Message from the Chair
Jim Belanger, Chair.DNB@sicb.org

Wow, already halfway through another semester! Which means that our meeting in Austin is just around the corner...

First, some business: Chuck Derby has been elected to be the new Program Officer for DNB and will take over from Duane McPherson in January. Welcome aboard Chuck. Lisa Mangiamele was re-elected to continue on as Secretary. Thanks so much, Lisa. Frankly, the program officer and secretary do most of the real work in DNB, and so I’m especially thankful to have such good people. We also added Christine Bedore as the Student/PostDoctoral Affairs Committee representative this spring, so please feel free to contact her if you have concerns relating to students and postdocs, and especially if you have ideas for ways DNB can help mentor and promote the people who are, after all, the future of the division.

In the spring newsletter I mentioned that two things I would like to accomplish during my tenure as chair of DNB are to improve DNB’s presence on the SICB website, and establish a neurobiology section for the Digital Library. You can help with this process by submitting entries for the Researcher Database. Remember that this is a great way to recruit new students! Just send a short description of what goes on in your lab, and a couple of flashy pictures to Lisa Mangiamele (Secretary.DNB@sicb.org), and she’ll do the magic. And if you have any “teachable tidbits,” lab exercises, or lecture activities that you’ve found particularly effective, send them to me and we can start to build a public archive for teaching materials, so that we all don’t have to reinvent the wheel.

See you in Austin!

Estrogen receptor beta immunolabeling in goldfish forebrain
Greetings to all in the land of neurobiology!

I have recently returned from the Program Committee meeting in Austin. The 2014 meeting has 1593 abstracts scheduled for presentation, making it the 2nd largest SICB meeting. In the neurobiology category, the number of abstracts is up significantly from last year: there will be 44 oral presentations and 44 posters directly related to neurobiology, along with the many others appearing in sessions that are not specifically neuro-related, as at other SICB meetings.

Best Student Presentation Judges Needed

We need volunteers to help with judging the student presentations within DNB for best oral presentation and best poster presentation. There will be seven talks and 17 posters to judge. When you are registering for the meeting, please check the box indicating that you volunteer to help with this important task!

Symposium Proposals for the 2016 Meeting

Now is a good time to begin developing your ideas for a symposium to present at the 2016 meeting in Portland, OR. Although Charles Derby will become the DNB program officer beginning at the 2014 meeting, I will be happy to discuss any ideas you have between now and then.

Getting from the Airport to Your Hotel in Austin

It’s always something of an adventure to figure out the ground transportation when you arrive at the airport in a strange city (not that Austin is all that much stranger than anywhere else). Besides cab service, there is a Super Shuttle ($15 each way). The cabs and Super Shuttle leave from the upper level of the airport, but to ride the shuttle you have to purchase a ticket downstairs, on the baggage claim level. I think it’s an automated kiosk, because I never did find an office for the shuttle. There’s a tourist information desk near the baggage claim with a helpful person you can ask about it.

While you’re at the information desk, pick up a schedule for the metro bus. Because here’s the best news: you can ride from the airport to the Hilton downtown (the bus stop is at 4th St. & Trinity) for the grand sum of $1! The metro bus departs at half-hour intervals (approximately on the hour and the half-hour, when I was there). It has baggage racks for your stuff, it’s a clean and smooth ride, and just as quick as the more pricey alternatives. The drivers are very helpful and friendly. And even if you take a cab or a shuttle into town, you’ll be happy to know that you can purchase an all-day bus pass for only $2! A great way to get out and see the city!

Message from the Secretary

Lisa Mangiamele, Secretary.DNB@sicb.org

After the great success of this year’s SICB meeting, don’t forget to register soon for the upcoming year’s meeting (Jan 3 - 7, 2014) in Austin, TX, which also promises to be quite exciting and filled with quality neurobiology-related presentations. Online registration is open now. The deadline to register if you are presenting a talk or poster is November 8, 2013, and early meeting registration rates apply through December 6th.

As we look forward to the upcoming SICB meeting, I’d like to remind you of ways that you can connect with other DNB members. As usual, please plan to attend the joint DAB/DNB social event during the meeting. This is a convenient way for our members to meet up with each other and meet new people, both from our division and from folks in the Division of Animal Behavior who share common interests.

As Jim mentioned, we still don’t have many entries representing DNB in the Researcher Database. This is a society-wide effort to increase our web presence, and we as a division need to start participating in it. Some members have asked me if the Researcher Database is widely viewed. Here are some data, provided by our webmaster, Ruedi Birenheide, which I hope will encourage you to add your entry to our division’s page:

- For each division, the researcher listing page gets 50-100 views per month
- For each division, individual researchers’ pages get between 150-300 views per month
- Divisions with more entries get the higher number of views per month
- Photos entered in the Researcher Database will automatically show up on the rotating image at the top of the SICB homepage and, when clicked on, will go directly to the researcher’s webpage in the database

Please help to fill out our database! Any member can contribute – students and postdocs, too! To view DNB’s Researcher Database page, go to the main SICB page (www.sicb.org), click on the “Divisions” tab, and select Division of Neurobiology. You will see
the Researcher Database listed at the top of the page, underneath the link to the newsletter. If you need more examples on which to base your entry, I suggest that you also check out the other divisions’ Researcher Databases. DCE and DIZ have several good examples of database entries that are brief, but informative, with some great photos.

To add your entry, just email me (Secretary.DNB@sicb.org) a brief title for your entry, a short description of your research, and a photo.

Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee Representative
Christine Bedore

Greetings DNB students and postdocs!

With the 2014 annual meeting in Austin, TX rapidly approaching, the Student Postdoc Affairs Committee is working hard to make this an outstanding meeting for all of you. There are several events during the meeting that may be of interest to you.

SPDAC will host a workshop titled “Developing a Web Presence for your Research” and will feature panelists to discuss the use of websites and social media for effectively communicating your research to a broad audience. Time, location, and panelists TBA.

The Broadening Participation Committee is hosting two workshops this year, both of which are sure to be insightful for many of our young investigators: “Recruitment strategies to obtain a diverse and thriving lab/department” on Saturday, January 4 from 12:00-1:130 and “Writing grants and manuscripts in a timely manner” on Monday, January 6 from 12:00-1:30.

The SPDAC booth in the exhibit hall in San Francisco received great feedback from students and postdocs, so we will host a booth again this year. Faculty and postdocs will be available at the booth throughout the meeting to answer your questions one-on-one about career transitions, C.V. preparation, and other topics relevant to building your research career. If you are a faculty member that would like to volunteer at the booth, please contact me at christine.bedore@duke.edu for more information!

And finally, students attending the meeting for the first time should attend the orientation meeting, “How to get the most out of your SICB meeting,” on Friday, January 3.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or suggestions of things the Student Postdoctoral Affairs Committee can do to make this meeting exceptional!

Goldfish (Carassius auratus) brain

News and Announcements:

SICB DNB Facebook and LinkedIn Groups
- To join the Facebook group, go to: http://www.facebook.com/groups/42744755545/
- To join the LinkedIn group, search for “SICB Division of Neurobiology” using the Search Groups box.

New DNB Program Officer: Charles Derby

Our new Program Officer, Chuck Derby (Georgia State University), officially takes office at the end of the upcoming SICB meeting in January. Be sure to say hello and introduce yourself when you see him at the meeting!

Jobs & Fellowships

Don’t forget that the SICB web site maintains a searchable database of jobs (all levels) and fellowships that are especially relevant to SICB members. This is an excellent resource for students/postdocs hoping to take the next step, but it is also a free resource for more senior DNB members to advertise positions in their departments. Check it out: under the Resources tab on the SICB main web site, go to Educational and Teaching Resources and select Jobs and Fellowships.