



Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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DCE Officers & Representatives

Mark Sheridan
Chair 2010-2012

Erica Crespi
Secretary 2011-2013

Rosemary Knapp
Program Officer 2010-2012

Rebecca Calisi
Student/Postdoc Representative 2010-2012

Robert John Denver
ICB Editorial Board Representative 2008-2013

Message from the Chair

Mark Sheridan

Charleston, SC Annual Meeting

I am looking forward to seeing you in Charleston, SC this January 2012 for a very exciting meeting.

Rosemary Knapp, our divisional program officer, reports that the upcoming meeting will be the largest in history. We have 87 contributed papers/posters, including 48 entries for best presentation. We are co-sponsoring the society-wide symposium entitled "The Impacts of Developmental Plasticity on Evolutionary Innovation and Diversification" as well as co-sponsoring three regular symposia. Please see Rosemary's message below for details.

I am pleased to announce that this year's Howard A. Bern Lecture will be given by **Lynn Riddiford**. The title of her presentation is "How Does Juvenile Hormone Regulate Insect Metamorphosis and Reproduction?" We received several outstanding nominations, and I would like to thank the nominators as well as the nominating committee (Rebecca Calisi-Rodriguez, Erica Crespi, Penny Hopkins, Rosemary Knapp, Steve McCormick, and Stacia Sower) for their work.

Bern Endowment Fund

The Bern Endowment Fund needs your support! The balance of the fund at present is \$7,314. If you have made a contribution—Thank you! The principal amount needed before proceeds can be used to support the lecture is \$25,000.

Contributions to the Howard Bern Lecture Fund can be made in the following ways:

On-line at <https://ssl4.westserver.net/birenheide/secure/sicb/cart/donations.php>

By sending a check to:

SICB
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd.
Suite 402
McLean VA 22101

(be sure to write "Bern Fund" on the memo line)



Lynn Riddiford, Senior Fellow of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute and National Academy of Sciences member, will be the 2012 Howard A. Bern Lecturer



SICB Newsletter

Fall 2011 Issue

Update on Division Awards for Best Presentation

Following the approval of the changes to our divisional bylaws, I am pleased to announce that both of our awards for best presentation at the annual meeting are now named after distinguished members of our division. The award for best oral presentation is the **Aubrey Gorbman Award**. The award for best poster presentation is the **Lynn Riddiford Award**.

Changes to the bylaws regarding eligibility requirements for these awards also were approved. To be eligible, competitors must be 1) a member of SICB and 2) a student-in-training member, a graduate student member, or an individual who has received their Ph.D. within 12 months of the competition. The work presented must be original and must have been carried out principally by the competitor presenting the paper.

Changes to NSF Proposal Process

The Directorate for Biological Sciences (BIO) of the National Science Foundation (NSF) has initiated new procedures for the submission and review of regular research proposals to the core programs within the Division of Molecular and Cellular Biosciences (MCB), Division of Environmental Biology (DEB), and Division of Integrative Organismal Systems (IOS). The changes for MCB were previously announced.

DEB and IOS will both implement an annual cycle of preliminary and full proposals beginning in January 2012. Preliminary proposals will be accepted in January. Following review by a panel of outside experts, each applicant will be notified of a binding decision to Invite or Not Invite submission of a full proposal. Please note that each investigator is limited to submitting two preliminary proposals a year to either Division, whether as a PI, co-PI or lead

senior investigator of a subaward.

All proposals submitted to DEB or IOS in response to the core program solicitations, and to the Research at Undergraduate Institutions (RUI) and Long-term Research in Environmental Biology (LTREB) solicitations, must pass the preliminary proposal stage. The only exceptions are LTREB Renewals. RAPIDs, EAGERS, conferences/workshops and supplemental funding requests will continue to be accepted at any time by IOS and DEB programs. Proposals submitted in response to special solicitations (e.g. BREAD, CAREER, CNH, EEID) will remain unaffected by these new review procedures. However, OPUS and RCN proposals will only be accepted by the core programs in DEB and IOS once a year at the August deadline for full proposals.

For more details, I urge you to see <http://www.nsf.gov/pubs/2011/nsf11078/nsf11078.jsp?org=NSF>

Call for Nominations for the Bargmann-Sharrer and Pickford Lectures at 17th ICCE

The Council of the International Federation of Comparative Endocrinological Societies (IFCES) requests nominations for the Bargmann-Scharrer Lecture and for the Pickford Medal Lecture to be given at the 17th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology in Barcelona, Spain, July 15-19, 2013. The Bargmann-Scharrer lecturer should be a prominent comparative neuro-endocrinologist. The Pickford medalist should be a comparative endocrinologist under the age of 45. Please send a letter of nomination and a CV of the nominee to Robert Denver (rdenver@umich.edu) by December 2, 2011.

Highlights of North American Society of Comparative Endocrinology (NASCE) Meeting



The inaugural NASCE meeting was held July 13-16, 2011 in Ann Arbor, MI. There were over 330 attendees and 234 abstracts. The program consisted of 20 symposia, including a 50th *General and Comparative Endocrinology* anniversary symposium, which DCE co-sponsored, seven plenary lecturers and seven workshops/panels. The next meeting will be held at the Universidad Nacional Autónoma de México (UNAM), Campus UNAM-Juriquilla, Querétaro, Mexico in 2013 (dates to be announced).



Bob Dore, University of Denver, visiting one of the many posters at the NASCE meeting in held in Ann Arbor, MI.

Message from the Program Officer

Rosemary Knapp

I am very much looking forward to another stimulating SICB meeting in a beautiful city. I recently returned from the Program Committee meeting where we assembled the abstracts into sessions and also had a chance to tour the hotel and convention center facilities for our upcoming meeting in Charleston. The facilities are excellent.

Charleston is a beautiful city and there will be a complimentary shuttle service to take registrants back and forth from the Convention Center to downtown Charleston for dinner and sightseeing the evenings of January 4, 5 and 6. Check the website for "Notes from the Underground" regarding restaurants and things to do and see as the meeting gets closer. The Embassy Suites Hotel at the Charleston Area Convention Center is the meeting headquarters. The lodging cost at the Embassy Suites includes made-to-order warm breakfast and a complimentary 'happy hour' each evening, and the suites are spacious, which facilitates sharing a suite, making the meeting hotel a great value.

For members who might be interested in a babysitting service during the meeting, there is a survey related to potential needs as part of the registration form. In early November Burk and Associates will look at the survey results and report them to the Executive Officers. The Executive Officers will then determine if childcare will be available during the meeting based on the results of the survey. So if this service would be of interest to you, please complete the survey (and, of course, register for the meeting) as soon as possible.

In Charleston, DCE will be co-sponsoring the Society-wide Symposium "The Impacts of Developmental Plasticity on Evolutionary Innovation and Diversification" organized by Matthew Wund. DCE is also co-sponsoring three Regular Symposia: "Mangrove 'Killifish': an Exemplar of Integrative Biology" organized by Ed Orlando, Ryan Earley, Brian Ring and David Bechler; "EvoDevo Rides the Genomics Express" organized by Billie Swalla; and "Comparative Proteomics of Environmental and Pollution Stress" organized by Lars Tomanek.

We have a new addition to the meeting this year that we think many of you will find very useful for your research. Following up



on discussions among several people at last year's meeting, we will be initiating the first of what we plan to be a regular series of workshops on new (or new to many of us) methods in statistics and other forms of data analysis. Erica Crespi has been working hard to get this idea off the ground at the Charleston meeting. So this year, we kick the series off with a statistics workshop on Survival Analysis. See a full description in Erica's section below.

SICB members identifying themselves as belonging to DCE submitted 87 abstracts, including 48 from students competing in our best student presentation competitions: The Aubrey Gorbman Award for best oral presentation and the inaugural year of the Lynn Riddiford Award for best poster presentation. Joe Casto has graciously volunteered to chair the judging again this year. Thank you Joe! With this many competitors, I know he will be looking to have as many of us help judge as possible! In addition to the abstracts for which an "H" topic (Regulatory Biology) was the first topic choice, many other abstracts had an H topic as their second or third choice. Thus, you can look forward to **more than 185 presentations** covering some aspect of endocrinology at the meeting. Comparative endocrinology, from molecular and cellular to ecological, will be well represented at the Charleston meeting.

As Mark Sheridan mentioned, this year's Bern lecture will be presented by Lynn Riddiford. Please plan to join us the Thursday evening of the meeting for her presentation and a social immediately following. Our divisional meeting will also be held Thursday before the Bern lecture.

Finally, I want to remind you that this year's meeting will again be a full 4 days (Wednesday-Saturday, plus the plenary session Tuesday evening). This year's meeting will be the largest in history, with 1,455 abstracts submitted, and total attendance is sure to be even higher. There will be sessions on endocrine topics on all days and

times of the meeting, and each day will include at least one DCE-sponsored symposium. So please plan to stay the entire time if your schedule at all permits.

See you in Charleston!

Message from the Secretary

Erica Crespi

2011 Officer Elections

Congratulations to the Chair-Elect Mary Mendonça of Auburn University, and the Secretary-Elect Rachel Bowden, of Illinois State University. We also thank Penny Hopkins and Darren Lerner for showing their enthusiasm for DCE by running for these positions.



Mary Mendonça



Rachel Bowden

Biostatistics Workshop at the Charleston SICB meeting:

"Survival Analysis: Not just for survival anymore"

While many researchers are trained with a firm foundation in general linear models, biostatistical methods are more diverse and are constantly improving. The days of the ANOVA and assumptions of linearity are gone! On **Wednesday, January 4 at 7:30-9:30pm**, Jesse Brunner of Washington State University will lead a workshop that will review the statistics, assumptions, and applications on survival analysis, an analytical tool that can be



applied to a variety of questions in comparative endocrinology, behavioral ecology, developmental biology, and biomechanics. Experimental designs amenable to using these statistics also will be discussed, and participants will receive instruction on how to run these analyses in the statistics package R. Participants will have the opportunity to bring their own data to work with, or work from practice datasets that will be provided. Look for more information about the workshop in the coming months.

Meetings to keep on your extended calendars:

10th International Symposium on Avian Endocrinology, Gifu, Japan. June 5-9, 2012
<http://www.isae2012.org/>

Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology, Madison, WI, June 15-18, 2012

Endocrine Society Meeting, Houston, TX, June 23-26, 2012

10th International Congress on the Biology of Fish, Madison, WI, July 15-19, 2012

7th International Symposium on Fish Endocrinology, Buenos Aires, Argentina. September 3-6, 2012

17th International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology, Barcelona, Spain. July 15-19, 2013

Message from the Graduate Student and Post-doc Representative

Rebecca M. Calisi-Rodríguez

Hello fellow hormone enthusiasts. Mark your calendars for the upcoming meeting Jan 3-7 in Charleston! Make sure to register by Nov 12th if you are presenting, or by Dec 3rd if you are not. Prices go up after that, so get moving! The abstract deadline has come and gone, but even if you are not presenting, attending this meeting is a great way to network (be it for M.S. or Ph.D. programs/advisors, post-doc op-

portunities, grants, field assistants, jobs, etc.) as well as hear about exciting current work going on in your and other fields.

Events specific to students and post-docs:

Student and Post-doc welcome meeting and orientation on Wednesday, Jan. 4th, at 5:30 pm that will discuss how to get the most out of the meeting.

Student Workshop on Friday, Jan. 6th (topic has yet to be announced).

SICB Society-Wide Social in Honor of Students and Post-docs on Saturday, Jan 7th from 4-6 pm, at which we, the brilliant students and post-docs, will be rightfully honored.

And don't forget to check out...

The Employment Opportunity bulletin board in the SICB Registration/Information area. You can schedule rooms to meet with people at the conference to learn more about these opportunities – just ask for more information from a registration desk attendant.

The message board, also in this area. It is there for you to leave messages, announcements, etc. for other attendees.

Other sources of funding/awards (and their deadlines)

[Click here](#) for more SICB Awards and Scholarships for Students, which include:

- Best Student Paper awards for best meeting poster/presentation
- Grants in Aid of Research
- Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel
- Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship

[Sigma Xi: Grants in Aid of Research Program](#) (Mar 15 & Oct 15)

[National Science Foundation](#) (various links to different programs are at this link)