The Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology
SICB Newsletter
Fall 2012 Issue

Division of Animal Behavior

Contents

Upcoming Meeting Highlights ..........1
Future Symposia ..........................2
Judges Needed ............................2
Message from the Chair ..................2
Meeting Highlights for Students and Postdocs ....................3
Announcements of Meetings ..........3

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Maxine Zylberberg
Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative 2012-2015

Diana Hews
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Upcoming Meeting Highlights – January 3-7, 2013 in San Francisco, CA
Allison Welch, Program Officer, DPO.DAB@sicb.org

The SICB programming committee recently met to finalize the program for our upcoming Annual Meeting, to be held January 3-7 in San Francisco, CA. With another record-breaking number of abstracts submitted, we expect this to be our largest meeting ever!

The meeting will be held in the centrally-located San Francisco Union Square Hilton. SICB has a block of hotel rooms reserved at a great rate, so you may want to book soon. A large selection of dining options at all price ranges can be found near the hotel (see Notes from the Underground). In addition, there will be childcare available at the meeting again this year. Finally, although drinks are rather expensive both on site and in town, overall we are looking forward to a very exciting meeting in a premier location!

Animal Behavior will have a strong presence at the meeting, including:

- 48 oral presentations in 9 behaviorally-themed sessions
- 54 posters in behaviorally-themed poster sub-sessions
- 61 presentations in other sessions by authors with DAB primary affiliation or ABS affiliation
- 63 entrants in DAB Best Student Paper competitions (oral and poster)

In addition, DAB will co-sponsor three society-wide and three regular symposia:

- **SOCIETY-WIDE SYMPOSIUM:** When Predators Attack: Sensing and Motion in Predator-Prey Interactions – organized by Matt McHenry and Stacey Combes
- **SOCIETY-WIDE SYMPOSIUM:** Vertebrate Land Invasions: Past, Present, and Future – organized by Alice Gibb, Miriam Ashley-Ross, Richard Blob and Tonia Hsieh
- **SOCIETY-WIDE SYMPOSIUM:** Phenotypic Plasticity and the Evolution of Gender Roles – organized by Janet Leonard
- **REGULAR SYMPOSIUM:** Coping with Uncertainty: Integrating Physiology, Behavior and Evolutionary Ecology in a Changing World – organized by Zoltan Nemeth, Frances Bonier and Scott MacDougall-Shackleton
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• REGULAR SYMPOSIUM: Hormone-mediated Sex Ratio Adjustment in Vertebrates – organized by Kristen Navara

While at the meeting, don’t forget to attend the DAB business meeting on Friday, January 4 at 5:15 pm, followed by a joint DAB/DNB social from 6:00-7:30 pm. The social will be held in the Cityscape Room at the top of the hotel, which offers amazing views of the city.

Future Symposia – January 3-7, 2014 in Austin

Looking further ahead, we have an exciting slate of symposia for the 2013 meeting in Austin, of which DAB will co-sponsor one society-wide and five regular symposia:

• SOCIETY-WIDE SYMPOSIUM: Epigenetics: Molecular Mechanisms through Organisnal Influences – organized by Warren Burggren
• REGULAR SYMPOSIUM: Parasitic Manipulation of Host Phenotype, or How to Make a Zombie – organized by Kelly Weinsmith and Zen Faulkes
• REGULAR SYMPOSIUM: Stress, Condition, and Ornamentation – organized by Geoffrey Hill
• REGULAR SYMPOSIUM: Adaptation or Developmental Constraint? Uniting Evolutionary and Empirical Studies of Phenotypic Plasticity – organized by Haruka Wada and Kendra Sewall
• REGULAR SYMPOSIUM: Methods and Mechanisms in Ecoinmunology – organized by Cynthia Downs, Jim Adelman and Greg Demas

• REGULAR SYMPOSIUM: Terrestrial Locomotion: Where Do We Stand, Where Are We Going? – organized by Richard Blob and Tim Higham

Judges Needed for Best Student Presentation Awards!
Melissa Bowlin, Secretary, Secretary.DAB@sicb.org

One of the most amazing things about SICB is its support for students. Many of you may remember competing for the Bernard Oak Project Presentation Award or the Best Student Poster Award when you were students. In order for DAB to continue to offer these awards, we need judges! Please consider becoming a judge. It is much easier now than it was in the past: everything is handled online, and there is no meeting to attend. All you have to do is sign up to judge 4-6 talks or posters you probably would have attended/visited anyway prior to the meeting and then submit your evaluations of the presentations via our website before the meeting ends. If you are interested in becoming a judge in San Francisco, please e-mail me at secretary.dab@sicb.org and I will add you to our list.

Message from the Chair and Election Results
Marilyn Ramenofsky, Chair.DAB@sicb.org

Fall is here already and as we head into a new academic year, I look forward to the many exciting developments on the horizon as well as the 2013 meeting in San Francisco. Remember to register by the fee-free deadline of December 3. Also, check out the SICB Website as it is loaded with all kinds of information relevant to the Meeting and Society (http://www.sicb.org/). All of the symposia and special sessions are now highlighted as well as the 6 links to the stories by student journalists from the 2012 meeting in Charleston. This is a nice opportunity to publicize your work or studies that you find interesting at the meeting! Also, check out the Division Sections to keep up with what is happening in your area(s). There is a very helpful table listing the lengths of terms for the various positions in the DAB that you should be interested in running for one of them now or in the future. Also a lot of historical information about the Society is there, some of which just might come in handy with the SICB Quiz! Game held at the business meeting at the end of the meeting with prizes!!! Hint hint!

Speaking of which, my term as Chair of the DAB will end following the SF Meeting. Diana Hews will be stepping into the Chair’s slot and I wish to welcome her as well as to thank Greg Demas for throwing in his hat last spring as a candidate for this position. Diana is a Professor of Biology at Indiana State University in Terre Haute and studies the physiological bases of sex differences. She has an active research program, serves as an editor for ICB, and is an active member of ABS and seeks to build the diversity and strengths of the DAB. Her interests in animal behavior are long-standing and I know she’ll bring new directions and excitement to our division. I look forward to her term as well as continuing to contribute in any way I can. I wish to extend a heartfelt welcome to Diana. If you see her at the meeting, please give her a warm welcome as well.

Meeting Highlights for Students and Postdocs
Maxine Zylberberg, DAB Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative

Thanks to everyone who submitted abstracts for the upcoming meeting in San Francisco – see you in January! Be sure to check out the excellent line-up of symposia, including several co-sponsored by DAB. This year’s Student/Postdoctoral Affairs Committee annual workshop is scheduled for Sunday 6:30-8pm; the topic has yet to be finalized, but it will follow in a long line of excellent workshops focused on topics relevant to you, so be sure to keep an eye out for that (you can access information from past workshops at http://www.sicb.org/resources/presentations.php3).

The Student Science Journalism Internship, inaugurated last year, will continue this year as part of the Charlotte Magnus Student Support Program, giving interested students the opportunity to write a popular science journalism piece to fulfill their work assignment. See the Student Awards web page for more information on the Charlotte Magnus Student Support Program, and also to find out about several excellent opportunities to apply for graduate student research funding and awards, including Grants in Aid of Research and the Fellowship of Graduate Student Travel (http://www.sicb.org/students/awards.php3). Finally, during the meeting, be sure to stop by the student/postdoctoral booth in the exhibit hall to chat with other students and postdocs over coffee and cookies, and to engage with faculty on a variety of career development topics.

Announcements of National and International meetings for Animal Behavior

• American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS)-Annual Meeting, Boston, Massachusetts, 14-18 February, 2013.
• Joint meeting of the International Ethological Conference (IEC) and the Association for the Study of Animal Behaviour (ASAB)-Gateshead, England 4-8 August 2013.