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Message from the President

Martin E. Feder

This is my final report to you in the SICB Newsletter. It has been my privilege to serve as President, and to meet and interact with so many of you. I hope my service has left SICB as a stronger and more capable organization to serve your needs as integrative and comparative biologists, and a more visible representative of our community to the scientific community at large. Marvilee Wake, of the University of California at Berkeley, will become President at the end of the Chicago meeting; please welcome and support her. Kimberly Smith will also step down as Treasurer in Chicago, and will be succeeded by Ron Dimock of Wake Forest Univ. Kimberly leaves as his most obvious legacy the 'free drink ticket' at the annual meeting, but has had a major but less visible impact on the operations of SICB. Our robust financial state is due in no small part to him. I also congratulate the winners of our Spring elections, who will take office towards the close of the Chicago meeting: President-Elect John Wingfield (Univ. of Washington, Seattle); Program Officer-Elect, Stacia Sower (Univ. of New Hampshire), Member-at-large, Dianna Padilla (SUNY Stony Brook); Education Council Chair, Wendy Ryan (Kutztown Univ., PA).

When SICB undertook strategic planning in the summer of 1999, one immediate conclusion was that SICB needed to have a somewhat larger membership to function effectively, which led us to ask how to increase our membership. The primary answer, as usual, is to continue to host an annual meeting of great scientific and educational interest and with enormous professional value to full members, postdocs, and students. Elsewhere in this newsletter you'll see that our Program Officer, John Pearse, has again risen to this challenge. Our 2001 Annual Meeting in Chicago will include 15 symposia or special programs, an opening presentation by paleontologist Paul Sereno and Alan Kohn's Past-Presidential Address, a 'town meeting' on teaching of evolution, new and improved social events, and our usual program of oral communications, poster sessions, and Divisional meetings. For the first time, some of these events – especially those that reach out to new members – will be supported by a special 'Program Innovation Fund' we have established.

But even a superb annual meeting may not be enough. Indeed, another recommendation of the strategic plan was that we establish a greatly expanded electronic presence — a 'bio-portal'. We are a society of more than 2000 individuals with enormous expertise in all manner of research techniques, organisms, comparative databases, educational techniques and approaches, sources of funding, etc. Many of us are students looking postdoctoral mentors, postdocs looking for jobs, or faculty looking for students, postdocs, and colleagues. All of us, from time to time, either seek or are responsive to collaborators. Our problem is that, except by word of mouth or by chance encounters at our annual meeting, it is often difficult to access the treasure trove of expertise and opportunity that the SICB membership represents. The bio-portal may solve this problem. It is an expanded version of our website in which SICB members may enter their expertise, wants, and needs; the result can be searched by anyone who points to the site. For example, if you want to know something about use of strain gauges, copepod systematics, or design of PCR primers, you will be able to use the portal to locate members with this expertise. If you want to find animations useful in teaching muscle physiology or evolution, the portal would lead you to these. The incentive to join SICB is that, while anybody can search the portal, only SICB members would be eligible to enter their own information in the portal to be searched. Please take time to visit the portal and enter your own information, wants, and needs. For browsing, the entry point is now the same as our old SICB home page, <http://www.sicb.org>. To begin your personal entry on research expertise, help wanted, or position(s) sought, point to <http://sicb.org/submitportal.php3>. You will need your SICB member number to validate the entry; this can be found in any email from SICB Headquarters. To enter an educational link, either your own or others', point to <http://sicb.org/educators/submittedulink.php3>. Obviously, this database will require you to enter information for it to become valuable to yourself and others, so please proceed to do so.

Another target of opportunity is our society's journal, presently known as *American Zoologist*. As our Treasurer, Kimberly Smith, is fond of reminding us, institutional subscriptions to this journal are a major source of revenue and underwrite everything else SICB does (including our annual meeting). Making the journal more valuable to our institutional subscribers comes back to help us. Almost two years ago John Edwards and a consortium of colleagues at the University of Washington began to edit the journal. They faced several problems in mastering the mechanical aspects of producing the journal, which we hope are now behind us. The publication of SICB symposia will likely always be a significant component of the journal, but the editorial consortium is now turning its attention to prospective additional components: reviews, opinion pieces, etc. As I write, they are in the process of developing a plan to bring these additional components to fruition. Please feel free to offer John your advice and contributions.

Still another aspect is the name of the journal itself, *American Zoologist*. Some feel strongly that this name enjoys excellent (and well-deserved) recognition and should not be changed, and others find 'Zoologist' old-fashioned and exclusive of integrative and comparative biologists who work on organisms other than animals. In many ways, this debate recapitulates a debate of several years ago on the name of the society. Our various publication advisory boards have themselves debated this issue for several years now without closure. Technically, the name of the society's journal is specified in its constitution, which means the constitution must be amended to change the name of the journal, which requires a vote of the membership. Your Executive Committee has decided that this technicality represents an opportunity for the entire membership to express its feelings on the name of the journal. In January, the Executive Committee will decide on the best alternative title to be placed before the membership, and then a vote will be taken by mail. In the meantime, if you have a pet name you'd like considered ("Integrative and Comparative Biology", "Journal of Integrative and Comparative Biology", and "Journal Formerly Known as American Zoologist" have already been suggested), please contact SICB Headquarters.

Finally, the most direct way to increase the membership is for you to recruit new members. I ask you actively to recruit your colleagues, mentors, and trainees to SICB. SICB has implemented several new policies that we hope will make this easier:

- We have reduced the more expensive dues categories by about 10% for 2001. The new lower dues rates are at <https://secure.aibs.org/sicbmembers2001/membership.asp>.
- We continue to offer a \$35 reward for each new full member recruited.
- For years we have charged non-members extra to register for the annual meeting. This year we'll charge non-members the same amount as members plus one year's dues. Thus, any nonmember who attends our annual meeting will automatically become a member for one year (and hopefully more). If you'd like to recruit members, just convince your prospects to attend the Chicago meeting; they'll automatically become members.
- We've appointed a new membership committee: Al Bennett (chair), George Lauder, and Kathy Packard. Contact them for help and/or advice.

Some of you may be reticent to recruit new members because you're not quite certain how to rebut some of the more common non-member responses. Far be it from me to put words in your mouth, but:

When they say: "SICB is a society in trouble."

YOU should say: SICB has withstood the challenges of the last decade and now enjoys considerable financial and intellectual health. Even our newest members will have heard tales of a time, now nearly a decade ago, when SICB nearly went bankrupt, assessed every member \$200, and increased all membership costs precipitously. This was the last straw for many members, who quit SICB. Others may have quit because they believed that integrative and comparative biology was passé or out of favor at academic institutions or with funding agencies. In this decade, both molecular biology and environmental biology are turning to integrative and comparative biology for answers in such areas as

functional genomics and global climate change. Indeed, our annual meeting has been featured in *Science* and *Nature* during the past few years, and support for the research and educational activities of our membership continues to expand at federal funding agencies. Our newest Division, Evolutionary Developmental Biology, is a scientific 'rising star.' As for the financial crisis, we now have more than \$1,000,000 in the bank. But financial actions speak louder than words: we have decreased the meeting registration fee, abolished the abstract fee, and will reduce the dues rate for full members in 2001.

When they say: "SICB is too expensive to join."

YOU should say: During last year's strategic planning we compared our dues and fees with those of other societies, and discovered that ours were in fact relatively expensive—for the following reason: In the midst of the legendary 'financial crisis', SICB (or actually ASZ) had no alternative but to increase the costs of membership and registration. SICB then paid its debts, but needed to accumulate some buffer against future problems and so did not roll back costs. We have now accumulated this buffer and signed on with a much less expensive management company. This allowed us to reduce meeting registration costs in 2000, eliminate abstract fees for 2001 (Chicago), and roll back dues for 2001. These costs are now in line with or less expensive than those for other societies with which we compare ourselves.

When they say: "It's STILL too expensive to belong to SICB and to attend the meeting. Shouldn't costs be cut still further?"

YOU should say: We could indeed cut costs further, but not without losing some things members say they want. For example, we have an extremely generous cost structure for graduate student members. Dues and meeting registration are trivial (\$37 and \$70, respectively), and we provide financial aid to EVERY graduate student member who submits an abstract and requests it. We hear from non-student members that these programs are so important that they'd rather pay higher fees than cut back on the programs [If this is not true, we need to know.]. Another example is that we hold our meetings at convention hotels. We could move to less expensive university campuses, but only by changing the time of our meeting to the summer. [By the way, our recent poll tells us that just as many members could attend an end-July to early August meeting as an early January meeting; we will need to consider this very carefully!]. Also, members say they actually enjoy and prefer the amenities of convention hotels.

When they say: "The Annual Meeting no longer attracts those I MUST interact with at a meeting and, while I like the Annual Meeting, I have to give priority to other meetings."

YOU should say: SICB is a diverse society and, for many Divisions, our annual meeting is THE major and must-attend meeting of the year. For others, there are numerous alternative meetings, some of which can be more essential. But, let's not forget two important features of our Annual Meeting. First, it is diverse, and diversity is a real asset. People with very diverse backgrounds and interests attend, and can provide truly diverse perspectives, advice, and findings of great benefit to those who attend. As one member told me during the past year: "I go to SICB meetings because there I get more good new ideas for research projects than anywhere else." Second, the SICB meeting is NOT a top-down-run meeting in which a small program committee chooses a favored few for platform presentations, with the remainder relegated to a poster meat-market. All members are welcome both to present and to choose the way in which they will present. The members control the meeting, and the members are welcome if not encouraged to implement program innovations. If you want to create a symposium, workshop, or special program involving those with whom you "must" interact, chances are that SICB will permit you to do so if not encourage it.

Again, I thank you for your help and advice during my presidency and look forward to welcoming you to Chicago.

Message from the President Elect

Marvalee H. Wake

Dear Colleagues:

President Martin Feder suggested that I write to you about the ideas and goals that I hope to pursue as I succeed him as President of our society. I've been a member of SICB, and its predecessor, the American Society of Zoologists, for most of my life—a realization that stunned me at first, then quickly told me why I believe that the society is so important and why it deserves my loyalty and any efforts I can give it. The society has brought to me, and to my students, a profound appreciation for organismal biology, *sensu lato*, and has given us all outstanding models of scientific integrity, innovation, and dedication.

First and foremost, I must place Martin Feder and Kim Smith in that pantheon of excellent scientists who are dedicated citizens of the biological community. I will thank them many times over the next two years for all that they have done to situate the society in a new position of strength, efficiency, and effectiveness, and I'm starting that with this letter. They have worked *daily* to build the society; their commitment is extraordinary and the time out of their lives and careers that they have given us is enormous. They have set us on a path that gives the society a new sense of its mission; the task now is to keep us on that path while expanding our roles and our activities to develop that mission. I remind Martin that Past Presidents play a major role in the society...and Kim, you can't get away either. I view our role during the next two years as one that encourages and fosters the impetus that has been set, and at the same time, broadens our perspective and our leadership in biology and the science of complexity generally—while maintaining our focus on integrative and comparative biology, and all that those terms mean. We must devote considerable time to consolidating our gains, to make it clear that the Society of Integrative and Comparative Biology is committed to serve its loyal constituency well, and then to extend that constituency as is appropriate to the mission of the society. We must work to make its voice on significant issues in biology, science more broadly, and societal needs more apparent, sought after, respected and appreciated, because it is based on our scientific expertise. We must communicate to our constituency the role, position, and perspective of our new management group, with whom I already enjoy working and seeing their expertise. More than anything, I think, we must encourage broader participation in the immediate and long-range activities of our society. We have a wonderful, stalwart group of loyal colleagues who serve the society in so many ways; at the same time, it is important that we enlist ever more participants—in the professorate and the profession generally, and our colleagues-in-training (= students)—so that we have both a continuum of service and a constant infusion of new ideas and perspectives. We will be seeking an ever-broader range of participation in all society activities. I would also like to see the society expand its perspective, but with a strong emphasis on its guiding principles of organismal, integrative, and comparative biology. These principles are not restricted to taxa or to geographic or political entities. I believe that we can foster a broader emphasis on biology by encouraging the participation of scientists whose taxa may not be zoological, or may be zoological *and* botanical *and* microbial, as well as colleagues from other nations who have simultaneously discovered anew the importance of our fundamental principles, to participate in our societal deliberations. We won't lose our appreciation for zoology and animals, in fact we can enhance it, but we can better inform that appreciation by communicating similar perspectives from colleagues in other fields and from other countries. We will benefit from a broader input of perspectives and ideas, and we can form new collaborations that support our teaching and research through involvement in SICB.

So, I see four major goals for the next biennium—increased participation, increased communication, increased input of perspective to and from the larger world, and representation of the contribution of integrative and comparative biology to science and society. The task is at once formidable, but exhilarating in its potential, and our course is well established. I welcome your commitment to these goals and to SICB, your advice, and especially your involvement in any way that you chose—please let me know directly what you would like to do. I look forward to working with you all!

Cordially,
Marvalee H. Wake

Message from the Program Officer

John Pearse

The [2001 SICB Annual Meeting](#), Jan. 3–7 in Chicago, is shaping up nicely and promises to be another great gathering of integrative and comparative biologists. It will open with an address by Paul Sereno of the University of Chicago on "Major Patterns of Evolution in Dinosaurs." Paul has made major discoveries of large carnivorous dinosaurs and is well known for his perceptive revelations of dinosaur evolution and his dynamic speaking style. Sereno's talk will be followed by a welcome reception where we can mix with new and old colleagues and friends.

The Chicago meeting will feature 15 symposia, covering a wide range of topics (see [2001 Annual Meeting Symposia in this newsletter](#)). Nearly all the divisions are sponsoring at least one symposium and DVM is sponsoring four. Included are a society-wide 2-day symposium on symbiosis, a plant and animal physiological ecology symposium co-sponsored by DCPB, DEE, and the Physiological Ecology Section of the Ecological Society of America, and two symposia focusing on teaching, one sponsored by the Education Council.

Many of us look forward to hearing Alan Kohn's past presidential address entitled "Deadly beauties of the southern seas: Integrative and comparative biology of *Conus*". Alan will tell of his nearly 50 years of insightful and productive research on these beautiful snails.

We received well over 850 abstracts for oral and poster presentations for this meeting, exceeding last year's number, and promising to make the Chicago meeting among our largest ever. As done in Atlanta last year, the oral presentations are being arranged by topic, with the assistance of the divisional program officers, to produce what we hope will result again in a coherent, rich, and exciting set of sessions every day. Because of our success last year with the oral presentations, we will arrange the poster presentations by topic as well.

In addition to the Grad/Postdoc Student workshop, there will be at least two other workshops. The Division of Systematics and Evolutionary Biology is continuing the "Phylogenetics for Dummies" series with this year's title being "Picking a Tree from the Forest". The hard-working Public Affairs Committee is arranging a Public Affairs Workshop on "Science Documentaries: Communicating Effectively". And, we will have a special town-meeting luncheon workshop where Eugenie Scott of the National Center for Scientific Education will lead a discussion on how to respond to creationists, including those promoting "intelligent design." Recent elections in Kansas, where the voters rejected anti-evolution school board members, show that well focused, rational arguments can be persuasive in this on-going, inflammatory issue.

We are pleased that we will be joined once again by the [American Microscopical Society](#), [Animal Behavior Society](#), International Society for Invertebrate Reproduction and Development, and [The Crustacean Society](#); both the American Microscopical Society and The Crustacean Society will be co-sponsoring symposia. In addition, it is a pleasure to welcome the [Physiological Ecology Section of the Ecological Society of America](#), who, as mentioned above, is co-sponsoring another of the symposia, and who we hope will help attract more plant biologists to our membership.

All in all, a great looking meeting. I look forward to joining you in Chicago to welcome in the first year of the 21st Century. See you there.

Message from the Treasurer

Kimberly G. Smith

During the first six months of 2000, the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology has experienced continued financial success. Net assets have grown from just over \$1,000,000 to about \$1,400,000. As I leave office after 3 years as Treasurer, the society is in fine financial condition. As I mentioned in the Spring newsletter, we have been able to reduce meeting registrations for full members, abolish the abstract fee, and reduce dues for full members. My last goal as Treasurer – making the annual meeting break even – may be a reality sooner than I think.

Over the last 6 months, we have been working closely with our new management company, Burk and Associates, to streamline the budget and to decrease costs across the board. From a financial standpoint, I am convinced that we did the right thing by hiring them as our management company. Through planning with our new staff, the upcoming Chicago meeting will lose less money than any meeting in recent history. They are committed to decreasing the cost of our annual meetings without sacrificing the quality of our meetings that we have come to enjoy. I trust that this will be a long and fruitful relationship. Indeed, Burk and Associates has never had a client leave!

Starting in January, the new Treasurer of the Society will be Ron Dimock, Professor of Biology at Wake Forest University, where he is Director of the Mussel Research Center. Ron has been a long-standing member of the society and very active in the American Microscopical Society, which meets annually with SICB. To learn more about Ron and his invertebrate research interests, click on <http://www.wfu.edu/~dimock/>

Although the society is in fine financial condition at the moment, Ron is going to be faced with some hard decisions over the next 3 years concerning the future financial strategy for the society. As I have mentioned before, the dark cloud on the horizon is the decreased revenue that the society is receiving from the American Zoologist. Most of the society's current revenue comes from institutional subscriptions, not subscriptions from members. Institutional subscriptions, particularly foreign ones, are decreasing at an alarming rate.

The society must develop alternative sources of revenues. From my perspective, increasing the membership seems to be the logical way to do it. Hopefully, the cost saving measures that we have been able to institute this year will draw some previous members back and generate interest among potential new members.

As my term draws to a close, I would like to thank all the people that have helped me over the last 4 years that I have served, first as Treasurer-elect and then as Treasurer.

As someone who has been a member for nearly 30 years, but who had not attended an annual meeting until 4 years ago, it has been a wonderful experience for me to serve the society. Fortunately, I served with a President, Martin Feder, who shared a vision of the future of SICB independent of its past. I trust that Ron Dimock and his President, Marvalee Wake, will be equally effective in moving the society forward into the new millenium.

Committee Reports

- [Educational Council](#)
 - [Program Advisory Committee](#)
 - [Public Affairs Committee](#)
 - [Student Support Committee](#)
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Educational Council

John Pilger, Chair

The Educational Council will co-sponsor two special events at the annual meeting in Chicago. The first, organized by Ali Whitmer, will focus on science education reform. Titled "Developing and Restructuring Science Curricula: A "How to" Symposium", it will feature sections on funding opportunities, university and educational resources and presentations by individuals whose programs represent outstanding examples of curriculum reform.

The second symposium is "Science, Entertainment and Teaching: Bringing Cutting Edge Biology to the Public and Teaching Community." Stuart Sumida and Elizabeth Rega have organized this unique daylong program. The two primary sessions are provocatively titled "Toys and Teaching: Lessons from Scientists" and "Entertainment Tools: Lessons for Scientists." A roundtable and panel discussion will follow.

As we step forward to begin the implementation of our strategic agenda two notable actions have begun. First, in an effort to accomplish the ambitious program we asked SICB members to allow the Educational Council to increase its membership from six to up to ten individuals. This request was passed by majority vote in the elections held earlier this year. We are now recruiting these members.

An important part of our strategic agenda is to consider ways we can build on the popular and important "Science as a Way of Knowing" symposium held about a decade ago. We are attempting to assemble a steering committee that will provide a vision for this venture by assessing potential target audiences, funding avenues and the manner in which it could be effectively disseminated.

The members of the Educational Council are always interested in hearing from others who value excellence in science education. Please feel free to contact any member with your thoughts and ideas. You are also welcome to attend the Council's business meeting.

Program Advisory Committee

Robert Dores, Chair

The Program Advisory Committee (**PAC**) has the following membership for 2000/2001: Albert Bennett (University of California, Irvine), David Carrier (University of Utah), Robert Dores (University of Denver; chair), John Edwards (University of Washington), David Epel (Stanford University), Theodore Garland (University of Wisconsin), Sue Herring (University of Washington), Gretchen Hofmann (Arizona State University), Fredric Janzen (Iowa State University), Elizabeth Jockusch (University of Connecticut), Jon Norenburg (National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institute), and John Pearse (University of California, Santa Cruz). **PAC** members are appointed by the president of SICB.

The charge of the committee is to evaluate proposals and initiatives that will facilitate the execution of the SICB strategic plan. Currently, **PAC** is evaluating proposals for the Innovative Programming Fund. The president has set aside \$25,000 for the current fiscal year to support proposals that will "expand the membership of SICB." In the first round we have been seeking proposals that will introduce new interest groups to SICB or improve divisional programming efforts.

The committee will meet in Chicago at the annual meeting to set the criteria for the next round of "Innovative Programming" proposals. These criteria will be sent to the division program officers and posted on the SICB WEB site. The next proposal deadline is April 1, 2001.

Public Affairs Committee

Miriam Ashley-Ross, Chair

The Public Affairs Committee is completing another successful year of facilitating communication between SICB and the public. For the Media Workshop at the upcoming SICB Annual Meeting in Chicago, our committee has selected the theme of Science Documentaries: Behind the Scenes. We will bring together several individuals who straddle the worlds of academia and film production to present their views on the process of making effective documentaries, how topics and scientists are chosen, and what it takes to bring the finished product to the audience. Participants currently include Geoff Haines-Stiles, Project Director of the "Passport to Knowledge" and "Live From£" series, and Tierney Thys, Science Editor of the upcoming "Shape of Life" documentary series. The workshop will be held on Thursday, January 4, from 1–3 pm.

The committee would also like to encourage members to attend several other events at the Annual Meeting dealing with communicating science to the public. Stuart Sumida and Elizabeth Rega have organized a symposium entitled: "Science, entertainment, and teaching: Bringing cutting edge biology to the public and teaching community." Several of the presenters have worked with film (including Disney) animators, so it promises to be very interesting. This symposium is scheduled for Friday, January 5. Ali Whitmer has organized "Developing and restructuring science curricula: A "how to" symposium," which will center on bringing the excitement of doing science into the classroom. This symposium will take place on Saturday, January 6. Finally, during the lunch break on Saturday, January 6, SICB will hold an "evolution town meeting," featuring Eugenie Scott as an invited speaker,

where strategies for countering the creationist onslaught will be discussed. All meeting attendees are invited.

The Public Affairs Committee will also be hosting a media reception on the opening night of the meeting to provide information to attending media representatives and allow symposium organizers to present the contents of their symposia first hand. We encourage all symposium organizers to plan to attend this reception.

Student Support Committee (SSC)

David W. Borst, Chair

Grants-in-Aid of Research:

Last year, the SSC reviewed 96 applications for research grants and made 18 awards (total awards = \$12,000) to graduate students from 8 different divisions of the SICB. We anticipate a similar level of support this year. The maximum award is \$1,000; the average award for the past few years has been \$700.

Applicants should be aware of the following rules for receiving an award:

- 1) The applicant must be a graduate student currently enrolled in a degree program;
- 2) Applicants must be active members of SICB (they may join when submitting the application);
- 3) The award must be spent in direct support of the proposed study (no stipends or equipment purchases);
- 4) The applicant may receive only one GIAR award;
- 5) Awards are made payable to the individual recipients or to his/her department or university;
- 6) **No part of an award may be used for the payment of indirect costs to the recipient s institution .**

Deadlines: The deadline this year for receipt of applications AND letters of recommendation is November 15. LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE REVIEWED.

Application process: All applications AND letters of recommendation must be submitted **electronically** this year using the forms located on the SICB website. For more information, please visit: <http://www.sicb.org/grants/researchgrant.php3>

Travel Awards:

This program provides partial support to students attending the annual meeting. Last year in Atlanta, the SICB provided support for more than 170 students. Nearly every eligible applicant was supported. These awards typically cover either the meeting registration (worth \$70) or a free hotel room with other students (worth about \$150–200 depending on the location). Applications are due on November 17, 2000. Only students who are SICB members and who are **presenting authors** of a paper or poster may apply for a SICB travel award. If you are granted support of any type through the SICB Student Support Program you are **obligated to provide assistance during the meeting; failure to fulfill your obligation will cause immediate cancellation of your support**. For complete details of this program, visit the website (<http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2001/studentsupport.php3>).

Society News

- ◆ [SICB 2001 Annual Meeting – List of Symposia](#)
 - ◆ [International Biodiversity Observation Year](#)
 - ◆ [Relaunching Zoology](#)
 - ◆ [In Memoriam](#)
-

SICB 2001 Annual Meeting – List of Symposia

The 2001 SICB Annual meeting in Chicago will feature 15 symposia covering a wide range of topics. Many of them have webpages [posted on the SICB website](#). A brief look at each is given below.

Thursday, January 4

- ◆ **Vibration as a Communication Channel.**

Communication is a "hot" topic in behavioral circles today and one aspect of communication that is just now being explored by behavioral ecologists is vibration. This symposium will bring together for the first time scientists and engineers who are studying vibration in communication. Organized by Peggy Hill for DAB and DNB.

- ◆ **Starting from Fins: Parallelism in the Evolution of Limbs and Genitalia.**

One implication of parallelism is that the genetic material on which a given set of selective pressures act is more likely to be the same in a case of parallelism than in convergence. This symposium will examine parallelism in two major evolutionary transitions, from paired fins to limbs and from an unpaired fin to genitalia in disparate metazoans. Organized by Eduardo Rosa-Molinar and Ann Burke for the new Division of Evolution and Developmental Biology.

- ◆ **Motor Control of Vertebrate Feeding: Function and Evolution.**

The study of muscle activity during vertebrate feeding has exploded in the last 15 years, with virtually every major vertebrate group being examined, and a number of hypotheses being generated. This symposium will synthesize recent studies to re-evaluate these hypotheses. Organized by Michael Alfaro and Anthony Herrel for DVM.

- ◆ **Ontogenetic Strategies of Invertebrates in Aquatic Environments.**

Aquatic organisms are subject to selection from a variety of environmental factors to which they respond during development. This symposium will bring together physiologists and ecologists to better understand the resulting ontogenetic strategies seen in diverse invertebrates. Organized by Guy Charmantier and Donna Wolcott for The Crustacean Society, DEE and DIZ.

Friday, January 5

- **Stress: Is it more than a Disease? A Comparative Look at Stress and Adaptation.**

Over the past two decades there has been increasing interest in the neurobiology and endocrinology of the stress response in vertebrates. The goal of this two-day symposium is to examine the phylogenetic diversity of the endocrine stress response and explore mechanisms of adaptation from a comparative perspective. Organized by James Carr and Cliff Summers for DCE and DNB.

- **Molecules, Muscles, and Macroevolution.**

Recently functional morphologists have included modern tools such as high-speed imaging and electromyography to quantify animal behavior and muscle activity patterns. This symposium intends to present innovative research that extends beyond "traditional" functional morphology. Organized by Miriam Ashley-Ross, Alice Gibb, and Lara Ferry-Graham for DVM, DCPB, and DEDB.

- **Plant and Animal Physiological Ecology, Comparative Physiology/Biochemistry, and Evolutionary Physiology: Opportunities for Synergy.**

Plants and animals have distinct phylogenetic heritages and often interact with the environment in fundamentally different ways. Speakers in this symposium have been asked to examine common issues of environmental variation, stress, or adaptation from the plant or animals perspective to promote synthetic discussion. Organized by Martin Feder, Steve Hand, Jim Coleman, Vince Gutschick, and Arnold Bloom for the Section on Physiological Ecology of the Ecological Society of America, DCPB and DEE.

- **The "Lesser-known" Protostome Taxa: Evolution, Development, and Ecology.**

Many of the lesser-known protostome taxa, such as onychophorans, rotifers, nematomorphs, and kinorhynchs are becoming important for testing hypotheses of animal phylogeny, and it timely to re-examine what is currently known about them. That is what this symposium intends to do. Organized by Jim Garey for DIZ, DEDB, DSEB, and the American Microscopical Society.

- **Science, Entertainment, and Teaching: Bringing Cutting Edge Biology to the Public and Teaching Community.**

This imaginative symposium will combine for the first time research biologists and creative artists in the entertainment industry with the goal to highlight biological content in entertainment vehicles, novel teaching techniques, and scientific data of compelling use to both the entertainment and teaching professions. Organized by Stuart Sumida and Elizabeth Rega for DVM.

Saturday, January 6

- **Stability and Maneuverability.**

Mechanisms of stability and maneuverability in animals are concerned with both the physiology and mechanics of moving. This two-day symposium will bring together physiologists, morphologists, engineers, and mathematicians to seek common solutions. Organized by Frank Fish and Bob Full for DVM and DCPB.

- **Integrative Aspects of Epithelial Structure and Function.**

This symposium is a tribute to John E. Phillips who brought together three areas of research: epithelial structure, ion transport, and endocrinology. Organized by Tim Bradley and Mary

Chamberlin for DCPB.

- **Living Together: The Dynamics of Symbiotic Interactions.**

There are many types of symbioses at various taxonomic levels that are usually studied separately. This very broad two-day symposium will bring people together who work on many different systems, microbes, plants, and animals to foster symbiosis among the speakers. Organized by Mary Beth Saffo for DIZ and DAB as a Society-wide symposium.

- **Developing and Restructuring Science Curricula: A "How to" Symposium.**

As education is widely touted by political candidates, it is generally recognized that technological breakthroughs have far outpaced science curriculum development and faculty training. This symposium is designed to provide a toolbox for those interested in science curriculum reform. Organized by Ali Whitmer for the Education Council.

Sunday, January 7

- **Amphibian Metamorphosis.**

This minisymposium will concentrate on molecular, evolutionary, and hormonal mechanisms controlling amphibian metamorphosis, as a model system for understanding how hormones orchestrate development. Organized by Jai Menon and Robert Denver for DCE.

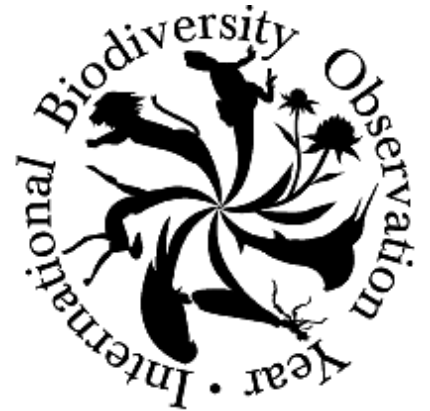
- **Taking Physiology to the Field: Advances in Investigating Physiological Function in Free-Living Vertebrates.**

Comparative and ecological physiologists have succeeded in describing numerous marvelous ways organisms are specialized for life in a variety of habitats. But most of this work has been done in the laboratory. This symposium explores how to proceed to looking at physiological function under natural conditions in the field. Organized by David Goldstein and Berry Pinshow for DCPB.

The International Biodiversity Observation Year, 2001–2002

Diana H. Wall and Gina A. Adams
Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State
University, Fort Collins, CO 80523–1499

A year to focus global attention on biodiversity and the sciences that explore it is being planned for 2001–2002 (Norris, 2000). The International Biodiversity Observation Year (IBOY) is an initiative of DIVERSITAS, the international program of biodiversity science sponsored by IUBS, SCOPE, UNESCO, ICSU, IGBP and IUMS.



An Initiative of DIVERSITAS
2001-2002

The IBOY is a window in time, for programs that examine biodiversity and its links to ecosystems and society, to communicate their findings and the importance of their work to a broad audience. Organizers hope that IBOY will generate the momentum, collaborations and public mandate required to advance international and integrated approaches to biodiversity research and conservation. For example, promoting coordinated, long-term, international biodiversity monitoring programs and new coalitions for swifter incorporation of scientific findings into the media, education and decision-making.

Planning for IBOY began in 1997, as scientists increasingly recognized the need to integrate the different dimensions of biodiversity research, in order to understand the links between biodiversity and sustainable ecosystems and societies. They also perceived an urgent need to communicate what is already known about these links, to provide accurate, science-based information on how changes in biodiversity may impact daily living.

An international Steering Committee, chaired by Diana Wall, and an Advisory Board of preeminent scientists and communicators, is directing IBOY towards its two primary goals, to:

- ◆ Promote and integrate biodiversity science, advancing a holistic understanding of biodiversity
- ◆ Educate the public about biodiversity, explaining the implications of biodiversity research and the opportunities for further discovery

At the core of IBOY is a diverse portfolio of international research, informatics and education and outreach projects, addressing the questions: What biodiversity do we have and where is it? How is biodiversity changing? What goods and services does biodiversity provide? and How can we conserve biodiversity?

Projects are participating in the IBOY at two levels:

Core Projects – over 40 projects, across more than 50 countries. Core Projects are international and will have a peak of activity and products during 2001 or 2002. They will be the focus of the IBOY's publicity and synergistic activities.

Approved Projects – are often smaller-scale projects. IBOY will highlight them through a web-based map and directory of biodiversity research and education projects occurring around the world in 2001 and 2002.

IBOY does not fund projects, but will highlight them, provide opportunities for networking and

cross-collaboration, and explain their significance to a broad audience. IBOY meetings will bring scientific disciplines together to advance integrated research and will build bridges between science, education and the media to improve transfer of science-based information on biodiversity into public and policy spheres. Other synergistic activities being planned include a television series and accompanying educational materials, media campaign, publications, webpages and participation in national biodiversity events.

Diverse approaches to examining biodiversity are coming together for the IBOY and will deliver urgently needed biological information on the status and trends of biodiversity and ecosystems. Scientific voyages of discovery are exploring little-known habitats to describe their fauna and flora and its distribution. For example in a project called DIVA, Dr. Johann Wagele will lead a joint Spanish and German expedition to examine patterns of deep-sea biodiversity along a latitudinal gradient of the Atlantic Ocean, and Dr. Tom Illife is leading a world-wide effort to survey the fauna and flora of anchialine (inland, salt-water) caves. AmphibiaWeb, (<http://elib.cs.berkeley.edu/aw/>), an interactive, web-based communication and database system, led by Dr. David Wake, will deliver information on status and trends of amphibian species and the ecosystems that they inhabit. Other projects are examining the functional diversity of ecosystems, such as a contribution from the FLUXNET network, directed by Dr. Dennis Baldocchi, that will measure the diverse metabolic patterns (CO₂, energy and water fluxes) of ecosystems in response to environmental factors. Other projects are examining the ability of biodiversity to provide ecosystem goods and services. For example, LITUS, led by Dr. Magda Vincx and Dr. Jan Marcin Weslawski will survey beaches from the tropics to the arctic, assessing the impacts of tourism on their biodiversity and productivity. It will publish its findings as guidelines for the public and policymakers. The Millennium Ecosystem Assessment (<http://www.ma-secretariat.org>) (MEA), coordinated by Dr. Walter Reid, will publish a protocol for the first science-based assessment of the status of the world's ecosystems and their abilities to meet future needs.

We are still accepting proposals for projects and welcome your suggestions and comments for making IBOY a global success. More information on how to get involved, or details on existing projects, can be found at <http://www.nrel.colostate.edu/IBOY>. Or by contacting Dr. Diana Wall (IBOY Chair) or Dr. Gina Adams (IBOY Program Officer), Natural Resource Ecology Laboratory, Colorado State University, Fort Collins, CO 80523-1499, USA. Tel: +1 970 491 1984; Fax: +1 970 491 3945; email iboy@nrel.colostate.edu.

References:

Norris S. 2000. A Year for Biodiversity. *BioScience* 50(2): 103-107

Relaunching *Zoology* – Call for Papers

Zoology is a journal devoted to the publication of original research papers in comparative and organismic studies in animal science. After years of struggle for existence a new group of editors, a new ambitious advisory board, and a professional editorial office have guided *Zoology* through a rejuvenation process to regain its position as an internationally recognized journal of zoology. We can offer high scientific standards, short review time, and a guaranteed publication time of three months after acceptance of a manuscript for publication. Color plates

are available free of charge at the editor's discretion. An on-line version of Zoology is published simultaneously with the printed journal.

For further information, aims and scopes, instructions for authors see our downloadable flyer in Portable Document Format (PDF) at:

<http://www.sicb.org/zoologyflyer.pdf>

or visit our webpage at:

<http://www.urbanfischer.de/journals/zoology>

or send a message to J. Matthias Starck at: zoology@pan.zoo.uni-jena.de

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In Memoriam

Ruth Turner

Ruth Turner, a member of ASZ/SICB throughout her career, was a pioneer in the field of marine biodeterioration research and a world authority on the biology of marine wood borers, particularly the shipworms. She began her career as an accomplished ornithologist but switched to malacology after meeting William J. Clench, curator of molluscs at the Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology in the early 1940's. In 1971 she became the first woman to dive in the research submersible ALVIN, as part of her pioneering experiments on the biological deterioration of wood in the deep sea. In 1976 she became Professor of Biology, curator in Malacology, at the Museum of Comparative Zoology. She was also a gifted self-taught scientific illustrator, as exemplified in her treatise A Survey and Illustrated Catalogue of the Teredinidae

Ruth was an amazingly modest person, despite her many accomplishments, and devoted herself to helping others. Indeed, Ruth gave hardly a thought to advancing her own career. It seems that she spent at least half of her time writing letters of recommendation for other people. And she was continually putting people up at her house --even people she had never met-- if they were visiting for a meeting or coming for a few days to work in the Harvard museum. It wasn't in her to ever turn anyone down: If she had one position open in her lab and 2 people applying for it, she would divide the job in 2 and hire both people. In short, if you were interested in biology, she was always there for you. She also loved teaching: surely hundreds of students, from 5th graders to undergraduates to graduate students, can attest to her infectious enthusiasm about biology, and marine biology in particular. Her knowledge and great friendship will be missed.

Jan A. Pechenik, Colleen Cavanaugh, Roger Mann

Division of Animal Behavior (DAB) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

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Message from the Program Officer

Peggy Hill

The Chicago meeting, January 3–7, 2001 will be here before we know it! DAB is co–sponsoring two symposia. "Vibration as a Communication Channel" on Thursday, January 4th, which I am organizing, is co–sponsored by the Division of Neurobiology. "Living Together: The Dynamics of Symbiotic Interactions", a two–day symposium organized by Mary Beth Saffo, is co–sponsored by the Division of Invertebrate Zoology and will be held Saturday and Sunday, January 6th and 7th. These are two of a dozen symposia that promise much for the Chicago meeting. Look for webpages on the SICB website (<http://www.sicb.org>) for more information.

If you have ever wished that you could get all your networking contacts together at the same time to discuss your "hot topic" and help stimulate each other's research, you have the seed that can grow into a symposium for 2003 or beyond! The 2002 meeting in Anaheim is currently being planned, and we have two proposals under review with joint sponsorship of DAB and DNB. Anyone interested in convening a group for meetings beyond Anaheim should contact any of the DAB officers at Chicago. Or, we all answer e–mail! Remember that the division can propose other sorts of activities, including plenary speakers or workshops, and we will be holding a reception on Thursday night in Chicago. See you there!

Message from the Secretary

Peter Smallwood

WELCOME and CONGRATULATIONS to our new Chair! Thanks to David Pfennig for agreeing to run, congratulations on your election, and welcome aboard. David is new to SICB, and we're eager for his fresh perspectives. David is an associate Professor of Biology at the University of North Carolina. Come to the DAB business meeting in Chicago to meet the new chair.

Future symposia

Our symposia have been a major draw for people to attend our meetings. I have had several inquiries from within DAB and from non–SICB members about topics for future symposia. Several symposia ideas are quite intriguing. DAB's own program officer, Peggy Hill has organized a symposium on Vibrations as a Communication Channel. This symposium is a wonderful example of the interdisciplinary character of our symposia. The animals that use vibrations for communications range

from the smallest invertebrates to the largest vertebrates. The functions of these vibrations span from signaling, to foraging; from bringing conspecifics together, to keeping them apart in territorial defense. SICB is precisely the place for such a broad, interdisciplinary exploration of a topic.

The officers of DAB encourage you to propose and organize a symposium of your own. Topics that can be approached from a variety of biological disciplines are particularly encouraged. While there is a certain amount of work to be done by the symposium organizer, we will help you with that. I have found the experience of organizing symposia rewarding, both intellectually, and in terms of my career. If you have an idea for a symposium, please contact our program officer, Peggy Hill, our chair, David Pfennig, or me ([go to DAB roster](#)).

Officers of DAB: an opening

Peggy's term as Program Officer for DAB expires this year: Thank you for your dedication!! The program officer is a great position: your responsibilities are to recruit for symposia, and provide feedback to the SICB Program officer on the organization and scheduling of presentations at our annual meetings. It's a fun job: ask Peggy! If you are interested in serving as an officer for DAB, or have questions about the offices, contact Peggy or any of us: our e-mail addresses and phone numbers are just a click away ([go to DAB roster](#)). We will recruit nominees at the meeting in Chicago, and the election will be held by mail ballot in the spring newsletter.

Opportunities for Graduate Students

- **Support for Meeting Attendance:** If you are a graduate student or have graduate students attending the Chicago meetings, make sure they are aware of the Student Support Program. In past years, SICB has been able to provide a room (shared) or waive registration for almost all students requesting such aid. In return, the student serves for one half day as a room monitor, slide projectionist, or registration assistant. If you or your student did not check the box for Student Support on the abstract transmittal form, contact the SICB business office for more information and application materials.
- **Grants-in-Aid of Research:** SICB has instituted a program of awards to support graduate student research. For more details and application materials, use the link 'award program' on the [SICB frontpage](#) or go to the new Grants-in-Aid of Research page at <http://www.sicb.org/grants/researchgrant.php3>.
- **Best Student Paper Awards!** The DAB offers an award for the Best Student Poster, and two different awards for best student oral presentations: the Best Student Paper Award, and A.M. Wenner Strong Inference Award (for the paper best exemplifying the use of strong inference in their experimental design). These are actually two separate awards (each with its own cash prize), most often given to separate papers.

All graduate students are encouraged to compete for these awards at the Chicago meetings. To be eligible for the DAB student paper awards, the applicant must be a member of SICB and our division. The student must indicate their intention to compete on the abstract transmittal form. Eligible papers must be original research by a graduate student or a Ph.D. whose degree was awarded no more than one year prior to the time of the meeting.

Division of Comparative Endocrinology (DCE) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

David Norris (david.norris@colorado.edu)

We are looking forward to seeing many if not all of you in Chicago this January. The new topic format has reduced paper conflicts considerably and I think you will find the experience a very positive one. There are many activities planned for graduate students as well as a social for DCE members. Additionally, the symposia mentioned by Sunny Boyd should highlight your experience. Please encourage all of your graduate students to attend as well as your colleagues.

DCE is fortunate to have so many distinguished and active members, and I feel privileged to be Chair of such a dynamic and active organization. Comparative Endocrinology is indeed alive and well. In March, I attended another successful DCE Western Regional meeting hosted by Martin Fitzpatrick, Bob Mason, Frank Moore and Carl Schreck in Corvallis OR and a superb International Fish Endocrine Symposium hosted by DCE members Penny Swanson and Walt Dickoff this August on the University of Washington campus in Seattle. Your Chair-Elect, Michael Moore, was the annual Irving Geschwind speaker at the Corvallis meeting and there were 45 papers presented by faculty and graduate students from AZ, CA, CO, IN, MN, NJ, OR, WA, TX, British Columbia, and Australia. The Seattle symposium also was attended by many DCE members who were responsible for many of the invited presentations. And it was great to see both Howard Bern and Aubrey Gorbman present and active as always. Hopefully you all have the coming international endocrine meetings in Italy marked on your calendars as well as the international comparative endocrine meeting scheduled for Boston in 2005. And of course, we already are planning the next SICB meeting in Anaheim for 2002.

Congratulations are in order for DCE member John Wingfield for his election as President of SICB and to DCE member Stacia Sower as SICB Program Officer. I also want to thank the nominating committee consisting of Pierre Deviche (chair), Bob Dores and Carl Schreck for identifying two excellent candidates for Divisional Program Officer elect. And, please remember to vote NOW for one of these fine candidates. Finally, your elected representatives, Sunny Boyd and Bob Denver have been doing an outstanding job getting us ready for Chicago and deserve a round of applause.

I will see you at the DCE business meeting in Chicago where I m sure there will be some lively items for discussion. And, in the meantime, be sure to send me your thoughts and concerns about any aspect of DCE david.norris@colorado.edu.

Message from the Program Officer

Sunny Boyd (boyd.1@nd.edu)

January's meeting in Atlanta was a very successful one with about 75 presentations by DCE members. This included our primary sponsored symposium: Recent Progress in Crustacean Endocrinology: A Symposium in Honor of Milton Fingerman, organized by Penny Hopkins and David Borst. In addition, about 63 abstracts were submitted by DCE members. Of these, 27 abstracts were for oral presentations. These talks were organized by topics (rather than division) for the first time but the effect on DCE was minimal. Most of our members chose comparative endocrinology as their first topic! Thus, Thursday's schedule contained 3 sessions of oral presentations given exclusively by DCE members (17 talks). Friday's schedule also contained a full day of interest for DCE members with the symposium. The remaining 10 oral presentations were a bit more scattered but clustered into regulation of reproduction and environmental endocrinology due to the choice of those descriptions as topics by authors. In Atlanta, more than 36 posters were presented by DCE members and those posters were arranged in blocks by division. Our strong divisional identity was therefore retained in Atlanta. Whether this occurs in the future will depend on the preferences of DCE members, rather than occurring by default organization patterns. In the majority of cases, across all SICB divisions, assignment to sessions was determined by the FIRST sub-topic chosen by authors. Those that want to present within divisional sessions should thus choose comparative endocrinology as their first (preferred) sub-topic on the abstract form. I welcome your comments on all aspects of the program but especially on the organization of the Atlanta meeting, the abstract form/topic list, and whether posters should be organized by topic or division (boyd.1@nd.edu).

The primary symposium sponsored by DCE for the Chicago meeting in 2001 is [Stress: Is it More than a Disease? A Comparative Look at Stress and Adaptation](#). This symposium, organized by Jim Carr and Cliff Summers, has 13 top-notch invited speakers and will last for 1 and a half days. We also plan to group contributed papers on stress into cohesive sessions for the other half day to further enhance the program. In addition, a mini-symposium on [amphibian metamorphosis](#) is being planned by Jashiri Menon and Bob Denver. There is still plenty of time to organize other mini-symposia for the Chicago meeting. Please contact me (boyd.1@nd.edu) if you have any ideas.

Message from the Secretary

Bob Denver (rdenver@umich.edu)

A reminder that the [International Congress of Comparative Endocrinology](#) (ICCE) will be held in Sorrento (Napoli), Italy, May 26–30 2001. The abstract and registration deadline is November 30, 2000. e-mail: studiocongressi@napoli.com.

Note also that a satellite symposium, the [International Symposium on Amphibian and Reptilian Endocrinology and Neurobiology](#) will be held directly after the ICCE meeting May 31 – June 2, 2001 at the University of Camerino, Camerino, Italy. Early registration deadline for this satellite symposium is December 31, 2000 and the abstract deadline is February 28, 2001.

The following link provides information on select upcoming comparative endocrinology meetings:
<http://www.sciref.org/links/AEOrgs/compendo.htm>

Please send comments on the newsletter and messages for the Spring 2001 DCE newsletter to
rdenver@umich.edu.

DCE Candidates for Election of Divisional Program Officer Elect

([Link to Election ballot](#))

Miles Orchinik

Current Position: Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Arizona State University, Tempe.

Education: B.A., History, San Francisco State University, 1985; Ph.D., Zoology, Oregon State University, Corvallis, 1992.

Professional Experience: NRSA Postdoctoral Fellow, Rockefeller University, Laboratory of Neuroendocrinology, New York, 1992–94; Pharmaceutical Researchers and Manufacturers Association Foundation Postdoctoral Fellowship, Rockefeller University, 1994–95; Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Arizona State University, 1995–present; Editorial Board, *Hormones and Behavior*, 2001–2005.

SICB Activities: Member

Other Memberships: Society for Neuroscience; Society for Behavioral Neuroendocrinology; AAAS

Research Interests: Neurobiology of stress; mechanisms of hormone action; neuroendocrine regulation of behavior; rapid actions of glucocorticoids. We use a variety of animal models to understand how stress alters brain function and behavior in laboratory and free-living animals.

Goals Statement: There is increasing recognition of the need for integrative studies to address biological complexity, and to encompass levels of analysis ranging from the molecular to the organismal. Comparative endocrinology is well-positioned to play a leading role in this movement because of its historical ties to natural history, behavior and evolution. The SICB Annual Meeting can showcase cutting-edge, integrative research in endocrinology, and promote the idea among graduate students that comparative studies belong in the forefront of physiology and neuroscience.

Kyle W. Selcer

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Biological Sciences and Center for Environmental Research and Education, Bayer School of Natural and Environmental Sciences, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA

Education: B.S. Biology, University of Texas–Pan American, 1980; M.S. Biology, University of Texas–Pan American, 1982; Ph.D. Biology, Texas Tech University, 1986.

Professional Experience: Postdoctoral Fellow, Endocrinology, Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center 1986–1989; Assistant Professor of Biology, Wichita State University, Wichita, KS, 1989–1991; Visiting Assistant Professor, University of Tulsa, Tulsa, OK, 1991–1992; Assistant Professor, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, 1992–1998; Associate Professor, Duquesne University, Pittsburgh, PA, 1999–present. Biology Graduate Coordinator, 1993–1999. Biology Department Interim Chair, Jan–July 2000; Organizer and Chair, Educational Poster/Multimedia Session, Society for the Study of Reproduction 1999, 2000.

SICB Activities : Member for 7 years. Attended annual meetings, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999. Session co–chair, 1994, 1995, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999. Judge, Aubrey Gorbman Best Student Papers in Comparative Endocrinology, 1999.

Other memberships: Council for Undergraduate Research, Society for the Study of Reproduction, Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry.

Research Interests: Reproductive endocrinology, environmental endocrinology, evolutionary endocrinology. My research involves the role of sex steroid hormones in nonmammalian vertebrates, the use of vitellogenin as biomarker for environmental endocrine disruptors, and steroid sulfatase inhibitors for treatment of hormone–dependent cancers.

Goals Statement: To maintain the strong divisional identity of comparative endocrinology at the annual meetings, while actively seeking interaction with other divisions on topics of common interest. To identify and foster topics for divisional and interdivisional symposia. To actively encourage student participation in the division, and to increase the number of educational presentations in comparative endocrinology.

Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry (DCPB) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Steven C. Hand

The summer was a busy one both for scientific meetings and society-related matters. The international meeting "Experimental Biology 2000: Milestones and Goals" was held July 30–August 3 at Queen's College and Downing College in Cambridge and was attended by a large number of DCPB members. The meeting was sponsored jointly by several societies including SICB, and our Division also sponsored a symposium in honor of Charlotte Mangum. August 9 Martin Feder and I represented the SICB at the Ecological Society of America meeting in Snowbird Utah to assess interest among plant physiological ecologists for increasing their participation in our society. To this end, a special symposium has been organized for the SICB Chicago meeting which blends plant and animal perspectives on current topics in physiological ecology. The officers of the physiological ecology section of ESA anticipate they will organize a similar complementary symposium at their next annual meeting. Overall, the response to the prospect of increased interfaces among society members with common interests in this field was quite encouraging.

I would like to remind you that nominations for the Bartholomew Award are currently being accepted by the award committee, chaired by Ray Huey (hueyrb@u.washington.edu). If you know of deserving candidates, please contact the committee chair for details.

Please note that we have two excellent candidates standing for election as DCPB Chair (Ray Henry and Nora Terwilliger) and also equally excellent candidates for Program Officer (Jim Claiborne and Jon Harrison). Thanks very much to Tim Bradley, Ross Ellington and Todd Gleeson for their hard work in recruiting this excellent slate of candidates. Don't forget to vote.

Finally, I have recently moved my laboratory to the Department of Biological Sciences at Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge; my new e-mail address is shand@lsu.edu. I look forward to seeing you January 3–7 in Chicago.

Message from the Program Officer

Michele Wheatly

The crescendo is building to the SICB Annual Meeting in the Windy City, Chicago Jan 3–7, 2001. The DCPB is sponsoring 4 symposia this year: Integrative Aspects of Epithelial Structure and Function, organized by Tim Bradley and Mary Chamberlin as a tribute to John E. Phillips; Taking Physiology to the Field, organized by David Goldstein and Berry Pinshow; Stability and Maneuverability, organized by Frank Fish and Robert Full with cosponsorship from DVM; and the groundbreaking Plant/Animal Physiology symposium organized by Martin Feder, Steve Hand, Jim Coleman, Vince Gutschick and Arnold Bloom. There are at least 2 other society-wide symposia that should be of interest to the divisional membership: Living Together: the Dynamics of Symbiotic Interactions, organized by Mary Beth Saffo; and Developing and Restructuring Science Curricula, organized by Ali Whitmer for the Education Council. Martin Feder and Steve Hand recently traveled to the Ecological Society of America annual meeting in Snowbird, Utah (tough job, but someone had to do it!), to discuss possible collaborations with a group of Physiological Ecologists, many of them with interest in plant physiology. With our change in society name and with the increasing use of reductionist and global approaches, there was a feeling that such a relationship could be mutually beneficial.

By now you will have submitted your multiple abstracts which means that I will soon face the dubious task of arranging the poster sessions by topic. This seemed to work quite well last year. This will be shortly followed by a review of symposia submission for the Anaheim meeting.

Until Chicago!

Message from the DCPB IUBS/IUPS Representative

Nora Terwilliger

I will be attending the US National Committee, IUPS, Fall meeting in Washington, DC, on Friday, September 15. It will be followed Friday evening and all day Saturday by the inaugural meeting of the IUPS National Organizing Committee for the 2005 IUPS Congress which will take place in Washington DC. Lou Burnett and I will be participating in the NOC meeting, and we will both be actively encouraging comparative physiology and biochemistry topics from our DCPB colleagues to ensure a strong comparative approach at the 2005 IUPS gathering.

Message from the Secretary – Elections!

Jeannette Doeller

Our division is holding elections for two offices, Chair-Elect and Program Officer. Following are candidate CVs. Please use the print-out ballot and vote! See you in Chicago.

Candidates for Chair-Elect

[\(Link to Election ballot\)](#)

Raymond P. Henry

Current Position: Alumni Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, 131 Cary Hall, Auburn

University, Auburn, AL 36849–5414; email: henryrp@mail.auburn.edu

Education: B.S., 1974; M.S., 1978, College of William and Mary, Biology; Ph.D., 1981, University of Texas at Austin, Zoology; Postdoctoral Fellow, 1981–1983, University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine

Professional Experience: 1983–1987: Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology and Wildlife Science, Auburn University; 1988–1992: Associate Professor, Department of Zoology and Wildlife Science, Auburn University; 1993–1995: Professor, Department of Zoology and Wildlife Science, Auburn University; 1996–present: Alumni Professor, Department of Biological Sciences, Auburn University; 1998–present: Visiting Investigator: Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory

SICB Activities: Member since 1977; organized a symposium (1991): Current perspectives on the evolution, ecology, and physiology of bimodal breathing; best student presentation committee

Other memberships and service: American Physiological Society, Gulf Estuarine Research Society, American Association for the Advancement of Science, Society for Experimental Biology; Editorial Board: Journal of Comparative Biochemistry and Physiology, Physiological and Biochemical Zoology; National Science Foundation: Evolutionary and Ecological Physiology Panel Member, Small Business Initiative Panel Member

Research Interests: The focus of my research program has been on the function and evolution of the enzyme carbonic anhydrase, specifically its role as a central enzyme in a variety of key physiological and biochemical processes. A second area of interest involves the study of bimodal breathing in aquatic turtles and amphibious crustaceans.

Goals Statement: I would attempt to attract a higher level of participation in DCBP from two groups: neuroscientists (maybe even by creating a new division of comparative neurobiology) and members of the international scientific community.

Nora B. Terwilliger

Current Position: Professor of Biology, University of Oregon, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, Charleston and Department of Biology, Eugene

Education: B.S., 1963, University of Vermont; M.S., 1965, University of Wisconsin; Ph.D., 1981, University of Oregon

Professional Experience: Professor, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology and Biology Department, University of Oregon, 2000–present; Associate Professor, 1993–1999; Assistant Professor, 1989–1993; Research Associate, 1981–1989; Acting Director, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, 1998; Visiting Professor, University of Mainz, Germany, 1993; Visiting Investigator, Friday Harbor Laboratories, University of Washington, 1986, 1987; Visiting Investigator, Marine Biological Association Laboratory, Plymouth, England, 1983–1984; Biology Instructor, Southwestern Oregon Community College, Coos Bay, 1980–1981; Marine Biology Consultant, School District #9, Coos Bay, OR, 1975, 1976; Instructor, Division of Continuing Education, State of Oregon, 1974, 1975; Research Assistant, Oregon Institute of Marine Biology, University of Oregon, Charleston, 1971–1978; Lecturer and Research Assistant, Department of Biology, Boston University, Boston, 1967–1969

SICB Activities: SICB and DCPB representative, International Union of Physiological Scientists (IUPS) and member of US National Committee, IUPS, 1997–present; SICB and DCPB representative, International Union of Biological Scientists (IUBS), 1993–present; International Organizing Board,

IUBS 5th International Congress of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, Calgary, 1999; Chair, SICB Nominations Committee, 1997; Program Officer, Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, 1995–1996.

Other memberships: American Association for Advancement of Science, Society for Experimental Biology, The Crustacean Society, Western Society of Naturalists

Research Interests: The structure, function and ontogeny of respiratory proteins with an emphasis on invertebrate hemocyanins, hemoglobins and hemerythrins. Molecular phylogeny of the hemocyanin gene family. Physiology, biochemistry and development of marine invertebrates. Developmental changes in respiratory physiology.

Goals Statement: Many biologists cite the importance of contemporary integrative biology, yet support only one or two research areas. In contrast, SICB offers one of the best opportunities for exchange of ideas over a spectrum of approaches and technologies that travel from ecosystems to organisms to molecular phylogenies. My goals for DCPB include promoting programs that remind us of the importance of understanding the organism as fulcrum between mudflat and molecule and that also introduce us to emerging perspectives and technologies. I feel the divisional concept of SICB helps maintain the cohesiveness of the society. At the same time, DCPB members have strong research and friendship links to the other SICB divisions, and since our research interests are typically cross-disciplinary, we encourage integrative society-wide symposia. Comparative physiology and biochemistry societies of other countries, including those in Canada, Britain, Europe, Japan, Australia and New Zealand work closely with DCPB in sponsoring international meetings like the recent ones in Calgary and Cambridge. These international ties are important for research and education collaborations and deserve support. Full participation in SICB by DCPB members will enhance the value of our meetings as a forum for scientific presentations and will promote continuing opportunities for junior and senior scientists.

Candidates for Program Officer

[\(Link to Election ballot\)](#)

James B. Claiborne

Current Position: Professor of Biology, Georgia Southern University

Education: B.S., 1977, Florida State University, Tallahassee, Florida, Biology; Ph.D., 1981, University of Miami, Miami, Florida, Biology (Physiology)

Professional Experience: Assistant–Full Professor, Georgia Southern University, 1983–present
Acting Department chair, 1987–1988; Principal Investigator, Mount Desert Island Biological Laboratory, 1986–present; Visiting Research Scientist, Max Planck Institute for Experimental Medicine, Gottingen, FRG and the Zoological Station of Naples, Naples Italy; 1982–1983, Summer 1984–85

SICB Activities: Member since 1977; Member, Electronic Communications Committee 1999–present.

Other memberships: Society for Experimental Biology, Sigma Xi, Association of Southeastern Biologists

Research Interests: We study the physiological systems involved with the regulation of salts, water and pH in marine fishes. Our current project focuses on the molecular and immunological detection of the Na⁺/H⁺ antiporter (NHE). In a fashion similar to the mammalian renal proximal tubule, this

exchanger may allow these saltwater fishes to excrete hydrogen in exchange for external sodium across the gills. Our laboratory was the first to demonstrate the presence of NHE's in the fish gill and we are now in the process of determining the distribution and regulation of this protein during physiological challenges to the animal. See: <http://www.bio.gasou.edu/Bio-home/JBC-home.html>

Goals Statement: I was very impressed with the conversion to electronic abstract submission and the WWW based program information for the Atlanta meeting. I would like to continue this trend and bring some specific WWW based information pages and a bulletin board online for the DCPB. I would also like to continue to promote both discipline-specific and broad cross-discipline programs and symposia that extend from those normally included in the DCPB.

Jon F. Harrison

Current Position: Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Arizona State University

Education: B.Sc. (Honors), 1978, University of Toronto; Ph.D., 1987, University of Colorado, Boulder

Professional Experience: Isaac Walton Killam Postdoctoral Fellow, Dept. of Zoology, University of British Columbia, 1988–1989; NSF–NATO Postdoctoral fellow, Dept. of Zoology, University of British Columbia, 1989–1990; Assistant Professor, Department of Zoology, Arizona State University, 1991–1997; Associate Professor, Department of Biology, Arizona State University, 1997–present; Editorial Board, Physiological and Biochemical Zoology, 1999–present

SICB Activities: Nominating Committee, Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry, American Society of Zoologists, 1990–91; Co-Organizer: American Society of Zoologist Symposium (with John E. Phillips) on "Insect Acid–Base Regulation", (Vancouver, 1992); "Guest–editor", Physiological Zoology volume 67 (1994) for symposium "Respiratory and ionic aspects of insect acid–base regulation"; Co-Organizer: Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology Symposium (with John E. Phillips) on "Responses of terrestrial invertebrates to variation in temperature and water availability: molecular, organismal, and evolutionary approaches" (Albuquerque, 1996); SICB (ASZ) Member since 1983; 26 presentations at SICB (ASZ) meetings since 1984; 12 of my graduate or undergraduate students have presented at the meetings since 1993.

Other memberships and service: American Physiological Society, Entomological Society of America, International Union for the Study of Social Insects, Organization for Tropical Studies; Editorial Board, Physiological and Biochemical Zoology, 1999–present

Research Interests: I am a comparative and environmental physiologist who has primarily used insects as model systems. In terms of physiological mechanisms, I have interests in respiratory, acid–base, renal, and digestive physiology. In the arena of ecological and evolutionary physiology, I have been interested in questions related to flight respiration and energetics, foraging behavior and its relationship to metabolic physiology, adaptation and acclimation to environmental variation, thermoregulation, the genetic basis to intraspecific variation in metabolic capacity, elemental stoichiometry and its relationship to growth rate, and symmorphosis and safety margins.

Goals Statement: The symposia are critical to maintaining vibrant meetings. Probably the most important job of the division program officer is to actively solicit strong and broad symposia. I think that symposia which promote integration with other societal divisions and potentially other societies are important and should be especially encouraged. Topical organization of the posters is a great idea that should facilitate interactions at the poster sessions.

Upcoming Meetings of Interest

October 21–22, 2000, 10th Annual Northeast Regional Meeting of the Division of Vertebrate Morphology, University of Massachusetts Amherst; deadline for Titles and Registration: October 1, 2000; contact Bill Bassham at 413–545–2902 or bassham@bio.umass.edu

August 18–24, 2001, Second International Conference of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry in Africa, Chobe National Park, Botswana, <http://www.users.bigpond.net.au/morlab/chobe/chobe.htm>

August 26–31, 2001, IUPS XXXIV International Congress of Physiological Sciences, Christchurch, New Zealand, <http://www.iups2001.org.nz>

February 2–8, 2003, ICCPB, La Trobe University, Australia, contact Peter Frappell (La Trobe University) or Russ Baudinette (University of Adelaide)

September 12–14, 2001, International Conference: The roles of experimental biology in the protection of biodiversity and the control of exotic species, University of California, Los Angeles, <http://www.ioe.ucla.edu/biodiversity/index.html>, contact Dr. Soraya Bartol at smbartol@lifesci.ucla.edu. This conference is an affiliated meeting for the 34th International Congress of Physiological Sciences, to be held in Christchurch, New Zealand, 26–31 August 2001, see announcement on the SICB web site at <http://www.sicb.org/announcedetails.php3?id=45>

Division of Developmental and Cell Biology (DDCB) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

**MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR of the DIVISION OF DEVELOPMENTAL and CELL BIOLOGY,
SCOTT GILBERT**

Dear DevCellBiologist:

I have good news and bad news. The good news is that the symposium we co-sponsored with the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology was a resounding success. The bad news is that in creating the DEDB, we may be putting ourselves out of business.

The symposium on the foundations of evolutionary developmental biology was given to a full auditorium and was one of the most informative, interesting, and interactive discussions of developmental and evolution we have yet heard. *Nature* (403:125) and *Science* (287: 570) have both proclaimed the meeting as a milestone for evolutionary developmental biology, and recent editorials by Günter Wagner (*JEZ* 288: 95) and by Corey Goodman and Bridget Coughlin (*PNAS* 97: 4424) have stressed the intellectual and professional importance of the meeting. Anyone who was there can tell you that the discussions generated by these talks spilled over into the coffee breaks, and how each of us went home with new papers to read in disciplines that had seemed unrelated before these talks.

However, we have to decide whether the evolution of the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology is an anagenic or a cladogenic event. Does the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology merely become the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology, or does the Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology split off from the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology, leaving two vigorous branches, each having a common ancestor in the DDCB in 1999?

The Division of Developmental and Cell Biology is going to become extinct if we do not act now. Its population is dwindling so rapidly that only 5 scientists showed up at the watering hole for its annual meeting. In such a small group, we found that we were unable to generate a healthy community. We could not even form a nominating committee. We have no division Chair-elect, Secretary-elect, or Program Officer-elect. The terms of the present Chair and Secretary end at the meeting in Chicago in a few months.

I think that cladogenesis is a better model for us than anagenesis. There are numerous important issues of developmental and cell biology which are not necessarily evolutionary. The recent advances in angiogenesis or the regulation of cell division are worthy of symposia that do not necessarily have to tie these issues to evolution. So I wish all of you to throw away your modesty and nominate yourselves to be Chair of the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology or to be Secretary of the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology. Send your nomination to Chuck Ellis at ellis@neu.edu. Say simply, "Scott Gilbert wishes to nominate (put in your name) to be a candidate for the office of (put in the office) of the Division of Developmental and Cell Biology. Do it now, by email. Please.

Do it now. Don't go on reading this paragraph. Do it. It's important that you do it right now. That being said, we have some wonderful things on the horizon. Rudy Raff and I have agreed that the DDCB and the DEDB will cosponsor the symposia for the next two years. There are three important symposia for our group at next year's meeting: (1) Amphibian Metamorphosis; (2) Starting from Fins: Parallelism in the Evolution of Limbs and Genitalia; and (3) Integrative Aspects of Epithelial Structure and Function. These are symposia that you will not find at the meetings of other professional societies. In addition, there will be symposia on the ontogenetic strategies of aquatic invertebrates and numerous sessions on curricular issues. For the following year (January, 2002 meeting), we have submitted a grant

proposal for Ecological Developmental Biology: Developmental Biology meets the Real World." If the first symposium on evolutionary developmental biology focused on the phylogenetic, non-adaptive, and macroevolutionary aspects of evo-devo, this "eco-devo" symposium will look at the ecological, adaptive, and microevolutionary parts of evo-devo. It will include discussions of phenotypic plasticity, environmental sex determination, endocrine disruption, life history strategies, and adaptations of developmental stages to environmental conditions.

The meetings have been excellent over the past few years, and they have been full of developmentally related symposia. To miss these meetings is to miss a real intellectual treat. So spend the extra funds, and come to Chicago on January 3–7, 2001. After all, the movie *2001* is about development. (Think of all the birthdays in that movie, the spermatic rocket and the ovular planet, the Jovian birth canal, and that final image of the human fetus circling the globe. Am I reading more into this than I should?) So come to Chicago in 2001, and come to the DDCB meeting, ready to assume an official title.

Best wishes,

Scott

Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology (DEDB) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

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 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoc Representative](#)
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Message from the Chair

Rudolf Raff

Dear DEDB members: As we start to think about the next meeting of the DEDB, I'd like to report on two events that affect our new division, both very good. First, last year's SICB meeting, with its strong programmatic focus on evolution and development had an impact on the community at large. The birth of the division was noted by *Science* and *Nature*. Since then there has been a strong sign of growth of interest and support nationally. NSF is enthusiastically continuing its support of the discipline through the Evolution of Developmental Mechanisms panel, and other agencies, notably NASA, are interested in funding evo–devo as well. Further, the number of faculty job ads for evo–devo has climbed dramatically.

The second event that I'd like to note is that the division has held its first election of new officers. For Division Chair, two outstanding scientists and strong competitors, Günter Wagner and Rick Elinson, were willing to run. Günter was elected by the membership, and will serve as Chair Elect at the 2001 meeting. I want to thank Rick for being willing to serve the division as a candidate for office in this important first election.

Frietson Galis and Kenneth Halanych were willing to stand for election as divisional Secretary. They both proved to be such strong candidates that the election ended in a tie vote. The division's executive committee attempted to break the tie, but its election also ended up in a tie, so Ken and Frietson have agreed to share the office as co–secretaries.

I look forward to seeing you all in Chicago.

Message from the Program Officer

Mark Q. Martindale

Greetings evo/devo–tees! I hope you all had an exciting and productive summer. This is just a gentle reminder that after you put away your swim suits and sunscreen that ABSTRACTS for **contributed papers and poster sessions** for the Chicago meeting are due before **September 8!** Submission is about as painless as possible this year with a completely FREE electronic submission via the web. Even if you don't have anything ready to present, make sure to [register](#).

In addition to the oral and poster presentations, the Chicago meeting will, as usual, host a number of exciting symposia. Those sharing co–sponsorship with DEDB are "Starting with Fins: Parallelism in the Evolution of Limbs and Genitalia," Lesser Known Protostome Taxa: Evolution, Development, and Ecology, and Molecules, Muscles, and Macroevolution: Integrative Functional Morphology. These

symposia have been well planned and will be well worth attending so don't miss out. See ya in the windy city! Aloha!

Message from the Student/Postdoc Representative

L. Patricia Hernandez

Greetings all! I hope that you have had a chance to check out meeting information on the SICB web page. If not, you definitely should. There is a link to all information about our upcoming meeting at <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2001/>.

At <http://www.sicb.org/meetings/2001/studentssupport.php3> you can find information regarding student support at the meeting. The deadline for applying for this support is November 17. I urge all of you to take advantage of this opportunity. For just a small time commitment (generally acting as projectionist for one session) SICB will pay for your housing during the meeting. Given this very generous support you may want to convince friends to join the society and present at the meeting. Student presentations are the backbone of this society and we happily accept new members.

I hope to meet many of you at one of several events planned for us at the next meeting. Please try to make time in your busy meeting schedule to attend these events, as they are a wonderful opportunity to meet fellow students and postdocs. The Student First Timer Orientation is a great way to get to know many people within the society. It will be held Wednesday evening, January 3, from 5:30–6:15, and will allow you to meet other students, get helpful tips about presenting, and learn all about how your membership within the society can help you attain your goals. There will also be a Student Postdoctoral Luncheon sponsored by the SICB Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee on Thursday, January 4, from 11:30–12:50. This lunch is a nice way to learn more about the committee that serves your needs. Finally on Saturday, January 6, from 9–11 pm, there will be an SICB Society-wide Social in Honor of Students and Postdocs, a fantastic opportunity to talk to all the interesting researchers you have been wanting to meet.

After the meeting I will have more news regarding student and postdoc concerns. As always feel free to contact me with any questions you may have regarding the upcoming meeting or any other issues. I can be reached at (860) 685–3206, or more conveniently at phernandez@wesleyan.edu. See you in January.

Division of Ecology and Evolution (DEE) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

Message from the DEE Officers Sally Woodin, Linda Walters, and Brian Helmuth

We are looking forward to the 2001 SICB Annual Meeting in Chicago, January 3–7. The symposia and their dates are now available on the new SICB homepage (<http://www.sicb.org>) and look very exciting. As was true of the meeting in Atlanta, the breadth of the Society is obvious from the symposia which range from 'Lesser Known Protostome Taxa: Evolution, Development and Ecology' to 'Ontogenetic Strategies of Invertebrates in Aquatic Environments' to 'Plant/Animal Physiology' to 'Starting from Fins: Parallelism in the Evolution of Limbs and Genitalia'. At least two symposia directed at teaching are also on the schedule. The symposia for Anaheim in 2002 are being finalized and one or more may be co-sponsored by the Ecological Society. Now is the time to be thinking about symposia for 2003 and relaying those ideas to Brian Helmuth, the DEE Program Officer (helmuth@biol.sc.edu).

As at the 2000 meeting, papers will be grouped by topic rather than by division. This resulted in fewer conflicts for attendees and those at the DEE business meeting thought it worked well. Remember the DEE business meeting is open to ALL members, student and non-student. It is where you tell your officers what is right and what is wrong both with DEE and with SICB as a whole. For example, it was clear from comments at the last business meeting that members wanted to receive their newsletter both as text pasted into an email message as well as on the SICB homepage. As a result we will be sending this to you as email.

Students please sign up for this year's presentation judging! Faculty and post-docs, please contact Linda Walters (DEE Secretary) at ljwalter@pegasus.cc.ucf.edu to sign up to help judge presentations. It is an excellent way to support DEE and SICB, looks wonderful on the community service portion of your annual evaluation form, and helps students understand what worked and what did not in their presentation. Judges typically are responsible for three to five talks. Thank you in advance.

This year was a sorrowful year in one aspect for DEE. Longtime researcher Ruth Turner passed away as did two much younger colleagues, Gary Polis and Tom Frost. All will be missed. Gary, in particular, was very active in SICB. There was a wonderful symposium entitled 'Linking Communities Across Ecosystem Boundaries' in his honor at the Ecological Society Meetings at Snowbird in August.

Division of Invertebrate Zoology (DIZ) – Fall 2000 Newsletter



- [Message from the Chair](#)
 - [Message from the Secretary](#)
 - [Message from the Program Officer](#)
 - [Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship](#)
 - [Report from the 2000 Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Recipient](#)
 - [Officer List](#)
-

Message from the Chair

Rachel Ann Merz

Greetings All! As invertebrate zoologists wrap up laboratory projects, return from the field and start classes, integrative minds turn to our meeting in Chicago – the city of broad shoulders. Libbie H. Hyman Symposium organizers, participants, and program officers have been busy preparing intellectual feasts to keep us warm (if not heated) in the cold north. See the [Program Officer's report](#) for a preview of the exciting symposia offered at this year's meeting.

During our business meeting in Chicago, Susie Balsler will be turning over the division paperwork and organizational responsibilities of the office of Secretary of the Division to Will Jaeckle who was elected to the position of Secretary of DIZ this summer (Thanks to Diane Padilla, Sara Lindsay and William Zamer for serving as the nominating committee and providing such a strong slate of candidates). We all owe our gratitude to Susie who has done a superb job of keeping our records and meetings in order and moving forward.

Another issue for the business meetings is the question of whether DIZ should invent or preserve some activities that serve to draw invertebrate zoologists together or that act to draw a particular focus on invertebrate zoology. This question arises in part because presentation sessions are now being organized not by division but by topic. While this makes for generally far more intellectually cohesive paper and poster sessions, there was some concern voiced about losing the sense of an invertebrate

zoology community.

Although this field season is just wrapping up, it is not too early to be thinking about next summer. The [Libbie Hyman Memorial Scholarship](#) is designed to help support advanced undergraduates or beginning graduate students to take courses or to carry on research on invertebrates at a marine, freshwater or terrestrial field station. The Libbie Hyman Scholarship committee (Isidro Bosch, Richard Emler, Gordon Hendler, James G. Morin, and Judith E. Winston) has done a wonderful job of advertising this career–shaping opportunity and selecting candidates under the leadership of its Chair, Gordon Hendler. After 4 very productive years, Gordon et al. have decided to pass on the Libbie Hyman torch and Michael LaBarbara has graciously accepted the mantle of chair of the committee. Inquiries about the scholarship can be made to him. Please urge your budding invertebrate zoologists to take advantage of this terrific opportunity.

Message from the Secretary

Susie Balsler

This is my last contribution to the DIZ Newsletter as secretary of the Division. I greatly appreciate all the assistance I have received from other DIZ officers and members—my job of compiling the newsletter has been made easier by the submissions and suggestions from DIZ members. I have gained from this position a better understanding of the workings of the Division and SICB and many new friendships with members of the Society. If you are interested in more involvement in DIZ or SICB, consider running for office. I encourage all DIZ members to attend the annual business meeting in Chicago. Check the SICB Meeting schedule for the time and place and come prepared to influence big decisions and participate in rowdy debates.

Congratulations to Will Jaeckle (wjaeckle@titan.iwu.edu) who is the DIZ Secretary–Elect and will take office at the end of the DIZ business meeting in Chicago. Submissions for the Spring Newsletter should be directed to him.

Message from the Program Officer

Larry McEdward

The upcoming meeting in Chicago has three DIZ sponsored symposia covering very diverse and interesting topics: 1) The Lesser–known Protostome Taxa: Evolution, Development and Ecology; 2) Ontogenetic Strategies of Invertebrates in Aquatic Environments; and 3) Living Together: The Dynamics of Symbiotic Interactions. I encourage each of you to attend these symposia and learn about some of the fascinating research on these topics. Symposia are key elements of the SICB annual meeting and are the primary means by which the interests and activities of the various divisions are promoted within the society. After the meeting in Chicago, please pass along to me comments that you have about these symposia, as well as suggestions for symposium topics that you would like to see (or better yet, which you would be willing to organize!) at future meetings.

I would like to take this opportunity to solicit comments and suggestions from the membership of DIZ regarding the recent decision to prohibit computer projection–based talks at the annual meeting. One

of the primary factors motivating this decision was concern about disruption of the schedule of talks. Synchronization of talks is essential to facilitating transition between individual presentations during sessions and maintaining a schedule so that talks of interest are presented at a predictable time. How the society proceeds on this issue will depend on the response from the membership. I would be interested to know whether computer-based presentations are an important option for the members of this division. If so, then we need to find a good solution to the practical problems that arise with such presentations. Suggestions for how to manage such computer-based talks within the limited time constraints of the sessions would be very helpful. It seems to me that computer-based presentations have several advantages, most importantly, the ability to incorporate diverse materials (e.g., text, images, video, sound, animation, and simulations) into a talk. Furthermore, prohibiting such presentations seems contrary to the move towards web-based abstract submission, on-line meeting programs, electronic distribution of newsletters, and extensive use of electronic communications within the society. But, this is only my opinion, so let's hear what you think. Have a great fall. See you in Chicago!

2001 Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship

Michael LaBarbera, Libbie H. Hyman Scholarship Committee Chair

Michael LaBarbera (University of Chicago) has recently taken over the chair's duties of the Libbie Hyman Scholarship Committee from Gordon Hendler, who did yeoman's service for four years and deserves all of our thanks. The recipient of the 2000 scholarship, Mary Wolf (Bowling Green State University), used the support provided by the Libbie Hyman Scholarship to help defray expenses associated with a Chemosensory Neurobiology course at the Bermuda Biological Station.

An effort has begun to increase the scholarship fund so that two awards can be made annually, one to an undergraduate and one to a graduate student. A field station experience can help shape a student's career. Will you please help?

Contributions, large or small may be sent 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.

This scholarship, in memory of Libbie H. Hyman, one of America's foremost invertebrate zoologists, provides assistance to students to take courses OR to pursue research on invertebrates at a marine, freshwater or terrestrial field station. The amount of the 2001 award is approximately \$750. The Hyman scholarship is intended to help support a first field station experience for a first or second year graduate student or an advanced undergraduate.

Completed applications must include:

- Application form
- A one to two page description of the proposed coursework or research
- Two (2) letters of recommendation from faculty members
- Transcripts of both undergraduate and (if applicable) graduate course work.

Deadline: MARCH 5, 2001

Notification of Awards: APRIL 4, 2001.

Application forms and further information are available on the web at

<http://pondside.uchicago.edu/oba/Faculty/LaBarbera/SICB/>

or from:

Dr. Michael LaBarbera
Chair, SICB Libbie Hyman Scholarship Committee
Dept. of Organismal Biology & Anatomy
The University of Chicago
1027 East 57th St.
Chicago, IL 60637
FAX: 773-834-3028
E-mail: mlabarbe@midway.uchicago.edu

Report from the 2000 Libbie H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship Recipient

Mary Wolf

Laboratory for Sensory Ecology, Department of Biology, Bowling Green State University, Bowling Green, Ohio 43403.

I want to begin by expressing my deepest gratitude for being selected this year's Libbie Hyman scholarship recipient. The Libbie Hyman Scholarship enabled me to attend the course "Chemosensory Neurobiology in the Marine Environment" at the Bermuda Biological Station for Research. Since this particular course is offered only once every two years, this was my only opportunity to attend.

My experience at the station was an exceptional one. I was able to interact with researchers that were focused on different facets of chemoreception in invertebrates. My background is in behavioral science, so interacting with investigators that work in the field of molecular biology was very advantageous to me. The course "Chemosensory Neurobiology in the Marine Environment" included many techniques used in the study of chemosensory biology. The two techniques I utilized the most in the course were single unit electrophysiology and radio-ligand binding assay. I felt that these two techniques offered the best application towards my current research, the effects of pollutants on olfactory mediated behavior in aquatic organisms. I recorded data from the antennules of lobsters using single unit electrophysiology and interpreted those recordings. Crayfish are very similar in body structure to the lobster. Both crayfish and lobster use their antennules to sense odor stimuli while crayfish also use their antennae. I will be able to apply this technique to investigate the effects of specific chemical pollutants at the cellular level. Do chemical pollutants have an inhibitory effect on nerve transmission or do they interfere with olfaction by over-stimulating the cell? The other technique I learned during my course was radio-ligand binding assay. With this technique I investigated how feeding deterrents compete for binding sites of amino acids used in the aesthetascs (chemoreceptors) of the lobster. Since crayfish do not have aesthetascs, the procedure has to be modified, but I believe it could be a useful tool in investigating the effects of pollutants. The radio-ligand binding assay may be useful in determining whether these pollutants compete with amino acids necessary in the transmission of information to the animal.

The concepts and techniques taught in this course have given me a wider avenue with which to pursue

my research interests. I will be able to use these techniques both during my graduate career and in my future professional career. I want to thank you again for the opportunity to attend this course and further my research interests and goals.

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Division of Neurobiology (DNB) – Spring 2000 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Stacia Moffett

As the retiring Chair of Neurobiology, I am pleased to leave the division in the capable hands of the newly-elected Chair, Don Edwards. I have had the pleasure and responsibility of serving the members through a period of considerable transition. Many major adjustments are behind us, and I wanted to take this opportunity to acquaint the members with 1) some changes, 2) some new benefits, and 3) some services that support us as we respond to demands in our workplaces and communities.

First, a small matter of recognition as a division: Because Neurobiology is one of the newer divisions, most members of Neurobiology also have memberships in other divisions. In fact, many people who really think of themselves as Neurobiologists have found themselves sporting an "under banner" that identified them with some other division at the annual meeting. At the Boston meeting, you will have one last chance, if you wish, to utilize leftover division under banners or to adfix one of your own creation, but the society has decided to abandon the use of such labels because many of us have strong affiliations with more than one division. In fact, the strength of this society is its broad view of biology and the interconnectedness of the different disciplines, so, in the future, those who study the nervous systems of animals will now flow more freely among those with primary interests in hormones, behavior, environmental stresses, biocommunities, structure-function relationships and the history and future of biology.

Expansion of the scope of the society to include non-zoological topics has led to the proposal to change the name of American Zoologist to better reflect the content of the symposia in future meetings. The American Zoologist (or the publication under a new name) will be enlarged to 6 issues per year, including abstracts at the end of one of the "regular" (i.e., symposium publication) volumes. (To view current and archival issues of American Zoologist, go to:

<http://www.sicb.org>

Select the American Zoologist selection, and click on APT Online. Also, follow the society's web presence (address above) to Careers and click on Neurobiology. There, you will have a chance to read the nice thumbnail sketch of the field written by past Division Chair Charles H. Page. The path to Awards describes the Grants in Aid of Research Program, the Libby H. Hyman Memorial Scholarship and the Best Student Paper Program. (Although Neurobiology doesn't not have specific guidelines, we do evaluate presentations in both poster and oral formats, and select winners; all students should try for these awards, which look good on a CV and provide a financial bonus, as well.)

A concern to all of us is the quality of science education. Under the leadership of our Division Secretary, Robin Cooper, Neurobiology is taking a lead in involving students from local school districts with the annual meeting events. A major threat to science education is the continued targeting of evolution by those who wish to eliminate it from school curricula. (If you get a chance, examine biology

texts used in the public schools in your area and see how the topic is treated!) SICB continues to provide a counterpoint to the attacks on the teaching of evolution, and provide support for those who feel under siege. Look for more on this topic at the annual meeting.

Finally, SICB continues to reach out to more neurobiologists who care about the integrative nature of life on earth. Check out the Biodiversity Project (see www.nrel.colostate.edu/IBOY, and [report in this newsletter](#)) to see if you, other neurobiologists you know, or members of your department, may find that your research fits into this project. This is just one example of the breadth of connections that are opened up to us through our involvement in SICB.

Chair – Stacia Moffett

Message from the Secretary

Robin L. Cooper

The Atlanta meeting showed a healthy increase in the membership of the DNB which was partly due to local neurobiologists in Atlanta joining. Let's hope for similar actions at the Chicago meeting. If anyone has contacts in the Chicago area you may wish to encourage them to join SICB–DNB and to be present at the meeting.

As many of you now know, we held elections for the chair of DNB and that our new chair will be Don Edwards from Georgia State. In behalf of DNB, we all wish to thank our past Chair, Stacia Moffett, for the wonderful leadership and progressive attitude she has shown for advancing the Division. This last election round was administered with electronic communications and some paper copies from the central office. I have heard that not all our members were sent a ballot, so I had contacted the central office about this oversight. The problem had to do with moving of all the records of members to the new location and email listings becoming misplaced. This problem is not expected in the future. In spite of this minor problem, we had a good election return and continue to encourage all our members to participate in future elections and in soliciting individuals to fulfil administrative positions within the Society and the Division.

I am currently working with some individuals in Chicago to try to repeat what we did in Atlanta by bringing local high school children to one of the evening poster sessions. So far we have had only positive feedback from SICB members and the school kids as well as their teachers in Atlanta from the visit during the last meeting. We will see if it is possible to repeat such an event but with some modifications, such as getting name tags done before the kids show up and maybe have a quick session with the kids and teachers ahead of time to inform them on the overview of the meeting and what SICB is all about. So be prepared in Chicago for some selective public school kids asking you questions at your poster !

Message from the Program Officer

Rich Satterlie

The Chicago meeting symposia of interest will be:

"Motor Control of Vertebrate Feeding: Function and Evolution", and "Vibration as a Communication Channel".

Multiple Divisions are working on co-sponsorship of these symposia but the final details are not in yet. The symposia for the Anaheim meeting are currently being established and they will be advertized in the near future.

Keep the suggestions coming in for future symposia so we can distribute them to our entire membership for feedback.

Program Officer– Rich Satterlie

Division of Systematic and Evolutionary Biology (DSEB) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Miriam Zelditch

I am looking forward to the SICB Annual Meeting in Chicago, Jan 3–7, 2001. I expect that this will be an excellent meeting, with symposia and a general talk of particular interest to members of this division. In particular, the symposium "Starting from Fins: Parallelism in the Evolution of Limbs and Genitals" (Jan. 4, Thursday) looks intriguing, and should demonstrate the value of well-supported cladograms. Also, "Lesser Known Protostome Taxa: Evolution Development and Ecology" (Jan. 5, Friday) should be of interest (even to those of us who work on other lesser known taxa). The problems facing workers who study poorly known groups are of relevance to all of us, and this symposium nicely ties in with our planned second annual workshop Phylogenetics for Dummies (more on that below). In addition, the talk by Paul Sereno, Major Patterns of Evolution in Dinosaurs (Jan. 3, Wednesday, 8–9 pm) will also be of interest to members of this division for its systematic and evolutionary content.

Last year, our division sponsored "Phylogenetics for Dummies", a workshop that was remarkably well-attended, especially in light of the fact that it did not appear on the program. We received many compliments and much gratitude for it, and plan to hold one annually. This year we will focus on a subject of great general interest to our colleagues – how to choose a tree as the framework for comparative studies. When there are many competing cladograms it is necessary to decide among them, and when there are few and quite preliminary studies, it is necessary to evaluate its support. As they did last year, Anne Maglia and Donald Swiderski are organizing the workshop, and will cover both theory and practice. If you have something to contribute on this subject, please attend. Your experience and insight will be immensely valuable to everyone. Tree evaluation is a complex and sometimes controversial subject, so it will be useful to have our cumulative experience available, as well as have several viewpoints represented.

Both our society and our division are in good shape. Most of you probably know that membership costs are reduced and that abstract fees are eliminated. This is possible because the society is fiscally sound. The society is also in interesting shape intellectually because of the new thematic structure for meetings. And the addition of the new division, Evolutionary Developmental Biology, is very exciting. Our own division is also doing well, with 289 members (as of my most recent list). But that number does make me wonder why so few regularly attend our business meetings.

I urge you to attend the business meeting, and to offer to run for divisional offices (and to accept being nominated if this should happen to you). SICB is undergoing substantial changes, both in the scientific program of our meetings and in many details that can affect us all (such as the increasing reliance on electronic communication, and the change in business office). We need to hear from you regarding these changes. And your input is useful for making decisions, such as how to use our resources. Also, the success of our annual workshops depends on the ideas and expertise of our division. With the

increasingly thematic structure of the meetings, it is easy to lose sight of each other. Systematics is so integral to all comparative studies that we might have few papers in a specifically systematics session. Instead, systematics papers might be distributed across many different themes, depending on the characters of particular interest.

Message from the Secretary

Valerie Cappola

I too am looking forward to the SICB Annual Meeting in Chicago. Since both Miriam and Anne reminded you about the symposia and "Phylogenetics for Dummies" workshop I want to just to emphasize how important it is to attend the DSEB business meeting. Our division has 289 members, but very few people have attended the business meetings for the past two years (yes I'll admit that I only went to the last two). We want and need your contribution in making decisions concerning the division. I hope to see you at the conference and the business meeting, but if you can't be there please contact one of the officers with your ideas or comments.

Message from the Program Officer

Anne Maglia

At the 2001 meetings, DSEB will sponsor several contributed paper sessions and will co-sponsor two symposia: "The Lesser-Known Protostome Taxa: Evolution, Development and Ecology." These promise to be exciting, informative, and well attended. Also, as part of an ongoing series of hands-on workshops designed to help non-systematists use systematic tools, we will sponsor the second "Phylogenetics for Dummies" workshop. This year's topic will be "Picking a Tree from the Forest" and will build on last year's workshop that covered how to map characters onto an existing tree (to understand character evolution). This year we will evaluate different methods of analyzing data (= coming up with a tree) and discuss the different methods of showing support for trees. Everyone is encouraged to attend, and feel free to bring questions or trees from your own research!

It is not too early to be thinking about workshop and informal symposium ideas for the 2002 Anaheim meeting. For divisional sponsored symposia (i.e., those intended for publication), the deadline has already passed with several proposal submitted. However, we can still promote informal symposia, workshops, and paper sessions centered around a common theme. We can also start making plans for symposia for the 2003 meeting.

The upcoming Chicago meeting would be a great time for you to get involved in the DSEB program. I'd particularly like to encourage students and "fringe" members to take an active role in deciding the directions in which our program should go. Have any ideas or comments about how to change or improve our program? Stop by the DSEB business meeting, find me at the meetings, or send me an email. I'd love to hear any suggestions or ideas you may have. See you in Chicago!

Division of Vertebrate Morphology (DVM) – Fall 2000 Newsletter

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Message from the Chair

Andrew Biewener

Hello DVM. I hope this finds you well settled into the fall academic term. I look forward to seeing many of you in a few short months in sunny, friendly Chicago! It's a wonderful city and certain to be a great meeting. There will be plenty to see, hear and do, in addition to visiting with friends and colleagues. The number of submitted abstracts is over 900 for the meeting, which is an excellent sign that SICB is continuing to grow. While retaining many of its older strengths, new exciting fields are becoming represented by our society. I trust that the electronic abstract submission format and later deadline made for a more relaxing end to everyone's summer. SICB president, Martin Feder, continues to develop new incentives and solicit new ideas for our society's future growth. Remember that DVM can only be an important player in this if we have people from our division who are willing to volunteer their valuable time to the enterprise. All evidence is that the move of the SICB business office to Burk & Associates, Inc. has worked out extremely well. The general organization and response of BAI to SICB needs has been excellent.

DVM is (co-)sponsoring four exciting symposia this year. One is "Evolution of Feeding Motor Patterns" organized by Mike Alfaro and Anthony Herrel, which will revisit several topics addressed 15 years ago in Milton Hildebrand's now classic text *Functional Vertebrate Morphology*. A second one entitled "Molecules, Muscles and Macroevolution" is being organized by Miriam Ashley-Ross, Alice Gibb and Lara Ferry-Graham. The third symposium entitled "Stability and Maneuverability" is being organized by Frank Fish and Bob Full. And finally, number four is entitled "Science, entertainment, and teaching: bringing cutting edge biology to the public and teaching community," organized by Stuart Sumida and Elizabeth Rega. Certainly, all four will be of considerable interest to DVM. In addition to the symposia, there are certain to be several excellent paper and poster sessions. Hopefully, everyone paid attention to their key word listing, so that they end up in sessions that fit the thematic focus of their work!

One issue that has raised the ire of many of you is the SICB Executive Committee's recent vote not to provide computer projection facilities/services for the Chicago meeting. While this decision may seem to take us back to the dark ages and runs against the ever growing popularity of Powerpoint computer presentations, two real problems exist: 1) shifting between computer and slide presentation led to considerable schedule delays in oral paper sessions at last year's meeting, and 2) the cost for union projectionists is extremely high. Nevertheless, it seems clear that something must be done to solve this for future meetings. If any of you wish to serve on a committee to study this problem and develop a policy, please contact me or the SICB office. For the upcoming meeting, if you can coordinate your projection needs with someone who plans to bring a projector and it can be set-up appropriately on a computer, do so.

Please remember that DVM will hold an off-site divisional dinner at the Chicago meeting, in addition to

other social SICB activities (probably not so hard to get Bulls tickets these days). So, stay tuned. Finally, I want to thank DVM for the opportunity to serve as your Chair these past two years. It has been an exciting time and one that has seen continued growth of DVM supporting the strong resurgence SICB. I look forward to working with Kathleen Smith as she takes over for the next two years!

Message from the Secretary

Audrone Biknevicus

Regional meetings provide an outstanding opportunity for students and postdocs to share their research results in a more intimate venue (aka less pressure) than national meetings often allow. Two regional meetings are planned for fall 2000:

(1) The 10th Annual Northeast Regional Meeting of DVM will be held October 22–23 at University of Massachusetts Amherst. The Programming Committee include Willy Bemis, Beth Brainerd, Nate Kley and Bill Bassham. See the complete announcement below. Please address questions and contributions to Bill (bassham@bio.umass.edu).

(2) The 2nd Annual Midwest Regional Meeting of DVM 2nd has been organized by Howard (Sandy) Whidden, Jennifer White, and Bill Hammer and will be held at Augustana College (Rock Island, IL) on November 18th and 19th. See the complete announcement below. Contact Sandy (biwhidden@augustana.edu) or Jennifer (biwhite@augustana.edu) for additional information.

ANNOUNCEMENTS OF REGIONAL MEETINGS FOR FALL 2000

10th Annual Northeast Regional Meeting of the Division of Vertebrate Morphology

We are happy to announce the 10th Annual Northeast Regional Meeting of the Division of Vertebrate Morphology (NRMDVM, at which we should work on a simpler name for this group). The meeting will be held at UMass Amherst on Saturday October 21 and Sunday October 22 in Rooms 203 and 319 Morrill Science Center.

The Programming Committee for this meeting will be Willy Bemis, Beth Brainerd, Nate Kley and Bill Bassham. As is the tradition of the NRMDVM, there will not be any concurrent sessions so that all attendees will have the opportunity to hear all talks. Also, we strive for informality and maximum student participation. We offer the chance for participants to give short or long presentations depending on the stage of their research project (i.e., 10 or 20 minute contributions can be proposed to the programming committee). This design has worked well in the past because it offers participants a chance to speak briefly about a project that is still in its early stages. We especially encourage tenured faculty members to consider offering shorter contributions, perhaps using the "one slide" format that has been so well received by attendees of past meetings.

George Lauder will open the meeting with a plenary lecture on fish locomotion at 9:00 AM on Saturday morning. The oral contributed paper session will begin at 10:15 and continue (with coffee and lunch breaks) until as late as necessary on Saturday afternoon. The oral contributed paper session will resume on Sunday morning at 9:00 and continue (with coffee and lunch breaks) until as late as necessary on Sunday afternoon. Persons planning to present a poster should plan to arrive in time to

set up the poster before noon on Saturday and to leave it on display until at least noon on Sunday.

All materials related to contributions must be submitted via e-mail to bassham@bio.umass.edu. Be sure to put NRMDVM as the first word in the subject line of your e-mail to us. The deadline for receipt of titles, decision as to oral or poster contribution, and proposed talk length will be October 1. No abstract fee is charged for making a presentation. The program will be posted on the meeting website.

The meeting registration fee will be \$10 for undergraduates, \$20 for graduate students and postdocs, or \$40 for faculty. The fee covers costs for name badges, printed copies of the meeting program, contact information for all pre-registered participants, coffee and tea breaks, a simple Saturday night meal, bagels and cheese on Sunday morning and a sandwich buffet for Sunday lunch.

Amherst is easy to reach by car, bus (Peter Pan Bus Company <http://www.peterpan-bus.com/>) or air travel (the nearest large airport is Bradley Field between Hartford Connecticut and Springfield Massachusetts (<http://www.bradleyairport.com/>)). Rail travel to Amherst or Springfield Massachusetts also is possible (<http://www.amtrak.com/index3.html>).

Amherst and Northampton are major tourist destinations in October, so please book your hotel rooms early to avoid disappointment and extra expense. A block of rooms has been reserved for our group at the UMass Campus Center Hotel (5 minutes walk from the meeting site and with a parking garage; the rate is about \$90 per room double occupancy; see maps and reservation information at <http://marlin.bio.umass.edu/biology/brainerd/DVM.html>). Other hotels within short driving distance of the meeting site include Howard Johnsons (Hadley, Massachusetts http://www.travelnow.com/usa/massachusetts/hotel/hadley_108987.html) and The Lord Jeffery Inn (Amherst, Massachusetts; <http://www.pinnacle-inns.com/lordjefferyinn/>). A new Holiday Inn in Hadley will be open by the date of the meeting. The small city of Northampton, Massachusetts is 9 miles from the meeting site. It is known for its many artistic and cultural offerings and excellent restaurants. The most interesting hotel in Northampton (because it is in the center of everything) is the Hotel Northampton (<http://www.hotelnorthampton.com/>).

2ND ANNUAL MIDWEST REGIONAL MEETING OF THE DIVISION OF VERTEBRATE MORPHOLOGY

The Departments of Biology and Geology at Augustana College would like to invite you to the Second Annual Midwest Regional Meeting of the Division of Vertebrate Morphology. The meeting will be held the weekend of November 18th and 19th on the Augustana campus in Rock Island, IL, and the organizers are Howard (Sandy) Whidden, Jennifer White, and Bill Hammer. We will initially schedule all events for Saturday the 18th, but if there is sufficient interest we will contact all registered participants and propose additional sessions for Sunday morning.

In keeping with the spirit of last year's Midwest Regional meeting at Ohio University, and with the tradition set by the Northeast Regional meetings, this meeting will be a friendly and informal opportunity to get together to discuss vertebrate morphology. Student presentations are encouraged, and since Augustana is strictly an undergraduate institution we will especially welcome participation by undergraduates. There will be opportunities for both oral and poster presentations, and there will be no concurrent sessions. We will also try to accommodate talks that vary in length from 5 to 20 minutes, to encourage presentation of all stages of research.

The deadline for registration is November 1, and the registration fee is \$10 for undergraduates, \$20 for graduate students and postdocs, and \$30 for faculty members. The registration fee includes a continental breakfast, bag lunch with drink, and buffet dinner on Saturday, and also a continental breakfast on Sunday morning.

Rock Island is one of the Quad Cities, and lies at the intersection of Interstates 80 and 74. It is approximately three hours from Chicago, and is served by the Quad City Airport in Moline, IL, which is just a 15-minute drive from campus. Rooms have been reserved in the Four Points Sheraton, in downtown Rock Island.

A registration form and further details about the meeting will be distributed to DVM members via e-mail, and will also be available through the Biology Department's page at the Augustana web site: <http://www.augustana.edu/academ/biology/dvm>. For other information, you can contact us at biwhidden@augustana.edu or biwhite@augustana.edu.

Message from the Program Officer

Dave Carrier

The Chicago meeting promises to be exciting and hectic for DVM members. Each day will include 4 to 6 concurrent sessions of contributed papers that will be competing for our warm bodies with 4 to 5 symposia. Four of the 12 symposia at this year's meeting are sponsored or cosponsored by DVM:

1. "Molecules, muscles, and macroevolution: Integrative functional morphology," organized by Miriam Ashley-Ross, Alice Gibb and Lara Ferry-Graham.
2. "Motor control of vertebrate feeding: Function and evolution," organized by Michael Alfara and Anthony Herrel.
3. "Stability and maneuverability," organized by Frank Fish and Bob Full.
4. "Science, entertainment, and teaching: Bringing cutting edge biology to the public and teaching community," organized by Stuart Sumida and Elizabeth Rega.

In addition to these four, a number of other symposia will be of interest to many members of DVM (e.g., "Vibration as a communication channel,: DAB/DNB; "Starting with fins: Parallelism in the evolution of limbs and genitalia," DEDB; "Taking physiology to the field: Advances in investigating physiological function in free-living vertebrates," DCPB; "Ontogenetic strategies of invertebrates in aquatic environments," TCS/DIZ.)

An issue I would like to see us discuss at this year's business meeting is the question of how many symposia represent too many. Prior to becoming program officer I was inclined to argue that we should limit the number of symposia in order to reduce conflicts with the contributed paper sessions. Now that I am one of the folks faced with the decision of which symposia proposed for the Anaheim Meeting should be rejected or postponed, I am not confident that we should limit promising symposia. I see the contributed paper sessions and poster sessions as the heart and soul of meeting. Nonetheless, symposia play a larger role in conveying to the community and public the vitality and contributions of our field. Please join us at the business meeting to discuss this issue.

Don't forget that John Pearse and Martin Feder have asked Paul Sereno to be the opening speaker at the Chicago meeting. Paul has accepted the offer. The plan is to have Paul talk the first evening and then have a society-wide social.

Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology (SICB) – Election of Officers Ballot

Cast your votes for the following SICB positions. Information on the candidates below can be found in the [Fall 2000 SICB Newsletter](#) or by following the link associated with the names. Please print out this page and mark the boxes of your choice. Mail this ballot in a sealed envelope with your **signature on the reverse** to the SICB Business Office by **December 15th, 2000**:

2000 Fall Elections
Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
1313 Dolley Madison Blvd Suite 402
McLean VA 22101

Division of Comparative Endocrinology

VOTE ONLY FOR DIVISIONS OF WHICH YOU ARE A MEMBER (MAXIMAL TWO DIVISIONS). IF YOU VOTE IN OTHER DIVISIONAL ELECTIONS, YOUR BALLOT WILL BE INVALIDATED!

Program Officer Elect

_____ [Miles Orchinik](#)
_____ [Kyle W. Selcer](#)
_____ Write-in: _____

Division of Comparative Physiology and Biochemistry

VOTE ONLY FOR DIVISIONS OF WHICH YOU ARE A MEMBER (MAXIMAL TWO DIVISIONS). IF YOU VOTE IN OTHER DIVISIONAL ELECTIONS, YOUR BALLOT WILL BE INVALIDATED!

Chair-Elect

_____ [Raymond P. Henry](#)
_____ [Nora B. Terwilliger](#)
_____ Write-in: _____

Program Officer

_____ [James B. Claiborne](#)
_____ [Jon F. Harrison](#)
_____ Write-in: _____