



## Division of Comparative Endocrinology

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### DCE Officers & Representatives

Stephen McCormick  
*Chair 2012-2014*

Mary Mendonça  
*Chair Elect 2012-2014*

Rachel Bowden  
*Secretary 2012-2015*

Ignacio Moore  
*Program Officer 2011-2014*

Molly Dickens  
*Student/Postdoctoral Affairs 2013-2016*

### Message from the Chair

Steve McCormick, [Chair.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:Chair.DCE@sicb.org)

The upcoming meeting in Austin in January promises to be excellent. As Lyle Lovett says, "That's right you're not from Texas, but Texas wants you anyway," and Austin should be an especially welcoming and enjoyable city. We are co-sponsoring three symposia ("Stress, condition and ornamentation," "Adaptation or developmental constraint? Uniting evolutionary theory and empirical studies of phenotypic plasticity" and "Methods and mechanisms in ecoimmunology"), and of course there will be many sessions dedicated to topics of interest to comparative endocrinologists. The data blitz, a huge hit in its first year in San Francisco, will be returning to the DCE social. Please see Program Officer Ignacio Moore's portion of the newsletter (below) for more details of the Austin meeting.

It is my great pleasure to announce that this year's **Bern Lecturer** will be Professor **Louis Guillette** of the Medical University of South Carolina. Professor Guillette is one of the world's leading figures in endocrine disruptor research. In 2010 he was awarded the prestigious Heinz Science Medal for his work in the area of environmental health, is a Fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and one of only 30 Professors of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute. He is internationally recognized for his research in the field of reproductive endocrinology and developmental biology, having published over 300 papers and edited five books. Professor Guillette and colleagues have shown how environmental toxicants interact with the endocrine system of wildlife species and alter their development and reproductive health. Thanks to Ed Orlando for the effort he put in to putting together Lou's nomination package, and of course to Lou for accepting. For those who haven't heard Lou speak before, you are in for a real treat.

*Lou Guillette*



In 2015 the annual meeting will be held in West Palm Beach, Florida and in Portland, Oregon in 2016.

One of our continuing challenges as a Division is to develop symposia that are of wide interest to us as comparative endocrinologists. In contrast to the many symposia proposed for the San Francisco meeting (more than twenty), there were rela-



tively few proposed initially for Palm Springs. We should look at this as an opportunity to propose timely and exciting symposia for 2016 that have an excellent chance to be approved. I would encourage you to bring ideas for symposia and sessions to discuss in the hallways and at the business meeting in Austin. Even if you can't organize one yourself, getting the ball rolling is half the battle.

Elections were held this spring for two positions in our division. Thanks to all who ran for office and to the nominating committee (Chair Mary Mendonça, Mark Sheridan and yours truly). Congratulations to Chair-Elect **Michael Romero**, and to Secretary-Elect **Sarah Woodley**. We look forward to showing you the ropes over the next couple of years (and then the real work starts...).

This will be my last newsletter as your Chair, as my term will end at the end of the Austin meeting. I am pleased to say that the Division is in good shape; we currently have the highest membership in the last 15 years and our finances are sound. One of the great joys of this position is getting to know new colleagues, and I can tell you that the current officers and those about to come on board are talented, dedicated and a pleasure to work with. You are in good hands! Mary Mendonça will be taking over as Chair at the end of the Austin meeting. Please share your energy, ideas and talents with Mary and the other officers to help move our field forward. It has been a rewarding experience to be your Chair, and I look forward to many more years of Comparative Endocrinology at SICB.

### Message from the Program Officer

*Ignacio Moore*, [DPO.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:DPO.DCE@sicb.org)

The Program Committee meeting for the Austin SICB meeting just occurred and it looks like we are in for another great conference. I did not attend the meeting as I am on sabbatical in Ecuador, but luckily Rosemary Knapp was able to attend in my place and she did a great job. We worked very hard to put together the best conference program possible, not only for DCE, but for the society as a whole. We had the second highest total number of abstracts ever and thus had quite a challenge to put together the program while minimizing overlap.

There are many exciting symposia (DCE-related and otherwise) and even more contributed presentation sessions. We also have a special session honoring **John Wingfield**, the founder of the field of Environmental Endocrinology and a past president of SICB, on the occasion of his 65<sup>th</sup> birthday. As a Division, we will have 10 contributed paper sessions and 71 posters. We did our best to make sure there is something of interest to members of our Division on every day, but there will be some inevitable overlap of oral sessions (as happens when there are 15 concurrent sessions). We will be having a full slate of talks on the final day of the meeting (Tuesday, January 7), so keep that in mind when you make your travel plans. The full program will be posted on the SICB website very soon if it is not already up by the time you read this newsletter.



*John Wingfield*

This year we have a major change in contributed presentations. They will now be 15 min long TOTAL. Please plan your presentations appropriately so you do not go over time. This change was necessary to include the ever increasing number of presentations and is another tangible measure of the recognized importance and excitement of SICB's annual meeting.

We have a major change in the DCE **Gorbman Student Oral Presentation Competition** this year. Instead of having a completely open competition, we had chief judge **Mark Haussmann** work with the other judges to select the top three submissions for the presentation judging. These three talks will be presented in their own session. The DCE **Riddiford Student Poster Presentation Competition** has remained open, but we have scheduled all presentations on the same day. Both of these competitions will take place on the Saturday, the first full day of the conference. These changes should make both of the competitions easier to manage and judge and also provide us all a better opportunity to see the great work being conducted by young scientists!



The Bern lecture will be given by **Lou Guillette** and it promises to be great. We will follow the lecture with the DCE reception. This social will be combined with some of the symposia socials to help reduce events that would be competing for our members' attendance. In addition, we will have the second annual **Data Blitz** during the social. Last year, this event was lots of fun and this year promises to be as well.

Please plan on talking to Steve, Rosemary, and/or me about planning a symposium for future conferences. We already have some great symposia planned for 2015 in West Palm Beach and we need to keep the momentum going for the future.

### Message from the Secretary

Rachel Bowden ([Secretary.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:Secretary.DCE@sicb.org))

DCE members, I am looking forward to seeing you in Austin in January. Just as a reminder, the **deadline for early registration is December 2, 2013** – don't delay, register today!

**Congratulations to Michael Romero**, of Tufts University, and to **Sarah Woodley**, of Duquesne University. Michael was voted the new Chair-Elect, he will serve in this capacity from 2014-2016, and will take over as Chair at the end of the 2016 meeting in Portland, OR. Sarah was voted the new Secretary-Elect for DCE and will serve in this position from 2014-2015 and will take over as Secretary at the end of the 2015 meeting in West Palm Beach, FL.

*L. Michael Romero*



*Sarah Woodley*



Thanks to Creagh Breuner and Peggy Biga for their willingness to run for DCE Chair-Elect and Secretary-Elect, respectively. If you would like to be considered for a position as a DCE Officer, please contact any of the current officers.

Before you leave for Austin, take a few minutes and submit your information to the **DCE Researcher's Database**. It's a great way to let other members know about your research program. All you need to do is submit a title, a brief statement of your research program, and an image or two to me. Check out our current database submissions at: <http://www.sicb.org/divisions/DCE/researchers.php3>

Do you need to announce an upcoming meeting, or get other important information out to the DCE membership? Send your announcements to me at [Secretary.DCE@sicb.org](mailto:Secretary.DCE@sicb.org) no later than the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month and I will have the included in the **Monthly SICB Member Update**.

### 2014 Meetings to mark on your extended calendars:

- 16<sup>th</sup> European Congress of Endocrinology, Wrocław, Poland May 3-7.
- Joint meeting of the International Congress of Endocrinology and the Endocrine Society, Chicago, IL June 21-24.
- Joint meeting of the Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology and the International Congress of Neuroendocrinology, Sydney, Australia August 17-20.
- Society for Neuroscience, Washington, DC November 15-19.



## Message from the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Molly Dickens, [m.dickens@berkeley.edu](mailto:m.dickens@berkeley.edu)

Hard to believe another SICB meeting is just around the corner! There are quite a few things for students and postdocs to look forward to at the Austin meeting in January. First, for those of you who attended last year's DCE social in San Francisco, you may remember the awesome Data Blitz challenge hosted by **Rebecca Calisi-Rodriguez**. Good news - we are doing it all over again this year! Two minutes, two slides, as much data as you can pack into a few entertaining breaths. If you are interested in participating (and you are a student, a postdoc, or an assistant professor) please contact Becca ([beccacalisi@gmail.com](mailto:beccacalisi@gmail.com)).

## Additional SICB meeting specifics to mark on your calendars:

### Workshops and Programs

- Student First Timer/Student Worker Orientation: "How to Get the Most Out of Your SICB Meeting," Friday (1/3), *note: this is mandatory for Charlotte Magnum funding recipients.*
- **[Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Workshop: "Developing a web presence"](#)** **[Broadening Participation Committee Workshop: "Recruitment strategies to obtain a diverse and thriving lab/department"](#)** Saturday,

(1/4), 12-1:30 PM.

- **[Broadening Participation Committee Workshop: "Writing grants and manuscripts in a timely manner"](#)** Monday (1/6) 12-1:30 PM.
- Society-Wide Wine & Cheese Reception in Honor of Students and Postdocs, Tuesday (1/7) 4-6pm

## A few more SICB 2014 things to keep in mind...

Three student finalists will be competing in the Aubrey Gorbman Best Student Oral Presentation Competition. All of the finalists will be presenting in a single session so come out and show your support!

There will be an Employment Opportunity bulletin board near the SICB Registration/Information area. This is an area to post "Positions Wanted" as well as cruise through "Positions Available". There is a room available to schedule interviews between interested attendees and information will be available at the registration desk.

A Message Board will also be located next to the Registration desk to leave messages and announcements for attendees.

If you are looking for someone to split hotel costs with, SICB can help - **[Roommate Matching Service](#)**