

Division of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology

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Message from the Chair

Patrick O'Connor

SICB—Salt Lake City 2011 is drawing ever closer and DSEB is co-sponsoring a number of exciting symposia. Our very own program officer Mike Alfaro will be continuing the annual (and growing in popularity) Phylogenetics for Dummies workshop. This is open to students, postdocs, and faculty...so take advantage of this as part of your SICB experience. Sign up will take place later in the fall.

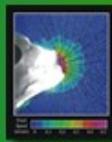
You are also welcome to join us for the divisional business meeting scheduled for Wednesday January 5, 2011 in order to share your ideas and/or become more involved with divisional activities. Please visit the DSEB Researcher Database (<http://www.sicb.org/divisions/DSEB/researchers.php3>) and contribute your own profile so that others can become more aware of the research-diverse membership of our division. Finally, please consider becoming involved with the division by helping us judge our best student paper competition. You can either sign up during the on-line registration or by contacting Mike Alfaro directly. Have a great fall and hope to see you in early 2011.

Message from the Program Officer

Mike Alfaro

I've just returned from the SICB Program Committee meeting in Salt Lake City and am excited about the upcoming meetings. The location is great! The hotel and convention center are right in the middle of downtown with many tasty restaurants within easy walking distance. We will also be just a few blocks from a train that offers free transportation to many nearby points of interest and shopping centers.

Judging from the abstracts, we are in for a terrifically stimulating meeting. We had almost two hundred submissions in the general area of evolutionary biology and have a strong line-up of symposia. I am especially looking forward to the session on marine speciation. DSEB will also be hosting an **Introduction to R Workshop** with a focus on comparative phylogenetics. Check the meeting website for updated information. See you all soon!



Message from the Secretary

Todd Oakley

I will echo Pat and Mike's enthusiasm for Salt Lake. I visited for the first time in February, and had a great time doing science by week, and skiing by weekend. An ongoing challenge for me as SICB secretary is to encourage members to submit their biographies and pictures for the **Researchers Database**. I'll start trying to ask people in person, but if you're reading this, why not take a few minutes right now and send me a photo, a brief description of the research project, and a title.

I would also like to encourage students to participate in the "best student presentation" competition. If you know (or happen to be) an outstanding student, encourage her or him to compete in the competition.

Finally, we have a new Program Officer-Elect. Congratulations and thank you to Rachel Collin who will serve as the Program Officer-Elect for one year beginning in January and then serve a three year term as Program Officer of DSEB. See you in SLC!