

Division of Invertebrate Zoology

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DIZ Officers & Representatives

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James B. McClintock
Program Officer 2008-2011

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Jennifer Burnaford
Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship Committee Chair

Robert W. Thacker
ICB Editorial Board Representative 2010-2015

Message from the Chair

Dianna Padilla

Dear fellow invertebrate zoologists,

Happy Fall!

Get ready for Salt Lake!

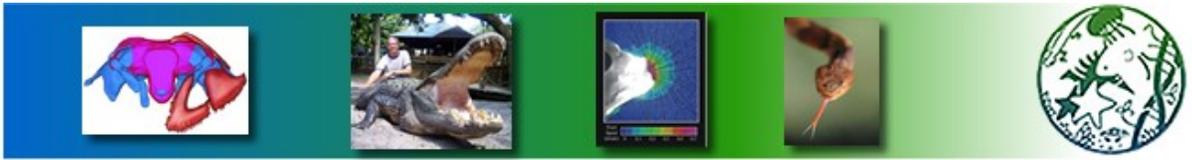
I hope many of you are preparing for the meeting in Salt Lake. Based on Jim McClintock's Program Officer report, it is going to be a great meeting. We will have many great symposia that include invertebrates, and an abundance of oral presentations and posters! This will be Jim's last meeting serving as our Program Officer. I want to thank him for all of his hard work and really doing a great job for DIZ. He has represented us very well each year at the annual program meeting, and has helped usher through many excellent symposia on our behalf.

John Zardus will be our new Program Officer at the end of the Salt Lake City meeting - Welcome John! Jim has left very big shoes to fill, but I am sure John is up to the task. You can congratulate John and thank Jim at our social on [Wednesday, January 5, in the foyer of](#) the convention center in front of room 252B from 6:15 to 8:15 pm. Also, please be sure to put the DIZ business meeting into your schedule! We will be meeting on Tuesday, so check the program for the time and room number.

In response to the business meeting in Seattle, I have requested that the Executive Committee reconsider how divisional budgets are controlled. At present we have no discretionary money. All of the divisional budget must be spent on symposium support and our social at the meeting, both determined by the Program Officer. We are no longer allowed to pay for the Society membership of student presentation award winners as we did in the past. Hopefully, we will address this at the Executive Committee meeting at the beginning of our meeting in Salt Lake. I will be reporting on this at our Tuesday business meeting, as well as on all other issues from the Executive Committee meeting. Please let me know of any other issues you would like addressed. I will see if I can get them on the agenda.

As usual, we will be looking for volunteers for judging best student presentations and posters at the meeting. Consider vol-





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unteering. Beth Davis-Berg will be organizing the DIZ judging this year. If you would like to volunteer to judge, please contact Beth (edavisberg@colum.edu).

It is not too early to consider organizing a mini-symposium or organized set of contributed papers around a single theme for the Charleston meeting in 2012. Mini-symposia and focused oral sessions can provide an excellent catalyst for new areas of research or hot topics, and can provide an excellent venue for in-depth discussions. Anyone can organize them - and I especially encourage graduate students and postdocs to consider organizing one. John Zardus will be the person to talk with - he will be the person representing DIZ contributions in the program, but I am sure Jim will be willing to answer your questions as well. Sessions that can be linked to Grand Challenges questions and issues are especially welcome!

Encourage Donations

As most of you are aware, we in DIZ are committed to supporting students in a variety of ways. There are two important student awards that currently need your financial help. Due to the drop in the stock market, our investments are not producing the returns they did in the past. At the same time, costs continue to rise, making the financial challenges faced by students even greater.

Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship. Libbie Hyman was an extraordinary zoologist, and a woman well ahead of her times. She completed her PhD in 1915, studying regeneration in annelids at the University of Chicago, where she also worked as a laboratory assistant. During her time at Chicago, she was invited to write several



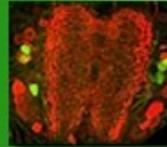
important laboratory guides on zoology and a text on vertebrates. In 1931, with the royalties of her published books providing an adequate living, she resigned her position at Chicago, spent 15 months touring Europe, and then returned in 1936 to the American Museum of Natural History in New

York to begin her six-volume treatise on the invertebrates. She became an unpaid research associate of the museum in order to use the library, and they provided her with an office for the rest of her life. She worked alone on the treatise, compiling notes from books and scientific papers for an account of each invertebrate group. She also illustrated each volume, and took art lessons to make her illustrations professional. She spent many summers at marine laboratories studying the animals and making illustrations, including Bermuda Biological Laboratory, Marine Biological Laboratory, Mt. Desert Island Biological Laboratory, and Puget Sound Biological Station, which is now the Friday Harbor Laboratories.



Libbie Hyman

The Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship supports a student for their first field station or marine laboratory experience, either for research or course work on invertebrates. Currently the award is around \$1200, but we would really like to see it increase. Our last auction, in 2009, produced a much-needed infusion of donations to this fund. We will be planning another



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auction at the meeting in San Francisco in 2013 - so plan ahead. In the meanwhile, please consider making a contribution in any amount.

Dorothy M. Skinner Award. The Skinner Award is in memory of Dorothy Skinner and her many contributions to crustacean biology. Dorothy Skinner's passion for invertebrates began when as a student she took a course on Experimental Invertebrate Zoology at the Marine Biological Laboratory. You can read about the many contributions of Dr. Skinner and the impact of her career on invertebrate zoology in papers from a symposium dedicated in her honor, which was published in Volume



Dorothy M. Skinner

39 of the *American Zoologist* (1999). The Dorothy M. Skinner Award is for travel to attend the annual meeting for a female Ph.D. student or postdoc. Based on SICB rules, this fund is currently not generating enough interest income to sustain the award. At present, you can contribute to the endowment or you can make a donation that can be used in the current year, which would allow us to make an award. <Insert DIZ 2010 -2 FIG03 Skinner>

Information about these funds can be found at:

<http://www.sicb.org/students/awards.php3#support>

Donations can be made on line at:
<https://ssl4.westserver.net/birenheide/sicbcart/donations.php>

Check the box at the top if you are willing to have your donation used this year.

Changing of the Guard

Each of the three elected officers of DIZ serves a three-year term. They are staggered so that each year we have one new officer, and each year we have an election for the officer whose term will end after our next meeting. This year we will be electing a new Chair for DIZ. My term will end after the 2012 annual meeting in Charleston - how time flies when you are having fun! If you are interested in serving on the nominations committee, please let me know. My goal is to have a nominations committee formed before we meet in Salt Lake. We will need a slate of candidates shortly after the meeting for our elections in the spring.



Lumbering Limpets

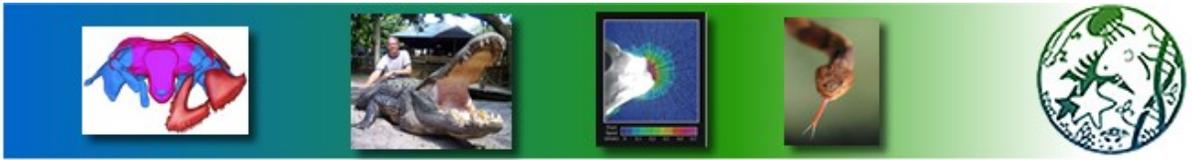
Grand Challenges

Our society continues to lead the way identifying the Grand Challenges of Organismal Biology (GCOB). Several essays have been published in *Integrative and Comparative Biology*, and more will follow this year. Brian Tsukimura, the SICB Program Officer, is leading the effort to get the community of organismal biologists to discuss and decide what we need to make progress on addressing GCOB. If you are interested in this effort and have ideas, talk with Brian at the meeting.

New Ideas for DIZ?

Do you have ideas of things





you would like to see DIZ do in the future? Is there something we could or should be doing, or an issue on which we should take leadership? Let me know (padilla@life.bio.sunysb.edu)!

This semester I am teaching Invertebrate Zoology. I am constantly looking for new and exciting materials that will make my students as excited about invertebrates as I was when I took my inverts course from Alan Kohn and Paul Illg at the University of Washington. At the Seattle meeting some suggestions were made that DIZ could take more of a leadership role in providing a venue for teaching materials for Invertebrate Biology courses and a focal point for highlighting the use of invertebrates as models for studying a variety of current issues, from indicators of pollution to sentinels of climate change. If you would like to help me with this effort, please let me know your suggestions! I am going to find out what all we can and cannot do through the SICB web page. I would also like your ideas about having public access versus SICB members-only access to these web pages with teaching ideas. Hopefully we can start to get something tangible rolling at the Salt Lake Meeting.

I am looking forward to seeing you all in Salt Lake! Happy Invertebrates!

Dianna Padilla, Chair DIZ

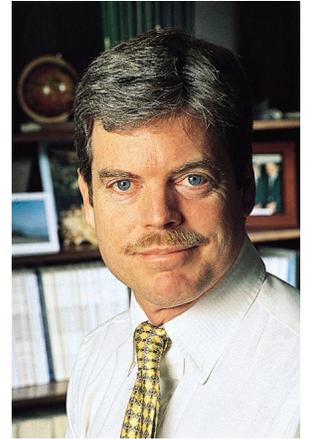


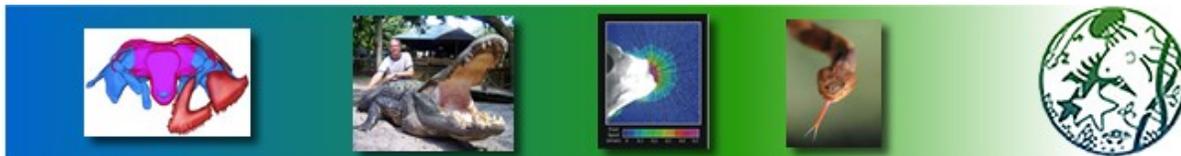
Message from the Program Officer

James McClintock

The Program Committee Meeting held in September in Salt Lake City, Utah, set the stage for what is certain to be another outstanding SICB conference. The January 3-7, 2011 annual meeting promises to boast the third largest attendance in our history. Judging by the backdrop of the soon-to-be snow covered peaks of the Salt Lake cityscape, and a long list of exciting symposia, it is little wonder. You will once again be delighted with the lay-out for the conference. The Marriott Hotel, one of our two hosting hotels (reserve early if you want to be sure to secure a room in the Marriott) sits right across the street from the Salt Lake City Salt Palace Convention Center where all of the oral presentations, posters, symposia and plenary talks will take place. The architecture of the convention center is stunning, with lofty ceilings and plenty of glass. Importantly, the convention ballroom that will host the poster sessions is large enough to house a football field, and as such there will be plenty of room to relax and meander amongst the posters and meet new and old colleagues. We will once again be hosting a DIZ social with our colleagues from the Division of Ecology and Evolution, the American Microscopical Society and the Crustacean Society. This social is scheduled in the foyer of the convention center in front of room 252B from 6:15 to 8:15 pm Wednesday evening, January 5. Get there early to enjoy the finger foods and cash bar.

As usual, DIZ is sponsoring or co-sponsoring a number of outstanding symposia at the Salt Lake City SICB meetings. Amongst these is the society-wide symposium *Speciation in Marine Organisms* organized by M.P. Miglietta, F. Santini and A. Faucci. Others in-





clude *Bioinspiration: Applying Mechanical Design to Experimental Biology* organized by B. Flammang, *Environmentally-Cued Hatching across Taxa: Embryos Choose a Birthday* organized by K. Martin, and *Population Dynamics in Crustaceans* organized by J. Buhay. All in all, these symposia promise to enrich a bounty of contributed oral presentation and posters.

Amazingly, my three-year appointment as your Program Officer has flown by. The good news is that John Zardus is our newly elected Program Officer. John has already hit the ground running, having submitted an outstanding proposal to host his own symposium at next year's Charleston meeting. My sense is that John will be a wiz at continuing the momentum to ensure that DIZ plays host to outstanding symposia over his tenure as our Program Officer. And of course, I cannot log off without thanking Dianna Padilla, our Division Chair, for her insights, support, and enthusiasm. I wish you all much success in your many endeavors and look forward to seeing you in Salt Lake City!

Message from the Secretary

Erika Iyengar

I would like to echo Dianna's call for submissions to our web page to facilitate dynamic teaching of not only Invertebrate Zoology, but more broad-based introductory level courses such as ecology, evolution, and even introductory biology through the use of materials involving invertebrates. Have a great idea that you have used to capture your students' interest using invertebrates to illustrate a scientific principle? Do you have intriguing information to highlight the role of invertebrates as study systems, harbingers of change, or exemplars of evolutionary adaptation? Do you just have

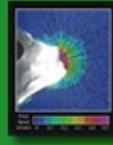
cool, intriguing, or even humorous images of invertebrates in action? I teach all my Introductory Biology students (all 175 of them) how to "worm dance" when we cover the diversity of life. "The worm dance" is actually a series of at least 6 different dances, each one representing a different vermiform taxonomic class or phylum. Yes, I require all of the students to get up in class and practice. Many have said it is one of the most poignant memories they have of the entire semester. Intrigued? Or even scared, for those of you who have seen me dance? I am planning to video it this semester and will post it on our web page. I am not sure if that is a promise or a threat. . . you decide. Don't let me dance alone! Share your thoughts, ideas, and photos through our web page. Shamelessly promote your own research on invertebrates by posting a picture and paragraph describing your research on the Researchers Database. We currently have only 11 researchers listed in our researchers database, and our membership is much larger than that. I need to get my own page (including that video) in there—but will by the January meeting! Why not make that a goal for yourself as well? Please send any submissions to me at iyengar@muhlenberg.edu. See you in Salt Lake!

Message from the Graduate Student - Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Jann Vendetti

Dear graduate students and postdocs,

I hope that you had a productive summer of fieldwork, coursework and/or research and are excited for SICB 2011 in Salt Lake City. Check out the SICB website (<http://>



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Looking for *Alderia modesta* (a sacoglossan sea slug) in the mud flats on San Francisco Bay

www.sicb.org) for details on sponsored symposia including "Speciation in Marine Organisms" and "Environmentally Cued Hatching Among Taxa: Embryos Choose a Birthday."

The Student/Postdoc Workshop at this meeting will focus on mentoring and mentorship. Topics will cover what to look for in a mentor, how to set up a successful relationship with a mentor, and why these interactions are important. I would like to thank the new chair of the Student/Postdoc Affairs Committee, Dr. Peggy Biga of North Dakota State University for coordinating this workshop and acknowledge Dr. Larry Riley (California State University, Fresno) for chairing this committee over the past few years.

The workshop at the 2010 Seattle meeting, "Careers outside of Traditional Academia" presented a range of perspectives on biology-related jobs from publishing to government. If you are interested in more information on these careers and those within academia, have a look at "science careers" on the AAAS journal *Science's* website (<http://sciencecareers.sciencemag.org>).

You'll find a variety of webinars on non-

traditional careers, job searching, and networking, as well as links to funding resources, advice for graduate students, and science podcasts to keep you current with what's happening in your field.

Finally, if you are thinking of applying for the DIZ Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship for invertebrate research in 2011 (deadline March 4, 2011) you can find field stations across the country offering courses this summer at the Organization of Biological Field Stations website: <http://www.obfs.org>.

Enjoy SICB in Salt Lake!

Jann Vendetti, Ph.D.

Postdoctoral Researcher, Cal State Los Angeles

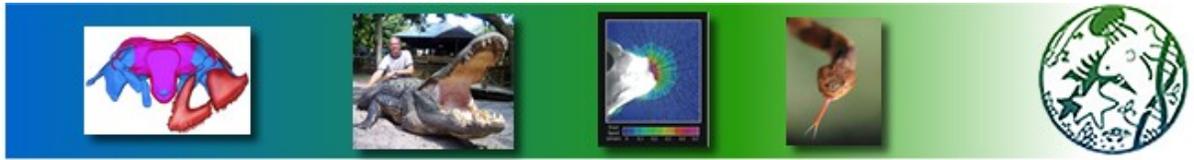
jannvendetti@yahoo.com



Ecolania coerulea



Stiliger fuscovittatus - Sea slugs (sacoglossans) that Jann is incorporating into the *Encyclopedia of Life* as part of her postdoc



Message from the Student Awards Committee Chair

Beth Davis-Berg

Another meeting is almost upon us, and we anticipate many students to vie for DIZ's Best Student Paper and Poster awards. I encourage **all** post-graduate members who are attending the meetings in Salt Lake City to sign up as judges. Attendees will have the option to sign up as a judge during on-line registration. However, you are still welcome to sign up as a judge by contacting me directly at edavisberg@colum.edu. Judges are asked to referee 4 or fewer presentations.

We will allow judges to choose talks to judge via the web. Judges will go online and select the talks they want to judge, first come first choose. Another reason to indicate your interest early! When the schedule is complete, I will email your assignments and judging instructions—typically late December.

I would like to thank all past judges for their time and effort, and ask for their continued help. If you have not volunteered as a judge, I strongly encourage you to volunteer. It is fun and a great way to help out the division! Judges are often in short supply yet necessary to continue to offer student awards. If you have any questions about what is required of a judge, please email me (edavisberg@colum.edu).

Looking forward to seeing everyone in January,

Beth Davis-Berg

Message from the Libbie Hyman Scholarship Selection Committee Chair

Jennifer Burnaford

As new member and Chair of the Libbie Hyman Scholarship Committee, I look forward to working with committee members Will Jaekle and John Zardus and webmaster Ruedi Birenheide to support student research on invertebrates. We hope to hear from yet another group of strong candidates in 2011 -- so please encourage your best students to apply!

Applications for the 2011 award are due March 4, 2011. The application form is available at <http://sicb.org/grants/hyman/>. If you or your students have questions about the application process, please feel free to contact me via email (available at that site).

One of our continuing goals is to increase the number of awards to two per year, so we encourage you to contribute to the Scholarship Fund. Click on Donate to SICB on the SICB home page (<http://www.sicb.org>) or send a check 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. Thanks for your help!