DEE Business Meeting
Friday Jan. 4, 2019
Tampa, Florida

5:48 pm, Cox called to order

Cox (chair) Welcome and general introduction.

Dillon, Secretary report
Cox and Dillon are outgoing officers, Ghalambor (chair) and Muñoz (secretary) incoming officers as of end of meeting. Martha Muñoz will lead the election process for secretary-elect, for which we should recruit candidates.

Padilla: The nominating committee should be sure to target the diversity of DEE to select new candidates.

Muñoz: It would be great to have suggestions for officer candidates from the general membership.

Nish, Program Officer report
2162 registrants, DEE is cosponsoring 6 symposia at the 2019 meeting. As always, ideas for new symposia are critical and the DEE officers are happy to discuss possibilities and coach interested members through the symposium development and application process.

Cox: We need more symposia proposals. For several years, most (if not all) submitted proposals get accepted. NSF provided over $120K for SICB symposia in 2019. SICB will now cover the entire registration cost for symposia participants. As the biggest division in SICB, DEE should be leading several symposia.

Huey award winners: Anthony Gilbert, Ohio University (talk), Joel Abraham, Yale University (poster)

Budget: Moving forward, budget numbers are available in real time, making it more straightforward to manage expenses and plan. With recent adjustments to the DEE budget following audits, most accumulated funds are gone so the new budget for 2020 will be about $2700-2800, based on membership.

J.H. Alder: How much of the budget do we spend?

Cox: We get fixed funds for the social and the Huey Award. We currently spend the majority of our discretionary budget on Beer and Brains. With recent changes, it should now be possible to better project discretionary budgets if we decide to collect additional funds from members.

Cox, Report on Fall 2018 member survey (see attachments): 218/1055 members responded

Executive committee visit:
Introductions
Alice Gibb, secretary: Please encourage graduate students to participate in elections.
Susan Williams: Solicit and encourage ideas for DC symposia.
Jake Socha: Happy to hear ideas for improving the meeting program
Adam Summers: The new society journal, Integrative Organismal Biology (IOB) is soliciting manuscripts.
Lou Burnett: Important to work on how best to broaden participation in leadership and society awards, among other things.

Cox, Report on Fall 2018 member survey (continued):

J.H. Alder: Can faculty withdraw themselves from consideration for participation [in Beer and Brains] to help ensure as many as possible get to participate?

Kobiela (student member): What is the #1 goal of the Beer and Brains event?

Cox: It gives students the opportunity to interact directly with faculty in a fun, informal setting.

Kobiela (student member): There are complementary ways to facilitate student interactions with faculty that wouldn’t be so expensive. For example, DEE could organize lunches between students and faculty based on shared interests. Also DEE could facilitate a mentorship program.

Student member #2: Could select faculty from different areas and at different stages to give short talks and then answer student questions.

Sears (past chair): The DEE social is another opportunity for this sort of interaction.

Padilla: Is it a good idea to continue to spend all discretionary funds on Beer and Brains given that only ~45 students per year can attend? Or would it be better to do something else?

Cox: From the survey, there is overwhelming support for the event. But, perhaps if we raised additional discretionary funds (by charging a divisional fee, for example), we would be able to include more students in Beer and Brains and/or do additional things.

Padilla: Before asking the membership to pay divisional fees, someone should specify exactly what the additional funds would be used for.

Munoz: The overwhelming demand for participation in Beer and Brains and the survey suggest it is an important and appreciated DEE event.

[Continued run-through of survey results]

adjourned: 6:48 pm

Respectfully submitted by M. Dillon on Jan. 9, 2019 (outgoing secretary)

[Survey data and analyses available from the DEE chair]