemical and hormonal controls of kidney function while teaching physiology. Her outstanding scientific contributions were recognized by a Fulbright Fellowship in Denmark, and a Guggenheim Fellowship. Many years later she received the highest honor from her alma mater, the 1992 Barnard Medal of Distinction.

In 1964 Professor Deyrup–Olsen joined the faculty at the University of Washington's Department of Zoology where she continued her research on transport physiology, authoring more than 50 articles on a wide range of subjects, including recent work in the last ten years on physiology and chemistry of mucus secretion. Using slugs as a model system, she discovered the unique biochemical and cellular mechanisms by which cells can regulate the production of this protective and important functional barrier. Her work touches on diverse biological processes from slug movement to cystic fibrosis. Dr. Deyrup–Olsen became the role model for all subsequent faculty in Biology, having been a shining example of one who successfully combined a cutting edge research program with a world–class teaching career. The founder of the University of Washington's Master of Science for Biology Teachers Program, Dr. Olsen was impassioned about inspiring young people, not just for Biology but for learning. In recognition of this, she received the University of Washington's Distinguished Teaching award in 1988. Later, she created the Sigurd Olsen Endowed Scholarship, named after her late husband. Her passion for combining research and teaching extended well beyond her laboratory, the classroom, and even the programs at the University of Washington. She was a national leader of the "Science as a Way of Knowing" program through the American Society of Zoologists, she was the Biology representative for the National Science Foundation's program to update competency of secondary school teachers, and, with a grant from the Washington Higher Education Program, founded the University of Washington's Summer Institute for Biology Teachers.

Because of her passion for science, for learning, and for young people all around her, the Department of

Biology created two awards that recognizes future leaders in Biology: the Ingrith Deyrup–Olsen Teaching Award, given to an outstanding graduate student teaching assistant, and the Ingrith Deyrup–Olsen Scholarship for an undergraduate planning a career in Biology teaching.

Dr. Deyrup–Olsen was an inspiration to all of the faculty. She fostered learning, research and respect for all. Two quotes characterize Dr. Deyrup–Olsen more than anything else:

"Any career in which are you are committed and excited by your work – it's a wonderful way to get through life"

"Isn't it just marvelous!"

### **Dr. Robert W. Pennak**

Robert W. Pennak of 2513 East 104th Avenue, Apt 1201, Thornton, Colorado died on June 23, 2004. He was 92. Dr. Pennak, a retired Professor of Biology at the University of Colorado, was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, on 13 June 1912. In 1935 he married Alberta V. Pope of Janesville, Wisconsin. The couple lived in Boulder from 1938 to 1987. In 1938, upon finishing his Ph.D. degree at the university of Wisconsin, he joined the Biology faculty at the University of Colorado. Although he officially retired in 1974, he was permitted to keep his office and laboratory on the campus, and essentially every day until his recent illness, he kept busy with his research, field work, extensive correspondence, consultation contracts, and editorial work. During his many years with the University he served as Biology Department chairman for six years, as acting Graduate Dean for six months, and as Secretary of the Graduate Faculty for four years. He also served on innumerable University committees.

Dr. Pennak is know world–wide for his teaching and biological research on lakes and streams. He organized and taught the world's first university course in stream biology. He published about 150 articles in U.S. and foreign professional journals. His two books, "Fresh–water Invertebrates of the United States" and "Collegiate Dictionary of Zoology," are widely used as text–references. The former has been generally acclaimed as a classic and has gone through more than 30 printings. He was active in 13 professional national and international societies and served as president of five of them. His name is to be found in many American and foreign biographical directories. At various times he served as editorial consultant or on the editorial board of 17 different professional journals. In 1950, at the age of 38, he gave the University of Colorado Annual Research Lecture, and in 1972 he was designated an Outstanding Educator of America. For seven years he was a member and Chairman of the National Science Foundation Graduate Fellowship Committee in Biology in Washington, D.C. Professor Pennak presented more then 90 research papers at learned societies, and more than 70 campuses invited him to give guest seminars for biology groups. He directed the work of 30 M.A. students and 17 Ph.D. students.

During his retirement years, Professor Pennak's services were widely in demand as a stream and lake consultant, including assignments for more than 30 corporations, public agencies, land developers, fisheries agencies, mining operations, conservation agencies, and foreign governments.

Survivors include his wife, Alberta; a son, Richard Pennak, of California; and a daughter, Cathy Pennak, of Denver. Also surviving are two grandchildren and 2 great–grandchildren living in Denver.

Cremation promptly followed Dr. Pennak's death. It was his wish that there be no memorial service.

## Committee Reports

- [Membership Diversity Committee](#)
  - [Student Support Committee](#)
  - [Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee](#)
- 

### Membership Diversity Committee

*Robert E. Espinoza, Chair*

In January 2004, SICB's Membership Diversity Committee (MDC), which seeks to increase the ethnic composition, representation, and participation of the SICB membership, was unanimously elevated from an ad-hoc to a standing committee by the Executive Board. With this "promotion" and commitment from the Society, the MDC set out to implement long-range plans to support its goals.

To that end, the MDC initiated a pilot mentoring program at the New Orleans meeting (see Spring 2004 Newsletter: <http://www.sicb.org/newsletters/nl04-2004/committeereports.php3#membershipdiversity>), which provided students and faculty from underrepresented groups at Xavier University with mentors and gathered them at targeted social events attended by members of the MDC, Fred Stollnitz (Program Director for Cross-Directorate Activities at the National Science Foundation), several PIs funded by NSF's Undergraduate Mentoring in Environmental Biology (UMEB) Program, and SICB President John Wingfield and President-elect Sally Woodin. Our pilot program was well received by the participants, so we intend to expand our mentoring program in San Diego in 2005.

This year we will provide awards to at least eight undergraduate students and two faculty members from underrepresented groups (African Americans, Asian Americans, Western Hemisphere Hispanics, Native Americans and Alaskans, and Pacific Islanders) to support attendance at the annual meeting in San Diego. Support is intended for non-SICB members and will include registration (with a one-year membership to SICB), hotel fees, per diems and parking, and special social events (with great food!). To maximize the use of funds, we intend to recruit faculty and students from colleges and universities close to the meeting venue, who will not require travel compensation. (Likewise, in subsequent years invitations will go out to faculty and students from institutions in the vicinity of the annual meeting.) To facilitate continued interactions after the meeting ends, groups of students and faculty from a single institution will be favored for the awards. This year, the MDC will be recruiting participants directly; however, we encourage suggestions for awardees from SICB members and welcome inquiries from students and faculty who are interested in participating in the program.

We also seek mentors (for students) and liaisons (for faculty) to guide these newly established members at the San Diego meeting. If you are willing to serve as a mentor/liaison, please contact me and share your interests. Your responsibility will be to help the student/faculty navigate the often overwhelming program our Society offers its members. This might include helping choose among concurrent presentations and social events and introducing these new members to investigators (faculty and students) who share their interests. We will do our best to match students/faculty and mentors/liaisons with mutual research interests. Postdocs and seasoned

graduate students are encouraged to participate, and you need not belong to an underrepresented group yourself to be a mentor/liaison. Mentors and liaisons will be invited to all social events sponsored by the MDC and will share in the honor of promoting diversity in our Society.

---

## **Student Support Committee**

*Brain Tsukimura, Chair*

Students of SICB,

The Student Support Committee wishes to announce 2 award opportunities this Fall, 2004. 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) in their career. To apply for either the GIAR and FGST, please visit the SICB website: <http://www.sicb.org/awards.php3#giar> and complete the online application. Please be aware that your application email address becomes your ID for matching letters of support to your application file. Thus, please use the same address throughout the entire application process.

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 2003, 64 applications were submitted. The SSC reviewed these at the New Orleans meeting (January 2004) and made 26 awards (~40%) for a total of \$23,999 to students from the 9 divisions in the Society. DEADLINE: November 22, 2004.

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 2003, 27 applications were submitted. The SSC reviewed these at the New Orleans meeting (January 2004) and made 3 (11%) \$2,000 awards, for a total of \$6,000. DEADLINE: November 22, 2004.

**Student Support Program** – Students planning on presenting papers at the SICB meeting San Diego may apply to the Student Support Program to assist in covering registration fees or lodging costs. In return for SICB support you will be required to provide ½ day's service in activities, such as assisting at the registration desk, operating AV equipment at symposia and general sessions, or facilitating with the general activities of the conference. Complete rules and the application form can be found at: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005/studentssupport.php3>. Last year the SICB supported 276 students [18 through registration, and 258 through lodging] at an expense of over \$49,000. DEADLINE: November 1, 2004.

---

## **Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee**

*Shea R. Tuberty, Chair*



The chair and divisional representatives who comprise the Student–Postdoc affairs committee are responsible for the steering and organization of student–orientated meeting events. Also we are charged with the goal of providing a more visible leadership role in promoting the needs and concerns of the SICB student constituency that make up ~25% of the SICB membership.

### **Student "First Timer" Orientation**

If you are registering as a student and this is your first time at a SICB meeting, you are strongly encouraged to join the Student/ Postdoctoral Affairs Committee to learn about the benefits of the Annual Meeting, meet your fellow students, and receive tips on presentations at the meeting. Note that if you have been selected as a student worker, you are required to attend.

### **Student/Postdoctoral Luncheon**

The SICB Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee offers students an excellent opportunity to meet with fellow student members in an informal setting. At this venue, students are given the opportunity to meet their divisional representatives to SPDAC and voice their needs or concerns. Students willing to serve as their division rep or participate via an ad hoc committee membership are encouraged to approach the committee at this time.



The 2004 Student/Postdoc Luncheon attracted a record number of attendees!

## 2005 Student/Postdoc Workshop

This popular workshop is designed to address the needs of SICB's developing scientists in an informal, discussion-oriented setting. Each year, academic faculty and other professionals are invited by the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee to spend part of an evening discussing issues of importance to student and postdoc members of the Society, including topics relating to jobs and career choices, research funding, and development of teaching skills. This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions directly from those currently holding academic/other positions and to gain insight on developing important aspects of one's career. This year's workshop is entitled:

**"Yahoo, I've achieved my degree... but now what?!"**

**Planning the Most Effective Professional Transition: Issues and Options**

In the last 20 years, the number of postdocs in the U.S. has increased greatly and the nature of their experiences has changed in substantial ways. In the life sciences, one or more postdocs have become virtually mandatory for obtaining academic positions, with the median time spent as a postdoc increasing to nearly 4 years. While a "developmental" position, the postdoc has also become an essential aspect of today's research infrastructure, as it is largely the postdocs who carry out the day-to-day lab work and, importantly, their ideas underlie many grant applications on which they cannot be P.I.s. Despite the essential roles of postdocs, their institutional status in academia is often poorly defined, with the value postdocs place on their experiences highly variable. The National Academy of Sciences (NAS) undertook a detailed study in 2000, also Sigma Xi continues to monitor the issues relating to today's postdocs (you can participate by going to <http://postdoc.sigmaxi.org/> and completing the 2003–2004 survey), and the SICB Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee has endeavored to participate in these ongoing efforts. This year's *Student/Postdoctoral Workshop* will focus on these issues as well as the options for recently graduated Masters, PhD's, and Postdocs, with invited panels of speakers addressing different aspects of the professional transition to academic and non-academic career choices.

## SICB Society-Wide Evening Social in Honor of Students and Postdocs

Join your fellow SICB members for a Society-Wide Social on Friday night. Coffee, desserts and fruit will be served and a cash bar will be available.

SICB 2004 in New Orleans: Rockin' Dopsie  
and the Zydeco Twisters at the  
Society-Wide Evening Social in Honor of  
Students and Postdocs



## Division of Animal Behavior (DAB): 2004 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

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

---

### Message from the Chair

*Scott MacDougall–Shackleton*

I hope everyone had a productive summer and has generated lots of data to present and discuss at our upcoming meeting in San Diego. As you work on your posters and talks this autumn why not take time to advertise the SICB with your colleagues? There are many researchers who attend summer conferences such as the International Congress in Behavioral Ecology or the Animal Behavior Society meeting who do not attend SICB. They may not be aware of the DAB, or of the many benefits of attending a winter conference. I encourage each of you to spread the word among your friends and colleagues. I believe we are unmatched in being a student–friendly meeting, so spreading the word among graduate students in particular is important.

I would like to welcome Sarah Humfeldt as program officer elect, and to thank Paul Cupp for his continued service to the division. If you have ideas for symposia that we could sponsor or co–sponsor, please contact Sara, Paul or myself.

At the upcoming meeting check the program for the DAB's business meeting and social. I hope you can all attend, share some food, drink, and ideas for the future of the division. As well, we will present award certificates to last year's best student presentation winners to acknowledge their achievement.

Finally, feel free to contact me at any time regarding issues surrounding the DAB. We have excellent communication among the executives, but we rely on input from the members to give us direction.

See you in sunny San Diego!

Scott

---

### Message from the Secretary

*Tom Hahn*

I would like to echo Scott's comments, and expand on a couple of them a bit. If you know folks who belong to an affiliated society such as the Animal Behavior Society, by all means encourage them to attend the SICB meeting. But go one step further and encourage them to join, as well. Although it is not necessary for members of ABS to be SICB members in order to attend the meeting and even present their research, it is of

course beneficial to the society if members of affiliated societies join SICB. It is not unusual for people with broad interests in biology to discover that they actually prefer the SICB meeting to some of the more specialized meetings. In my own case, if I were limited to attending a single meeting every year, SICB would be it. I am certain there are others out there who would feel the same, but who are not yet aware of what SICB has to offer.

On a similar note, many SICB members are affiliated with DAB but consider it to be a secondary or tertiary affiliation behind one of the other divisions. I would like to encourage those of you in this position to please attend our social and business meetings. It would be great to have greater involvement and input from a larger cross section of the SICB membership.

Finally, I would like to remind everyone that we would like to begin showcasing DAB members' research on the website, one or a few people at a time, on a rotating basis. If you would like to suggest one or more people to have their research showcased on the DAB website – or volunteer to have your own research highlighted here – then please let me know.

Looking forward to seeing everyone in San Diego! Tom

# Division of Comparative Endocrinology (DCE): 2004 Fall Newsletter

## Message from the Officers

*David Borst, Chair; Kyle W. Selcer, Program Officer; James A. Carr, Secretary*

## Meeting News

Kyle just returned from the program officer's meeting in San Diego at the Town and Country Resort, site of the 2005 SICB meeting. It is a very nice facility, located near Old Town, with easy trolley access to San Diego and even Tijuana. The resort is beautifully landscaped and has a huge amount of conference space. All events and sessions will be within the convention center, and the meeting rooms are reasonably close together, allowing for easy movement between sessions.

Again this year the talks and abstracts were sorted by general theme, rather than divisional affiliation. We scheduled 1025 abstracts for symposia, talks and posters. Most of the abstracts from DCE members will be in Regulatory Biology sessions, for which there were about 85 abstracts submitted. Other DCE talks are in Evolution and Physiology and Biochemistry sessions. Oral sessions of interest to DCE members include: comparative endocrinology, environmental stress, neuroendocrinology, immunology, environmental endocrinology, adaptation, regulation of growth and behavior, testosterone, and stress in birds and fish. Poster sessions of interest will include: comparative endocrinology–vertebrate; comparative endocrinology–invertebrate; stress; regulation of reproduction; regulation of growth; regulation of behavior; and environmental endocrinology.

At the meeting, DCE will co-sponsor a mini-symposium on "Zoo-based research and conservation" organized by L. Patton and M. Anderson. In addition, there are two SICB-wide symposia that should be of interest to DCE members. These are: 1) Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution, organized by Peter Alpert (U. of Massachusetts), James Clegg (U. of California/Davis), Brent Mishler (U. of California/Berkeley), and Mel Oliver (USDA) and 2) Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization, organized by Nigel Hughes (U. of California/Riverside) and David K. Jacobs (UCLA)

The DCE Business Meeting will be on Thursday evening. This will be followed by the Howard Bern Lecture, to be given by Dr. Jim Truman, entitled "Insect Ecdysis: dissection of an endocrine cascade that underlies a complex program of behavior". After the talk, the DCE social will be held. We look forward to seeing all of you in San Diego!

Finally, the 15th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology will be held May 23–28, 2005 at the Boston Park Plaza Hotel in Boston, MA. Check the website (<http://www.bu.edu/dbin/icce15/>) for details. The deadline for abstract submission is January 15, 2005.

## Divisional Officers

The results of the 2004 DCE election are in. Congratulations to Michael Romero as the incoming DCE program officer–elect. We thank those who ran for office and everyone who took the time to vote. Kevin Kelly will become the new secretary of the division at the beginning of the San Diego meeting. Dave Borst will continue as chair of the division, Robert Denver will continue as chair–elect, and Kyle Selcer will continue as the program officer.

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

### In this newsletter:

- [Message from the Chair](#)
- [Message from the SICB Representative to IUPS](#)
- [Message from the Program Officer](#)
- [Message from the Secretary](#)
- [Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative](#)

For a list of current DCPB officers go to <http://sicb.org/divisions/dcpb.php3#officers>

---

### Message from the Chair

*Donna L. Wolcott*

It's a great time to be working in comparative physiology and biochemistry. New research tools continue to be added to the researcher's repertoire, making persistent questions amenable to attack. And in fact, the questions themselves change in response to new techniques. The means of acquiring data and the power to visualize and process it continue to evolve and expand, which means that more complex questions can be addressed. Complex research spurs the need to collaborate, but the ease with which collaborations can be established and maintained is also evolving and improving. Some things have not changed, including the excitement of uncovering new knowledge, the importance of lateral and creative thinking, and the element of serendipity in discovery. Such foment of ideas is fostered at the annual meetings of SICB. It would be interesting to know how many new research directions, fruitful collaborations, and adaptations of useful techniques are spawned each year. I hope to see you in San Diego in January.

SICB, at the urging of DCPB, and the consent of the SICB executive committee, is underwriting a symposium at the upcoming congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences. The hope is that SICB support will highlight the utility of a comparative and integrative approach in resolving questions in the field of physiology, a field that has been dominated by issues in human health. In fact, even the likelihood of adequately framing hypotheses improves when physiology and biochemistry are considered from a broader, phylogenetically informed perspective. I encourage you to read more about the congress (see Lou Burnett's article later in the newsletter), and if possible, to contribute to the fund that promotes travel to the Congress by young investigators. Thanks are due to Nora Terwilliger and Lou Burnett, SICB Representatives to IUPS, for keeping DCPB informed and for seeking ways to educate physiologists in the human health field about the benefits of a comparative and integrative approach to their research. Thanks to Malcolm Gordon for his efforts on behalf of comparative physiology as part of the Scientific Program Committee for the upcoming congress.

David Tapley will once again coordinate the judging for the Best Student presentations. Please respond positively if contacted to serve as a judge, and please encourage your students to apply (instructions can be found on the SICB web site).

We have reached the end of the review process for the George A. Bartholomew Award Competition, which is given each year to "a young investigator for distinguished contributions to comparative physiology and biochemistry or to related fields of functional and integrative biology". This year's awardee is Dr. Nicole King, Assistant Professor of Genetics and Development and of Integrative Biology at UC Berkeley. Her groundbreaking research into the evolution and functional implications of multi-cellularity will be presented at the annual Bartholomew Award lecture, to be given on the evening of the first full day of sessions at the San Diego meetings. You won't want to miss it! Selecting the best young investigator from among the eleven excellent candidates has challenged the committee (Ross Ellington, Chair, Steve Hand, Gretchen Hofmann, Martin Wikelski and Sonke Johnson; Ray Huey, Past-Chair and ex officio). Thanks to them, and thanks for the efforts of senior colleagues who nominated and wrote letters in support of this outstanding group of young scientists.

---

### **Message from the SICB Representative to IUPS**

*Lou Burnett*

#### **IUPS Update**

This is a special year in physiology for the United States because for the first time in 38 years the 35th International Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) will be held in this country. IUPS congresses occur every four years at different venues around the world and will happen in San Diego from March 30 through April 5, 2005. The theme for this congress is "From Genomes to Functions" and the program has a strong flavor of comparative physiology. A number of comparative symposia are offered in a general track called "Ecophysiology of the 21st Century." The most broadly comparative of the symposia is sponsored by SICB and chaired by George Somero. The title of the symposium is "Functional Genomics of Macromolecular Damage Responses and Environmental Stress Adaptation." SICB is also contributing to travel funds to support young investigators. Education sessions, distinguished lectures, satellite symposia, and a strong scientific program are a part of this meeting and details can be found on the IUPS 2005 web site [www.iups2005.org](http://www.iups2005.org). The IUPS meeting will be held in conjunction with the Experimental Biology 2005 meeting, so this will be a large and exciting conference. The registration site is now open.

---

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

*Michael Dickinson*

#### **San Diego:**

Another year with over 1000 submitted abstracts for the Society in general, with roughly 135 submitted with DCPB as a primary affiliation.

The Division is sponsoring two symposia in San Diego:

- *Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution* (organized by Peter Albert, Jim Clegg, Brent Mishler, and Mel Oliver) will run over two days, from the morning session on Wednesday through the morning session on Thursday, with a complimentary poster session on the first day.
- *Adaptations for Life at High Elevations*, (Organized by Doug Altshuler and Robert Dudley), will run all day Friday with a complimentary poster session on Thursday.

### **Event Planner:**

With so many cross-disciplinary symposia and bewildering array of parallel sessions, many members find it difficult to navigate through the meeting. To help, SICB has implemented an automated meeting planner, which will be available on the SICB website by the middle of October, once the scheduling for the meeting is finalized.

### **Student support:**

I would like to remind all student members that if they wish to apply for housing support for the upcoming meeting they should visit the SICB Student Support Program website: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005/studentsupport.php3>. The deadline for application is Friday, November 1, 2004.

### **Travel Tips:**

When arriving in San Diego, I highly recommend buying a 4-day pass for the San Diego Trolley System (\$15). The Meeting Hotel is served by the Fashion Valley/Transit Center stop of the Blue Line. The Trolley provides easy access all the major restaurant areas including Old Town, The Waterfront, and the Gas Light District. Just one round trip cab ride to Old Town will cost about \$15. You can even take a short shuttle from the Airport to Sante Fe Depot (the Amtrak station) where you can pick up the Trolley. The link to the San Diego trolley system is <http://www.transit-rider.com/ca.sandiego/sdtrolley.cfm>.

### **Future Meetings:**

The Symposia for the Orlando Meetings have been chosen, I will provide more details in the Spring Newsletter. Thanks to the individuals who submitted excellent proposals, DCPB will be well represented next year. It is never too early to plan for future meetings. Please email me ([flyman@caltech.edu](mailto:flyman@caltech.edu)) or call (626-395-5775) to discuss ideas and get started.

### **Upcoming Events:**

Another reminder that 35th Congress of the International Union of Physiological Sciences (IUPS) will be held in San Diego from March 31 to April 5th (<http://www.iups.org/>). Although this meeting is only a few months after the next SICB meeting in the same town, there are many excellent reasons for attending. First, the Congress has an integrative theme this year: From Genomes to Functions, which will be of interest to DCPB members. The Division encourages all of its members to attend what is sure to be an excellent meeting.

---

### **Message from the Secretary**

*Paul H. Yancey*

## Elections

We held elections for DCPB Chair and Program Officer. Congratulations to:

**Patrick J. Walsh:** our new DCPB Chair Elect

**Kimberly A. Hammond:** our new DCPB Program Officer Elect

Many thanks to **Joe B. Williams** and **Gretchen E. Hofmann** for running for these offices.

## Other Division Business

The changes made to the DCPB bylaws have been added to our website. The SICB officers have given division officers three tasks for the coming year:

- 1) Each division should examine its bylaws for conflicts with the main SICB bylaws. One immediate issue is the term length for officers. DCPB has two-year terms, while some divisions and SICB have three-year terms. It has been proposed that all terms should be the same, at three years.
- 2) Division officers should assist their chairs in producing manuals of duties for each office.
- 3) Division secretaries should "spice up" their division web sites, many of which are rather dull.

We are working on these issues, and would appreciate any thoughts that our members might have on these projects ([yancey@whitman.edu](mailto:yancey@whitman.edu)). I would particularly like feedback on the term-length issue and on ways to improve our DCPB website (<http://www.sicb.org/divisions/dcpb.php3>).

---

## Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative

*Joanna Joyner Matos*

Hello to all DCPB graduate students and postdocs!

I am looking forward to seeing you at our 2005 Annual Meeting in San Diego (January 4–8th). DCPB is sponsoring a number of symposia this year, including "*Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution*" and "*Adaptations for Life at High Elevation*"

There are a number of events that you should be sure to attend, some of which are specifically designed for students. These include the Student "First Timer" Orientation, the Welcome to San Diego Reception, the Student/Postdoctoral Luncheon, and the Society-Wide Social in Honor of Students and Postdocs. I also encourage you to attend the SICB and DCPB business meetings. Please look at the meeting website (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005/index.php3>) for details.

SICB offers a generous student support program for the annual meeting, and details of this program are given on the website (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005/studentssupport.php3>). To be eligible for the program you need to be a member of SICB, a presenting author, and be willing to provide one half-day of assistance during the meeting. The program provides financial support in the form of housing or registration fees. The deadline for this program is November 1.

DCPB offers two Best Student Paper awards at the Annual Meeting, one for the best oral presentation and one

for the best poster presentation. Undergraduate students and graduate students who have not yet been awarded a 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. In any one year, a student can enter either the oral or poster competition.

SICB and a number of other organizations offer student grants and fellowships. DCPB students may want to consider the following funding opportunities:

- SICB Grants in Aid of Research, due Nov. 22nd. <http://www.sicb.org/awards.php3#giar>
- SICB Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel, due Nov. 22nd, which provides funds for travel and other expenses at distant research laboratories, museums or field sites. <http://www.sicb.org/grants/fgst/index.php3>
- SICB Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship, which provides assistance for students to take courses or to carry on research on invertebrates at a marine, freshwater, or terrestrial field station. Generally due in March. <http://sicb.org/grants/hyman/>
- Fall 2005 EPA Science to Achieve Results (STAR) Fellowships, which funds research grants and graduate fellowships in numerous environmental science and engineering disciplines. Closing date Nov. 23rd. [http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2004/2005\\_star\\_grad\\_fellow.html](http://es.epa.gov/ncer/rfa/2004/2005_star_grad_fellow.html)
- Sigma Xi Grants-in-Aid of Research Program provides funding for the purchase of specific equipment necessary to undertake the proposed research project and travel to and from a research site. Proposals are due October 15th and March 15th. <http://www.sigmaxi.org>
- The National Science Foundation offers fellowships for new students (Graduate Research Fellowship <http://www.ehr.nsf.gov/dge/programs/grf/>, due mid-November) and for doctoral candidates (Doctoral Dissertation Improvement Grants, Directorate for Biological Sciences <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2002/nsf02173/nsf02173.htm>, due the third Friday in November).

## 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) and Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB): 2004 Fall Newsletter

## In this newsletter:

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

## Message from the Chair

*Brian K. Hall*

Dear Member of the now combined DEDB and DDCB,

By now, those of you planning to present at the 2005 meeting in San Diego will have submitted your abstracts. Just as the 2004 meeting was an excellent one, with high attendance, excellent divisional symposia, first-rate posters and contributed talks, we can look forward to an equally excellent meeting in San Diego. The divisional symposium – "*Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition*," co-sponsored by DEDB and DVM – is set for Friday January 7, with a bright and early start at 8.00am. Eleven speakers from seven countries are set to explore the development, evolution and evolutionary developmental biology of teeth and the dentition that teeth form. The topic is an ideal one for the first meeting after the amalgamation of DEDB and DDCB. All the major themes in modern developmental, cell and evolutionary developmental biology are encountered in the study of teeth. Indeed, I have often felt that you could organize a first year biology class around teeth; recall what Huxley did with a piece of chalk. The symposium comes at a time of an avalanche of new data and theories on the genes underlying tooth formation, new fossil finds, and new theories on the evolutionary origin of teeth ('from outside in or from inside out'). Come along on January 7 to hear the latest.

Check the society website (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005/symposia/index.php3>) for other symposia at the San Diego meeting. Equally importantly, check the programme when it appears for presentations and posters. Symposia are important but no more important than presentations and posters. The programme committee will have worked hard late in September to structure the 2005 meeting. It is an enormous job, one made more difficult (and exciting) by the increasingly integrative nature of research within our division, and indeed, within SICB as a whole.

By all initial accounts, it is not too early to mark 2006 in Orlando on your calendar. The intellectual activity within our field and the energy within our newly amalgamated division is reflected in four proposals for 2006. Details on the symposia for 2006, and how they interact with other divisions and with other societies meeting with SICB will be provided at the divisional business meeting in January.

We retain our association with the two journals *Evolution & Development* and the *Journal of Experimental Zoology Part B. Molecular and Development Evolution* and encourage you to subscribe and to submit papers.

---

## Message from the Program Officer

*Eduardo Rosa–Molinar*

¡Saludos de Puerto Rico! The hurricane season has kept us down here in paradise and the mainland USA pretty busy. Nebraska looks better and better every day! The divisional program officers (DPO's), representatives of the American Microscopy Society (AMS) and The Crustacean Society (TCS), Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) Program Officer, and Meeting Director and Assistant Director (Burk Associates) converged at the Town and Country Resort and Convention Center in San Diego, California (<http://www.towncountry.com/>), September 25th and 26th, 2004 to finalize the scientific program for the 2005 SICB Annual Meeting (keep up at: <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2005/>) and choose the symposia for the 2006 SICB Annual meeting in Orlando, Florida, January 4–8, 2006 . As of Friday, October 1, 2004, we have 1022 abstracts including contributed talks, posters, and symposia. The 10 symposia are:

*Society–wide symposia:*

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

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

*Other Symposia:*

**"Adaptations for Life at High Elevation"**  
Organizers: Douglas Altshuler (Caltech) and Robert Dudley (U. of California/Berkeley)  
Sponsoring divisions: DVM and DCPB (primary)

**"The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis"**  
Organizers: Ruth Ann Dewel (Appalachian State University), Kathy Coates (Bermuda Biological Station), Mary Beth Thomas, Clay Cook (Harbor Branch Oceanographic Institution), Julian Smith (Winthrop University)  
Sponsoring Affiliate Society: American Microscopical Society (primary)  
Sponsoring Divisions: DEE, DNB, DIZ, DEDB and DDCB, and DSEB (additional)

**"WormNet: Recent Advances in Annelid Systematics, Development, and Evolution"**  
Organizer: Kenneth M. Halanych (Auburn University)  
Sponsoring division(s): DIZ, DSEB, DEDB and DDCB (primary)

**"Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites"**  
Organizer: Janet L. Leonard (U. of California/Santa Cruz)  
Sponsoring divisions: DIZ and DAB (primary), DEE additional)

**"Complex Life–histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward"**

Organizers: Dianna Padilla (Stony Brook University) and Benjamin Miner (U. of California/Davis)  
Sponsoring divisions: DIZ (primary), DEE (additional)

**"Evolution and Development of the Vertebrate Dentition"**

Organizer: Moya Smith (King's College London Dental Institute)  
Sponsoring divisions: DEEB, DVM, DDCB, and DSEB (primary)

Mini–symposium: **"Crustacea of Ephemeral Wetlands and Crustacean Diapause in Variable Environments"**

Organizers: Marie Simovich (University of San Diego), Judith Williams (U. of S. Mississippi), and Andrew Bohonak (San Diego State University)  
Sponsoring Society: The Crustacean Society

Mini–symposium: **"Zoo– based Research and Conservation. "**

Organizers: L. Patton & M. Anderson  
Sponsoring division: DCE

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

Remember, keep checking the SICB website (<http://www.sicb.org>) and reading the DEEB DCDB newsletter for updates regarding the 2005 meeting in San Diego.

An important issue that we discussed at the DPO's and Program Planning meeting and that we unanimously agreed upon was that the Best Student Paper (BSP) award programs administered by most of the SICB divisions would benefit from standardizing some (but not all) of the procedures and requirements of those programs. The specific recommendations made by the DPO's and Program Committee are:

- (1) to eliminate division affiliation requirements for the BSP programs (at the current time, division affiliation is a requirement by DCPB, DEE, and DIZ, but not DAB, DCE, DDCB, DEEB, DSEB, or DVM)

*Rationale for Change:* This change acknowledges the scientific overlap between the divisions and promotes interaction among divisions. In addition, the requirement recommended for elimination is fairly minor, as a student can change divisional affiliation with a single click on their SICB member information page. This latter point means that enforcement of the requirement is difficult.

- (2) that an individual awarded the first place BSP (oral) from any division would be ineligible to compete for the BSP (oral) in that same division or any other division in the future. Similarly, an individual awarded the first place BSP (poster) from any division would be ineligible to compete for the BSP (poster) in that same division or any other division in the future. An individual could compete for a poster award after winning an oral award, and vice versa. (Currently there are divisional restrictions in the number of awards that any individual could win in DCPB, DDCB, DEE, and DEEB, but not in DAB, DCE, DIZ, DSEB, or DVM)

*Rationale for Change:* This change would give the society an increased opportunity to acknowledge a

larger number of the students making outstanding presentations. With elimination of division affiliation requirements (#1), it seemed important to enforce this rule at the society level rather than just at the divisional level.

The DPO's and Program Committee did not recommend standardizing the other differences in division programs (such as number of awards, amount of awards, criteria used, etc.).

DNB is the only division without a BSP program described in the bylaws.

I would like for the membership to forward to me their comments and/or concerns about our recommendations and to be prepared to discuss and vote on them at our business meeting.

As we did last year our social has been scheduled to occur at the same time and in close proximity to DVM. Frietson pushed for this last year, and I really think that the interaction and discussion over a beer or two or three was excellent.

Finally, please encourage your graduate students and colleagues to join SICB and DEDB and DCDB and keep sending your original research papers and/or symposia to *Evolution and Development* (Blackwell Publishing), *Molecular and Developmental Evolution* (Wiley), *American Naturalist*, and to *Journal of the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology*, journals sponsored by SICB.

Be prepared for a lengthy business meeting. I have some other issues that I hope to have on the agenda for discussion. Have a great and safe fall. Season's Greetings to all, and I hope to see you in San Diego!

Hasta pronto!

---

### **Message from the Secretary**

*Frietson Galis*

Dear members of the combined DEDB and DDCB,

We hope you are all looking forward to the San Diego meeting. There are many promising talks on developmental, cell and evolutionary developmental biology in the program. Our division is lively and dynamic, as befits a young division. Your attendance of the divisional business meeting will be highly appreciated.

*Elections.* The outcome of the elections for our division were rather predictable, since we had a single candidate for the function of program officer, secretary and student/post-doc representative. Eduardo Rosa-Molinar will continue to do the demanding and responsible job of program officer, I will continue as secretary and we were happy to find Nathan Bird willing to be our new Student/Post-doc representative.

---

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

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

*Brad Davidson*

Looking forward to seeing you all in San Diego! Along with the usual (but still remarkable) opportunity for graduate students and post-docs to give oral presentations, the upcoming meeting is unusually loaded with Evo-Devo symposia. Make sure and visit the SICB website for a preview of the symposia and other events including the student/post-doc luncheon and evening social.

**Update on "Movers and Shakers: A Young Investigators Symposium on Mesoderm Evolution"**

Due to a lack of sufficient nominations, the planned student/post-doc nomination voting aspect of this symposium has been scrapped. However, a focus on young investigators and on the development side of Evo-devo remains. Thus we are still hopeful that the symposium will generate increased participation of students/post-docs in the society and will aid in the revivification of our co-division DDCB (Development and Cellular Biology). Best wishes, Brad Davidson

## Division of Ecology & Evolution (DEE): 2004 Fall Newsletter

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

Greeting from the DEE officers: We hope that you all have had a productive summer and that the start of classes has gone smoothly.

We are looking forward to an exciting meeting in San Diego in January. This year DEE is co-sponsoring four symposia:

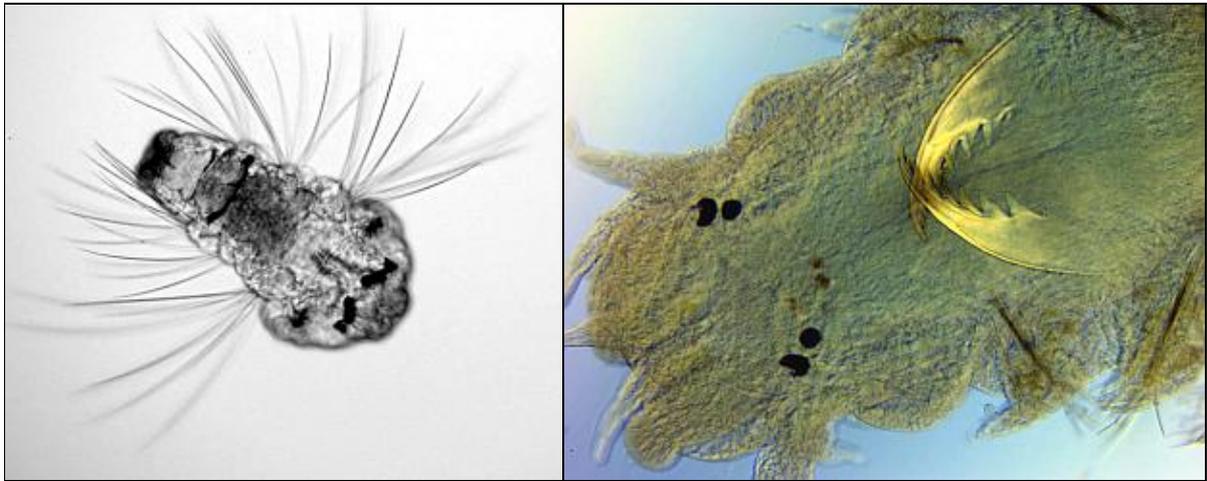
- 1) *Desiccation, and Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution*
- 2) *Complex Life-histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward*
- 3) *The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis*
- 4) *Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites*

In addition, we will again be having a joint social with DIZ and AMS. Be sure to check the meeting schedule for the time and place. The social is always a great place to catch up with old friends and make new ones. Hope to see you there.

This meeting will also mark the end of Mary Alice's term as chair and Mike's term as Secretary. We are please to have Fred Janzen as the DEE Chair-Elect and Anthony Steyermark as the newly elected DEE Secretary. They will officially assume their offices at the end of the meeting. Be sure to attend our business meeting – again, check the meeting schedule for the time and place.

As always we will be contacting you in the near future to ask if you would be willing to serve as a judge for the best student paper and poster competitions. We have had a great response from the members of the division for the last two years. Consequently, people have had to judge at most three presentations, and we have tried to match presentations with judges' areas of interest. So, please seriously consider serving as a judge for the student presentation at the next SICB meeting in San Diego.

## Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ): 2004 Fall Newsletter



The spionid polychaete *Polydora cornuta* (left) and a nereidid polychaete (right) are preparing for the 2005 Annual Meeting in San Diego! Are you ready for the meeting?

*Photos submitted by Sara Lindsay.*

### In this newsletter:

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

---

### Message from the Chair

*Thomas Wolcott*

The students are back on campuses, and Libbie Hyman Award winner Heidi Weiskel is back from her experience at Friday Harbor (congratulations again, Heidi!), probably never to be the same. The days are growing shorter and the nights cooler, and many of our beloved invertebrates soon will retreat into the mud. What to do for excitement once hurricane season is past? Well, we can start plotting our adventures for San Diego after the turn of the year! In addition to an exuberant intellectual climate fostered by several top-notch universities, the Californian Deep South presents biologists with a staggering variety of ecosystems, all within a few hours' driving range. My natal city probably has changed so that I'll scarcely recognize it, I'll revel in the setting. It's surrounded by rocky shores, sandy beaches, kelp forests, low desert, high desert, chaparral, mountains (some retaining unburned big trees), and the Sea of Cortez. Exposure to the variety of dramatic challenges faced by the plants and animals of these disparate habitats, and their multifarious solutions, are what seduced me into physiology/ecology. Some of you may be renewing acquaintance with these marvelous places, others gaining first exposure. I hope you'll set aside some time for messing about in the field. For those wishing to expand their life lists of critters seen, there's of course the San Diego Zoo and the Scripps

Aquarium. For those who like to see marine mammals fly, there's Sea World. For cultural contrasts, there's Tijuana (probably contrasting with normal Mexican culture as much as with ours), and more rural country to its south in Baja California. For the history buffs there are museums in Balboa Park, the Cabrillo Monument, old ships in the harbor, and Old Town minutes from the Mission Valley hotel. For gourmands, there are many excellent, authentic and reasonably priced Mexican restaurants... and there's a public transport system to take you there.

But I digress. Location isn't everything; we've also got some engrossing meetings coming up. Program Officer Penny Barnes' message tells of the wide-ranging symposia with which DIZ is involved. With so many tempting titles, we may have more than the usual frustration at our inability to be 2-3 places at once. This will provide abundant motivation for what often is the most valuable activity at meetings: sitting down with each other and trading the fascinating ideas we've discovered since last year. I hope to do that with more than a few of you.

See you in S.D.!

---

### Message from the Program Officer

*Penelope Barnes*

The SICB and Divisional Program Officers recently met in San Diego to schedule over 1000 abstracts for the upcoming meeting in San Diego! The Division of Invertebrate Zoology will be particularly well represented at the San Diego meeting. DIZ is co-sponsoring two symposia, and supporting an additional 4 symposia in San Diego. Janet Leonard's symposium entitled "Mating Systems and Sexual Selection in Hermaphrodites" is scheduled for the mornings of January 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>. In addition, Janet is organizing a small social, on the evening of January 5<sup>th</sup>, to provide an opportunity for SICB members to meet with symposium speakers. The second DIZ-sponsored symposium, "Complex Life-histories in Marine Benthic Invertebrates: A Symposium in Memory of Larry McEdward", is organized by Dianna Padilla and Benjamin Miner and is scheduled on January 7<sup>th</sup>, all day. DIZ joins DSEB and DEEB as co-supporter of Ken Halanych's symposium entitled "WormNet: Recent Advances in Annelid Systematics, Development, and Evolution". This symposium is scheduled for January 6<sup>th</sup>, all day. The Division of Invertebrate Zoology is also pleased to be co-supporter of the AMS symposium, "The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis", organized by Ruth Dewel, Kathy Coates, Mary Beth Thomas, Clay Cook and Julian Smith and scheduled for January 5<sup>th</sup> (all day). DIZ is co-supporter of both society-wide symposia: "Desiccation Tolerance in Animals, Microbes, and Plants: Comparative Mechanisms and Evolution" organized by Peter Alpert, James Clegg, Brent Mishler and Mel Oliver and "Terminal Addition, Segmentation, and the Evolution of Metazoan Body Plan Regionalization" organized by Nigel Hughes and David Jacobs. The former symposium is scheduled for January 5<sup>th</sup> (all day) and January 6<sup>th</sup> (morning) and the latter symposium is scheduled for January 7<sup>th</sup> (all day) and January 8<sup>th</sup> (morning). All of these symposia have complementary oral and/or poster sessions and so, be sure to check the SICB meeting program for these. To find out more about these symposia, just click on the titles given above.

At the last SICB meeting, the DIZ/AMS/DEE social was expanded to include The Crustacean Society. The social proved a great success and The Crustacean Society will be joining us in San Diego for "The Muchos Amigos Mexican Reception" at the Town and Country Hotel! The DIZ/AMS/DEE/TCS social is scheduled for the night of January 6<sup>th</sup> (Thursday) from 6:30 to 8 pm (check the meeting program to confirm).

At the Orlando meeting in January 2006, DIZ will be sponsoring Robert Podolsky's and Amy Moran's symposium entitled "Integrating Function Over Marine Life Cycles". DIZ will also be co-supporter of "Genomic and Proteomic Approaches in Crustacean Biology" organized by Donald Mykles and David Towle. Congratulations to all successful symposium organizers on excellent proposals!

At the recent Program Officers' meeting in San Diego, the Program Committee members unanimously agreed that the Best Student Paper (BSP) award programs administered by most of the SICB divisions would benefit from standardizing some (but not all) of the procedures and requirements of those programs. The Program Committee made two specific recommendations: 1) to eliminate divisional affiliation requirements for the BSP programs. This change acknowledges the scientific overlap between the divisions and promotes interaction between divisions. Also, because a student can change divisional affiliation with one click on their SICB member information page, the enforcement of this requirement is less meaningful. 2) An individual awarded the first place Best Student oral award from any division would be ineligible to compete for the Best Student oral award in that same division, or any other division, in the future. A similar rule would apply for Best Student poster awards. An individual could compete for a poster award after winning an oral award, and vice versa. This change would give the Society an increased opportunity to acknowledge a larger number of the students making outstanding presentations.

This is my third and final year as Program Officer for DIZ. I've found the position to be extremely interesting and I've greatly enjoyed working with the symposium organizers. My thanks go to the SICB Program Officers Stacia Sower and Kate Loudon, as well as Sue Burk and my fellow Divisional Program Officers for their assistance and good humour!

See you in San Diego!

---

### **Message from the Secretary**

*Bob Thacker*

I hope that everyone has had an exciting summer studying your favorite invertebrates!

Congratulations to Amy L. Moran, who will be the new DIZ Program Officer. Thanks are due to all who participated in the election process. Please attend the Divisional Business meeting to stay involved with DIZ.

Student members of SICB should review the qualification criteria and applications for several funding opportunities:

- Grant-in-Aid of Research (up to \$1,000), deadline November 22, 2004
- Fellowship for Graduate Student Travel (up to \$2,000), deadline November 22, 2004
- Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship, deadline March 3, 2005

These awards can provide advanced undergraduate and graduate students with financial assistance to help defray the costs of research experiences. Financial contributions to these programs from members of the division are greatly appreciated. See the SICB web pages for more information (<http://www.sicb.org/awards.php3>).

I look forward to seeing you in San Diego and a very successful meeting.

---

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

*Ben Miner*

Hello fellow students. The San Diego meeting is quickly approaching, so get out the sunblock and sandals. I would like to remind student members of a couple important deadlines. Applications for student support are due Nov. 1. This support covers either registration or housing costs in exchange for a day of service. The application for support is simple and it can save you money! The due date for registration is Dec 3. When registering, don't forget to indicate that you are a member of the division of invertebrate zoology (DIZ). Including this information indicates that you are competing for the DIZ best student paper or poster award – good luck.

In addition to deadlines, there are several student/postdoc events you should be aware of. The student "first timer" orientation (TBA) is an excellent introduction to SICB, and what to expect at a large international scientific meeting. The student/postdoc luncheon provides a free meal, and time to meet and interact with fellow students and postdocs. It will be held on Wed., the 5<sup>th</sup> at noon. The SICB society–wide evening social in honor of students and postdocs will be held on Fri., the 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. These events provide an excellent opportunity to gain skills and interact with other students. I hope to see you all in January.

If you have any suggestions, please email them to me at: [bgminer@ucdavis.edu](mailto:bgminer@ucdavis.edu)

Good luck with your studies and research!

---

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

*Sara Lindsay*

Greetings! The deadline for abstract submission is past, and 20 students have signed up to participate in the DIZ Best Student Paper program, so I will certainly need help judging presentations in San Diego. I look forward to hearing from DIZ members who will be attending the annual meeting and who are willing to serve. Please drop me a quick note so I can add you to my list of volunteers. Past judges, I welcome your continued participation. DIZ students have research in many different disciplines, so we really need a panel of judges with a combined broad expertise. I expect to work out the scheduling details in November when the meeting schedule is available. If you have questions about the program, either as a student participant or as a potential judge, please feel free to contact me: [slindsay@maine.edu](mailto:slindsay@maine.edu)

---

## Message from the Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Committee

*Message from the past Chair, Amy Johnson*

We had a particularly strong group of candidates for the Hyman Scholarship this year and the choice was difficult. The recipient chosen showed real excellence and will genuinely benefit from this award. This year the scholarship was awarded to Heidi Weiskel, a first year Ph.D. student in ecology at the University of California at Davis. Heidi has been making an unusual transition from a background in marine policy, including a stint working with the Pew Oceans Commission, to a strong science-based interest in biological invasions that includes a focus on invertebrate biology and marine conservation. The Hyman Scholarship supported her work in the Marine Invertebrate Zoology course at Friday Harbor Labs this past summer ('04). The selection committee felt that instilling in a policy-related individual a passion for the animals that they are concerned with via hands-on knowledge of organisms would be especially promoted by a field station setting.

The Libbie Hyman Memorial Field Scholarship Committee (myself, Isidro Bosch, and Beth Okamura) would like to thank the Auction Committee and all those who donated materials to the auction as well as all those who participated in the Auction for the great success of the Libbie Auction at SICB this past January. Thank you. Between the auction and matches to the auction, over \$12,000 was raised for the fund, which increases the principal by over 60%! This fund has been helping to send students, including myself, to first field station experiences for over 20 years. It is good to know that we can increase the support for this goal. A future goal of DIZ and SICB should be to raise the principal to the level of endowing this important fund and potentially increasing the number of awards that can be given out to two per year.

In support of these goals, as well as that of maintaining the continuity of the scholarships, **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, 2005

Notification of Awards: APRIL 3, 2005.

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

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

For more information contact:

Dr. Isidro Bosch  
Chair, SICB Libbie Hyman Scholarship Committee  
Department of Biology  
SUNY Geneseo, NY 14454  
Phone 585-245-5303  
Fax 245-5007  
[bosch@geneseo.edu](mailto:bosch@geneseo.edu)

## Division of Neurobiology (DNB): 2004 Fall Newsletter

Message from the DNB Officers *Robin L. Cooper*, Chair, *Rich Satterlie*, Program Officer, and *Hank Trapido-Rosenthal*, Secretary

### DNB in San Diego

This year, more than 20,000 member of the Society for Neuroscience (SFN) will descend upon San Diego in late October for that Society's annual meeting. As happened last year in New Orleans, we members of SICB's Division of Neurobiology will return to the same city just a couple of months later for the SICB meeting. We realize that it might be difficult for some of us to attend both meetings. Nevertheless, we hope that the high-energy, student-friendly, reputation of SICB meetings will bring a good number of neurobiologists to the sunny southern California to get the New Year underway.

The sure-to-be outstanding plenary session scheduled for the first afternoon of the meeting should certainly draw neurobiologists to the meeting. In this session, held in honor of Dr. T.H. Bullock, five eminent neurobiologists will present critical analyses of Ramón y Cajal's "Neuron Doctrine". In addition, DNB is one of the co-sponsoring divisions of the American Microscopy Society's symposium entitled "*The New Microscopy: Toward a Phylogenetic Synthesis*".

The 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 November 30, 2004.

Program Officer Dr. Rich Satterlie has received funding from the NSF to support DNB-sponsored "*Recent Developments in Neurobiology*" symposia at the 2006, 2007, and 2008 SICB meetings. If you've got ideas for a contribution to such a symposium, touch base with Rich (what a well-deserved name!) at the San Diego meeting.

Finally, we will retire our current chairperson, the University of Kentucky's Dr. Robin Cooper, and hand over leadership of the Division to Dr. Paul Moore, professor of Biology at Bowling Green State University.

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

### In this newsletter:

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

### Message from the Chair

*Ken Halanych*

DSEB should have a strong showing at the San Diego meeting in January, but several important changes will confront the division. First Don Swiderski will step down as Program Officer and be replaced by Michele "Nish" Nishiguchi. For those of you that don't know, PO is hands down the most labor-intensive office and the office that can most directly shape the role of the division at annual meetings. Don has done a fabulous job representing DSEB, and we wish Nish all the best in taking over. However, apparently Don did not get his fill as he will continue serve the division as the Chair-elect. Scott Nichols will also step down as the student/postdoc rep. His efforts have been appreciated as well.

At the business meeting we will discuss several by-laws changes ([click here for PDF file with by-law changes](#)). Such votes require a quorum. Interestingly, while several DSEB members attend the meetings, attendance at the business meetings has been lack luster. This is a great opportunity for more junior researchers to get involved. We also want to discuss the future of the Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop. WE NEED YOUR INPUT AT THE BUSINESS MEETING! See ya there.

---

### Message from the Program Officer

*Don Swiderski*

San Diego 05 should be another fine meeting; we have nearly as many abstracts as last year and another great location – so no excuses for slipping away to Tijuana or lolling around on the beach.

DSEB is one of several divisions supporting "Terminal Addition", on the evolution and development of bilaterians, organized by Nigel Hughes and Dave Jacobs. Mark Webster will be addressing related issues in this year's Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop. Other fine symposia supported by DSEB are "Worm Net," on the evolution and development of annelids and organized by Ken Halanych, and "Vertebrate Dentition," on the evolution and development of teeth and organized by Moya Smith.

We will also have 7 students competing for the division's Best Student Paper award at the meeting. We need volunteers to judge these presentations; 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 me at [dlsvider@umich.edu](mailto:dlsvider@umich.edu).

As you prepare for the meeting, consider topics you would like to have as the focus of a symposium and email your ideas to me. Your suggestion will not be automatically treated as an offer to organize said symposium, but I won't stop anyone from volunteering. And while you're thinking of such things, if you submitted an abstract and feel that important key words or topics in the areas of systematics and evolution were missing from the lists, send those to me as well.

---

### **Message from the Secretary**

*Pat Reynolds*

As many of you now know, Don Swiderski was elected as Chair-elect, and Michele "Nish" Nishiguchi as Program Officer, of the Division. Congratulations to them and thanks to all our candidates. Please consider serving the division as an officer, and don't feel shy or self-promoting in expressing your interest in standing for election; we need candidates!

As I wrote in the Spring newsletter, we and the other divisions have been charged with revision of our bylaws, and the proposed changes were placed online at that time. Many of the proposed changes aim for consistency across divisions in offices, terms, and other aspects of divisional business. Since the Spring newsletter, we have made a minor modification to the proposed bylaws; SICB Program Officers agreed in September to eliminate division affiliation requirements for the Best Student Paper awards, and to limit the number of times a particular individual can win a Best Student Paper award in the Society to one for a poster and one for an oral presentation. Our proposed bylaws now reflect this.

Please review the proposed changes. Email any comments to me <[preynold@hamilton.edu](mailto:preynold@hamilton.edu)> or any of the Officers, and bring your thoughts to the Divisional Business Meeting in San Diego where we will discuss them and vote on their adoption. Please come to the meeting to discuss the changes even if you don't have an opportunity to consider them at length beforehand; we need a quorum to vote on these changes, and we need to complete this work (and demonstrate that we can do so!).

I look forward to meeting many of you again in San Diego!

---

### **Upcoming Meetings of Interest to the Division**

Evolution 2005 will be a jointly sponsored conference of the Society for the Study of Evolution, the Society of Systematic Biologists, and the American Society of Naturalists. It will be held June 10–14, 2005 at the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and hosted by the Institute of Arctic Biology and the University of Alaska Museum of the North. Further information at: <http://www.evolution05.uaf.edu/>

## Division of Vertebrate Morphology (DVM): 2004 Fall Newsletter

### In this newsletter:

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

### Message from the Chair

*Frank Fish*

For many of us, another academic semester has started and all we can think of is when it will end so that we go to SICB in January. This time the site is San Diego, which is one of my favorite places to visit. With the San Diego Zoo, Scripps, and Sea World, this is a fantastic venue for any zoologist. In addition, you can go to Old Town for great restaurants or up to Point Loma to have one of those California spiritual experiences as you watch the sun set into the Pacific Ocean. The meeting is set to convene at the Town and Country Resort and Conference Center in San Diego from January 4 through 8.

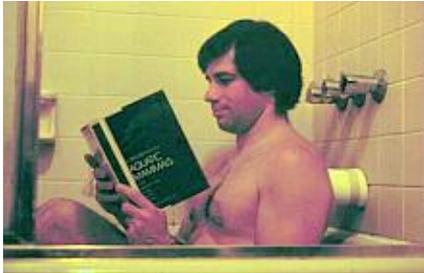
I was most pleased to see so many people in attendance at the seventh meeting of the International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology. The meeting was held in Boca Raton, Florida at Florida Atlantic University July 27 to August 1. The delegates in attendance totaled 448 and represented 30 countries. It was great to have such an opportunity to get together with morphologists from all over the world. The meeting ran smoothly because of the fantastic efforts of Jeanette Wyneken, Beth Brainerd and Monica McGarrity, president of the FAU student organization, ECOS (Environmental Conscious Organization of Students). Surely, the next scheduled ICVM will be hard to match this one, even if ICVM-8 will be in Paris, France.

At the end of the up-coming SICB meeting I will be stepping down as the chair of the DVM. Beth Brainerd will be replacing me as chair of the division and I cannot think of a better person to lead the DVM. As I step down, I would like to thank everyone for their support and willingness to help. Audrone Biknevičius has been sensational as DVM secretary, and Bret Tobalske and now John Bertram as program officers have provided us with a continuation of quality symposia, talk and posters. It is the effort of all the DVM members that makes the DVM not only the best division in the SICB, but maintains a high scientific standard, which keeps morphology as an important and innovative discipline. If you are interested in serving on committees, such as the Davis Award Committee, please email me at [ffish@wcupa.edu](mailto:ffish@wcupa.edu). Rick Blob, Miriam Ashley-Ross, Lance McBrayer, Matt McHenry, and Natalia Rybczynski did an exceptional job on the Davis Award Committee last year. I hope that I can get some equally enthusiastic volunteers for this year's committee.

Finally, although I will be vacating the position of DVM chair, I plan to continue to contribute to DVM and to come to meetings. And so with apologies to Steinbeck, I'll be all around in the dark of the seminar room. I'll be at every meeting and in every lab. Wherever there's an animal so uncooperative that you can't collect data, I'll be there. Wherever there's a broken EMG lead, I'll be there. Wherever there's a granting agency beating down your budget, I'll be there. I'll be in the way people yell after their manuscript was rejected five times, and I'll be in the way graduate students laugh when they present their PowerPoint on data collected only an

hour before. And when morphologists are cited in textbooks and have their laboratories funded, I'll be there, too. Have fun and let's all get together to talk science at SICB in San Diego.

*Note from the Secretary:* If you're wondering what Frank will do with all of his free time after stepping down as chair at the 2005 SICB annual meetings, peek at the images below. Warning: One of the images is a bit risqué!



Frank is never far away from water.



Frank with his special friend – Shamu.

---

## Message from the Program Officer

*John Bertram*

I am writing this letter as I return from the program officers organizing meeting. I can happily report that Kate Loudon and the Divisional Program Officers (DPO) have done an excellent job in organizing another great meeting. My personal thanks go out to Don Swiderski, the experienced DPO of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology, who went out of his way to help me, novice that I am, to organize some great sessions for DVM. There will be lots going on at the San Diego meeting, so I strongly recommend using the online program managing system, rather than depending solely on the hardcopy program you get on arrival at the meeting. As thoroughly as the organizers try to juggle the information in the program, it is impossible to give everyone all the information they need as conveniently as they would like to have it (everyone else's information seems to get in the way). The solution is the personally organized scheduling system, available through the meeting website. Of course, this means that some forethought and prior planning is needed.

The venue this year promises to make the meetings convenient. I particularly like the fact that the meeting rooms are adjacent to the out of doors, so we will not have to feel that we've been cooped up in a hermetically sealed environment for the entire meeting. The sessions appear to be conveniently located and opportunities for socializing during and after the meetings are well taken care of. The poster sessions run without concurrent sessions later in the afternoon when folks are ready to stretch their legs and chat with their colleagues at their posters. Although the conference center is not in downtown San Diego, it is located adjacent to the electric commuter train which provides quick and convenient service directly to Old Town, downtown San Diego, the beaches and even Tijuana (but do try to keep track of your grad students, we don't want any international incidents).

The DPOs had some discussion on the topic of the Best Student Paper awards society-wide. Although the BSP awards are funded and awarded by the Divisions independent of the Society, the integrative nature of the society and the blurring of the boundaries between divisions that occurs in much of our members (and their students) work, means that many students sign up to compete for awards in areas in which their particular divisional membership can make them ineligible. This is a headache for the DPOs to track, but may also mean

that students with worthy projects are not given the recognition they deserve. At this year's business meeting I am going to propose (in concert with the DPOs of their respective divisions) that we streamline our bylaws so that all divisions have the same eligibility requirements for BSP awards. We suggest that students be eligible to compete if their work is appropriate to the interests of the division, regardless of their official affiliation. We are also going to suggest that students be eligible to win only one award for an oral presentation and one award for a poster presentation society-wide within their student career. I list this issue now so that the division membership can consider these suggestions in advance of the meeting, which will hopefully generate some well considered discussion on the subject and a decision that represents the true feeling of the division.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all in sunny San Diego in January (if not the streets of Tijuana). Cheers,  
John

---

### **Message from the Secretary**

*Audrone Biknevičius*

1. 7th International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology, Boca Raton, Florida, USA – The Congress brought together 448 morphologists representing 32 countries. The Congress kicked off with a plenary lecture by David Kingsley linking morphology and patterns of gene expression in the skeleton. Each subsequent day brought together participants for diverse symposia, contributed papers and thought-provoking plenary topic by experts (Drs. Herring, Galis, Rieppel, Aerts, and Witmer) bringing forward their diverse approaches to within morphology. Fifteen oral symposia, 4 poster symposia and 4 workshops covered fields as diverse as Finite Element Analysis of Vertebrate Skulls to Organization of Neural Crest and Placodes to Teaching Comparative Anatomy. Others ranged from Adhesion in Vertebrates to Linking Genes and Morphology to Applications of Advanced Imaging Technologies. Needless to say, this account just touches on a few topics to give a flavor of what we had at our disposal and leaves out many equally exciting topics that produced a tremendously important dialogue. For those who were unable to attend or attendees who might want to revisit the some of the presentation ideas, the program and abstracts are available on-line at <http://www.iconferences.org/icvm7/abstracts.shtml>.

The business meeting, presided over by ISVM President Jim Hanken and Secretary Matthias Starck, let us thank the many volunteers who made the scientific program so robust, the student volunteers and co-hosts who made ICVM-7 a successful major event, and let us welcome our president elect Marvalee Wake. There was enthusiastic support for proposed venue of ICVM-8 to be Paris, to be convened by Jacques Castanet and his colleagues.

As expected, when a group so geographically diverse comes together, of course ideas were exchanged; discussions ranged from the tame to the dramatic; new collaborations were forged and new friends were made and many of the future directions of morphology were hatched or fledged at this Congress. Attendees were treated to Florida hospitality, culture (the local music was bit loud for many) and, when not in the talks or at the posters and exhibits, delegates were entertained by vertebrate fauna that make Florida Atlantic University their home. (Submitted by Jeanette Wyneken and Beth Brainerd)

2. More on 7<sup>th</sup> International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology, Boca Raton, Florida, USA – Check out some of the highlights that were reported in the 3 September 2004 issue of *Science!* ICVM–8 will return to Europe and will be held in Paris in the summer of 2007. (Submitted by Matthias Starck)  
**Science Vol 305, pp 1396–1397 (PDF file)**
3. Erratum – It was noted in the spring newsletter that the Marvalee Wake "minisymposium" at the New Orleans meeting was organized by "Kurt Schwenk and Wyatt Korff". The symposium was actually organized exclusively by Wyatt (Marvalee's last grad student). Kurt, however, is organizing/editing a Festschrift volume for Marvalee (which is where the confusion comes from) – but it is a separate, though obviously related, effort. (Submitted by Kurt Schwenk)