

Division of Animal Behavior (DAB): 2004 Fall Newsletter

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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