

**DEDE Business Meeting Minutes  
SICB Annual Meeting, 4 January 2018,  
Marriot Marquis, San Francisco, CA**

Carol Fassbinder-Orth, DEDE Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:45 pm.

Lou Burnett, SICB President, and the SICB Executive Officers introduced themselves at the start of the meeting and highlighted a few important topics about the society.

Dr. Burnett announced the upcoming meeting locations, 2019-Tampa, FL; 2020-Austin, TX; 2021-Wardman Park, DC; 2022-Phoenix, AZ; 2023-Austin, TX. In addition there will be a revamping of the SICB website over the next year. Moreover, Dr. Burnett implored all members to submit symposia, suggesting that symposia organizers would be “treated like royalty.”

Adam Summers, Editor of the new, open access journal announced asked for nominations for associate editors and twitter-friendly folks to be outreach associates. He asked that we shoot him an email if interested, fishguy@uw.edu.

NSF representative, Michelle Elekonich was next to present and outlined a number of changes.

First, NSF still had no federal budget yet, just continuing resolutions, but expecting a new proposal soon. Of note, cuts proposed last year still hadn't happened yet because the government was on continuing, continuing resolutions. Moreover, the NSF historian says republican administrations typically give NSF more money than democratic ones.

Symposia support from NSF will be very competitive. They're looking for forward-looking symposia, rather than retrospective ones and workshop-style might be better than a series of presentations. Additionally, the Bio Directorates policy remains that symposia/workshops will support significant proportions of women and underrepresented groups.

Supplement requests will be due by the first of March, including REU, RET and mid-career requests to learn new skills. Please contact a program coordinator before you submit.

The IOS division is no longer accepting pre-proposals. They expect to put out a new core programs solicitation during summer 2018 that will feature rolling deadlines.

There are other, ongoing opportunities, including the EDGE program for tools to directly test gene function in non-models, with a Feb 1 deadline. There is a “Rules of Life” dear colleague letter. This program will seek to identify simple rules that govern how complexity emerges and how life emerges. This program asks for EAGERs, RAISEs, and workshops with deadlines in Feb. CAREER and RUI and other NSF-wide opportunities are still there, with not changes to deadlines.

There are new Bio directorate guidelines for data management plans and information from the National Alliance for Broader Impacts. There are links from NSF page.

Encouraged all of us to attend the Broadening Participation social, Saturday 7pm at the Thirsty Bear, and thanked all of those who reviewed grants and served as panelsits.

Greg Demas asked what rolling deadlines would mean for the timing of review panels.

Dr. Elekonich answered that there will be lots of flexibility for program officers. They could let a certain amount pile up, then do a panel or run panels more regularly. Under the new structure she suggested that it may be easier to form joint panels, rather than co-review by two separate panels. She noted that NSF representatives will be talking about this at the outreach session 1/5/2018 at noon.

Marty Martin asked for clarification on the options for the Rules of Life program, to which Dr. Elekonich responded that there is EAGER, RAISE, which used to be INSPIRE, workshops, and probably other options down the road.

Approval of 2017 meeting minutes

Greg Demas moved to approve, Cynthia Downs seconded, and the minutes were approved unanimously.

Divisional officers briefly introduced themselves.

Carol Fassbinder-Orth noted that we're now at the point where we have officers-elect for every position. So, we'll be holding chair-elect nominations in the spring 2018, we'd like to have at least two people to run; if you know someone, say someone.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth also noted several highlights from the SICB Executive Committee meeting. The major source of revenue for SICB and the Divisions is the ICB (Integrative and Comparative Biology) journal, which brings in about \$225K/year. The annual meeting, by contrast, does not make money for the society. DEDE receives the following annual money (use it or lose it): \$2000/year to support symposia, \$800/year for the social, \$300 for Best Student Presentation Awards, and a share of a \$5 due charged to everyone in the society. Distribution of that last bit is based on division size.

Greg Demas noted some details of the Social for this year. We're combining with DCE, DAB, and DNNSB to pooling limited resources and hold a good social offsite.

Dr. Demas also noted that next year DEDE has put forward funds for three symposia, two largely DEDE and one from the newly formed Division of Integrative Plant Biology. He encouraged us to keep the symposia proposals coming.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth revisited the possibilities of dues for DEDE or for a named fund, which requires \$25K. If we did that, which would be tough, we couldn't have another talk (like the Bart) because there simply isn't time at the meeting. Though, we could have a fund in memorium (Lochmiller was a name suggested) for a grants in aid of research, travel grants, etc. which would not require the \$25K a named

fund would. There was some discussion about this possibility, potentially with asking for donations on the website, but we reached no resolution.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth brought up the best student presentation format. Some or most divisions do a special session so there are no within-division competing sessions. Feedback and suggestions were solicited.

Greg Demas noted that we had too many submissions to do that unless we did an initial screening process on the science.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth noted that the drawback would be students don't get as much feedback. So, if we went down that road, we'd want to build that in.

Cynthia Downs noted that an additional drawback would be the effort required to judge abstracts during October or September. Dr. Demas suggested it might actually not be that much work to make that happen.

Travis Wilcoxon suggested that this would limit the number of judges required at the annual meeting. But, would there be a pre-prop for posters too?

Dr. Demas suggested that probably not—we'd still have judges for posters, which Drs. Downs and Wilcoxon agreed might be easier.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth wrapped up the discussion, noting that whatever the division decides to do, we need to let the exec committee sooner rather than later.

In the future, we noted that the Program Officer-Elect will be responsible for the best student paper judging.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth introduced the new Division of Integrative Plant Biology, and suggested we let our plant colleagues at our institutions know about it so they can get on the mailing list.

She also reminded the attendees that there was ongoing Lab or Field Fails interviews being conducted in the exhibit hall.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth asked if there were additional comments on the new journal.

Marty Martin told the attendees that Oxford is looking like it'll be the publisher (same as ICB).

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth noted that the new journal is shooting for a tier 2 status (think "papers not accepted in Science"), so there's some pushback on including the word "open" in whatever the new title ends up being. Soft start now for submissions

Cynthia Downs introduced the special issue on ecoimmunology to be published in *Physiological and Biochemical Zoology*. Papers will be due in May of 2018 and could be a good opportunity for our membership. The issue would not go to press until January 2019 and papers will undergo full peer-review.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth then updated the membership on the direction of the division, including membership statistics, which are holding steady at around 280, with ~2/3 of those being students and postdocs (a little higher proportion than average for SICB, which makes sense for the young demographic of the division).

Training/mentorship opportunities are growing, including “lunch with an ecoimmunologist,” and Dr. Fassbinder-Orth elicited suggestions for other opportunities.

Dr. Downs suggested an informal pizza night on the first night for early arrivals and folks that don't know others very well. Perhaps this would occur before the plenary, but after the student worker thing. During discussion we noted that onsite would be easier, but pricier. Dr. Wilcoxon volunteered Dr. Martin's home for next year in Tampa. A \$15 cover was proposed.

Daniel Becker then talked briefly about the divisions growing presence on social media. He noted that we are steadily growing on twitter. This year he organized live tweeting, with one person on twitter for each session, and hopes to keep that going into the future.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth noted that at the Executive Committee meeting there was talk that Public Affairs Committee has been doing a lot in this area, which is a lot of work and perhaps warrants a new social media committee at the society level. In light of this growing workload, she reiterated thanks to Daniel for all his efforts in this arena.

Dr. Fassbinder-Orth returned to the concept of symposia for the future. Specifically that this is really important as a young division and we could consider a workshop format like Dr. Elekonich mentioned. In addition, this is a very important source of revenue, via the symposia papers submitted to ICB. The society is trying to incentivize this with perks like free breakfast this year if you're an organizer.

There was no new business.

The attendees thanks Dr. Fassbinder-Orth her dedicated service as division Chair.

After a quick note from Dr. Fassbinder-Orth for the officers to keep cc'ing one another so everyone remains in the loop, the meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.