



Division of Evolutionary Developmental Biology

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DEDB Officers & Representatives

Mark Q. Martindale
Chair 2010-2012

Chris Lowe
Chair-Elect 2011-2012

Linda Holland
Past Chair 2010-2012

Michael Shapiro
Secretary 2011-2013

L Patricia Hernandez
Program Officer 2010-2012

Jacob Musser
Student/Postdoctoral Representative
2011-2014

Pauly Cartwright
ICB Editorial Board Representative 2008-
2013

Message from the Chair

Mark Q. Martindale

Aloha,

Summer is over and soon the swell will be rising on the Northshore! I hope everyone is settling back in with their regular grind, but that you all take time out to look at some embryos! Remember, we get to study the most fascinating and mysterious questions in all of biology, so smile!

Most of you have already checked out the Charleston meeting schedule. We have some great symposia to attend and I am sure we will be busy scurrying around trying to find our favorite talks. One thing I do want to bring up though is changes in the NSF funding system. I am worried these changes will have disastrous consequences on our ability to fund our research labs. I think our business meeting might be a good place to share these concerns and draft an official response to these changes.

And finally, I wanted to let people know that there is an Open Access avenue for you to share the results of your EvoDevo studies (www.evodevojournal.com) and an online venue to share published and unpublished comparative developmental expression data (www.kahikai.org), so come please go check them out!

Message from the Program Officer

Patricia Hernandez

These are exciting times for SICB and especially for DEDB. We have a record-breaking meeting coming up in Charleston. We had a total of 1454 abstracts! The last time we even got close to this was the 2009 Boston meeting, when we had 1351 abstracts. We received 82 contributed papers for Evo-Devo. Thus, our division continues growing in popularity.

Importantly we have several symposia that should be of great interest to our division. These include:

[*The Impacts of Developmental Plasticity on Evolutionary Innovation and Diversification*](#)



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[Dispersal of marine organisms](#)

[Poecilogony as a window on larval evolution: Polymorphism of developmental mode within marine invertebrate species](#)

[EvoDevo Rides the Genomics Express](#)

[Mangrove 'Killifish': an Exemplar of Integra- tive Biology](#)

In addition to the above contributed abstracts, we received an additional 83 contributed abstracts in complementary sessions to the above excellent symposia. Clearly we have an embarrassment of riches. Unfortunately, this means that there was absolutely no way to avoid intra-divisional competition, thus there are some overlapping sessions. Trust me, we have a VERY full 4-day program.

There are a number of issues that came up that are relevant for our meeting in Charleston:

Childcare. There is a possibility for childcare at the meeting. PLEASE be sure to fill in the babysitting survey form on the registration form itself if you are interested in having that service available during the meeting. This potential service will depend on the response from the society so be sure to fill out this form when you register.

Reservations. Please make your reservations for the Embassy Suites or ancillary hotels (see the SICB meeting web site).

Meeting Shuttle Service. There will be a complimentary shuttle service to take registrants back and forth to downtown Charleston for dinner and sightseeing the evenings of January 4, 5 and 6. The shuttles will run from 6:30-11 pm and will leave from the Convention Center. Check the website for "Notes From the Underground" regarding restaurants and things to do and see as the meeting gets closer.

JUDGES NEEDED. We have a number of students competing for Best Student Paper. We need volunteers to judge posters and oral presentations, so please be sure to check the appropriate box when you register.

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

Message from the Secretary

Mike Shapiro

Spring elections

Thank you to everyone who voted in our Spring 2011 DEDB elections. I am pleased to announce that our new Program Officer-Elect will be Louise Page (University of Victoria), and our new Secretary-Elect will be Brad Davidson (University of Arizona). Louise and Brad will serve one-year terms as officers-elect starting at the end of the 2012 annual meeting, and will then assume their full duties at the conclusion of the 2013 annual meeting. Congratulations to our new officers, and many thanks to all of the candidates who ran for office. Looking ahead, we will hold an election for Chair-Elect of DEDB in Spring 2012.



Program Officer-Elect
Louise Page



Secretary-Elect
Brad Davidson



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Your research is awesome – let the world know!

DEDB is a large and vibrant division of SICB, yet the size of our online Researchers Database on the SICB website does not reflect the breadth and abundance of interesting work being conducted by our members. Contributing to the database is very easy: simply send a research blurb, a title, and image(s) to me for inclusion. If you've ever written a short research description for a website or just about any other purpose, you're probably already done! Just write (or copy and paste) your research blurb, choose a pretty picture of yourself or one that represents your scientific interests, and we'll post it on the SICB website. Simple as that. This is a convenient, easy, and free way to advertise your lab to potential trainees, or market yourself to potential employers. *Any SICB member can contribute to the database*, not just PIs or faculty members.

Send your research blurb and images to me now before you forget! For examples of database contributions from other DEDB members, follow this link: <http://sicb.org/divisions/DEDB/researchers.php3>.

Do you or your students like research funding?

The NSF-sponsored EDEN (Evo-Devo-Eco Network) Research Coordination Network, whose steering committee includes some DEDB members (full disclosure: I am one of them), is now in its second year of funding research exchanges for students and faculty. The goal of the program is to facilitate development and sharing of new research techniques for emerging model organisms. This program provides stipends of up to \$3000 for graduate students, postdocs, and faculty awardees to travel to other institutions. The next deadline for research exchange applications is April 30, 2012, and details are available at the EDEN

website: <http://edenrcn.com/funding/index.html>.

This network also funds undergraduate internships and provides a stipend of \$5000 for summer research in EDEN labs. Please encourage your top undergraduates to apply to the program by the March 11, 2012, deadline: http://edenrcn.com/funding/ugrad_internships.html.

Message from the Graduate Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Jacob Musser

Greetings students and postdocs!

Fall has arrived, bringing cooler temperatures, increased hustle and bustle on campus and, here in New England, the transformed landscape of orange, yellow, and red fall tree colors. For me this signals the coming of winter and, just around the year's corner, our next SICB convention in Charleston. I look forward to escaping the chilly Connecticut winter for a week to see some great talks and to meet and spend time with many of you.

As your student and postdoc representative in DEDB I have a couple of important messages to pass on. First, at this year's meeting the student and postdoctoral affairs committee will be running its annual workshop. This year's workshop covers the process of applying for jobs and going through interviews. As part of this we will be conducting and discussing mock interviews. This is a great opportunity to learn strategies for navigating the application process and maximizing your success getting, and capitalizing on, interviews. If you



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are planning for a future career in an academic or research position I encourage you to attend, even if you are still a few years away from looking for jobs. Also, over the next several months the Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee (SPDAC) will be discussing ideas for future workshops. If you have suggestions for future workshop topics please send me an email with your ideas.

In addition to learning valuable skills at workshops and attending talks, every year brings a chance to connect with your fellow researchers in evo-devo. To this end, I will be organizing a night out on the town for students and postdocs in DEDB, where we can meet and talk over dinner and drinks. As we get closer to the convention, I will send out an email with further details.

Finally, I encourage you to contact me with any thoughts or questions you have about SICB or the Division of Evolutionary Development Biology. Whether it is about the upcoming convention, discovering ways to interact with SICB, or sharing a great idea for making this society better, I am always happy to listen and help.